<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Volunteer 1 - OPEN (3 sessions)</th>
<th>Volunteer 2 - Kristine Cruz (3 sessions)</th>
<th>Volunteer 3 - Teresa Garcia (3 sessions)</th>
<th>Volunteer 4 - Paulina Golden (3 sessions)</th>
<th>Volunteer 5 - Sophia Rangel (3 sessions)</th>
<th>Volunteer 6 - OPEN (3 sessions)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>11:30-12:45</td>
<td>What the health? Law as Treatment for COVID-19</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>12:45-1:00</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1:00-2:15</td>
<td>LHIIC Program – What every housing advocate must know about Current State of Tenant and Applicant Rights</td>
<td>Developing a Common Sense Triage System for Online Intake</td>
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<td>Evictions in the Time of COVID: Lessons from the Pandemic</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>4:00-5:00</td>
<td>Public Benefits Task Force Meeting</td>
<td>Employment Law Task Force Meeting (Room 406)</td>
<td>Community Development &amp; Environmental Justice Workgroup Meeting</td>
<td>Juvenile Justice Task Force Meeting</td>
<td>Immigration Task Force Meeting</td>
<td>Housing and Consumer Law Task Force Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>5:30-6:30</td>
<td>Poverty Law Section Quarterly Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Volunteer 7 - Kayla Dailey (2 sessions)</td>
<td>Volunteer 8 - Cassandra Champion (2 sessions)</td>
<td>Volunteer 9 - Ruth Casarez (2 sessions)</td>
<td>Volunteer 10 - Tai Ho (2 sessions)</td>
<td>Volunteer 11 - Kent McKeever (2 sessions)</td>
<td>Volunteer 12 - Meagan McNeil (2 sessions)</td>
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<td>8:30 - 9:45</td>
<td>Update on TRCP 145 and Statements of Inability to Pay Court Costs</td>
<td>Presenters: Pablo Almaguer, Mary Christine Reed</td>
<td>DISCOVERY – UPDATES, HELP, and TRAPS for the unwary</td>
<td>Presenters: Hon. Richard Bell, Hon. Janet Hoppard</td>
<td>Navigating Interstate Custody Orders</td>
<td>Presenters: Bronwyn Blake, Amanda Odor, Becky Walker</td>
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<td>10:00 - 11:15</td>
<td>WTH Happened in the 87th Session? Domestic and Sexual Violence Legislation Update</td>
<td>Presenters: Krista Del Gallo, Kristen Lason</td>
<td>Give Credit Where Credit is Due</td>
<td>Presenters: Dominic Ribaudo, Emily Weiskopf</td>
<td>Social Security Cessations and Overpayments</td>
<td>Presenters: Jeff Larsen, Gloretta Thornton</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:15 - 2:30</td>
<td>Effective Disaster Lawyering is Community Lawyering</td>
<td>Presenters: Stephanie Duke, Sean Jackson</td>
<td>Building a Statewide Collaborative: the Joy and Pain of Sustainable Partnership</td>
<td>Presenters: Jessica Alas, Amanda Horak, Karmel Willis</td>
<td>Representing Survivors of Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence</td>
<td>Presenters: Allison Franklin, Elizabeth A. Henneke, Rochelle Keyhan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2:45 - 4:00</td>
<td>Hot topics in housing related debt due to COVID and Winterstorm Uri</td>
<td>Presenters: Marissa Latta, Nelson Mock, Carla Sanchez-Adams</td>
<td>Developing a Systemic Change: How to Partner with Community Organizations to Build Power</td>
<td>Presenters: Daniel Diaz, Robert Doggett, Joe Rubio</td>
<td>Face/Off: Protecting v Preserving Veteran’s Benefits in Family law cases</td>
<td>Presenters: Rachel Kunath, Rebeka Ridley, Justin Thompson</td>
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**KEYNOTE LUNCH (Salon A, B and C)**
Not My New Normal! A Self-Compassion Solution to Vicarious Trauma, Burnout, and Moral Injury
Presenter: Stephanie Thornton

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**Presenters:**
- Pablo Almaguer, Mary Christine Reed
- Bronwyn Blake, Amanda Odor, Becky Walker
- Jeff Larsen, Gloretta Thornton
- Dominic Ribaudo, Richard Tomlinson
- Jessie Campbell, Toni Hayes Kersay, Charlotte Key
- Allison Franklin, Elizabeth A. Henneke, Rochelle Keyhan
- Rachel Kunath, Rebeka Ridley, Justin Thompson
- Niki Alkhaveisi, Ariel Santillan

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**Room Assignments:**
- Room 400-402
- Room 406
- Salon E
- Room 408
- Room 410
- Room 412

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**Session Schedule**

**Thursday, August 11, 2021**

**Volunteer 7 - Kayla Dailey (2 sessions)**

**Volunteer 8 - Cassandra Champion (2 sessions)**

**Volunteer 9 - Ruth Casarez (2 sessions)**

**Volunteer 10 - Tai Ho (2 sessions)**

**Volunteer 11 - Kent McKeever (2 sessions)**

**Volunteer 12 - Meagan McNeil (2 sessions)**

**MCLE No. 174125640**
## Session Schedule

### Friday

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Volunteering 19 - Oriane Leake (3 sessions)</th>
<th>Volunteering 20 - OPEN (3 sessions)</th>
<th>Volunteering 21 - Martha Beard-Duncan (3 sessions)</th>
<th>Volunteering 22 - Hannah Alexander (3 sessions)</th>
<th>Volunteering 23 - OPEN (3 sessions)</th>
<th>Volunteering 24 - OPEN (3 sessions)</th>
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**Revised 08/11/2021**

