

ABSTRACT: COMMUNITY LEGAL AID SUPPORT

Access to legal assistance remains a significant challenge for many individuals, particularly those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Traditional methods of seeking legal aid, such as physical visits to legal aid centers or relying on word-of-mouth recommendations, often prove inefficient and time-consuming. Additionally, existing online legal directories lack location-based filtering and real-time pro bono lawyer availability, making it difficult for users to find immediate legal support.

The **Community Legal Aid Support System** is a web-based platform designed to bridge this gap by connecting individuals with nearby legal professionals based on their location and expertise. It utilizes **proximity filtering** to match users with the most relevant legal professionals, ensuring faster and more accessible legal assistance. The platform also encourages **pro bono legal services**, allowing lawyers to register and offer free legal aid to those in need.

This system is built using **React.js for the frontend, Node.js with Express.js for the backend, and MongoDB for database management**. It integrates **Google Maps API for geolocation services**, enabling real-time lawyer searches. Secure authentication using **JWT** ensures user data protection, while an **admin verification module** maintains platform credibility by verifying registered lawyers.

The **Community Legal Aid Support System** not only improves access to justice but also enhances the efficiency of legal aid distribution by streamlining the lawyer-user matching process. With its **user-friendly interface, transparent verification process, and focus on pro bono services**, this platform serves as an innovative solution to address the growing need for accessible legal assistance