

# Law students helping elderly

A group of University of Michigan law students is providing free legal service to the elderly, in an attempt to fill a gap in available legal aid.

"When government-funded legal service programs for the poor are established, their services often go to those groups of minorities who are more visible or glamorous for young lawyers to represent," said law professor Steven D. Pope, who is supervising the new UM program.

"The aged are often left out," stressed Pope. "Many seniors do not recognize that they have legal problems. Furthermore, many older citizens are too proud to seek free help, or are somewhat fearful and anxious about the uncertainties or difficulties of seeking a lawyer."

The six UM law students who have been working in the new program since the beginning of the year received academic credit for their work. The program, endorsed by the Washtenaw County and state bar associations, is part of the law school's clinical law program, where students gain practical legal experience as part of their course work.

Headquarters for the Michigan Senior Citizens' Law Program is at 312 East Huron Street in Ann Arbor, adjacent to the Washtenaw County Legal Aid Society. Pope said the program will be expanded next year to include 10 or 12 student lawyers.

IN CONJUNCTION with the legal services program, the UM law school and the Institute of Gerontology, a joint unit of the UM and Wayne State University, have received a grant from the federal admin-

stration on Aging to help establish legal service programs for senior citizens throughout Michigan, and also to develop written materials on legal issues affecting the elderly.

The UM was one of 11 institutions throughout the country to receive such a grant.

UM researchers will provide technical assistance to the Michigan Office of Services to the Elderly and its 13 area agencies.

## Workshop to cover creativity for the deaf

Artistic Interpreting for the Deaf, a three-day workshop to teach sign language expression of music, drama, and creative movement, will be held at Madonna College, Livonia, July 8-11. The workshop is designed for interpreters and teachers of the deaf.

Workshop participants, who must be fluent in sign language, will learn sign name techniques, dance and creative movement, and sign singing. They will also learn technical theater arts of staging, lighting, and makeup.

A special instructor for the workshop will be Eric Matzahn of the faculty of Gallaudet College, Washington. The workshop is under the direction of Kenneth Rust, director of the Madonna program in interpreting for communication with deaf persons.

The funds also will be used to develop written manuals and videotape materials focusing on legal problems of the elderly and on gerontological data relating to an effective delivery system, said Penny Hornel of the Institute of Gerontology.

In addition, a UM workshop will deal with legal problems of the elderly. It will be conducted Sept. 30-25 by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education.

He will be assisted by Michael Meldrum, a deaf specialist with the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, also a Madonna faculty member.

As a culminating activity, workshop participants will perform with members of the Detroit Sign Company, in a "signed" concert, "Show of Hands." The Detroit Sign Co., composed of nine deaf persons, sign to electronically produced music and incorporate dance and expressive movement into their interpretations of popular songs.

This performance is scheduled at 4 p.m. July 11 and is open to the public. There will be an admission fee of \$1.50 for adults and 75 cents for children 12 and under.

The workshop is being jointly sponsored by Madonna College and the National Interpreter Training Consortium, Washington, D.C. Madonna held a similar workshop last year attended by persons from 14 different states.

Registration for the workshop, limited to 30 persons, is currently being conducted at Madonna College, 3000 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Mich. 48150. Two semester hours of credit is available to those enrolled in the Madonna program or other college programs in interpreting. Workshop fee is \$77.

## County makes new offices from old center

The renovation of the former juvenile home on the Oakland County Service Center has been completed.

The new North Office Building provides modern office space for cooperative extension service, circuit court probation, criminal justice programs, veterans services, and the county executive's purchasing and stationery stores division.

The building is located in the County Service Center, 1300 N. Telegraph Road in Pontiac. It is north of the County Courthouse, off the main parking lot.



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