Page 3 of 3
Wednesday, September 1
11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

What the health?: Law as Treatment for COVID-19
The COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with demonstrations against police brutality and racial injustice, has highlighted many of the pervasive, structural issues that drive disparities and poor health outcomes. Individually and systemically, correcting these inequities depends on addressing what are frequently called the “social determinants of health”—that is, how the conditions in which we live, grow, work, worship, play, and age affect health and well-being. This session will explore impact legal work—focused on alternatives to litigation—that is key to improving the health of our nation during and after the pandemic, as well as how to navigate the regulatory and ethical barriers to intersectoral, collaborative advocacy.
Presenter(s): Keegan Warren-Clem, Texas Legal Services Center

Developing a Common Sense Triage System for Online Intake
The pandemic produced an avalanche of applications for legal aid, with online applications up 500% between March 2020 and 2021. Our solution was automating the triage of on-line applications. Using guided navigation, we created an automated process that met our goals of speed, flexibility, and ease of use across multiple platforms and languages. Considering facts shared by our applicants, we make resource allocation decisions that help the maximum number of clients with the most critical legal needs. The platform serves self-represented litigants and helps us to identify those applicants that would benefit most from extended representation in disaster, housing and family law cases. This session will teach you how to create your own platform.
Presenter(s): Mary Jo Molandes, Lone Star Legal Aid; Janice Rivera, Lone Star Legal Aid; Nicholas Whitaker, Lone Star Legal Aid

Can You Hear Me? Improving Advocacy Outcomes with Effective Communications
Your Communications Department is a critical advocacy tool. This session will highlight creative communication pathways and techniques using modern technology to enhance advocacy and community outreach and development. It will provide examples from current strategic advocacy on behalf of tenants facing fair housing and eviction issues, domestic violence and sexual assault survivors, and public benefits recipients. These tools support the rapid mobilization of legal response efforts, strengthen strategic advocacy, and improve the ability to reach affected communities. These strategies have changed the landscape of advocacy and modern outreach in ways that will continue to evolve as we return to life in a post-pandemic world.
Presenter(s): Clarissa Ayala, Lone Star Legal Aid; Victoria Smith, Lone Star Legal Aid

Reaching Clients with Mental Illness: Medical-Legal Partnership and Community Outreach
This presentation will include a discussion of the basics of mental health and mental illness. We will cover an overview of the mental health delivery system in Texas and access to care, with a presentation by the assistant general counsel for MHMR of Tarrant County. Attendees will learn about unique service models (including Medical-Legal Partnership and specialized community outreach). Finally, the session will conclude with a discussion about overcoming challenges and common ethical dilemmas.
Presenter(s): Deanna Kratovil, Legal Services at MHMR Of Tarrant County; Caitlin Pevey, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas; Julie Sladek, Medical Legal Partnership, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas

(Sessions for Wednesday, September 1 continued on next page)
**LGBTQIA Advocacy under the Fair Housing Act: How Far Does Bostock’s definition of sex discrimination extend to Title VIII cases?**

HUD has announced that it will begin enforcing the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination against LGBTQIA individuals. This announcement was made following President Biden’s Executive Order 13988 - Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation based on Bostock v. Clayton County, 140 S. Ct. 1731 (2020). This panel will discuss how HUD’s expansion of the Fair Housing Act to LGBTQIA persons provides new protections to this class. We will also discuss HUD’s pre-Bostock Equal Access Rule, its applicability and protections to LGBTQIA persons. We’ll also provide an explanation of how Bostock v. Clayton County expanded the definition of sex discrimination in Title VII (employment discrimination) cases and whether this expanded definition will apply to Title VIII Fair Housing Act cases in federal courts.

**Presenter(s): Kimberly Myles, Lone Star Legal Aid; Martha Orozco, Equitable Development Initiative, Lone Star Legal Aid; Amanda Powell, Fair Housing Unit- Equitable Development Initiative, Lone Star Legal Aid**

**Immigration in 2021: What you need to know for your noncitizen clients under the new administration**

This presentation aims to help the non-immigration lawyer better understand how recent policy and priority changes from the new administration, as well as proposed legislation, may affect their non-citizen client. A non-citizen, housing, family, or consumer client may have immigration concerns that affect their legal case. Also, a client may benefit from referral to an immigration attorney. A better understanding the current state of immigration law and policy helps to do the following: issue spot potential immigration remedies to assist in making referrals, stay abreast of current enforcement (that is, deportation) priorities, and generally have a better understanding of how recent changes to policies may affect noncitizens.

**Presenter(s): Wafa Abdin; Stephanie Cantu, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid; Allison Schmitz, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid**

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**LIHTC Program – What every housing advocate must know about current state of tenant and applicant rights**

This session will provide an update on the legal rights of tenants and applicants in the LIHTC.

**Presenter(s): Fred Fuchs, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid**

**Demand-Side Justice**

This session will examine the civil justice gap through an often-overlooked part of the equation: demand. Although judges, practitioners, and scholars have attempted for more than fifty years to increase the supply of civil legal services available to those in need, demand continues to dramatically outstrip supply. I argue that given the static (or worsening) state of the civil justice gap, and the millions of Americans who do not even seek legal help for problems that otherwise might fall within that gap, legal literacy is paramount. The public health profession uses health literacy to help prevent health problems and temper demand for health services, and in fact, high levels of health literacy lead to fewer emergency room visits and better health outcomes. Health literacy is regularly included in public K-12 education. I contend that the legal profession should try a similar approach for legal literacy. Legal literacy has the potential to prevent justice problems from needing formal legal intervention. It also can empower individuals to take advantage of existing legal protections on their own or make informed decisions regardless of the ultimate outcome. Increased legal literacy might also mean that Americans come to legal aid organizations before problems are too far gone and with more realistic expectations about results and remedies. After decades of chasing after supply-side solutions, it is time to look at demand.

