

One of the biggest hurdles to making changes to child support, custody, or placement is waiting the roughly four months it takes just to get a hearing in front of a Family Court Commissioner. However, there is a relatively simple way to get around that, and speed up the process: getting both parents into agreement.

To that effort, the Milwaukee Justice Center has teamed up with Milwaukee County Child Support Services and Quarles & Brady to provide Parenting Conferences to *pro se* parents who believe they could come to an agreement on what needs to change in their existing child-rearing orders, and turn that four months into as little as two to four weeks.

"I just got off the phone

with one mom and I asked her what she thought of the experience," said CSS attorney and program representative Kathleen Murphy. "She said 'It was much less stressful than going to court, and I feel like we both got the chance to explain what was going on and decide what to do.'"

The CSS attorney availability is critical to provide instant approval to agreements in cases involving both child support and public benefits. This way, parties can walk out of the meeting knowing all but one hurdle (FCC approval) is cleared.

Parenting conferences are scheduled roughly every other Tuesday morning. Litigants should call (414) 278-2912 or visit the MJC desk in the Courthouse, Room G9, to schedule an appointment. ●

MJC, Child Support Services, Offer Parenting Dispute Resolution Help



Atty Kathleen Murphy
Milwaukee County Child Support Services

OUR MISSION:

The Milwaukee Justice Center is a collaborative endeavor between Milwaukee County, the Milwaukee Bar Association, and Marquette University Law School. The MJC provides services to self-represented litigants with civil court matters. Self-represented individuals have a fundamental right to access the justice system even if they cannot afford an attorney, or do not qualify for legal aid.

Upcoming Events

2015 Law & Technology Conference

Thursday, November 20, 2015 - 7:30pm
Italian Conference Center
631 E Chicago St., Milwaukee

MJC Mobile Legal Clinic

Saturday, November 21, 2015
1:00pm-4:00pm
Parklawn YMCA
4640 N 46th St., Milwaukee

MJC Holiday Closures

All Services CLOSED for Thanksgiving:
Thursday, November 26-Friday, November 27
All services resume normal hours
Monday, November 30

All services CLOSED for Winter Holidays
Wednesday, December 23-Friday, January 1
All services resume normal hours Monday, January 4

MJC Partners/Volunteers Inducted to State Bar Pro Bono Honor Society



ATTY. DAVID KARP, TRISTAN DOLLINGER, HELP CLIENT IN FAMILY LAW ADVICE CLINIC



KASEY PARKS - 3L MARQUETTE LAW

Two more partners of the Milwaukee Justice Center have been recognized by the Milwaukee Bar Association for their outstanding contribution to *pro bono* service in Milwaukee.

During their 12th Annual State of the Court luncheon at the Wisconsin Club on October 15, the Milwaukee Bar Association recognized the Leander J. Foley Matrimonial American Inn of Court, and Marquette University Law School student Kasey Parks, with *Pro Bono Publico* awards.

The Leander J. Foley Matrimonial American Inn of Court has been a partner with the Milwaukee Justice Center and Marquette

Volunteer Legal Clinic since 2013.

Under the leadership of then-president Rebecca Millenbach (Nelson, Krueger, & Millenbach LLC), the Foley Inns adopted three afternoons per week in the MJC clinics to provide specifically family law advice to *pro se* litigants. This has provided unprecedented access to legal advice in the areas the MJC clinics see the most activity in. Further, it helps ease some congestion on the family courts, as one of the benefits of the service is reducing the number of fruitless motions filed.

Kasey Parks was the other MJC volunteer recognized by the MBA's *Pro Bono*

Publico awards.

Kasey is currently a 3L at the Marquette University law School, and has been an MJC volunteer for more than a year now. MULS says her volunteer service so far has totaled more than 150 hours in her law school career, most of which has been provided to the MVLC brief legal advice clinics at the MJC.

In addition to her service and her law school curriculum to the MJC, Kasey is working on a Master's in Business Administration at Marquette, is an editor for the *Marquette Sports Law Review*, and has volunteered with the National Sports Law Institute every year of

her time at Marquette Law School.

The Milwaukee Justice Center has been honored to have so many wonderful volunteers recognized for their service over the years, including by the MBA's *Pro Bono Publico* awards.

In 2014, MJC volunteer Brittney LaFond and MJC partner (through our Mobile Legal Clinic) Michael Best & Friedrich LLP won for law students and organizations, respectively.

In 2013, MJC/MVLC student coordinator Bryant Park won the law student award.

Congratulations to Kasey and the Foley Inns, and thank you for your help! ●



Q3 2015 at a Glance...

Clients Seen

Q3 2015: 2,567

vs. 2014: +4.3%

YTD: +2.2%

vs. Hist. Avg: +12.1%

The Milwaukee Justice Center turned in a busy summer quarter, helping 2,567 individuals in our various clinics. This includes our most successful September in MJC history, where we helped 825 people.

