Public Interest Law Initiative®

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Issue 28

Greetings!

It's been an exciting month at PILI! In addition to welcoming a new staff member, Katie Pieper, we've launched a new website at a new domain, with a new logo and new e-mail addresses! Visit our new website at www.pili.org. We have lots of other exciting news too about upcoming events, like our Alumni Reunion Reception, our Law Firm Pro Bono Roundtable, our Annual Awards Luncheon, and special events throughout the state for Pro Bono Week. We also have news about the fast-approaching application period for 2014 PILI Internships & Fellowships, and inspiring spotlights from a great law firm pro bono program and two of our Alumni Team Leaders.

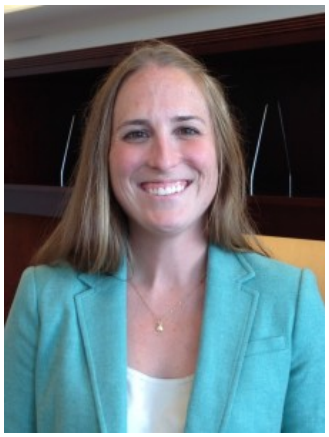
This and more below - we hope you find this newsletter informative, and we appreciate your support of PILI.

The Staff of the Public Interest Law Initiative
Michael G. Bergmann, Executive Director
Shana Heller-Ogden, Development & Communications Manager
Julia Kepler, Operations & Development Associate
Katie Pieper, Education & Outreach Manager

PILI News

New PILI Website & Emails - Update Your Contacts!
As of October, PILI's website got a new look and moved to a new domain at www.pili.org. Staff e-mail addresses have the same prefix as before, but are now at the @pili.org domain as well. Please update your contacts and bookmarks. PILI is grateful to our pro bono web designer and developer, Mac Heller-Ogden, and to our board and staff for their support and help in this undertaking.

PILI Welcomes New Staff Member Katie Pieper



Katie Pieper joined PILI's staff at the end of September as our new Education & Outreach Manager. Katie is a graduate of the University Of Illinois College Of Law, and before coming to PILI, she was the Program Operations Manager for the Senior Community Service Employment Program with Easter Seals. Read her full bio on our website. In just a week and a half, Katie has hit the ground running, and we're thrilled to have her on board!

PILI Executive Director Michael Bergmann Named to the Law Bulletin's "40 Under Forty"
The Law Bulletin's "40 Under Forty" list recognizes forty exemplary young attorneys in Illinois every year from among hundreds of nominations. Honorees are selected for their "intelligence, passion, success in the office, desire to help the community, and most importantly, willingness to work hard

at one of the Country's most important professions." Visit our website to read the full press release. Congratulations, Michael!

Save the Date: PILI's Annual Awards Luncheon, December 5
We hope you'll join us for our Annual Awards Luncheon on December 5 at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago. This event celebrates the very best aspects of the legal profession: the generosity, expertise and commitment of the countless lawyers, law students, legal professionals, law firms and corporations who dedicate themselves to serving low-income people with legal needs. This year's award recipients are passionate, hard-working, and wholly committed to justice and fairness. They are:

- Distinguished Public Service Award Recipient : Ann Hilton Fisher, AIDS Legal Council of Chicago
- Distinguished PILI Alumni Award Recipient (Fellow): Max Stein, Boodell & Domanskis
- Distinguished PILI Alumni Award Recipient (Intern): Marjie Nielsen, Chicago Legal Clinic
- Pro Bono Initiative Award Recipeint: DLA Piper US LLP

Sponsorship opportunities for PILI's Annual Awards Luncheon are available now and individual tickets will be on sale later this month. Visit our website to learn more or contact us with any questions about this event.

Law Student Internship & Graduate Fellowship Programs

Application Period Opening Soon for PILI Internships & Fellowships
There are some important dates coming up for law students wishing to apply for PILI Law Student Internships or Graduate Fellowships for the spring or summer of 2014:

- Summer Internships: October 15 for 2Ls and December 1 for 1Ls
- Spring Internships: November 1
- Fellowships: October 15

Visit our website to learn more about how to apply for Internships or Fellowships, or to see a list of agencies that participate in these PILI programs. Apply early, as this can be a highly competitive process! Contact us with any questions about how to apply for PILI Internships or Fellowships.

