

Application Requirements:

- Current student at an ABA accredited school
- Resume, cover letter, and short writing sample (3 pages).
- Commitment to public interest law for low income communities.
- Demonstrated interest in preferred area of law. Prior professional experience or coursework preferred but not required.
- Available to work 40 hours per week for the duration of the eight week program.
- Fluency in Spanish is a significant plus, but not required.

A note on funding:

VLP summer associates are unpaid, however, we are happy to provide commitment letters to students seeking alternate sources of funding for summer positions at VLP.

438 Main Street
Buffalo, New York
(716) 847 - 0662

APPLY TODAY!

Go to:
www.ecbavlp.com

Select "Volunteer", then
"Internship Opportunities
for Students"

QUESTIONS? EMAIL: MVALERI@ECBAVLP.COM

ECBA VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT

Summer
Associate
Program

SPEAKING FOR THOSE WHO ARE NOT HEARD





SPEAKING FOR THOSE WHO ARE NOT HEARD

Since 1986, VLP has been providing free civil legal services to low income people. In over 35 years, more than 150,000 clients have been served by VLP, resulting in over 125,000 hours of pro bono service.

We provide legal representation in a variety of practice areas including: housing, family law, immigration, tax, unemployment benefits, divorce, and bankruptcy.

UNIQUE LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

VLP summer associates gain practical experience and work directly with VLP clients and attorneys. VLP provides on-site training, weekly “lunch and learn” sessions and opportunities to network with judges, politicians, and community leaders. Local social activities are also planned.

GROWTH & INNOVATION

VLP provides an opportunity to be on the front line of legal services. Every day our staff and volunteers create and implement new approaches to providing valuable and needed services to low income communities.

SUMMER ASSOCIATE PROGRAMS

EVICTIION DEFENSE

The Attorney of the Morning Program provides free same day legal representation to low income clients facing eviction in Buffalo City Court. Our Housing Helpline provides legal advice and information to clients with housing issues in Erie County. Summer associates will conduct intake and provide support through legal research.

LOW INCOME TAXPAYER CLINIC

VLP's Low Income Taxpayer Clinic provides representation to clients who have a case in controversy with the IRS. Summer associates will conduct intake, provide legal research and accompany staff attorneys to community outreach and education events.

GENERAL PRACTICE

VLP provides full representation to low income clients on a variety of civil legal issues including Chapter 7 Bankruptcy, Divorce, wills, tort defense and small estate administration. Summer associates will conduct intake and complete legal research for staff attorneys and volunteer attorneys on a variety of civil legal issues.

IMMIGRATION - BUFFALO

VLP provides representation to non-detained immigrants before U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Buffalo Immigration Court. Summer associates will assist with preparing and filing applications and evidence, and interviewing clients. Summer associates may also be offered the chance to represent a client in an Immigration Court hearing.

FAMILY LAW PROGRAM

The Family Court Help Desk is a free walk-in legal clinic located at family court where clients can receive legal advice on custody, visitation and child support matters. Additionally, VLP staff attorneys provide full representation to clients in non-parent custody matters and in child support matters. Summer associates will conduct intake at the help desk and provide support to attorneys on full representation cases. (Note: reliable transportation required as help desk operates in Erie and Niagara Counties).

LEGAL SERVICES FOR POSITIVE FAMILIES & INDIVIDUALS

VLP provides free legal services to individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS. Although this program has a special focus on end of life planning, attorneys provide full representation on a variety of civil legal issues including family law, housing, bankruptcy, and public benefits. Summer associates will provide support to staff attorneys on pending cases, and participate in various outreach events with community organizations.

IMMIGRATION - BATAVIA

VLP provides representation to people who are detained by U.S. Immigration at the Buffalo Federal Detention Facility in Batavia, NY and face removal from the U.S. Summer associates will provide support to attorneys working on these removal cases. Research projects may touch on concurrent criminal matters, as well as research on countries of origin.