Non-Exhaustive List of Ongoing Volunteer, Pro Bono, & Public Service Opportunities in the Metro-Denver Area

Denver Law encourages all students to contribute to the public good and lend their growing legal skills and non-legal support to communities and people in need, and for issues they care about. Below is a non-exhaustive list of volunteer opportunities that satisfy the public service requirement but may or may not be eligible for externship credit given the nature of the work. This list will be updated on an ongoing basis.

Reminder: Students can find many more opportunities at nonprofits and governmental entities on an ongoing basis in the externship database, whether or not students choose to work for credit, or use an opportunity to satisfy our Public Service Requirement. The Pro Bono Research Project also provides opportunities to work with private sector lawyers in their pro bono work. If you need to satisfy the Public Service Requirement through a volunteer legal experience, be sure to review the checklist.

We are committed to helping law students give back while they are in school and develop into attorneys who believe in pro bono and use both their time and expertise to support others. Contact publicinterest@law.du.edu to ask questions, to share opportunities, or to get more information. Happy volunteering!

- **CLE in Colorado (aka Colorado Bar Association):** CLE in Colorado, Inc. (Colorado Bar Association CLE [CBA-CLE]) is the nonprofit education arm of the Colorado Bar Association and the Denver Bar Association. It produces high-quality continuing legal education programs and legal publications at competitive prices. Students perform legal research, cite and source checking, and writing for state-specific legal treatises and for the CBA-CLE Legal Connection blog. **Contact: Lisa Travis-Fischer, ltravisfischer@cobar.org.**

- **Colorado Bar Association High School Mock Trial:** More than 100 high school teams participate in Colorado’s mock trial program. Approximately 1,500 students perform as attorneys and/or witnesses in a court case. Hundreds of attorneys, judges, teachers, and other community leaders volunteer their time to instruct students about the judicial system and the trial process through this educational program. For more information on the various opportunities available to law students, visit the volunteer page. **Contact: cbamock@cobar.org.**

- **Colorado Campaign for Inclusive Excellence / DBA Center for Legal Inclusiveness:** This is a 501(c)(3) membership organization with over 70 legal employers as members, primarily in Colorado but in other states as well. CLI works to make the profession more diverse and inclusive via a 3-prong approach: pipeline, recruitment, and retention/advancement via educational programming, social/networking events, and pipeline initiatives. The focus is on matters related to diversity & inclusion, implicit bias, cultural competency, especially as it relates to the legal profession. **Contact: Abe Kaul, akauf@legalinclusiveness.org** (resume and cover letter required).

- **Colorado Lawyers for Colorado Veterans:** This pro bono program offers free legal clinics on the second Tuesday of each month from 12pm-2pm in Denver to support veterans in a range of issue areas. **Contact: via website form.**

- **Commons on Champa:** The Commons is a nationally recognized integrated resource for entrepreneurs and a profound catalyst for economic growth in Denver. Volunteers will meet with participants in the business development program to help them understand basic legal issues that face entrepreneurs and startups. This is best for students involved in the Venture Law Society at Denver Law. **Contact:** [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSjfrRDevY9rk7qD17YNMFqRESrx_3qV7S52BN8bVQ-Z96KiNA/viewform?c=0&w=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSjfrRDevY9rk7qD17YNMFqRESrx_3qV7S52BN8bVQ-Z96KiNA/viewform?c=0&w=1).

- **Denver Legal Night:** Denver Legal Night is an open house where volunteer attorneys/students provide free legal and referral information to people who cannot afford legal services. Areas of law addressed commonly include: immigration, family, criminal, housing, consumer and bankruptcy, and employment. Legal nights are held two nights each month on the first and third Wednesday of each month: at Centro San Juan Diego. **Contact:** via website form.

- **Denver Urban Debate League:** The Denver Urban Debate League (DUDL) is dedicated to improving educational and life outcomes for underserved students in the Denver metro area’s public schools by providing unlimited opportunities for students to learn and achieve through competitive debate activities.
DUDL’s vision is a simple one: that all urban youth graduate from high school prepared to succeed in college and in their careers and to contribute to their communities. Students serve as judges, help students prepare their debates, and volunteer at tournaments. **Contact:** DUDLVolunteers@gmail.com or Ruby Nunez, ruby.denverurbandebate@gmail.com.

• **Denver Urban Ministries (DenUM):** DenUM was organized in 1981 by a group of United Methodist laity and clergy who saw a need for a concentrated response to issues related to poverty in Denver’s most impoverished neighborhoods. DenUM prioritizes meeting basic needs, encouraging self-sufficiency, and educating our community, and increasing numbers of people rely on DenUM during these critical times. Students will alternate between conducting intake interviews with the clients and sitting in on client meetings, providing insight and advice. There are usually 4 to 12 clients that must be seen on any given Tuesday. This is a clinic. Areas of law are varied, but the top five are landlord-tenant law; employment law; collections/small claims/county court/FDPCA; criminal law-related issues (warrants, sealing arrest records, probation, etc.); and family law. **Contact:** Jean Arnold, jeanarnold@arnoldarnold.com.

