

2015 Fall Edition

2015 Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellowships Announced

Congratulations to Caitlin Cocilova and Morgan Jenkins, our 2015 Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellowship



September. Morgan joined the staff of Neighborhood Legal Services Association this month. To date, PLAN Inc.'s MLK, Jr. Program has placed 16 fellows.

About Caitlin

Caitlin received her JD in May from Georgetown University Law

Center and graduated *Cum Laude* with a BA in Political Science from University of Pittsburgh. Caitlin possesses a strong and unwavering commitment to public interest law which is evidenced by her previous internships at the

ACLU-PA and various legal clinics dealing with issues like homelessness, domestic violence, immigration and human rights.



About Morgan

Morgan received her JD from University of Pittsburgh School of Law and graduated with a BA in English from The College of William & Mary. Throughout law school, she positioned herself for a career in public interest law as she believes every individual should have access to justice regardless of their ability to pay. Morgan's various judicial internships/externships, family law clinic experiences and Gismondi Fellowship at Neighborhood Legal Services Association are strong indicators of her commitment to dedicate her legal career to those in need.



2014 Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellow Continues to Shine

Last year, we introduced you to Yvelisse Pelotte, our 2014 MLK, Jr. Program Fellow. Yvelisse continues to excel in her role as a staff attorney in the Employment Unit of Community Legal Services. Her main area of practice involves expungement work. PLAN Inc. and Community Legal Services are very impressed with Yvelisse's work ethic and commitment towards removing employment barriers for the clients we serve.

We are extremely pleased with the success of the MLK Fellowship Program. Since its inception in 2004, 16 lawyers have been placed as fellows with PLAN legal aid programs and scores of other former interns have entered other public interest careers. While a few have moved on from employment at PLAN programs to other public interest or governmental organizations, during FY 2014/15 **5 former MLK Fellows or Interns remained employed at PLAN programs.**

In the past fiscal year, PLAN programs handled about 70,000 client cases including saving their homes from foreclosure, protecting them from domestic violence, securing health insurance, establishing custody stability for children, and helping clients in many other ways.

Thank You

PLAN, Inc. wishes to thank and acknowledge the following for their generous support of the MLK, Jr. Fellowship Program during our 20th Anniversary Campaign:

Ballard Spahr, LLP Buchanan, Ingersoll & Rooney, PC Campbell & Levine, LLC Daniel and Jennifer Deichman Dickey, McCamey & Chicote, PC Eckert, Seamans, Cherin & Mellott, LLC Elizabeth Dalton Farrell & Reisinger, LLC Feldman, Shepherd, Wohlgelernter, Tanner, Weinstock, Dodig, LLP Frank Miles Frommer, D'Amico, Anderson LLC Gay, Chacker, Mitten, PC Gerald McHugh and Maureen Tate Hershey Entertainment and Resorts **James Giles** James and Linda DeAngelo Jonathan Hollin Jeff Ernico Leroy Zimmerman

Knox, McLaughlin, Gornall, Sennett, PC Martin , LLC McNees, Wallace & Nurick, LLC Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak and Stewart, PC PA Bar Association Pepper Hamilton, LLP Pietragallo, Gordon, Alfano, Bosick & Raspanti, LLP **Raynes McCarty** Reed Smith, LLP Samuel Spear Schwab Charitable Fund Sorin Rand, LLP Thomas, Thomas & Hafer, LLP University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Wells Fargo Foundation White and Williams, LLP

2015 Class of Martin Luther King, Jr. Summer Interns



From left to right: James Baker 3L - University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Alonso Arguedas 2L -Temple University Beasley School of Law, Addie Brice 3L – Widener University-Delaware School of Law, Redeate Dessalgn 3L- University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Cana Noel 3L - Temple University Beasley School of Law, Zane Johnson 3L - Temple University Beasley School of Law, Ashley Harris 3L - University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Christopher Nock 2L - PSU Dickinson School of Law, Lanique Roberts 2L - PSU Dickinson School of Law, Krystin Paul 3L - University of Pittsburgh School of Law Established in 1991 to promote cultural and ethnic diversity in legal services and to honor Dr. King, the MLK Program offers summer internships throughout the PA Legal Aid Network for first and second-year law students. PLAN, Inc. provides training for the interns and pays their summer stipend.

The program was enhanced in 2003 by adding a two-year Fellowship by which diverse attorneys, new to practice, are hired by a sponsoring regional or specialty program and receive loan repayment assistance. The program is an integral part of our goal to initiate new lawyers to a commitment of providing access to justice for all individuals who have nowhere else to turn. PLAN, Inc. pays 50% of the fellow's salary and benefits, and student loan assistance.

For additional information, visit the website at <u>www.palegalaid.net/martin-luther-king-jr-program</u> or contact Arlene Marshall-Hockensmith at 1-800-322-7572, ext. 216, or by email at <u>amarshall-hockensmith@palegalaid.net</u>.

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