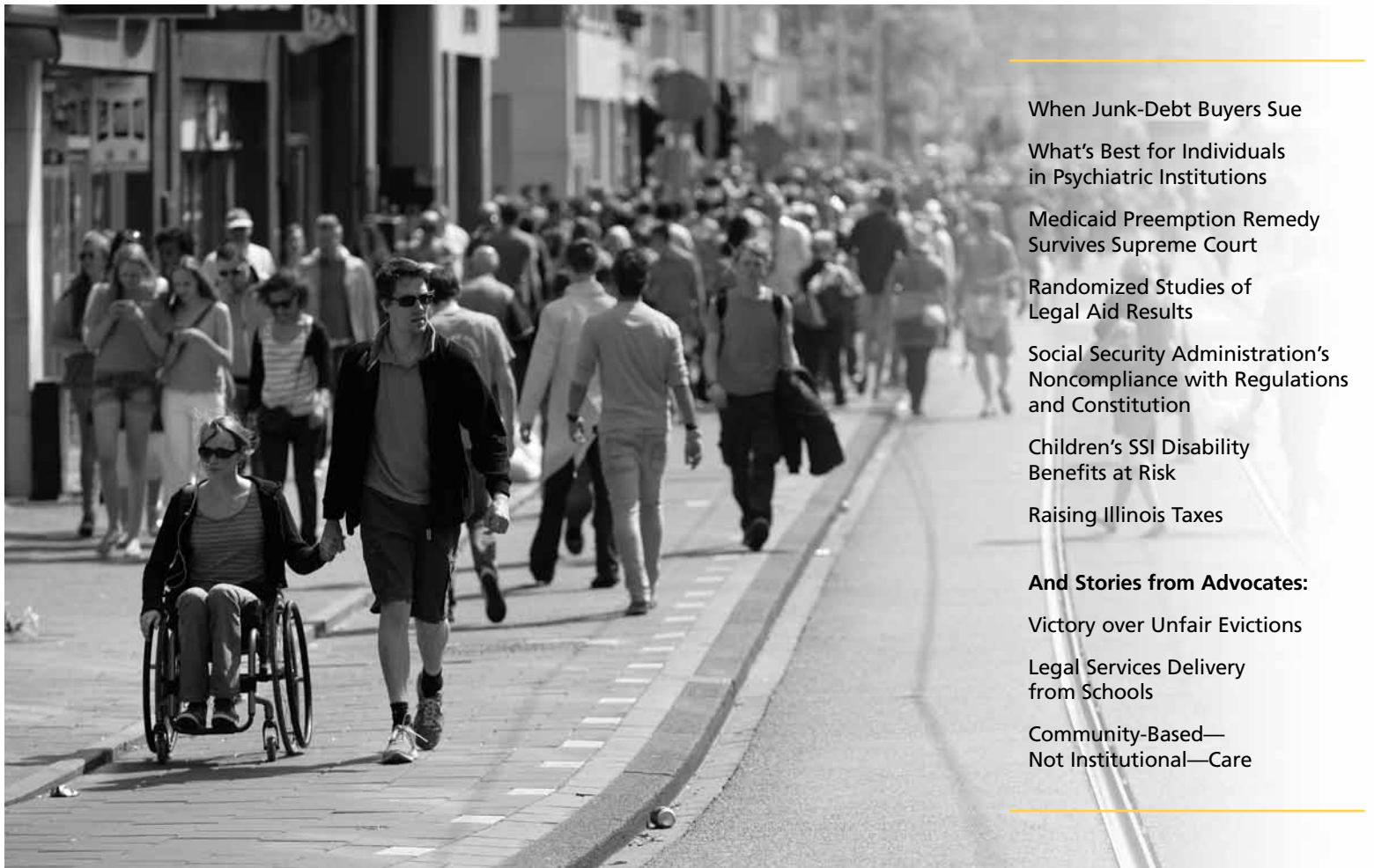


Clearinghouse REVIEW

May–June 2012
Volume 46, Numbers 1–2

Journal of
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and Policy

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Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

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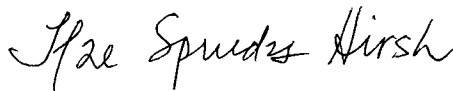
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Letter from the Editor

This May–June 2012 issue begins the 46th volume year for CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW. The start of a volume year is when I enjoy reflecting on the direction of the REVIEW and of the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, its publisher. It is a time of ferment for the Shriver Center, which provides national leadership in advancing laws and policies that secure justice to improve the lives and opportunities of people living in poverty. Just last fall the Shriver Center added a skills training program for legal aid lawyers. This resulted from the merger with the Boston-based Center for Legal Aid Education, a reputable training organization specializing in complex litigation, basic skills, board development, and such for legal aid attorneys. New curricula on racial justice advocacy and multistrategy issue campaigns are being developed.

The next generation of social justice leaders and their need for guidance, mentoring, professional development, resources, and training has moved to the forefront of priorities related to the future of legal services. At a time when financial resources are shrinking across the board, not just in legal aid but also in other economic sectors, supporting and building the professional capacity of the legal services workforce is critical. The addition of Training Programs to the Shriver Center's Communication Programs and Advocacy creates a unique and comprehensive approach to supporting and strengthening the national advocacy community in representing people living in poverty. For example, the affirmative litigation training is an immersive introduction to the practice of seeking broad-based institutional reform. By participating in affirmative litigation training, an attorney gains a solid foundation for the attorney's legal aid practice and skills necessary for high-impact, change-oriented advocacy. Conducted online and in-person, affirmative litigation training includes a mix of interactive sessions, webinars, and multimedia lectures, as well as practice experience in complaint drafting, discovery motion practice, and emergency relief. The next affirmative litigation training is scheduled for October 1–19, 2012, online and for October 23–24, 2012, in-person in the Greater New York City area. For more information and to sign up, visit our website at www.povertylaw.org/training or e-mail Ellen Hemley, vice president of training programs, at ehemley@povertylaw.org.

The REVIEW continues to broaden its reach with its free monthly *Clearinghouse Review News* e-newsletter, summarizing the content of each published issue and highlighting other topics of value to public interest and legal aid advocates, and with the site license subscription packages available to advocacy organizations. Site licenses offer online access, along with a select number of hard copies of the REVIEW, to all staff in a subscribing program. We are also making plans to transition to an online-only publication in 2014. Other developments are the online publication of advocacy stories, the Training Programs column (to resume in the next issue), posts from the *Shriver Brief* (the Shriver Center blog), and Interview Afield, with advocates who have made a difference for low-income clients. This issue's interview is with Dan Lesser, the Shriver Center's director of economic justice and a leader in the Shriver Center's advocacy initiatives. We are very interested in your feedback and suggestions. If you would like to sign up for the free e-newsletter or send feedback, please e-mail the editorial team at clearinghousereview@povertylaw.org or me directly at ilzehirsh@povertylaw.org. As always, we look forward to hearing your thoughts and recommendations on how best to assist you in your practice.



CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW encourages the submission of articles from legal aid field staff and others. Send articles to Ilze Sprudz Hirsh, editor and vice president of communication programs, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, 50 E. Washington St. Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60602; ilzehirsh@povertylaw.org.

The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and should not be construed as representing the opinions or policy of the organizations which employ them or of the Shriver Center.

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