

Annual Report

Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project, Inc.
Say Yes Buffalo Legal Clinics

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019



For The Full Report, please visit: www.ecbavlp.com/sayyes.

A Letter from VLP:

This detailed report outlines the activity and progress of the collaboration between Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project, Inc. (VLP), Say Yes Buffalo (SYB), and the Buffalo Public School District (BPS) to operate the Say Yes Legal Clinics in BPS buildings. We want to thank our partners for all of their cooperation and commitment to making the Legal Clinics a success.

This was our fifth year coordinating the Legal Clinics. VLP wants to thank Co-Chair Federal Magistrate Hugh B. Scott and the Say Yes Buffalo Legal Task Force for their leadership and commitment to the clinics. This truly is a community effort. VLP is pleased to be part of this innovative collaboration.

The commitment of our pro bono attorneys at the seven partner law firms continues to be outstanding. The seven firms provided volunteer attorneys to staff six Say Yes Legal Clinics. Four of the clinics operated during the school year only at Lafayette Campus (Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP), Southside Elementary School (Phillips Lytle LLP), Dr. Blackman School of Excellence (Hodgson Russ LLP), and East Community High School (Gibson, McAskill & Crosby, LLP and Harris Beach PLLC). One clinic operated during the summer only at D'Youville-Porter Campus (Rupp Baase Pfalzgraf and Cunningham LLC) and one operated year round at the BPS Adult Education Center at 389 Virginia St. (Barclay Damon LLP).

By the end of our fifth year of operating the Legal Clinics, it was apparent that it was time for some re-tooling the effort as we move into the next phase. Say Yes and VLP have already begun those discussions and we look forward to a different, but rejuvenated effort next year.



Robert M. Elardo, Executive Director/CEO of VLP



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Overview

During this fifth year, our seven Buffalo Legal Clinic host law firms have continued to provide exceptionally high levels of engagement to make our Legal Clinics a success. Deep gratitude to our Say Yes Buffalo and Buffalo Public School partners for their continued collaboration. In 2018-2019 we maintained our Clinic presence at Southside Elementary, Lafayette Campus, Adult Education, East Community High School, and returned to Dr. Blackman School of Excellence. The administrators and Say Yes staff continue to provide logistical and marketing support to increase client traffic and to make our volunteer attorneys feel welcomed and useful at their school based legal clinics.

This year, we welcomed Jazmin LaFay and Marci Wiseman to our team as co-coordinators, saw Margarita Rivera-Rusch move to another department at VLP, and bid a sad farewell to Gayle Murphy who took a position with the Center for Resolution and Justice in January. It has been a year of transition and new faces, but the program moved through the year smoothly, with no interruptions, thanks to the enduring support of our host firms and volunteer attorneys.

The Legal Task Force continues to have regular meetings to provide oversight for the Legal Clinics. The law firms, along with our community partners, met on September 20, 2018, November 15, 2018, February 21, 2019, and March 21, 2019. In addition, Marci participated in the SYB Preventative Program Strategy Meeting of March 18, 2019, Religious Task Force Meeting on March 1, 2019, The Mental Health Task Force and Mobile Health Clinic Task Force meetings on March 25.

This year, we tried a few new strategies to increase Clinic traffic. First was a Wills Clinic, hosted by Hodgson Russ via Dr. Blackman School of Excellence/PS54, whereby we offered an opportunity to families to draw up estate documents which included Will, Power of Attorney, and Health Care Proxy. We took in 21 calls, which led to, after ineligible clients and cancellations, three completed packets. The Wills Clinics was promoted through PS54, area churches, and senior residences.

We also organized participation in some of the BPS/SYB Saturday Academies, in collaboration with Neighborhood Legal Services and Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo. The idea was to drive traffic to the clinics by presenting brief informational sessions on a topic aligned with the theme of the day that was also relevant to the greater community of parents and community members in attendance. Moreover, we used the opportunity of the Saturday Academies to further market the Clinics via an "infomercial" style announcement, PA broadcasts, and by distributing flyers to all attendees. Saturday Academy attendance averaged at about 200 people per session, and Clinic traffic did bump up following these additional efforts.

Jazmin and Marci also participated in three outreach events this year – the first was in December at the Adult Education Center which saw approximately 75 students pass through; the second was a forum in February hosted by *Igniting Hope* - Buffalo's African American Health Disparities Task Force, which brought over 80 people together; and, finally, the annual Buffalo Region Immigrant & Refugee Roundtable (BRIARR) in March, at which VLP Immigration Attorney Dan Jackson was a panel presenter to approximately 45 non-citizen attendees that also brought us 2 clients to the pop-up legal clinic in the hour that followed the panel.

