What is Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) Group Services Program?

HSLDA recognizes the vital role that homeschool support groups, co-ops, and state/regional organizations play in the success of home education. We know the hard work you put into leading, counseling, creating, administering, praying, troubleshooting . . . most of you while you are homeschooling your own children! We are committed to encouraging, equipping, and supporting group leaders with the following programs and resources:

<u>Discount Group Program</u> - Includes member discount for HSLDA membership, Project Grants, Financial Grants for families in crisis, practical leadership helps, webinars, group insurance, financial advice from a CPA, and more.

Leader Support - *Groups* are not eligible for legal advocacy as are members, however HSLDA offers a wealth of practical leadership helps, legal consultation, accounting services and resources to *leaders* in the following areas:

What Topics Can I Call HSLDA About?

- Policies and Bylaws
- Finances
- Graduation
- Disabilities
- Membership/termination
- Faith/Conduct Statements
- Zoning
- Nonprofit status
- Incorporation and insurance*
- Conflict with member*

Possible Guidelines for Child Protection

- Positive verbal interaction
- Avoid intimidating or demeaning language
- No sexually-oriented communications Appropriate physical interaction.

How Do We Handle Money?

- Control of funds
- Reporting/ Oversight
- IRS filings
- Bank accounts
- Reimbursement
- For-profit vs. nonprofit
- Classifying teachers

What Other Issues Should I Think About?

- Child care, state laws
- Fire safety
- Discipline
- Medical marijuana
- Sex offenders
- Ex-spouses

For questions, or to learn more about HSLDA Group Services contact:

Darren A. Jones Senior Counsel and Group Contact Attorney 540.338.5600 Office darren@hslda.org

Supporting Homeschooling Families with Special Needs

Most leaders already have, or will, encounter families who are homeschooling children with special needs. What are the top/most pressing needs and challenges facing these families?

Finding appropriate curricula, managing finances for therapy and equipment/medical needs, locating and accessing special services/therapies, socializing opportunities and finding connection and support for parents. If all of this is unfamiliar territory for you, and you need a better understanding of how to best support, and provide practical assistance to these families, **HSLDA offers the following resources to leaders:**

- Special Needs Consultant Faith Berens is here to help. Contact her at: Faith@hslda.org or specialneeds@hslda.org office phone: 540.338.5600, ext.1201 / www.hslda.org
- Supporting Families with Special Needs: Resources for Leaders https://hslda.org/post/supporting-families-with-special-needs
- Homeschool Groups: How to Support Families with Special Needs live video chat https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=watch_permalink&v=522540909357947