



Volunteer Lawyers for Appalachian Kentucky

Fall 2019



Eula Hall (founder, seated), Devon Salge, and Corey Hemmerich (Notre Dame law students) and Mary Going (Pro Bono Director, AppalReD) at Mud Creek Clinic

VLAK Intensifies Clinic Activity

VLAK has conducted eight pro se divorce clinics throughout its service area thus far in 2019, with one more to come in Prestonsburg in October, to be assisted by law students from the University of Notre Dame.

Law students, supervised by Pro Bono Director Mary Going, have been critical to the success of these clinics, which in recent years have served more than one hundred clients per year. In addition to Notre Dame, students from the University of Chicago, the University of California at Berkeley, Columbia, Duke, the University of Kentucky and Appalachian School of Law have assisted clinic attendees in completing the documents necessary to file for dissolution of marriage.

In addition to these divorce clinics, students from Notre Dame gave a well-attended presentation to participants at the Floyd County Senior Center in Prestonsburg about living wills and powers of attorney. The participants were actively involved in discussing their needs and concerns, and suggested additional topics of interest for future presentations.

A valued part of the experience for Notre Dame and Berkeley students serving during their fall/spring breaks has been a visit to Mud Creek Clinic in Floyd County, to speak with Eula Hall, long-time community organizer and founder of the this rural healthcare clinic providing care to low-income and underserved patients in the area. Eula's experiences over the past several decades in improving the lives of those in eastern Kentucky provide an important context for the students, who describe this visit as one of the highlights of their experience.

In addition to her assistance with the divorce clinics, Cassie Robinson, law student from Appalachian School of Law, spent several weeks with us, researching various other pro se clinics that may be appropriate for our clients, including a wills, power of attorney and living wills clinic and a consumer law clinic. We will find her input valuable as we continue to develop our pro se offerings and work to empower our clients to resolve as many of their legal issues as possible independently or with minimal assistance.

We also look forward to continuing to work with law students from a variety of schools; their enthusiasm, suggestions, and assistance are a great enhancement to our program!



Cassie Robinson, student Appalachian School of Law

Supported by:



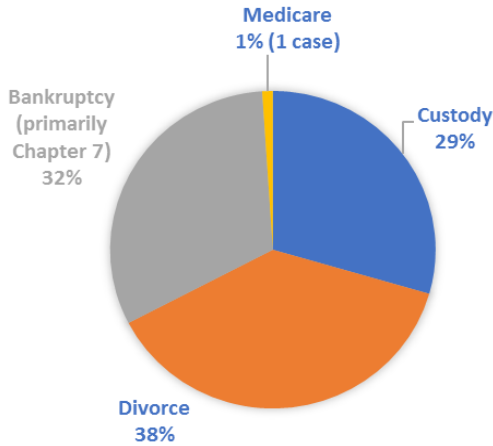
LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

And the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Kentucky IOTA funds, other federal funds and private donations

