

The Cancer Legal Resource Center CHRONICLE

June 2010
National, Volume IV



Dear Friend,

The Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC), a national, joint program of the [Disability Rights Legal Center](#) and [Loyola Law School Los Angeles](#), provides **free information and resources** on cancer-related legal issues to patients, survivors, caregivers, health care professionals, and others coping with cancer.

Stay Connected!
Follow us on:



Get Involved!

Join the CLRC Professional Panel! The CLRC is seeking attorneys to join its Professional Panel and help people navigate their cancer-related legal concerns. A volunteer attorney can make the difference!

For more information, [click here](#).

Support the CLRC Today!
[Click here to make an online donation](#).

The CLRC also needs **volunteers!** If you are interested in helping out in the CLRC office or in attending events as a representative of the CLRC, please [click here](#) to

This month, the CLRC Chronicle focuses on our student externs who play a vital role in the life of our organization. As part of our externship program, students receive training in cancer rights law and gain hands-on experience assisting people coping with cancer by answering the calls that come in to our Telephone Assistance Line (**866-THE-CLRC**). Thanks to their efforts, the CLRC is able to assist over 4,000 people with cancer-related legal needs, annually. I invite you to read below to learn about each of the talented individuals on our team this summer.

Best regards,

Joanna L. Fawzy Morales, Esq.
Director, Cancer Legal Resource Center

What's New at the CLRC!

We are thrilled to announce that the [American Bar Association Commission on Mental and Physical Disability Law](#) has selected the [Disability Rights Legal Center](#) to receive the **2010 Paul G. Hearne Award on Disability Rights**. Each year the ABA presents the Paul G. Hearne Award for Disability Rights to an individual who, or organization that, has performed exemplary service in furthering the rights, dignity and access to justice for some 54 million Americans with disabilities. For more information on the Award, visit: <http://new.abanet.org/disability/Pages/Hearne.aspx>

The
**PAUL G.
HEARNE
AWARD**
for Disability Rights

complete a volunteer application.

June & July 2010 Events

For information about these events, contact us at 866-THE-CLRC(866-843-2572) or CLRC@LLS.edu. To see the entire 2010 Events Calendar, [click here](#).

American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting

June 4-8, 2010
McCormick Place
Chicago, IL

[Click here for more information](#)

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society 10th Annual Cancer Survivorship Conference

June 5, 2010
Brookfield Zoo
Brookfield, IL

[Click here for more information](#)

Cancer Support Community Silicon Valley Open House

June 5, 2010
Cancer Support Community
Silicon Valley
Mountain View, CA

[Click here for more information](#)

2010 Cancer Rights Conference

June 18, 2010
Loyola University Chicago
School of Law
Chicago, IL

[Click here for more information](#)

Balancing Cancer & Careers Seminar

July 21, 2010
Sheraton Clayton Plaza Hotel
St. Louis
St. Louis, MO

[Click here for more information](#)

The CLRC is now on Twitter! If you use social media, please follow us on Twitter at the



following handle: **CancerLegalHelp**. Our Twitter feed (<http://twitter.com/CancerLegalHelp>) is a quick and easy way to stay informed about the latest CLRC news and updates on cancer-related legal issues.

Join us for our 2010 CLRC Teleconference & Webinar Series!

CLRC teleconferences and webinars are free and open to cancer patients, survivors, caregivers, and health care professionals, and others coping with cancer. Our "Cancer and the Law" seminar provides an overview of the most pertinent legal issues for people coping with cancer, such as employment, health insurance, and government benefits. [Click here to view the 2010 Teleconference & Webinar Series flyer](#).



The June 18th Chicago Cancer Rights Conference registration packet is now available online! This registration packet includes everything you need to know about the Chicago Cancer Rights Conference, including the conference agenda and educational session descriptions, hotel information, directions, continuing education credits, and the conference registration form. [Click here to download the packet and register today!](#)

2010 Cancer Rights Conference



Chicago: Friday, June 18, 2010
Loyola University Chicago School of Law

Los Angeles: Friday, October 8, 2010
UCLA Ronald Regan Medical Center

Register Online Today!

These **free** Cancer Rights Conferences are geared towards patients, survivors, caregivers, healthcare providers, advocates, employers, and business and community leaders. Attendees will gain valuable knowledge about employment issues, navigating managed care, estate planning, consumer rights, and health, disability, and life insurance options. There will also be special sessions on stress management, the changes in law brought about by the recent healthcare reform legislation, and young adults and cancer.

[information](#)**2010 National Latino
Cancer Summit
July 27-29, 2010**

UCSF Mission Bay
Conference Center
San Francisco, CA

[Click here for more
information](#)

Healthcare professionals will learn how to conduct clinical assessments on cancer-related legal issues and resources for their patients. The CLRC has also applied with the [Oncology Nursing Society](#) and the [National Association of Social Work](#) to provide Continuing Education Units for healthcare providers.

