Greetings from the Clinical Program!

We are grateful to continue to be in touch with you, our alumni, friends, and supporters.

This fall semester we welcomed 125 students into the clinics and more than 100 students across our 14 clinics will join us in the spring. Student demand for clinical slots has consistently outpaced availability; we receive 425-475 applications annually and currently have the capacity to work with about 250-300 students each year. We aim to expand the number of available slots to 400 by 2027 with the support of Berkeley Law and you. We will launch a new clinic focused on racial justice in 2025, and an additional two new clinics are on the horizon.

Right now we are a team of 33 people working across all six clinics housed at Berkeley Law, with another group of amazing colleagues at the East Bay Community Law Center who lead our eight community-based clinics. We celebrate the achievements of each clinic and below highlight how clinics innovate while staying true to their mission of advancing racial, social, and economic justice.

We hope you will consider donating to the Clinical Program to help us strengthen the social justice pipeline by expanding our reach to more students. The Clinical Program works across clinics to support each one in its vital work of creative lawyering and bringing impactful cases and policy action. It does this by developing professional development opportunities for staff and faculty; programming around pedagogy to maintain excellent teaching and inclusive learning environments; cultivating community for clinical students, staff, and faculty; and supporting centralized administrative functions. Your support of the
Clinical Program ensures that all clinics have the foundation they need to continue their groundbreaking work.

We also want to keep in touch! To see regular updates, join us on social media and reach out to us anytime if you are interested in coming to campus or speaking on a virtual panel, or want to hear more about the program.

Wishing you health, safety, and joy in the upcoming holidays and into the New Year.

Laura, Roxanna, and Ty

Laura Riley, director
Roxanna Altholz, faculty co-director
Ty Alper, faculty co-director

Clinical Program News

Program launches inclusivity series for faculty and staff

In October, Camilo A. Romero (pictured at far left with Clinical Program faculty and staff) kicked off the program’s "Inclusivity in Clinical Pedagogy" series for clinic faculty and staff with a talk on "Practicing Vulnerability to Facilitate Healing in Clients, Students, and Self."

Director Laura Riley authors new book on homeless advocacy

In Homeless Advocacy, her recently published book from Carolina Academic Press, Clinical Program Director Laura Riley delves into how to be a legal advocate for people experiencing homelessness. Aimed at anyone interested in working with unhoused populations — law students, policy makers, undergraduate and graduate social work students, and individual activists — the book includes a history of homelessness, insights from unhoused people, and their unique legal challenges.
Clinical Program releases 2022-2023 annual report

More than 300 students enrolled in clinics last year, demonstrating their commitment to social justice and developing the skills to be effective advocates. Please take a look at the Clinical Program’s annual report to learn more about how clinics stand with threatened individuals and communities in pursuit of transformative justice.

Read more Clinical Program news

For more stories about the innovative and inspiring work by the program’s 14 clinics, explore our news page.

Meet our staff

We have a small but mighty staff! Back row left to right: Adelaida Caballero, office administrator; Olivia Layug Balbarin, director of administration; and Sarah Weld, communications and development officer. Front row left to right: Heather Canfield, former Death Penalty Clinic paralegal; Laura Riley, director; Grace Thieme, office administrator; and Lauren Havey, paralegal.

Donate to the Clinical Program

If you’d like to make a donation, click here to give online, or send a check payable to:

“UC Berkeley Foundation” with "Berkeley Law Clinical Program" in the memo section.

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We genuinely appreciate all of the contributions you have made to the success of the Clinical Program over the years and we look forward to many more exciting opportunities in the future.