

**Student Initiated Legal Services Projects (SLPS)**

**2018-2019 Project Descriptions**

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**BERKELEY IMMIGRATION GROUP: DETENTION PROJECT**

The Berkeley Immigration Group Detention Project (BIG) seeks to bridge the representation gap for the approximately 300 non-citizens held in immigration detention in Richmond, California. We also endeavor to hold the San Francisco Immigration Court accountable in providing due process rights to non-citizens in detained proceedings before the court. Participants will gain a familiarity with immigration detention and substantive immigration law.

The Detention Project has five components: detention outreach, court observation, Know Your Rights Trainings, bond representation, and the creation of a community bond fund.

*Detention Outreach:* With detention outreach, participants work with an attorney at Centro Legal de la Raza to provide biweekly immigration legal intakes to detained non-citizens. This task involves legal intake and issue spotting skills, as well as working with survivors of trauma. Because of facility clearance requirements, we restrict detention outreach to persons with a U.S. social security number and driver’s license. This project is geared toward 1Ls and LLM students. To participate, you must complete the [Contra Costa County Detention Facility Clearance Request forms](https://www.law.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/CCC-Detention-Facility-Clearance-Request.pdf) . The [SLPS Application](https://www.law.berkeley.edu/experiential/pro-bono-program/slps/how-to-apply/) provides instructions for how to submit these forms.

*Court Observation:* For court observation, students will attend detained bond and merits hearings before the San Francisco Immigration Court. They will fill out pre-prepared forms documenting behavior of court and government counsel, availability of representation, and other due process issues with immigration proceedings. All students are welcome.

*Creating/Maintaining a Community Bond Fund:* As immigrants sit in detention awaiting their removal hearing, they may lose their job, housing, or even custody of their children. For this reason, we are creating a community fund to help pay bond for detained noncitizens. We are seeking limited number of students (3-5 per semester) to help with this process. This work involves organizing and collaboration with our community partners, alumni, and other student groups in order to fundraise, help decide who gets the funds, and figure out how to house the funds.

*Know Your Rights Trainings:* For the Know Your Rights Trainings, law students partner with members of [R.I.S.E](https://www.facebook.com/RISEatBerkeley/)., an undergraduate group at UC Berkeley. Together, they will conduct immigrants’ rights trainings at schools and other community spaces throughout the Bay Area. The goal is to empower community members to identify and resist the questionable enforcement tactics of ICE and CBP. All students are welcome.

*Bond Representation:*Based on supervisor capacity, a limited number of students (3-5 per semester) will have the opportunity to do bond representation for non-citizens in custody and bond proceedings before the San Francisco Immigration Court. This task involves legal research and writing to prepare the bond motion, as well as trial advocacy skills in preparing client testimony and letters of support.

For all components of BIG, we will ask students to attend a biweekly debriefing that will occur the evening after Monday outreach. At this debriefing, we will go over court observation and outreach experiences, as well as write letters to detainees indicating whether [Centro Legal de la Raza](https://centrolegal.org/) will be able to assist them in their case.  Also, we are open to creating more projects depending on the interest of the students, including a community advocacy project currently in the works.

*Supervision*: Students in BIG will receive training and be supervised by attorneys at [Centro Legal de la Raza](https://centrolegal.org/).

*Time Commitment*:

*Detention Outreach:* Detention Outreach occurs every other Monday morning from 8:00 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. (3.5 hours). We ask that students commit to at least two outreaches (7 hours) per semester.

*Court Observation:* Court observation can take place almost any day of the week. Schedules will depend on which judges we decide to observe. Interested students will be asked to commit to at least two half-day observations (8 hours) per semester.

*Bond Representation:* An individual bond representation requires approximately 10-15 hours of work gathering supporting documents and preparing for the hearing.

*Know Your Rights Trainings*: Trainings can take place almost any day of the week. Schedules depend upon our community partners’ availability. We ask that interested students commit to at *least two trainings (5-6 hours total) per semester.*

*Debriefing:* One hour every other week (evening time). Meeting day TBD.

*Training:* Approximately 3-4 hours total.

Spanish speaking is a plus for any of these projects.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at** **berkeleyimmigrationgroup@gmail.com****.**

**BERKELEY LAW ANTI-TRAFFICKING PROJECT**

The Berkeley Law Anti-Trafficking Project (BATPro) seeks to empower youth involved with, or at risk for, child sex trafficking by educating them about the realities of human trafficking, healthy alternatives, and their legal rights in situations of exploitation and abuse. Our organization is broken into three sub-groups; these groups all have specific projects unique to their area, but all work on improving legal research and writing skills. There is opportunity within the group to organize speeches, work with local attorneys, or create advocacy projects. BATPro is a community, and programs require teamwork, professionalism, and interpersonal skills. The three subgroups of BATPro are:

Legal Services Support: In partnership and under the supervision of Rose Mukhar, Founder and Executive Director of Justice at Last, BATPro members work on active affirmative litigation against companies that rely on labor trafficking. Last year, BATPro members were assisting LAS-ELC to litigate against a fishing company that enslaved workers from Indonesia who finally escaped the ship in San Francisco.

Immigration Research: In partnership with and under the supervision of attorneys at the [Immigrant Legal Resource Center](https://www.ilrc.org/), BATPro members work on researching and drafting legal guidelines for practitioners. Last year, members drafted a complex litigation guide for victims of trafficking who which to apply for a T-Visa. Projects change depending on the semester, but one project per semester is standard.

