Volunteer Goes Above and Beyond for Teenaged Brothers

When teenagers Evan’s and Everett’s mother died, their great grandmother, Catie, petitioned to become their legal guardian. Catie worked hard to care for the boys, but struggled with limited income, an old home and Evan’s significant disabilities.

After the court appointed CVLS as guardian ad litem of the boys, volunteer Cherie Getchell recommended that Catie be appointed their guardian. She also began to help Catie, the boys, and their extended family, with other issues to ensure that Evan and Everett were in the best possible home environment.

Cherie helped Catie access low-cost bed bug removal services. She worked closely with the boys’ schools to make sure they were getting appropriate services. Then she arranged for another CVLS volunteer to represent Catie in a housing case involving the family’s home.

Cherie took her role as Minor GAL all the way.

CVLS Turns Panic Into Permanence

Elizabeth took her in her 2-year-old nephew after his parents were murdered before his eyes. By the time he was a teenager, his traumatic background had caught up with him and he became increasingly difficult for Elizabeth to control. Eventually, he was arrested for possession of a weapon and drugs.

Elizabeth found out about the arrests when she was notified by the Chicago Housing Authority that her rental assistance was terminated.

Elizabeth panicked. Her adult son, who has severe epileptic seizures, lives with her and they would have nowhere to go. Luckily, volunteer David Hanna of Brinks Gilson & Lione agreed to represent her through CVLS’ Chancery Court Access to Justice Program. After hearing David’s well-researched arguments, the Chancery Court reversed the CHA’s decision and Elizabeth’s housing benefits were reinstated.

Thanks to David’s excellent work, Elizabeth and her son won’t be out on the street.
Congratulations to volunteer and Junior Board member Michelle Marek Figueiredo on winning an Excellence in Pro Bono Service award from the Federal Court! She and her colleagues secured a $7,000 settlement for their client on an excessive force case. Federal Bar Association National President Hon. Gustavo A. Gelphi recognized Michelle and her nine fellow award winners for “contributions in helping people most in need of assistance.”

Michelle, an Associate at Kaye Scholer LLP, began working with CVLS as a law student in 2007 to gain hands-on experience. She continued as a Public Interest Law Initiative intern to represent CVLS clients, and joined our Junior Board in 2009, recently completing a year as First Chair.

Michelle says the legal knowledge and experience she gained on pro bono cases is essential to her own practice and the legal community in general. “Justice should be available to all, but it is out of reach to many,” she says. “Doing pro bono work, and sharing my knowledge of the legal system, allows me to help others achieve a sense of justice in their lives.”

In light of her award, we asked Michelle why volunteering is important to her. Her response is one of the many reasons why we’re grateful for the work Michelle does on behalf of CVLS and our clients.

“I volunteer with the hope that any of the volunteer work I do improves a person’s or a community’s current situation. Volunteering allows me the opportunity to manage my own cases, get into the court room, and foster different legal skills—all while making a small difference.”

Volunteer Spotlight:
Michelle Marek Figueiredo

Kudos to Veteran Volunteer Rawn Reinhard

CVLS sends a huge shout out to our loyal and very experienced volunteer, Rawn Reinhard, Partner at Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg, LLP, and his team. Rawn focuses his practice on arbitration, general commercial and corporate litigation, and appeals. Among other things, he represents securities brokerage firms and commercial clients in customer complaint litigation and employee departures. He has also represented clients faced with class actions and derivative litigation.

As if that doesn’t keep him busy enough, Rawn, with the assistance of his colleagues, has taken on a whopping FOURTEEN minor GAL cases in the past three years alone - WOW! Many of those cases were complicated or resulted in full trials. CVLS can always call on Rawn to take cases at any moment, and normally when we send him a list of options, his response is “I’ll take all of them!” Rawn has also taken it upon himself to recruit and train others at NGE to work on these cases with him.

Rawn’s experience as a dedicated and highly knowledgeable GAL is much appreciated. An enormous thank you to Rawn and his co-workers at Neal Gerber!

Volunteer Elected to ISBA Board of Governors

CVLS volunteer Anna P. Krolikowska was recently elected to the Illinois State Bar Association’s Board of Governors! Anna, a partner at K & R Family Legal Services, will serve a three-year term on the 27-member Board, which oversees ISBA operations and management.

