

**AALS 2021 Conference on Clinical Education**  
**Students as Clients: Reflections on Models of University-Based Legal Services**  
**Legal Clinic Descriptions**

**American University, Washington College of Law - Michelle Assad, Practitioner-in-Residence & Saba Ahmed, Staff Attorney**

Defending the AU Dream Initiative (“[AU Dream](#)”) is part of the [Immigrant Justice Clinic](#) at the Washington College of Law. Launched in the summer of 2019, AU Dream provides free immigration legal services to undocumented, DACA-mented and other noncitizen undergraduate and graduate students who are currently enrolled in colleges or universities in the DC metropolitan area. On a case-by-case basis, AU Dream extends legal services to family members of students and International Students with humanitarian claims. Law students in the Immigrant Justice Clinic may represent AU Dream clients in their immigration cases as well as provide services through legal workshops and community “know your rights” presentations. While AU Dream is a project of WCL’s in-house Immigrant Justice Clinic, it is staffed by one attorney whose role is evolving toward more direct representation and less seminar teaching in order to expand the program’s capacity. The initiative serves students in the campus community and also the community at-large.

**Berkeley Law - Mindy Phillips, Clinical Supervisor**

[East Bay Community Law Center](#) (EBCLC) is a clinic of Berkeley Law. The Immigration Practice has partnered with local primary schools since 2010 and [UC Berkeley](#) since 2015 to provide free legal services to students and their families on-site at their school campuses and health centers. In 2019, EBCLC expanded services to [local community colleges](#). EBCLC documented this model of advocacy in the article, “[Discover Our Model: The Critical Need for School-Based Immigration Legal Services](#).” Through the clinic, law students represent these students, including legal screenings, full representation, and community education workshops. They also collaborate with EBCLC’s other practice areas, especially housing, health and welfare, and juvenile justice advocacy, to provide clients with holistic legal services. The university-based legal clinics are staffed by five clinical supervisors and three BIA Accredited Representatives/paralegals.

**Harvard University - Jason Corral, Staff Attorney**

The Harvard Representation Initiative (HRI) grew out of the need to provide legal representation to Harvard’s immigrant community following anti-immigrant policies of the Trump administration. HRI exists as a subset of the greater Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinic Program (HIRC) to provide free legal representation to immigrant Harvard students, staff and faculty and their families. Our model seeks to provide a holistic approach to representation that includes the assistance of a licensed social worker. HRI’s focus was designed to focus on representation while benefiting from the institutional knowledge of the more pedagogical components of HIRC. HRI attorneys do not teach seminars and provide for only very limited student representation.

## **University of Michigan Law School - Tifani Sadek, Clinical Assistant Professor**

The [Entrepreneurship Clinic \(EC\) at the University of Michigan Law School](#) represents startups in all types of transactional matters. Second and third year law students work in pairs to represent two to three clients per semester. Their work may include establishing entities, filing trademark applications, drafting privacy policies, and counseling on employment matters. The majority of the EC's clients are student-founded, although the clinic will also represent startups with no university affiliation. Student founders commonly come from the various undergraduate colleges, especially the engineering school, the Ross School of Business, and the University of Michigan Medical School. Aside from their client work, EC student attorneys also host campus office hours, write blog posts, and perform clinic client intake.