The Path of the Unaccompanied Minor  (3/30/15)
Examining Legal and Community Responses to the Humanitarian Crisis

Sponsored by: Villanova University Law School Clinical Program • Villanova University Partnership with Catholic Relief Services • Campus Ministry

Date: Thursday, April 9
Time: 9:15 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (Attend Sessions that Fit Your Schedule)
Location: Law School Room 101, Student Lounge
Event is Free and Open to the Public – ACS and CLE Approved


Part I: Welcome and Introduction - Voices of the Unaccompanied
10 – 10:25 a.m. (Rm. 101)
• Michael Moreland, Esq. Vice Dean and Professor of Law, Villanova University
• Voice of an Unaccompanied Minor: Marcelo Ulin Az

Part II: Push Factors: Influencing Migration Policies?
10:25 - 11:30 a.m. (Rm. 101)
• Juan R. Sheenan, Catholic Relief Services Country Representative for Honduras
• Moderator: Michael Matza, Reporter, The Philadelphia Inquirer

Part III: The U.S. Catholic Church’s Position
11:30 - 11:50 a.m. (Rm. 101)
• Catherine E. Wilson, Ph.D., Interim Chair, Department of Public Administration, Villanova University
• Rev. Fr. Bruce Lewandowski, C.SS.R, Vicar for Multicultural Ministries, Archdiocese of Philadelphia
• Moderator: Michele Pistone, Esq., Director, Clinic for Asylum, Refugee and Emigrant Services (CARES), Villanova University

Lunch: 12:00 - 12:55 p.m. (Rm. 101)
• Film and commentary by Gracie Murphree, Heart of Christ, Honduras

Part IV: Detention: The Ethics of Protecting the Rights of Children
1 - 2:15 p.m. (Rm. 101)
• Bridget Cambria, Esq., Partner, Cambria & Kline, PC, Specializing in Immigration Law
• Carol Anne Donohue, Esq., President, The Greater Reading Immigration Project
• Jacquelyn Kline, Esq., Partner, Cambria & Kline, PC, Specializing in Immigration Law
• Elissa Steglich, Esq., Legal Services Director, Immigrant Rights Program, American Friends Service Committee, Newark, N.J.
• Moderator: Gregory Matthews, J.D. Candidate 2015
Break 2:15 - 2:30 p.m.

Part V: Analyzing the Legal Framework
2:30 - 3:45 p.m. (Rm. 101)
- Justin Mixon, Esq., Immigrant Youth Attorney, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)
- Jennifer Nagda, Esq., Policy Director, Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights
- Sarah Plastino, Esq., Supervising Attorney, Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), Newark Office
- Moderators: Alanna Kearney, J.D. Candidate 2015, Christine Marcozzi, J.D. Candidate 2015

Part VI: Integration, Community Challenges, What You Can Do
4:00 - 5:15 p.m. (Rm. 101)
- Julia Gill, Esq., Catholic Charities, RCC Diocese of Wilmington
- Cathi Tillman, Executive Director, La Puerta Abierta (The Open Door)
- Voices of Unaccompanied Minors: Marcelo Ulin Az
- Moderator: Beth Lyon, Esq., Professor of Law, Farmworker Legal Aid Clinic (FLAC), Villanova University
- Closing Remarks: Michele Pistone, Esq., Director, Clinic for Asylum, Refugee and Emigrant Services (CARES), Villanova University

Reception: 5:15 – 6:00 p.m. (Commons)

Agency Outreach and Resource Tables:
- Puerto Abierta
- Aquinas Center
- Centro San Jose/Centro de Apoyo
- CRS Student Ambassadors
- New Sanctuary – Sending Resources
ABOUT THE SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS

Bridget Cambria, Esq., Partner, Cambria & Kline, PC, Specializing in Immigration Law
Bridget Cambria, Esq. is a Partner in the law offices of Cambria & Kline, P.C., specializing in immigration law. Known for providing attentive and dedicated advocacy for people dealing with immigration issues, Bridget has a proven ability to successfully represent individuals with family related immigration matters, removal defense, asylum related issues, claims under the VAWA, issues concerning immigration detention, applications for post-conviction relief and other complex areas of immigration law.

From 2011 to 2014, Bridget Cambria served as the managing attorney for the immigration department of Greg Prosmushkin, P.C. where she developed relationships with the culturally diverse Philadelphia community and managed a robust and busy immigration practice spanning all areas of immigration law. From 2007 through 2011, Attorney Cambria worked exclusively on immigration matters in the Law Office of George A. Pliakas, Esq. in Providence, Rhode Island, a law firm with over 40 years of specialization and success dealing with immigration matters. There she gained trust within immigrant communities and became dedicated to the plight of people struggling to keep their family together or those who wish to live, work or study in the United States.