Community Coordination Team: BATPro actively works to educate the community about the clandestine criminal enterprise that is human trafficking. This comes in the form of legal writing, educational presentations, planned lectures, and working with local organizations to bring awareness to the cause. In the past, BATPro presented an expert attorney panel lunch discussion focused on how Super Bowl 50, held in the Bay Area, affected local human trafficking. Next year, BATPro hopes to expand this group, engaging with local nonprofits and anti-trafficking groups to impact change on the local level.

*Time Commitment:* Normal time commitment, including trainings, vary by program. Some programs only need approximately 10 hours per semester, where others would fall in the range of 20-30 hours per semester. Flexibility exists in assigning programs, and if someone expresses an interest for a lower time commitment, they can be placed accordingly.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****berkeleylaw.anti.trafficking@gmail.com****.**

**BERKELEY LAW AND ORGANIZING COLLECTIVE**

Those who participate in BLOC will be participating in trainings to organize workers in the law school (this involves know-your-rights trainings) along with supporting the campus and statewide union with legal questions and support. This includes working with organizers to build a legal field strategy, developing grievance/legal trainings, doing legal support work for members, managing campus-wide and statewide grievances, doing legal research for questions that come up as UAW2865 members have questions about legal changes and request legal support, doing background research for grievances and Unfair Labor Practices for Academic Student Employees in the UAW2865 bargaining unit, helping to support workplace grievances that workers on campus have, and developing a list of lawyers for UAW2865 members to turn to for free/cost-efficient legal advice.

*Time commitment:* 1-2 hours/week; 4-6 hour training and orientation early in the semester

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at** [**boaltcollective@gmail.com**](boaltcollective%40gmail.com)**.**

**BERKELEY POLICE REVIEW PROJECT**

Students in BPRP represent Berkeley community members who are pursuing a quasi-judicial hearing before the [Berkeley Police Review Commission](https://www.cityofberkeley.info/prc/) to resolve their police misconduct complaint.

Once a student has been assigned a client, they will interview their client and prepare direct questioning, and possibly opening and closing statements, which they will deliver at the hearing; each student will be supervised by a co-director and a supervising attorney. Students in BPRP should expect to learn and practice general trial advocacy skills.

*Time Commitment:*Every case will require approximately 20 hours of work. The work may need to be completed in a short time period, and clients are available on an intermittent basis.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at** **boaltpolicereviewproject@gmail.com**

**CALIFORNIA ASYLUM REPRESENTATION PROJECT**

CARC partners with the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (EBSC), a Board of Immigration Appeals recognized nonprofit organization. Based right here in Berkeley, EBSC is one of the highest volume providers of asylum representation in the country. Once students are accepted to CARC, they are placed into teams of two based on their interests and past experience. Occasionally students will work on a case alone, but more typically they work in pairs. An initial training covers client interviewing skills, ethics and confidentiality, asylum law, case management, and working with interpreters. Following this training, students are assigned an affirmative asylum case and a supervising attorney. Over the course of the semester, students interview the client, draft the client’s declaration, prepare the asylum application, collect additional evidence and potentially accompany the client to the Asylum Office interview (timing dependent). About halfway through the semester, CARC holds a workshop on drafting declarations. Students will develop interviewing skills and gain an understanding of substantive asylum law.

*Supervision:* Students providing pro bono legal services through CARC will be trained and supervised by Kaveena Singh, Staff Attorney at the [East Bay Sanctuary Covenant](https://eastbaysanctuary.org/) (EBSC). Kaveena has been working with EBSC since she was a legal intern in 2003. Students will also receive training and support from Michael Smith, Refugee Rights Program Director at EBSC. Michael started EBSC’s Affirmative Asylum Program with Sister Maureen Duignan in 1992 and has received awards for his work with refugees from Helen Bamber and the Dalai Lama.

*Time Commitment:* There will be a mandatory three-hour training at Berkeley Law and one two-hour training at EBSC. After that, hours will vary by week as students work on their individual cases, but students should expect to spend about 20 hours per semester.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****carccoordinator@gmail.com****.**

**COMMUNITY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE**

The Community Restorative Justice Project has been participating in this program with Berkeley Law students at San Quentin State Prison for the past several years. Students will attend restorative justice roundtables on a biweekly basis, and the roundtables are led and facilitated by the people incarcerated in the prison. Students will participate in these dialogues to learn more about the impact of incarceration and the potential of restorative justice. By engaging in this SLP, students will have the opportunity to explore an alternative to the retributive model of our criminal punishment system, and to witness the realities of the prison industrial complex. SLP members will also have the opportunity to engage with restorative justice practices on the Berkeley campus and in the broader local community. More information about the program can be found here: https://www.sqrestorativejustice.com.

*Time Commitment:* Students are expected to commit up to three hours every other week and one hour in the alternate week. Total monthly commitment will be 8 to 10 hours.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****communityrj@gmail.com**.

**CONSUMER RIGHTS WORKSHOP**

Students in the Consumer Rights Workshop will be assisting clients to develop, file, and present cases against abusive businesses, primarily through use of the small claims court system. Students will be called upon to interview clients, gather facts and evidence, and analyze the strength of the client’s case as well as the collectability of the potential judgment. This will include researching the legal claims and defenses in a broad variety of substantive consumer law, as well as the true name of the business and the appropriate manner of serving the business with a lawsuit.

