

Volunteering with the Legal Services Developer Program

Are you a paralegal or attorney that would like to give back to the seniors of Montana? The Legal Services Developer Program (LSDP) might be the right fit for you. The LSDP hosts the Kelly Moore Memorial Document Clinics throughout the state, at which seniors, age 60+, adults with a disability, and enrolled tribal members, can work with volunteer legal professionals to draft their estate planning documents like Wills, POAs, TODDs, etc., free of charge. It is a well-reviewed program by volunteers and participants alike.

Volunteers for our clinics receive a volunteer packet including all of our current document templates, important topics to discuss with clients, instructions on how to fill out our forms, and more. Volunteers are encouraged to reach out to LSDP staff with any questions upon reviewing the materials. Volunteers are expected to have reviewed the Financial Exploitation Screening Tool, included in the Volunteer Packet, and must be prepared to report any suspected abuses to clinic staff.

Clients will have been pre-screened for any issues and will have gone through an extensive intake process. The results of that intake are provided to volunteers, along with a list of documents that the client is interested in learning more about. Volunteers will discuss the various documents and how they function so the client can decide if the form is right for them. Once the needed documents are identified, the volunteer uses clinic computers loaded with fillable templates to draft the forms. They will be reviewed by our staff attorney and when approved, will be printed, notarized, and copied for the clients.

Volunteers are reimbursed for mileage and per diem, and lodging and lunch is provided. We are a tight knit group of passionate advocates, and we would love to add you to the team. Please consider volunteering with the Legal Services Developer Program. To do so, contact Project Coordinator, Richard Heitstuman, at Richard.heitstuman@mt.gov or 406-417-8648.