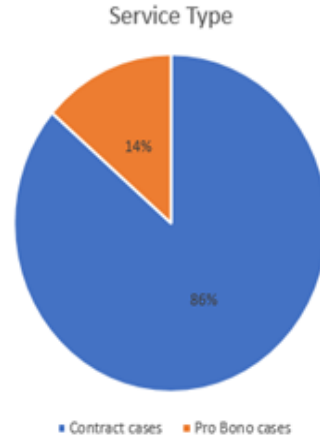




CASE TYPE

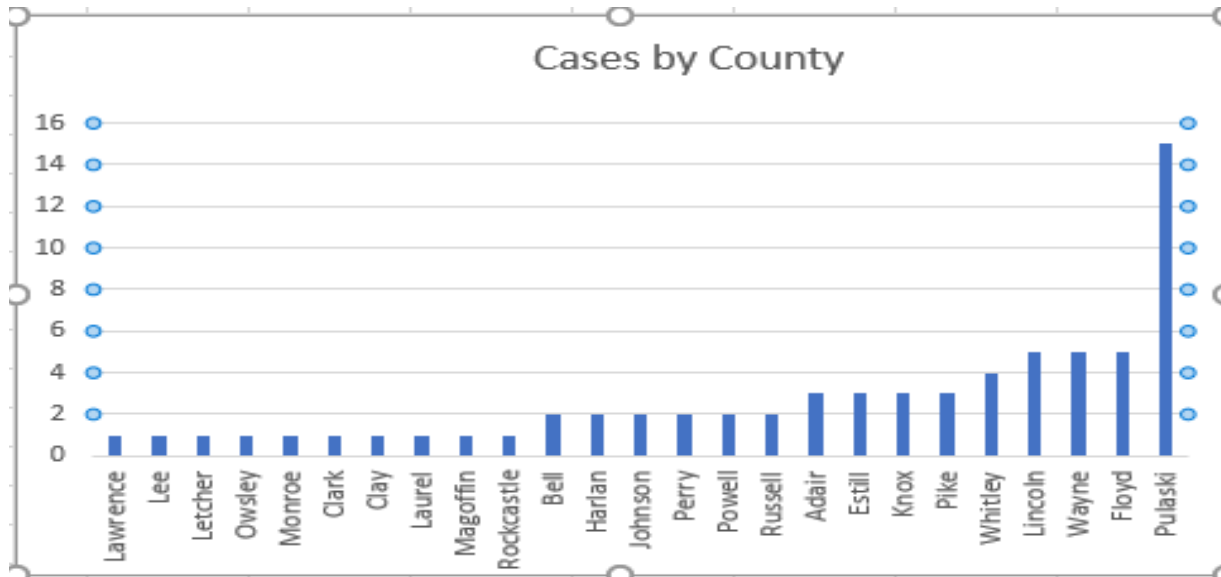


SERVICE TYPE



Volunteer cases currently open and active as of October 17, 2019.

Cases by County



Attorneys and Law Students Needed!

VLAK is in need of attorneys throughout our service region to accept pro bono and reduced-fee civil cases for direct representation, as well as to assist with pro se clinics (where law students are also welcome and needed!) at sites throughout the region. New and varied opportunities are developing as we speak. Malpractice insurance is provided. If you are interested in this opportunity to serve your community, please contact Mary Going at maryg@ardfky.org or Dana Branham at danab@ardfky.org for more information.





Current Volunteer Attorneys

As of this writing, the following volunteer attorneys are working on cases for our clients:

(and, of course, our long, nation-wide list of attorneys assisting our clients with Eric C. Conn fraud victims continues its valiant work!)

- Trina Gregory
- Robert Morrin
- Stella House
- Warren Keller
- Stefanie Kingsley
- Marsha Taylor
- Beth Wesley
- Robert Brown
- Katherine Adams
- Don Bailey
- Nicholas Calmes
- Whitney Howard
- Jessie Moberg
- Jill Haste
- Tammy Howard
- Clair Edwards
- Daryle Ronning
- Steven Bailey
- Brian Reed
- Marilyn Neumann
- Ron Diddle

Special Appeal

If you would like to provide pro bono assistance to AppalReD clients but cannot find the time in your busy schedules to commit to extended case representation, please consider assisting us with a pro se clinic. These are “one-off” opportunities to assist clients and mentor law students while clients complete the documents necessary to file divorce petitions (and hopefully other case types in the future). Clinics are conducted in various locations throughout the year. Contact Mary Going at maryg@ardfky.org for more details!

Top 10 Reasons for Doing Pro Bono Work

1. ***As an opportunity to “try out” new areas of the law that you may be interested in pursuing (with mentoring as needed).***
2. ***As an opportunity to work with law students participating in pro se clinics, and re-capturing that idealistic drive that sent you to law school in the first place.***
3. ***As an opportunity to have volunteer hours to enter on your annual Bar registration form.***
4. ***As an opportunity to “cross cultures” and meet people outside your usual “comfort zone”.***
5. ***As an opportunity to “do something” about the poverty you see portrayed on the nightly news.***
6. ***As an opportunity to set a good example for others in the legal community.***
7. ***As an opportunity to improve the public’s image of the legal profession.***
8. ***As an opportunity to generate prove your expertise in court and to potential new private-paying clients.***
9. ***As an opportunity to extend a helping hand to another human being in a crisis situation.***
10. ***As an opportunity for warm and fuzzy feelings!!***





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Volunteer Lawyers for Appalachian Kentucky is an entity of Appalachian Research & Defense Fund of KY. Its mission is to supplement AppalReD Legal Aid's resources by engaging the private bar in providing access to high quality legal representation, advice and other assistance in civil legal matters to those in its service area who because of their low income would otherwise be without such support.

VLAk serves the following counties in eastern and south-central Kentucky: Adair, Bell, Breathitt, Casey, Clark, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Estill, Floyd, Garrard, Harlan, Jackson, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Lawrence, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Lincoln, McCreary, Madison, Magoffin, Martin, Monroe, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Powell, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Wayne, Whitley and Wolfe.



Justice is justly represented blind, because she sees no difference in the parties concerned. She has but one scale and weight for rich and poor, great and small.

William Penn

