

## NCLC factoid

NCLC has six staff attorneys and more than 100 volunteer attorneys who have passed the bar and are licensed to practice law in Indiana.

### Neighbors Strengthening the Neighborhood

by Robert A. Boarman, Public relations/Marketing Associate, NCLC

**F**or five months now, the Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic (NCLC) has occupied the second floor of Trinity's Outreach Center at 3333 North Meridian Street. The new space has truly been a blessing for the clinic as it has greatly enhanced our capacity to serve low income families, particularly in terms of room and location. While there, we have continued our commitment to strengthen the welfare of our community by providing free legal representation and education to our low-income neighbors. Through the hard-working efforts of our staff and volunteers, NCLC has responded to the foreclosure crisis afflicting Indianapolis area neighborhoods. We developed the "Helping Hoosier Homeowners" project as an education and assistance tool to save homes threatened by foreclosure. This year alone, we have counseled 459 different foreclosure case clients and anticipate that the numbers will continue to rise.

While NCLC is seeking to address the foreclosure crisis facing our neighborhoods, we are also working hard to serve low income families in other areas. For instance, NCLC continues to assist immigrants in crisis, persons who are victims of human trafficking or have been persecuted and tortured in their countries of origin and are seeking asylum. Furthermore, we represent women facing domestic violence and those seeking to protect their children or grandchildren from abuse and neglect. The legal assistance we provide has kept low income families from homelessness and assisted disabled children and adults to find and obtain critically needed financial support and medical care.

Although we offer charitable services that aid thousands of disadvantaged people, the real hallmark of our clinic is that our motivation to serve is grounded in our faith; our mission is to "promote justice through legal representation and education for our low income neighbors as a way of demonstrating Christ's love." It is this motivation that fuels our passion to "defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the

poor and oppressed; rescue the weak and needy, and deliver them from the hand of the wicked." [Psalm 82:3, 4] Our clients are free to request prayer with a volunteer or staff member.

NCLC needs volunteers in many areas. We rely on volunteers to assist us in providing high quality legal assistance to our low income neighbors. In order to maximize our service to the low income Indianapolis community, we rely on staff attorneys and more than 100 volunteer attorneys and many non-attorney volunteers to assist us each year. Non-attorney volunteers primarily assist with foreign language interpretation and translation; perform reception, filing or other office work; or assist with marketing and desktop publishing.



Many clients are facing terrible loss or significant crises. Some seek prayer about their lives, legal issues and faith. NCLC has a group of volunteers who come to our intake sessions to pray with our clients and pray for the clinic. Our prayer volunteers are passionate about this opportunity and are a vital part of our ministry. We are in need of more prayer volunteers given our multiple intake sites and the volume of clients we serve. These prayer partners help us to fulfill our mission to love our clients and serve.

For more information or if you're interested in volunteering, e-mail NCLC at the following address: [contactus@nclegalclinic.org](mailto:contactus@nclegalclinic.org) or call (317) 429-4131.†