



# ECBA VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT

**ECBA VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT**

**2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

# A JOINT LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND CEO

Dear Friends:

During 2018, VLP celebrated our 35th year of providing quality free civil legal services to those in need and effectively involving volunteers in delivering those services. Over the years, VLP has grown from a staff of 3 handling 343 cases in 1983 to a staff of over 40 that handled nearly 5,000 cases in 2018.

Our Buffalo office continued to provide a wide variety of civil legal services by staff and attorney volunteers. 439 pro bono attorneys worked on 1,921 cases in 2018 and provided over 4,380 hours in pro bono time. Lawyers volunteered to provide full representation in important matters such divorces, bankruptcies, immigration, resolving disputes with the IRS, and a variety of other types of cases. They also volunteered in our limited scope programs in Family Courts, Federal Court, Buffalo City Court (our Attorney of the Morning Program), at several Say Yes Legal Clinics, and through our Housing Hotline.

Our Batavia office continued to focus on immigration representation and assisting people detained at the Federal Detention Facility in Batavia where we successfully completed our first full year of operating a “universal representation” model for all detained low income and otherwise unrepresented people facing possible deportation.

In sum, 2018 was a very good year for VLP. We are honored, and thankful, to be part of such a worthwhile organization and to see firsthand the dedication, professionalism, and generosity of so many lawyers. With your help, we hope to assist ever more Western New Yorkers, provide a greater number of opportunities for volunteers, and help make our legal system a little easier to navigate for those in need of our help. We hope you will join with VLP and support this important work.

Best Wishes,



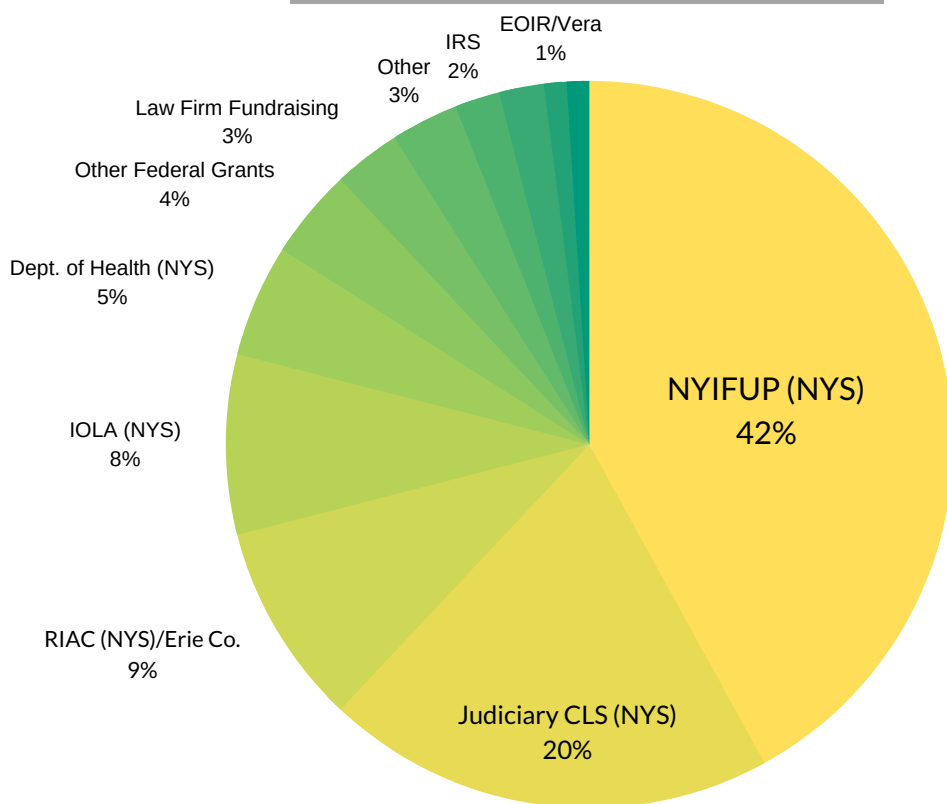
Kevin M. Kearney  
President



Robert M. Elardo  
Executive Director/CEO

# REVENUE FOR 2018

\$4,090,683

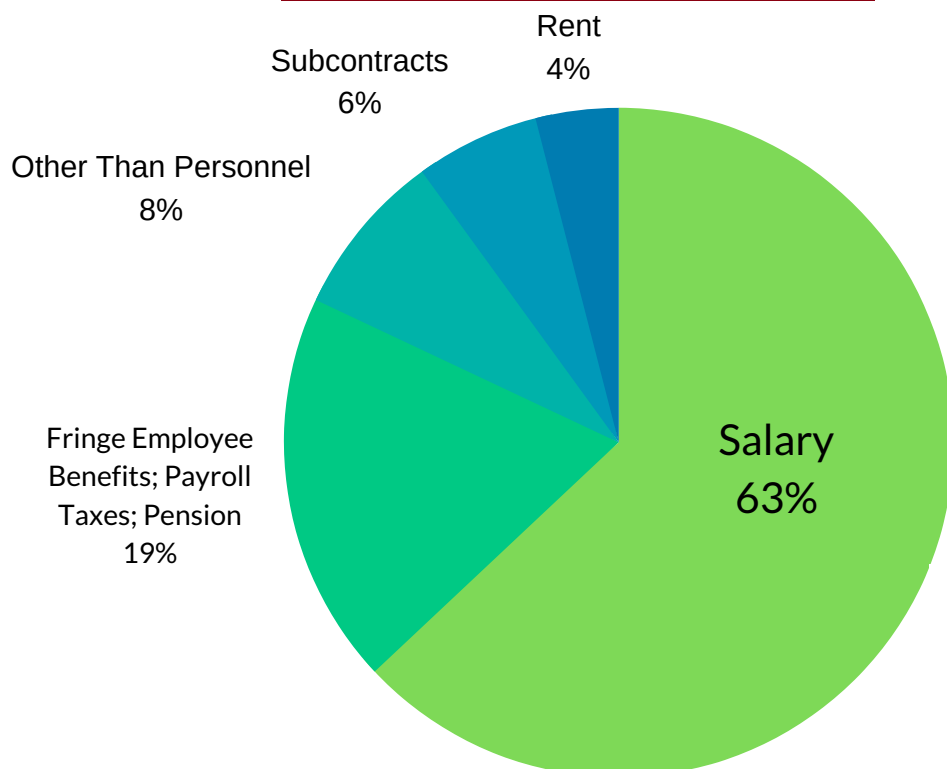


## FUNDING GENEROUSLY PROVIDED BY

**NYS Office of Court Administration (OCA)**  
**NYS Interest On Lawyer (IOLA) Fund**  
**NYS Liberty Defense Fund**  
**NYS Regional Immigration Assistance Centers**  
**NYS Department of Health Vera Institute of Justice**  
**US Department of Justice Executive Office of Immigration Review**  
**Say Yes Foundation**  
**Internal Revenue Services**  
**Legal Services Corporation**  
**Neighborhood Legal Services**  
**International Institute of Buffalo**  
**John R. Oishei Foundation**  
**United Way of Buffalo and Erie County**  
**Evans Devereux Memorial Fund**  
**Equal Justice Works**  
**Immigrant Justice Corps (IJC)**  
**Law Firm, Corporate, and Individual Contributions**

