You are invited to attend:

**Strengthening the Link between Child Support and Employment Assistance: Model Programs and the DC Landscape**

This event will bring together federal and national experts to discuss enhancing employment outcomes for parents in the DC child support system. An engaging panel of experts will discuss the latest developments in the child support system, employment assistance, and community organizations, and local work force development providers to discuss common goals and opportunities for building on existing resources to strengthen employment outcomes for parents.

**Famee, June 15, 2012**

The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law

7300 John McCormack Rd • Washington, DC

Panel 1: Model Programs

**Moderator:**

Stacy Brustin, Associate Professor and Supervising Attorney at The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law; Columbus Community Legal Services.

**Panelists:**

The Honorable Kristen Ross, District Court Judge, Wake County, Raleigh, North Carolina, has been instrumental in implementing alternatives to incarceration and promoting employment services, detention, family visitation, and mediation to child support issues.

The Honorable Ellen White, Presiding Judge, Child Support and Domestic Relations, Roanoke, Virginia, currently oversees over one of seven courts in Virginia serving as pilot courts for the Intensive Case Monitoring Program, which uses a problem solving approach to child support enforcement.

Elaine Stroman, Senior Fellow with Urban Institute's Income and Benefits Policy Center, recently evaluated New York's Strengthening Families Program through Managedense Initiative, New York's pilot employment program for custodial parents.

Noelita L. Lugo, HMA/Pepper & JEC's Empowerment Program Supervisor, Office of the Chief Attorney General Child Support Division, Family Advocates, advocates for fathers and custodial parents that strengthen their financial and emotional contributions to children including State Involuntary Parent Divorce - a child support-led employment program.

Roy Chambers, Deputy Director of Family and Child Protection for the Office of Administration and Domestic Relations Division of The Philadelphia Courts, administers the Philadelphia Family Court's Networking for Jobs Program which helps unemployed non-custodial parents find and keep full-time employment.

**Panel 2: DC Landscape**

**Moderator:**

Judy Berman, Deputy Director of DC Appointed, District of Columbia Child Support, Special Education, Working Poor Families and Children's Health projects.

**Panelists:**

The Honorable Milton Lee, Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Superior Court, spearheaded the development of and provides cross-DC Involuntary Divorce Court which allows job training, counseling, employment services, and judicial access to currently incarcerated parents who are delinquent in child support payments.

Gary Chandler, Deputy Attorney General for the DC Office of the Attorney General's Family & Child Division.

Alison Gorbet, Executive Director of the DC Workforce Development Council, a group of public and private organizations representing to the Mayor and District government on developing, implementing, and continuously improving the District's Workforce Investment system; encouraging private sector participation; and enhancing and developing accountability and performance systems; developing and encouraging private sector resources and encouraging public input and support.

Mark Halley, Chief Attorney of the Legal Aid's Domestic Violence Unit, Legal Aid's Family Violence Unit, a court based legal services program providing child support law and domestic violence services to low-income DC residents, which provides services in over 1100 cases each month.

George Garwein, Jr., Executive Director of Concerned Black Men – National Organization, an organization that works to provide DC youth with wisdom and understanding on how to become positive, successful, and contributing adults through services to children and parents.

**Breakout Groups**

With area experts in collaboration, problem solving, and forward movement, participants will identify gaps in employment services, clarify shares on the services and resources available through these organizations, and discuss next steps for strengthening the link between child support and employment assistance.

**Panelists:**

Mary Brustin, Supervising Attorney at The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law; Columbus Community Legal Services.

**Additional Sponsoring Organizations**

The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law & Law and Public Policy Program

**Contact Information**

Stacy Brustin, Supervising Attorney at The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law; Columbus Community Legal Services.