**Presenter(s): Alissa Gomez, University of Houston Law Center**

(Sessions for Wednesday, September 1 continued on next page)
Becoming Unbreakable
Legal professionals are akin to superheroes, often too busy helping others to remember themselves. We live in challenging times. No one is immune to that reality including legal professionals. Add a pandemic, and a few natural disasters to what legal professionals already handle, and it can feel like you’re barely able to stay afloat. Let’s get together and explore ways to a path for holistic health. You can be happy, healthy, and successful even when life is full of stressors. In this session, you will gain practical information from an Army Ranger, turned Social Worker, turned Fitness Professional about how to create a realistic work-life balance that suits your needs and tools to help you maintain peace and equilibrium regardless of the chaos around us.

Presenter(s): Athan Schindler, Self-employed/Texas Army National Guard

Medicaid Waivers: From Beginning to End
An overview of the Medicaid Waiver process from application through appeals, with a particular focus on serving clients with intellectual disabilities and mental health needs. The presentation will start with a basic overview of Medicaid Waiver Programs and Services available in Texas. We will particularly focus on waivers and services for people with intellectual disabilities and mental health disabilities. In particular, we will cover Home and Community-Based Services, the YES waiver, the HCBS-Adult Mental Health Waiver, and Section 811 Housing. We will then walk attendees through the appeal process from intake to decision, including issues to spot along the way. Finally, we will discuss outreach strategies and connecting to communities who can use legal assistance with Medicaid denials.

Presenter(s): Debbie Murphy, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas; Caitlin Pevey, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas

Making the Community Reinvestment Act Work for Low-Income Communities
The Community Reinvestment Act was adopted in 1977 in order to address the effects of redlining and discriminatory credit practices. How can CRA funds be used today to repair and uplift deprived and disadvantaged neighborhoods? LANWT paralegals and attorneys will use examples of their work in Northwest Texas to demonstrate how to introduce CRA to communities with outreach and community education, help them through the process of advocating for themselves and their neighborhoods through legal services, and accomplish their community driven goals.

Presenter(s): Michael Bates, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas; Nancy Jakowitsch, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas

Technology-Driven Solutions for Clean Slate Law
Beacon Law, a program of The Beacon, unveils two clean slate projects that are two years in the making. Funded by Texas Access to Justice Foundation, and in partnership with Texas Legal Services Center, The Beacon has developed an algorithm tool, which determines eligibility for expunction and nondisclosure for individuals with criminal records in Harris County. The tool is utilized through two different applications, one for attorneys and the other for pro se litigants. The panel also includes staff from the Harris County Public Defender’s Office, the first agency to sign on to this project and integrate this tool into their practice. Together, panelists will explore how technology has enhanced their ability to provide legal aid services more efficiently and effectively.

Presenter(s): Selena Mason, The Beacon; Erin Russell, Holistic Services Division, Harris County Public Defender’s Office; Stephanie Truong, The Beacon; Aaron Varner, Self Represented Litigants Group/TexasLawHelp, Texas Legal Services Center

(Session for Wednesday, September 1 continued on next page)
Wednesday, September 1
2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Evictions in the Time of COVID: Lessons from the Pandemic
This will be a moderated panel discussion of the lessons learned about evictions during the COVID pandemic, presented by an attorney from each of the legal aid programs in Texas, Legal Aid of Northwest Texas, Lone Star Legal Aid, and Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid. Topics covered will include remote hearings, emergency orders, court procedure, tenant protections, right to counsel issues, and trends throughout Texas.
*Presenter(s): Stuart Campbell, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas; Dana Karni, Eviction Right to Counsel, Lone Star Legal Aid; Nelson Mock, Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid; Christina Trejo, Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid*

It’s a disaster! How COVID-19 made us all disaster-relief attorneys and how to handle it
The COVID-19 pandemic changed our lives and practices. Our clients often already deal with many forms of trauma, but we should be aware how the pandemic in particular affects our clients, our relationship with them, and our ability to serve them well. Equally important is our experience with disaster and how client trauma may exacerbate our own trauma and impact us as practitioners.
For instance, disaster in Texas is usually regional, but “SNOWVID-21” reminds us that we all can be directly affected. This multidisciplinary session will feature an attorney and social worker presenting on trauma-informed lawyering during a disaster, and ways we can combat the compassion fatigue and second-hand trauma that we experience as practitioners.
*Presenter(s): Amah Aziamoah, People’s Community Clinic; Daphne Mcgee, Texas Legal Services Center*

Updates to Texas ID theft law and federal remedies for ID theft victims
This session will introduce attendees to relief available under Chapter 521 of the Texas Business and Commerce Code, a unique civil statute for helping identity theft victims; the session will also introduce attendees to federal consumer protection statutes that protect ID theft victims (credit cards, debit cards, credit reporting).
*Presenter(s): Paula Pierce, P. Pierce Law, P.C.; Carla Sanchez-Adams, Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid*

