

Law Clerk Project Preference Ranking Sheet

Name of Applicant: _____

Rank your project preferences on a scale of 1 through 5 in the blanks, noting “1” as your first choice and “5” as your last choice.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Description of Projects:

Guardian ad litem Project (GAL)

Children's Law Center is the voice for more than 500 children each year – serving as the lawyer (called a guardian ad litem or GAL) for children who have been physically abused, sexually abused or neglected by their parents. Although there are many people – social workers, bureaucrats and judges – involved in the life of an abused or neglected child, only the GAL is focused exclusively on the child’s well being and safety. A Children's Law Center GAL advocates for a child from the day she is removed from her parent’s home until she is safely and permanently reunited with her birth parents, living permanently with relatives or in new adoptive family. The GAL’s job is to ensure that our child client’s specific, individual needs are recognized and addressed. We advocate for our child clients in and out of court – with judges, social workers, schools and medical professionals.

GAL Special Education Project

Children’s Law Center’s education experts work to secure the services necessary to improve educational outcomes for children involved in DC’s child welfare system as well as children whose disability or developmental delays have an adverse effect on their education and health. CLC attorneys secure special education services and early intervention services, respond to school discipline matters, and maintain children’s school stability and school enrollment.

Family Permanency Project (FPP)

Children's Law Center provides free, high-quality legal assistance to foster parents, grandparents, and other relatives who wish to adopt or obtain guardianship or custody of children trapped in the child welfare system or at risk of entering foster care.

Children's Law Center also represents children in custody cases when their family stability is threatened by domestic violence, allegations of abuse or high conflict between their parents.

Health Access Project (HAP)

Children's Law Center's Health Access Project is a medical/ legal partnership between Children's Law Center and Children's National Medical Center. CLC lawyers work from offices within Children's National Medical Center (CNMC) Children's Health Centers - adding lawyers to the multi-disciplinary team of medical experts who work to solve children's medical problems.

As part of the medical team, CLC staff lawyers win the legal and administrative battles necessary to improve a child's health when pills or surgery are not enough. When rats or mold exacerbate a child's asthma – CLC ensures that her housing conditions are improved. When a school fails to provide a learning disabled child with the special tutoring he needs to learn to read, CLC advocates with the school system.

Policy Team

CLC's policy program draws its strength from the expertise and experience we gain representing more than 1,000 children and caregivers each year in abuse and neglect, adoption, guardianship, custody, special education, health care, housing and public benefits matters. CLC's policy initiatives are closely coordinated with our direct representation of individual clients. We uncover and analyze the systemic barriers facing at-risk children in our community and work to change policies, regulations, laws and funding mechanisms to improve their safety and well-being.