

ReServe/Family Court Summer READY Project

This summer we will have two ReServists, Patricia Haynes and Helena Hessel, here at Family Court to help young people in their college search, selection and application pursuits.

Patricia has a background in Broadcasting/Advertising and in Conflict Resolution; she's worked for NBC and Safe Horizon, The Institute for Mediation and Conflict Resolution, and Harlem Community Justice Center.

Helena has a PhD in Economics/Econometrics and is fluent in Polish; she also speaks Russian and French. She's worked as an economist in a global capacity, analyzed foreign economies and helped determine bank lending limits for foreign countries.

For the past year, both have worked with first generation young people and low-income students in schools in Brooklyn and Bronx. They've received service training provided by the College Access Professional Development Institute at Goddard Riverside Community Center, and periodic in-service training activities throughout the year. They are very excited about the opportunity to bring their skills to the young people who are involved in Family Court cases.

Patricia and Helena will be on site in the conference rooms on the 6th floor outside of Part 9 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for July and August. Contact information for Patricia and Helena will be made available soon.

Their duties will include:

- Meeting with students and their families/supports, attorneys or CASA volunteers to familiarize them with their college options.
- Organizing college informational workshops.
- Helping students research colleges and scholarships.
- Coaching students through the college essay writing and application process.
- Assisting students and their families/supports in applying for financial aid, and help them evaluate their financial aid packages. They are trained to help young people in foster care fill out financial aid forms to maximize the benefits available to them.
- Helping students access free SAT/ACT preparation resources.

This service is provided free of charge and open to college-bound/interested high school students.

For more information please contact Melissa Wade 646-386-5639 mwade@courts.state.ny.us

ReServe <http://www.reserveinc.org/> marshals the power of ReServists from varied professional backgrounds to help solve big social problems. ReServists receive training to perform work that often involves direct client contact.