



**DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
INSTITUTE**

Northeastern University School of Law

The Domestic Violence Institute Seeks
Volunteers for
2015-2016
Legal Assistance to Victims Project

The Domestic Violence Institute (DVI) at the Northeastern University School of Law is seeking student volunteers to provide advocacy services to victims of domestic and sexual violence in our community.

The Legal Assistance to Victims (LAV) Project represents a new initiative; in collaboration with Casa Myrna to bring legal assistance to those places victims first seek help, with a special focus on outreach to community assistance programs and faith-based communities.

Through participation in the DVI/LAV project, student volunteers will have the opportunity to:

- *provide interviewing, advocacy and referrals to those seeking services,
- *present brief workshops in the community at LAV project partner sites, on various topics important to helping individuals impacted by domestic and sexual violence, and
- *learn about the local resources available to help someone break the cycle of violence and poverty

Student volunteers engaged in the DVI/LAV project will develop skills in individual, client-centered interviewing, legal and non-legal issue spotting, identifying and summarizing key facts orally and in writing, presenting information about substantive areas of law, and working collaboratively within a multidisciplinary framework. Student volunteers will become knowledgeable about how to connect people to local resources, including legal services.

Volunteer Advocate Commitment:

Beginning in October 2015, Advocates will work in the field approximately twice a month, attend a weekly, one-hour LAV team meeting with the supervising attorney, and be provided opportunities for regular individual supervision, with a total time commitment to the Project of approximately twelve hours a month. Weekly, one-hour LAV team meetings will be used both to debrief about the Project's current activities as well as learn about substantive issues important to domestic and sexual violence advocacy work. *The Project will not run during reading period, exams or school breaks.*

**In addition, volunteer advocates will be required to attend approximately eighteen hours of preliminary intensive training during the month of September, including the DVI's 2015 Fall Domestic Violence Awareness Training, September 11th, 3:30-8:30 p.m., (dinner provided).

**Applications for participation can be obtained at northeastern.edu/law/dvi
and are due to the DVI by September 15, 2015.**

No experience necessary, 1Ls strongly encouraged to apply!

For more information, please contact Jennifer Howard, Supervising Attorney at the Domestic Violence Institute at j.howard@neu.edu or 617.373.8249.