Representing Foster Children with Intellectual Disabilities
This presentation will cover the nuts and bolts of ethically and zealously representing children in foster care with intellectual disabilities. Topics will include practical questions such as identification of youth with intellectual disabilities, advocating for appropriate services while in foster care, and special education and behavioral supports. Additionally, this presentation will give a comprehensive look at how to effectively represent teenagers with IDD who are aging out of care, including qualifying for extended foster care, Medicaid waivers such as Home and Community Service (HCS) and SSI benefits, and if and when young adults should be referred for guardianship. We will discuss how to ensure the youth’s wishes are represented and tackle the ethical issues surrounding when an attorney ad litem may substitute their own judgment over the client’s expressed wishes.
*Presenter(s): Kate Black, Disability Rights Texas; Meredith Shytles Parekh, Disability Rights Texas*

Helping LGBTQIA+ Texans Navigate Child Custody and Support Proceedings
This session will address the hurdles that LGBTQIA+ parents and children may face in suits affecting the parent-child relationship. We will discuss current case law and portions of the Texas Family Code that affect these families, as well as best practices to employ when advocating for LGBTQIA+ clients.
*Presenter(s): Amanda Oder, Texas Advocacy Project; Becky Walker, Texas Advocacy Project*

Family Law and Interpersonal Violence when Navigating the Hague Service Convention
Service of Process on a respondent abroad has become an increasingly common issue in Family Law. While the Hague Service Convention governs Service of Process on respondents abroad, actually achieving service under this Convention remains a complicated system to navigate, particularly for survivors of family violence and their advocates. This presentation will lay out best strategies to achieving prompt service when utilizing the Convention on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Family Law, as well as discuss the particularized issues that arise when Family Violence is present.
*Presenter(s): Roya Atashi, Texas Advocacy Project*

(Sessions for Thursday, September 2 continued on next page)
Update on TRCP 145 and Statements of Inability to Pay Court Costs
Texas Rule of Civil Procedure on 145 on Statements on Inability to Pay Court Costs has gone through several revisions, and there is another round of them expected in the summertime. We expect the Texas Supreme Court to include improvements to the Rule based on input provided by legal services attorneys so the PLC comes at a perfect time to let attendees know of those changes. The presentation will also include discussions on how the clerks and courts around the state have responded to changes and some of the challenges we see when filing Rule 145 statements.
Presenter(s): Pablo Almaguer, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid; Mary Christine Reed, Texas Foster Youth Justice Project, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid

IRS to the Rescue: When Disaster Strikes
In general, most people avoid interacting with the IRS. In times of disaster, however, the IRS can be an unexpected savior. This panel will discuss types of relief provided and resources available to Taxpayers under IRS disaster provisions, including extension of time and casualty loss deductions. We will delve into the changes to federal tax law that were enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including Economic Impact Payments /Recovery Rebate Credit (stimulus checks), expanded Child Tax Credit, and the expansion of eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit. We will discuss how these changes seek to reduce poverty as well as their limitations, and how poverty law attorneys can help clients avail themselves of these benefits.
Presenter(s): Polly Bone, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid; Miranda Rhyne, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas

Discovery – UPDATES, HELPS, and TRAPS for the unwary
With the changed discovery rules, attorneys need to ensure the new rules are implemented into their practices. This presentation will provide attendees with an overview of the rule changes, how these changes may affect the way they develop their cases, and traps/tips to implement the new discovery rules for their low-income clients. The presentation will also cover the most cost-effective ways to obtain discovery in cases where resources are limited and provide ideas and a discussion of how our organizations can offer resources to pro se parties to help them navigate these new rules as they pursue their legal cases. The resources accompanying the presentation are intended as a reference guide regarding the new discovery rules.
Presenter(s): Hon. Richard Bell, 387th District Court, Fort Bend County; Hon. Janet Heppard, 387th Judicial Court and UHLC

Navigating Interstate Custody Orders
This session will give an overview of the laws that affect interstate child custody and child support orders. Learn about the jurisdictional issues that affect these cases, and creative ways attorneys can help their clients. The presentation will also address how these laws can be utilized to protect survivors of intimate partner violence who are fleeing their abuser.
Presenter(s): Bronwyn Blake, Texas Advocacy Project; Amanda Oder, Texas Advocacy Project; Becky Walker, Texas Advocacy Project

Creating Jobs in the Neighborhood: A Worker’s Coop for Amarillo
When they began their work of creating a neighborhood plan in 2015, leaders of Amarillo’s North Heights neighborhood identified a lack of good paying jobs as a major obstacle impacting residents. As the private sector had failed to provide jobs, residents decided to create their own. With the help of Legal Aid of Northwest Texas and the University of Texas Law School, leaders founded the North Heights Linen Service, a worker-owned cooperative that serves Amarillo’s growing medical industry. Panelists will discuss what it took to create coop including the legal structure needed to keep workers in control.
Presenter(s): Bowdones Jones Jr., North Heights Linen Service (NHLS); Frances Martinez, University of Texas School of Law; Kemberly McDaniel, Community Revitalization Project, Legal Aid of Northwest Texas; Leticia “Puff” Niegos, Western Valve, Inc. and North Heights Linen Service, LLC.
Name and Gender Marker Change Roundtable
Texas has one of the highest concentrations of transgender individuals in the U.S., with over 100,000 adults and many more minors. Many individuals in this population need to change their names and gender markers legally—to obtain life-saving affirmation of their identity and improve quality of life. Social distancing has complicated this process with limited access to courts and government agencies. Given that these cases are private and sealed, and by design stay at the district court level, traditional avenues for building knowledge and expertise are limited. TLSC MLPs have published an extensive, and soon to be revised guide on the subject, and seek to convene name and gender marker change practitioners across the state to build our collective ability.