If there is a viable claim, students will present the client with the options, likelihood of success, and potential outcomes. Students will then assist the client to draft demand and dispute letters, to prepare the small claims demand, and to advise the client on how to properly serve the demand.

Students will then prepare the client to present the case at the small claims hearing, including preparing for the pre-hearing negotiations. This will include preparing the client to concisely present the evidence required to win their case, as well as to rebut potential defenses and counter-claims.

When possible, students will work with the same clients throughout the clients’ cases, allowing students to see a case through from start to finish.

*Supervision:* Students in CRW will provide pro bono legal services under the supervision of Berkeley Law’s clinical partner, the [East Bay Community Law Center.](https://ebclc.org/)

*Time Commitment*: We will have five clinics per semester lasting roughly three hours each. Each meeting will begin with a 30 minute training session, accompanied by complimentary food/dinner.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****consumerrightsworkshop@gmail.com****.**

**CONTRA COSTA REENTRY PROJECT**

The Contra Costa Reentry Project (CORE) assists the Contra Costa County Office of the Public Defender with its Clean Slate practice, which works to help remove the barriers that a prior conviction can present to employment, housing, public benefits, and family reunification. Students will assist attorneys and advocates with expungement, Proposition 47 relief, and Proposition 64 record clearance. Students will have the opportunity to:

* Research Prop 47 and Prop 64 applicants’ eligibility for reclassification or record clearance
* Draft expungement applications
* Communicate with incarcerated clients and returning citizens regarding required documentation and services provided
* Compose legal memoranda on topics related to the office’s Clean Slate practice
* Help coordinate provision of legal services at community outreach events and Clean Slate workshops
* Attend attorney court appearances

*Supervision*: Students in CORE provide legal services under the supervision of the [Contra Costa County Office of the Public Defender.](http://co.contra-costa.ca.us/1555/Public-Defender)

*Time Commitment:* Time commitment is 3-5 hours per week. Students can arrange to deviate from their set schedule or defer weeks if there is a conflict. Traveling to and from the office takes about 30 minutes each way. At minimum, students should commit to spending two hours in the office but can work longer depending on availability and interest.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****contracostareentryproject@gmail.com**

**EAST BAY DREAMERS PROJECT**

**Purpose and unmet legal need:**

The purpose of EBDP is to partner with East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC) and East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (EBSC) to provide immigration legal services to support and empower Bay Area residents. EBDP was created with a focus on DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals), but has expanded to assist with a wider breadth of immigrant petitions and applications. Many immigrants have legal claims to remain in the United States, but don’t have the resources to fight for those claims. The goal of our pro bono work is to support local nonprofits and to help them reach as many clients seeking immigration assistance as possible. Members of EBDP will have the opportunity to volunteer at workshops to help prepare and file DACA applications, assist with legal intake, and/or participate in post-conviction advocacy for clients with criminal histories.

**Work of participants:**

EBDP helps provide direct legal services to immigrant communities in the East Bay under the supervision of [East Bay Community Law Center](https://ebclc.org/) attorneys. EBDP members will receive training on how to complete different applications and will have the opportunity to participate in DACA workshops or work one-on-one with clients on more time-intensive applications.

*Time Commitment*: 10 to 20 hours per semester.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****dreamersclinic@gmail.com****.**

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION OUTREACH**

Currently, ECO is planning to develop comments on proposals to lease federal lands for oil and gas development, and proposed revisions to California’s state regulations for open pit mining. ECO is also working to update a database tracking California county-level protections for oak woodlands. Working with faculty advisers, students will conduct legal research and draft legal memoranda and administrative comments to address the issue in both general and specific terms.

*Supervision*: Students will perform their work under the supervision of Eric Biber, Professor of Law and Director of Environmental and Energy Law Programs at UC Berkeley, School of Law.

*Time Commitment*: We expect students to commit 25-30 hours per semester. This will include 3 to 4 general meetings and 2 to 3 small group meetings per semester as well as substantive work on assignments.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****Eco.berkeley.law@gmail.com****.**

**FOOD JUSTICE PROJECT**

Students in the Food Justice Project will be conducting one on one and group know your rights presentations for undergraduate students who are applying for CalFresh/SNAP. We will also be helping them file appeals at our monthly appeals clinic.

*Supervision*: Students in FJP will provide pro bono legal services under the supervision of attorneys at the [East Bay Community Law Center](https://ebclc.org/), Berkeley Law’s clinical partner.

*Time Commitment:* Minimum 9 hours per month, with the chance to sign up for additional one off clinics. Everyone who participates will meet the requirements for the dean’s grant.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at** **Berkeleyfoodjustice@gmail.com****.**

**FOSTER EDUCATION PROJECT**

Foster Education Project identifies individual local foster youth who could benefit from having a special educational advocate. Each member is then paired with a single child, and files paperwork with the court to become their legal education rights holder. Our main activities include advocating for the youth at their school and in IEP meetings, and ensuring that they are receiving adequate services.

Members of the Foster Education Project can expect to learn about education and disability law, and work with established attorneys in the field that will serve as mentors. Additionally, members will practice a direct service approach to the law, utilizing communication, negotiation, and advocacy skills to make a real difference in a young child’s life.