This year has seen some changes we hope will lead to continued positive partnership with Say Yes Buffalo, and we are deeply grateful to Esther Annan, Director of Data and Evaluation, who has patiently and generously given of her time and expertise to help make this year's transition smooth for Jazmin and Marci. As we continue to build on our Legal Clinic successes, we aspire to provide our volunteers with meaningful opportunities to engage with a diverse community base and make a positive difference in Buffalo, one family at a time.

Advertising and Marketing Efforts

Say Yes Buffalo once again brought forth an organized and well-resourced marketing campaign, thanks to the devoted efforts of Daphne Ross and her talented team, including Sayumi Miura, Graphic Designer and Digital Content Supervisor, who diplomatically and unflinchingly responded to our sometimes challenging time constraints and last minute requests. We are so appreciative of the work of Nadia Nashir, Assistant Superintendent of Multilingual Education Department, Jenna Colerick, Supervisor of English Language Learner Services for BPS, and their dedicated staff for translating the Legal Clinic flyers into five languages: Arabic, Bengali, Karen, Nepali, Somali, and Spanish.

Flyers and posters, in multiple languages, were distributed and posted throughout Say Yes, the Buffalo Public Schools, the court system, and the community, in addition to tabling events across the county. Monthly postcards were sent out to Buffalo residents informing them of the services provided by the Legal Clinics, and, new this year, flyers were distributed directly to students at Villa Maria and Canisius Colleges, in addition to the University of Buffalo (North and South Campuses). Anyone who attended a Saturday Academy at the Community Schools received e-newsletters, Clinic flyers, and heard a PA announcement regarding the Clinics. Also for the first time, the Legal Clinic flyer was informally distributed at the Broadway Market, and posted on the United Way Weekly eblast that is circulated to 2000+ non-profit professionals and community members across Erie County.

Jazmin LaFay and Marci Wiseman continued to meet regularly with Say Yes school navigators, family support specialists, zone leaders, and other task forces (*Religious, Mental, and Mobile Health*) to encourage referrals to the free Legal Clinics. Linda Ray also assisted our marketing efforts by sharing information about the value of and ways to access the Legal Clinics across the task forces, as well.

This year, a few new marketing strategies intended to drive Buffalo community members to our free Legal Clinics were integrated into our programming, such as presenting at Saturday Academies and a Wills Clinic. These programs featured both partnerships with outside agencies such as Neighborhood Legal Services and the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, and included targeted marketing to specific cultural groups, neighborhood places of worship, and senior residences.

We are motivated and inspired by the leadership of Betsy Behrend, Senior Director for Operations and Communications, who keeps opportunities like the Legal Clinics front and center in the community.



You can get free legal advice for questions about bankruptcy, child custody, child support, divorce, eviction, foreclosure, government benefits, housing, immigration, income tax and other legal matters.

LEGAL ADVICE WILL NOT BE OFFERED FOR CRIMINAL MATTERS.

Language translation is available. All clinics are held on only on a first-come, first-served basis. Clinics are for brief legal advice.

Financial eligibility may be required to receive more in-depth services.

SCHOOL YEAR CLINICS

October 22, 2018 through May 23, 2019

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS
Southside Elementary 109 Southside Way Buffalo, NY 14214 2:30-4:30p	Lafayette Campus 101 Lafayette Ave Buffalo, NY 14203 4:30-6:30pm	Adult Education Center 1881 Spring St. Buffalo, NY 14203 12:00-2:00pm	Dr. Blackman School of Excellence 2289 Main St. Buffalo, NY 14214 3:30-5:30pm
			East Community High School 850 Erie Boulevard Buffalo, NY 14203 3:30-5:30pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT www.SayYesBuffalo.org or www.echvlp.com or call the Volunteer Lawyers Project's Say Yes Legal Clinic Information Line at 716-828-9491.



A Year in Review

Legal Issues Served



Family Law (33.33%) Housing (L/T) (14.04%) Immigration (14.04%) Consumer Finance (6.14%) Employment (6.14%)
 Income Maintenance (5.26%) Individual Rights (4.39%) Wills/Estate (4.39%) Education (1.75%) Other (10.53%)



An estimated **7% of clients** visiting the **Say Yes Legal Clinics** required **translation services**. Since the Legal Clinics opened, translation services have been provided for several languages including:

Arabic
 Bengali
 Burmese
 French
 Karen
 Nepali
 Russian
 Somali
 Spanish



Beyond the Clinic...