Presenter(s): Wesley Hartman, Attorney at Law

WTH Happened in the 87th Session?! Domestic and Sexual Violence Legislation Update
The 87th Legislative Session was among the most strange, thwarted, and harrowing in recent history. This session will provide an overview of the priorities for the Texas Council on Family Violence and the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault going into the Session and what bills relating to domestic and sexual violence passed. We’ll also discuss themes and trends and next steps for advocates of survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Presenter(s): Krista Del Gallo, Texas Council on Family Violence
Kristen Lenou, Texas Association Against Sexual Assault

Lawyering for Systemic Change: How to Partner with Community Organizations to Build Power
Oppressed people in our society face issues beyond what is solvable by a court. However, lawyers are in a unique position to work with communities to use the legal system to create systemic change. This session explains how lawyers can work in partnership with clients to amplify their voices and help them build power. This session is not about “empowering” clients to ask them who to sue for how much, or whether to settle or go to trial. In this session you will hear how to use legal system in partnership with low-income communities to help them form their own organizations and focus their energy to build lasting change.

Presenter(s): Daniel Diaz, LA UNIÓN DEL PUEBLO ENTERO (LUPE);
Robert Doggett, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid;
Joe Rubio, Industrial Areas Foundation

Give Credit Where Credit is Due
While the clients of legal services organizations come from a wide variety of backgrounds, nearly all our clients share one common challenge: financial security. This session will discuss a unique program launched by Legal Aid of Northwest Texas during the pandemic aimed at assisting our clients with their financial struggles: a large scale effort in community education and 1-on-1 counseling for clients in the areas of credit and money management including how to integrate pro bono volunteers into this program.

Presenter(s): Dominic Ribaudo, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas;
Emily Weisskopf, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas

Social Security Cessations and Overpayments
A presentation on why you should handle Social Security cessation and overpayment cases and how to handle them. It will include examples of typical notices issued by SSA and examples of cessation appeals at the reconsideration and ALJ levels as well as discussion of Appeals Council and federal court appeal possibilities. For overpayments, we will give examples of reconsideration and waiver forms and arguments as well as discussion of appeals to an ALJ, the appeals Council and federal courts.

Presenter(s): Jeff Larsen, Lone Star Legal Aid;
Gloreta Thornton, Lone Star Legal Aid
Thursday, September 2 (cont.)
10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

In Plain Sight - Land Use is a Racial Justice Issue
Starting with Baltimore’s racial segregation ordinance in 1910, American cities used zoning and land use policies as a tool to separate neighborhoods of color from white neighborhoods. In addition to segregating people, cities used zoning to concentrate industrial uses in majority Black and Hispanic neighborhoods and keep white neighborhoods largely free from these environmental hazards and nuisances. In this presentation, advocates from Dallas, Fort Worth, Amarillo, and Lubbock will discuss the history of racist zoning decisions in these cities, the state of current law, and how they are working with community clients to start untangling this legacy of discrimination.
Presenter(s): Evelyn Mayo, Paul Quinn College; Adam Pirtle, Legal Aid of Northwest Texas; Caleb Roberts, Gap Strategies; Raisch Tomlanovich, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas

CPS Involvement: Working Outside the TMC [Temporary Managing Conservatorship] Box
This presentation will explain the law and policy behind CPS Investigations, Family Based Safety Services, Orders for Required Participation, and Alternative Response – all potential stages of a CPS case that occur outside of the well-known Temporary Managing Conservatorship (TMC) court case. Even if a child has not been legally removed from a family by CPS, many families may still be “involved with CPS.” Although avoiding legal removal may be best for a family, there are other pitfalls to be aware of within these alternate stages. Discover how to distinguish between the different stages of a CPS case, understand the possible outcomes of a CPS investigation, and learn what a family’s rights are at each stage.
Presenter(s): Summer Benford, Family Helpline, Texas Legal Services Center; Sarah Bryant, Texas Legal Services Center

Thursday, September 2
10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Thursday, September 2 - KEYNOTE LUNCH
11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Not My New Normal! A Self-Compassion Solution to Vicarious Trauma, Burnout, and Moral Injury
Even before COVID-19, work in the legal field has always included challenges that strain personal and professional resources, impacting advocacy and decreasing a person’s sense of well-being. The pandemic has amplified the inequities experienced by low-income and disenfranchised citizens creating new obstacles to legal representation. The past year has exacerbated the latent workplace conditions of vicarious trauma, burnout, and moral injury experienced by those in the legal field. Yet these conditions do not have to become part of our “new normal.” There is a self-compassion solution that can help us flourish and thrive – even after COVID.
Presenter(s): Stephanie Thornton, Criminal Justice Specialist, Public Defender Services (West Virginia)

Thursday, September 2
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Effective Disaster Lawyering is Community Lawyering
This session will focus on building resiliency for communities that are continuously disproportionately impacted by disasters and emergencies and the imperativeness of a whole community, inclusive preparedness approach within an all-hazard emergency planning process. Review of Gulf Coast/Texas timeline of disasters and scientific evidence that disasters/emergencies are here to stay and how emergency management should assess these risks within their communities and collaborate in blue-sky times to prepare. Review of past experiences, lessons learned, best practices and moving forward with a community lawyering approach to sustain disaster legal aid and advocacy.
Presenter(s): Stephanie Duke, Disability Rights Texas; Sean Jackson, Disability Rights Texas

