

# Appleseed This Week

eNewsletter - April 23, 2009



A non-profit network of 16 public interest justice centers in the U.S. and Mexico, Appleseed is dedicated to building a society where opportunities are genuine, access to the law is universal and equal, and government advances the public interest.

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## SAVE THE DATE!

**June 11, 2009**

Join Appleseed for

## A Call for Volunteer Service!

### *Economic Crisis Offers Pro Bono Opportunities*

According to a [recent feature in the New York Times](#), law firms are responding to current financial pressure by offering reduced-pay sabbaticals to their attorneys. As a social justice organization that relies heavily on pro bono commitment, Appleseed is delighted to learn that some lawyers are accepting these offers in order to pursue volunteer activities abroad. Such activism and social conscience, after all, lie at the very core of our mission.

Teaching English in Sri Lanka and harnessing solar power in the Himalayas are indeed noble pursuits, but Appleseed is welcoming volunteers - specifically those with legal, policy and program management expertise - here at home.

"The same economic crisis that is forcing law firms to offer these sabbaticals is further harming America's most vulnerable populations," said Appleseed Executive Director Betsy Cavendish. "Indigent children, minorities, immigrants, and the working poor are all suffering. Our pro bono partners help build a more just and prosperous society and gain valuable legal, policy and management experience while doing so."

For attorneys seeking to do a world of good without using a passport - or in some cases, without even leaving home - Appleseed is seeking pro bono legal fellows for a number of vital projects in service to underrepresented individuals and families across the country.

The network's fledgling Center in New Mexico, for example, is combating hunger in public schools, while Alabama Appleseed is seeking to expand health insurance coverage and completely rewrite the state's outdated constitution. The South Carolina Center would welcome help with its foreclosure protection and relief project, and Louisiana Appleseed is continuing to address

its annual event in  
New York City!

## *Engaging a Network for Change*

Click on the link above for  
details about time, location,  
and program!

For further information  
and/or to RSVP, email  
[Nakia Kelly](mailto:Nakia.Kelly@appleseednetwork.org) or  
call 202.347.7960.

the problems exposed and exacerbated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Attorneys in New York and Washington, D.C. need look no farther than their own backyards to provide invaluable legal aid to those in need. Appleseed's New York Office is seeking assistance with its economic opportunity initiatives, while the national office in D.C. boasts a number of projects relating to education reform and immigrant rights. For more information on our efforts and accomplishments, consult our website at [www.appleseednetwork.org](http://www.appleseednetwork.org).

Appleseed currently has 15 pro bono legal fellowships available for these and other projects. [Click here to view detailed descriptions of these opportunities](#). We commend attorneys who can commit to public service for a year, managing critical projects for positive social change.

For more information on available fellowships, contact Annette LoVoi at [alovoi@appleseednetwork.org](mailto:alovoi@appleseednetwork.org).