# EXPENSES FOR 2018

\$3,630,176

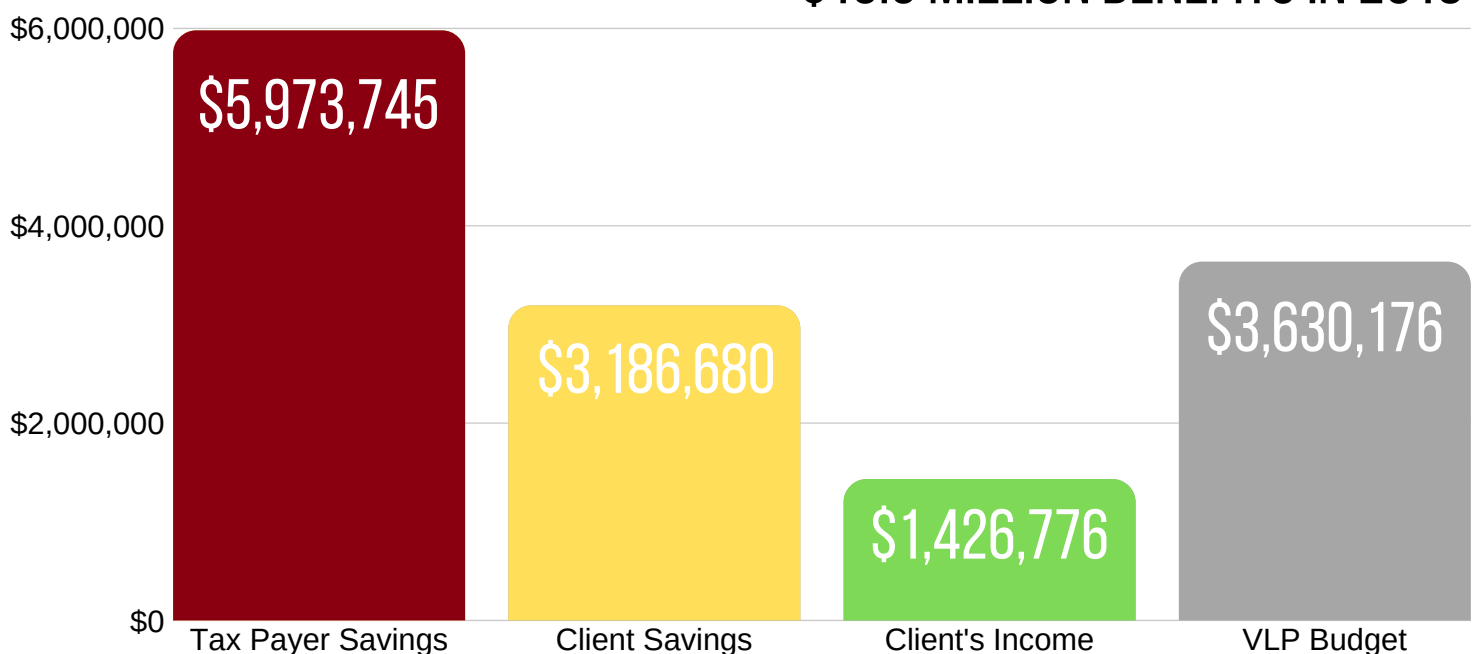


## CASE TYPES OF 2018

Family	1,550	UIB	74
Eviction Defense	1,310	Not For Profit	64
Immigration	1,094	Power of Attorney	49
Tax	197	Other	216
Bankruptcy/Debt	163	TOTAL	4,946
Wills/Estates	148		
Tax Foreclosure	81		

## 2018 ECONOMIC BENEFITS

\$10.5 MILLION BENEFITS IN 2018





# GENERAL CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES

IN 2018, VLP RESPONDED  
TO APPROXIMATELY  
**5,000**  
REQUESTS FOR  
GENERAL LEGAL SERVICES

VLP provides referrals, advice, assistance and representation in a variety of civil legal problems for which there is no right to a Court appointed attorney. The types of matters may range from representation in an unemployment benefits hearings or chapter 7 bankruptcy, to family law matters such as divorce, non-parent child custody and establishment or modification of child support, to defense of tort cases or filing of a decedent's estate to inherit a home.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

VLP's **Unemployment Insurance Benefits** program helps individuals throughout Western New York with receiving unemployment insurance benefits (UIB). We help clients during the initial hearing process for benefits; we directly advocate with the New York State Department of Labor. We also handle select unemployment appeals to the Appeals Board. VLP also provides representation to clients in obtaining unpaid wages from employers.

IN 2018, VLP WON  
**\$80,085**  
IN RETROACTIVE BENEFITS  
FOR OUR CLIENTS

## TAX FORECLOSURE

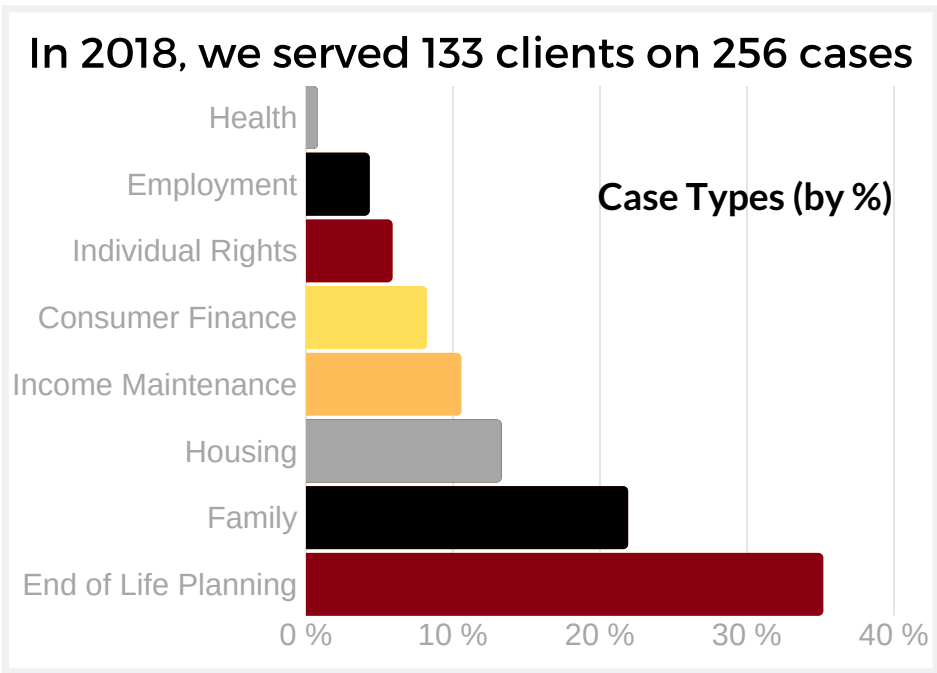
Each year, individuals across Western New York face the reality of losing their home as a result of unpaid property taxes. VLP provides individual representation to clients facing this issue in the City of Buffalo and throughout Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Wyoming and Genesee Counties. In some cases, VLP was even able to secure the funds for these families to pay off the debt that put them at risk of losing their home.

