

Kansas Legal Services - 2021 Private Attorney Involvement Plan

2020 Overview

The year of the pandemic. What did we learn? What can we glean from this year and take into 2021 with us? Where do we start? State and government shutdowns, temporary and permanent business closings, record unemployment, increasing eviction rates and food insecurity, and possibly the beginning of a new recession. If anything, we can affirmatively say that the need in the next year will be great.



Attorney Support: In 2020, KLS partnered with the Kansas Bar Foundation to put on free virtual continuing education trainings focused on subjects of great volunteer need. While these trainings did result in some volunteers, we learned that shutdowns come with repercussions to everyone—including volunteer attorneys. With backed up dockets and work returning in a flood, many volunteers had to step back into heavy workloads and step away from pro bono. This forced creativity through recruiting new retainer attorneys for these new high traffic areas and using our funds to pay attorneys to assist applicants.

Expungement Events: Our spring expungement events in Reno and Pratt counties were cancelled until further notice. We are still unsure if virtual clinics in those areas will have the same impact that in-person events would have. To test these waters, Saline County opted to pivot and take the planned October in-person event and convert it to a completely virtual event. Wyandotte County's District Attorney partnered with KLS and local volunteer attorneys to virtually screen 126 people for expungement eligibility and assistance. While zoom appointments were offered, most participants opted for a voice call over video.



Going Virtual: While many events were delayed until 2021, if anything we learned how to bend and adjust to a moving target. KLS's 2020 ATJ Technology Fellow Cynthia Ferguson improved our driver's license information webpage, our online intake format, and then held a two-week virtual driver's license clinic to kick-off the rollout of our new webpage when our spring driver's license event was cancelled. Our 2020 Nonprofit Advice Clinic went from in-person to virtual in a matter of weeks and converted for a fall clinic. From virtual staff trainings to virtual advice clinics and even virtual court, 2020 made everyone get comfortable assisting from their home command centers.



Connecting Attorneys: The KLS Pro Bono Website, www.klsprobono.org, continues to be the primary means to connect interested lawyers with clients in need of pro bono services in civil cases. klsprobono.org provides forms, informational materials and news about volunteer opportunities in Kansas. The site is secure and designed for easy use by busy attorneys, fully accessible on mobile and tablet devices as well as laptop and desktop computers. Attorneys can peruse available cases and email the KLS contact for more information without creating an account. All resources are available once they create an account. Members get emails informing them when a case is available in their area, and contact information for the particular field office Pro Bono Coordinator. The project was designed to make volunteering easy and efficient for Kansas attorneys.

Disaster Preparedness: 2020 introduced a completely new type of disaster to our repertoire. Nonprofits across the state worked to meet needs from a safe distance while struggling to get the word out about those services. United Way 211 helped connect volunteers to opportunities and direct those in need of legal assistance to KLS. Law students continued to assist virtually updating the Kansas Disaster Guide.

Why Pro Bono?

As lawyers, we know firsthand the value and necessity of quality legal representation. We see victims of domestic violence, abused children, and families losing their homes all too frequently because they cannot afford a lawyer. We have a professional responsibility to help others in our community gain access to the justice system to protect their rights, their freedom, their homes, their livelihoods, and their families. Legal needs studies have consistently found that less than 40 percent of low income people get the legal assistance they need, and funding per eligible person has dropped drastically in recent years. In Kansas, our numbers continue to show that 1 percent of the Kansas population calls our intake line annually, and 10 percent of the Kansas population accesses our website. This is a crisis and lawyers must get involved. Supporting civil legal aid is a way to work for justice and access for all.

Volunteer attorneys are needed for three reasons:

- 1) **Legal services can provide life-changing differences in the lives of low income Kansans.** From a simple landlord letter to a complex child custody case, the impact of legal issues on our lives is dramatic. When a family is involved in a legal matter, it is unsettling for them, to say the least. Parents lose needed hours of work to deal with the situation, for which many have no paid vacation time. The lost income means they are short on rent or on other essential bills. Feeling that they must deal with the problem alone creates a sense of hopelessness.

With accurate legal information or representation by an attorney, they can achieve a sense of justice. The Judge can hear their case and make a fair decision. Their children can have the stability of a court-ordered parenting plan. The family can have a little time to find a new apartment in their children's school district, saving the children from the disruption of changing schools.

An attorney's help can make the difference and change Hopelessness to Hope and a Sense of Justice from our legal system.

