

Monday, October 23, 2006

Dear Friend,

The Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF) at Columbia Law School awards grants to public interest law projects. Enclosed please find an application for the 2006 Community Grants Program. We encourage you to submit a proposal for consideration.

PILF is an independent, not-for-profit corporation founded by members of the Columbia Law School community to support legal work in the public interest. Since its inception in 1980, PILF has raised and awarded over \$500,000 in grants to individuals and organizations. This year, we plan to award approximately \$50,000 in grants. Historically, grants have ranged in amount from \$1,000-\$15,000. We are particularly interested in funding innovative projects that would not be undertaken without a grant and in providing gap year funding for established projects.

PILF has awarded grants to a wide variety of projects, including:

- Enforcement of the labor rights of migrant farm workers
- Publication of *Know Your Rights* manuals for unaccompanied adolescent immigrants
- Provision of up-to-date legal information for parents navigating the special education process
- Assisting low-wage workers in enforcing their employment-related rights
- Reduction of police misconduct through civilian monitoring and advocacy
- Online outreach and legal information for immigrants
- Legal services to combat wage theft

Applications must be postmarked by Friday, December 29, 2006. Repeat applications are welcome. PILF will make its grant decisions by April 2007.

If you know of others who may wish to apply, please give them copies of these materials or have them contact PILF directly. If you have any questions regarding the application process, please don't hesitate to contact either me – kss2113@columbia.edu / 248-568-3920 – or Jim Doggett – jwd2108@columbia.edu / 336-420-7441. You can also check our website, <http://www.columbiaPILF.org>, for more information on the program and a list of past recipients. We look forward to receiving your applications.

Sincerely,

Kristina S. Schwartz
Vice President of Community Grants
Public Interest Law Foundation