Annually, VLP sends a team of paralegals and attorneys to provide on-the-spot representation at the City of Buffalo property tax negotiation days. This year, VLP was contacted by an anonymous donor who heard about these negotiations on the news and wanted to make a difference. Due to this donor's generosity, we were able to assist multiple families and prevent the foreclosure of their homes.

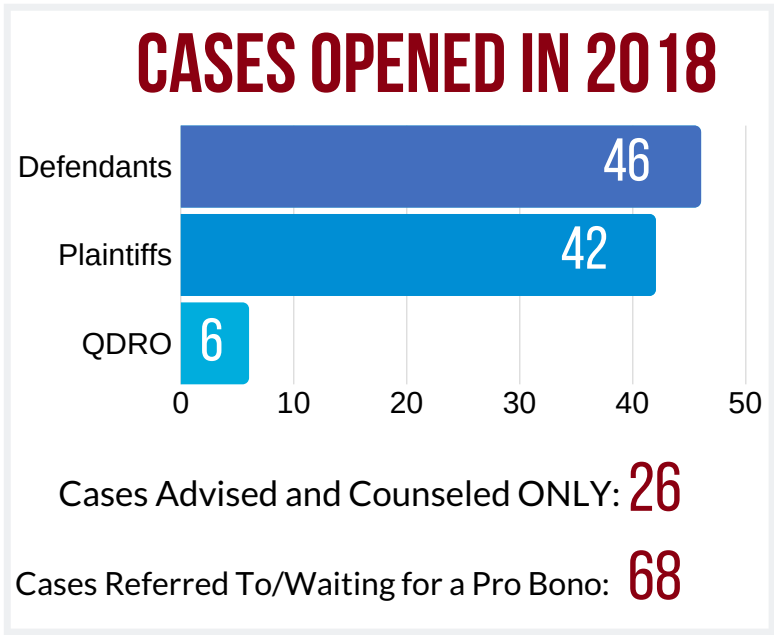
In 2018, VLP's Tax Foreclosure program was responsible for creating **\$175,251** in tax payer savings, **\$1,307,400** in indirect value of homes saved, and **\$25,363** in direct benefits.

# POSITIVE FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS PROGRAM

The Positive Families and Individuals Program provides free civil legal services to individuals and families impacted by HIV/AIDS in all eight counties of Western New York. This program provides representation to people on a variety of legal issues, including family law, debtor-creditor issues, HIV confidentiality, discrimination, name and gender marker changes, end of life planning, and care and custody planning.



## DIVORCE



VLP has a long history of representing people seeking as well as defending a **divorce**. VLP assists low income clients who fall through the gaps created by other programs' rules. VLP has a group of attorneys committed to handling pro bono divorces, relieving a great deal of stress for the client. Clients seeking a divorce may be served by having a volunteer attorney assigned to help with all stages of the divorce, from filing the initial pleadings, to full resolution. Clients that have been served with divorce papers may get an attorney assigned to represent them to protect their interests, ensuring a default judgment is not issued against them.

VLP also represents litigants in many Family Court matters. Committed to help filling the gaps in access to justice, VLP represents Family Court litigants in child support matters, non-parent custody, and non-parent visitation.



**Client was a victim of domestic violence and was seeking a divorce from her abusive husband. The husband moved out of state and hid his address from the client in an effort to prevent the divorce. VLP was able to obtain an order from the court allowing us to serve the husband with the divorce papers via text message and VLP was able to assist the client in successfully obtaining a divorce so she could start over with her children.**

*VLP Positive Families and  
Individuals Client*

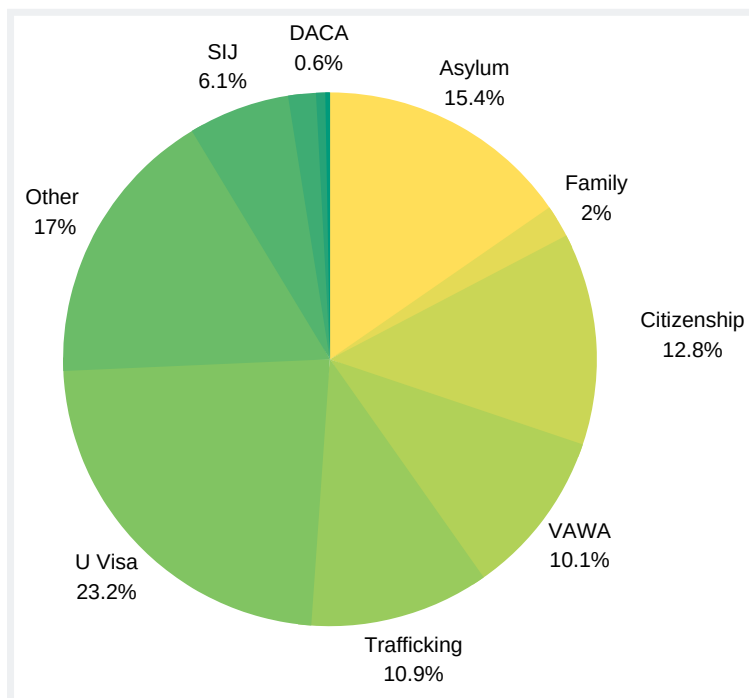
VOLUNTARY  
LAWYER  
PROJECT



# IMMIGRATION

## BUFFALO

**VLP's Buffalo based immigration** team handles cases for survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and other crimes. We also represent asylum seekers, applicants for citizenship, and other immigrants as our time and resources permit. The Buffalo office handled 358 cases in 2018.



## BATAVIA IMMIGRATION

IN 2018, VLP SECURED  
RELEASE FOR  
**148**  
INDIVIDUALS

**New York Immigrant Family Unity Project (NYIFUP)** has been a mainstay of the Batavia office's immigration work. NYIFUP work is currently funded through a contract with the Vera Institute of Justice. NYIFUP is a "public defender" style program for non-citizens detained at the Buffalo Federal Detention Facility in Batavia, New York and in various county jails in upstate New York. Many of our clients are seeking asylum in the U.S. and in some instances, the cases are handled by pro bono attorneys. The Batavia office handled 736 immigration cases.

**National Qualified Representative Program (NQRP)** helps provide appointed legal representation for detained individuals who are unrepresented by counsel and have been found to be incompetent to represent themselves in their immigration proceedings because of a serious mental disorder. This work is also funded by the Vera Institute of Justice.

**Vera**  
INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

The Buffalo office is also home to the **WNY Regional Immigration Assistance Center. RIAC** provides expert immigration advice to mandated providers (public defenders and assigned counsel) on the immigration consequences of criminal and family law cases.



