

MUNA Clinic Transition Plan  
October 2009

- I. We will retain all staff through March 2010. OVW has approved a no-cost extension. Through March we will continue taking on new cases, although not in the volume we have been previously taking cases. I have listed some of the criteria for new cases below. We will also continue doing some training, technical assistance, and community outreach. In March we will keep one SILA, one attorney, and three AmeriCorps. At that point we will still open new cases, although again, not in the volume we have in the past. Technical assistance to membership is particularly important, and we will continue providing that, as well as training and community outreach. By March we also hope to have a “new plan” worked out for the Clinic, as we consider expanding and improving the scope of Clinic services. We hope this will make us attractive to alternative funders.
  
- II. The Clinic presently has over 950 immigration cases open/pending for clients. These are clients waiting for approvals, renewing work authorization, waiting for priority dates, filing papers to adjust status, adjusting status and filing various waivers. THESE CASES REMAIN OPEN AND WE WILL CONTINUE REPRESENTING THESE CLIENTS.
  
- III. Additionally, Clinic staff is presently handling approximately 170 open immigration and family law cases. These cases are in the evidence gathering or litigation stages. THESE CASES ALSO REMAIN OPEN.
  
- IV. Presently, the priorities are 1) maintaining current files and representing current clients. Any new cases will be considered more strictly, considering factors such as safety, level of crisis, detention, difficulty of the case (and whether we can assist outside counsel with representation of the client), income and availability of alternative agencies; 2) technical assistance and training. The Clinic will continue assisting Iowa projects with technical assistance and training regarding battered immigrant women issues in immigration and family law matters. The Clinic will also continue training advocates, law enforcement, attorneys, and community groups on dynamics of domestic violence in immigrant communities and screening for cases; 3) collaboration with other partners and agencies to continue serving this population and preventing gaps in services; 4) securing funding, not limited to LAV.