Anna has been taking cases with CVLS since 2008, including guardianship, child support enforcement and divorce. Thanks for your continued amazing work, Anna!
Did you know that CVLS started in 1964 as a handful of young attorneys meeting low-income clients in church basements and community centers? By 1967, CVLS had already served more than 3,000 clients. Today, we have provided pro bono civil legal services for 400,000+ clients.

To commemorate 50 incredible years of fighting for equal access to justice and show just how far we’ve come in half a century, we created an interactive timeline on our website!

**View the timeline:**
cvls.org/50years/timeline

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**50/50 Volunteer Update: We have a Race Starter!**

A HUGE thank you to Karen Fisher for being the first to join the 50/50 Volunteers at the $500 level, securing a VIP ticket to our 50th Anniversary Gala and a place in CVLS history at the start of our 20th Annual Race Judicata!

Our gratitude goes out to ALL of you who have joined the CVLS 50/50 Volunteers already! You are making our 50th anniversary celebration possible, and increasing access to justice for thousands of low-income Chicagoans.

If you’re not a 50/50 Volunteer yet, there’s still time to show your CVLS pride! Learn more and join the CVLS 50/50 Volunteers at cvls.org/50years/volunteers

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**Get Involved with our Anniversary Gala!**

Help your organization send the message that it is aligned with our industry’s mission of providing justice for low-income Chicagoans!

As a sponsor of our 50th Anniversary Gala, you’ll receive benefits including guest tickets and preferred tables, your company logo on communication materials, inclusion in our Law Bulletin marketing campaign, ad space in our Tribute Book and website listings.

Contact Phil Mohr at philmohr@cvls.org for more on how to participate in the celebration!

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For more information on CVLS’ 50th anniversary, visit:
cvls.org/50years
Board Elections

CVLS recently held Board of Directors and Junior Board elections! Please join us in welcoming our new members, and extending a big thank you to those whose terms are expiring.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Welcome to new members:
Jennifer Foster, Sidley Austin
Charles Kuyk, Crowe Horvath LLP
Heidi Rowe, Schiff Hardin
Joseph Tylutki, McDonalds Corporation
Kim Halvorsen, Clifford Law Offices
Bryan Webster, McDermott Will & Emery

Thank you to our departing members:
Kristi Nelson, Chen Nelson Roberts Inc.
Kevin Fee, Sidley Austin
Latonia Haney Keith, McDermott Will & Emery
David Goldhaber, Sedgwick Detert Moran Arnold

Our newly-elected Board Officers:
Folarin Dosunmu, President
Arnie Gough, Financial Vice President
Sandy Morris, Development Vice President
Kristen Hudson, Client Services Vice President
Brion Doherty, Secretary
Executive Committee:
Adam Goodman, Ed DelHierro, Maria Minor

JUNIOR BOARD
Welcome to:
Rebecca Cavin, K&L Gates
Nora Endzel, Endzel Law, LLC
David Hanna, Brinks Gilson & Lione
Natalie LaPorta, Dentons
Nick Niles, Ropes & Gray

Thank you to:
Shennan Harris, Mayer Brown
Jed Rosenkrantz, Sidley Austin
Daniel Blaney-Koen, AMA
Shelley Merkin, Schiff Hardin
Jenna Willis, Blake, Cassels & Graydon
Kim Halvorsen, Clifford Law Offices
Bryan Webster, McDermott Will & Emery

MCLE's Completion Deadline is June 30!

If your last name begins with the letters from A to M, your CLE hours must be completed by June 30, and compliance reported by July 31.

Fulfill Your CLE Requirements with CVLS! We offer a wide variety of Continuing Legal Education, so if you need more hours to complete your CLE requirements (or even if you don’t!) take a look at our available opportunities.

Upcoming Live CLE Opportunities:
We are pleased to offer presentations on a wide variety of topics, including a new series on foreclosure defense and mediation. CVLS volunteers may attend seminars in person at our downtown offices. Each presentation provides one hour of CLE credit.

Online CLE Opportunities: Can't make it to a live seminar? We record and archive many of the presentations that take place in our offices. You may apply for CLE credit by viewing an online seminar in its entirety. Recent seminars have covered advocating for residents of nursing homes, issues surrounding the increasingly relevant area of Transgender Law, representing children in domestic relations cases, navigating Foreclosure mediations and much more.