**In 2018 VLP represented a politician from Uganda who suffered an assassination attempt, kidnapping, several brutal beatings, and torture. We helped our client prove that the persecution he suffered was on account of his political opinion and that the Ugandan government officials were responsible for the persecution. Our client received a grant of asylum.**

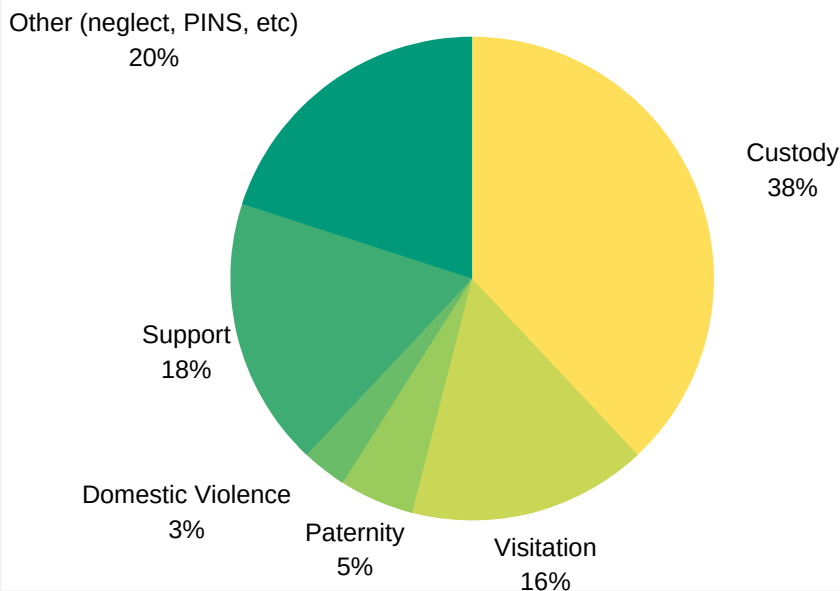
*VLP Immigration Client*



# FAMILY COURT HELP DESK

In September 2018, the **Erie County Family Court Help Desk** celebrated its **5th** anniversary. Starting as a small clinic open 3 days per week in borrowed space, the Erie County Family Court Help Desk is now open 5 days a week in its own dedicated space on the 4th Floor of Erie County Family Court and served **4,901** litigants in its 5 years of operation. In 2018 alone, the Erie County Family Court Help Desk served **978** clients and reduced litigation in **35.7%** of cases.

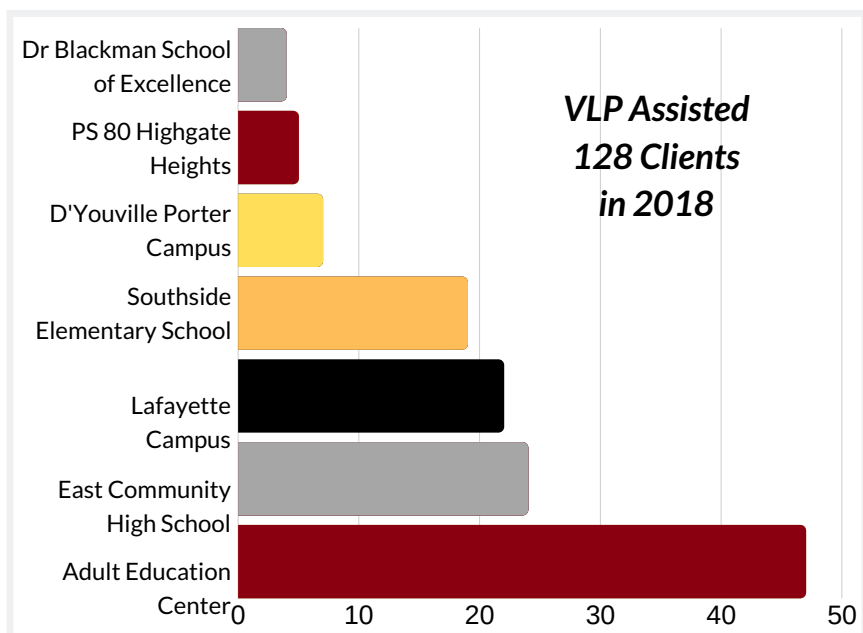
## Legal Issues Served in 2018



March 2018 saw an expansion of the Family Court Help Desk model, with the opening of the **Niagara County Family Court Help Desk**. Located in the Niagara Falls Family Court building, the Niagara County Family Court Help Desk operates every Wednesday. In 2018, the Niagara County Family Court Help Desk served **94** clients and reduced litigation in **17%** of the cases served.

## SAY YES LEGAL CLINICS

### CLIENTS IN 2018, BASED ON CLINIC SITE



**VLP's Say Yes Legal Clinics are free legal clinics in select Buffalo Public Schools open to students, families, faculty, staff, and City of Buffalo residents. Advice on bankruptcy, child custody, child support, divorce, eviction, foreclosure, government benefits, housing, immigration, income tax, and other civil legal matters is available on a first come, first served basis, with translation services made available.**

**A young mother of four came to our Say Yes Clinic seeking legal advice regarding filing for child support.**

**As a non-English speaker, she was grateful to find a VLP paralegal that spoke her language and was very pleased to be referred to a VLP attorney. The client was able to file the necessary petition for support.**

*VLP Say Yes Legal  
Clinic Client*



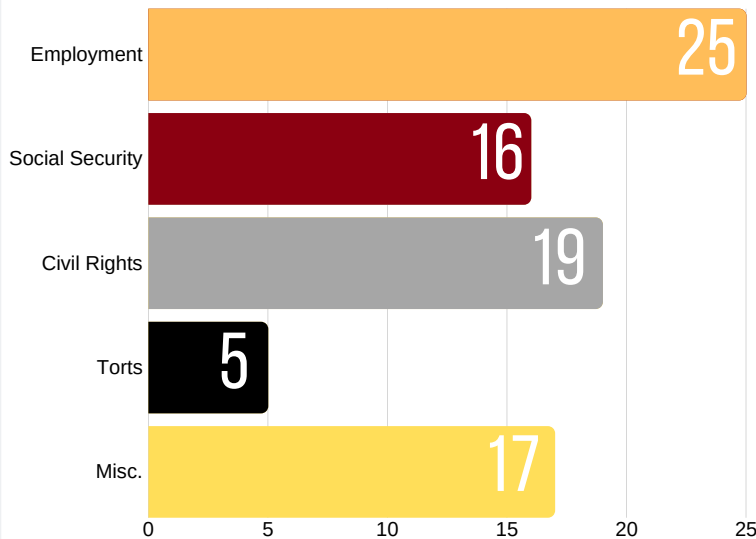


# PRO SE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (PSAP)

The extremely successful partnership between VLP, the United States District Court for the Western District of New York, the University at Buffalo School of Law and the WNY Chapter of the Federal Bar Association continued in its fifth year in 2018. **VLP's Pro Se Assistance Program (PSAP)** allows low income individuals representing themselves in Federal Court to seek advice from volunteer attorneys about their legal issues. Our experienced volunteer attorneys are able to assist litigants in determining the proper forum for their cases, draft and revise complaints, prepare forms requesting fee waivers and review court orders.

**IN 2018, PRO SE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
HAD 37 ATTORNEYS VOLUNTEER 164  
HOURS ON 82 CASES IN 71 CLINICS**

## TYPES OF CASES in 2018



## ATTORNEY OF THE MORNING (AOM)

### AOM in 2018

**1,190** CASES WERE OPENED WHICH  
BENEFITED **3,261** INDIVIDUALS.  
**510** PRO BONO ATTORNEY HOURS.  
DELAYED OR PREVENTED EVICTION  
IN **93%** OF CASES, AND **92%**  
RESOLVED BY A STIPULATION.

