

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES

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| Address: | 115 East Jefferson Street Suite 300 Syracuse, NY 13202 |
| Telephone: | 315-422-5638 x-227 |
| Fax: | 315-471-4924 |
| Placement Supervisor(s): | Patricia Warth, Esq., and Alan Rosenthal, Esq. |
| Email Address(s): | pwarth@communityalternatives.org |
| Time Requirements: | <u>Academic Year:</u> Average of 12 hours / week OR Average of 8 hours / week. |
| Position Requirements: | N/A |
| # of Externs per Academic Year: | 2 |
| Summer Participation: | Yes |
| # of Externs per Summer: | 2 |
| Website: | http://www.communityalternatives.org |
| Special Note(s): | N/A |

The Center for Community Alternatives (CCA) is a private, not-for-profit agency whose primary mission is to promote reintegrative justice and a reduced reliance on incarceration through advocacy, direct services and public policy development in pursuit of civil and human rights.

The individuals served by CCA are among the most impoverished and disempowered in our society. Among the several target populations that CCA works with are people who have been involved in the criminal justice system and who are now seeking to reintegrate back into their communities to live productive and law-abiding lives. One of the projects that functions under the umbrella of CCA's Justice Strategies initiative is a Reentry Clinic. Clients seek services from this program when they encounter the collateral consequences of their criminal convictions. For anyone unfamiliar with the issue of reentry, the recently released report by the New York State Bar Association's Special Committee on Collateral Consequences of Criminal Proceedings, "Re-entry and Reintegration: The Road to Public Safety" is an excellent place to begin. This report is available on the website of the New York State Bar Association.

The Reentry Clinic works with men and women who face barriers to employment, housing, education, and licensing as a result of their prior incarceration or simply as a result of a criminal conviction. By providing an array of legal services CCA assists individuals to overcome these barriers and become productive, law-abiding citizens. The work of the students in this externship will include direct client interviews, legal research, administrative reviews, correcting mistakes in criminal history records, assisting with the sealing of records, and applications for certificates of relief from disabilities and certificates of good conduct. Other externship experiences may include litigation, sentencing advocacy and mitigation, and legislative proposals. Through this unique externship, students will gain invaluable insights into the criminal justice system from a practical perspective. The externs will work under the supervision of Patricia Warth and Alan Rosenthal, Co-Directors of Justice Strategies. Mr. Rosenthal is one of the co-authors of the New York State Bar Association Special Committee Report referenced above.