



PRO BONO TRANSACTIONAL LAW FOR NONPROFITS



MICHIGAN COMMUNITY RESOURCES

WHY ARE WE HERE?

Why are you here?

Why pro bono?

OUR MISSION

We support nonprofit and grassroots organizations with capacity building services, tailored cohort experiences, and legal guidance.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe that strong nonprofit organizations ensure strong communities across our state.

From Detroit to Kalamazoo, from Lansing to the UP.

We believe in nonprofits.



WHY ARE WE HERE?

Expand access to legal support

Build organizational capacity

WHY ARE WE HERE?

Serve small/mid-sized 501(c)(3)s
statewide – urban, rural all those
serving low income communities

Volunteer attorneys provide
discrete, high-impact support

ROLE OF THE ATTORNEY

Provide discrete, high-impact legal assistance in transactional matters

Working along side nonprofit leaders who may have limited legal expertise

WHY WE DO THIS WORK

Nonprofits amplify social good

Transactional legal needs often go unmet

WHY WE DO THIS WORK

Pro bono attorneys create
outsized impact

Professional and ethical incentives

KEY AREAS OF NONPROFIT LEGAL SUPPORT

Corporate Governance

Contracts

Employment & Volunteer Matters

Real Estate

Intellectual Property

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

ABC's of Nonprofit Governance

Articles

Bylaws

Conflicts of Interest...

CONTRACTS

Vendor agreements, MOUs,
leases, grants

Nonprofits often sign without full
legal review

EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEER ISSUES

Handbooks, policies

W2 vs 1099

High-risk area for nonprofits

REAL ESTATE

Leases, land use, zoning, donated property

No such thing as “free”

Impacts long-term financial stability

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Trademark, copyright, licensing
Protecting branding and materials

TYPES OF ENGAGEMENTS

Limited scope representation

Clinics

Projects/Initiatives (limited duration)

Workshops

Publication/Education

CONFLICTS AND EXPECTATIONS

Clear Conflicts

Clear Engagement Letters

Defined Scopes

MCR always here as the Pressure
Valve

NEXT STEPS

Volunteer sign-up

Upcoming clinics & trainings

Resources for nonprofit law
practice

JOIN US.



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