**The Attorney of the Morning program (AOM)** provides full representation to low income clients facing eviction in Buffalo City Court. Pro Bono and staff attorneys provide direct representation to qualifying individuals appearing in court on landlord/tenant matters. This highly successful program, replicated across the country, helps vulnerable families in our community avoid homelessness.

In recognizing that people across Erie County, not just those within the City of Buffalo, were plagued with issues involving landlord tenant matters, VLP launched the **Housing Helpline** in 2017. The helpline provides legal advice and counsel over the phone to low-income individuals facing an eviction outside the city of Buffalo but within Erie County.

### Housing Helpline 2018 Stats

**VLP received over 130 calls through the helpline. From those calls, we were able to open a total of 44 cases and assist over 100 individuals facing possible eviction proceedings.**



**In 2018, AOM staff assisted a single grandmother, who has custody of her three grandchildren, in avoiding homelessness. Shortly after complaining that she did not have hot water, our client received a 30-day notice of eviction despite an agreement the Landlord made to provide a one-year lease. After lengthy negotiations with the landlord's attorney, we were able to prevent the eviction and keep the tenant in her home.**

*VLP Attorney of the  
Morning Client*



# LOW-INCOME TAXPAYER CLINIC (LITC)

## The Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic

provides representation and consultation to low-income and ESL taxpayers in Western New York who have a dispute with the IRS. These disputes include contesting the amount of the liability, providing collection alternatives when the taxpayer cannot afford to pay, and pursuing refunds for clients the IRS has disputed. The LITC also provides education and outreach to underserved Western New York communities on tax topics.

## 2018 LITC CASES CLOSED STATS

Total  
Decrease  
in Tax  
Liabilities  
for Clients

**\$128,779**

Total  
Money  
Refunded to  
Clients from  
IRS and NYS

**\$59,195**

## FILES OPENED IN 2018

Pro Bono  
Representation:

**87**

Cases Advised and  
Counseled ONLY:

**65**

Cases Referred  
To/Waiting for a  
Pro Bono:

**22**

## BANKRUPTCY

Many Western New York residents struggle with overwhelming debt. VLP often provides pro bono attorneys to help qualified low income clients with **chapter 7 bankruptcy** to give clients a fresh start. In 2018, VLP met with 87 clients seeking relief from oppressive debt, often stemming from defaulted car loans, utility arrears, or credit card debt. VLP counsels clients on their debt issues, helps to determine what property and income is exempt from collection, advises clients on how to deal with aggressive debt collectors, and refers clients to pro bono attorneys to help with bankruptcy where appropriate.

# NEW IN 2018

## RISING CHAMPIONS FOR JUSTICE

### RISING CHAMPIONS FOR JUSTICE

ECBA  
VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT

In 2018, VLP introduced the **Rising Champions for Justice (RCJ)**. RCJ is a group of young professionals dedicated to furthering the VLP's mission to provide free legal services to low income people while gaining valuable board experience and professional development. Members support VLP through organizing events, fundraisers, networking and professional development opportunities, and through volunteerism. In its first year, VLP welcomed 21 new members to the Rising Champions for Justice from a variety of firms and backgrounds.

## IMMIGRATION 101 VIDEOS

In 2018, VLP embarked upon a public education campaign scrutinizing hot topics in immigration, in a video series called **Immigration 101**. The 5 videos in the Immigration 101 series have been viewed thousands of times. Thank you to our partners Rise Collaborative and Goldfarb Financial.



OPEN CAMERA PHONE TO WATCH VIDEOS



 Watch video

# LAW FIRM FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

VLP's Law Firm Fundraising Campaign gives law firms, lawyers, judges, & other friends the opportunity to make tax deductible financial donations to VLP. These contributions help VLP to operate its variety of programs in which hundreds of local attorneys provide pro bono legal services to low income people who would otherwise go without the assistance of an attorney.

## BENEFACTOR

---

(At least \$10,000)

**Hodgson Russ LLP**

**Phillips Lytle LLP**

## PARTNER

---

(At least \$5,000)

**Barclay Damon, LLP**

**Brown Chiari, LLP**

**Cellino & Barnes, P.C.**

**Judges of the Western District of NY**

**William Mattar, PC**

## DIAMOND

---

(At least \$2,000)

**Connors LLP**

**Gibson, McAskill & Crosby**

**Gross Shuman P.C.**

**Hamberger & Weiss \***

**Harter, Secrest, and Emery LLP**

**Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP**

**Lipsitz & Ponterio LLC**

**Nixon Peabody**

**Roach, Brown, McCarthy & Gruber, P.C.**

**Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, & Cunningham LLC**

**Walsh Roberts & Grace \***

**Webster Szanyi LLP**

## PLATINUM

---

(At least \$500)

**Hon. M. William Boller**

**Hon. Paul G. Buchanan**

**Hon. Catherine Nugent Panepinto**

**Mr. & Mrs. Keith Bond\***

**Kathleen Carmody\***

**Robert B. Conklin\***

**Ann Demopoulos**

**Gary R. Gaffney**

**William H. Gardner**

**Richard F. Griffin**

**Robert P. Heary**

**Mr. & Mrs. Kevin M. Kearney\***

**Mr. & Mrs. James Magavern\***

**Anthony D. Mancinelli**

**Richard F. Griffin**

**Philip A. Perna**

**Brian R. Welsh**



# GOLDEN

(At least \$150)

Hon. John J. Aman  
Hon. Carl L. Bucki\*  
Hon. Mary Carney  
Hon. Anthony J. Cervi\*  
Hon. Shannon E. Filbert  
Hon. Leslie G. Foschio  
Hon. Michael J. Kaplan\*  
Hon. John J. LaFalce\*  
Hon. Frederick J. Marshall  
Hon. Jeremiah Moriarty III\*  
Hon. Acea M. Mosey\*  
Hon. John F. O'Donnell\*  
Hon. Erin Peradotto\*  
Hon. William M. Skretny  
John E. Ballow\*

Howard E. Berger  
William J. Brennan\*  
Alan S. Carrel  
Joe R. Cavan\*  
Elizabeth G. Clark  
Edward C. Cosgrove  
George L. Cownie\*  
Melinda & Thomas Disare  
Catherine Eberl  
Robert M. Elardo\*  
John V. Elmore\*  
Victor N. Farley\*  
John A. Feroletto\*  
Evelyn A. Gawronski  
Gelber & O'Connell LLC

Sharon Stern Gerstman  
Howard F. & Lillian L. Gondree  
Gordon Davis Johnson & Shane  
P.C.\*  
Garry M. Graber\*  
Joseph M. Guerra III\*  
Mark W. Hamberger\*  
Adolph C. Iannaccone\*  
Richard Juda  
Philip H. McIntyre\*  
Ed Northwood\*  
Michelle Parker\*  
Arc Petricca\*  
Personius Melber LLP\*

Pfalzgraf, Beinhauer &  
Menzies LLP  
Polowitz & Schwach LLP  
Howard Rosenhoch\*  
Arthur A. Russ, Jr.  
David J. Saleh\*  
Melinda R. Saran\*  
Joseph V. Sedita\*  
Terry D. Smith  
Robert B. Sommerstein  
James J. Tanous  
Terry M. Sugrue &  
Associates, LLP  
Wayne D. Wisbaum  
Oliver C. Young