For more information about the various CLE opportunities we offer, or if you have questions about how to apply for CLE credit, contact Jessica Engle at jengle@cvls.org
Visit mcleboard.org for more information on CLE requirements, reporting your completed CLE hours and MCLE rules.
Home and Family Memories Saved

Kim was lucky enough to grow up in her grandparents’ home. She’d lived there her entire life, and took over the mortgage when they died. However, financial problems threatened. Although she worked hard at two jobs and took in a renter, it wasn’t enough.

Kim tried to negotiate a loan modification on her own, but although she submitted and resubmitted documents, the lender refused to respond. Finally, she got help when the court placed her in the Circuit Court of Cook County Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program.

John Marshall Law School volunteers Kyle Schlegel and Katie Anderson advocated for Kim over the course of several years, well beyond Kyle’s graduation. Finally, as the attorneys were on the verge of filing a Motion for Sanctions against the lender, Kim was offered a permanent loan modification!

With her hard work, aided by the dedication of her attorneys, Kim saved her family’s home and memories.

Volunteer Honor Roll

In addition to being a father of two and a marathon runner, Daniel Blaney-Koen of the American Medical Association Advocacy Center is a CVLS super-star.

A prized volunteer, not only will Dan take case types he knows, but will also jump in on a completely foreign area of law with both feet and quickly becoming an expert. Dan has handled foreclosure mediations, adult guardianships, foreclosure defense and partitions for CVLS. He’s taken on some CVLS clients that are easy to work with and some that aren’t, but he never gives up. We genuinely appreciate Dan’s dedication and hard work.

Maria Petrone started at CVLS with two cases in 2009 and has kept up that pace for the past 5 years. We call Maria when a case becomes complicated or when a volunteer moves away and we need someone else to jump into the thick of things. Maria is always ready and can seamlessly provide excellent services for our clients. Maria voluntarily dedicated full days of her time to help cover gaps in CVLS attorney staffing.

She goes above and beyond helping her teenage clients on college applications, helping her younger clients ensure they have the services they need to be safe and healthy kids.

It is difficult to imagine the GAL for Minors program without Maria’s instincts, skill and dedication to the children she represents.

RACE JUDICATA 2014
Registration is Now Open!

This year marks the 20th annual Race Judicata, which will take place on September 4, 2014. We are looking forward to making this year the biggest and best ever! The 5K Run/Walk benefits CVLS in our mission to ensure that the law works for everyone.

We will send out paper entry forms shortly, but registration is available online at:

[cvls.org/judicata](http://cvls.org/judicata)
This is a terrific way to enjoy the race and support Race Judicata® 2014. All volunteers receive a volunteer t-shirt and goody bag. There are 4 starting times (4:00, 5:15, 5:45 and 6:30 pm)---although we cannot guarantee specific assignments, we will do our best to accommodate your preference. You will be notified of your assignment when you check in on race day.

**REGISTRATION/PACKET PICKUP**
15 Volunteers Needed
Sign people up for the race, take in money, hand out race numbers, t-shirts & goody bags or distribute electronic timing chips.

**Start:** 4:00 pm  
**End:** 6:45 pm

**GEAR CHECK**
30 Volunteers Needed
The first shift checks-in jackets, bags, laptops, etc and the second shift returns checked items.

**Start:** 4:00/6:30 pm  
**End:** 6:30/8:00 pm

**COURSE MARSHALS**
25 Volunteers Needed
Monitor the course to ensure that people don’t run or walk the wrong way (yes, it happens!).

**Start:** 5:15
**End:** 7:30 pm

**WATER**
40 Volunteers Needed
Hand out water on the course or at the finish line.

**Start:** 5:45 pm  
**End:** 7:30 pm

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**YES! I want to volunteer at Race Judicata® 2014!**

Name: ___________________________  
Address: ___________________________

Daytime Phone: ______________________  
E-mail: ___________________________

Preferred Time (Circle one): 4:00 pm  
5:15 pm  
5:45 pm  
6:30 pm

Return to CVLS by:

Mail: 33 N. Dearborn, Suite 400, Chicago, IL 60602
Fax: 312.332.1460
Email: kharrison@cvls.org

T-shirt Size (Circle one): SM  
MED  
LRG  
X-LRG

**Questions? Please call Kristen Harrison at 312-332-6436 or kharrison@cvls.org**
TEAM TENTS
Race Judicata® 2014

Reserve a team tent today for your company or running team and you’ll have the perfect place to meet, hang out, eat, and socialize while enjoying all the race festivities.

