

Pro Bono Opportunities
NJ State Bar Web Posting Form

A. Contact Information

Organization Name: Statewide Parent Advocacy Network

Organization Address: 35 Halsey Street, 4th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102

Contact: Martha Brecher (martha.brecher@spannj.org)

Telephone #: (973) 642-8100

Fax #: (973) 642-8080

Web Address: www.spannj.org

B. Organization Information

1. In a few sentences state the overall mission of your organization.

The mission of the Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN) is to empower families and to inform and involve professionals and other individuals interested in the healthy development and educational rights of children throughout NJ. SPAN's foremost commitment is to children with the greatest need due to disability, poverty, discrimination, geographic location, or other special circumstances. Each year, we assist thousands of parents, educators and health care service providers throughout the state in accessing appropriate education and health care services for children.

2. Please use the boxes (check as many as apply) and lines below to identify and briefly describe the population(s) for which your organization provides services, be sure to include information on characteristics such as age, disability or income, that might be used in establishing eligibility for your services.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors/Elderly | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children/Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disabled |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low-income generally | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Eligibility requirements:

3. Service area:
- Statewide
 - County based (please list counties served)

C. Pro Bono Opportunities

4. Please use the boxes below, by checking the general topic area and any specific sub-specialties, to indicate the substantive areas in which you are seeking *pro bono* support.

Family

- Custody
- Child Support
- Divorce
- Domestic Violence
- Termination of Parental Rights
- Visitation

Housing/Landlord Tenant

Immigration

- Asylum
- Naturalization

Health

- SSI/SSD

- Wills

Consumer

- Bankruptcy
- Credit/Debt counseling
- Predatory Lending

Transactional

- Non-profit corporate
- Community Development
- Tax

Senior/Elder law

- Bankruptcy
- Credit Counseling
- Predatory Lending

Civil Rights

Guardianship

Other Discrimination,

ADA, NJ LAD, Rehabilitation Act of 1973
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
(IDEA)

Employment/Unemployment

*We need attorneys to attend IEP meetings with families and assist families with informal and formal (mediations and due process hearings) dispute resolution.

5. Does your organization provide substantive training to volunteer attorneys?

Yes No In some cases

If yes, please describe: We provide training to parents and school personnel on a variety of special education issues, with specific focus on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the NJ Administrative Code. We also offer technical assistance and publications on these subjects, as described in our website.

6. Does your organization provide other types of support? If yes, please explain.

Litigation support Yes No

Fee waivers Yes No

Translators Yes No
Spanish

Other Yes No

7. What, if any, supervision does your organization provide for volunteer attorneys?

SPAN has two attorneys on staff: Diana Autin, Executive Co-Director, and Martha Brecher, Legal Director. Both attorneys have litigation experience and are familiar with the relevant substantive and procedural law. In addition, we have skilled technical assistance staff who are available to assist volunteer attorneys in understanding parents' rights.

8. Does your organization provide malpractice coverage for volunteer attorneys?

Yes No

If yes, please describe: _____

10. Does your organization require volunteer attorneys to carry malpractice insurance?

Yes No

If yes, please
explain: _____

11. Has the New Jersey Supreme Court approved your program for a Madden exemption?

Yes No - have not applied.