## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

The **Committee on Justice Initiatives (CJI)** is the umbrella for the work of the four initiatives listed below. CJI and the initiatives, which are referred to as the **Justice Initiatives Community (CJI&I)**, oversee and guide various programs and projects to help assure high quality legal services for all Michigan citizens. This work involves over 75 volunteers, mostly members of the bench or bar, who generously provide their time and expertise. CJI&I is supported by the staff of the State Bar of Michigan's Justice Initiatives Division.

## **Criminal Issues Initiative**

The dual purposes of this initiative are to address issues of indigent criminal defense in Michigan and to educate the legal community on civil collateral consequences.

## **Equal Access Initiative**

This group develops projects, programs and trainings to benefit underserved populations on issues such as race and ethnicity, gender, and disability.

## **Justice Policy Initiative**

The members examine, analyze and recommend positions on proposed legislation, court rules, and other policies relevant to the justice initiatives issues.

## Pro Bono Initiative

This group encourages and coordinates free or discounted fees for civil legal services to aid low-income individuals in need of legal assistance. They also support trainings to assist in these endeavors.

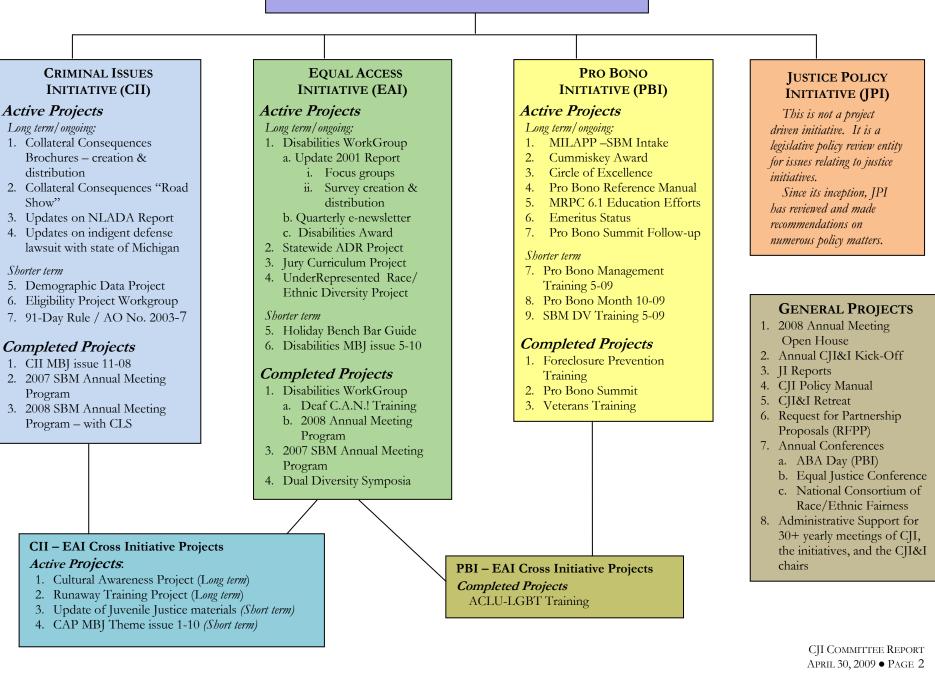
The attached diagram shows JID's organizational structure, as well as a listing of the projects, programs and trainings undertaken in the 2007-08. Some are ongoing activities while others are short term.

CJI&I encourages partnerships with State Bar committees, sections, and affinity bars, as well as many other organizations. By collaborating on resources such as personnel, knowledge, and marketing, the quality of various projects, programs and trainings is enhanced. Current partners include the Michigan Supreme Court, many courts and judicial associations, prosecutor and defense attorney entities, the Michigan State Bar Foundation, Michigan law schools, Michigan high schools, domestic violence and disabilities organizations, and statewide legal aid programs. A more complete list is attached.

CJI&I actively promotes participation from individual Bar members by offering a variety of volunteer opportunities based on interest and the amount of time one feels comfortable donating.

### STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN JUSTICE INITIATIVES COMMUNITY 2007-08

## **COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE INITIATIVES (CJI)**



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The Justice Initiatives Community (CJI&I) encourages partnerships with other organizations. By collaborating on resources such as personnel, knowledge, and marketing, the quality of various projects, programs and trainings is enhanced. Since its inception, CJI&I has worked with numerous entities. The following is a partial list of those partners. It does not include the names of individual judges, lawyers, or law firms.