Volunteer Lawyers Project work for Say Yes families is not limited to the legal clinics. **628 BPS Families** received additional legal services through VLP's other programs and services.



Eviction Defense (63%)
 Family Court Help Desk (33%)
 Immigration (2%)
 Other (1%)

Individual Clinic Spotlights: Southside Elementary

A Client's Story

A Client came in to discuss unreasonable amount of suspensions of her 6-yr old son who is diagnosed with multiple behavioral disabilities. The boy had been suspended so often that he'd only spent 4 consecutive days in school since the beginning of the year. Despite formal hearings, the school was not following IEP or SKIP Procedures, nor was her son getting the much-needed therapies he was prescribed. Surprisingly, the school was planning to move him up to second grade though he could barely read or do math. The Client had visited other, more suitable programs for her child but was on the waiting list for all. Our volunteer attorney from Phillips Lytle was very understanding and advised her to document all instances of negative interactions with the school and try to engage teachers on a regular basis regarding the implementation of the student's IEP and BIP. She was then referred to Legal Aid who was able to take her through next steps.

A look at the numbers...

13 volunteer attorneys serving

12 clients on

23 days of clinic operation.



Phillips Lytle LLP attorneys maintain a strong legal clinic presence at Southside Elementary School, the largest elementary school in the Buffalo Public School District with over 1200 students in grades Pre-K through 8, that promotes high academic achievement for all students by collaborating with faculty, students, parents, and the community.

Phillips Lytle was founded in 1834 as a one-man office, and while it has grown and evolved during its 180+ year history, they've held fast to the principles upon which the firm was founded, "Accept great trusts and responsibilities and fulfill them with the utmost skill and fidelity."

This year 13 **Phillips Lytle LLP** pro bono attorneys served 12 clients on 23 days of Legal Clinic operation.



Individual Clinic Spotlights: Lafayette Campus High School

Client Stories

A married man with seven children, Congolese by way of Angola, seeking asylum, came to the clinic with questions. Nervous, tentative, frightened, he had overstayed his tourist visa and was deeply concerned for the safety of his family. After a brief meeting with our attorney from Lippes Mathias, he was advised to contact Journey's End, and left the clinic *deeply* relieved, and with a smile from ear to ear.

* * *

A minor student client came to the Clinic for advice at the suggestion of school staff, and through the use of Language Line, we were able to help. Ultimately, this Client sought private counsel, but we were able to quickly assemble the necessary team to begin a plan of action.

A look at the numbers...

17 volunteer attorneys serving

13 clients on

24 days of clinic operation.



The Lafayette Campus legal clinic is staffed by attorneys from **Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP**. Located on the West Side of Buffalo, Lafayette is the oldest public school in Buffalo that remains in its original building, and graduated its first class in 1903. Today, it houses two unique programs directed at Buffalo's growing immigrant and refugee population: Lafayette International School (P.S. 207), designed for any entering 9th grade, limited-English speaking student who has arrived within the past four years from another country or Puerto Rico; and P.S. 353, the Newcomer Academy, serving newly arrived students grades 7 - 10 in the beginning stages of English proficiency or who may have gaps in their education.

Founded in 1965, Lippes Mathias is a full service New York-based law firm with a unique understanding of client needs as their attorneys were at one time business owners, certified public accountants, general counsel for major corporations, authors, and a former New York State Attorney General.

This year 17 **Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP** pro bono attorneys served 13 clients on 24 days of Legal Clinic operation.



Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP

Individual Clinic Spotlights: Adult Education Center

A Client's Story

A single mom arrived at the legal clinic with issues related to housing and landlord harassment. She described appalling conditions in the house, including a substantial mouse infestation and no water or heat. The landlord tried to intimidate her into paying for her own repairs in the apartment, and offered no assistance otherwise. She wanted to move, but the landlord was threatening to evict. We were able to refer her to the appropriate agencies to handle the breach in warranty of habitability. The success here is that she was accompanied by the SYB Family Support Specialist (FSS), who had retained a relationship even though the FSS has changed schools. Additionally, the client brought a translator with her making the meeting effective and efficient.

A look at the numbers...

