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Alternative Spring Break 2016 Report

Roger Williams University School of Law

Association for Public Interest Law

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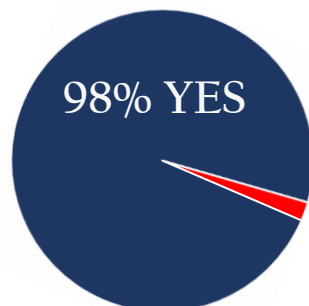
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ASB 2016 Projects

Project Name	Placement	Area of Law
AIDS Law Project of Pennsylvania	Philadelphia, PA	Public Interest
Bronx Defenders	Bronx, NY	Public Defender
Brooklyn Defender Services	Brooklyn, NY	Public Defender
Catholic Social Services ILEAP	Fall River, MA	Immigration
Chesapeake Legal Alliance	Annapolis, MD	Environmental
City of Central Falls Law Department	Central Falls, RI	General Law
Conservation Law Foundation	Providence RI	Environmental
CPCS Fall River	Fall River, MA	Public Defender
CPCS New Bedford	New Bedford, MA	Public Defender
CT Veterans Legal Center	West Haven, CT	Veterans Advocacy
Island Institute	Rockland, ME	Environmental
Legal Aid Society Juvenile Rights Practice	Brooklyn & Manhattan, NY	Children's Rights
Pittsburgh Federal Public Defender	Pittsburgh, PA	Public Defender
Police Misconduct Project	Providence RI	Community Advocacy
RI Center for Justice	Providence, RI	Public Interest
Women in Prison Project	Providence, RI	Family Law Education

Would you
recommend ASB
to other students?



About the Association for Public Interest Law

We are the Association for Public Interest Law (APIL) at Roger Williams University School of Law. Our organization works closely with the Feinstein Center for Pro Bono & Experiential Education to further public interest law. We are a non-partisan, student-run organization that supports students' public interest career goals by:

- Increasing awareness of public interest career options and issues important to the legal profession by hosting public interest events and speakers;
- Planning Alternative Spring Break trips for students to work with community-based organizations to gain hands-on pro bono legal experience;
- Encouraging students to attend the Equal Justice Works conference in October and the NYU job fair in February.

Thank You!

RWU Law Student Bar Association, Dean Yelnosky,
The Feinstein Center Staff,
Joanne Fernandez & Sue Principe
ASB would not be possible without you!

APIL@g.rwu.edu
www.facebook.com/rwuapil
<http://law.rwu.edu/public-interest-law>



Roger Williams University School of Law Alternative Spring Break 2016 Report





Introduction

Alternative Spring Break was started in 2005 by the Association for Public Interest Law (APIL) at Roger Williams University School of Law in the wake of Hurricane Katrina as a way for students to assist those recovering from devastation.

Since then, ASB has grown into a large and successful program matching students to local and national pro bono legal service projects during spring break. The program focuses on areas of the law where clients often lack adequate representation and works to secure projects that give students the most rewarding experience possible. The 2016 program was one of the largest and most successful in history with 63 participants working on 17 different projects in 7 different states.

We respectfully submit this report which details the projects and experiences of this year's participants. We are deeply appreciative of the efforts of the entire Roger Williams University School of Law community, including the Student Bar Association, in making this year's program a success.

2015-2016 ASB Student Coordinators

Trevor Bernard
&
Brittani Mulholland

What this year's participants said about the experience...



"My ASB Experience has shown me that being a lawyer will give me power to effect social change."

"This was an excellent experience in that it allowed me to network, see and begin to develop practical lawyering skills, and to further refine the skills law school has taught me."

"... I had a great experience and felt like I really helped the community!"



"Overall this week, I saw how public interest law makes a huge impact on low-income people and minorities. This week has affected me in many ways; the largest of which being how quickly I realized I truly love this kind of work!"



"...I was originally skeptical that I would enjoy [it], but it became one of the best experiences of my law school career."

"I am certainly leaving this internship feeling like I have a better understanding of our immigration system, the legal process behind it, and the struggles of the people who go through it both legally and illegally."



"My ASB placement was eye-opening and amazing...it allowed me to see what different areas of law are truly like."

"What I did not expect at all, but got, was emotionally challenged by this experience....I saw just how difficult people's lives are outside of my small world, and another lens of understanding was added to my worldview."

"Internships, externships, and pro bono experiences like this are where we learn what it is really like to be a lawyer. Interacting with clients, non-lawyer employees, and experienced lawyers is where the real learning happens."



"I am thankful to have experienced personal growth this week and gained insight into the systemic problems facing society today."

"Overall it was a great experience and I would certainly recommend it to someone else."

