



SECTION ON

## CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION

July 20, 1978

Reply to: David R. Barnhizer  
Cleveland State University  
College of Law  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

MEMO:

TO: Clinical Law Teachers

FROM: David Barnhizer

Re: Development of Network to Assist  
Legal Services Training

The Office of Program Support of the Legal Services Corporation is presently designing a new system of training, support, and materials development for local legal services programs. This will include national, regional and local components. The kinds of things the corporation is interested in include a wide range of activities, some of which are already developed and others which will be developed with the aid of the Office of Program Support. There is, in many instances, a close connection between clinical teachers and legal services and I would like you to consider assisting the efforts to significantly improve the quality of legal services through a high-quality ongoing training program.

Your assistance can take many forms. Included are the development of local, regional and national training and resource materials for use by legal services offices. Preparation of model pleadings, case protocols and techniques for better case review and attorney supervision are also the kinds of activities about which you may well have useful knowledge.

There is going to be an effort to transfer some of the delivery of training to local and regional sites and clinical teachers and their schools are a natural part of such a system. Experienced clinical teachers can have an important role in coordinating ongoing training programs specifically adapted to the needs of particular areas.

There is no need to limit your participation to local training. If you have a particular area of expertise that may be useful to legal services attorneys throughout the country, I have little doubt that the Office of Program Support is eager to make it possible for you to develop it further. The potential of the working relationship I am outlining is enormous. There are presently few limits on what you should be creatively thinking about. The benefits to poor people, to legal services offices, to you individually, and the quality of materials and techniques within your individual clinical programs can be great. This undertaking can help to develop a continuing relationship between clinical teachers and Legal Services. You all know that we have been interested in sharing unpublished materials, videotapes, ideas on teaching, administration, etc., but that time and resources did not permit. The

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resources that can be addressed to this project are quite substantial and while this letter is only an initial communication, I want you to approach the response I am asking for with great seriousness.

If this general process interests you, please sit down and write me a letter that includes 1) the kind of interests you have, 2) the kinds of interests you might like to develop (be pretty specific) and the potential audiences for which they would be useful, 3) your availability to work with local programs, the names of the programs in your area, and the subject areas in which you would like to work, 4) any work you are currently doing with local programs. Any ideas you have on the direction you feel legal services training should take would also be welcome.

As soon as I have your response I shall arrange to communicate the information to Ron Simon, Assistant Director for Legal Training at the Legal Services Corporation. Ron has committed himself to building this network and you will find him receptive to creative ideas and helpful interests.

Please give your prompt attention to Ron's request and communicate your ideas to me.

Sincerely yours,

David Barnhizer

DB:gw