Bruce Boyer testifies at Adoption Reform Hearing

Professor Bruce Boyer, Director of the Civitas ChildLaw Clinic, was quoted several times by the Chicago Tribune in connection with his work and expertise in the area of adoption reform. Professor Boyer testified at a hearing of the Illinois House Adoption Reform Committee on the subjects of rehoming, the regulation of internet advertising in the field of adoption, and a landmark first-of-its-kind lawsuit filed on October 29th seeking to enjoin an out-of-state unlicensed for-profit adoption agency from advertising for adoption services in Illinois. The lawsuit seeks to enforce important safeguards enacted in Illinois to ensure the adoption process truly protects the best interests of the children and sends a message to unscrupulous, unlicensed adoption agencies that they cannot operate in Illinois and ignore Illinois state laws. Professor Boyer stated that it is a “long-awaited step in making the promise of our eight-year adoption reform law a reality.” Read more about the House committee hearing in the Chicago Tribune article.

November is National Adoption Month

November is National Adoption Month, a time to raise awareness about the urgent need for adoptive families for children and youth in foster care. This year, the Children’s Bureau’s theme, Partnering for Permanency, builds on the social media focus from last year but emphasizes the partnerships necessary to create permanency. It provides resources to help public information officers, adoption professionals, adoptive families, and youth partner together to create permanent connections for the over 100,000 children and youth in foster care waiting for permanent families. For children and youth, permanent connections are people who are there for them when needed—people they can count on to provide assistance and support.

Visit the Child Welfare’s National Adoption Month website for more information.

2013 Give-a-Gift Drive

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Holiday Give-a-Gift Drive this year! Due to your incredible generosity we have succeeded in collecting gifts for over 100 child clients of our ChildLaw Clinic. Please join us at our Gift-Wrapping Party Wednesday, November 13th from 4-6pm! There will be many wonderful treats to eat!
ChildLaw Center Halloween Party

The Civitas ChildLaw Center celebrated its annual Halloween Party with students, staff, faculty and a few very adorable children in costume. The Halloween Party is also an opportunity to raise funds for our Holiday Give-a-Gift Drive, and thanks to the tremendous support from our many contributors, we will be able to wrap and deliver gifts to over 100 children in our ChildLaw Clinic. Everyone at the ChildLaw Center is extremely appreciative of the support we have received.

Forthcoming Speakers in the ChildLaw Legislation and Policy Clinic

**November 14st** (watch for the time in Law Announcements) – Senator Dale Righter will be speaking to students in the ChildLaw Legislation Clinic. Senator Righter, a Republican senator from Mattoon, Illinois, served four years as a state representative, and the last ten years as a state senator. Senator Righter serves as Minority Spokesperson for the Criminal Law Committee; among his assignments he also sits on the Appropriations I Committee, Judiciary Committee, and Subcommittee on Restorative Justice.

**November 21st (10 – 11 a.m.)** – Larry Joseph, Director of the Fiscal Policy Center at Voices for Illinois Children, will speak on the budgetary process, decision making, and where human services and children’s issues fit. The talks will be held in room 1104. Because it is a seminar size room, please contact Professor Anita Weinberg at aweinbe@luc.edu if you are interested in attending so that chairs will be available. Students, faculty and staff are welcome to attend.

ChildLaw Legislation Clinic Students on the Move...

ChildLaw Legislation Clinic students met in Urbana, Illinois with 20 young leaders on the Youth Advisory Council to the Department of Children and Families Services. The students are working with the youth – all of whom have been in foster care – to help develop a legislative agenda and the skills necessary to advocate for legislation.

Six of the nine students in the ChildLaw Policy and Legislation Clinic who visited Springfield in October to observe the legislative process in action, posed in front of the Old State Capitol, where Abraham Lincoln served as a state representative. In the photo (left to right): Deb Moldover (Health Justice Clinic), Maureen Mullen, Michael Gubiotti, Jeanne Murray, Alex Rosney, and Lauren Schroeder.
CAREER/FELLOWSHIPS

The Family Law Center is looking for 1-2 law clerks for winter and spring and at least two law clerks for the summer. Academic strength and/or demonstrated analytical ability as well as a demonstrated commitment to social justice are important. Spanish fluency is a plus but not required. First year students who meet these requirements will be considered, but second or third year students are preferred. For more information, visit www.familydefensecenter.org or apply for a law clerk position by sending resumes and cover letters to: dianeredleaf@gmail.com.

The Georgetown University Law Center’s Domestic Violence Clinic hires one person to serve as a clinical teaching fellow and supervising attorney each year, for a two-year term. Fellows have several areas of responsibility, including: representing victims of family abuse in CPO cases; designing and teaching Clinic seminar classes; and supervising third-year law students in their representation of clients.

Please complete an application (http://www.law.georgetown.edu/academics/centers-institutes/wlppfp/us/USApplication.cfm), and submit it to both the Domestic Violence Clinic (dvclinic@law.georgetown.edu) and the Women’s Law and Public Policy Fellowship Program (wlppfp@law.georgetown.edu). Please be sure to indicate your interest in the Domestic Violence Clinic on the application. Applications must be submitted by November 16, 2013. Those selected to interview will be interviewed in December or January, with selection following shortly thereafter. Start date is in early July, 2014, and the fellowship lasts for two years, terminating in June, 2016.
The Loyola Civitas ChildLaw Center is dedicated to promoting justice for children through interdisciplinary teaching, scholarship and service, and through the development of a new legal specialty, pediatric law.