We also had a strong July, helping 943 people, an 8.3%

increase over 2014..

Our summer was so successful with the help of a tremendous number of volunteers, and top notch PILS fellows.

We're looking forward to another solid quarter to end the year, and to hopefully cross the 10,000 mark for the year for the third time. ●

Tip of the Scale: "Anything But Family Law!"

Volunteer attorneys are one of the MJC's greatest assets. During brief legal advice clinics, they donate considerable time to helping those who cannot afford a lawyer receive the legal advice they need.

However, many problems involve family law, one area

many volunteer attorneys are unfamiliar and/or uncomfortable with. This makes it more difficult for some to receive help with the problems they face.

Recently, Marquette University Law School, with the help of family law attorney Jennifer Baumler, has published a recent

"Brown Bag" CLE for those wanting to be more familiar with family law.

Visit www.law-media.marquette.edu/Mediasite/Catalog/catalogs/mvlc to view "You can provide brief advice in family law - Really you can!" to see this presentation. ●



Volunteer Spotlight: Dulce Castro

Dulce Castro is one of those volunteers whom you simply can't help but admire the dedication of.

Originally from Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, Dulce came to Milwaukee with her parents when she was 10 years old. She's currently a political science major at MATC, and has been a volunteer at the MJC since January. Currently, she dedicates two days per week to the MJC family forms clinic, plus an additional evening at the MVLC clinic at the United Community Center.

You've been around the MJC for a long time. What keeps you coming back?

I love helping people, and I feel like every day I learn something new. It's always the same forms, but each case teaches me something difference.

What brought you to the MJC in the first place?

One of the MJC staff members was an attorney for my parents, and I was translating for them. I told him my dream job would be to work at the courthouse, and he said he was there, so that's how I got introduced.

Once I came in, I met (Clerical Specialist) Sam (antha Yee), and that's how I got started.

That was this past January.

What's been your most rewarding experience at the MJC?

Just learning everything about the legal system. My career path has changed from wanting to be an immigration lawyer because, before, I never would have thought about family law. Now, I know more about how family and immigration law go together, and how it can make a big change for someone else.

What else should we know about you?

I have a dog that I love. Her name is Coco and I love her to death.

My biggest dream is to

graduate from college. It was a challenge for me because, when I came from Mexico, I had a visa, but by the time I graduated high school, though I was accepted to Marquette University, I wasn't able to attend because of my immigration status.

Since then, I enrolled at MATC, and have been granted a new visa. And by the end of next year, I will be a full resident, and then I hope to go to Marquette.

Right now, I'm not eligible for any scholarships or financial aid because of my status, but after next year, I hope to go to my dream school, which is Marquette! ●

Another Large Group of MJC/MVLC Volunteers Recognized by State Bar's Pro Bono Honor Society

Another year has come and another group of MJC-affiliated volunteer attorneys has been recognized by the Wisconsin State Bar's Pro Bono Honor Society.

In order to be recognized by the Wisconsin Pro Bono Honor Society, one must have donated at least fifty hours of pro bono legal service in the year. This year's MJC inductees are:

Davis & Kuelthau, S.C.
Peter W. Bruce

Foley & Lardner, LLP
Andrew J. Barragry
Rachel M. Blise

Joseph Campbell
Dayna M. Frenkel
Kate Gehl
Isaac J. Morris
Nancy J. Sennett
Andrew J. Wronski
Nicholas J. Zepnick
Lynette M. Zigman

Guerin Law Office
Eamon C. Guerin

Habush Habush & Rottier
S.C.
Catherine T. Tulley

Hawks Quindel, S.C.
Katherine L. Charlton

Jacobs Injury Law, SC
Ann S. Jacobs

Marquette University Law
School
Angela F. Schultz

Michael Best & Friedrich,
LLP
Benjamin Kaplan
Alexis Lundgren

Quarles & Brady LLP
Nicole J. Druckrey
Michael J. Gonring

Reinhart Boerner Van
Deuren S.C.
James M. Burrows
Kate E. Maternowski

Again, a tremendous debt of gratitude is owed to all these individuals, as well as all other volunteers, who donate their time to the Milwaukee Justice Center's mission of access to justice.

Thank you for a great year, and here's looking forward to another!



Family Law Forms Assistance:

Monday - Wednesday
8:30am - 12:00pm
1:00pm - 4:00pm

Thursday - Friday
8:30am - 12:00pm

Marquette Volunteer Legal Clinic at the MJC Clinic Hours:

Thursday - Friday
Sign in at 1:30pm

Marquette Volunteer Legal Clinic Family Law Advice Clinic Hours:

Monday - Wednesday
Sign in at 1:00pm

MILWAUKEE JUSTICE CENTER
MJC QUARTERLY

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