Notably, Bridget was successful in setting an essential precedent in 2013. In the case of Matter of Zeleniak, 26 I&N Dec. 158 (BIA 2013), Bridget successfully argued that in the absence of DOMA, immigration law could not, and did not, prevent the legal right of same sex couples to petition for their spouses and to have same sex marriages legally recognized under Immigration laws. Attorney Cambria has experience advocating for clients before many Immigration Courts throughout the United States including Philadelphia, Newark, Baltimore, New York, Hartford, and Boston.

Carol Anne Donohue, Esq., Immigration Attorney, President of the Greater Reading immigration Project, or GRIP
Carol Ann graduated from Temple Law in 2010 and was the first recipient of the Sandra Mazer Moss Award. She is a solo practitioner specializing in family immigration and currently is the President of The Greater Reading Immigration Project (GRIP) and the Chair of the Berks County Bar Association Immigration Law Committee. Representing and advocating for families detained at the Berks Family Residential Center has been her main focus since September.

Julia Gill, Esq., Catholic Charities, RCC Diocese of Wilmington
Julia M. Gill has a wide range of immigration law experience from removal defense, family and employment immigration to outreach and coordination with community legal service providers. She has a dual B.S. degree in psychology and African American studies from Florida State University and a J.D. from Villanova University School of Law. After completing law school, she worked at a private immigration law firm in Wilmington, DE. While at the firm, she represented clients on a variety of immigration matters included but not limited to: SIJS, Asylum, Waivers of Inadmissibility, Cancellation of Removal, family based petitions, Adjustment of Status (I-485), DACA, Naturalizations, employment based petitions (H1-B), VOWA, and student visas.

Following her work in private practice, in 2014, she began her career at Catholic Charities, Inc., Diocese of Wilmington where she has dedicated her practice to representing the most vulnerable members of our society. Recently, her work has focused on representing unaccompanied minors and refugee individuals/families that are living in Delaware and Northern Maryland. She works closely with Delaware Volunteer Legal Services to ensure that every unaccompanied minor seeking representation in both the Family Court and Immigration Court is able to secure pro bono representation. Julia is proficient in both Spanish and Polish.
Jacquelyn Kline, Esq., Partner, Cambria & Kline, PC, Specializing in Immigration Law

Jacquelyn Kline, Esq. is a Partner at Cambria & Kline, P.C. Attorney Kline specializes in immigration law and prides herself on her individualized representation of clients. Jackie Kline gives each of her clients her personal attention and care. She is dedicated to actively pursuing every avenue of relief available to her clients. Attorney Kline has zealously represented clients before the Philadelphia, Newark, New York, Baltimore, Chicago, and Atlanta Immigration Courts.

Mrs. Kline has years of experience handling all types of immigration-related cases. She also has focused on special areas within immigration practice. Prior to opening Cambria & Kline, P.C., Attorney Kline handled numerous U-nonimmigrant visas cases for victims of crimes in the United States and applications for victims of domestic abuse. She has also focused her work on appeals before the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) and before the Federal Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, as well as state appellate courts. Mrs. Kline has been involved in handling post-conviction relief act (PCRA) cases for clients facing immigration deportation based on criminal convictions.

Prior to opening her own law firm, Attorney Kline worked for several law firms, including a prominent Philadelphia Immigration firm. Mrs. Kline worked as a Drexel University Public Interest Law Fellow at the Nationalities Service Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Attorney Kline also received a fellowship to work on Immigration issues for the Christian Legal Clinics of Philadelphia (CLCP). She continues to volunteer with the CLCP in an immigration attorney capacity.


Since 2011, Father Bruce Lewandowski has overseen the Office for Hispanic Catholics whose primary goal is to make sure the estimated 200,000 Hispanic Catholics of Philadelphia know that the church is there for them through immigration services, child care services and other family services. With such a high Hispanic population, Lewandowski believes there should be a Hispanic bishop in Philadelphia in addition to more Hispanics in leadership the archdiocese. “The hierarchical structure of the church needs to reflect the people of the church,” Lewandowski said. “It’s important and crucial to see Hispanic Catholics take positions and responsibilities to lead the church into the future.” Lewandowski learned Spanish while at the seminary where he was required to learn to read the mass and a homily in Spanish in order to be ordained. He took this requirement very seriously and even went back to the Dominican Republic three more times to take more classes. He has been involved in Hispanic ministry for 20 years.

http://hispaniccatholicoffice.org/

Beth Lyon, Esq., Professor of Law, Director, Farmworker Legal Aid Clinic, Villanova University

Before joining the faculty of Villanova Law School in 2001, Professor Lyon was a staff attorney with Human Rights First in Washington, DC, and a Practitioner-in-Residence at the Washington College of Law, American University. In addition to directing the Farmworker Clinic, Professor Lyon co-directs the Villanova University Community Interpreter Internship Program. She is a specialist in migration law and Chair of the Civil and Equal Rights Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/law/academics/faculty/Facultyprofiles/BethLyon.html