*Supervision*: Students in FEP will provide pro bono legal services under the supervision of attorneys at [East Bay Children’s Law Offices](http://www.ebclo.org/) and the [National Center for Youth Law.](https://youthlaw.org/)

*Time Commitment*: 30-40 hours/ semester

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****FosterEdProject@gmail.com****.**

**GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROJECT**

This is the inaugural year for Berkeley Law’s first student group focused on using legal tools to reduce and prevent gun violence in the U.S.

In 2014, California enacted a law that allows family and household members or law enforcement officers to petition a court directly for an order temporarily restricting a person’s access to guns. This law, known as a Gun Violence Restraining Order (GVRO), is a vital public safety tool that allows the people most likely to notice when loved ones or community members become a danger to take concrete steps to disarm them. Research has shown that these laws are particularly effective at preventing gun suicides, which make up about two-thirds of all gun deaths in the U.S. Creating public awareness about GVROs and developing systems that allow laypeople to make use of it is critical to the effectiveness of the law.

Students in GVPP will support the Giffords Law Center in developing guides, fact-sheets, and other resources to educate individuals and organizations on what California’s GVRO law is and how it can be used to keep communities safe. Students will tailor implementation materials to different audiences, including law enforcement agencies, court self-help centers, and community organizations that provide legal and social services to at-risk individuals and families. With GVPP’s help, the Giffords Law Center will use the resources developed to create an implementation model for other states that have enacted similar “red flag” laws. Students who are interested in direct services will have the opportunity to present the materials developed through GVPP to the targeted audiences around the Bay Area. GVPP participants will develop critical skills in legal research and writing, and gain invaluable experience in making a statute understandable and usable by lay people. Because GVPP is a new SLP, there will be room for participants to contribute to shaping its direction long-term and make the work their own.

*Supervision*: Students will receive training from and provide pro bono legal services under the supervision of attorneys at the [Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence](http://lawcenter.giffords.org/) in San Francisco, California.

*Time Commitment:* We plan to offer two tracks: one for students looking to complete 25 pro bono hours in one semester, and another for students looking to spread 25 pro bono hours out across two semesters.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at** **berkeleygvpp@gmail.com**

**HOMELESSNESS SERVICE PROJECTS**

The Homelessness Service Project (HSP) will be offering legal assistance and accompaniment services at the Suitcase Clinic, the Women’s Shelter, and the Multi-Agency Service Center in Berkeley as well as encampment visits under the supervision of attorneys at the Homeless Action Center. This work will include helping clients seek out other legal assistance or take the first steps in advocating for themselves in local courts. The subject matter that HSP works on will not be limited to issues of homelessness, but instead will cover any type of legal issue that people of the homeless and low income community encounter.

*Supervision:* Students will provide legal services under the supervision of attorneys from the Homeless Action Center in Berkeley, California.

*Time Commitment:* 12hours/month minimum commitment. This includes three days of staffing an assistance table and follow up services with clients.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at** **hspberkeley@gmail.com**

**INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS WORKSHOP**

The International Human Rights Workshop (IHRW) partners with the [Human Rights Center](https://www.law.berkeley.edu/research/human-rights-center/) (HRC), under the supervision of the Director of the Sexual Violence Program, [Kim Thuy Seelinger](https://www.law.berkeley.edu/research/human-rights-center/about-hrc/faculty-staff/kim-thuy-seelinger/). Students conduct legal research to support projects related to refugee crises and the prosecution of sexual violence-related charges in international crimes cases. Students will have the opportunity to hone their legal research and writing skills and develop knowledge of domestic and international laws.

*Time Commitment*: IHRW participation requires a full-year commitment (Fall 2018 and Spring 2019). Students typically work on the project an average of five hours per week. In addition, students are required to attend mandatory full-group meetings three times per semester and monthly small group meetings.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****ihrwslp@gmail.com****.**

**INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PROJECT**

IRAP Berkeley currently has 20 active refugee cases pending with current students representing over 75 individuals from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Sudan. The work mainly consists of preparing applications for resettlement interviews which can include research on country conditions, affidavit collection, client interview preparation, and document collection. We also handle appeals and occasionally conduct congressional inquiries when cases are delayed. Students will develop both research and legal writing skills, and will also learn how to conduct interviews and develop a client relationship. Specifically, students will have the opportunity to work with clients of diverse backgrounds, languages, religions, and countries. In addition, we are expanding our role as policy advocates so students will have the opportunity to work on domestic policy initiatives at the federal, state, and potentially local level on issues related to refugee resettlement. Finally, intake students will have the opportunity to work with clients from Central America.

*Supervision:* Students’ work is supervised by individual pro bono attorneys and managed by Lara Finkbeiner, Deputy Legal Director, and Mark Doss, Supervising Attorney, at the [Urban Justice Center International Refugee Assistance Project](https://refugeerights.org/) in New York, New York.

*Time Commitment:* The time commitment is 30-40 hours a semester, depending on the type of case. This includes both work on the case, trainings, and IRAP meetings. We expect students to work with IRAP for the life of the case, absent serious extenuating circumstances (such as leaving school, taking a job that disallows continued work (like a clerkship), or other situations beyond a student’s control). This means that students do not commit to a semester or year, but for the entire application, which can be several years. While this is quite a commitment, students need to be realistic when deciding whether to join this group due to the gravity of leaving a refugee case halfway through, which can further endanger already vulnerable clients.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****berkeleyrefugeerights@gmail.com****.**

**JUVENILE HALL OUTREACH**

Our SLP travels to both the Alameda and the Contra Costa Juvenile Detention Centers to present a six-week curriculum on rights and basic legal concepts to a group of students at the centers.

