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Newsroom: PBC: Immigration Help for Juveniles

Roger Williams University School of Law

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Newsroom

PBC: Immigration Help for Juveniles

RWU Law's Pro Bono Collaborative coordinates alumni, students and staff to help undocumented juveniles obtain special immigrant juvenile status.

From PROVIDENCE BUSINESS NEWS: "Pro bono help for juveniles" by Patricia Daddona, PBN Staff

Writer



March 10, 2014: Sleeping on the roof of a train packed with refugees, then getting imprisoned in warehouses and having to beg for food when they do get free, children seeking to cross the border into the U.S. are constantly at risk, says Providence attorney **Hans Bremer [RWU Law '08]**.

But while traveling unaccompanied as a child or teen to the United States is dangerous, living here once they've arrived without documentation for permanent residency also has its challenges – something Bremer would like to help remedy through his own pro bono work and the free help to be provided by attorneys he trains.

Bremer, a Roger Williams University law school graduate who specializes in immigration law at Bremer Law & Associates, spent an afternoon training **four graduates of his alma mater** in late February on how to help juveniles in such a position to get special immigrant juvenile status.

"Every kid has a slightly different journey, but it's harrowing for all of them," Bremer said. [...]

In a discrete project, **staff at the Pro Bono Collaborative arranged for the training Bremer offered four colleagues and fellow alumni** as part of a pilot program in order to help this vulnerable population.

Eliza Vorenberg is director of pro bono and community partnerships at the Feinstein Center for Pro Bono & Experiential Education for the RWU School of Law in Bristol.

“It’s addressing a pretty desperate unmet legal need and giving graduates from our law school an opportunity to become competent in this area,” said Vorenberg. “We absolutely hope those four attorneys will at the end ... be ready to take their own case.”

Adds **Suzanne Harrington-Steppen, associate director of pro bono programs at the center:** “We know the need is great because these cases are almost exclusively pro bono. There are very few attorneys in the state who even know how to do it, let alone would do it for free.” [...]

For full story, click [here](http://www.pbn.com/Pro-bono-help-for-juveniles,95580). [http://www.pbn.com/Pro-bono-help-for-juveniles,95580]