This workshop was held at the 2018 Equal Justice Conference in San Diego, California.

Title:

Clinic Is Not A 4 Letter Word: Creating Impactful Pro Bono Clinics

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Many legal providers have significant concerns about the utility of clinics. But what if clinics could move far beyond limited scope, to deliver quality legal services on a whole new scale? Speakers will discuss three successful models: clinic-plus; mega-clinics; and on-going monthly clinics. Participants will brainstorm challenges about clinics and the potential solutions.
Clinic is Not a 4 Letter Word: Creating Impactful Pro Bono Clinics

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Brief Description:

Many have significant concerns about the utility of clinics. But what if clinics could move far beyond limited scope, to deliver quality legal services on a whole new scale? Speakers will discuss three successful models: clinic-plus; mega-clinics; and on-going monthly clinics. Participants will brainstorm challenges about clinics, and potential solutions.

This session will grapple with how to provide culturally competent services in a clinic setting, in particular when helping low-income immigrants who have experienced trauma, and veterans who face mental illness and other challenges.

Our format of a facilitated brainstorm identifying common challenges and concerns about clinics will engage the audience and create a stronger list of potential challenges, while panelists will provide concrete examples of effective models that have tackled many of these issues. Finally, a facilitated conversation about how to meaningfully address the identified challenges will enable participants to potentially apply knowledge to particular scenarios.

Program Goals (what you will learn):

1. Understand how to troubleshoot and address common limitations of clinics

2. Build and sustain clinics that go far beyond limited scope work and that address urgent legal needs including immigration and issues affecting veterans

3. Develop clinics that leverage law firm and in-house counsel pro bono work and resources to expand the reach of legal services organizations in large-scale and meaningful ways
Topical Outline:

I. Introduction

II. Clinics: What are the pros, cons, concerns and advantages?
   A. Facilitated brainstorm on whiteboards/notecards

III. Clinic Innovations: Presenter Presentation
   A. Mega Clinic
      1. Description of Format and Statistics
      2. Example: Naturalization Screening and Evolution to Application Clinic
         (a) How do we make it work? System and Resource Requirements. (e.g., booking system (hotline and callbacks), roadmap, trainings, materials, staffing)
         (b) Discussion: Can this be done on shoestring? In other geographies?
   B. Clinic+
      1. Description of Format and Statistics
      2. Example: U-Visa
         (a) How do we make it work? System and Resource Requirements. (e.g., volunteer recruitment, ongoing mentoring, significant monitoring of changes in law and practice)
         (b) Discussion: Can this be done on shoestring? In other geographies?
   C. Signature Project/Ongoing Clinics
      1. Description of Format and Statistics
      2. Example: Military Mondays
         (a) How do we make it work? System and Resource Requirements. (e.g., relationships with community organizations and Veterans Administration, flexibility, booking system (hotline and callbacks), ongoing evaluation of the clinic, technology)
IV. Discussion

A. How do our clinic innovations address some of our articulated concerns?

B. How do our clinic innovations maximize the advantages of clinics?

C. What other clinic innovations are out there?

V. Takeaways

A. Summarize advantages and areas for continued improvement

B. Note to self: clinic participants write on notecard one clinic innovation they would like to try at home or explore