*Supervision:* Students’ work is supervised by Frank Zimring of [Berkeley Law](https://www.law.berkeley.edu/our-faculty/faculty-profiles/franklin-zimring/), Amy Craig of [Ramsey & Ehrlich LLP](http://ramsey-ehrlich.com/), and Jen Stevens of [Agricultural Worker Protection Standard](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/agricultural-worker-protection-standard-wps) (WPS).

*Time Commitment:*Total time commitment per semester is 30 hours. This includes training, transportation, and lesson times.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****juvenile.hall.outreach@gmail.com.**

**KARUK-BERKELEY COLLABORATIVE LEGAL**

Karuk-Berkeley Collaborative (KBC) is a student-led pro bono project that contributes to the Karuk Tribe’s ongoing efforts to preserve its natural and cultural resources. Working with tribal representatives, supervising attorneys, and other stakeholders, KBC provides useful, concrete deliverables including memoranda, amicus briefs, white papers, and legal templates. KBC also seeks to raise awareness of Federal Indian law, environmental, and cultural property issues among Berkeley Law students.

Past projects of the Natural Resources team have helped the Tribe use the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act to cope with the impacts of dams and mining on sacred tribal resources, including wild and scenic rivers, national forests, and protected species such as the California native coho salmon. The Cultural Property team’s most recent projects have included analysis of federal law as it relates to cultural patrimony, as well as memos on trademark and copyright questions regarding use of the tribe’s name, cultural practices, and symbols.

During the 2018-2019 academic year, KBC members will work on new legal research assignments for the Karuk Tribe in the general areas of Natural Resources and Cultural Property law. Most of these work products will likely take the form of group memos.

*Supervision:* Students’ work is supervised by Fatima Abbas, General Counsel at Karuk Tribe.

*Time Commitment:* 8-16 hours/month. Because KBC members spend the semester researching and producing a final memo, some weeks involve more time writing and editing, while others are much lighter.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****karukberkeleycollaborative@gmail.com****.**

**LA RAZA WORKERS’ AND TENANTS’ RIGHTS CLINIC**

Students assist tenants and workers under attorney supervision in housing and employment issues in one-on-one meetings at Centro Legal de La Raza, a legal services organization that advances the rights of working-class immigrant communities in the Fruitvale, a neighborhood in Oakland. Students conduct intakes where they screen for legal issues, identify and propose solutions for the client, and draft legal documents as necessary.

Depending on hearing schedules and availability, students may have the opportunity to represent clients with housing or employment issues before administrative law judges, help with policy initiatives, write demand letters and complaints, and testify at city council hearings. Students will have the opportunity to hone their interviewing, client service, and legal research and analysis skills. Students may also help plan educational events and panels about housing and employment issues and get involved in local community actions.

Spanish speaking is a plus for any of these projects.

*Supervision:* Students will receive training from and provide pro bono legal services under the supervision of attorneys at [Centro Legal de La Raza.](https://centrolegal.org/)

*Time Commitment*: Students have to attend one mandatory training at the beginning of the fall semester that runs from 5:30pm to 9pm and takes place at Berkeley Law. Students must participate in a minimum of four clinics per semester in either workers’ or tenants’ rights (or minimum of 6 if students choose to do both) in order for them to be fully trained to the extent Centro Legal would like and for them to meaningfully engage in housing/employment law. The clinics take place from 6pm to 9pm at Centro Legal de La Raza in Oakland almost every Thursday. There may be additional clinics on other days. Students are free to choose the clinics they want to attend.

If students would like to take on additional policy, client representation, or advocacy projects, they may set up their own reasonable time commitments with a supervising attorney.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****larazaslp1@gmail.com****.**

**NAME AND GENDER CHANGE WORKSHOP**

Students participating in the Name and Gender Change Workshop will:

* Conduct intake interviews with clients seeking to obtain court-ordered name and gender changes
* Identify possible legal issues
* Research and discuss findings with supervising attorneys
* File pleadings on behalf of clients
* Discuss options with clients including changing name and gender markings on driver’s licenses, passports, and other government-issued IDs

*Supervision:* Students will provide legal services through NGCW under the supervision of attorneys from Berkeley Law’s clinical partner, at the [East Bay Community Law Center](https://ebclc.org/) (EBCLC).

*Time Commitment:* There will either be one training or workshop for the following months: September, October, November, February, March, and April. Students should expect a monthly commitment of 3-4 hours not including training, which will likely take 5 hours. In total, students should expect to volunteer for 20-25 hours throughout the academic year. Upon request, the NGCW will be able to provide student volunteers with opportunities to fulfill the 25 hour Dean’s Grant Requirement.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****NGWBerkeley@gmail.com****.**

**POLITICAL AND ELECTION EMPOWERMENT PROJECT**

PEEP provides students at Berkeley Law who care about the deep connection between politics, elections, the law, and social justice with a place to learn more about these challenging and dynamic issues in a rigorous and fun environment.

Students will learn from practitioners who work on complex issues on the local, state, and federal levels so that they can both learn a great deal about the law, and also develop legal research and analysis skills. We hope that PEEP provides not just an incredible experience and an energizing volunteer opportunity, but also great training.