# SILVER

(\$100-\$149 per attorney)

Hon. Joseph R. Glownia  
Hon. J. Mark Gruber  
Hon. Jeffrey P. Markello\*  
James M. Beardsley  
Dennis Bischof  
Burgio, Curvin & Banker

Thomas C. Farley, Jr.  
Rev. Charles D. Fryer  
Hagerty & Brady  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Halpern  
Regan P. Ihde  
Daniel Joyce

Francis M. Letro  
Hildegard Neubauer  
David H. Nelson  
Nancy Saia  
Edward J. Snyder  
Helen Tarokic

Elizabeth M. Tommaney\*  
Webster & Dubs, P.C.  
Wilder & Linneball, LLP  
Thomas S. Wiswall  
Bruce Zeffel

# SUPPORTERS

(\$50-\$99 per attorney)

Steven B. Bengart\*  
Chiacchia & Fleming, LLP\*  
Chiari & Ilecki, LLP  
Cohen & Lombardo, P.C.\*  
Leibert Coppola\*

Creighton, Johnsen & Giroux  
Dennis J. Speller, P.C.\*  
Dixon Law  
Edward Markarian

Pace & Pace Law, LLC  
Robshaw & Voelkl, PC  
Schaus & Schaus  
Shaw & Shaw, PC\*

Arnold H. Soeder\*  
The Tarantino Law Firm, LLP\*  
The Vance Law Firm\*  
Wolfgang & Weinmann LLP\*

# CONTRIBUTORS

(less than \$50 per attorney)

Berger & Berger  
Bouvier Law LLP  
Michael F. Chelus

Duke, Holzman, Photiadis &  
Gresens LLP  
James A. Gardner

Eric Glazer  
Greco Trapp PLLC  
Hurwitz & Fine, P.C.

Shelby, Bakshi & White  
Schnitter Ciccarelli Mills PLLC

\* indicates that the donor contributed more than the minimum amount for the category that they qualify for.

# CHAMPIONS FOR JUSTICE BASH

& 35TH  
ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION

VLP honored 15 individuals and organization for their commitment to serving our community and helping VLP provide free civil legal service to people in need.



- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Michael Herberger, Esq.</b><br><i>Attorney of the<br/>Morning Award</i>  | <b>FB Community Land Trust</b><br><i>Community and Economic<br/>Development Award</i> | <b>Kevin Heffernan</b><br><i>Community Partner<br/>Award</i>              |
| <b>Bernadette Gargano, Esq.</b><br><i>Federal Court Help<br/>Desk Award</i> | <b>Ryan Crawford, Esq.</b><br><i>Immigration<br/>Award</i>                            | <b>Siana McLean, Esq.</b><br><i>Immigration<br/>Award</i>                 |
| <b>Hon. William M. Skretny</b><br><i>Judiciary<br/>Award</i>                | <b>Shelby Scibetta</b><br><i>Law Student<br/>Award</i>                                | <b>Justin Andreozzi, Esq.</b><br><i>LITC<br/>Award</i>                    |
| <b>Jessica Reich, Esq.</b><br><i>Rising Champion for<br/>Justice Award</i>  | <b>Bridget Steele, Esq.</b><br><i>Say Yes Legal<br/>Clinic Award</i>                  | <b>Melinda Saran, Esq.</b><br><i>VLP<br/>VIP Award</i>                    |
| <b>Gibbons &amp; Stadler PC</b><br><i>Family Court Help<br/>Desk Award</i>  | <b>Randy Gugino, Esq.</b><br><i>Champion for<br/>Justice Award</i>                    | <b>Harter Secrest &amp; Emery</b><br><i>Law Firm<br/>Commitment Award</i> |

# VOLUNTEERS

THE FOLLOWING ATTORNEYS PROVIDED PRO BONO  
LEGAL SERVICES THROUGH VLP ON AT LEAST ONE  
CASE DURING 2018. MANY THANKS TO YOU ALL.

Adams, Eugene P.  
Adams, Joan Casilio  
Addelman, David R.  
Adoff, Aaron M.  
Adornetto, Lauren  
Aisen, Aaron  
Allen, Colleen M.  
Aloi, Cheryl  
Altieri, Daniel J.  
Altreuter, William C.  
Amigone, Nicholas  
Andreozzi, Justin  
Andreozzi, Randall P.  
Anthis, S. Lee  
Apa, Jill  
Aquino, Mark  
Arcuri, Kristin Langdon  
Arthurs, Christina H.  
Auerbach, Corey  
Baase, Jeffrey F.  
Balkin, Sean  
Ball, Kelly L.  
Balogh, Sarah Beth  
Bandoblu, Jr., James  
Barnas, Brian  
Barrett, Kelly M.  
Barrett, Michael  
Bartlett, Paul  
Baum, Holly  
Beck, William J.  
Beebe-Safulko, Lydia  
Bell, Tiffany D.  
Benz, Susan A.  
Berti, Nathan W.g.

Besch, Andrew  
Bestine, Katherine  
Bivona, Beth Ann  
Blackhall, Jennifer  
Blake, Kevin  
Blenk, James P  
Bobseine, James  
Borek, Erin C.  
Borowski, Matthew  
Borrello, Michael  
Bosworth Fiut, Allison  
Bouquard, Leah  
Bove, Elizabeth  
Bowling, Anne  
Bradley, David  
Brasky, Adam  
Brauer Ruchala, Heidi  
Breen, Gail  
Brennan, Terrance C.  
Britt, Jason  
Brock, David  
Brockway, Bryan  
Brown, Gillian  
Brown, Joseph  
Brown, Marc W.  
Brown, Michele  
Brunea, Chris T.  
Buchanan, Paul G.  
Bucki, Craig R.  
Buyer, Martha  
Buzzelli, Vittoria  
Cacciato, Louis M.  
Cafarella, Jason J.  
Calabrese, Kyle

Callahan, Elizabeth  
Cameron, Jennifer M.  
Campisi, James  
Cantone, Peter  
Cantwell II, Earl K.  
Capote, Ashlyn  
Capote, Richard  
Cardarelli, Antonio  
Cardillo, Christopher  
Carducci, Erica  
Carosa, Daniel  
Carr, Alana P.  
Casey, Thomas J.  
Cashmore, Timothy C.  
Cassar, James J  
Cavagnaro, Melissa  
Chabala, Anthony  
Chan, Mary  
Chen, Joanna

Chiari, Gerald  
Cho, Stephen  
Choi, Koya  
Christophersen, Wendy  
Ciambrone, Elizabeth  
Cimasi, Michael  
Cisneros Vilchis, Brenda  
Ciurczak, Diane  
Codjovi, Jamie L.  
Cody, Erin  
Coheley, Marissa A.  
Cohen, Frederick  
Colaiacono, Kimberly  
Collins, Susan B.  
Cominsky, Roger  
Condon, Kevin C.  
Conklin, Robert  
Connare, Erin  
Cook, Charles J.