PILI Welcomes Fall Interns, Including New Intern Funded by LAGBAC
Five Chicago-area law students are serving as PILI Law Student Interns this fall. Among them Sergio Cueva Flores, whose PILI Internship at the National Immigrant Justice Center has been specially funded by LAGBAC, the Lesbian And Gay Bar Association of Chicago. Jeremy Gottschalk, President of LAGBAC, had this to say about their decision to sponsor a PILI Intern:

> "The LAGBAC Foundation's partnership with the PILI Law Student Internship Program extends the Foundation's mission of improving access to the legal and judicial system for all lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, intersexed and questioning persons by giving law students the opportunity to learn valuable, practical legal skills while giving back to our community. The National Immigrant Justice Center Internship amplifies the Foundation's mission onto a global scale by supporting the world's preeminent organization ensuring human rights protections and access to justice for all immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers around the world."

In addition to LAGBAC, the Chicago Bar Foundation is also supporting a fall PILI Intern: Ariel Johnson of Loyola who is serving at Chicago Volunteer Legal Services. Together, our 5 fall Interns will serve 1,000 hours at 5 legal service agencies in Chicago. Visit our website to learn more about our Law Student Internship Program.

New Intern & Fellow Representatives Join PILI's Board
From each year's class of Interns & Fellows, PILI selects one representative from each program to represent the class to PILI's Board of Directors for a two-year term. We are pleased to announce that Emily Coffey, 2013 PILI Intern and current law student at Loyola University Chicago School of Law, and Catherine Cottle, 2013 PILI Fellow and new associate at Kirkland & Ellis, have been selected as this year's representatives. PILI is excited to have them join our board and share their experience, background, and passion for public interest law and pro bono. Welcome!

PILI Alumni Network

Purchase Tickets Now for the PILI Alumni Reunion Reception!
The fourth annual PILI Alumni Reunion Reception is coming up next week on October 16th! This event is a chance for PILI Alumni - former Interns & Fellows - to get together, get to know each other, and celebrate PILI's Internship and Fellowship Programs. Who's invited? Former PILI Interns and Fellows, PILI Board Members, PILI Intern & Fellow Supervisors, and any friend of PILI. Funds raised from ticket sales go directly to the PILI Alumni Named Internship Campaign. There will be beer, wine, food, some amazing raffle prizes, and lots of Alumni from across PILI's 36 years of history. Purchase event tickets or raffle tickets on our website today!

New PILI Alumni Service Project Announced - Registration Open Now
The new Public Service Team of PILI's Alumni Network Leadership Council will be hosting our first service project on November 13th. PILI is partnering with Center for Disability & Elder Law's Senior Center Initiative to provide pro bono legal assistance to seniors in preparing durable Powers of Attorney for Health Care and Property and Living Will Declarations. A CLE training is included in this service project and volunteers will receive 2 hours of CLE credit. Transportation to the workshop and lunch will be provided by PILI. We invite all PILI Alumni to volunteer for this rewarding opportunity. Registration is open now but is limited to the first 15 people - visit our website to learn more and to register.

PILI Alumni Raise Funds to Sponsor Two Interns Next Summer
Every year since 2011, PILI Alumni have raised enough money to fully fund one PILI Intern the next summer. This year, PILI Alumni raised more money than ever - over $12,000 - which will be able to support two PILI Interns in the summer of 2014. PILI is so grateful to our Alumni donors, many of whom are also members of PILI Giving Circles. Want to contribute to the PILI Alumni Campaign? Visit our website to make a gift, or purchase tickets for the Alumni Reunion Reception next Wednesday!

PILI Welcomes New Alumni Leaders
Elizabeth Lewis, former PILI Fellow and partner at McDermott Will & Emery, has become the new Chair of PILI's Alumni Network Leadership Council. Several other Alumni have newly stepped into leadership positions within PILI's Alumni Council, including:

- Vice Chair: Kate Pomper, Office of the Illinois Attorney General
- Program Planning Team Leader: Susan DeCostanza, Chicago Volunteer Legal Services
- Fundraising Team Leader: Emily Seymore, Paul Hastings LLP

- Outreach Team Leader: Jessica Schneider, Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
- Public Service Team Leader: Marc Katz, Career Builder
- Friends of PILI Team Leader: Justin Heather, The Quinlan Law Firm (Immediate Past Chair)

Two of these new leaders - Emily Seymore and Marc Katz - are the features of this newsletter's Alumni Spotlights below! PILI also welcomed several new at-large council and team members. Interested in joining the PILI Alumni Leadership Council or one of our Alumni Teams? Visit our website to learn more or get in touch with us today.

