LAW4AZ

Arizona Public Libraries as Access-to-Justice Allies
The Justice Gap

In the past year, 71% of low-income households experienced at least one civil legal problem, including problems with domestic violence, veterans’ benefits, disability access, housing conditions, and health care.

86% of the civil legal problems reported by low-income Americans in the past year received inadequate or no legal help.

What About Legal Aid?

In 2017, low-income Americans will approach LSC-funded legal aid organizations for support with an estimated 1.7 million problems. They will receive only limited or no legal help for more than half of these problems because of a lack of resources.

80% of middle-class households can’t afford a lawyer

80% or more of the parties in Arizona’s county courts represent themselves, without the assistance of a lawyer
Two Phases

Measure the Justice Gap - ✔ 2020-2021

Train Public Libraries - Now!
Measuring the Justice Gap In Arizona

32 access-to-justice indicators
424 courts and libraries
Access-to-Justice Indicators — Resources

- Court building
  - Internet
  - Computer
  - Printer
  - Copy Machine
  - Website

- Public Library
  - Internet
  - Computer
  - Printer
  - Copy Machine
  - Website

- Law Library
  - Internet
  - Computer
  - Printer
  - Copy Machine
  - Arizona caselaw in print
  - A.R.S. Annotated
  - Westlaw/LexisNexis
  - County-specific forms

- Legal Aid office

- At least 1 free wifi hotspot

- At least 5 attorneys
Access-to-Justice Indicators

Demographics

- High school graduates
- Household income over $35,000
- Citizens
- Speak English “very well”
- Have a computer at home
- Have internet at home
- Own a smartphone
- Own a vehicle
What About Law Libraries?
That’s where YOU come in!

TRUSTED
SAFE
COMFORTABLE
WELCOMING
COMMUNITY HUB
INFORMATION EXPERTS
EAGER TO HELP
9 Weeks

4 SELF-GUIDED MODULES
on WebJunction - 2-3 hours

5 FACILITATED MEETINGS
on Zoom - 1 hour
Law Librarian Facilitators
Guest Speakers
Legal Reference Interviews

Skills - Tips - Resources

Boundaries - Ethics
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Legal Programming
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“The resources you’ve shared in this course are a goldmine for us.”

How this course helps you to help your library users:

- Network of colleagues
- Ideas for local partnerships
- Legal resources and info on how to find more
- More confidence that you know how to help
- Guidance on meeting your ethical obligations

You will complete the program with:
Join Us!

LibWizard application
https://azsos.libwizard.com/f/Law4AZ.Apply_here

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