

JDC A TO Z

The Justice & Diversity Center (JDC) of The Bar Association of San Francisco is one of the largest providers of pro bono legal services in San Francisco, assisting more than nine thousand individuals every year. Its educational programs, which help hundreds of students each year, work to increase diversity in the legal profession.

The **ACADEMY** of Arts and Sciences High School is home to JDC's School-To-College (STC) program, which provides students with coaching and services to help them prepare to graduate and enroll in college. Since 1999, when the program started, 1,451 participating students have attended college, a success rate of 97 percent.



JDC has been serving the San Francisco **COMMUNITY** since 1977, advancing fairness and equality by providing pro bono legal services to low-income people and educational programs that foster diversity in the legal profession.

In 2015, **VOLUNTEER** attorneys, legal and social service professionals, and law students donated nearly **43,000** hours to JDC.



Founded in 1988, the **HOMELESS ADVOCACY PROJECT** (HAP) is JDC's largest individual project. HAP provides legal services and supporting social services to individuals and families in San Francisco who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness, while prioritizing individuals who have mental health disabilities. Through the work of staff attorneys, social workers, advocates, student interns, and volunteers, HAP serves two thousand clients per year.

The Low Income Taxpayer Clinic, a service of JDC's **TAX PROJECT**, assists low-income taxpayers who have tax issues, including taxpayers in controversy with the IRS, individuals who have filed a petition with the U.S. Tax Court, and individuals who need help obtaining other relief for a tax obligation. The Tax Project also provides assistance to unrepresented litigants on the day of the U.S. Tax Court docket call.

JDC provides **PRO BONO** representation to over

9,000

individuals each year.



The Arthur and Charlotte **ZITRIN** Foundation has provided ten scholarships, renewable for three years, since 1999 through the Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarship Program and has also funded the Homeless Advocacy Project's work. The foundation, led by Richard Zitrin, is committed to serving the homeless and to promoting diversity within the legal profession.

301 **BATTERY** Street, third floor, San Francisco, is home to JDC's downtown staff. HAP is located at 125 Hyde Street.



The LGBT **YOUTH** Project recruits volunteer lawyers to speak with students at local high schools' LGBT alliance groups, juvenile halls, and LGBT-related nonprofits.

Since being established in 1998, with goals to reaffirm a commitment to diversity in legal education and the legal profession, the Bay Area Minority Law Student **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM** has awarded more than

\$1.7 MILLION

in scholarships to ninety-three students attending law schools throughout the Bay Area.



With emphasis on serving victims of domestic violence, the **FAMILY LAW PROJECT** assists clients with a range of family law matters, such as divorce; legal separation; establishment of paternity, child custody, and visitation matters; and support issues. JDC's Family Law Project helps more than a thousand individuals each year.

Twice a month, San Francisco residents are invited to ask an attorney questions about legal issues at the **LEGAL ADVICE AND REFERRAL CLINIC**. Held on Saturdays, one at UC Hastings College of the Law and the other in the Bayview District, attorneys from many practice areas answer legal questions, law students assist with client intake, and other volunteers write letters and help make referrals to social service organizations.



The **MOCK TRIAL** program is an interscholastic competition where San Francisco high school students try hypothetical criminal cases. The program helps students acquire a working knowledge of the judicial system, develop analytical and communication skills, and gain an understanding of their obligations and responsibilities as participating members of our society.

JDC's **EVICION DEFENSE PROJECT** provides representation to clients during their eviction proceedings. These cases provide excellent litigation experience for attorneys as the procedures are the same as those involved in business litigation, discovery, motions, settlement, and trial—on a more manageable level.



San Francisco is the nation's first "**RIGHT TO CIVIL COUNSEL CITY**," which recognizes that everyone should have access to legal services in cases that involve basic human needs, including housing, child custody, sustenance, safety, and health. JDC's Right to Civil Counsel Program offers attorney volunteers full-scope and limited-scope opportunities.

NONPROFIT organizations in northern California that directly serve low-income and underserved communities are aided through the Community Organization Representation Project (CORP). CORP's mission is to provide free business law services through "legal wellness" workshops put on by transactional attorneys.



In 2009, BASF launched the **JUDICIAL MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**, which creates opportunities for judges, commissioners, and administrative law judges to mentor diverse attorneys in at least their fifth year of practice. Attorneys gain strong professional relationships with the judges and are inspired to pursue a judicial career.

JDC's Annual **GALA** is a highlight of the year, drawing more than five hundred guests from the San Francisco legal community. The Gala celebrates JDC donors and volunteers.

DESTINATION LAW SCHOOL provides information about and resources for law school and the legal profession to diverse undergraduate students at Bay Area colleges and community colleges with the goal to help diversify the legal profession.

Donating **ONLINE** makes it extremely easy for you to support community programs. Make a difference and support one of the numerous programs that help San Franciscans. To donate visit JDC.SFBAR.ORG.