

NCLC's Ida Coleman Lamberti and Abby Kuzma receive prestigious law awards

Mrs. Ida Coleman Lamberti was presented with the Indiana Bar Foundation's (IBF) Individual Pro Bono Publico Award on October 3 at the Indiana State Bar Association's Annual Meeting. Every year, the IBF recognizes the contributions made toward ensuring that legal services are available to persons who otherwise could not afford them in an effort to promote a more effective delivery of legal services to the public. Ida was shocked when she discovered that she would be receiving the award, but we all know that she is most deserving. Ida began her service with NCLC in January, 2008 as she was preparing to retire from her practice in civil rights law from the offices of Maurer, Rifkin, & Hill. Although she was ready to retire, Ida wanted to continue to utilize her legal expertise to benefit the community and found NCLC to be the right place to do that. In the 10 months she has been with NCLC, Mrs. ColemanLamberti has taken an astounding 481 cases, primarily in the area of immigration law donating more than 912 pro bono hours to NCLC. Her volunteer time has made, and continues to make, a tremendous impact on NCLC's expanding caseload, enabling NCLC to serve vastly more low income families in need of our assistance.

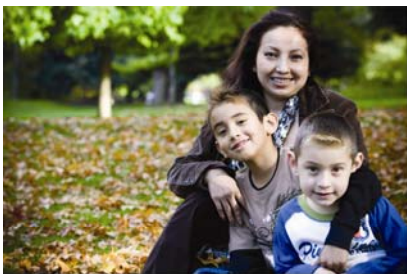
Our Executive Director, Mrs. Abigail (Abby) Lawlis Kuzma, was presented with the Indianapolis Bar Association's (IBA) Antoinette Dakin Leach Award at an IBA luncheon on November, 7. Sponsored by the IBA's Women and the Law Division, this prestigious award recognizes a "female attorney for her professional and personal accomplishments." The award is named in honor of Antoinette Dakin Leach (1859-1922), who gained admittance to the Indiana Bar only after the Indiana Supreme Court overruled a lower court decision which stated that a woman was "not a citizen in the sense that she could hold office and practice law." Ms. Leach went on to a successful career as an attorney and was both a state and national leader in the suffragist movement. John Hoard, a NCLC Board member and partner with Rubin & Levin, P.C., nominated Abby lauding her "uncommon combination of intellectual acuity, spiritual devotion and tireless enthusiasm for the delivery of legal services...She sets the gold standard for legal pro bono service." NCLC's establishment and successful growth is a direct reflection of Abby's admirable characteristics. Together, we look forward to continued progress under her leadership.



Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic

3333 N Meridian Street, Suite 201
Indianapolis, IN 46208

To promote justice through legal
representation and education for our
low income neighbors as a way of
demonstrating Christ's love.



Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic

"Defend the cause of the weak and
fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor
and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked."
Psalm 82:3-4

Justice for All Justice for All Celebration



On the evening of November 6, NCLC and event sponsor, Baker & Daniels, LLP, partnered with community leaders to celebrate NCLC's people, service, and achievements at the new, state-of-the-art Lucas Oil Stadium. Guests of the Justice For All Celebration were treated to an unconventional dining experience with guided tours of the playing field, LCD monitors displaying our sponsors' logos, and seating in a room decorated in blue, white, horseshoes, and Peyton Manning portraits.

We were thankful to have Ms. Betty Carson and Mr. Jack Swarbrick as our guest speakers. Betty, our client speaker, described to the audience her struggles to save her home from foreclosure and how NCLC was able to rescue her home by modifying her adjustable rate mortgage to a fixed rate mortgage, thus cutting her monthly interest rate in half. Betty also expressed her gratitude to Chris De Ford, her certified housing counselor, for his swift action and caring resolve during this time of personal crisis.

Jack Swarbrick, our keynote speaker, shared his experiences, some quite comical, as a dynamic leader and innovator in the sports industry and the community. In addition to hearing his success in using sport as a tool for community development, the audience watched footage from the Indianapolis bid committee's proposal for Indianapolis to serve as the host location for Superbowl XLVI. Overall, Jack delivered a wonderful speech that was particularly fitting for the location.

NCLC was also proud to recognize four outstanding volunteers. Pictured below, standing with our Executive Director, Abby Kuzma (far left) is Kate McKnight, Linda Kelly Hill, Judge David Dreyer, and Ida Coleman Lamberti. NCLC is forever grateful for these individuals' selfless commitment to serve low income families.



Now Give Online!

Look for the eTapestry link on our website. As a 501(c)(3) organization, donations made to the Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic are tax deductible.

Making Your Gift Last

Planned Giving Opportunities Through NCLC

Every year people partner with NCLC through charitable donations that strengthen our mission to provide premium legal services for area low income families. NCLC recognizes the value of these contributions, and we want to make certain that your support is being utilized in the most effective ways possible. Therefore, we are offering planned giving options through NCLC. Planned gifts will provide NCLC with the security and stability we need to ensure the longevity of our mission and vision. We understand that philanthropy is a very personal decision and each gift made to NCLC can be tailored to address both your financial goals and charitable intentions. Please partner with NCLC to accomplish your charitable giving goals in a way that makes sense for you. For more information please contact Abby Kuzma at (317) 429-4143.

Meet Our Clients

In 1979, James Simpson* fathered a child out-of-wedlock. Soon after the child was born, James was court ordered to pay child support. Shortly afterward, James married the mother of his child and together, the two created a family that grew to include additional children. Nearly 30 years later, the Child Support Division of the County Prosecutor's Office notified James of their records indicating a child support arrearage of over \$23,000. Furthermore, the Prosecutor's Office informed him that they will garnish \$240 from his \$700 monthly disability check—his only source of income—to pay for this supposed debt. Coming to NCLC to resolve this issue, James met Josh Abel, our managing attorney who devotes his practice to family law and bankruptcy. Josh discovered that after James married, he mistakenly forgot to notify the paternity court of his married status and request the court to nullify the child support order. Josh then proceeded to file an emergency motion to stop the garnishment and demonstrated to the judge what had occurred with Mr. Simpson. Ultimately, the judge lifted the child support order. Without NCLC and the easy access to competent, dedicated attorneys like Josh Abel, James Simpson would have had his social security check garnished to pay a debt he really didn't owe, ironically depriving his family of needed support.

* Names have been changed to protect client confidentiality.

Right—Abby Kuzma accepts the Diversity In Practice Award— Law Related Not-For-Profit on behalf of NCLC form Greg Morris, (left) IBJ's Media Vice President and Alonzo Weems of Eli Lilly & Co., during the 2008 Diversity In Practice Conference at the Conrad in Indianapolis on October 24. NCLC also won the 2008 Latino Advocacy Award from the Latino Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.



CLE Opportunities

Registration Available On Our Website

- **“Basics in Immigration Law”**
December, 3 & 12 2008 (8:45am—4:45pm)
- **“Bankruptcy & Mortgage Foreclosure”**
December, 5 2008 (8:40am—4:30pm)

United Way approves NCLC's Renovation proposal...

The United Way of Central Indiana awarded NCLC funding for a sizable renovation of our space at 3333 N. Meridian. Additions include a restructuring of office space, additional work space, a new conference room, carpet, and a fresh coat of paint. Construction is planned to start the beginning of 2009.