- 2) **Rule 226 of the Kansas Rules of Professional Conduct says, "lawyers should render public interest legal services."** While acknowledging that legal aid programs were created to help meet this need, the rule encourages lawyers to support these programs by continuing to provide services on a pro bono or reduced fee basis. Kansas Legal Services stands ready to help Kansas attorneys meet this professional obligation.
- 3) **The justice gap is growing.** Estimates are that 50 percent or more of the litigants in family law courts in Kansas are self-represented. Some initiatives have been put in place to allow the Courts to handle the large number of self-represented litigants. This includes forms created by the Judicial Council, which create the basis for many of the forms that Kansas Legal Services makes available online via interactive interviews. These actions are done only because Kansas Legal Services and its volunteer lawyers cannot meet the demand for legal services by low income persons. Modifications of the Rules of Professional Responsibility allow attorneys to be involved in limited scope representation. One example of this is an attorney review of documents that a low income person has prepared. The attorney can review the documents and "coach" the client for success as a self-represented litigant.

The Legal Services Corporation, a funder of Kansas Legal Services, requires that an annual plan exists for involving private attorneys in helping meet the civil legal needs of low income persons. [45 CFR 1614.4] The 2021 plan will be approved by the Kansas Legal Services Board of Directors in January, 2021. The Board is currently seeking comments on the proposed plan. Please provide comments to Jennifer Stevenson, President, Board of Directors, Kansas Legal Services, 712 S Kansas Ave, Suite 200, Topeka, KS 66603 or email president@klsinc.org.

How Pro Bono Referrals Work:

Kansas Legal Services allows a potential applicant to apply by phone (1-800-723-6953) or initially online (www.kansaslegalservices.org). Staff dedicated to screening applicants for financial eligibility take calls from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Questions about family size, current and potential income and assets, citizenship status and other eligibility factors are used in determining initial eligibility. To be eligible for pro bono services, the applicant must have household income below 150 percent of the Federal Poverty level.

In addition, Kansas Legal Services Board of Directors has determined, by legal problem type, the matters that can qualify for representation by Kansas Legal Services. The limited resources available to meet the needs of low income Kansans make this type of prioritization necessary. Some types of legal problems can only be accepted if a pro bono attorney is willing to accept the case.

After an applicant has been determined to be eligible for KLS services, the case is reviewed in the local office covering the applicant's county. The applicant is contacted and more information about their situation and their legal need is obtained. Information about upcoming court deadlines, etc. are key to determining if a case is appropriate for pro bono referral. The length of time it takes to place a case with a volunteer attorney eliminates cases with rapidly approaching deadlines. The applicant's access to reliable transportation is another factor considered. With knowledge of all relevant factors, the managing attorney of the office makes the decision that a case is appropriate for placement with a volunteer attorney.

Once a case has been designated for placement with a volunteer attorney, the list of volunteer attorneys is reviewed. In making determinations about which lawyers to contact, the various staff making contacts with attorneys take into consideration the geographic location, substantive areas of the law and when the attorney last took a pro bono case. Attempts to place cases are made by telephone and email contact.

Following referral of a case, KLS staff regularly follow-up on the case to determine the status of representation. The follow-up is done until the attorney notifies KLS that the case is concluded. Assistance can be provided to the attorney throughout the case by KLS staff, unless the case referred represents a conflict of interest for KLS.

KLS is aware that some volunteer attorneys are not regularly referred a case, despite their willingness to accept cases. The match between case type and the location of the volunteer attorney sometimes makes a match difficult. KLS continues to work to utilize all volunteer attorneys to meet the needs of eligible clients.

Components of the 2021 Pro Bono Plan

During 2021, Christy Campbell will continue to grow the connections between lawyers and the KLS Pro Bono program. She will provide the important support and training that allows attorneys

to feel competent about the pro bono services they provide. This will include expanding training to staff of the available self-help resources across the state to help focus volunteer attorneys on areas of the greatest need. Given the experience of 2020, we will be pushing to expand our clinics across the state into more rural areas, going virtual when need be. We can speculate what 2021 will look like, but adaptability will be key.

When not focused on expungement activities, the Statewide Pro Bono Director will work on other activities set out in this plan, including the following.



