

## Charlotte law school honors pro bono participants

CHARLOTTE (NCLW) — The Charlotte School of Law held its second annual Public Service Recognition Event and Dinner April 3 to recognize students' community service work and the professionals who made it possible.

Charlotte's law school is one of the few in the country that requires students to perform pro bono work, according to school officials. This semester, 35 students each provided 120 hours of unpaid service in the community. Since the program started, students have provided more than 7,538 hours, officials said.

"The pro bono program teaches the students the importance of the lawyer's responsibility to provide service to the community," said Professor Cindy Adcock, who also directs the school's experiential learning program.

In addition to pro bono work, students also can earn credit for "externships," working under an attorney's or judge's supervision.

One student honored was Stratford Kiger, who completed several externships at Legal Services of Southern Piedmont.

"Everybody should do a rotation under them," Kiger said. "They are great at what they do."

Kiger, who came to the Charlotte School of Law after several years with Bank of America, said her community work has better prepared her for life after law school.

The school also honored the attorneys who work with students.

One of those offices is the Consumer Protection Program & Legal Services for the Elderly division at Legal Services of the Southern Piedmont. Attorney and Director Lois Grossman has worked with law students for the past several years.

"We're a not-for-profit agency, and we have these students come in and once they get up and running, it's a great help to us," Grossman said.

Anne Crotty, attorney director of the International House/Ginter Immigration Law Clinic, also was recognized for her student supervision. She said she, in turn, is grateful for students' assistance.

— By Austin Light