



TEXAS ADVOCACY PROJECT
Legal solutions to end violence.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please take a look at our volunteer opportunities listed below and contact the Volunteer Coordinator at vol@texasadvocacyproject.org for details on current openings.

Administrative Volunteer – Ongoing Need

Help with our general administrative tasks. This volunteer opportunity is perfect for someone who wants to help with an important cause in a "behind the scenes" volunteer position that helps keep the place running smoothly.

Clerical volunteers can shred boxes of old documents, scan hard copy files and then save the electronic versions in our database, prepare brochure orders for shipment, help with mailings, data entry, printing and/or copying, and other tasks as needed.

Law Clerk – Ongoing Need

Work directly with Project attorneys on cases concerning domestic violence and sexual assault. Texas Advocacy Project is an approved organization for the internship class at UT Law as well as an approved organization for pro bono credit hours. Full-time and part-time clerkships are available for Summer, Fall, and Spring semesters.

Pro Bono Referral Attorney – Ongoing Need

Join our pro bono network and provide a free, half-hour consultation either over the phone or in person. Representation at your discretion, and commitment is just 30 minutes per month. As a referral attorney, you would receive calls from victims of domestic violence. By donating your time and expertise, you would be helping to transform victims into survivors. Any subsequent representation of a referred caller would be totally at your discretion and by your own terms. We are happy to provide you with training materials concerning domestic violence and with safety plans to distribute to clients in your office.

Texas Advocacy Project provides legal acumen to pro bono attorneys in Texas (whether part of our network or not) through our Assisted Pro Bono Hotline (1-866-598-4277) from 10:00am – 4:00pm Monday through Friday, who are assisting clients living at or below 150% of the federal poverty level in family law matters, with a special emphasis on cases involving family violence, sexual assault, teen dating violence, or stalking.

Legal Line Attorney – Ongoing Need

The Project has three legal lines: the Family Violence Legal Line (FVLL), the Family Law Line (FLH) and the Sexual Assault Legal Line (SALL). The attorneys who answer calls give free legal advice and referrals to callers from all parts of Texas.

The volunteer Legal Line Attorney's role is to assist staff attorneys in contacting clients who have already been screened for our services and need basic legal assistance over the telephone. We provide training to enable our volunteers to feel competent in assessing caller needs and providing legal advice, and staff is always on hand to answer questions.

Minimum 2 hour per week commitment. Requirements for this volunteer position are attorneys licensed to practice law in Texas, familiarity entering information into a computer database; reliable time commitment; compassionate attitude towards victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Development & Communications – Contact Volunteer Coordinator for current openings

This position is for a highly organized and motivated volunteer to help our Development & Communications division. This is a perfect opportunity for anyone interested in learning more about fundraising in the non-profit sector – learn about the behind-the-scenes work required to create successful events, reach out to the community, and build sponsor and donor relationships.

Requirements for this volunteer position are good organizational skills, high attention to detail, excellent writing and research skills, familiarity with data entry and Excel, and a positive attitude.

Special Events & Projects

Handbags for Hope – March through April

Texas Advocacy Project has a great outreach campaign called Handbags for Hope, started by a former victim of domestic violence. Handbags for Hope has been so successful - collecting 29,000 bags in eight years!

We receive thousands of donations of new and gently used handbags and purses from the community. Volunteers are needed to help us clean and sort the bags, affix a label with Texas Advocacy Project's domestic violence legal line to the inside of each, insert pamphlets containing lifesaving information, and box them up. The goal is to ship the purses to the shelters in time for Mother's Day, when each child staying in the shelter can pick out a purse to give to their mom.

Because we are expecting several thousand donations, one person can't do it all, so we truly need your help. This is a great opportunity for families, groups, and individuals.

Backpacks for Hope – August through September

Following our Handbags for Hope project, we ask for donations of new backpacks from the community. Each backpack will contain the supplies children in crisis need to start their first days at a new school.

How can you help? We need volunteers to: stuff the backpacks with school supplies and pamphlets and affix tags; to pack backpacks into boxes; and to move full boxes from one area of the office to another. This is a great opportunity for families, groups, and individuals who can only fit an hour of volunteering into their schedules.

Black & White Ball – October 28, 2016

Volunteer in style! Join Texas Advocacy Project in celebrating over 30 years of providing services to victims of domestic violence at their annual black-tie fundraising gala in October. Volunteers for the Black & White Ball can help with everything from event set-up to working auctions and raffles to greeting guests. After their shift, volunteers are invited to stay and enjoy the rest of the ball!

More than 20 different shifts available, 2-3 hours each. Shifts will be posted in September.

Adopt-A-Family – November - December

Help us bring some holiday cheer to our past clients. Each family "up for adoption" is nominated by a Project attorney, and is currently transitioning from a home filled with violence to one of safety and security. Volunteers will help with wrapping gifts at our office and packing them up for delivery. To ensure delivery before Christmas, our intention is to have everything wrapped by early December.

This is a great project for individuals and small groups.