• **International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS), Office of International Affairs at the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus:** This office provides expert immigration advice to international students, scholars, hiring units, and the faculty and staff who educate and support them. ISSS is responsible for ensuring compliance with complex immigration rules and regulations when foreign nationals come to the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus to study, teach, conduct research, provide clinical care, or engage in other academic pursuits. Volunteers assist with filing a variety of employment-based petitions, research and present on current and proposed immigration policies, and shadow experienced professionals in client meetings. **Contact:** Michelle Larson-Krieg, michelle.larson-krieg@ucdenver.edu (resume and cover letter required).

• **Law School Yes We Can/Si Se Puede:** This is the first law school pipeline program of its kind in Colorado – a program that targets high achieving college freshman from diverse backgrounds and mentors and trains them for four years. Led by Judge Christine Arguello, mentor teams of two lawyers and a law student work with each fellow. Apply to be a mentor. **Contact:** Winter Torres, Isssp.colorado@gmail.com.

• **LYRIC (Learn Your Rights in Colorado):** The purpose of LYRIC is to teach youth about their Constitutional rights. The programming aims to bring Constitutional law to life for juveniles in schools, juvenile justice facilities, and community settings. LYRIC volunteers are trained and then must understand how to teach principles of the 4th, 5th, and 6th Amendments, and also be able to facilitate discussion and questions from students. Note: students can also earn credit for work with LYRIC as part of the Youth Rights Workshop when offered. **Contact:** hello@lyricolorado.org.

• **Metro Volunteer Lawyers (MVL):** Metro Volunteer Lawyers’ aims to bridge the gap in access to justice by coordinating the provision of pro bono legal services by volunteer lawyers within the Denver Metro Area to people who could not otherwise afford legal services for their civil legal issues, mostly family law. MVL has been operating continuously since 1966. A department of the Denver Bar Association, the non-profit organization is also supported by Colorado Legal Services and the bar associations of the 1st Judicial District, Douglas-Elbert, Adams-Broomfield, Arapahoe, and Denver counties. Students work in the clinics and support the attorneys and pro bono attorneys in their cases. **Contact:** Toni-Anne Dasent, tdasent@denbar.org.

• **Mom’s Fight Back:** This organization is always looking for law students to court watch to observe civil and criminal proceedings and be a presence in the courtroom. The court monitoring will provide data and evidence of what is happening in the courts. Most of the cases will be surrounding sexual assault cases, child abuse, and domestic violence cases. Relevant training will be provided; volunteers can commit to any amount of time. **Contact:** hello@momsfightback.org.

• **Project Safeguard Clinic:** The Colorado Hispanic Bar Association and the CBA’s Spanish Speaking Lawyers Committee partner with Project Safeguard to provide free divorce and allocation of parental rights clinics to Spanish-speaking victims of domestic violence. Students can explain domestic forms and procedure, giving legal information, and provide referrals to free legal resources. No family law experience is required, but volunteers must be able to speak Spanish conversationally. The schedule is here. **Contact:** psg.clinic@gmail.com.

• **Virtual Pro Se Clinic:** The VPC clinics offer free monthly legal clinics at public libraries for parties who need legal assistance but don’t have or cannot afford to hire an attorney. The point of these free clinics is to provide one-on-one interaction with a knowledgeable volunteer attorney to help folks understand the legal process and procedure in a wide variety of civil legal actions. This is not **pro bono** representation, and the volunteer attorney’s discussion with VPC patrons about process and procedure does not constitute legal representation.
or legal advice. All VPC clinics are done by computer link; students and lawyers participate anywhere they have internet access and a webcam equipped device (smartphone, laptop, tablet, etc.). Issues encountered will include civil issues, like landlord tenant law, probate law, family law, veterans’ benefits, protection orders, and more. Clinics run on different dates/times throughout the year and many are held in the late afternoon and early evening. **Contact: Ric Morgan, morgan@hayday.org.**

*• Working Women Helping Women Work:* Participants go to Denver Women's Correctional Facility to meet with inmates who are within six months of release and provide one-on-one career and resume counseling. The end product is a finished and polished resume which helps these women find a job they're excited about upon their release. Each volunteer has their own clients and schedules meetings with them whenever and however they see fit. Generally, at three meetings are needed to finalize one person’s materials. If the inmate needs or would like interview coaching, volunteers sometimes schedule an additional session or two. All volunteers are allowed to enter the facility up to four times without receiving any official safety training. **Contact: Katie McLoughlin, Katie.mcloughlin@state.co.us.**