Celebrating 45 Years of Justice
This year marks the 45th anniversary of the Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Equal Justice.
support our efforts to protect and promote racial and social justice across Chicago. Whether its volunteering at the polls to support our Election Protection efforts, teaching a democracy class to high school seniors during the inaugural Chicago Democracy Week, providing pro bono representation to a family unfairly denied housing, or helping an individual hoping to return to the workforce apply for expungement -- the Chicago Lawyers' Committee offers numerous opportunities to get involved.

**CLC Hosts MLK Day Open House**

On Thursday, January 16th, CLC staff and nearly 50 community partners gathered at its downtown offices to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. King and the important work of the Chicago Lawyers' Committee in its modern day fight for justice and opportunity. Thank you to all those that stopped by and for your many contributions to our work and civil rights in Chicago!

**Project News**

**Save the Date**

**Chicago Lawyers' Committee's 45th Annual Meeting**

**When:** Thursday, July 31, 11:30am-1:30pm

**Where:** Palmer House Hilton (17 East Monroe Street)

On Thursday, July 31st, the Chicago Lawyers' Committee will host its 45th Annual Meeting, attracting the City’s top attorneys and civic leaders in recognizing the work of CLC and its partners, discussing the region’s most pressing civil rights issues, and raising much-needed funds for the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee’s evolving civil rights and community development agenda.

*Help commemorate CLC's 45th Anniversary by sponsoring this year's...*
This month, the Educational Equity Project launched a crowdfunding campaign to support Educational Equity Fellow Candace Moore and her work to increase access to education for Chicago students. Fifteen percent of Chicago’s youth, roughly 42,000, are considered dropouts. The Educational Equity Project aims to reduce this number by linking students to free legal counsel and support in the re-enrollment process. Interested in volunteering with the Educational Equity Project and supporting its ongoing efforts to increase access to education in Chicago? Contact Candace Moore at CMoore@clccrul.org

Fair Housing Project Hosts "Hate Thy Neighbor" Event
On Tuesday, December 10th, volunteer attorneys and fair housing advocates gathered at Capital One 360 Café for a

CLC Welcomes Sarah Hess
Chicago Lawyers’ Committee is thrilled to welcome Skadden Fellow Sarah Hess to its class of 2014 Fellows. Hess, who graduates from the John Marshall Law School this spring, will be working with the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee to promote child and community wellness during her two-year public interest fellowship. Her fellowship will include leading a medical-legal partnership with Erie Family Health Center. Hess will offer free legal advice to families in areas such as housing, public benefits, Medicaid and domestic violence. Hess, who will officially begin her fellowship this summer, is one of 28 graduating law students and judicial clerks that make up this year’s class of Skadden Fellows.
discussion on segregation, violence and Chicago led by "Hate Thy Neighbor" author Jeannine Bell. Thanks to everyone that came out for this wonderful and engaging event. Stay tuned for more events and trainings throughout the year. With a growing docket of cases, The Fair Housing Project has an urgent need for volunteer attorneys. Interested in getting involved? Contact Fair Housing Project Director Betsy Shuman-Moore at BShuman-Moore@clccrul.org.

**Voting Rights Project** Gears up for Chicago Democracy Week

Chicago Democracy Week is just two weeks away! On Monday, February 3rd, Chicago Lawyers' Committee will join together with Mikva Challenge, the Constitutional Rights Foundation of Chicago, Chicago Public Schools, and the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners to offer a week of civic education and voter registration efforts.

On January 21, more than twenty young attorneys from across Chicago gathered at Mayer Brown to hear presentations from Chicago Lawyers' Committee staff on volunteer opportunities and CLC's Young Professionals' Advisory Council (YPAC). Stay tuned for more details on upcoming YPAC events and networking opportunities. Interested in joining YPAC? Contact YPAC President Laura Kleinman at lkleinman@robinsoncurley.com.
Class" to seniors at CPS high schools across Chicago, providing a fun way for students to both learn about voting, and become registered to vote in 2014. Interested in volunteering to teach a Democracy Class? Contact Ruth Greenwood at RGreenwood@clccrul.org. In addition to its civic outreach efforts, the Voting Rights Project is gearing up for another round of Election Protection efforts, and is actively recruiting poll monitors for the March 2014 primary. Click here to sign-up to be a 2014 volunteer poll watcher.

**Initiative for Northwest Indiana Staff Attorney Renee Hatcher Joins Rally for Jobs**

On November 24th, INWIN Staff Attorney, Renee Hatcher joined more than 150 supporters of the Northwest Indiana Interfaith Federation Job Coalition to urge board members of the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority to sign on to a community benefit agreement that would provide for training and preferential hiring for citizens living in disparaged zip codes in Northwest Indiana, including those in Gary, Hammond, East
continues to provide direct legal services to NW Indiana small businesses, nonprofits and individuals. Since its inception, INWIN has served 52 small business owners, 28 nonprofits and 74 individuals seeking expungement. Are you an Indiana licensed attorney interested in getting involved? Contact Renee Hatcher at RHatcher@clccrul.org.

**CLC in the Community**
**Works to Transform Neighborhoods**

The Chicago Lawyers’ Committee is building a coalition to re-invest in and transform neighborhoods of concentrated disadvantage across Chicago. In his recent *editorial* in the Tribune’s Plan for Chicago series, CLC Executive Director Jay Readey calls for a reimagining of the Hull House for the 21st Century where people working for racial and economic justice live in communities of concentrated disadvantage to augment community assets and leaders through their own human
partnerships to call for a renewed War on Poverty, working closely with youth leadership fellowships, neighborhood organizations, and public figures, including Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. (see here at a recent press conference). Leveraging the combined strength of The Law Project and the Fair Housing Project, CLC seeks to build community in neighborhoods with long reported discrimination and inequality and address the root of these civil rights issues. The goal is to build consensus and action to treat the modern problems of discrimination as problems of inequality in our neighborhoods that need a neighborhood-based response. Want to get involved? CLC is seeking energetic and motivated 20-24 year-olds from low-income backgrounds to join the fight for neighborhood equality. Contact DRace@clccrul.org for more information.