24 volunteer attorneys serving

50 clients on

33 days of clinic operation.



Barclay Damon LLP attorneys continue their commitment to serve clients in the year-round legal clinic at the Adult Education Center, the premier education and workforce skills training provider in the Western New York region. With a comprehensive service offering TASC test preparation, English as a Second Language (ESL) and Computer courses/classes, the Adult Education Center offers the high school equivalency diploma, job skills training, and basic English skills courses. This year 21 **Barclay Damon LLP** attorneys served 41 clients on 27 days of school year Legal Clinic operation.

The Adult Education Center is our only year-round site and, with **Barclay Damon** as our only year-round hosts, 3 attorneys saw 9 clients on 6 days of operation during the months of July and August.

**BARCLAY
DAMON**

Individual Clinic Spotlights: Dr. Blackman School of Excellence

A Client's Story

A Client came to the Clinic asking advice on how to change the payee of her disabled-adult younger brother's disability payments that have been going to the eldest brother, without causing a rift in the family. The younger brother, dissatisfied with the quiet, suburban life of his elder brother, had found himself more suitable living arrangements and a small job washing dishes closer to the city. The elder brother, however, refused to hand over the disability payments to which the younger brother was entitled. Our volunteer lawyer from Hodgson Russ advised a course of action and then referred them both to Neighborhood Legal Services, who were familiar with the Client and called her back immediately, to assist.

A look at the numbers...

9 volunteer attorneys serving

14 clients on

23 days of clinic operation.



Hodgson Russ LLP returned to Dr. Blackman/PS 54 this year and saw an uptick in clientele. Dr. George E. Blackman School of Excellence is a PK-4 early childhood program and Dr. George Blackman, in addition to a long record of prominent posts and honors in Buffalo, was a member of the Buffalo Board of Education and a renowned physician, in addition to being the first African American ever elected to the American College of Surgeons.

For nearly 200 years, *Hodgson Russ* has worked alongside innovators and leaders of businesses large and small whose ideas and fortitude have changed the world. Their commitment to the Legal Clinics has been no exception, not only in serving the community, but in presiding on the VLP board as well.

This year 9 *Hodgson Russ* volunteer attorneys provided free legal assistance to 14 clients on 23 days of clinic operation.

Individual Clinic Spotlights: East Community High School

A Client's Story

Our Client arrived at the Legal Clinic preparing to represent herself (due to her original attorney's grave illness) in taking her ex-husband to court for willful failure to pay child support. The Client had suffered a brain injury and was nervous about appearing in front of the Judge. We were able to bring her in to meet with a VLP attorney who represented her, much to our client's relief. The ex-husband resumed payments and the client expressed great happiness for VLP's involvement in getting this issue resolved. In fact, she keeps us updated on the case and agreed to be photographed for this report (along with her VLP attorney, Vanessa Guite).



A look at the numbers...

14 volunteer attorneys serving

21 clients on

23 days of clinic operation.



Attorneys from **Harris Beach PLLC** and **Gibson, McAskill & Crosby, LLP** have continued to co-host the East Community High School Legal Clinic. As mid-sized firms, this arrangement enables both firms to provide critically important free legal assistance to our most needy community members.

East Community High School is a comprehensive school on Buffalo's East Side that provides its students with the educational foundations to be successful in post-secondary and career paths and offers programs in law enforcement, firefighting, forensics, and legal studies. The building serves as a community school for the greater East Side, offering community and family educational programs after school hours and on select weekends.

A total of 14 volunteer attorneys from **Harris Beach PLLC** and **Gibson, McAskill & Crosby, LLP** assisted 21 clients on 23 days of clinic operation.

GMC
& LLP

GIBSON, McASKILL & CROSBY, LLP



HARRIS BEACH PLLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Individual Clinic Spotlights: D'Youville Porter Campus School

A Client's Story

In a recent period, nearly 38% of disability applicants in New York State were approved for benefits on their initial claim as compared to a national average approval rate of ~32%. Even so, up to 60 percent of claimants will still face the prospect of being denied and having to pursue their claim through the Social Security appeals process.

Our Client was one such that needed help in applying for Federal Disability Benefits (SSI) for her 8-year old daughter who suffers from multiple attacks of epilepsy per year. Our attorney referred the client to Neighborhood Legal Services for representation and encouraged her to begin the process without delay.

A look at the numbers...

3 volunteer attorneys serving

7 clients on

8 days of clinic operation.