(Sessions for Thursday, September 2 continued on next page)
Double Trouble - Responding to Disasters During a Pandemic
Responding to a disaster is challenging during normal times, but responding to a disaster in the midst of a pandemic proves to be more difficult. The LSLA Disaster Relief Unit will explore the different approaches they took to provide a smooth and rapid response to the various disasters that occurred in 2020-2021. Many tactics that were previously used suddenly became obsolete, requiring the team to think strategically to meet the needs of disaster survivors. Attorneys on this panel will explore best practices in providing direct services, assisting disaster survivors, developing internal continuity of operations plans (COOP), and organizing creative outreach responses. Many of these attorneys have experienced multiple disasters, have adapted to each new challenge, and are ready to share their expertise in the nuanced area of disaster law.
Presenter(s): Amanda Bosley, Disaster Relief Unit, Lone Star Legal Aid; Shrushti Kothari, Lone Star Legal Aid; Meghan Smolensky, Lone Star Legal Aid

Defense Strategies in Debt Collection Suits
This is the first of a two-part session on debt defense. This session will discuss defense strategies in debt collection suits including strategies for analyzing and strategically objecting to creditor evidence, responding to motions for summary judgment, and utilizing counterclaims in debt defense.
Presenter(s): Dominic Ribaudo, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas; Richard Tomlinson, Lone Star Legal Aid

Probate Shouldn’t be the Hunger Games: Common Issues in Probating Low-Income Estates and How to Resolve Them
As poverty law attorneys, we often have clients that had a family member pass with or without the benefit of a Will. Frequently, the family dynamic is also complicated. Clients come to us needing to get title to a house, car, access to bank accounts or a life insurance policy. This session will eature the different types of probate options for both intestate and testate estates, and provide the process and documents needed to accomplish our clients’ goals.
Presenter(s): Jessie Campbell, Lone Star Legal Aid; Toni Hays Kersey, Lone Star Legal Aid; Charlotte Key, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas

Forced out: Government displacement of renters and homeowners
What do you do when the local government that should be preventing homelessness is the one causing it? Affordable housing is becoming less available throughout Texas cities, and yet some government entities are contributing to the problem by displacing vulnerable renters and homeowners through aggressive code enforcement, property acquisition, and other measures. Strong advocacy and creative strategies are necessary to mitigate government displacement and ensure a fair and equitable process for residents facing displacement. This session will cover the types of government displacement to look out for, advocacy strategies, and community-based approaches for helping renters and homeowners remain in their homes or relocate to safe and affordable homes. We will also cover the importance of community outreach when working with displaced communities and the lasting benefits that come from this approach.
Presenter(s): Matt Garcia, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid; Lizbeth Parra Davila, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid; Heather Way, University of Texas School of Law Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic

Representing Unaccompanied Children Policy and Procedure Changes
The session will cover who unaccompanied children are and why they migrate to the United States, as well as provide an introduction to removal proceedings and the humanitarian forms of immigration legal relief. We will also discuss major procedure and policy changes relevant to unaccompanied children in a constantly changing immigration law setting.
Presenter(s): Lauren Leal, Kids in Need of Defense; Monica Myint, Kids in Need of Defense; Nick Stefaniak, Kids in Need of Defense México

(Sessions for Thursday, September 2 continued on next page)
In 2020, the state of Texas, in collaboration with the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles, created a customized clemency application for survivors of human trafficking and domestic violence. The state program allows those seeking clemency to cite their experiences as victims when requesting relief from the Board of Pardons and Paroles. This session is designed to provide pro bono defense counsel and legal practitioners with training on the clemency application process and strategies to assist survivors in mitigating crimes committed as a result of coercion.

**Presenter(s):** Allison Franklin, SAFE Austin; Elizabeth Henneke, Lone Star Justice Alliance; Rochelle Keyhan, Collective Liberty

**Face/Off: Protecting vs. Preserving Veteran's Benefits in family law cases**

Managing attorneys from LSLA’s Military and Veteran Unit and Belton branch office will present point/counterpoint on veteran’s benefits in a family law contest. In addition to family court remedies, we’ll also discuss military chain of command resources.

**Presenter(s):** Rachel Kunath, Lone Star Legal Aid; Reshea Ridley, Military and Veteran Unit, Lone Star Legal Aid; Justin Thompson, Military & Veterans Unit, Lone Star Legal Aid

**Cactus Group: How legal aid programs are working together to help farmworkers across Texas**

Although Texas is divided into three legal aid service areas, migrant farmworkers work the land in all parts of the state moving between service areas throughout growing seasons. Attorneys from both TRLA and LANWT formed the Cactus Group to provide more consistent services to this nomadic population. Presenters will share how the group cooperates on outreach and education, connects farmworkers with critical wraparound legal services from employment-related claims to estate planning needs, and created systems for securely and easily sharing confidential client information between programs while co-counseling on cases.

**Presenter(s):** Cornelia Alvarez, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas; Daniela Dwyer, FARMworker Team, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid; Kay Pechin, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas

( Sessions for Thursday, September 2 continued on next page)
A Seat at the Table – Giving Grandparents a Voice in CPS Litigation
Panelists will discuss standing requirements to intervene in a current CPS case or to initiate a case when CPS does not file a suit such as when CPS places children with a relative caregiver without getting a final order.
Presenter(s): LeeAnne Hill, Attorney at Law; Terri Mendez, Law Office of Terri C. Mendez; Donna Owen, Lone Star Legal Aid

Running on Empty: The True Cost of Repetitive Disasters
This session will focus on the cost of repetitive disaster-financial, economic, and emotion costs to clients and advocates. It will also explore the cycle of disaster and poverty as well as ethical considerations for attorneys and ethical issues regarding client representation in a virtual world. Finally, the session will look at what we have learned addressing natural disasters on top of COVID
Presenter(s): Sapna Aiyer, Lone Star Legal Aid; Amanda Bosley, Disaster Relief Unit, Lone Star Legal Aid