- 1) The director will support the local pro bono coordinators as they work to meet the needs of their local offices and volunteers.
- 2) The director will continue to coordinate “KLS Pro Bono Partners,” a project to encourage law firms to commit to four hours of pro bono work per each lawyer in their firm per year. Upon commitment and a signed agreement, the firms will receive this logo to put on their websites or other promotional material to show they are a proud KLS Pro Bono Partner. Ideally, this would be a statewide competition during Pro Bono Month.
- 3) The director will also work with county bar associations to promote the inclusion of KLS pro bono information in their local bar newsletters.
- 4) KLS will begin the process of organizing volunteer opportunities into “programs” that attorneys can subscribe to, for ease of advertising and organization.

Rural pro bono assistance is an area for improvement. As such, the Statewide Pro Bono Director will work to implement the Rural Outreach Initiative attached as Appendix A.

Among the ongoing activities that will continue to be pursued as part of the 2021 plan:

A. Direct Services to Clients Referred from Kansas Legal Services

The pro bono coordinator in each of the eleven KLS offices is aware of attorneys willing to consider referrals of persons who need legal services on a pro bono basis. Information about clients who have a need that could be met by a pro bono attorney are posted (confidentially) on the www.ksprobono.org website. Attorneys select a case directly from the website, with KLS staff following up to make the match. KLS continues to monitor these cases and requires notice when the work for the client is complete.

While the majority of the requests for legal services are in the family law area, cases are also available in housing, mortgage foreclosure, consumer matters and a wide range of other legal areas. Attorneys can specify the types of cases they are willing to consider. Attorneys are always contacted by KLS staff prior to the client receiving the attorney’s contact information.

KLS maintains a website for attorney volunteers, www.ksprobono.org. This website provides forms and materials and is another way for lawyers to learn about volunteer

opportunities in Kansas. The monthly email newsletter has been phased out as we communicate with private attorneys from web-based resources.

Each KLS office may recruit one or more attorneys to participate in a Retainer Contract Program, through which referred cases are accepted by the attorney for participation on a reduced fee basis. For accepted participants with incomes under 125 percent of poverty, KLS will pay the retainer contract attorney a limited hourly fee for the representation. These attorneys are generally located in places where the expense of travel for KLS staff attorneys is the greatest.

B. Projects Requiring a Limited or Predictable Time Commitment

Kansas Legal Services understands that one of the barriers for attorneys in accepting pro bono work is the unpredictable nature of the time commitment. A “simple” case can become complicated, where the attorney spends more hours than expected. Three volunteer options are designed to provide attorneys with volunteer opportunities with a limited and predictable time commitment.

- 1) With the 2012 adoption of Supreme Court Rule 115A, attorneys may now limit the terms of their representation of a client. Kansas Legal Services has embraced the option of limiting the scope of representation and encourages volunteer attorneys to do so when appropriate. One example would be an attorney who accepts referrals of clients who have created their own divorce documents using the approved Supreme Court forms. The attorney meets with the client, reviews their situation and the forms they have prepared. By discussing topics like court jurisdiction and service, the attorney can greatly improve the likelihood the client will be successful in self-representation. When the attorney has reviewed the forms and explained to the client what will happen at the final hearing, the attorney has completed their obligation to that client. If the attorney prefers, this entire consultation can occur by phone. KLS refers cases through this program where it is unlikely a response will be filed by the Respondent. However, even if a response is filed, the attorney has completed all the work to which they agreed (via limited scope representation agreement) and has no obligation to do more with that case.
- 2) Another option for predictable time commitment involves assisting with those clients who need legal advice about their situation. By volunteering to come to a KLS office on a regular schedule at least four times a year for a three hour time slot, an attorney can meet this crucial need for legal advice. Support from KLS staff can allow the attorney to feel confident about a variety of legal matters.

While not directed exclusively at low income persons, Kansas Legal Services provides another opportunity for attorneys to serve Kansans.

The Kansas Elder Law Advice Line gives attorneys the opportunity to provide legal advice or information to Kansans age 60 and over. Attorneys volunteer for a four hour shift and

work from their own offices. Telephone technology allows KLS to seamlessly transfer the caller to the attorney.

