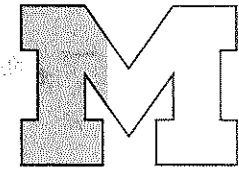


CLIENTS SERVED

- ◆ Allied Media Project
- ◆ Alternatives for Girls
- ◆ Brightmoor Alliance
- ◆ Brush Park Development Corp.
- ◆ Central United Methodist Church of Detroit
 - ◆ Centro Obrero
- ◆ Chene Community Providence Alliance
 - ◆ Coming Kingdom Ministries, Inc.
 - ◆ Community Housing Alternatives
 - ◆ Community Services CDC
 - ◆ Congress of Communities
 - ◆ Core City Neighborhoods
 - ◆ Creekside CDC
 - ◆ Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance
- ◆ Detroit Eastside Community Collaborative
- ◆ Ebenezer AME Church Nonprofit Housing
 - ◆ Eight Mile Boulevard Association
 - ◆ Emmanuel Community House, Inc.
 - ◆ Focus:HOPE
 - ◆ Gilead House, Inc.
- ◆ Grandmont Rosedale Development Corp.
 - ◆ Gratiot McDougall United CDC
 - ◆ Greater Corktown Development Corp.
 - ◆ Habitat for Humanity Detroit
- ◆ LaMar Lemmons East Side Community Center
- ◆ Michigan Unemployment Advocacy Project
 - ◆ NorthStar CDC
- ◆ Northwest Detroit Neighborhood Development
 - ◆ People United As One
 - ◆ Public Art Workz
- ◆ Restaurant Opportunities Center (ROC)
- ◆ St. Ignatius Nonprofit Housing Corp.
- ◆ Southwest Non-Profit Housing Corp.
 - ◆ U-SNAP-BAC, Inc.
- ◆ University Preparatory Academy
- ◆ Ypsilanti Association of Women's Clubs

Urban Communities Clinic
University of Michigan Law School
3031 W. Grand Blvd., Suite 670
Detroit, MI 48202

Urban Communities Clinic



Michigan Law
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL

◆ **Legal Resources for Community-
Based Organizations and
Small Businesses** ◆

WHO WE ARE

The Urban Communities Clinic was founded in 1991 to give community-based organizations the legal resources necessary to help improve their neighborhoods. The Clinic provides transactional legal services for groups engaged in neighborhood-based community development and to small businesses. Law students work in the Clinic under the supervision of supervising attorneys and professors. The Clinic seeks to create social change by helping organizations translate their vision into reality and contribute to the economic vitality of the region.



GRATIOT WOODS HOMES—HOUSING PROJECT FOR DETROIT CATHOLIC PASTORAL ALLIANCE

WHO WE HELP

Community-based organizations and small businesses and groups working in southeastern Michigan qualify for assistance. Most of the Clinic's services are free of charge.

WHAT WE PROVIDE

The Clinic operates as an informal advocate in a variety of settings and offers community organizations and small businesses a range of legal resources including: drafting and analyzing contracts and leases; advising and assisting in the formation of subsidiaries; assisting with government regulation such as zoning and licensing; drafting Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws; requesting tax exempt status, including income and real estate; assisting in the formation of joint ventures; providing legal support necessary for the purchase, sale and renovation of buildings and land; and policy analysis and development.



**NORTHWEST DETROIT NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT CORP.
BENTLER II ON PLANVIEW**

WHO TO CONTACT

Alicia Alvarez, Director/Clinical Professor of Law
Dana Thompson, Clinical Asst. Professor of Law

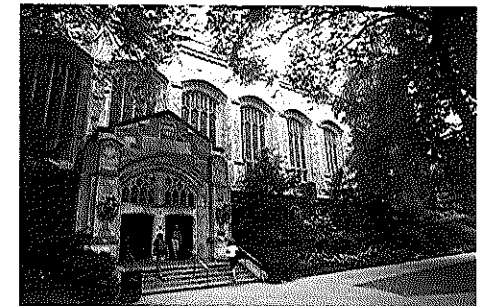
To request assistance, contact Brenda Parks,
Clinic Administrator at
(734) 615-8735 or via email to
<blparks@umich.edu>.

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Michigan Conference on Affordable Housing, Rebuilding Michigan Together

Legal Resources for Community-Based Organizations to Help Improve Their Neighborhoods, April 26, 2010

Moderator: Sue Peters, Michigan LISC

**Panelists: Alicia Alvarez, Urban Communities Clinic, University of Michigan Law School
Leor Barak, Community Legal Resources**

Legal Resources Available to Non-Profits:

Community Legal Resources

University of Michigan Law School, Urban Communities Clinic

Wayne State University Small Business and Non-Profit Corporations Clinic

The Clinic represents both for-profit and non-profit clients who cannot afford to pay for legal services offered by attorneys in the private bar. The Clinic will assist businesses within the city of Detroit and in the Detroit metropolitan area. Among the services the clinic offers are entity formation, contract review and preparation, review and drafting of commercial real estate documents, preparation of trademark and copyright applications, and preparation of tax exempt applications.

