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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Miller Canfield and Stryker Volunteers Partner with Michigan Community Resources to Help Nonprofit Organizations

KALAMAZOO, Michigan (July 31, 2017)—Nonprofit organizations, particularly those serving low-income communities, often lack access to proper legal counsel, putting their organizations at significant risk. To help meet the needs of the nonprofit community in Kalamazoo, Miller Canfield partnered with volunteers from Stryker and Michigan Community Resources to produce the Nonprofit Legal Compliance Review Clinic.

The clinic was held on July 20, 2017, at Miller Canfield’s office in Kalamazoo, and assisted seven local nonprofit groups with legal issues such as articles of incorporation, by-laws, taxes, fundraising, insurance, volunteers, contracts and organizational filing and reporting requirements.

“Nonprofits have many legal needs just like a business, but they often don’t have the resources to hire an attorney,” Wendolyn Richards, Pro Bono Counsel at Miller Canfield said. “When Michigan Community Resources first talked to us about this clinic, I saw it as a wonderful way for Miller Canfield to help.”

Michigan Community Resources, a statewide nonprofit, had developed the clinic to help improve the operations of small, nonprofit organizations. The model MCR established has provided excellent results in Lansing and Detroit, and the organization was eager to expand it in West Michigan.

“In every corner of Michigan, there are dedicated organizations working hard to improve their communities,” Shamyle Dobbs, CEO of Michigan Community Resources, said. “We are committed to leveraging invaluable resources for these organizations to do their good work, and this clinic is just one way MCR can offer support and leverage help from private bar attorneys committed to pro bono legal services.”

“Our volunteers enjoyed this opportunity to work with these nonprofit organizations. We were inspired to learn about all of the amazing projects happening in Kalamazoo,” said Adam Strauss, Chief Intellectual Property Counsel for Stryker.

Staffed by volunteers from Miller Canfield and Stryker, the clinic provided the nonprofits with comprehensive analysis, explained necessary regulations, laws and best practices, answered questions and identified areas of concern.

For more information about Michigan Community Resources, visit www.mi-community.org.

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About Miller Canfield

With over 250 lawyers practicing in all major areas of law and 15 offices in five countries, Miller Canfield is among the 200 largest law firms in the U.S. Our lawyers are recognized by the most prestigious legal referral guides and organizations around the world, including Chambers USA and "Best Law Firms" published by *U.S. News & World Report*, in which Miller Canfield has received national first-tier rankings in Public Finance Law, Labor & Employment Litigation and Labor Law-Management. Miller Canfield was also named by corporate counsel as a "Standout in Complex Labor Litigation" in the *BTI Litigation Outlook* report and was recognized for superior client service in the BTI Client Service A-Team report. Visit www.millercanfield.com. Follow us on Twitter, www.twitter.com/millercanfield.

About Michigan Community Resources

The mission of Michigan Community Resources is to support and empower nonprofit community organizations in Michigan that serve low-income individuals and communities, with an emphasis on community economic development, by providing pro bono legal services and technical assistance. Founded in 1998, its programs include legal assistance, educational training & publications, urban planning services, and community outreach. MCR helps community organizations build their capacity, accomplish blight mitigation and neighborhood improvement activities, and improve quality of life. Learn more at mi-community.org

Contact information

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