

A Snapshot History of LAW Advocates

- **June 1986:** Fifty-three local lawyers sign up for first pro bono panel after ABA Private Bar Involvement Project talks at bar meeting
- **Summer 1986:** Bar Association partners with Opportunity Council and Evergreen Legal Services office to obtain staff time to help create Pro Bono Program
- **Fall 1986:** Successful application by three organizations for \$15,000 grant from Legal Foundation of Washington
- **March 1987:** Program opens its doors and 12-member advisory board put in place
- **April 1989:** Lawyer **Joe Pemberton** receives one of four national ABA Pro Bono Publico awards for his work in establishing program
- **July 1991:** Board decides to create office and organization independent from Opportunity Council
- **1991:** Lawyer **Dan Raas** receives WSBA Pro Bono Award
- **October 1991:** Program opens its first separate offices with director & part-time secretary. Bar votes to raise dues to help cover expenses
- **1993:** Lawyer **Deborra Garrett** receives WSBA Pro Bono Award
- **1994:** popular *Street Law* program
- **December 1995:** Northwest Justice Project becomes successor to Evergreen Legal Services
- **October 1997:** *Project SAFER* attorney hired with funding from state and local grants
- **January 1998:** Board changes name of program to LAW Advocates
- **2002:** Program faces non-renewal of federal grant; board, staff, bar, and community meet the challenge to continue program
- **July 2003:** **Laurie Powers** receives WSBA Local Hero Award
- **October 2005:** State grant for Project *SAFER* eliminated—Legal Foundation grant and local contributions keep program running
- **July 2006:** *SAFER* moved to NWJ Project; Pro Bono program continues
- **October 2006:** Lawyers take Orders nets \$32,000 averting crisis
- **2007:** LAW Advocates participates in statewide/regional planning with statewide goal of building cohesive legal aid network
- **June 2007:** Weekly clinic with Paula McCandlis established for pro se domestic violence litigants with parenting plans. Funded through public grant managed by court