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Table 1: Statewide Pro Se Assistance Programs*

State	Start Date	Sponsor	Budget	Funding Source	Program Description
California	1996	Legislature Administrative Office of the Courts	Not available	State AB 1058	The Family Law Facilitator Act, Family Code Section 10000 et seq. created the Office of the Family Law Facilitator in the superior courts of all California counties. The offices are staffed with attorneys and related staff to provide assistance to self-represented litigants in family law cases involving issues in child support, spousal support and health insurance. For a complete description of these programs see Tables 2-4.
Connecticut	1997	Court Operations Division and Chief Court Administrator's Office	Not available	State Justice Institute and judicial branch budget for court operations	The statewide program has created public information booths in courthouse lobbies, regional court service centers to provide information, published the <i>Do It Yourself Divorce Guide</i> , created a software program for easy electronic access to civil and family case information, and developed a judicial branch website to provide electronic court forms.
Delaware	1997	Supreme court and the state bar association	None	Individual courts and State Justice Institute grant	A state Family Court Committee on Self-Represented Litigants seeks to maximize access to justice for persons who choose to represent themselves. "User friendly" brochures and forms in English and Spanish are available on the Internet. Court centers, staffed with pro se assistance personnel, help litigants understand the judicial process and answer questions. The state supreme court is promoting the adoption of statewide uniformity in pro se assistance and the evaluation of these services.
Florida	1999	Supreme court	Unavailable	The initiative is funded primarily through local county commissions. Limited funding and positions are available to the circuits' family courts from Florida's Family Courts Trust Fund. Funding was provided by the legislature for pilot projects in two circuits.	Florida's Family Court Steering Committee, appointed by the supreme court, developed and recommended the adoption of Florida's Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.750 that governs the activities of self-help programs operating under the auspices of local courts. So far, in 19 of Florida's 20 circuits, self-help programs provide a wide range of services. In addition, the steering committee developed and recommended over 500 pages of family law forms that were adopted by the supreme court.

*In summer 1999 AJS surveyed all states, the District of Columbia, and the territories and commonwealths about the existence of statewide pro se assistance programs. This table reflects positive responses received as of September 24, 1999. Existing programs reported after that date will be included in an updated table to be printed in the post-conference report.

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Hawaii	2000	Hawaii state judiciary and Supreme Court Committee on Equality and Access to the Courts	\$250,000	The legislature, the judiciary and grants	The statewide initiative has established court concierge desks and customer service centers at the family and district courts in Oahu.
Idaho	1999	Supreme court	\$174,398	The State Justice Institute, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and state matching funds	The Court Assistance Offices Project, a 6- month pilot project in 5 locations, is a one step clearinghouse to access legal services and other resources. The project provides information, forms, refers litigants to mediators and attorneys, helps obtain copies and court forms, and helps low income individuals apply for direct legal services.
Indiana	No data	Supreme court	In kind	Attorney trust account interest and bar foundation	The state has formed 14 regional committees that draft plans to provide local pro bono services to indigent clients. Each committee is headed by a supreme court appointed judicial designee. The committee brings together the local pro bono providers, defines a plan, and submits funding requests to the Indiana Pro Bono Commission.
Maine	1995	Judicial Branch's Performance Council	Under \$5,000	Judicial branch	The judicial branch has produced packets with forms and instructions for several case types and videos on starting a divorce action, mediation and post-judgment motions in family cases. They have also printed pamphlets on various court processes including protection from abuse and small claims. All of these materials are available in courts throughout the state.
Maryland	1996	Supreme court	\$1,000,000	State judiciary	The state's efforts are directed primarily at domestic and family law cases. Forms and information are provided on a toll-free, statewide hotline. At the local level, a variety of legal services organizations provide legal information to litigants. Protective order advocacy and representation projects provide legal assistance to victims of domestic violence and pro se clinics provide legal information and advice.
Michigan	1990	Supreme court	No data	Supreme court, the State Justice Institute and private foundations	The supreme court is addressing the needs and concerns of pro se litigants in a variety of ways. It is developing brochures and other printed materials on court process/operations. It is developing a public education program about the courts including the Telecourt Program. It is also developing pro se forms and instruction packets. To carry out its mission, it is providing customer service training programs for court managers and clerical support staff.

