

2009 Justice Grant Awards

New Hampshire Bar Foundation Endowed Funds supporting the 2009 Justice Grants include:
Advancement of Justice Fund, Richard P. Dunfey Fund, William A. Baker Fund, Hon. William F. Batchelder Fund, Vickie Bunnell Memorial Fund, Judge Richard F. Cooper Fund, and J. Albert and Mildred E. Lynch Fund

Franklin Pierce Law Center – Public Interest Coalition.

Purpose: Public Interest Coalition Fellow Stipend **Service Area:** Statewide

The Public Interest Coalition at the Law Center is comprised of third-year law students willing to intern without compensation for the summer at New Hampshire nonprofit law agencies providing civil legal assistance to disadvantaged and low-income people in New Hampshire.

Grant Award: \$3,000

Institute on Disability/UNH

Purpose: New Hampshire Leadership Series **Service Area:** Statewide

The IOD develops improved knowledge, policies, and practices related to the lives of persons with disabilities and their families. The NH Leadership Series is an intensive seven-month program in which 35 individuals—persons with disabilities and family members receive training to become prepared for effecting change. Funds will support training a new team of parent and self-advocates working to address issues related to mental health services and policies in NH.

Grant Award: \$3,500

New Hampshire Catholic Charities

Purpose: Immigration Law and Citizenship Seminars **Service Area:** Merrimack Valley

NHCC's Immigration Legal Services provides free or reduced-fee legal services to immigrants, refugees, and asylees living in New Hampshire. Often, minors who are refugees and immigrants have a poor understanding of actions that may bar them from permanent residency or citizenship, or that may threaten deportation. The seminars will educate underserved high school students on the basics of immigration law and typical adolescent challenges, with heightened consideration of the ramifications for students' ability to ultimately become a U.S. citizen.

Grant Award: \$2,500

New Hampshire Legal Assistance

Purpose: Seminars on Laws Affecting Owners and Tenants of Mobile Home Parks **Service Area:** Statewide

Among the approximately 460 mobile home parks in NH, individuals typically own the home and an owner/cooperative owns and operates the park. The housing parks are governed by two different statutes in New Hampshire, and it can be confusing for park tenants and owners to understand the laws and regulations. NHLA will hold three educational conferences in north, central, and southern, NH, for owners and tenants of manufactured housing parks to share advice and information about the various laws.

Grant Award: \$9,700

New Hampshire Pro Bono Referral Program

Purpose: Bankruptcy Law Training for Pro Bono Attorneys **Service Area:** Statewide

NH Pro Bono Program will address the urgent need for debt relief by low-income consumers by expanding the pool of volunteer attorneys to provide bankruptcy representation. NH Pro Bono will develop an intensive hands-on attorney training series using real Pro Bono cases modeled on the program's successful innovation, *Divorce Camp*.

Grant Award: \$4,675

Voices Against Violence

Purpose: Court Advocacy Project **Service Area:** Southern Grafton County

A Direct Service Advocate assists low-income victims of domestic violence file temporary restraining orders, prepare for final hearings, and access other legal resources. The advocate acts as a liaison for the agency with legal resources, law enforcement, the prosecution, and the courts. Between 2007 and 2008, there was a 30% increase in victims served by Voices. Voices serves males and females; 90% of clients are female and 74% are victims of domestic violence. The remaining 26% are victims/survivors of sexual assault, stalking, and other crimes.

Grant Award: \$2,000

2009 Justice Grant Awards: \$25,375