Copeland, Jessica  
Coppola, Lisa A.  
Coren, Jeffrey  
Crawford, Robert  
Crawford, Ryan  
Cross, Tara N. K.  
D'Angelo, Nicholas D.  
Daniels, Jason T  
Davidzik, Brad  
Davis, Mark C.  
De Freitas, Michael A.o.  
De Rose, Elise M  
Deutschle, Thomas A.  
Di Cesare, Nicholas  
Di Done, Kyle C  
Di Luglio, Andrea  
Di Maio, John  
Di Natale, Andrea  
Dibble, Katherine  
Dickinson, Joanna  
Digati, Thomas  
Dillon, Noralyn  
Dines, Catherine  
Dines, Christina  
Dinsmore, Emily  
Doherty, Eric P.  
Donahue, Courtney  
Donathen, James D.  
Donovan-Bub, Christine  
Dorliae, Cecile Mathis  
Drew, Dean M.  
Drilling, Andrew  
Drury, Thomas J.  
Dubs, Joshua  
Dukmen, Kyle  
Dunbar, Joseph W.  
Dutta, Reena  
Dwyer, Benjamin

Dwyer, E. Meghan  
Eagan, Gayle  
Eisenhut, Catherine N.  
Emerson, Laura  
Enright, Rosemary  
Estridge, Valdora  
Evans, Anne C.

Friedman, Richard J.  
Gabriele, Vanessa  
Gaffney, Thomas  
Galvin, Jodyann  
Ganzenmuller, Ryan G.  
Gargano, Bernadette  
Garvey, Kathleen

Grimm, Richard A., III  
Guerra,, Joseph M., III  
Gugino, Randy H.  
Gullo, Christina  
Gullo, III, John P.  
Gullo, Melinda  
Gupta, Sheela  
Gutierrez, Alejandro  
Gwitt, Brian  
Hackett, Mark  
Hamberger, Douglas P.  
Han, Juyoun  
Hanley, Patrick  
Hapeman, Scott  
Hargesheimer, Elbert III  
Hartman, Daniel  
Hartman, Kate  
Hauber, Vince  
Heary, Robert  
Hehr, David  
Heller, Franklin  
Hemenway, Amy  
Hendricks, Justin  
Henry, Joan  
Herberger, Michael  
Herdzik, Jr., Matthew  
Herman, Audrey Rose  
Hines, Patrick  
Hoffman, Nicholas  
Hoffman, Rebecca  
Hogan, Susan S.  
Holmes, Elizabeth  
Hoover, Timothy  
Hoppe, Bernadette M.  
Horn, John  
Hughes, Desmond  
Hughes, Thomas  
Hujer, Tristan D.

---

“Thank you for all your  
help. The workers and  
attorney were really  
great.”

---

Falvey, Julie  
Fay, Patricia A.  
Feinstein, Joshua  
Feldman, Robert J.  
Fennell, Thomas J.  
Fenster, Sarah  
Ferdman, Michael  
Feroletto, John P.  
Filbert, Shannon  
Fitzgerald, Patrick T.  
Fitzsimmons, Patrick  
Fiut, Allison  
Flannery, Jennifer  
Fleming, Andrew P.  
Flick, Kristen  
Foit, C. Kenneth  
Fortin, Claire  
Freedman, Gary M.  
Friedfertig, Richard B

Gaughan, Dennis C.  
Gaughan, John P.  
Gaylward, Gretchen P.  
Gelber, Ross  
Gibbons, Kenneth W.  
Gibbons, Kevin  
Gioia, Horace A.  
Gismondi, Geffrey  
Glose, Herbert J.  
Glynn, Eric  
Golando, Grace  
Goldberg, Ari  
Goldsman, Mark  
Goodman, Jason  
Graber, Timothy  
Grabowski, Melinda  
Greco, James J.  
Green, Carl  
Greene, Alvin M.

4,380

Volunteer Hours



572

Volunteers



Hyde, Thomas R.  
Hynes, Trishe L.a.  
Ieraci, Frank  
Ihde, Regan  
Ilecki, William  
Iles-Hernandez, Keli  
Ireland, Katie  
Irizarry, Ramon  
Jasinski, Jonathan  
Jaworski, Myriah  
Jay, Hope R.  
Joerg, Theodore  
Johnson, Luisa  
Johnson, Robert C  
Jones, Brittany  
Jordan, Alyssa L.  
Karpovich, Amanda M.  
Katz, Eileen  
Kearney, Kevin M.  
Keavey, John  
Kelleher, Brendan  
Kellogg, Leslie  
Kelly, Daniel P.  
Keltz, Jessica  
Kennedy, William  
Kernan, David H  
Kettner, Derek  
Kim, Minryu Sarah  
Knoer, Robert E.  
Kolken, Matthew  
Koren, Bruce Kevin  
Koval, Rebecca  
Kruger, Julie  
Kruppa, Kevin  
Kucinski, Timothy  
Kwiatkowski, Arianna  
Lafferty, Riane F.  
Lamarque, Stephanie O.

Lane, Jr., Robert  
Lang, Thomas J.  
Latta, Chelsea  
Laub, David  
Lazarus, James A.  
Lazroe, Matthew  
Leibeck, Jeffrey  
  
Lema, Ryan  
Lenhardt, Clayton  
Leonard, Graham  
Leonardi, Jennifer  
Lillis, Brendan  
Lochner, Thomas  
Longo, Frank  
Lopardi, Tracie  
Lovallo, Timothy R.  
Lowe, Amanda  
Lucinski, Ryan  
Lugo, Alexandra  
Luzon, David  
Lynch, Adam M.  
Maas, Gary  
Mac Donald, Chloe  
Mack, Stephanie  
Maguire, Daniel  
Mancabelli, Patricia

Mancinelli, Anthony  
Mannillo, Jeffrey  
Mantharam, Marybeth  
Margulis, Randy S.  
Mark, Andrew  
Marotto, Melanie  
Marranca, Mindy  
  
Marrero, Rachel K.  
Marszalkowski, Michael  
Martin, Eileen  
Martorana, Charles C.  
Mattingly, Christopher  
Mc Allister, Bruce  
Mc Cabe, Raymond  
Mc Cann, Jennifer  
Mc Carthy, Anna S. M.  
Mc Coy, Dennis  
Mc Cready, Maureen A.  
Mc Donnell, Jenna  
Mc Grath, Peter  
Mc Guire, Patrick  
Mc Lean, Siana  
Mc Namara, Mark  
Means, Kirstie  
Melber, Brian  
Menasco, Timothy

Mendez, Dominique  
Mendolera, Lauren  
Menke, Mindy  
Messina, Charles A.  
Michalek, Daniel  
Michalek, Sarah  
Miller, Andrew  
Miller, Angela  
Miller, Matthew  
Miller, Sarah  
Montani, Oriana  
Moore, Vincent  
Morrisroe, Richard  
Morrissey, James T.  
Morton, Melissa  
Mueller-Funke, Deena  
Mulderig, Shamus  
Murphy, Kevin M.  
Murphy, Lynn  
Murphy, Mellissa  
Murray, Ryan  
Murrett, John C.  
Mussell, Jessica  
Muto, Pauline T.  
Myers, Jessica A.  
Naegely, Eric C.  
Nagaranan, Raghavan  
Nagel, Catherine  
Nelson, Benjamin  
Nelson, Thomas W.  
Ngwashi, Marthe J B  
Nisengard, Michael  
Noe, Jr., Patrick M.  
Northwood, Edward C.  
Nosenchuck, Sharon  
Novak, Daniel F.  
O'Brien, Margaret  
O'Brien, Sarah

---

“Going to Volunteer Lawyers  
Project for help got me out of  
those courtrooms so I could  
live again.”

