New York City at a Crossroads: The Role of Civil Legal Services in Preserving Diverse Communities

Friday, November 13, 2015
Conference Agenda

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM: Registration and Breakfast

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM: Keynote Address: Honorable Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM: Plenary Panel
Panelists:
- Steven Banks, HRA Commissioner
- Julissa Ferreras, New York City Council Member
- Rory Lancman, New York City Council Member
- Jumaane D. Williams, New York City Council Member

10:45 AM – 12:35 PM: Workshop Session 1

A. Reimagining Rezonings: Organizing and Legal Strategies to Support Equitable Neighborhood Change

B. Children in Removal: Rights and Challenges of Children from Detention to Settlement in New York

C. Best Practices for Breach of Lease Collection Actions

D. Criminal Law for the Civil Practitioner: Understanding and Navigating NYC's Criminal Justice System

E. Organizing and Representing Tenants Groups: HP Proceedings, 7A Cases, Rent Strikes and Harassment Cases

12:45 PM – 1:30 PM: Lunch and Remarks by
Melissa Mark-Viverito, Speaker New York City Council
1:45 PM – 3:35 PM:  Workshop Session 2

A. Housing and Worker Co-ops as Alternatives to Economic Exploitation

B. One Strike and You’re Out…of Your Home? Defending Against the Housing Consequences of Drug-Related Arrests

C. Maximizing Benefits and Protecting the Rights of Low Income and Regulated Tenants of 421-a Buildings

D. Immigrant Workers’ Rights Advocacy: Immigration Relief for Victims of Labor Law Violations

E. Stand for Tenant Safety: Legal Strategies for Protecting Tenant Health and Preventing Displacement

3:45 PM – 5:00 PM:  Workshop Session 3

A. How to Maintain SCRIE/DRIE Benefits and Preserve Diversity Across Generations

B. Ethical Concerns for Busy Public Interest Lawyers

C. Introduction to Employment and Labor Laws Affecting Low Wage and Immigrant Workers

D. Legal Services in the Context of the Black Lives Matter Movement

E. Healthcare Access for Undocumented Immigrants: The World of PRUCOL

5:00 PM – 5:30 PM:  Closing Reception

Registration required and space limited. Please RSVP by October 30, 2015 at:
http://goo.gl/forms/nHCz2MC00U

For more information, please email leapconferencenyc@gmail.com.

With special thanks to Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP for its generous contribution making this conference possible
Leap is a legal advocacy partnership comprised of direct civil legal services providers. We work collaboratively to increase the availability, breadth and depth of quality civil legal services for low-income persons in New York City. Leap’s membership includes established community-based legal services providers and city-wide public interest advocacy groups that receive funding from a variety of public and private sources. Together the 14 groups employ over 400 lawyers, advocates, organizers and other staff members who provide critical assistance benefitting nearly 120,000 low-income individuals every year through innovative legal services delivery models.

**Leap Member Agencies:**

- Brooklyn Defender Service
- Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
- CAMBA Legal Services
- Catholic Migration Services
- Goddard Riverside Community Center, SRO Law Project
- Housing Conservation Coordinators
- Lenox Hill Neighborhood House
- Make the Road New York, Inc.
- MFY Legal Services, Inc.
- New York Lawyers for the Public Interest
- Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation Legal Services
- The Bronx Defenders
- The Door
- Urban Justice Center