In Fall 2018 we will be continuing our partnership with [Demos,](http://www.demos.org/) a national public policy organization working for an America where we all have an equal say in our democracy and an equal chance in our economy. Demos conducts research, policy advocacy, litigation, and strategic communications to promote political equality, economic opportunity, and racial equity, with a particular focus on how these are all interconnected. Participants will engage in research relating to democracy law – including voting rights and/or campaign finance reform – to assist Demos in its advocacy for an inclusive democracy.

*Time Commitment*: Students should expect 12.5 hours per semester.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****berkeleypeep@gmail.com****.**

**POST-CONVICTION ADVOCACY PROJECT**

The purpose of the Post-Conviction Advocacy Project (P-CAP) is to train Berkeley Law students to assist California inmates with the parole process. Our group’s mission is to attain justice for the thousands of men and women who may spend the rest of their lives in prison, even if they pose no current threat to society.  Indigent prisoners regularly receive inadequate representation from board-appointed attorneys, and students’ support can help ensure that prisoners are well-prepared and have a fair chance at their hearings. P-CAP pairs law students with individuals serving life sentences to aid them in preparing for their parole hearing and to represent them at that hearing under attorney supervision.

*Supervision:* P-CAP is supervised by Keith Wattley, Executive Director and Founder of [UnCommon Law](http://uncommonlaw.org/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank), and Lilliana Paratore, [Equal Justice Works Fellow](http://www.equaljusticeworks.org/node/90570), sponsored by Apple, Inc. and Baker McKenzie. Lilli provides regular supervision and feedback, while Keith provides training and overall support. Keith was recently selected as one of the Obama Foundation’s inaugural Fellows, recognizing his unique legal model and vision for representing people convicted of violent crimes in their parole hearings. More information about Keith’s Obama Foundation Fellowship can be found [here](https://www.obama.org/fellowship/2018-fellows/keith-wattley/).

*Time Commitment*: A 14-18 month commitment is necessary to ensure proper preparation and zealous representation at a client’s hearing. Students who join P-CAP in Fall 2018 can expect to have a hearing between October-May of 2019. The time commitment per semester is about 45-50 hours with significant variation depending on client needs.

Other requirements include: (1) obtaining gate clearance to enter prison for monthly client visits, (2) the ability to work with a partner, and (3) attending trainings, part of which includes observing a parole hearing (4) possibly missing class to visit your client once a month.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****pcapberkeleylaw@gmail.com**.

**PRISONER ADVOCACY NETWORK**

Officially launched in November 2015, the Prisoner Advocacy Network (PAN) is a network of attorneys, law students, legal workers, formerly incarcerated people, family members of incarcerated people, and other volunteers working to support prisoners incarcerated throughout California state prisons. PAN’s efforts are focused on supporting people in prison with severe, unmet needs, including people in solitary confinement, security housing units, administrative segregation, and gender-based segregation. PAN provides non-litigation advocacy for incarcerated people experiencing discrimination, retaliation, medical issues, and rights violations. PAN is especially interested in working with activists and jailhouse lawyers who are advocating for their rights from the inside.

After being trained to work as an advocate, students will be assigned an incarcerated correspondent for whom they will, under the supervision of an attorney mentor, provide non-litigation advocacy assistance on an issue identified by the correspondent. Tasks will vary according to the needs of each advocate’s correspondent, but may include: phone calls and letters to prison and health care officials, assisting prisoners with filing administrative appeals, filing complaints, providing resources from the web or other sources, and public records requests.

*Supervision*: Students will receiving training from and be supervised by attorney members of the [National Lawyers’ Guild of San Francisco](https://nlgsf.org/).

*Time Commitment*: Students will be expected to attend group meetings at least once monthly for approximately two hours. These meetings are designed to assist students in working with their correspondents. The initial training will be approximately four hours, with the opportunity to attend additional trainings throughout the year.

Students will also be expected to perform at least one task weekly for their correspondent (writing a letter to their correspondent, making a phone call to a prison official on behalf of their correspondent, requesting or reviewing medical records, etc.) throughout the school year or until the issue identified by their correspondent is resolved. The expectation is that a student will research and issue and write a substantive letter to their correspondent at least once per month.

While time commitments can vary widely, we estimate that each student will spend approximately twenty hours per semester working with PAN, in addition to the initial training. Volunteers are asked to commit to their correspondents for a*t least 12 months* or until their correspondent’s issue is resolved.

Additionally, students will be given the opportunity to visit their correspondents or a fellow PAN advocate’s correspondent. This will vary depending on the location of the prison, as PAN correspondents are incarcerated all over the state.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****berkeleylawPAN@gmail.com****.**

**REENTRY ADVOCACY PROJECT**

Students who are available to participate on Fridays can get trained up to take calls for the reentry legal hotline. Individuals who are currently or formerly incarcerated, or family members of those individuals, use R&R’s weekly hotline to request information regarding their rights post-incarceration. Using the Roadmap to Reentry guidebook developed by Root & Rebound, students will grow familiar with California and federal law regarding reentry issues such as voting rights, registration laws, employment, and housing.

Root & Rebound also gets 400+ letters a week from currently incarcerated individuals.  Although most of those letters are just requests for the Roadmap to Reentry guide, a number each week include legal questions. Students are trained up and given support to write reply letters and conduct new legal research, as needed, to answer nuanced reentry-related questions.  Students may also assist staff attorneys with other research projects (such as updating sections of the Roadmap to Reentry guidebook).

