Action Alert!

Governor Rauner’s proposed budget cuts include eliminating all services to youth in foster care ages 18 – 21. Imagine being 18 without any adult guidance or support. Ending essential supports for this population is morally unconscionable and fiscally irresponsible.

What you can do RIGHT NOW to oppose the cuts:

- **Contact your State Representative and State Senator** to voice your objections. You can email, call, or meet with your legislator in person. Find your state legislators: [www.elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator](http://www.elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator). Legislators are most concerned about responding to their own constituents’ concerns. If you’re writing on behalf of an organization, it would be great if you could include a brief description about how these cuts will affect your organization and the clients you serve.

- **Email the Governor** to voice your opposition: [www2.illinois.gov/gov/Pages/ContacttheGovernor](http://www2.illinois.gov/gov/Pages/ContacttheGovernor)

- **Like and share** the post on the Civitas ChildLaw Center Facebook page opposing the budget cuts. [www.facebook.com/CivitasChildLaw](http://www.facebook.com/CivitasChildLaw)

- **Share the emails** you send as well as any responses to Anita Weinberg at aweinbe@luc.edu. It’s extremely helpful to our advocacy to know your outreach and what you hear back.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Anita Weinberg, Director, ChildLaw Policy Institute, Loyola University Chicago at aweinbe@luc.edu or 312-915-6482.

For more information on why to oppose the budget cuts, see the statement of the Coalition to Support the Future of Our Youth. Read the statements of some of the youth testifying about the budget cuts, and the testimony of Anita Weinberg before the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

Follow the ChildLaw Center!

To learn more about the Center and its educational, service and law reform activities, please read our monthly newsletter, visit [www.luc.edu/childlaw](http://www.luc.edu/childlaw) or stop by the Center and introduce yourself. You can also follow us on Twitter @CivitasChildLaw or Like us on Facebook.

If you are a student or alumna/alumnus who is interested in receiving the most up-to-date news about the Center, as well as internship/career opportunities, join our listserv at [http://lists.luc.edu/listinfo/childlaw](http://lists.luc.edu/listinfo/childlaw)

**Education is Not a Business: Lecture, Reception and Book Signing**

April 23 from 5-7PM on the 10th Floor of the Corboy Law Center

Throughout David Kirp’s career, his main focus has been on education and children’s policy, from cradle to college and career. He was a member of the 2008 Presidential Transition Team, where he drafted a policy framework for early education, and he was recently elected to the National Academy of Education. His articles have appeared in the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Washington Post, American Prospect, Nation, Slate, Daily Beast, San Francisco Chronicle, Sacramento Bee and Huffington Post.


To RSVP, email Emily Forestieri at eforestieri@luc.edu. RSVPs are requested as space is limited.
Upcoming Events

Undocumented Youth in the U.S.
April 24 at 11:30AM in Piper Hall, Lakeshore Campus

School to Prison OR Cradle to Career? Imagining a Different Pipeline
Carol Harding Lecture Series, Children’s Summer Institute
May 18 from 8:30 – 4:30, 10th Floor of the Corboy Law Center
A multidisciplinary exploration of current responses and new directions for social workers, educators, lawyers, law enforcement, psychologists and child advocates.
Continuing education credits may be available.
For more information or to register, contact: Emily Forestieri at 312-915-6481 or eforestieri@luc.edu

National Child Abuse Prevention Month
April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to recognize that we each play a part in promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in our communities. Learn more on the National Child Abuse Prevention Month website.
[www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/prevention month/](http://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/prevention month/)

Children’s Legal Rights Journal
The Children’s Legal Rights Journal has chosen a new executive board for the coming school year. Congratulations to Jenessy Rodriguez, Amie Bauer, Laura Smith, Jamie Collins, Mike Montgomery, Sarah Kroll, and Jennifer Fox!

The CLRJ will be publishing Issue 2 of Volume 35 at the end of April. It will be available at [www.childrenslegalrightsjournal.com/childrenslegalrightsjournal](http://www.childrenslegalrightsjournal.com/childrenslegalrightsjournal).

Summer Course Offering
Law 663: an intensive, one-week, interdisciplinary summer course (2 credits)
The Children’s Summer Institute, Law 663, will use issues related to the “School-to-Prison” pipeline as a lens to engage students in an interdisciplinary examination of the “best interest of the child,” particularly as it relates to creating programs and policies that address the widespread under-education and over-incarceration of large populations of youth. Students will examine a series of complex issues as they consider the problem of the pipeline, including: the theory behind it, the responsibilities of family, the role of implicit bias, how current laws and policies contribute to the pipeline, how trauma-informed practices can inform our laws and policies, what reforms might be put into place to better serve youth. The course is offered May 18 – 22, 2015.
Contact Anita Weinberg, aweinbe@luc.edu for permission to register.
Faculty & Staff Updates

Professor Anita Weinberg testified before both the State House and Senate Appropriations Committees regarding the proposed budget cuts to the Department of Children and Family Services.

Professor Stacey Platt presented on a panel at a Custody Evaluation and Domestic Violence Symposium in March. The panel, The Interface between Evaluators and Child’s Reps, focused on the ethical rules and duties of Children’s Representatives, along with strategies to manage the conflictual relationships between the parties, their attorneys, and the evaluator.

Job Openings and Fellowships

Equal Justice Works is launching a nationwide competition to find seven passionate immigration attorneys to begin two-year, post-graduate Fellowships in September 2015! Candidates may submit applications here from April 17 through June 1. Completed applications require a resume, personal statement, references, and two letters of recommendation. Fellows will be placed at a host organization with expertise in immigration law chosen by Equal Justice Works. To be considered, a candidate must be a qualified and dedicated graduate of an Equal Justice Works member school committed to working with immigrant populations. Individual candidates will be judged based on immigration law experience (in general and DACA/DAPA in particular); language skills; personal connection to the issues and to the locale; and strength of recommendations. Please visit equaljusticeworks.org for more detailed information about the competition.

Policy Internship Opportunity. Illinois Partners for Human Service seeks a part-time paid intern for June – December 2015. The internship offers an excellent opportunity to be involved in policy and legislative work. For more information see illinoispartners.org/opportunities. Interviews are currently underway.

Student & Alumni News

A Presidential Management Fellow since graduation, Civitas ChildLaw Fellow Jenny Denny (JD’13) was assigned in March to the Office of the Vice President of the United States. She is detailed to the Violence Against Women team. Jenny’s responsibilities include advising the Vice President on issues concerning domestic violence and sexual assault, serving as a liaison to the domestic violence and sexual assault community, and promoting collaboration across federal agencies.

Third-year ChildLaw Fellow Kathryn Huber was honored this month as part of the Class of 2014-2015 Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows. Congratulations, Kathryn!

We are very pleased to announce that two of our third-year ChildLaw Fellows were selected as recipients of the 2015 Equal Justice Works Post-Graduate Fellowships. Alex Hunstein Roffman, sponsored by Kirkland & Ellis and Aon and Amanda Walsh, sponsored by Baker & McKenzie, LLP and Walgreens. These two-year fellowships are highly competitive and involve a rigorous selection process from a national pool of candidates. Congratulations to Alex and Amanda!
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.