Michigan State University Law School Small Business and Nonprofit Law Clinic

The Clinic provides start-up services for for-profits and nonprofits including counseling on entity formation; drafting the appropriate organizing documents for the business entity; applying for tax exemptions for nonprofits; understanding business licensing issues; reviewing leases and other contracts; counseling on business plans; counseling on compliance with federal, state, and local law and rules and regulations. The Clinic also provides legal check-up services for existing entities including counseling on compliance with federal, state, and local law and rules and regulations; counseling on business plans; counseling on organizational structure/operation; reviewing legal documents currently in use by the organization; referral to accounting, legal, or business experts as needed; analyzing the potential for liability given the nature of the business activity; tax considerations; insurance needs; employment needs, compensation, and benefits.

Other resources available to non-profits:

Michigan NonProfit Association

Michigan Nonprofit Association increases the capacity of Michigan's nonprofits to serve, strengthen and transform communities. Membership provides many benefits and cost-savings programs including health, vision and dental insurance; retirement planning; payroll services; risk management policy assistance; workers compensation insurance; unemployment insurance; director and officer liability and employment practices liability insurance; credit card processing; telecom audit; managed care service.

Detroit Executive Service Corps (DESC)

DESC is an organization of working and retired executives and professionals who provide management counseling to nonprofit organizations in the metropolitan Detroit area. It conducts an organization assessment in these areas: board function; financial management; fund development; human resource management; information systems; internal communications; public relations/marketing; strategic communications; and volunteer management.

Nonprofit Enterprises at Work (NEW)

NEW helps nonprofits succeed by providing resources, technology, and services that meet the challenges of doing more with less. NEW offers four high-impact services: office and meeting space; information technology and media services designed for nonprofits; training and matching for boards; information about nonprofit management issues.

New Detroit (The Coalition)

The Coalition focuses community capacity building; economic equity; education; race relations and cultural collaboration and youth development.

The BEST Project

BEST (Building Excellence, Sustainability and Trust) is a comprehensive, capacity building program in Flint and Genesee County whose mission is to strengthen the nonprofit sector by providing capacity building support and technical assistance. The BEST Project is an initiative of the Flint Funders Collaborative (FFC). FFC members include the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, the Ruth Mott Foundation and the United Way of Genesee County. BEST brings together regional funders, consultants, technical assistance providers, and nonprofit agencies to achieve a more viable, sustainable and effective nonprofit community.

Nonprofit Alliance

Nonprofit Alliance (NPA) is dedicated to strengthening and supporting the nonprofit sector of Calhoun, Barry and Branch Counties. It provides: board governance workshops to train potential and current board members on roles and responsibilities of board service; funding resources; technical assistance; organizational assessment, board self-assessment, CEO performance reviews and technology assessments; help in making connections with organizations with like missions and facilitate potential organizational partners; connections to qualified consultants to assist in capacity building needs; assistance in identifying grant opportunities; assistance with completing the steps to forming a nonprofit organization in Michigan; assistance in building the capacity of local organizations to engage in the work of social justice.

Johnson Center for Philanthropy (Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids)

The Johnson Center for Philanthropy is a university-based academic center serving nonprofits, foundations, and others that seek to transform their communities for the common good, and is adapting constantly to changing conditions. It provides serves to enhance the impact of foundations nationally and nonprofit organizations regionally, improve the quality of community decision-making in West Michigan, and develop the habit of civic engagement among students and faculty at Grand Valley State University. It provides capacity building and technical assistance to organizations (coaching opportunities in the areas of strategic planning, fundraising discussion, social media help, board development, or volunteer management discussions); connecting organizations with services and tools especially in the areas of fund development, volunteer development, social media and technology, and board development; and program evaluation involving an in-depth appraisal of organization's programs in order to identify existing strengths and weaknesses, as well as analyzing undiscovered potential giving nonprofit foundations and community organizations a step back, to look inward, and assess their productivity.

Great Lakes Center for Youth Development (GLCYD)

GLCYD works with nonprofits throughout the region. It assists nonprofit organizations nonprofit management, marketing and communications, volunteer management, board development, strategic planning, evaluation, fund development and sustainability. It offers workshops and training; technical assistance/consulting; survey development; and foundation prospect research.

Northsky Nonprofit Network

NorthSky Nonprofit Network is comprised of a diverse team of nonprofit experts with experience in a broad array of nonprofit capacity building and business practice. The team services nonprofits through four primary business lines: free business development counseling in a ten-county region with certified Small Business & Technology Development Center (SBTDC) counselors specializing in the nonprofit sector; consulting; professional development training programs and online resources providing free tools and templates, materials from the professional development series, a regional planning calendar, advocacy notices and a weekly update.

An area of growing specialty within NorthSky is its work with organizations in strategic restructuring and diversification of revenue sources. Its various service lines help nonprofits continue to build their capacity in whatever stage of their life cycle or particular situation.

ONE Place at the Kalamazoo Public Library

ONE Place provides capacity building for nonprofits to help strengthen the performance of infrastructure to better fulfill the organization's mission. It also provides technical assistance, working with staff specialized in nonprofit management and leadership who will assess an organization's current functioning and recommend improvements to the infrastructure.

Power of We Consortium

A unique, sustainable model for capacity building and community improvement is transforming Michigan's Capital Area. It works to build and sustain a neighborhood-based system of community centers and community development initiatives that support grassroots change; democratize access to community data and social services information by developing innovative Web-based tools and a 2-1-1 call center; develop data and discharge systems that were replicated statewide to improve support for the homeless; and build internal capacity of community and faith-based organizations to increase effective service provision.