Bypass the packet pick-up upon arrival at the race site on Thursday, September 4th, your tent will be set-up and stocked with all your race necessities—including goody bags, t-shirts and race numbers.

Space is limited. All tent rentals are on a first-come-first-served basis. Tent rental deadline is August 29.

You may fax your form with a credit card number to 312.332.1460. Please make checks payable to CVLS and mail to: Chicago Volunteer Legal Services (CVLS), 33 North Dearborn St., Suite 400, Chicago, Illinois 60602

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**PRICING:**

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**Without Sponsorship**

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In order to better serve you please let us know how many tables and chairs you will need. (Small tent limit: 2 tables and 8 chairs; Large tent limit: 3 tables 12 chairs)

Tables  Chairs

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In addition to tables and chairs, please contact me about the following special requests:

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Credit Card Number | American Express | Mastercard | Visa

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Expiration Date

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Signature

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Date
Upcoming CVLS Events

Wednesday, June 11
GAL for Minors Advisory Board Meeting
CVLS Offices, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

Join us for a presentation by Yara Costa from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology on Postpartum Depression: what it is, how it might affect mothers and guardians in our cases, warning signs, recovery, and resources. Our quarterly advisory board meetings are open to all GAL volunteers and are an informal setting in which to learn about and discuss topics relevant to this area of law. Rebekah and Susan, as well as our advisory board members who work in the area of mental health, are available to discuss your cases and answer any questions you may have.

Thursday, June 19
Foreclosure Seminar: General Loss Mitigation Concepts
by Patricia Nelson, CVLS Director, Chancery Court Access to Justice Program
CVLS Offices, 12:15 PM to 1:15 PM

Foreclosure Defense has changed tremendously over the last couple of years as the government and banks respond to the foreclosure crisis. CVLS is offering a series of lunchtime monthly seminars to keep you up to date!

Patty Nelson will take last month’s introductory overview one step further...into the law and dreaded details of loss mitigation. Vacating a judgment or quashing service are virtually meaningless if you can’t help your client stay in the home. It is impossible to practice foreclosure defense law without understanding the basics of loss mitigation and all the loss mitigation programs available. Patty will walk you through the general concepts of each program step by step and lead you in a financial case analysis. She will cover HAMP Tier I and II, FHA, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac programs.

Please visit www.cvls.org/seminars to register
Upcoming CVLS Events

Thursday, June 26
Training: GAL for Minors
by Rebekah Rashidfarokhi, Director, GAL for Minors Program
CVLS Offices, 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Rebekah Rashidfarokhi will cover the skills required to be a successful GAL for a minor as well as the issues that may come up during the case.

Thursday, July 24
Foreclosure Seminar: Top 3 “Hot” Foreclosure Defense Topics
Enforcing TPP’s; Rule 114 Affidavits; Vacating Foreclosure Sales for Loss Mitigation Violations
by Matthew Hulstein, CVLS Staff Attorney
CVLS Offices, 12:15 PM to 1:15 PM

“Loss mitigation” is a foreclosure defense attorney’s latest and greatest weapon. Access to Justice Staff Attorney Matt Hulstein will explain how to translate a HAMP violation into a defense or counterclaim. He will also present on the new Supreme Court Rule 114 and vacating a foreclosure sale for violating loss mitigation requirements.

NEW SEMINAR AVAILABLE FOR ONLINE VIEWING
Foreclosure Seminar: General Foreclosure Defense Overview
by Patricia Nelson, CVLS Director, Chancery Court Access to Justice Program

Patty provided a brief overview of the foreclosure process and how defense fits in. Whether you’ve practiced in this area or not, this is a beneficial synopsis to get you started or to let you know where you need to concentrate your current practice.

View this seminar online at:
http://cvls.org/seminar/seminar-general-foreclosure-defense-overview

Please visit www.cvls.org/seminars to register
33 North Dearborn Street, Suite 400
Chicago, IL 60602