

Community Involvement

At Schnader, we believe our communities are best served when we all roll up our sleeves and pitch in. That's why giving back is a major part of our culture. Below are several examples of our involvement.

Manchester Academic Charter School

Our Pittsburgh office partners with the Manchester Academic Charter School on various law-related projects. These include helping the students draft a "bill of rights" for their school, preparing the students for a mock trial, setting up the school's youth court, and sponsoring an eighth grade trip to Harrisburg where the students can meet with legislative leaders and advocate for restorative justice.

Caton Village

Schnader was a longstanding supporter of Caton Village, a residential treatment center for women in Philadelphia which provided education and life skills training until its recent closure. The firm held legal clinics as well as holiday events and service days, and donated computers for a new computer lab.

Turning Points for Children

For the last two years, Schnader has teamed up with Turning Points, the largest coordinator of services for foster children in Philadelphia, to participate in a Day of Service in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King. In 2017, Schnader purchased items to create 50 "care kits," a duffle bag equipped with essential items needed by a fostered child to make the transition into a new home more comfortable. The care kits were created for children from newborns to teens and included age appropriate toiletries, books, school and art supplies and small toys.

In 2018, in collaboration with Turning Points, we designed and taught a pilot life skills seminar for young

adults aging out of the foster care system. The seminar focused on the skills needed to land a first job: gathering information needed for the application process; the dos and don'ts of interviewing; how to open a bank account and how to secure vital documents needed for the application process. At the end of the seminar, each young adult was given a "launch kit" that included many of the basic items needed to live independently. The launch kits were funded by donations from Schnader staff and attorneys, along with a generous donation from Spikes Trophies that allowed us to provide folios for interviews. Over 20 additional launch kits were sent to Turning Points for distribution. The seminar was a great success and Turning Points has asked Schnader to present the seminar to its next group of young adults.

Cookies and other fun ways to serve

To support charitable organizations throughout the year, the firm holds dessert expos, food drives, jeans days, and a United Way campaign to feed families in need and raise money for organizations such as the American Heart Association and American Cancer Society.

Pro bono work

Deeply committed to pro bono work, we pledge at least three percent of our time annually to pro bono matters; handle major pro bono litigation including capital cases; and serve on the boards of public interest law centers. Please visit our *Pro Bono* page to learn more.

Board service & financial support

Our lawyers serve on the boards of many community and nonprofit organizations which run the gamut from human services and civil rights to access to justice and fair election advocacy. Just a few examples include: the AIDS Fund, the Committee of Seventy, National Black Child Development Institute, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, American Constitution Society for Law and Policy, Pennsylvania Innocence Project, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society - Pennsylvania, Directions for Our Youth and The English Speaking Union of the United States. We proudly support these and many other nonprofit organizations.