Ethics for Legal Service Practitioners: What You Need to Know
A distinguished panel of experienced legal service practitioners discuss the various legal ethics implications of proving legal services to low-income clients, including collaborating with other professionals, conflicts of interest under newly-adopted TDRPC Rule 6.05, and the duties owed to clients even after placing a case with a pro bono attorney.
Presenter(s): Pablo Almaguer, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid; Ellyn Josef, Vinson & Elkins, LLP; Matt Probus, Wason | Probus; Jonathan Smaby, Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism

Developments in Post-Judgment Collection Defense
This session will cover defenses to post-judgment collection ranging from procedural defenses to garnishment, collateral attacks on the validity of the underlying judgment, assertion of exemptions, and raising due process challenges. This presentation will also discuss recent legislative developments relating to garnishment and particularly turnover, including a Judicial Council-backed bill that would impose new rules for asserting exemptions for both garnishment and turnover. I anticipate that we will provide exemplars of motions to dissolve writs of garnishment, oppositions to applications for turnover, motions to compel return of exempt funds and to terminate receivership, as well as other related pleadings. We see the rapid growth of a cottage industry of turnover receivers in Texas as a horrible developments.
Presenter(s): Dominic Ribaudo, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas; Richard Tomlinson, Lone Star Legal Aid

Sexual Assault Survivors in the Military
Attendees will learn about key differences between Texas state law and federal law as it applies to military survivors of sexual assault. They will also learn the statutory definitions of domestic violence, specifically concerning sexual assault, as well as the prevalence of sexual violence in both the state and military service as a whole. Some topics that will be covered is the reporting process for a military sexual assault survivor, available services for survivors, and legal remedies for military members on active duty status.
Presenter(s): Niki Akhaveissy, Legal Aid of Northwest Texas; Ariel Santillan, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas

How to Integrate Community Lawyering and Pro Bono Work: A Model Impact Project to Protect Neighborhoods from Environmental Hazards Using Deed Restrictions
Join us for a session that not only speaks to the challenges of community lawyer but building partnerships with the private bar to solve systemic issues through pro bono work. The Lone Star Legal Aid Environmental Justice Team will profile the development of their Deed Restriction Project which partners legal aid, private attorneys, and community groups to work on a future-focused solution to protecting low-income residential subdivisions at threat of encroaching environmental hazards and unwanted uses. The team has already protected over 1,000 homes under the program. This session will walk you through the genesis of the project to address environmental injustices specific to Houston, how partnerships were created, highlight the challenges of community lawyering particularly in the time of COVID, and provide strategies for conducting successful community improvement projects.
Presenter(s): Caroline Crow, Environmental Justice Team, Equitable Development Initiative, Lone Star Legal Aid; Amy Dinn, Lone Star Legal Aid; Samantha Salas, Environmental Justice Team, Equitable Development Initiative, Lone Star Legal Aid
The session will cover how to handle a third party debt collector case from start to finish as well as post judgment collection proceedings such as turnover and garnishment. We will also cover consumer bankruptcy as a possible resolution.

*Presenter(s): Newton Tamayo, Lone Star Legal Aid; Jon-Ross Trevino, Lone Star Legal Aid*

**Protecting the Reproductive Rights of Foster Youth**
This presentation will cover foster youth’s right to reproductive healthcare while in care, including sex education, birth control, STI testing and treatment, and all pregnancy options. Pregnancy options include a foster youth’s right to pregnancy care, the right to parent while in care, and the right to seek an abortion through the judicial bypass process. Lastly, we will cover the role attorneys and guardians ad litem should play in supporting a foster youth’s healthcare decisions.

*Presenter(s): Rosann Mariappuram, Jane’s Due Process; Meredith Shytles Parekh, Disability Rights Texas*

**Getting to the Starting Line: Helping Clients Qualify for a Hearing on Pollution Permits**
Panelists will discuss community member participation in the TCEQ administrative process. Specifically, we will address how the TCEQ administrative process works, what actions community members can take as part of the process, and how community members can structure their participation to preserve their rights to challenge TCEQ decisions. It can be difficult for community members (and attorneys) to know what to do when they want to be heard about a proposed project or challenge TCEQ. This discussion will provide guidance and clarity.

*Presenter(s): Maggie Barnes, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid; Tom Gosselin, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid; Kelly Haragan, University of Texas School of Law*
agency determines eligibility for these specific benefits, and an in depth understanding on how each agency handles the review and appeals process for these benefits.  
*Presenter(s): Elizabeth Green, Lone Star Legal Aid; Channing Guidry, Public Benefits Unit, Lone Star Legal Aid  
Celeste Herro, Lone Star Legal Aid*

**Effective and accessible technological tools that aid in disaster recovery and build resiliency**  
Providing legal representation to all disaster survivors is an impossible task due to the enormous amount of need and the shortage of legal aid attorneys. Technology can fill this void by providing effective tools to assist disaster survivors. Tech tools have the ability to help a large number of people by educating the public, providing forms and templates, and guiding them through the resolution of their issues. This panel will discuss the various tech tools that exist in the disaster law realm and how organizations can create their own tools as the need grows. The panel will further discuss best practices in the development of the tools and ensuring an equitable opportunity for everyone to benefit from them, specifically ensuring accessibility.  
*Presenter(s): Stephanie Duke, Disability Rights Texas; Shrushti Kothari, Lone Star Legal Aid; Luigi Bai, Lone Star Legal Aid*