Rupp Baase Pfalzgraf Cunningham LLC attorneys adopted the Legal Clinic at D'Youville-Porter Campus School, providing free legal assistance during the months of July and August.

Originally built in 1921, School #3 was one of three schools that underwent an extensive makeover in 2011 in a \$1.4 billion Joint School's Reconstruction Project. Located at 255 Porter Avenue, it became the first school to be fully air conditioned (for which our attorneys, staff, and clients were very grateful!).

Three volunteer attorneys from **Rupp Baase Pfalzgraf Cunningham LLC** served 7 clients on 8 days of operation during the two months of this Legal Clinic's summer operation.



**RUPP
BAASE
PFALZGRAF
CUNNINGHAM
ATTORNEYS**

Where Our Clients Live

Zipcode	Clients	Zipcode	Clients	Zipcode	Clients
14031	1	14208	7	14216	3
14094	1	14209	6	14217	2
14150	1	14210	6	14220	4
14201	8	14211	10	14221	1
14203	1	14212	3	14222	2
14204	3	14213	10	14223	1
14206	5	14214	8	14225	6
14207	15	14215	14	14226	2
				14301	1



Legal Clinic Referrals

Sources of Referrals to the Legal Clinics

211

Aurora House

Buffalo Public School Staff

CLARO

Clinic flyers

Clinic posters

Buffalo Public Schools Website

Friends

Gerard's Place

Google

Hope Refugee Center

Horizons

International Institute

I-Prep

Local Attorneys

Neighborhood Health Center

Neighborhood Legal Services

Oishei Children's Hospital

Rosa Parks Community Center

Say Yes Orientation

Say Yes Staff

TTB

United Health Care

Volunteer Lawyers Project

WNY Bulletin Board/Facebook

Common Referrals We Made

Catholic Charities

Center for Elder Law and Justice

Center for Resolution and Justice

Cheektowaga Town Court

Child Law Center

City of Buffalo Tax Dept

Clerk's Office

Erie County Court System

Department of Motor Vehicles

Bar Association of Erie County Lawyer Referral Service

Family Court Help Desk

Family Justice Center

Federal Court Pro Se

Foreclosure Prevention Project

Gateway Longview

Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME)

IRS Taxpayer Advocate Service

Ivy League

Journey's End

Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo

Neighborhood Legal Services

NYCourts.gov

Political Asylum/Immigration Representation (PAIR) Project

Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC)

Small Claims Court

SUNY Financial Aid Dept

Surrogate Court

VLP

West Side Neighborhood Housing Services

WNY Law Center/CLARO



Community Outreach

As part of our ongoing effort to build awareness about the Legal Clinics, Volunteer Lawyers Project participated in Outreach Events with the following organizations this year:

- Access WNY / Lackawanna
- Adult Education Center
- Alianza Agricola, Geneseo, NY
- Area Houses of Worship
- Bar Association of Erie County
- Bennett Community School
- BPS Saturday Academies
- Broadway Market
- Buffalo City Court
- Buffalo Prenatal/Perinatal Services
- Buffalo State College
- Buffalo Urban League 15 Genesee St.
- Canisius College
- Catholic Charities Domestic Violence Team
- Chautauqua County League of Women Voters
- Child Advocacy Program of Chautauqua County
- Child and Family Services
- Community Resource Hub
- East Community High School
- ECC Cast Program
- Erie 1 BOCES
- Erie Institute of Law
- Evergreen Health Services
- George Washington University
- Greater Buffalo Jewish Federation
- Igniting Hope -- Buffalo's African American Health Disparities Task Force
- Jewish Community Center
- Lafayette Campus Saturday Academy
- Medaille College
- Neighborhood Legal Services
- New York Links
- North Tonawanda Community Hub
- Northwest Buffalo Community Center
- NYS AI
- Our Lady of Hope Church
- Project Niagara Connect/Heart Love & Soul
- Response to Love Center
- St Francis Church
- SUNY Fredonia
- SUNY Fredonia Migrant Education
- THRIVE
- United Way
- University at Buffalo Law School Domestic Violence Clinic
- University of Buffalo
- Villa Maria
- WNY Coalition for the Homeless