To register online or view the registration packet, visit: www.CancerLegalResourceCenter.org/Conference

The CLRC's 2010 Summer Students

By Dianne Prado, Esq.
Staff Attorney, Cancer Legal Resource Center

The Cancer Legal Resource Center is proud to introduce our 2010 Summer Law Clerks. We have 12 students from throughout the United States, joining our staff to providing legal information and resources, and advocating on behalf of people diagnosed with cancer.



Elleny Christopoulos - Graduated from the University of Wisconsin and is entering her second year at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, California.

Bailey Fox - Entering her third year at Tulane University School of Law in Trenton, New Jersey.

Anne Harris - Graduated from New York University and is entering her second year at Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois.

Brenton Inouye - Entering his second year up in northern California at Santa Clara University School of Law.

Andrea Mangarin - Graduated from UC Santa Barbara and currently entering her second year at the University Southern California School of Law.

Rebecca Kohanbashiri - Graduated from Loyola Marymount University and currently entering her second year at Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles.

Lewis Stevenson - Graduated from Catholic University of America with a Master of Arts and currently entering his second year at the University of Southern California School of Law.

Rebecca Kreiger - Graduated from University of Arizona and currently entering her third year at Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law in Tempe, Arizona.

Jessica Labo - Graduated from the University of Michigan and currently entering her third year at Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles.

Chrysanthy Kyin - Graduated from the University of California Irvine and currently entering her second year at Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles.

Gabriela Tunzi - Graduated from the University of California Los Angeles and currently entering her second year at Santa Clara University School of Law.

Alanna Martin - Graduated from California State University Northridge and currently entering her second year at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles.

For more information on the CLRC's externship program, [please click here](#).

Student Spotlight!



Since joining the CLRC in the Fall of 2009, as an undergraduate intern, Shareen Nizami has demonstrated the vision and determination valued in the disability rights arena.

Shareen recently won the Jessie Alpaugh Senior Prize in Disability Studies while at the University of California at Los Angeles, for her work at the Cancer Legal Resource Center. This award was featured in UCLA's *Daily Bruin* newspaper ([click here to read the full article](#)). Here is a bit of an insight into Shareen's background and motivations:

Where were you born and where did you grow up?

I was born in Woodland Hills, CA and grew up in the San Fernando Valley. After graduating from high school at Chaminade College Preparatory, I attended Los Angeles Pierce College for two years. I then transferred to UCLA where I'm studying political science and disability studies.

What are some of your personal or academic achievements you feel most proud of?

Personally, I'm proud of myself for wholeheartedly committing to public interest projects. I recently started volunteering at the Oxford Institute of Technology, an information technology school that offers rehabilitation services to veterans with various mental, physical, and emotional disabilities. Working with veterans has helped me to perceive widespread ignorance about disabilities, an experience that has further solidified my resolve to pursue disability law.

In the academic realm my proudest achievement is

receiving the Jessie Alpaugh Senior Prize in Disability Studies. This accomplishment is significant for me because, not only does it recognize my passion for disability rights and the proposal for my senior thesis, it represents the confidence that the Department of Disability Studies has in me to create progress in the future in this field.

What made you pick the CLRC for your Disability Studies minor?

I think a major factor in picking the CLRC for my Disability Studies minor was that, at UCLA, I was simultaneously studying Political Science. I focused on how public policies could be tailored for individuals with disabilities in order to increase quality of life, and this made the CLRC the ideal internship site, because I have the opportunity to both interact with individuals with cancer and also contact congressional officials in hopes of making progress in related public policies.

The Disability Studies minor is really interesting in that it is an interdisciplinary field of study, meaning that courses from other subjects may be taken for credit. This has allowed me to view disabilities from different perspectives; I had the opportunity to explore different cultures, medical viewpoints, and literature. Further, my final course for the minor entails completing a senior thesis which I am currently in the process of writing. The CLRC inspired me to focus on researching the effectiveness of the Family and Medical Leave Act.

What are some of your future goals?

I look forward to attending law school this coming Fall and plan to pursue a career in public interest law.

CLRC Alumni – Where are they now?

Each semester students from schools across the country come to work at the CLRC to gain first hand legal experience and work in the field of public interest. Many of our students come from the Los Angeles area, including Loyola Law School, UCLA, USC, Chapman, Pepperdine, Whittier, and Southwestern; however, the CLRC accepts students from across the country and has had students from Tulane, Harvard, Santa Clara, Connecticut, Loyola University Chicago, and many others.



