

# PUBLIC-SERVICE PROGRAM



**14 YEARS**

of the Public-Service Program



**628+**

Students fulfilled the Public-Service Pledge

**2,940+**

Students participated in the program



**75+**

Public-Service Hours



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Public-service work is integral to fostering a fair and just society. Social and economic inequalities can be compounded when those without the means to advocate for themselves are faced with legal problems. Volunteering with legal aid organizations is important because it allows individuals with experience and knowledge to aid those who are priced out of the legal system.

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Christopher Hanson  
Class of 2024

## PUBLIC-SERVICE PROGRAM (PSP)

Through law-related volunteer initiatives, the Public-Service Program ensures students have opportunities to develop practical legal skills while also being educated on and connected to advocacy opportunities that respond to unmet legal needs. In a wide variety of settings and contexts, students can provide meaningful, impactful contributions to underserved communities almost immediately after joining the law school.

## RESOURCES FOR PUBLIC-INTEREST AND PUBLIC-SERVICE STUDENTS

Southwestern has a deep commitment to public-service. The following resources are dedicated to supporting Southwestern students pursuing public-service career goals.

### PUBLIC-INTEREST LAW COMMITTEE SUMMER GRANT PROGRAM

Public-Interest Law Committee (PILC) conducts fundraising activities throughout the academic year to support students in full-time, unpaid summer clerkships in public-interest or public-service sectors. Students can apply for funding in amounts of up to \$5,000.

### PUBLIC-SERVICE PLEDGE

In addition to for-credit externships or clinical education programs, graduating students who have completed a minimum of 75 hours of law-related service by the April deadline in their final year of study will be recognized at commencement ceremonies and a notation of Public-Service Program distinction placed on their academic transcripts.

### JUDGE HARRY PREGERSON PUBLIC-SERVICE INITIATIVES

A robust day-long program, the Judge Harry Pregerson Public-Service Boot Camp helps students develop introductory public-interest law practice skills while building community among Southwestern's service-minded students, staff, and faculty.

The Judge Harry Pregerson Public-Service Fellowships, Southwestern's premier summer fellowships, are offered to select students most likely to dedicate their legal careers to working for underserved communities and causes.

The Judge Harry Pregerson Public-Service Alumni Award honors an outstanding recent graduate for their dedication and success in the fields of public service and/or public interest practice.



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The most satisfying aspect of public-service is knowing the work I am doing is positively impacting somebody's life in a very concrete way. Because so much of law school tends to be theoretical, it's rewarding to engage in work that has a more immediate and direct impact.

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Tina Petrosian  
Class of 2023

## PUBLIC-SERVICE PROGRAM

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