**Wayne County Bar Association Pro Bono Committee**

**DISCUSSION DRAFT**

**Pro Bono Mission Statement**

**APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE COMMITTEE – 6/19/17**

WCBA’s Pro Bono Policy arises out of two core values: our profession’s calling to help other people, and basic human kindness.  Lawyers have special knowledge and skills which can assist people in need of that knowledge and those skills. These are people who are confused, in fear, anxious, and confronted by situations, procedures and outcomes that are beyond their control and their understanding. Those who qualify for relief from having to pay court costs because they have been allowed by a Judge to proceed In Forma Pauperis, and those who qualify for free legal assistance from North Penn Legal Services, have been determined not to have the financial resources that are necessary to purchase the help they need.  Relatively modest amounts of a lawyer's time can assist them, ease their misery, and materially improve the quality of life of all who are involved in the matter. At the same time, by assisting them, the lawyer creates the opportunity for personal satisfaction from serving someone with nowhere else to turn, while helping to fulfill the profession’s mission to make justice available for all people, regardless of their ability to pay. It is and must remain a priority of the Wayne County Bar Association that all of its members contribute to this mission in all ways that they can.