#### GENERAL

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American Bar Association American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan (ACLU) ARC of Michigan Campaign for Justice Center for Independent Living, Detroit Cooley Innocence Project, The Deaf C.A.N.! Global Bridgebuilders Jury Curriculum Training High Schools participants Legal Aid and Defender Association (LADA) Michigan Association of Circuit Court Administrators Michigan Association of Counties Michigan Center for Civic Education Michigan Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence (MCADSV) Michigan Court Administrative Association Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns Michigan Litigation Assistance Partnership Program (MI LAPP) Michigan Network for Youth and Families (MNYF) Michigan Poverty Law Program (MPLP) Michigan Probate and Juvenile Registers Association Michigan Protection and Advocacy (MPAS) Michigan State Bar Foundation (MSBF) Michigan State Police Forensic Science Division Michigan Supreme Court Michigan Trial Lawyers Association National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Michigan National Bar Association Origami Brain Injury Center Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (PAAM) South-East Michigan Court Administration Association State Appellate Defender Office (SADO) State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) Wayne County Prosecutors Office

#### LAW SCHOOLS

Michigan State University Law School Thomas M. Cooley Law School University of Detroit Mercy Law School University of Michigan Law School Wayne State University Law School

#### **SBM DIVISIONS/DEPARTMENTS**

Communications Division Governmental Relations Department Research & Development Department External Development Department

#### SBM COMMITTEES/SECTIONS/AFFINITY BARS

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Association of Black Judges of Michigan Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan (CDAM) Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association (DMBA) Ingham County Bar Association Michigan District Judges Association Michigan Judges Association Michigan Probate Judges Association SBM ADR Section SBM Children's Law Section SBM Committee on Domestic Violence SBM Criminal Law Section SBM Indian Law Section SBM Public Outreach Committee Women Lawyers Association of Michigan (WLAM) Wolverine Bar Association

#### LEGAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

Bay Area Women's Center Center for Civil Justice Community Legal Resources Counsel and Advocacy Law Line Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Foundation Access to Justice Programs Elder Law of Michigan Farmworker Legal Services First Step Legal Advocacy Project Freedom House Guild/Sugar Law Center HAVEN Immigration Assistance Project Diocese of Kalamazoo International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit, Inc. Lakeshore Legal Aid Legal Aid & Defender Association Legal Aid of Western Michigan Legal Assistance Center of Kent County Legal Assistance Program of Macomb County Legal Services of Eastern Michigan Legal Services of Northern Michigan Legal Services of South Central Michigan Michigan Indian Legal Services Michigan Legal Services Michigan Migrant Legal Assistance Project Michigan Poverty Law Program Michigan Protection & Advocacy Services, Inc. Neighborhood Legal Services Michigan Prison Legal Services of Michigan Sixty Plus, Inc Elder Law Clinic Student Advocacy Center of Michigan The Salvation Army William Booth Legal Aid Clinic Underground Railroad Women's Justice Center

# Make a Connection

## Your Volunteer Contact Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Firm:\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed form to:

Justice Initiatives Division State Bar of Michigan 306 Townsend Street Lansing, MI 48933

For more information, please contact:

Greg Conyers Acting Director, Justice Initiatives (517) 346-6358 gconyers@mail.michbar.org

Katy Conklin Program Manager, Justice Initiatives (517) 346-6307 kconklin@mail.michbar.org

Visit http://www.michbar.org/programs /justiceinitiatives.cfm

HFLP assure a JUSTICE system that is STRONG, EQUAL, and FAIR in its application.



JUSTICE INITIATIVES

# At a Glance

## Committee on Justice Initiatives (CJI)

Remember what inspired you to become a lawyer? Want to feel that passion again?

Use your legal knowledge and experience to advance justice efforts. By volunteering for one of the State Bar of Michigan's four justice initiatives you will work with 100 other committed lawyers to move Michigan's justice system closer to the ideal of justice for all. In 2008-2009, the CJI initiatives are:

- Criminal Issues, that focuses on both the delivery of criminal legal services and the after-effects of criminal convictions
- Equal Access, which directs its work toward underrepresented groups of both lawyers and consumers of legal services
- Justice Policy, that examines, develops recommendations and positions about legislative issues
- Pro Bono, which aims to recruit, train and recognize pro bono lawyers and legal workers

## Get Involved

Problem-solve to remove systemic barriers for the poor and disabled. Help ensure that the criminal justice system protects the innocent. Find ways for those accused and convicted of crimes to chart a course back to a productive life. Brainstorm how to make the pro bono contributions of our profession more coordinated and effective. Analyze proposed legislation and court rules for their impact on the disadvantaged.

It means something special to be a lawyer. Join us now!

# To Get Involved

I'm interested in the following issue/s (please check as many as you wish):

- □ Assigned Counsel Practices
- **U** Cultural Awareness in the Courts
- Disabilities Issues
- Due Process in the Courts
- Juvenile Justice Issues
- Ongoing Civil Consequences of a Criminal Record
- Pro Bono Services
- Demographically Underrepresented Attorneys
- Veterans
- Other \_\_\_\_\_\_

I would consider donating my time toward a:

- Task Specific Commitment
- Project Specific Commitment
- Ongoing Commitment
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

(Continued on back)