The Abrahams Legal Clinic provides free legal help in civil matters to low-income residents of Douglas County. Legal Services are offered for Adoptions/Guardianships; Landlord-Tenant Matters; Real Estate; Social Security Benefits; Child Support and Custody; Divorce; Wills and Probate; and other civil matters.

Third-year law students provide representation under the supervision of licensed attorneys in the Clinic. The students are involved in all aspects of the case, including: the initial client interview; identifying the client's legal needs; preparation of legal documents; and representation of clients in court.

In addition to this general civil practice, the Clinic now offers comprehensive representation to clients in abusive relationships. Although the Clinic has always served abused women, in January of 2012, funding became available to devote one full-time attorney to a project focused solely on this client base. Typically, clients are represented on a particular issue—custody, for example—and that representation is ended after the resolution of that issue. In cases of domestic violence, however, clients have multiple chains that bind them to their abusers, and those issues do not always present themselves simultaneously. Recognizing the need for extended, comprehensive representation in order to empower women to live lives independent of their abusers, the Clinic will now represent abused women in civil matters from a period of two years.

Placard posted on a client's home after her landlord refused to make repairs

Ignatian Values

Educating Men and Women For and With Others
Cura Personalis
Magis
Faith that Does Justice

Our clients struggle each and every day to make ends meet. When they are faced with legal issues, there is no money to pay for an attorney. Without the Clinic, many of our clients would have no representation, drastically increasing the risk of their legal rights being violated.

Our students learn the process of representing clients, but the also much more than just the rubrics of case progression. We educate our students to be attorneys who are cognizant of the needs of the poorest in our communities and the obligation to ensure all people's legal needs are met, regardless of their economic status.

Like Fr. Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, we believe that Jesuit universities are truly measured by who are students become. In educating future attorneys who realize the obligation to ensure access to the legal system for those most in need, we educate our students to become attorneys who carry Ignatian values into their future practice: