Thank You to the VLP Volunteers who have taken a case in 2020

We could not do the work we do without your support and your efforts in providing pro bono to many of our clients.

Welcome our New Paralegal

Claire Silverstein is our new paralegal in the Student Legal Aid Project based at MATC in Milwaukee. She will be assisting with our newly developed expungement clinics and assisting in other legal needs of tech college students.

Welcome our New VLP Coordinator in Madison

Rachel Sattler is our new VLP Coordinator for the Madison Office. She will be coordinating all of the Madison Service Area pro bono opportunities. She is coming over from our Victim Rights Project.

Upcoming Trainings

Due to COVID-19, VLP will not have any additional in-person trainings this year. All of our 2020 trainings are available for volunteers as live webinars and on-demand.

Friday, August 28th - Domestic Abuse Injunctions: Nuts & Bolts - register here.

Friday, Sept. 11th - Domestic Abuse Injunctions: Preparing your clients for hearings - register here.

Referrals

Interested in taking cases for full representation in multiple different areas? We are regularly referring cases out to find the best pro bono fits for attorneys. Please complete this survey.

If you are interested in volunteering, please click here.

Remembering Pat Risser

All of us at Legal Action are saddened by the news that Pat Risser passed away on July 29, 2020.

For 10 years prior to retiring in 2014, Pat worked tirelessly within the Wisconsin legal community to increase pro bono service as the Director of the Volunteer Lawyers Project.

She was a leader in developing many of the pro bono opportunities that we continue and was recognized for her work by the State Bar of Wisconsin as the 2014 Outstanding Public Interest Law Attorney.

Don Tolbert states, “I try to remember how lucky I have been to work in a place where I became friends with people like Pat Risser. I cannot think of a better way for her to end her working career than to do the good work she did at LAW. Even after she retired, I would seek her out for her solid opinions and advice over a glass or two of good beer. She was my friend and I do, and will, miss her a lot.”

The full obituary is available here.

Volunteer Spotlight

Brenda Lewison graduated UW-Madison in 1995 and private attorney at Law Offices of Arthur Heitzer. One of her favorite parts of her practice is doing a little bit of justice for disadvantaged people in employment discrimination and landlord-tenant areas.

Brenda has been volunteering with VLP since 1995. While she has been a juggernaut volunteer, one of the big attractions was the free CLEs to help keep up her knowledge and skills. Pro bono clients immensely appreciate Brenda and her time when they are facing desperate situations.

When Brenda is not practicing law, you can find her knitting, sewing, gardening or playing the piano. She aspires to walk the entire Ice Age Trail.

Shout Out to Raphael Ramos!

Marquette Law School recognized Raphael Ramos with the Howard B. Eisenberg Service Award. Read more here.

The Howard B. Eisenberg Service Award honors a graduate of the Law School within the past 15 years for his dedication to the area of public interest law and service to the community. The awardee exemplifies living the Marquette mission of faith, service, leadership, and excellence in his personal and professional life. Service to both the broader community and the legal profession are to be considered for this award.