

## Associates Challenge Raises Funds for Access to Justice Endowment

Connor Shea and Mark Starr, associates at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, launched the inaugural Associates Challenge in August, which raised \$19,113 in support of pro bono legal aid.

The attorneys put their own Las Vegas spin on the competition that Brownstein started 15 years ago in the Denver market. The month-long challenge raised funds for the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada's Access to Justice Endowment campaign.

Shea and Starr wanted to encourage individual giving and develop a new generation of access to justice leaders among young lawyers, so they invited Dickinson Wright, Fennemore Craig, Greenberg Traurig, Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie, Marquis Aurbach Coffing, McDonald Carano, and Snell & Wilmer to join the Las Vegas challenge.



Connor Shea



Mark Starr

"It was important for us to bring the Associates Challenge to Las Vegas because it provides an opportunity to bring low-income individuals the legal resources they vitally need," Shea said. "As a Las Vegas native, it was especially important for me to do my part to support those in the community who may not be able to support themselves."

The challenge is a friendly competition between law firms to raise awareness about the unmet legal needs of low-income individuals residing in Southern Nevada. Associates at the participating firms challenged each other and their own firm members to donate to Legal Aid Center's Access to Justice Endowment Campaign to ensure that legal education classes, self-help centers, direct representation and access to justice are available for low-income and vulnerable individuals throughout the community.

"We are thrilled with this year's results, but next year, we'd like to grow this even more to help more people in our community," Starr said. "We plan to invite more firms and launch new ideas to encourage participation. Our hope is to continue the challenge for years to come."

The Engelstad Family Foundation matched \$2 for each \$1 dollar raised on the first \$10,000, resulting in raising almost \$40,000 for Legal Aid Center's Access to Justice Endowment.

### STATE BAR NEWS

## Three Free Therapist Sessions Available for Support During Stressful Events

As part of its member benefits program, the State Bar of Nevada offers free therapist referrals.

If an attorney wants assistance in dealing with a difficult life situation, such as divorce, depression, stress, the death of a loved one, a traumatic case or any other stressful incident/situation, he or she can request the name of a therapist by calling 1-866-828-0022.

The call places the attorney in contact with a fellow attorney, who will ask about the nature of your issue and provide you with options for therapists in your area who have been vetted for professional standards, as well as areas of specialization. Therapy options are available statewide and online via secure video therapy.

The initial inquiry will remain completely confidential, as will the three complimentary therapy sessions. When the therapist bills the state bar, there are no ICD-9 billing codes and no identification of the attorney/patient on the invoice.

## Thanks to All Lawyers Who Volunteered for Celebrate Pro Bono 2019

Celebrate Pro Bono was a great success throughout Nevada with more than 110 free legal education sessions made available to the public.

Thank you to all Nevada lawyers who participated in Celebrate Pro Bono, took a case, volunteered through legal aid and helped to make a difference for a Nevadan in need in 2019. Your commitment is a part of achieving fair outcomes and shining a spotlight on the value delivered by the legal profession in building better communities.

**CELEBRATE**  
**PRO BONO**