**Stopping Foreclosures with Chapter 13 Bankruptcy**  
Panelists will discuss how a chapter 13 Bankruptcy can help distressed homeowners who are behind on their mortgage payments and are facing a foreclosure and seniors facing foreclosure of their homes with a Reverse Mortgage.  
*Presenter(s): Sapna Aiyer, Lone Star Legal Aid; John Grieger, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas; Victor Hunt, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas*
(Sessions for Friday, September 3 continued on next page)

Friday, September 3 (cont.)
10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

**Understanding Service-Connected Military Benefits**

Unless you regularly deal with VA benefits, the acronyms, forms, and ins/outs make advising clients difficult. Panelists will discuss the different types of service connected benefits (direct, secondary, reopen, increase) and the evidentiary requirements for each and some helpful tips in submitting applications. Attendees will also leave understanding how these differ from non-service connected pension. Aid and attendance, DIC and other benefits will be covered as well.

*Presenter(s):* Sondra Haltom, Lone Star Legal Aid; Solomon Holness, Military Veterans Unit, Lone Star Legal Aid; Dolores Valero, Lone Star Legal Aid

**Maximizing Leverage in Environmental Administrative Proceedings To Secure Community Benefits That Enjoy Broad Support**

A Contested Case Hearing (CCH) before the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) is one opportunity to challenge the legal sufficiency of an environmental permit for any community wishing to push the bounds of environmental protection in the state of Texas. For clients and their lawyers up against regulations and science that often favors the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality’s (TCEQ) industrial “clients”, the lead up to a CCH before SOAH can be fruitful ground to securing technical changes to permits, concessions, and even community benefits, in the face of looming litigation uncertainty. This presentation will explore how an environmental justice (EJ) attorney tries to accomplish his or her goal of securing concessions and community benefits that are beneficial to the client or client group while also taking into account the interests of other EJ minded parties who sometimes represent themselves in administrative proceedings. The presentation will address how clients can build coalitions and consensus with other community leaders, reconcile competing missions, and best positon themselves to speak with a unified voice that maximizes the chances of obtaining relief that has broad support in any one community. The presentation will highlight the EJ attorney’s role in shepherding clients through this process, and how the lessons learned might have broader application not limited to the environmental permitting context. The presentation will also highlight the Environmental Nuisance Reporter (ENR), an app developed by LSLA in conjunction with
**Hearing the Voices of Those Who Hear Voices: The importance of lived experience in advocacy for people with serious mental illness.**

As with other traditionally marginalized groups, the knowledge obtained through lived experience of mental illness' voices are often silenced. This session informs and maximizes our advocacy's effectiveness, and the opportunities we can create to prioritize hiring people with lived experience with mental health struggles.

*Presenter(s):* Rodrigo Cantu, Lone Star Legal Aid; Sal Solis, Environmental Justice Department, Lone Star Legal Aid

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**Improving Access to the Civil Justice System for Crime Victims from Vulnerable Populations**

In this session, a panel consisting of attorneys and advocates will identify the communities that are particularly vulnerable to financial and violent crimes. These groups may include the following:

- Older adults;
- People with disabilities;
- Children; and
- Asian, Black, Hispanic, and Native American/Indigenous communities.

Further, the panel will specify the barriers that these crime victims likely face when seeking relief through the civil justice system. The panel will also discuss steps attorneys and advocates can take to help break down the identified barriers so that these crime victims can obtain their legal objectives.

*Presenter(s):* Brittany Hightower, Lone Star Legal Aid; Brandy Howard; Viri Pulido, Hon. Judge Aurora Martinez Jones, 126th Judicial District Court; Zahra Shakur Jamal, Asian Family Support Services of Austin
All's Fair in Love, War and Taxes
This session serves as a primer on the intersection of tax law and family law. Many clients have tax issues stemming from their separation or divorce. Clients make mistakes that result in tax audits and then have no idea what to do if they are unfamiliar with the variety of legal remedies available. Due to the specialized nature of tax law and family law, law practitioners may not know all the pitfalls that can provide income to clients who are victims of family violence. This session will teach attendees how to apply for Crime Victims’ Compensation, loss of income, and tax deductions to help victims of family violence. Attendees will also learn about financial resources available to clients in protective orders cases. Attendees will also learn about financial resources available to clients in protective orders cases.

Presenter(s): Alecia Best, Lone Star Legal Aid; Presenter(s): Martin Bolt, South Central Pension Rights Project; Presenter(s): Karyna Lopez, Low Income Taxpayer Clinic, Low Income Taxpayer Clinic; Presenter(s): Abby Frank, Texas Legal Services Center; Presenter(s): Kate Hall, Texas Legal Services Center

Person-Centered Planning, Services and Alternatives Before, During and After Guardianship
How do you know when guardianship is appropriate? When should attorneys explore least restrictive options? This session will address three stages of interaction with survivors of sexual violence. Sexual violence knows no boundaries, and your clients, your fellow practitioners, your employers, and your judges may be survivors. This presentation will feature a discussion on the intake for guardianship, and if a guardianship is ineffective, provision of holistic services to survivors of sexual violence. Appropriate, effective, and ongoing services after a guardianship is granted and during a restoration case.

Presenter(s): Stephanie Harlien, Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid; Jessica Robinson, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas; Jessica Robinson, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas; Hannah Cramer, Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid; Ron Seay, Disability Rights Texas; Taft Robinson, Disability Rights Texas; Ron Seay

What Every Poverty Lawyer Should Know About Sexual Violence

Conclusion of the 2021 Poverty Law Conference

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