Michael Matza, Philadelphia Inquirer Staff Writer

Michael Matza spent six years in Jerusalem as the Middle East Bureau Chief of the Philadelphia Inquirer. He wrote extensively about the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as the run-up to the Iraq war. He returned to Philadelphia as the paper’s staff writer on immigration. His work in Haiti after the 2010 earthquake included a vivid portrait of a 32-year-old woman whose arm had to be amputated, and follow-ups to her story. From Honduras in 2014 he wrote about San Pedro Sula, the city with the world’s highest homicide rate, and a countryside orphanage with a strong connection to greater Philadelphia. As the paper’s New England Bureau Chief he covered the murders of abortion clinic workers in Boston, the Oklahoma City bombing and the crash of TWA flight 800. He is a two-time finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service.
Justin Mixon, Esq., Immigrant Youth Attorney, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)
Justin provides direct legal representation, Know Your Rights trainings, and legal screenings/referrals to unaccompanied children in the custody of the Office of Refugee Resettlement. He was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Guatemala from 1995 to 1998. He has represented immigrant workers and other families in need at the Virginia Justice Center and the Legal Aid Bureau of Maryland. Before coming to HIAS PA, he represented clients in Landlord Tenant, Family, Employment, and Immigration cases. Justin was also an elementary school teacher in the Philadelphia School District for 3 years. He graduated cum laude from the University of Minnesota Law School in 2002.
http://hiaspa.org/services/legal-services

Michael P. Moreland, Esq., Vice Dean and Professor of Law, Villanova University School of Law
As Vice Dean, Dean Moreland oversees academic affairs, admissions and financial aid, career strategy, administration (including communications, human resources, and facilities management), and faculty research.
https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/law/academics/faculty/Facultyprofiles/MichaelPMoreland.html

Gracie Murphree, President of the USA Board of Directors of Heart of Christ: El Corazon de Cristo
Gracie is working with the new child welfare system in Honduras (DINAF), to better assist the government - at their request - in the care of children in Honduras. She graduated from University of North Alabama with a General Studies Degree in 2003 focusing on English, communications, business management and justice studies. She served as a specialized foster care provider for the state of Massachusetts for eight years, advocated before Congress to change laws regarding foster care, ministered to victims of violence, worked as a bookkeeper and worked in media (television, newspapers, magazines, and Internet) as an editor and writer. She is founder of Heart of Christ Ministries in Honduras where she has been living and serving since 2005. She created the first-ever victims program for Honduras and works with national and international authorities to bring rescue and aid to victims of violence. She has also been to Romania and Moldova on missions and to Guatemala several times.

Jennifer Nagda, Esq., Policy Director for the Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights
Before joining the Young Center, Ms. Nagda was an attorney at the Midwest Regional Office of MALDEF, and litigated for immigration, education and employment discrimination cases. Ms. Nagda also clerked for the Honorable James B. Zagel of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Prior to law school, she was the Associate Director of what is now the CityBridge Foundation in Washington DC, a non-traditional foundation supporting innovative programs in the District of Columbia and around the world. Ms. Nagda is an honors graduate of the University of Chicago Law School and graduated magna cum laude from Duke University.
http://theyoungcenter.org/

Michele R. Pistone, Esq., Professor of Law, Villanova University School of Law
Founding Director, Clinical Program (1999-2008)
Founding Director, Clinic for Asylum, Refugee and Emigrant Services (CARES) (1999-present)
Directed development and expansion of in-house Clinical Program. Founded and direct CARES clinic to represent asylum seekers in immigration and administrative proceedings.
https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/law/academics/faculty/Facultyprofiles/MicheleRPistone.html
Sarah Plastino, Esq., Supervising Attorney for Pro Bono Programs at Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), Sarah manages and oversees the provision of in-house and pro bono legal representation to unaccompanied children throughout KIND’s network of major law firms and corporate partners in New Jersey. Prior to joining KIND, Sarah was a staff attorney in the LGBT Immigrant Rights Initiative of the National Immigrant Justice Center in Chicago, IL, where she represented detained and non-detained LGBT immigrants before the immigration court, the asylum office, the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Courts of Appeal. Sarah received her J.D. and Certificate in Refugee and Humanitarian Emergencies from Georgetown University Law Center in 2012. During law school, Sarah interned at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the U.S. Department of State Office of the Legal Adviser. She was also a summer associate at Allen & Overy LLP. Prior to law school, Sarah was a legal assistant at the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project, in Florence, AZ, where she provided free legal services to detained immigrants appearing pro se in removal proceedings at Eloy Detention Center. Sarah received her B.A. in Public Policy Analysis and International Studies from the University of North Carolina. She is admitted to practice law in New York. Sarah is originally from Philadelphia and resides in Brooklyn.