Law clerks and volunteers are the front door to the CLRC, conducting interviews, researching relevant laws and resources, and then providing this important legal information to each caller. In 2009, CLRC law clerks and volunteers assisted over 4,000 individuals through the CLRC's Telephone Assistance Line. These CLRC alumni go on to work at large and boutique law firms, government

agencies, public interest organizations, and open their own law offices. We would like to thank all our former students and volunteers for their dedication to the cancer rights movement. Meet some of our alumni:

Steven Larin, Fall 1999

Mr. Larin was a Loyola Law School CLRC extern and is currently the Director of Legal Services at Nationalities Service Center in Philadelphia, PA. Mr. Larin's commitment to public interest can be seen through his previous work at the CLRC, assisting many callers with difficult legal issues including access to health care and immigration. At the Nationalities Service Center, Mr. Larin and his legal staff provides low-income clients in the community with important legal information, advice and representation on a wide range of immigration issues.

Amy Gu, Fall 2006 and Spring 2007

Ms. Gu was a Loyola Law School CLRC extern for two semesters and is currently an associate at Quintero Family Law Services in Redwood City, CA. During her time at the CLRC, Ms. Gu was exposed to various areas of the law, including employment, housing, health insurance, government benefits, and family law. She found the experience extremely rewarding and remembers receiving a personal thank you card from a CLRC caller thanking her for her kindness, understanding, and the legal information she provided. Ms. Gu currently practices in all areas of family law, including divorce, child custody and visitation, child support, spousal support, domestic violence, and property division.

Tiffany Sirikulvadhana, Fall 2006 and Spring 2007

Ms. Sirikulvadhana was a Loyola Law School CLRC extern for two semesters, and upon graduation, continued on with the CLRC as a Staff Attorney. She supervises the CLRC's Telephone Assistance Line (866-THE-CLRC) where callers can receive information about relevant laws and resources for their particular situation. She has also presented at over 50 seminars around the nation on topics such as employment law, health insurance and care options, government benefits, and estate planning to patients, survivors, caregivers, employers, health care professions, and other individuals in the cancer community.

Kathy Gao, Fall 2007 and Spring 2008

Ms. Gao was a Loyola Law School CLRC extern for two semesters. Ms. Gao enjoyed her time at the CLRC and found it rewarding being able to help members of the community who were trying to navigate the health care, insurance, and legal systems. The CLRC externship prepared her for many of the issues she now deals with on a daily basis. Ms. Gao is now an associate at Gleason & Favarote LLP in Los Angeles, CA; where she regularly sees clients who have been discriminated or treated unfairly at their jobs. Ms. Gao practices in all areas of labor and employment law, including complex wage and hour class action litigation, workplace discrimination,

sexual harassment, wrongful termination, wage claims, and unfair labor practices.

Cancer Rights Law Seminar at Loyola Law School Los Angeles

CLRC Director, Joanna Morales, is also an Adjunct Professor of Law at [Loyola Law School Los Angeles](#). Ms. Morales teaches a seminar course in Cancer Rights Law at Loyola each Fall. This course surveys different areas of the law that commonly impact people coping with cancer, including employment rights and discrimination, insurance, Social Security Disability appeals, estate planning, and genetic discrimination. The course covers relevant laws, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act, Family and Medical Leave Act, state fair employment laws, health, disability, and life insurance statutes, ERISA, Social Security Act, COBRA, HIPAA, Genetic Information and Nondiscrimination Act, health care reform, and pending state and federal legislation. During previous semesters, students have heard from guest speakers practicing in various areas of the law, and have participated in a mock Social Security Disability appeals hearing. For more information about this course and the area of Cancer Rights Law, please contact CLRC@LLS.edu.



Thanks to our Cancer Rights Conferences Title Sponsor:

LIVESTRONG®



About the CLRC

The Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC) is a national, joint program of the [Disability Rights Legal Center](#) and [Loyola Law School Los Angeles](#). The CLRC provides free and confidential information and resources on cancer-related legal issues to cancer survivors, caregivers, healthcare professionals, employers, and others coping with cancer.

A cancer diagnosis can carry with it a variety of legal issues, including insurance coverage, employment discrimination, access to health care, and estate planning. These legal issues can cause people unnecessary worry, confusion, and stress, and can be overwhelming. When these legal issues are not addressed, people may find that although they have gotten through treatment, they have lost their homes, jobs, or insurance.

Since its founding in 1997, the CLRC remains unique,

providing invaluable cancer-related legal information and resources to people nationwide. Throughout its 13-year history, the CLRC has served over 155,000 people through the Telephone Assistance Line (866-THE-CLRC), conferences, seminars, workshops, outreach programs, and other cancer community activities.

CLRC staff members also speak at seminars and conferences throughout the national cancer community, including trainings for healthcare professionals. If you would like CLRC staff to attend your next event, please [click here](#), or contact us at (213) 252-8449 or (866) 843-2572.

Visit www.CancerLegalResourceCenter.org for more information about cancer-related legal issues and services provided by the Cancer Legal Resource Center.

Disability Rights Legal Center

CLRC

Cancer Legal Resource Center

[Click to view this email in a browser](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

[Click here](#) to forward this email to a friend

Disability Rights Legal Center
919 Albany St.
Los Angeles, California 90015

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

