

Attorneys Receive:

- Hands-on legal training
- Training in law practice management
- Help establishing alternative billing models
- Subsidized office space/equipment
- Access to client referral programs
- Networking opportunities
- Free CLE, Bar dues, Mentorship fees
- Free legal research tools, forms bank
- Low-cost malpractice insurance

Areas of Law:

- Family Law
- Business Law for Small Businesses
- Consumer Issues
- Debt Problems
- SSDI
- Worker's Compensation
- Landlord/Tenant Law
- Adult Guardianship
- Small-Estate Planning
- Children's Law
- Foreclosure Defense

Steering Committee Members:

- Josh Allison (Attorney, Sheehan & Sheehan, P.A., Member Board of Bar Commissioners)
- Richard Bosson (New Mexico Supreme Court Justice, retired)
- Jack Brant (Attorney, Law Office of Jack Brant PC)
- Bradford J. Dalley (Judge, Eleventh Judicial District)
- Jerry Dixon (Attorney, Dixon Scholl, Carrillo, PA)
- Veronica Dorato (Attorney, Dorato & Weems Law Firm LLC)
- Cynthia A. Fry (Judge, Court of Appeals, retired)
- Shasta Inman (Liaison from Young Lawyer's Division, Attorney)
- Laurie Hedrich (Attorney, Hedrich Law PA)
- Heather Harrigan (Assistant Dean for Student & Career Services, UNM School of Law)
- Dorene Kuffer (Attorney, Law Office of Dorene A. Kuffer PC)
- Ed Marks (Executive Director, New Mexico Legal Aid)
- Nan G. Nash (ATJ Liaison, Chief Judge, Second Judicial District)
- Ruth Pregonzer (Director, Entrepreneurs in Community Lawyering, State Bar Foundation)
- Stormy Ralstin (General Counsel, State Bar of New Mexico)
- Antonia Roybal-Mack (Attorney, Roybal-Mack Law PC)
- Maureen A. Sanders (Attorney, Sanders & Westbrook PC)
- William D. Slease (Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Disciplinary Board of the New Mexico Supreme Court)
- Richard Spinello (Executive Director, State Bar of New Mexico)
- Bonnie Stepleton (Appellate Mediator, NM Court of Appeals)
- Linda M. Vanzi (Judge, Court of Appeals)
- Julie Vargas (Judge, Court of Appeals)

Community Partners:

State Bar of New Mexico
University of New Mexico School of Law
New Mexico Access to Justice Commission
New Mexico Legal Aid



New Mexico State Bar Foundation

5121 Masthead NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109
505-797-6000

www.nmbar.org/ecl

Entrepreneurs in Community Lawyering



New Mexico's Solo and Small Practice Incubator

Program Goals:

- Train new attorneys to be successful solo practitioners
- Ensure that moderate-income New Mexicans have access to affordable legal services
- Expand legal services in rural areas of New Mexico

www.nmbar.org/ecl

The Challenge:

- A large percentage of New Mexico residents cannot afford traditional full-representation legal services. (Approximately 70% of New Mexicans have earnings below 400% of poverty.)
- These New Mexicans often end up representing themselves, forgoing the legal help they need, or turning to online services to meet their legal needs.

The Opportunity:

- The unmet need for legal services for middle-income people creates an excellent business opportunity for new attorneys who want to open solo and small firm practices throughout New Mexico.
- Both middle-income New Mexicans and new solo attorneys would greatly benefit from the establishment of innovative law practices that provide affordable legal services.
- For this win-win solution to succeed, new solo attorneys need help to successfully transition from the academic focus of law school to the practical requirements of representing clients and running a law firm.

The Solution:

- Legal Incubators provide structured education in the practice of law and law practice management.
- Legal Incubator participating attorneys provide legal services at affordable rates for underserved communities.

Successful new solo and small firm practitioners

**Entrepreneurs in
Community Lawyering**
*New Mexico's Solo and
Small Practice Incubator*

*Affordable legal services
for moderate-income
New Mexicans*

- Legal Incubators provide an environment in which to explore expanded use of technology, alternative fee arrangements, and newer models of practice that facilitate the efficient delivery of legal services to a larger client base.

Development of Legal Incubators:

- The first Legal Incubator started at City University of New York (CUNY) in 2007.
- Nearly 50 legal Incubators are currently operating throughout the United States today.
- The ABA Standing Committee on the Delivery of Legal Services has a sub-section dedicated to Legal Incubators.
- Major Foundations such as MacArthur and Ford have donated substantial funds in support of Legal Incubator projects.

Thank you to our ECL supporter:



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Creating a better way.

If you would like to become a supporter of the ECL program, contact 505-797-6007.