Juan R. Sheenan, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Country Representative for Honduras
Mr. Sheenan is responsible for all of CRS’ activities in Honduras, including overseeing relations with government and Catholic Church organizations and implementing a wide array of development projects with an annual budget of about $10 million. Mr. Sheenan has been working with at-risk youth and placing them in vocational training programs as a way to address the high levels of violence in the country.

Since joining CRS in 2001, Mr. Sheenan has served in a variety of posts in Africa. He began his career in Zambia as a fellow responsible for the design and implementation of the HIV and AIDS portfolio for Zambia’s Western Province. Most recently Mr. Sheenan served as CRS’ Country Representative for Angola for nearly 4 years. As CRS/Angola was in the middle of transitioning from emergency relief programming to development, Mr. Sheenan led a team that emphasized local participation in identifying community needs, finding solutions and realizing positive change as the most appropriate avenue for community self-sufficiency and sustainable development.

Before coming to CRS, Mr. Sheenan worked briefly in Mozambique with the United Nations Development Program as an HIV/AIDS Representative to establish an HIV and AIDS curriculum in every district of the Caprivi region. Mr. Sheenan worked in finance—as an investment manager for Bankers Trust of New York and Chase Manhattan Bank—in New York before starting his international career.

Mr. Sheenan holds a B.S. in Mathematics from Caldwell College and a Master’s degree in International Policy Studies from the Monterey Institute of International Studies. He is fluent in both Spanish and Portuguese.

Elissa Steglich, Esq. Managing attorney at the American Friends Service Committee's Immigrant Rights Program in Newark, New Jersey
In addition to supervising legal staff, Ms. Steglich provides direct representation to asylum seekers, immigrant children, and immigrant victims of violence and human trafficking. She has provided training to pro bono attorneys, state court judges, child welfare workers, and administrators of legal protections available to immigrant children. Ms. Steglich taught Immigration Law as an adjunct professor at Rutgers School of Law in Newark, NJ in 2010 and 2011. She was the managing attorney at the National Immigrant Justice Center in Chicago, Illinois from 2002-2006, and Trafficking Project Officer at DePaul College of Law, where she conducted extensive field research on trafficking in Latin America and the Caribbean. Ms. Steglich received a BA in English from Haverford College and a JD (with honors) from the University of Texas School of Law.

http://afsc.org/key-issues
Cathi Tillman, Founder and Executive Director of La Puerta Abierta (The Open door)
Ms. Tillman is a licensed Social Worker and Approved Supervisor in Marriage and Family Therapy and has served as adjunct faculty and clinical supervisor for Social Work and Family Therapy graduate programs in the tri-state area for over 20 years. In more recent years, through her role as the Clinical Director of a community-based family therapy clinic, developed and facilitated a trauma recovery series for incarcerated women in the county prison system over a five year period. She is the founder and Executive Director of La Puerta Abierta/The Open Door, where they provide hands-on training and supervision for bilingual university interns and volunteers through community-based sites serving Latino immigrant youth and families with language and legal barriers to service. Their objective is to build the capacity of clinically competent bilingual mental health providers who are willing to address the unmet needs of these individuals and families who are suffering in the shadows of our service delivery sectors, while shifting the paradigms of treatment and care for these vulnerable populations.
http://icfamwell.org/content/our-mission

Juan Marcelo Ulin Az
Born in Sancristobal Totonicapan, Paraje Chitap, Guatemala, Juan Marcelo immigrated on his own to the U.S., at the age of 16, speaking only the language of K’che. After leaving a complicated and difficult family life, he has worked hard in his new community of Philadelphia, facing many challenges but always staying focused and hopeful in his efforts. “Marcelo” is a strong, smart and creative young man who has channeled his energy into his school work, and was selected for the honor society by his teachers in his current school. He has been co-presenting in different community forums through his work with La Puerta Abierta, helping to educate the public about the lives and dreams of unaccompanied minors in the U.S. He is proud to say that he will be graduating this June- the first of his whole family to have finished high school. Marcelo has developed strong skills in graphic arts and hopes to pursue the arts while working with other youth after he graduates.

Catherine E. Wilson, PhD. Associate Professor, Interim Chair Department of Public Administration, Villanova University
Dr. Wilson is a leading authority on immigration and immigration politics, currently some of the most contentious issues in American life. Her depth of knowledge of Latino culture, religion and politics, combined with expertise in non-profit management, gives Dr. Wilson an especially acute appreciation of the magnitude of the challenges faced by this population and the societal services and solutions that might improve their plight.
http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/media/facultyexperts/asexperts/catherine_wilson.html