IOLTA dollars at work!

LegalLEARN Statewide Contact Center
The LegalLEARN Contact Center is a joint program of the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education, the State Bar of Arizona, Pima County Bar Association, Maricopa County Bar Association, Community Legal Services, DNA People’s Legal Services and Southern Arizona Legal Aid. In 2009, LegalLEARN was created to provide a statewide clearinghouse for education and awareness to people seeking legal information and resources. The contact center, housed at the Foundation, takes calls from Monday to Friday to assist those who do not know where to go for legal assistance. Since its inception, LegalLEARN has received over 5,000 calls from individuals seeking assistance with their legal issues. Callers are provided legal information and a list of various legal resources available throughout the state to assist with the distinct legal issue. The LegalLEARN website counterpart is www.AZLawHelp.org which was created to provide individuals with general legal information on a diverse group of legal issues. LegalLEARN’s phone number is listed there along with many other legal resources available to those seeking guidance. In addition, LegalLEARN serves as a conduit to the statewide Modest Means Project for those who qualify. The Modest Means Project assists those who are unable to qualify for legal aid, but cannot afford an attorney at the standard rate. Check out these resources and much more at www.AZLawHelp.org.

Mock Trial 2011
The secret is out…the National High School Mock Trial Championship returns to the Grand Canyon State! In May 2011, Arizona will host the National Mock Trial Championship for the first time in 25 years. Unique sponsorship and volunteer opportunities are available—don’t miss out on your chance to get involved in this huge event! For more information, visit www.azmocktrial2011.com today.

Kids Voting Arizona
Kids Voting Arizona held a Special Election on May 18 coinciding with the statewide Arizona election addressing a sales tax increase. After a two week Early Voting period and a feverish voting day on May 18th, the vote was 75% in favor of the sales tax proposition! With a turnout of over 8,800 students, this election was the largest non-general election ever held by Kids Voting Arizona. In talking about how it felt to cast a vote, a student said the following: “It felt good, and like I had a voice that was heard. Just ‘cause we’re young doesn’t mean we don’t have something to say.” Another student mentioned, “[It felt] like I had a say in our state’s future. If we are in trouble, then just let us (the kids) tell you our opinion or let us vote.” Visit www.kidsvotingAZ.org.

Grantee success story!
A citizen with significant health problems and disabilities was waiting for a double lung transplant. Although trying to remain as independent as possible, she was unable to care for herself, moved into an assisted living facility and applied for ALTCS. The client was initially determined to be not medically eligible, was denied services, and threatened with eviction from the facility. A legal service agency helped the client resubmit evidence of her medical condition, after which ALTCS reversed its decision and declared the client eligible for services.

Q and A
Q: What forms need to be submitted for a new IOLTA account?
A: The attorney must submit the “Notification to Financial Institution” to the bank, declaring that the account is an IOLTA account, and detailing how it should be titled. Another form, “Arizona IOLTA Enrollment/Change Form” should be submitted to us, to notify us and the State Bar of the account information and/or closure of another IOLTA account. New updated versions of both forms are available on our website at www.azflse.org/azflse/IOLTA/lawyerenroll.cfm

Please discontinue use of the previous versions of the forms.

See videos about the Foundation’s programs and grantees at:
http://www.azflse.org/videos

Did you know?
“Wills for Heroes”, a joint project of the Foundation and the State Bar of Arizona, partnered with the Glendale Cardinals Stadium on June 12th to assist 95 Glendale police, firefighters, federal law enforcement officers, and their spouses with free estate planning. In addition, a dozen new attorney volunteers were trained to assist in this needed service. Learn more about WFH and volunteer for a future event by visiting http://az.willsforheroes.org/index_template.cfm?id=1

http://www.azflse.org/azflse/IOLTA/lawyerenroll.cfm

Click here