

## **LTF 1: Legal Representation – Outline**

### **Task Force Introduction**

- Co-Chairs Introductions
- Task Force Purpose and Description:
- Purpose of this Breakout Session
- How the LTF Co-Chairs added to the Task Force
- Community Engagement / Integration

### **Process**

- 1. Strategic Action Planning Process Overview**
- 2. Inventory Assessment**
- 3. Priority Setting**

Priorities: The Task Force, after identifying major gaps in legal representation, largely developed the contours of the priorities list by simply aiming to bridge those gaps, listed below.

Gaps Identified: The service providers identified several distinct gaps:

- Family Law: Divorce cases, Post-judgment divorce issues, Child support (including initial petition, violations and downward modifications)
- Immigration: Deportation defense, Education, Citizenship issues, Eviction and other non-immigration-related cases for undocumented immigrants
- Re-entry Issues: Veterans and servicemembers, Individuals released from incarceration

Other Priorities:

- Measure the needs of those that are unserved

## **Feedback / Open Discussion**

### Specific Questions:

- How do we think about the spectrum of services when considering closing the justice gap – non-lawyers, paralegals, limited scope representation and unbundled services, and full rep? How do we determine who needs what and when? How do we evaluate “effective assistance”?
- How do we develop processes to ensure we are aware of gaps in service delivery on a regular basis and stay aware of new and developing issues in the community?
  - Should there be proactive community outreach efforts to stay aware of developing issues in the community? Perhaps these efforts could assist in connecting people to available resources while also keeping the community informed about developing needs and gaps?
  - How do we demonstrate the contributions that these efforts are making and communicate the value of our efforts
- It is very likely that part of the solution will need to be more lawyers for areas of significant need – how do we identify funding for this?
  - How do we incorporate modest means needs in this plan? Should we work to develop sliding scale fees and rates for those that can afford something, but not market rates of service?
- What role does pro bono service play in the strategy?

### Solicit specific and general reactions from the participants

- What are we missing in our priorities list?
- Whose perspective are we missing?
- Are there problems we’re not addressing?

### Solicit innovative and creative ideas about how to achieve the goals of the task force

- Are there any innovative (anywhere from developing small efficiencies to the field, to systemic-scope renovations of service delivery models) ways of addressing these problems without resorting to pleas for higher funding?