

Minutes		Committee on Resources for Self Represented Parties				
Meeting Date	August 12, 2011			Meeting Room	Education Room	
Committee Member	Present	Excused	Committee Member	Present	Excused	
Fred Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jose Lazaro	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Pat Bartholomew	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Russ Minas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Judge John Baxter, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Mary Jane Ciccarello	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shauna O'Neil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
David Dominguez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barbara Procarione	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Judge Michael DiReda	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stewart Ralphs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Carol Frank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Virginia Sudbury	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Robert Jeffs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Judge Douglas Thomas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Judge Scott Johansen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jessica Van Buren	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Staff	Tim Shea					

Topic	Approve minutes of May 13, 2011			By	Judge Baxter
Motion: Approve as prepared.				By	Acclimation
Vote:	Yes	All	No	Abstain	Pass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Pass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Topic	Review of strategic planning session			By	Tim Shea
<p>Discussion: Mr. Shea reviewed the draft strategic planning document to confirm that it appropriately characterized the discussion at the planning meeting. Completion of the Self Help Center as a statewide program remains the committee's first priority. Judge Baxter reported that the Judicial Council remains committed to the program, and that all we need is money. Mr. Shea reported that Ms. O'Neil and Ms. Sudbury had joined the forms workgroup, which has started its work on guardianship forms and information.</p> <p>Ms. Van Buren reported that videos of the live classes had been posted on the court's YouTube channel. Because Mr. Stewart and Mr. Minas were not able to attend today, the report on OCAP activities will have to wait until the next meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Sudbury volunteered to speak with Lincoln Mead at the Bar to try to get the Bar to expand the categories for limited legal help in the online lawyer directory. If Ms. Sudbury's efforts are not successful, then Judge Baxter will write a letter asking for the addition of additional categories.</p> <p>Ms. Sudbury distributed a summary of a "resolution day" calendar. The program is designed to pay lawyers a modest amount to review a pro se party's documents, identify problems, screen cases and prepare cases for hearings. The program has been successfully implemented in other states. The committee will consider the program in more detail at its next meeting.</p>					

Topic	Cost and benefits of self help programs	By	Jessica Van Buren
Discussion: Ms. Van Buren reported that John Greacen in an article in the Judges' Journal attempts to show whether money spent on self help services yields economic savings. Mr. Greacen 's research suggests that there are savings to the court and savings to the parties by spending money on self-help services. Although the findings are couched in qualifying language, the analysis shows that money spent on self help services does produce savings, sometimes significant savings, whether considered from the perspective of the party or the taxpayer.			

Topic	Report on Self-Help Center	By	Mary Jane Ciccarello Jessica Van Buren
Discussion: Ms. Ciccarello and Ms. Van Buren reported that the SHC has expanded its services to the Fifth District. Only the Third and Fourth Districts remain unserved. The number of calls has been increasing continually since the program started. The number of missed calls has dropped from about 5 missed calls for every answered call to about 2 missed calls			

Topic	Financial declaration form	By	Mary Jane Ciccarello
Discussion: Ms. Ciccarello reported that in anticipation of new rule of civil procedure 26.1 she has been working with judges, commissioners and lawyers to develop a financial declaration form. She reported that there are now several forms in use: the form approved by the Board of District Court Judges for temporary orders, a form developed by the Third District Court, and a form used by Commissioner Dillon in Second District. She said that everyone appears to want one form, except that Commissioner Dillon still recommends a shorter form for child support cases. She indicated that the executive committee of the family law section had approved the draft that was distributed to the committee.			

Topic	Proposed meeting schedule	By	Judge John Baxter
Discussion: Judge Baxter asked the committee to add the proposed meeting dates to their calendars: February 10, May 11, August 10, and November 9.			