

PLACE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OFF TO A RECORD START IN 2009!

The spring PLACE seminars on preventing legal difficulties and educating the homeless on their rights and responsibilities have gone off to a rousing start. On Wednesday, May 27th 320 of the homeless attended the criminal law presentation at Noon Day Ministry. At Joy Junction, 85 attended a similar evening session. The criminal law presentation at Joy Junction was made by George Stevens. Laura Boyett, Mike Carrico, George, Steve and Linda Williams, Sherri Trescott and John and Peggy Robb conducted private interviews and helped a record number of 17. The record number of private interviews kept all lawyer volunteers busy. Two clients made decisions for Christ. Thanks to everyone making these programs so successful.

Additional sessions were held in June at Albuquerque Rescue Mission (“ARM”) and a second session at Joy Junction. Jim Roach was the presenter aided by interviewer Sherri Trescott at ARM. Allison Pieroni was the featured speaker on family law at the second Joy Junction session attended by 50. Gerry Dixon, Joe Werntz, Betty Honce, John Robb and Sherri Trescott helped 11 clients with personal problems at private interviews

NMCLA WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER

In January, the NMCLA Board of Directors voted unanimously to elect Mike Carrico as a member of the Board.

Mike is married to Susan, and has two daughters Emily (13) and Maggie (12), who collectively manage a household of three dogs, two cats, three turtles, a bird, two tree frogs, and an assortment of fish. Mike grew up in the farmlands of central Illinois, and migrated to New Mexico after law school. Mike practices law at the Modrall, Sperling Lawfirm, where he has worked for the past 18 years. Mike’s practice involves primarily litigation of education and employment cases, with an emphasis on special education and civil rights issues. He also litigates commercial disputes.

Thanks to Christian Legal Aid, Mike now dabbles in public housing, social security, quashing warrants, defending misdemeanors and an unlimited host of other issues. Susan, an Albuquerque native, is a fourth grade teacher at Hope Christian School. Emily and Maggie are 7th and 6th graders at Hope Christian School. The family attends Grace Church in Albuquerque.

When not at work, Mike enjoys biking (both road and mountain) and tries to ride his bike to work at least three days a week. Mike also enjoys watching his girls participate in drill team, soccer, music recitals, science fair and other kid events, and to a substantially lesser extent checking 6th and 7th grade math and science homework.

Mike makes a wonderful addition to the NMCLA Board and we look forward to working with him for many years to come.



NEW MEXICO CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID
300 CENTRAL SW, SUITE 1500-WEST
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87102

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UPCOMING EVENT – Save the Date

October 23, 2009, is the date for NMCLA’s Refresher Course. Please mark your calendars to attend. Most likely we will be approved for 2.5-3.0 CLE credits and lunch will be provided.

EXPANSION TO SOUTHWEST VALLEY LOCATION

In April, Jim Roach and John Robb met with Pastors Danny Sanchez and Joe Williams of Victory Outreach Church, and Larry Moss of Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church for an exploratory luncheon to discuss services NMCLA can provide to their program. Victory Outreach administers residential ministries serving homeless men and women in the Southwest Valley. Luncheon discussion focused on the type of service NMCLA and its volunteers can provide to meet the needs of Southwest Valley residents. When finalized, this will be NMCLA's first expansion to an area in great need of our assistance.

NMCLA NEW VOLUNTEER TRAINING

NMCLA presented its annual New Volunteer Training Seminar on Friday, May 1, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the State Bar Center. It was wonderful to see several new and prospective volunteer attorneys as well as current volunteers at the training. The seminar provided 3.0 CLE credits and lunch was provided.

The faculty were Joe Allred, Jim Roach, Mike Carrico, Joe Werntz, Robyn Hoffman, Rob McIntyre and John Robb. Attendees were Alan Toledo, Ralph Trujillo, Regina Moss, Samantha Madrid, Alexander Schor, Chris Trammell, Rosario Vega Lynn, Chris Collins, Whitney Johnson, Laura Boyett, Robert McIntyre, and Chad Proski.



FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

On Friday, April 17, 2009, NMCLA held its first Fellowship Luncheon of the year. Brian Egan, Assistant City Attorney, spoke on the topics of public housing and Section 8 Rental Assistance programs. This was an especially relevant topic since we are seeing an increasing amount of legal issues related public housing in our interviews. It was a valuable and informative session and time of fellowship.

In attendance were Suann Hendren, Mike Carrico, Amada Sanchez, Rosalie Frago, Mike Gallegos, Anne Marie Puglisi, Jim Roach, Robyn Hoffman, John Robb, Lucia O'Connor, Laura Boyett, Bill L'Esperance, Deborah Stambaugh, and Samantha Madrid (law students), Whitney Johnson, Chris Trammell, and Steven Williams.



Brian Egan, Luncheon Speaker

