

## **GERTRUD MAINZER FAMILY DEFENSE FIELD CLINIC AT THE BRONX DEFENDERS (BXD)**

The **Gertrud Mainzer Family Defense Field Clinic at The Bronx Defenders (BXD)** examines child welfare law and policy, and offers students litigation experience in high-stakes child neglect proceedings. Every state is required by federal law to investigate allegations that children have been or are being abused and neglected. The overwhelming majority of such investigations, however, are not of incidents of actual harm but concern a parent's lack of resources, access to services, and poverty that may place a child at risk. Because of its unique model of holistic defense, The Bronx Defenders is an ideal placement for students to be first exposed to this emerging public defense field. Students will also gain essential litigation skills and experience by providing direct representation to parents in child neglect proceedings under the supervision of an experienced attorney.