

Cream of the Corporate Crop

Companies responding to an informal *EIM* survey about their pro bono and financial commitments to equal justice programs demonstrate the breadth of corporate support for legal aid.

COMPANY	IN-HOUSE PRO BONO PROJECT	SUPPORT LOCAL LEGAL AID	SUPPORT NATIONAL PROGRAM	COMMENTS
Bank One	✓	✓	✓	In 1999, Bank One's legal department in Chicago took the lead in establishing the Pro Bono Initiative to provide more volunteer opportunities for corporate lawyers and attorneys specializing in transactional work. Bank One lawyers also hold a regular seminar series at local law schools to benefit small businesses unable to afford legal assistance.
BellSouth Corporation		✓	✓	Bell South's 12-member pro bono committee, chaired by Kendall Butterworth, sponsors numerous pro bono projects for members of its legal department. Bell South attorneys partner with Atlanta Legal Aid Society (ALAS) lawyers to help grandparents adopt children for whom they are serving as the primary caregivers. They host Willis on Wheels clinics benefiting new Habitat for Humanity homeowners and other low-income clients. Company attorneys staff Saturday legal clinics hosted by the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation and assist in ALAS fundraising efforts. They also helped open a local charter school and held a pro bono fair with former Gov. Roy Barnes.
ExxonMobil	✓	✓	✓	ExxonMobil's legal department, headed by Charles W. Matthews, has provided pro bono services to the poor for more than 20 years, handling cases related to family law, AIDS-related legal issues, immigration law, bankruptcy, wills, probate, and disaster relief. ExxonMobil lawyers also staff legal hotlines and host clinics to encourage others in the community to provide free services to the poor. Most recently, the company was honored with the 2003 Corporate Leadership Award presented by LSC-funded Legal Services of North Texas. ExxonMobil also has been recognized with pro bono awards from the American Bar Association, the American Corporate Counsel Association, the State Bar of Texas, the Houston Bar Association, and the Houston Bar Foundation.
Fannie Mae		✓	✓	Fannie Mae supports equal justice efforts and diversity as core corporation values.
Freddie Mac	✓		✓	Every employee of Freddie Mac's legal division is encouraged to volunteer 40 hours of work time annually to pro bono efforts. In addition, the company has an ongoing partnership with LSC-funded Legal Services of Northern Virginia (LSNV), in which more than 30 legal and corporate tax employees assist with weekly intake at LSNV and represent individual clients. Freddie Mac also supports LSNV financially by funding programs and summer internships, donating computers, and printing informational brochures.
General Electric	✓	✓	✓	GE is founder of the Pro Bono Partnership, an organization that connects corporate attorneys with not-for-profit organizations in Connecticut, New York, and most recently, New Jersey. Its mission is to facilitate volunteerism by in-house corporate attorneys by matching them with community-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations with specific legal needs.
General Motors	✓	✓	✓	General Motors, along with the Ford Motor Company, founded the Detroit Legal Services Clinic (DLSC) in November 1997. Using the offices of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association — where GM attorney Steve Cernak heads up the Volunteer Lawyers Committee—the DLSC conducts two monthly clinics. GM also provides funding to DLSC and recruits local attorneys to staff the clinics, each of which is hosted by a different Detroit law firm, corporate legal staff, or interested group of lawyers. The DLSC has helped hundreds of low-income clients in the Detroit area receive free assistance.
Gillette	Planned for 2004	✓		Gillette's legal department is currently in the process of establishing a formal in-house pro bono project to be completed by 2004. In the meantime, attorneys do pro bono work on an individual basis, often collaborating with a legal services program.
Honeywell International		✓		Honeywell International played an instrumental role in expanding the Pro Bono Partnership into New Jersey and continues to supply in-house attorneys and financial resources to the program. Recipients of Honeywell's assistance include the Jersey Battered Women's Service, Child Care Connection, Education Works, and the Statewide Parent Advocacy Network. Honeywell lawyers have helped with organizational mergers, copyrighting, reviewing leases and other legal documents, and providing harassment training.
J.C. Penney	✓	✓		Attorneys in the legal department of Texas-based J.C. Penney are encouraged to participate in a range of pro bono efforts in the Dallas area. J.C. Penney attorneys staff legal clinics, host legal education seminars, and provide direct client services. J.C. Penney also provides financial support to LSC-funded Legal Aid of North West Texas and Women's Legal Advocacy Center's efforts to fight domestic violence.
McKesson Corporation		✓	✓	The McKesson Corporation provides financial support to local and national legal services programs through the McKesson Foundation, which provides more than \$4 million a year to various charitable causes. Additionally, many of McKesson's employees do pro bono work on an individual basis.
Merck & Co.	✓	✓	✓	Led by General Counsel Keith Frazier, Merck's legal department has partnered with Legal Services of New Jersey for more than a decade, assisting clients with guardianship, child custody, matrimonial, and bankruptcy cases. More than 50 attorneys and 20 staff members provide assistance to more than 650 clients in five counties in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Merck has been honored by the American Bar Association, the American Corporate Counsel Association, and the Pro Bono Institute for its volunteer legal work.
Nike		✓		Nike employees participate actively in the Oregon Campaign for Equal Justice, as well as serve on the boards of local and state legal services programs.
PepsiCo	✓			Spurred by Senior Vice President David Andrews, PepsiCo attorneys are encouraged to provide pro bono services. At PepsiCo's headquarters in Purchase, N.Y., attorneys regularly collaborate with the Pro Bono Partnership. In 2000, the Pro Bono Partnership awarded PepsiCo its Corporate Award for outstanding pro bono legal services; two PepsiCo attorneys also were recently named Volunteers of the Year by the Pro Bono Partnership.
Pfizer	✓	✓	Planned for 2003	Pfizer has hosted more than a dozen free seminars for executives of nonprofit organizations in which attorneys make presentations on employment law, contracts, insurance, and fundraising. Pfizer also coordinated a number of initiatives in the wake of September 11th, helping victims' families obtain death certificates, lending facilities and staff to process charitable donations, and holding financial planning seminars for New York residents impacted financially by the terrorist strikes. In addition, Pfizer hosts special "Angels Lunches" fundraising events to benefit legal aid and regularly partners with organizations such as the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, Lawyers Alliance for New York, and the New York Legal Assistance Group.
PG&E		✓	✓	PG&E attorneys perform pro bono work with the financial support of the corporation. Some volunteer with local organizations to provide legal advice and representation; others sit on the boards of local non-profits. PG&E also provides financial support to legal services efforts through the Bar Association of San Francisco and the American Civil Liberties Union.
Wells Fargo	*			*While Wells Fargo does not have a formal in-house project, attorneys may do pro bono work during regular office hours.