---

*“If you want to touch the past, touch a rock. If you want to touch the present, touch a flower. If you want to touch the future, touch a life.”*

- Unknown

O'Brien, Sean  
 O'Carroll, Donall  
 Odunsi, Tolulope  
 O'Neill, Barbara  
 O'Neill, Shannon B.  
 Oppenheimer, Andrew  
 Oppenheimer, Laurence  
 Oppenheimer, Randolph  
 O'Toole, Roberta  
 Ozzella, Madison  
 Palmieri, Matthew R.  
 Palumbo, Jeffrey  
 Patterson, Robert  
 Perley, Michael  
 Personius, Rodney O.  
 Phillips, Gary M.  
 Pierowicz, Jon  
 Pizzi, Rosa  
 Poch, Lisa  
 Pocheban, Paul M.  
 Portin, Robert  
 Prince, Tyson  
 Puleo, Dean  
 Pullen, Seth  
 Punch, James  
 Purdy, Julia Helen  
 Quinlan, Lawlor  
 Radel, Robert R.  
 Randolph, Sallie  
 Reich Lynch, Jessica N.  
 Reich, Shari Jo  
 Reilly, K. Craig  
 Richmond, Anna Marie  
 Riedel, George Jr.  
 Rittling, Amy Habib  
 Roach, Patrick  
 Roberson, Shatorah  
 Robinson, Edward C.  
 Robshaw, Nora B.  
 Roloff, Jill  
 Ronan, Matthew  
 Rosado, Louis  
 Rosciglione, Maria  
 Roshia, Marylou K.  
 Rossi, Karalyn  
 Rossi, William  
 Rougeux, Debra C.  
 Rozewicz, Erin  
 Rubin, Aaron  
 Rudroff, David  
 Ruotolo, Lissette M.  
 Rupp Iii, R. Anthony  
 Saccamondo, Vince  
 Same, Jeffrey  
 Sanchez, Jack  
 Santoro, Jeffrey P.  
 Sarfraz, Amil  
 Sarkovics, David  
 Sarzynski, Daniel  
 Sauer, Barbara A.  
 Schaeffer, Dennis K.  
 Schaus, Barbara  
 Schmidt Mareello,  
 Heather  
 Scholand, Gregory P.  
 Schrader, Steven  
 Schroeder, Michael  
 Schulefand, Keith  
 Schultz, Samantha  
 Schulz, Paul  
 Schwach, Michelle  
 Schwalbe, Laura  
 Scinta, Denis  
 Sciortino, Michael Anton  
 Scott, Emily  
 Seymour, Brent C.  
 Shahram, Nadia  
 Shank, Caitlyn  
 Shatkin, Marc  
 Sigeti, Kristopher  
 Sims, Cynthia  
 Skompinski, Lauren

Smith, Jessica  
 Smith, Marnie E.  
 Smith, Matthew  
 Smith, Sheldon  
 Snider, Carol  
 Snyder, E. J.  
 Sobieski, Lee  
 Sonner, Jake  
 Sperrazza, Daniel J.  
 Speyer, Carly M

Szasepanski, Kevin  
 Szczepanski, William  
 Tanbakuchi, Sarah  
 Tedesco, Michael J.  
 Terragnoli, Joel  
 Tesseyman, Jr., Francis  
 Tiveron, Diane R.  
 Tjitradjaja, Nara  
 Tommaney, Elizabeth  
 Torres, Jr., Francisco



Spitler, Mark  
 Starcsitik, Christoph  
 Stearns, Ryan  
 Steele, Bridget C.  
 Steffan, Thomas  
 Stergion, Jennifer  
 Stewart, Gregory  
 Stiller, Douglas  
 Stillwell, David  
 Stulmaker, Mark  
 Stutz, Natalie  
 Sundquist, Edward A.

Toth, Jeremy  
 Town, Rebecca  
 Trigilio, John L.  
 Trow, Clark  
 Turkovich, William S.  
 Varavenkatarman,  
 Radhika P.  
 Vasilion, Peter P.  
 Venkova, Vera  
 Vesper, Jessica  
 Vincton, Melissa  
 Violante, Marten

# VOLUNTEERS

Virginia, Mary E.  
 Von Simson, Charles  
 Vona, Nicholas  
 Vozzo, Nicholas  
 Wagner Cuzzacrea, Judy  
 Walker, Regina  
 Walling, Mark R.  
 Warner, Amanda  
 Warren, Mark W.  
 Watt, Margot

Wiens, Wallace  
 Wieser, John D.  
 Wile, Jonathan B.  
 Winspear, William John  
 Wiseman, Steven G.  
 Wisniewski, Benjamin  
 Wolf, Frederick A  
 Woll, Richard  
 Woodward, Laurence  
 Wright, Andrew



Weaver, Calvin  
 Weinholtz, John  
 Weinrieb, Pieter  
 Weishaar, Michael  
 Weiss, Jeffrey  
 Welsh, Brian  
 Wettlaufer, Catherine  
 White, Molly M.  
 Whittemore, David

Xu, Mengyi  
 Young, Daniel  
 Yung, Eva  
 Zajas, J. Grant  
 Zarcone, Kelly  
 Zeis, Erica  
 Zielinski, Robert  
 Zini, Gregory  
 Zomerfeld, Henry

# NON-ATTORNEY VOLUNTEERS

## Law Students

Adewoye Adegoke  
 Zach Ahlstrom  
 Deborah Amponsah  
 Daniel Chamberlain  
 Ben Clark  
 David Clayton  
 Alexis Cothran  
 Nick DeFiesta  
 Michael Edelkopf  
 Nicole Fillipponi  
 Heather Frank  
 Douglas Harrigan  
 Douglas Harriman  
 James Harrington  
 Meghan Hayes  
 Robert Heary  
 David Huang  
 Deonaa Jones  
 Erin Killian  
 Kim Kumib  
 Natalie Lesiniak  
 Ben Macaluso  
 Alexander Martin  
 Bob Maxwell  
 Crystal Melvin

Rebecca Michelson  
 Shelbi Molin  
 Jai-Yi Piang  
 Ifeoluwa Popoola  
 Aliyea Reeves  
 Tatiana Reyes  
 Jessica Root  
 Caroline Russ  
 Claire Santiago  
 Andrew Schop  
 Shelby Scibetta  
 Annie Shi  
 Jessica Simoniti  
 Nico Soria  
 Nurjamal Usenova  
 Gwendolyn Vary  
 Bridget Williams  
 Jennifer Willis

## Pro Bono Scholar

Senovia Cuevas

## UB Law Grad

Brian Dixon

*“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is,  
 What are you doing for others?”*

- Martin Luther King, Jr.



[www.ecbavlp.com](http://www.ecbavlp.com)

