

## What is the Zubrow Fellowship?

The Zubrow Fellowship is the only post-graduate fellowship that provides an opportunity to engage in a wide variety of advocacy efforts on behalf of children in the delinquency and dependency systems.

Zubrow Fellows are involved in training, legislative efforts, litigation, policy work and direct representation on issues ranging from the rights of dependent youth aging out of the foster care system to the needs of juveniles reentering the community from delinquent placements.

The Zubrow Fellows are exposed to all aspects of Juvenile Law Center's work, which includes responding to opportunities that arise through cases, crises and collaborations.

In his parents' memory, JLC Board member, Barry Zubrow and his wife Jan established the Sol and Helen Zubrow Fellowship in Children's Law. Sol Zubrow was an integral part of JLC from its inception, and his wife, Helen, was an avid supporter of JLC until her death in 1996. Sol helped establish JLC in 1975, and he was a JLC board member until his death in 1993.

The Zubrow Fellowship has been training young lawyers since 2001.



Founded in 1975 as a non-profit legal service, Juvenile Law Center is one of the oldest public interest law firms for children in the United States. JLC uses the law to reform the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. We seek to ensure that youth are not harmed by the systems that are supposed to help them, that they are treated fairly and in developmentally appropriate ways, and that they have access to services such as health care, mental health services, education, and housing.

Through legal advocacy, research, publications, public education and training, Juvenile Law Center works to ensure that the child welfare, juvenile justice and other public systems provide vulnerable children with the protection and services they need to become happy, healthy and productive adults.

**Juvenile Law Center**  
The Philadelphia Building  
1315 Walnut Street  
4th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
215.625.0551  
215.625.2808 fax  
[www.JLC.org](http://www.JLC.org)

A large, stylized green letter 'Z' that serves as a background for the text "Sol and Helen Zubrow".

Sol and Helen  
Zubrow  
Fellowship  
in Children's  
Law



## Zubrow Fellows have...

### Written *amicus* briefs to state and federal courts

- ◆ Submitted research and writing for the successful effort to abolish the juvenile death penalty in the case *Roper v. Simmons*
- ◆ Contributed to the successful effort to have a 17 year-old youth's sentence to life without the possibility of parole evaluated under the constitution

### Contributed research and writing for litigation

- ◆ Challenged the Pennsylvania School Code that excluded delinquent youth from enrollment in regular schools operated by the school district

### Conducted legal trainings and presentations to professionals

- ◆ Trained on the rights of youth to consent to their own health care and their right to confidentiality of their records
- ◆ Presented the legal rights of youth in foster care

### Monitored and analyzed legislation

- ◆ Drafted model legislation to extend federal benefits previously only available to homeless youth to all youth in out of home care
- ◆ Testified to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Children and Youth Committee

### Represented children in dependency court

- ◆ Advocated for a 15-year old boy with special education needs in a dependency matter
- ◆ Represented a 16-year old pregnant teen with severe mental health needs

My time at JLC taught me that advocacy is not simply about fighting for a child's rights within a delinquency or dependency system, but is integrally intertwined with the child's needs as a developing person. Being an effective advocate means not only understanding juvenile law - it means understanding behavioral health rights, consent and confidentiality law, the structure of Medicaid and the inner workings of education systems.



Vincent P. Herman-Williams  
Staff Attorney, Children's Law Center  
Washington., D.C.

## Zubrow Fellows in Children's Law

2002-04	Suzanne Meiners-Levy New York University School of Law
2003-05	Nina W. Chernoff Georgetown University Law School
2004-06	Vincent P. Herman-Williams Boston College Law School
2005-07	Riya Saha Shah Loyola University Chicago School of Law
2006-08	Neha Desai Berkeley Boalt Hall School of Law
2007-09	Sherry E. Orbach Columbia Law School



The Zubrow fellowship at JLC was a wonderful way to begin my legal career. Not only did I become familiar with some substantive areas of the law, I also had a chance to discover the types of advocacy in which I was most interested and what balance of litigation and policy work was most appealing to me. I am now a Staff Attorney in the Special Litigation Division of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. It is an exciting place to work and I am grateful for the ways that JLC helped to prepare me for this job.

Nina W. Chernoff  
Staff Attorney, Public Defender Service  
Washington, D.C.

## How do I become a Zubrow Fellow?

*Applicants who are in their final year of a graduate degree program in law, or who are judicial law clerks, may apply.*

**Q. How long is the Zubrow fellowship?** This is a two-year fellowship beginning in September of each year.

**Q. As a Zubrow Fellow applicant, do I need to propose a project?** No, the Zubrow Fellowship is not a project-based fellowship. Fellows work on a wide variety of projects.

**Q. On what criteria will Zubrow Fellow applicants be evaluated?** Applicants will be judged on the extent to which they possess the vision, drive and skills required to create and sustain work to further JLC's mission. The selection committee will consider the applicant's competency, character and commitment.

**Q. Do I need to take the Pennsylvania Bar Exam?** No. Persons licensed to practice in any other state can be admitted into Pennsylvania for thirty months under Pennsylvania Bar Admission Rule No. 311.

**Q. When is the Zubrow Fellowship application due?** Applications must be received by JLC no later than the first Monday in October.

To download an application, or learn more about the fellowship, visit [www.JLC.org](http://www.JLC.org)

You can also call (215) 625-0551 and ask for the current Zubrow Fellows or the JLC Operations Manager.