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Minnesota	1996	Supreme court	\$4,000	Minnesota state court administration	The Minnesota Supreme Court’s Conference of Chief Judges established committees on the treatment of pro se litigants. These committees directed each of the 10 judicial districts to design and implement their own delivery plans. They further proposed recommendations for each of the 10 judicial districts, including self-help centers, family facilitators, legal advice programs, small claims mediation, law library self-help collections, etc. Another committee, made up of the pro se services coordinators, monitors and oversees the state’s ongoing activities.
Missouri	1996	Supreme court	None	Local courts	The Missouri Supreme Court issued guidelines for judicial availability for orders of protection. Court clerks provide assistance in completing family access forms and adult abuse forms. In a pilot county, the adult abuse forms are available on Quickfile, a remote, electronic filing system which permits victims to file a petition for an order for protection from a shelter. The shelter staffs are trained to assist in filing these forms. Funding is being sought to expand this Quickfile system statewide.
New Hampshire	1993	Superior court	No costs		The Superior Court Orientation Program and Education (SCOPE) conducts an informational session for pro se litigants on court rules, forms and pleadings. These sessions are conducted by a member of the clerk’s office and a volunteer attorney once a month in every court location throughout the state.
New Jersey	2000	Supreme court; administrative office of the courts	No funding	No	The state is developing uniform written materials to distribute to self-represented litigants in family and small claims courts. These forms will be made available in English and Spanish and on the Internet.
New Mexico	1999	Supreme court; administrative office of the courts	\$274,000	State Justice Institute and the Administrative Office of the Courts	The AOC has created standard legal forms for pro se litigants, available in English and Spanish in both hard copy and on the New Mexico Supreme Court’s website. The forms are for use in uncontested domestic relations cases. The forms are currently being pilot tested in five judicial districts. Additionally, the forms are being placed on the Internet in an “interactive format” so that litigants will be able to either print out a blank form, or answer a series of questions and the computer will generate a completed form.
North Dakota	1980’s	Office of State Court Administrator	Very minimal	State appropriation	The state court administrator, through a state appropriation, provides written materials in probate and small claims cases.

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Oregon	1999	Legislature and supreme court	All local funding	Local courts	The Oregon Task Force on Family Law created a Family Law Legal Services Commission to evaluate and report on how courthouse facilitation and unbundled legal services might enhance the delivery of family law legal services to low and middle income individuals. The final report of the commission emphasizes several themes. First, the commission accepts, but does not encourage pro se litigation. Second, for courthouse facilitation to be successful, attorney support and oversight is essential. The commission also, to preserve the tradition of local decision-making for counties, recommended that local courts and related bodies assess the need for pro se assistance and design programs accordingly. The full report to the Oregon Legislative Assembly was released in January, 1999.
Pennsylvania	Under study	Supreme court, Pennsylvania Bar Association, law schools, and the executive and legislative branches.			The chief justice has created a task force on the delivery of legal services to study legal services funding and the delivery of services to indigent people.
Utah	1995	Administrative Office of the Court	\$150,000	State	5 Kiosks are located throughout the state to assist pro se civil litigants in the preparation of pro se court documents through electronic means in uncontested divorces and landlord/tenant actions
Vermont	1990	Supreme court		The state judiciary and the executive branch's human services budget	The supreme court has authorized and supported a range of activities to assist pro se litigants. Informational pamphlets and forms are available, classes on self-representation are conducted by local attorneys, attorneys conduct clinics for general advice, video tapes on court processes and litigant's responsibilities are available, customer service classes for court staff are available, and litigants are referred to alternative dispute resolution agencies and other community evaluative services.