Alumni Spotlight: Emily Seymore, 2009 PILI Intern & Alumni Fundraising Team Leader

Emily Seymore is the leader of the Alumni Fundraising Team of the PILI Alumni Network Leadership Council. The Fundraising Team heads up PILI Alumni fundraising efforts, raising money to support PILI Interns each summer. A former PILI Intern herself, Emily became involved as the Fundraising Team Leader to encourage other Alumni and attorneys to give back and support PILI's mission. "I believe PILI is filling a key gap by uniting and rallying the Illinois legal community-both public interest and private practitioners-around the issue of enhancing services for people in Illinois in need of legal representation," she says. Emily did her PILI Internship at LAF in 2009, working on their Public Benefits Hotline and helping over 80 low-income seniors and families obtain critical health support services, cash assistance, and food stamp benefits. *Click here to read more.*

Alumni Spotlight: Marc Katz, 2009 PILI Fellow & Alumni Public Service Team Leader

Marc Katz leads the Alumni Service Team of PILI's Alumni Network Leadership Council. He served as a PILI Fellow in 2009 at the MacArthur Justice Center of the Bluhm Legal Clinic at Northwestern University School of Law. During his Fellowship, Marc worked closely with the director of the clinic, Locke Bowman, on wrongful imprisonment and other civil rights claims. "Much of my research involved very careful, in-depth reviews of a couple of the most interesting, compelling cases in recent history," he says. Marc tells the story of one client he worked with specifically, a man who was arrested and convicted of murder at age 18 based on speculation and questionable investigatory practices. "Alan's story could have easily been mine, or anyone else I knew - just a young kid who was at the wrong place at the wrong time," Marc explains. "Meeting him 20 years later, deprived of his freedom for much of his adulthood, was an impactful reminder of how flawed the justice system is." For Marc, this case in particular and his summer PILI Fellowship experience overall reinforced how important it is for attorneys to engage in public service. *Click here to read more.*

Pro Bono Initiative

Law Students "Explore the Possibilities" with PILI on October 12

Are you looking to secure a position at a public interest law organization or in the government sector during law school or for your career? This program, co-sponsored by Phi Alpha Delta and CALSC, is for Chicago-area law students who are interested in learning more about opportunities as volunteers, interns or externs, fellows or staff at public interest law organizations and in the government sector. Visit our website to see the event agenda.

Register Now: PILI's Law Firm Pro Bono Roundtable, November 5

PILI's Law Firm Pro Bono Roundtable brings together law firm pro bono leaders from around Illinois to discuss the pro bono opportunities and challenges facing law firms and to share best practices and strategies for successful pro bono programs. This year's event will be held at Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg from 12:00 - 1:30 pm on Tuesday, November 5. Registration is open now until November 1st.

Pro Bono Week with PILI

Happy Pro Bono Week! PILI is co-sponsoring and participating in several events across the city, state, and even the country during Pro Bono Week, October 21-25. Tickets or registration for the below events can be found on our website:

- Fifth Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Week Celebration - October 21
- Eleventh Judicial Circuit Ethics CLE Program - October 21
- Sixth Judicial Circuit Ethics CLE & Awards Presentation - October 24

PILI will also be at the Federal Government Pro Bono Fair in Chicago and with the West Cook Pro Bono Network on the 23rd, at the CBA/CBF Pro Bono Fair on the 24th, and at the Equal Justice Works Conference and Career Fair in Washington, DC on the 24th and 25th. We hope to see you at one or more of these events!

PILI Hosts Illinois Forum on Pro Bono on September 18

The topic for this year's PILI Illinois Forum on Pro Bono was the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Access to Justice. A panel discussed the achievements of the Commission in its first year and the findings of its statewide listening conferences, and small groups then discussed next steps in increasing access to justice in Illinois. PILI will provide discussion notes for participants on our website, which will be available in the near future. Said one of our participants, "The update on the Commission's work was very enlightening and helped me put into perspective exactly what they are doing and how it could affect me. And I learned so much from the many different people at my table." Thanks to the Commission for co-sponsoring this event and to all of our participants for attending.

Pro Bono Spotlight: Hinshaw & Culbertson

There are lessons to be learned from a firm that has spent years dedicated to addressing the needs of those who would not otherwise be able to afford legal services. Hinshaw & Culbertson, a Chicago-based firm with more than 500 attorneys in 23 offices across the United States, is on the PILI Pro Bono Recognition Roster, and is the 2013 recipient of the Chicago Legal Clinic's Charles J. O'Laughlin Memorial Award. Behind institutional support and a culture of service, are individual trail blazers and champions. Josh Vincent, a partner in the Chicago office, and PILI Board Member, has been both for Hinshaw and has reflected with PILI on the process of building a meaningful pro bono program. *Click here to read more.*

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