

Family Law Conference

Fall 2006

In October, LAAC presented its third Family Law Conference, co-sponsored by the Administrative Office of the Courts in San Francisco. Over 115 advocates attended this two day conference, including staff from legal services programs and the courts, as well as private bar attorneys. LAAC offered sessions covering a range of substantive areas—including move-away custody cases, bankruptcy, pensions, DV enforcement, military issues, immigration, limited scope representation, and more. Thank you to the twenty-eight trainers who made this high quality offering possible!



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*Jerel McCrary &
Emberly Cross*

LAAC was pleased to honor this year's Family Law Awards recipients—**Diane Altamirano** of Imperial County Superior Court (Family Law Facilitator Award), **Cynthia Holton** of the Law Offices of Cynthia Holton (Pro Bono Work Award), and **Emberly Cross** of the San Francisco Cooperative Restraining Order Clinic (Direct Representation Award)—at a special evening reception. Many thanks to the Family Law Section of the Alameda County Bar Association, the Family Law Section of the Contra Costa County Bar Association, and the Santa Clara County Bar Association for their generous support.

LAAC also thanks members of the Family Law Planning Committee, whose hard work helped make this year's Family Law Conference such a huge success. LAAC will bring the Family Law Conference to Los Angeles in 2007.

San Diego/Inland Empire Traveling Training

In November, LAAC returned to San Diego for its third Traveling Training serving the San Diego region and Inland Empire! Advocates and students from across the state gathered for two days of substantive and skill-based trainings, led by trainers from twenty-five support centers. Sessions covered topics such as consumer issues, public benefits for immigrants and youth, health care access for seniors, working with clients with mental health conditions, negotiation and litigation skills, and advanced eviction defense topics. More than just training, LAAC offered ample opportunities for networking, including lunch on the beautiful outdoor patio, dinner at the nearby Coyote Café, and advocacy



*LAAC Director Julia Wilson gives her remarks
over lunch at the San Diego Traveling Training*

roundtable discussions. Many thanks to our ten planning committee members, whose guidance was essential to the success of the training. LAAC is also grateful for the generous financial support of its sponsors—California Rural Legal Assistance, Legal Aid Society of San Diego, Inland Counties Legal Services, San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program, Elder Law & Advocacy, and University of San Diego Legal Clinics.

LAAC's Traveling Trainings were started at the request of legal services programs at the 2001 Statewide Stakeholders meeting, where stakeholders raised concerns that advocates in rural areas have fewer affordable and relevant training opportunities and less access to statewide support. Since 2001, LAAC has held a total of 8 Traveling Trainings in Fresno, Sacramento, and San Diego/Inland Empire. We are pleased to bring the next Traveling Training to Fresno in 2007.