Integrating In-House Pro Bono With CSR CPBO





To increase impact and provide more comprehensive services, companies are taking a fresh look at how their pro bono activities can be integrated with or complement their corporate social responsibility (CSR) efforts and charitable contribution practices.

Aligning CSR and Pro Bono

Many companies operate their CSR efforts independently from their legal departments' pro bono programs. However, there are great benefits from aligning pro bono and CSR. Companies integrate legal pro bono efforts with CSR programs in a number of ways, including:



Direct Services and Support

Providing pro bono legal services to the beneficiaries of the company's CSR program.



Thematic Alignment

Identifying projects that support or are consistent with the focus of the CSR program.



Structural Integration

Coordinating the management of the probono efforts with the CSR initiatives.



Financial Support

Funding organizations that support the department's pro bono efforts.



Partnering on Projects

Working together on a skills-based volunteer project.

"We believe that combining human efforts and cutting-edge technology can multiply our impact of giving back. Our Pro Bono Program empowers Microsoft employees and community partners to make legal services more accessible, addressing critical unmet needs globally."

Hossein Nowbar

Chief Legal Officer and CVP Microsoft

"Our local communities, planet, and future deliver on that commitment."

David Zapolsky

SVP, Global Public Policy & General Counsel Amazon.com

Legal departments partner on pro bono matters internally with multiple entities. 2024 CPBO Benchmarking Survey respondents report they partner with their:



Affinity/Diversity Groups



Corporate Foundation



Service Team



CSR Staff



ESG Staff



Initiative

Coordinating Pro Bono and Other Corporate Initiatives

Increasingly, in-house pro bono programs are strategically aligning their efforts with other corporate initiatives and goals, including:



Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) or sustainability



Mentoring



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) or racial justice

Contact Corporate Pro Bono for help developing strategies to integrate your pro bono program with CSR, philanthropy, and other corporate initiatives.