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# Justice Entrepreneurs Project

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## In a Nutshell

The JEP is an incubator for newer lawyers to start their own socially conscious law firms. The goal is to expand legal services to low and moderate income people by developing innovative new models through which lawyers in solo or small practices can sustainably provide affordable services to these clients.

## Who It Helps

Low and moderate income people represent a sizable gap in the current legal market—they earn too much to qualify for free legal aid but not enough to afford traditional firm rates. This leaves them with little access to reliable and affordable legal assistance and, as a result, more people than ever are going to court without the legal help they need.

For more information, visit [chicagobarfoundation.org/jep](http://chicagobarfoundation.org/jep) or contact Trevor Clarke at [tclarke@chicagobar.org](mailto:tclarke@chicagobar.org) or (312) 546-9939.

## How It Works

Lawyers participating in the JEP are committed to developing practices providing quality legal services that are accessible and affordable. They build sustainable, efficient and flexible practices by leveraging technology, offering fixed fees and a la carte services, and maximizing collaboration with their clients. The 18-month JEP program provides training, resources and support to participants, highlighted by:

- Top-notch training on substance, skills and law practice management
- Expert coaching and assistance on business issues and client development
- Mentoring by experienced and respected practitioners
- Structured pro bono program providing legal experience and a better understanding of the legal aid community and the legal delivery system
- Shared office space in a collaborative environment fostering innovation and peer mentoring
- Practice resources, including law practice management technology
- Access to helpful networks through the CBA, CBF and other partners
- The ability to collaborate with peers and other successful practitioners

## Why It Matters

Increasing affordable, reliable legal services for low and moderate-income people will improve access to justice in our community and help make the justice system more fair and efficient for everyone.

## How You Can Help

By supporting the CBF through general donations, you make it possible to develop innovative programs like the JEP that drive long-term, systemic improvements in our justice system.

The CBF is also seeking volunteers to share their experience and knowledge for the training and mentoring aspects of the program.

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