Kansas Legal Services Supports Volunteer Attorneys

Consistent with its goal of supporting attorneys who provide pro bono services through Kansas Legal Services, KLS will provide the following support to those attorneys who request it:

- 1) Access to legal materials that are available to KLS staff. Needed materials can be requested from the pro bono coordinator in the office or from a KLS staff attorney. The www.klsprobono.org site makes it easier for attorneys to learn of volunteer opportunities in Kansas. The site also makes forms, research and other resources available to volunteer attorneys.
- 2) Access to KLS staff seminars. When KLS sponsors a Continuing Legal Education event, volunteer attorneys are notified of the event through the pro bono website. Volunteer attorneys may attend these events at no charge. These events are held as determined by the training needs of KLS and are not held every year.
- 3) Access to CLE credit for some pro bono work. Attorneys who participate in some community-based pro bono events may obtain CLE credit. Attorneys who participate in a learning session immediately followed by practicing what is learned with actual clients may receive CLE credit for both activities. KLS is only able to provide this credit when the event format meets the criteria of the CLE commission.
- 4) Retired and Inactive Attorneys. Supreme Court Rule 208 was modified in 2013 to allow retired and inactive attorneys to perform pro bono work through an approved organization. Kansas Legal Services was approved to supervise these attorneys. KLS has recruited eight Emeritus attorneys and will continue to publicize this opportunity to eligible Kansas attorneys and find ways to incorporate those attorneys in existing or new volunteer opportunities. This year, the biggest hurdle to these attorneys has been mandated e-filing, and KLS continues to work with these attorneys and the Supreme Court regarding these hurdles.
- 5) Single Employer-Licensed Attorney. After Supreme Court Rule 712 was modified in 2018 to allow Kansas lawyers licensed under this rule to perform pro bono work through an approved organization, the Supreme Court submitted a rule for public comment that would provide further pro bono guidelines for these attorneys. KLS will continue to incorporate these attorneys in to our pro bono programs and modify our policies as Supreme Court rules dictate.

Kansas Legal Services Supports Law Student Volunteers

Kansas Legal Services believes that engaging law students in pro bono service has long-term effects. The interns see firsthand the needs of low income people and experience the rewards of helping them. They leave law school determined to continue giving back in this manner. They are also excellent “extenders” of KLS staff, allowing more clients to be served than could occur through staff resources alone.

For these reasons, KLS hosts law student volunteers in a variety of ways.

- 1) The Topeka and Kansas City offices recruit and supervise law student volunteers from area law schools during the school year.
- 2) Kansas Legal Services staff teach the Elder Law Externship at the University of Kansas School of Law and host the enrolled students, who contribute 100+ hours a semester as interns.
- 3) All KLS offices recruit and supervise law student volunteers and pre-law volunteers during the summers.
- 4) Specialty student groups within the law schools are recruited to assist with events, for example the Expungement Clinics across the state

Other KLS Activities

KLS staff is engaged in recruiting and retaining volunteers through direct communication, outreach at local bar functions and other means.

KLS maintains, as part of a malpractice insurance policy, coverage for attorneys who represent clients on a pro bono basis through KLS programs, in order to protect attorneys from possible claims. This effort allows participation by attorneys who have a limited or corporate practice and do not maintain malpractice insurance or who do not want to risk the consequences of a possible claim on their policy.

KLS recognizes that not all attorneys have the type of practice or available time to volunteer. KLS will continue the private bar donation solicitation to seek direct financial contributions and volunteer commitments from private attorneys. As seen through our statewide trivia fundraiser, we continue to strive for bar involvement in our fundraising efforts.

Kansas Legal Services continues to seek the addition of ABA Model Rule 6.5 to the Kansas Code of Professional Responsibility and is currently working on this with the Kansas Access to Justice Committee. The addition of this rule would greatly increase the number of attorneys from large firms that are able to participate in clinics and short-term representation. As of now, very few of these attorneys are able to assist in clinics, which are the shortest and easiest pro bono involvement available. This rule is in place in 48 states, but not in Kansas. The text of the Rule is:

Public Service Rule 6.5 Nonprofit and Court-Annexed Limited Legal Services Programs

- (a) A lawyer who, under the auspices of a program sponsored by a nonprofit organization or court, provides short-term limited legal services to a client without expectation by either the lawyer or the client that the lawyer will provide continuing representation in the matter:
 - (1) is subject to Rules 1.7 and 1.9(a) only if the lawyer knows that the representation of the client involves a conflict of interest; and
 - (2) is subject to Rule 1.10 only if the lawyer knows that another lawyer associated with the lawyer in a law firm is disqualified by Rule 1.7 or 1.9(a) with respect to the matter.
- (b) Except as provided in paragraph (a)(2), Rule 1.10 is inapplicable to a representation governed by this Rule.

