

## IAM PRO BONO COMMITTEE REPORT

July 16, 2020

The Pro Bono Committee held its first meeting of the year by Zoom on May 19, 2020. After extremely dedicated service several members have been recruited to share their talents with other IAM initiatives. We have expanded our membership to include several international members to explore new initiatives described below.

We continue our interest in expanding programming in Los Angeles. Several members are reaching out to professionals, agencies and service organizations in light of needs created by the pandemic.

We have had a conversation with an organization called Women in Film, which is involved in Los Angeles, New York and Georgia with potential litigants with significant #MeToo claims. If appropriate claims are presented that qualify under our pro bono criteria, they will be evaluated by the Committee.

Given the explosion of online mediation during the pandemic, the committee discussed dual possibilities relating to our international status. First is the role of our international members as volunteer mediators for qualifying matters pending anywhere. Second, is the possibility that IAM volunteer mediators be available for qualifying pro bono mediations outside of their jurisdiction. For example, if a qualifying mediation is presented from Kenya, and a local mediator is not available, but a competent mediator can be located in the United States, technology may now make that possible.

Additional goals for the Committee include the following:

1. Expand our relationship with public interest organizations.
2. Growth of committee membership in satellite test areas appears daunting unless additional volunteers join the Committee.
3. Publicize the work of the committee (e.g., Los Angeles Daily Journal) to attract more users.
4. Continue to evaluate plans to schedule a training program with Bet Tzedek Legal Services in Los Angeles.
5. Reach out to IAM Members on the ListServe to encourage (a) membership on the committee and/or willingness to take cases; and (b) publicize the availability of the program to appropriate clients.

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