*Supervision:* Students will receive training and be supervised by attorneys at [Root & Rebound](http://www.rootandrebound.org/).

*Time Commitment*: 2-4 hours per week. This work can be done independently according to each student’s schedule. Students can answer hotline calls on Fridays in the office as an optional way to complete these hours.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****ReentrySLPS@gmail.com**.

**REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE PROJECT**

The Reproductive Justice Project (“RJP”) at Berkeley Law provides legal support to attorneys working in various reproductive rights and justice realms across the country. We focus on legal research projects and have provided support to abortion providers seeking to practice across state lines and those engaged in active litigation.

Judicial Bypass Project: The Judicial Bypass Initiative supports minors seeking to bypass parental notification and approval laws. Some states require that a minor seeking an abortion must either notify a parent or obtain consent from a parent in order to have the abortion. Minors who are not willing or able to involve their parents may obtain a judicial bypass. The process is onerous, punitive, and impacts the most vulnerable minors. This project is aimed at providing support and training to both the minors affected by these laws and the attorneys working with them.

We are also working with other organizations on several different projects, and availability will depend on organizational need. Some topics include:

* Telemedicine and Abortion
* Self-Induced Abortion
* More to come

*Supervision*: Students in RJP are supervised by Jessica Goldberg, Manager of Attorney & Pro Bono Programs at [If/When/How](https://www.ifwhenhow.org/).  Student will perform legal research under the supervision of attorneys at If/When/How or the legal staff at its partner organizations.

*Time Commitment*: 12-16 hours (including trainings and research meetings). We expect that you will attend 3 lunch trainings, where we bring in practicing attorneys to discuss reproductive justice lawyering. We also expect that you will attend the bi-weekly research meetings (which take place every other Wednesday during lunch) on campus. We are more than willing to accommodate schedule conflicts if that time does not work for you!

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at** **RJPBerkeley@gmail.com****.**

**STARTUP LAW INITIATIVE**

Through the Startup Law Initiative (SLI), 1L students team up with law firms to provide free legal incorporation services to local entrepreneurs. SLI’s services allow Bay Area founders to overcome costly barriers to conducting business. Students are put into small groups and assigned a client to work with over the course of the semester. Students’ work includes research, client intake, interviews, drafting and filing documents (e.g., articles of incorporation), and interactions with clients and supervising attorneys. The business owners must meet income requirements to qualify for assistance.

*Supervision*: Students in SLI are supervised by Deborah Kang, director of [*Startup@BerkeleyLaw.*](https://www.law.berkeley.edu/experiential/startupberkeleylaw/)

*Time Commitment*:  15-20 hours per semester.

*Frequently Asked Questions*

1. *Can LLM students apply?* Yes, both 1L and LLM students are welcome to apply.
2. *What times/days of the week will meetings take place?* Trainings will likely take place at lunch or in the evenings as they will be conducted by our supervising attorneys. Specific dates and times have not yet been set. Actual client work will be done on your own time, coordinated with your teammate(s).
3. *Is prior experience required/preferred?* No! Training will be provided, so no experience is necessary. One of the goals of the organization is to provide exposure to actual corporate transactional work for students who are interested but have not had prior opportunities to explore this type of work.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****startuplawinitiative@gmail.com****.**

**SURVIVOR ADVOCACY PROJECT**

The Survivor Advocacy Project (SAP) explores Title IX and alternative models for providing intersectional, trauma-informed legal support for survivors of sexual violence and sexual harassment (SVSH) at UC Berkeley. This year our work will include two major initiatives: First, we will be launching a legal intake program to help campus survivors prepare for on-campus adjudication hearings, assess investigative reports for appeal, and access off-campus legal remedies. Second, we will be conducting research in support of ongoing Title IX and FEHA cases, as well as requesting the publication of SVSH-related appellate opinions to create binding legal precedent.

If you are interested in becoming a part of our team, please plan to attend our mandatory training sessions on Wednesday, September 26th from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 29th from 10:00am-2:00 p.m. Due to the sensitive nature of our work it is essential that new members participate in this training.

*Supervision:* Students in SAP provide legal services under the supervision of attorneys at the [Oakland Law Collaborative](http://oaklaw.org/about/) and the [Family Violence Appellate Project.](https://fvaplaw.org/)

*Time Commitment*:

* 6 hours of training
* 8 hours for biweekly meetings
* 10 hours for research & publication requests
* 6 hours clinic time

Total: 30 hours for Fall Semester, 25 hours for Spring Semester

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****berkeley.sap@gmail.com****.**

**TENANTS’ RIGHTS WORKSHOP**

The Tenants’ Rights Workshop helps protect the legal rights and remedies of tenants in Oakland and Berkeley. During weekly clinics, students interview clients and then work one-on-one with staff attorneys from the [East Bay Community Law Center](https://ebclc.org/) (EBCLC) to provide the client with advice and limited legal services. Issues include habitability, foreclosure, subsidized housing, and evictions. Follow-up work often includes students drafting letters to landlords about the tenants’ housing issues.

