

# Appleseed This Week

eNewsletter - July 30, 2009



A nonprofit network of 16 public interest justice centers in the U.S. and Mexico, Appleseed is dedicated to building a society in which opportunities are genuine, access to justice is universal and equal, and government advances the public interest.

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## Centers Enjoy Influx of New Legal Talent

### *A Dozen Fellows, Attorneys Join Appleseed Network*

Thanks to the generosity of prominent law firms, Appleseed is deploying a number of new legal fellows in its pursuit of social justice and opportunity. To date, Appleseed Centers have added 12 new attorneys - many of them temporarily deferred - who will apply their expertise to a range of projects nationwide.

In April, *The New York Times* reported that the economic downturn has prompted many firms to offer reduced-pay sabbaticals, and attorneys are using this opportunity to pursue philanthropic interests. Indeed, Appleseed is reaping the rewards of this trend, having increased its overall staff by about 15 percent.

Centers in Chicago and Texas have secured two fellows each. Chris Stanton, from Winston & Strawn, will join Chicago Appleseed's Judicial Election Reform program, focusing on the Judicial Performance Commission pilot. Meanwhile, Catie Ballard, from Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom, will work on the Center's Criminal Justice Reform project, drafting proposed legislation on the expungement of records and managing an examination of Cook County misdemeanor courts.

Also from Skadden is Danielle Simmons, an Austin, TX native who is working on foster care reform and other projects for Texas Appleseed. And thanks to Dewey & LeBoeuf, Gabriella McDonald will join the Texas Center in October as the firm's Community Service Fellow.

Representing some of the nation's top law schools and firms, these young lawyers will help protect the rights of the vulnerable and voiceless, gaining valuable legal experience in the process. Other attorneys joining Appleseed include:

**member of two combined giving campaigns: United Way of the National Capital Area (UWNCA) and the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC).**

**Both campaigns kick off in September.**

**Please make a note of the Appleseed designation codes below.**

**UNWCA: 9639  
CFC: 10758**

Christine Ely, National Appleseed  
Project: Education  
Firm: WilmerHale

Erin Herlihy, New York Appleseed  
Projects: Capacity-Building and Development  
Firm: Morrison & Foerster

Kate Lindahl, Louisiana Appleseed  
Projects: Financial Access Outreach Coordinator  
Firm: Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom

Puja Vadodaria, Georgia Appleseed  
Projects: Heir Property; JUSTGeorgia; Public Education

Susan Wilker, Massachusetts Appleseed  
Project: Keeping Kids in Class  
Firm: Ropes & Gray

Evan Winerman, DC Appleseed  
Firm: Hogan & Hartson

Appleseed thanks these law firms for their generous contribution of young legal talent and looks forward to a productive year with this impressive team!