Attorney Volunteers

Karim Abdulla
Scott Allen
Mark Arcara
Christina Arthurs
Susan Benz
Andrew Besch
Beth Ann Bivona
Michael Borello
Elizabeth Bove
Richard Capote
Erica Carducci
Katherine Cauley
Erin Connare
Carson Cooper
Jason Daniels
Mark Davis
Joanna Dickinson
Jim Domagalski
James Doody
Kayla Drickel
Kyle Dukmen
Meghan Dwyer
Elise Edwards
Rosemary Enright
Joshua Feinstein
Thomas Fennell
Thomas Gaffney
John Gaughan
Judith Gerber
Timothy Graber
Anthony Guidice
Bob Heary

David Hehr
Frank Heller
Thomas Hughes
Kenneth Hunt
Kevin Kearney
Leslie Kellogg
Elizabeth Klarin
Arianna Kwiatkowski
Jeffrey Leibeck
Ryan Lema
Brendan Lillis
Tracie Lopardi
Adam Lynch
Nicholas Marino
Peter Marlette
Melanie Marotto
Eileen Martin
Charlie Martorana
Jenna McDonnell
Lindsay McKenna
Mark McNamara
Kirstie Means
Sarah Nagel Miller
Christopher Milne
Vince Moore
Melissa Morton
Deena Mueller-Funke
Robert Murray
Pauline Muto
Kinsey O'Brien
Larry Oppenheimer

Robert Portin
Diana Proske
Mitchell Ream
K. Craig Reilly
William Rossi
David Rudroff
Vince Saccomando
Joseph Schafer
Tessa Scott
Marnie Smith
Ryan Stearns
Bridget Steele
Courtney Donahue Tasner
Clark Trow
Peter Wiltenburg
Henry Zomerfeld



Say Yes Buffalo Legal Task Force

The Say Yes Buffalo Legal Task Force is a consortium of local professionals who meet quarterly to discuss the status, progress, and continued development of the Say Yes Legal Clinics. The Task Force directly involves community stakeholders whose input is essential to the success of the legal clinics. Below is a list of the 2018-2019 Task Force members:

Task Force Chair, Hon. Hugh Scott, United States Magistrate Judge WDNY

Task Force Chair, Robert Elardo Esq., Executive Director/CEO, Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project)

David Rust, Executive Director, Say Yes Buffalo

Esther Annan, Say Yes Buffalo

Timothy Ball, City of Buffalo Corporation Counsel

Betsy Behrend, Say Yes Buffalo

Maisha Blakeney, Minority Bar Association

K. John Bland, Lawyers for Learning

William Brennan, Phillips Lytle LLP

Hon. Paul Buchanan, Family Court, retired

Jason Daniels, Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP

Hon. Susan Eagan, Erie County Court

David Edmunds, NYS Liquor Authority

Joshua Feinstein, Hodgson Russ LLP

Hon. Paula Feroletto, District Administrative Judge, 8th Judicial District

Sarah Fredrick, Lawyers for Learning

Thomas Gaffney, Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP

Matthew Garvey, Garvey & Garvey

Judy Gerber, Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo

Timothy Graber, Gibson, McAskill & Crosby, LLP

Robert Heary, Barclay Damon LLP

Rebecca Hoffman, Women's Bar Association

Aimee Hopkins, Child & Family Services Center for Resolution & Justice

Giuseppe Ippolito, Courtroom Deputy Clerk, Judge Scott

Melania Kosanovich, UB, Executive Assistant to Dean

Jazmin LaFay, Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project

Say Yes Buffalo Legal Task Force, continued

Prennessia Salder Lambert, Say Yes Buffalo

Julie Loesch, Child & Family Services Center for Resolution & Justice

Rashied MacDuffie, Minority Bar Association

Peter Marlette, Barclay Damon, LLP

Hon. James A McLeod, Buffalo City Court

David McNamara, Phillips Lytle LLP

James Morrissey (Retired)

Gayle T. Murphy, Child & Family Services Center for Resolution & Justice

Pam Neubeck, Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo

Bridget O'Connell, NYS Courts

David Pfalzgraf, Rupp Baase Pfalzgraf Cunningham

Linda Ray, Say Yes Buffalo

Dr. Ramona Reynolds, Buffalo Public Schools

Susan Roney, Nixon Peabody LLP

Michael Russo, NYS Office of the Attorney General

Elmer Santos, Say Yes Buffalo

Melinda Saran, UB, Vice Dean of Social Justice Initiatives

Jennifer Scharf, Women's Bar Association

Penny Selmonsky, Neighborhood Legal Services

Michael Siragusa, Erie County Department of Law

Karen Welch, Neighborhood Legal Services

Marci Wiseman, Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project