*Time Commitment*: TRW meets Tuesday evenings for approximately 2-3 hours a week (16 weeks in a semester at an average of 2.25hrs = 36 hours). We will meet once a week starting at 5:30 at the EBCLC Adeline office. Student members are expected to attend TRW every week. Each weekly meeting will begin with a brief training, with additional training time at the start of the semester. No other time commitment is required outside of our once weekly meetings.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****trwberkeley@gmail.com**

**WAGE JUSTICE CLINIC**

The Wage Justice Clinic provides free legal assistance to help low-wage workers against their employers who violate state and local law by paying below minimum wage. The clinic is held once a month where law students work with attorneys to help low-wage workers file claims against their employers for wage theft. Wage theft is a pervasive problem among low-wage workers, minority, non-English speaking, and/or immigrant workers. As the cost of living in the Bay Area skyrockets, the legal services provided by students in this clinic will become increasingly critical to help low income folks in our community make ends meet.

Students will get a chance to use their legal skills in the real world from interviewing clients all the way to representing the very same clients in settlement conferences before the California Labor Commission. Lunch and refreshments are provided for students at each clinic.

We look forward to working with a great group of students who love helping people and are committed to addressing income inequality in the Bay Area!

What students will be doing:

* Interviewing & intake clients
* investigate claims
* researching employment law issues
* drafting documents (claims, demand letters, etc)
* attend and represent clients at settlement conferences and hearings

*Supervision:* Students will receiving training from and be supervised by attorneys from [Legal Aid at Work.](https://legalaidatwork.org/)

*Time Commitment*:

* **Estimated number of hours per semester:** 20-25 hours.
* **Estimated number of hours per week:** Once a month only for ~6 hours.
* **Days and times for any weekly commitments:** Fridays from 10-4PM.
* **Trainings:** One day training around the start of each semester for 4-5 hours.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****berkeleywagejustice@gmail.com****.**

**WORKERS’ RIGHTS CLINIC**

The Workers’ Rights Clinic hosts free weekly clinics to assist low-income community members with employment-related legal issues. Students will conduct one-on-one, face-to-face interviews with clients, and then complete research alongside an attorney to provide the client legal advice. Students can expect to encounter and become familiar with a broad range of legal issues, such as employment discrimination, worker’s compensation, and workplace torts. Students will also gain skills in client interactions, issue spotting and legal research. Prior to every session, a visiting attorney will give a lecture on a specific topic in employment law. Dinner is provided.

We are excited to find another great group of students who are dedicated to helping people and putting their legal knowledge to use in the real world.

*Supervision:* Students will receiving training from and be supervised by attorneys from [Legal Aid at Work.](https://legalaidatwork.org/)

*Time Commitment*: Students will be split up into two groups, so that each student will commit to working every other Thursday evening (biweekly). Sessions start at 5:30 and run approximately three hours. If student counselors ever need to miss a session, it is their responsibility to find another student to swap weeks with them.

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****workersrightsclinic@berkeley.edu****.**

**WORKERS’ RIGHTS DISABILITY CLINIC**

Students will work in the clinic providing direct services to people who have contacted Legal Aid at Work for a disability and employment related issue. Students will meet with clients by themselves, either in person or on the phone, and will listen to and direct the client’s story such that all the pertinent details can be aired. Then, the students will return to the conference room, where they will research potential legal claims before consulting with an attorney about the potential claims. After reaching an agreement with the attorney about the claims and limitations the client has, the student will return to the client alone and explain the client’s rights and responsibilities.

*Supervision:* Students will receiving training from and be supervised by attorneys from [Legal Aid at Work.](https://legalaidatwork.org/)

*Time Commitment:* 3.5 hours every other week for 2 semesters

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****berkeley.wrdlc@gmail.com****.**

**YOUTH ADVOCACY PROJECT**

Students will work as youth advocates to support juveniles who are currently, or were previously, incarcerated at Contra Costa County’s juvenile hall. Student work will support the public defenders who represent these juveniles in court.

Throughout the year, students will work one-on-one, or with a fellow Berkeley student, with 1-2 clients to help prepare them for release.  Students will meet with clients while in custody and will further support their clients by helping connect them with community resources that will enable clients to achieve success post-release. While each student’s experience is highly case specific, students can expect to: support the public defender by identifying case needs, help juveniles navigate in-custody education rights, provide re-entry planning, help clients navigate probation violations and provide support for any additional challenges juveniles face while in custody and reentering the community.

Students will develop client interviewing skills and gain valuable experience by spending time at the juvenile facility in Martinez and/or Brentwood. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to accompany their client(s) to their hearings at the Juvenile Court. Observing and testifying in juvenile court provides students with an opportunity to develop a significantly more nuanced understanding of the juvenile justice system in California.  Most importantly, students will have an opportunity to improve the lives of their clients.

*Supervision*: Students will provide services to clients through YAP under the supervision of attorneys at the [Contra Costa County Office of the Public Defender.](http://co.contra-costa.ca.us/1555/Public-Defender)

*Supervision:* Students will receiving training from and be supervised by attorneys from the Office of the Public Defender in Contra Costa County.

*Time Commitment*: 25 hours per semester.

1. Early semester group trainings (3 hours)
2. Bi-monthly (twice a month) client meetings at juvenile hall/Ranch/out of custody and brief memos regarding the meeting to be written and sent to the supervising attorney.
3. Monthly case conference meetings
4. Attendance of court hearings highly encouraged
5. Attendance at special events—attorney panel, film screening, juvenile hall tours

**For more information, please contact the student leaders at****youthadvocacy@law.berkeley.edu****.**