Kansas Legal Services has been successful in obtaining support for this rule change from the Kansas Bar Association Board of Governors, the Kansas Disciplinary Administrator, the Christian Legal Society, the American College of Trial Lawyers – Kansas State Committee, and several large firms in Kansas City through their pro bono liaisons.

Role of the Kansas Bar Association in Support of Pro Bono Activities

The Kansas Bar Association will support the work of Kansas Legal Services by recruiting new volunteers and recognizing the efforts of attorneys providing pro bono services.

Recruitment

The Kansas Bar Association will continue to recruit volunteers in the following manner:

- 1) KBA will continue to pursue strategies to grow the number of family law attorneys who will accept pro bono referrals. This effort is designed to meet the largest demand for pro bono referrals.
- 2) KBA staff will continue to work with KLS to recruit inactive and retired attorneys to provide legal services under Rule 208.
- 3) KBA will partner with the Kansas Bar Foundation to expand the IOLTA program, benefiting KLS through IOLTA-funded grants.
- 4) KBA will join with KLS in analyzing the results of the 2017 ABA Survey of Attorneys about their pro bono services and barriers to expand pro bono efforts.

Recognition

In 2020, the Kansas Bar Association recognized the Crawford County Bar Association and the Wyandotte County District Attorney's Office for their pro bono expungement projects. The following attorneys were awarded for service to Kansas Legal Services' clients a Pro Bono Certificate of Appreciation, which recognizes a lawyer for the delivery of direct legal services, free of charge, to the poor: Matthew Ellis, Joni Franklin, Cyndi Gilman, and Tracy Spradlin.

The Kansas Bar Association will continue to recognize attorneys for their pro bono work through the Pro Bono Award and Pro Bono Certificates. These certificates will be publicly presented at the KBA Annual meeting, recognized in the Kansas Bar Journal and on the KBA website.

The KBA will explore other methods of recognizing volunteers who have completed pro bono cases including possible public recognition during Celebrate Pro Bono week and by publication in the KBA Journal and/or the weekly e-blast.

Other Activities

The KBA has modified the member profile to allow attorneys to track the hours of pro bono service that they provide. It is hoped that this will lead to a greater ability to recognize the attorneys who provide pro bono services. In addition, this tracking will allow the KBA to report the tremendous monetary value of the services provided collectively to Kansans through the volunteer actions of its members.

Appendix A: Rural Outreach Initiative for Kansas

Rural Outreach Initiative for Kansas

Goals/Objectives:

1. Identify and target rural communities for outreach
2. Identify legal areas/issues of high need in areas
3. Identify, develop, and perform effective models for rural delivery of pro bono services
4. Use technology and local resources to build connections in rural communities of need
5. Determine successful initiatives and build upon them

Target Audience:

Rural Kansans. Part of the initiative needs to be to determine communities/locations to focus on as well as the legal issues in demand in those areas. This will be done through contacts with local courts (Judges, staff, self-help centers) as well as the community and community partners to determine what legal areas to prioritize and how best to reach those in need. Local communities tend to know what they need better than outsiders, so the local community at large should be included.

Possible Program Types:

The goal of these programs would be to tap into available resources (including urban resources when available), engage the local community and attorney base, and meet the needs of the local community. Some common program suggestions are below:

- Mobile or temporary self-help clinics (staffed by pro bono): This can be a temporary or recurring clinic site using a local library or courthouse, or perhaps the self-help center if there is one in the area, though the lack of these types of self-help centers is part of the problem. The goal would be to run the clinic with pro bono volunteers and have advance sign-up for assistance to best utilize everyone's time
- Tele or video advice clinics: Using technology to reach individuals in rural areas can be a great way to utilize urban volunteers to help meet the needs of the whole state. This could be done through virtual or in-person prescreening, and a scheduled phone or video conference with a volunteer attorney at a later date. This would require some technology capabilities on behalf of the rural individual, and may require phone or library resource collaboration.
- Collaborative outreach clinics and education: Similar to other advice clinics but with the added layer of collaboration, either with libraries, schools, faith communities, or other community resources such as Goodwill, to expand more than legal services to the rural community. This can happen in two ways:
 - Similar to what has been done in rural Alaska and other rural communities, training individuals who actively visit the homes of the community to issue-spot can mean reaching individuals who otherwise would have no knowledge of services. This can happen through educating in-home healthcare workers, meals-on-wheels groups, and other service providers who routinely visit people in rural areas to issue-spot and refer individuals to legal aid offices for services. This would likely be used to educate the community at-large as to available services rather than be simply rural pro bono outreach.
 - Partnering with an organization with a mobile unit or creating a similar model could mean reaching more individuals with multiple services, increasing the likelihood of attendance

by the public and maximizing the benefit of rural clinics. Organizing resource fairs across the area for a period of time to create momentum and interest (such as a “summer of services” traveling across the state) could mean reaching more people with more needed services. This would require collaboration with multiple service groups as well as advertising and education. Another popular trend is engaging law students through a volunteer spring break.

