

What is JusticeCorps?

The California JusticeCorps program began in Los Angeles in 2004. JusticeCorps members are recruited from participating University of California and California State Universities. Based on the success of the Los Angeles program, JusticeCorps has expanded to the Bay Area, San Diego, and Sacramento. To date, there are nearly 700 alumni across the state and nearly 300 members actively serving.



Why do we need JusticeCorps?

JusticeCorps offers a unique approach to addressing one of the most pressing issues faced by courts around the country today, ***providing equal access to justice***. JusticeCorps also aims to *increase language access to self-represented litigants, provide members with unique learning opportunities, and promote diversity among court personnel.*

- California courts report over 90% self-representation rates in cases involving family and housing law.
- Each year, over 4.3 million self-represented litigants come to California's courts.
- There are an estimated 8,361 low income litigants for every 1 legal aid attorney.
- Of the 165,381 attorneys in California, only 754 are dedicated to legal aid cases.

What do JusticeCorps Member Do?

Member Training

JusticeCorps members are trained in specific legal skills to provide information to self-represented litigants to resolve their legal matters. Members learn legal terms, how to fill out required forms and follow court proceedings. Member training includes:

- A two-day orientation.
- Ongoing legal training on family law, housing law, ethics, diversity, English as a second language and other topics throughout the program year.
- Training in site specific legal issues.
- Participation in service days.
- Specified member development events like a career day.



2006 Bay Area JusticeCorps members attending their two-day orientation

Member Service

- **Minimum time** members complete 300 service hours
- **Full time members** complete 1,700 service hours
- **All JusticeCorps members** provide one-on-one direct service to litigants; support specially designed legal workshops; use computer terminals designed to assist litigants in completing forms, do front desk triaging, and help with written correspondence



Los Angeles JusticeCorps members with Maria Schriver at a Cesar Chavez Service Day event in 2007

How Do I Join JusticeCorps?

Interested students enrolled at participating universities must fill out an application, be ready to serve a minimum of 300 hours over a 12-month period, and pass a background check. After reviewing applications, program directors contact

eligible students for an interview and shortly there after will notify those accepted.

Schools that recruit members include:

- **Los Angeles:** Cal State Northridge, Cal State Dominguez Hills, Cal State Long Beach, UCLA, Cal Poly Pomona, and University of Southern California
- **Bay Area:** U.C. Berkeley, Cal State East Bay, San Francisco State, San Jose State and Stanford
- **San Diego:** U.C. San Diego and CA State San Marcos
- **Sacramento:** U.C Davis and Sacramento State



Los Angeles and Bay Area JusticeCorps members providing legal assistance



Bay Area JusticeCorps members and San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsome

Applications can be found at

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/>
www.calegaladvocates.org/justicecorps/library/



San Diego JusticeCorps members recruiting new members at UC San Diego



San Diego JusticeCorps members sworn into service by Judge So at the Superior Court in September 2007

JusticeCorps Accomplishments

Since the JusticeCorps program began in 2004 members have:

- Provided 194,600 instances of assistance to litigants in up to **24 different languages**
- Filed **130,000** legal documents
- Made **122,500** referrals
- Completed more than **258,500** hours of service

In addition:

- **118** “open” divorce cases were officially closed in Los Angeles county through the work of full-time members
- In **2009**, JusticeCorps was recognized by the **California Bar Foundation Diversity Pipeline Task** force as a model court program
- In **2006**, JusticeCorps received the Kleps Award, highlighting the court’s innovative approach to serving self-represented litigants

Member Rewards

- An opportunity to learn about the legal profession and work with lawyers, judges, court administrators, and clerks
- An opportunity to serve your community
- A \$1,000 education award upon completion of the program
- A chance to hone and develop professional skills
- A unique addition to your resume
- Opportunity for letters of recommendation for future jobs and educational opportunities

For More information contact

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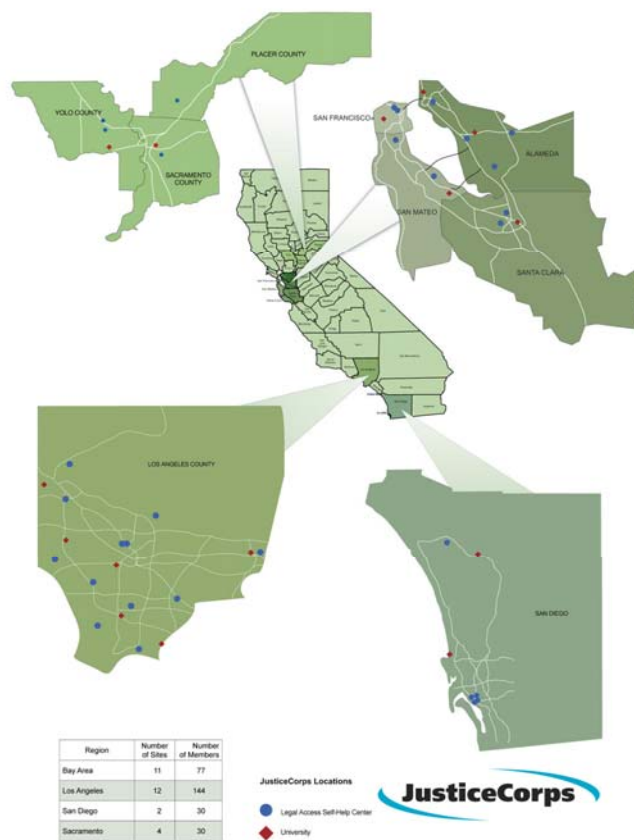
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California JusticeCorps Sites



“Help Others Help Themselves Find Justice. Learn About the Law and Life in Return.”