This option could be as simple as working with libraries and local communities to have our information available in-person or on computers, or as detailed as touring the area over a period of time presenting services.

- Rural lunch and learns: This would mean training lawyers in an area of law or giving a free CLE and lunch followed by a clinic where they could assist. This would likely work best for local attorneys, who we know are already stretched too thin. This would have greater likelihood of success if Kansas were to allow CLE credit for pro bono hours in such a clinic.

Common Hurdles in Rural Kansas:

Some of the common issues include

- Limited resources (i.e. internet services are not as prevalent or dependable in rural Kansas, neither is cell phone service)
- Lack of public transportation
- Difficulty in communication
- Access is a universal problem in rural Kansas. While communities are close-knit, distance and diminishing jobs force families to relocate. Self-help centers are few, and courthouses are not always prepared to assist self-represented litigants.
- Unique populations. Rural Kansas has a diverse population that may have different needs. A farmer or migrant worker may not have the same legal questions as an individual in urban Kansas.
- How will virtual be received? Is there an expectation for in-person services? Is in-person service perceived as better than virtual? Is this something that will deter individuals from participating?

Costs to Consider:

- Volunteer attorney time (including travel if necessary)
- Staff time
- Cost of partnerships or technology needs
- Longevity/upkeep
- Long-term or short-term project better for attendance (i.e. recurring monthly/quarterly event versus one-time event)
- Scheduling (spring break if using law students, etc.)

Plan:

Phase I

-Surveying and using results to determine locations of focus (i.e. everywhere except for urban areas, or only areas meeting certain requirements?) and what areas of law are in the greatest demand.

The first step will be **surveying** the public and the community resources in rural geographic areas to determine what legal issues are of the greatest need and what types of outreach would be the best. Doing

a statewide initial study especially in conjunction with the 2020 survey of needs, could limit cost and give an idea on what legal issues are of the greatest need as well as identify geographic areas that are in greater need than others. Ideally, focusing on what we learned from LSC given our current outreach per county and income disparity chart along with the survey of needs results, we should have a good start on locations and issues to focus on.

We will need to determine in this phase if this will be a statewide endeavor or a small local kickoff study, which will likely be a funding and administrative decision. Local studies can assist with the best interest of one community, but may not be a good example of all rural communities. Doing a statewide study at the beginning can reduce duplicating costs, but may not show the special needs of different communities and may be hard to manage. Replicating smaller initiatives may be easy once completed on a small controlled scale.

This should also include a survey of attorneys across the state and locally to see their interest in volunteering rurally. Determine whether screening to get attorneys to take full representation or clinic/unbundled is the most desired. Discuss with judges and courts in target areas to determine what they see as the greatest need.

Phase II

-Determine a statewide plan to train attorneys on basic areas of law (domestic, consumer, landlord/tenant, etc.). Consider online training videos for attorneys. Attorneys will likely need some sort of training on ethics and unbundling as well. This may go hand in hand with requesting review of rule allowing CLE credit for pro bono cases, but regardless of the survey outcomes, this will be a necessity and a useful tool for volunteers across the state.

-Analyze survey results

Phase III

-Determine what organizations to partner with (if any).

-Test out the likely program prototype based on feedback received and see what works and what is not as effective, unless deciding to roll out statewide plan in which case, determine roll out plan.

Conclusion:

This type of an initiative will take time and assistance to roll out. Surveying the public will be difficult and require outreach and time in itself. Jumping into rural clinics without knowing where or what to focus on would be pointless and a waste of our already limited resources. Perhaps this type of discovery needs a PBIF or other grant that can assist with the extra time and needs of such a plan and this should be considered. Ultimately, virtual training videos for attorneys and a survey of needs and resources will be necessary to determine what outreach avenue is best for our rural areas.