

## HAPPENING NOW AT ECI ~ October 2017

**THE EARL CARL INSTITUTE FOR LEGAL & SOCIAL POLICY, INC.**  
**ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND FUNDRAISER**

**ANNIVERSARY 25 YEARS**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2017**

Reception: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm  
Formal Presentation: 6:30 pm

Location: The Earl Carl Institute  
3102 Cleburne St. • Houston, Texas 77004

Please R.S.V.P. at <https://eci25years.eventbrite.com> • For more information call 713.313.1139

**EARL CARL INSTITUTE**  
*Creating a New Vision for  
Legal & Social Justice*

### ECI Celebrates 25 Years of Service

The month of November marks the Earl Carl Institute's 25th year of service to the Greater Houston and surrounding communities! Please join the ECI Staff, Board of Directors, past presidents, alumni, community leaders, partners and friends, as we commemorate 25 years of services as the voice at the table for change on behalf of traditionally disenfranchised communities. Come out to see how we have grown and enjoy good food, drinks and company while providing your tax deductible contribution to help the Institute continue its important work for the next 25 years! Please R.S.V.P. at <https://eci25years.eventbrite.com> or for more information call 713-313-1139.

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## ECI, Harris County Precinct 1 Commissioner and My Brother's Keeper Launch the Clean Slate Cooperative



A criminal record can greatly impact a person's future. It is common for a background check to be performed when you apply for employment, housing or immigration:

### **Employment**

You may have to disclose your record when applying for work whether your case was ultimately dismissed or not. You may also have to disclose your record when applying for a professional license.

### **Housing**

Potential landlords often do a criminal background search and may deny your application based on an arrest record or criminal conviction. Families can be kicked out of Section 8 housing if anyone does drugs or commits a crime

### **Immigration**

Your immigration status could be hurt and you might face deportation for a criminal record.

The Clean Slate Cooperative (CSC), which is a collaboration between Harris County Precinct 1 Commissioner, My Brother's Keeper, and ECI.

The CSC seeks to offer pro bono record expunction, sealing, and nondisclosure services. The SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE FREE REGARDLESS OF INCOME FOR CLEARING JUVENILE RECORDS AND IN CERTAIN ADULT RECORD CLEARING CASES. For more information about our services call 713.313.1139 or you may apply by completing the application at [www.earlcarlinstitute.org](http://www.earlcarlinstitute.org).

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## ECI Awarded Grant for Safe and Supportive Schools Collaborative



The Trustees of Rockwell Fund, Inc. (the "Fund") have awarded a grant of \$5,000 to the Earl Carl Institute for Legal and Social Policy, Inc. ("Grantee") for participation in the Safe and Supportive Schools Collaborative, a collective effort to reform school discipline policy in the Houston region. The terms of the grant require ECI to, over the next approximately 12 months, attend and participate in all facilitated meetings of the Collaborative; participate in the facilitated development of the

Collaborative's strategy; and contribute to and review all Collaborative-related materials, including the draft of a final report generated by the Collaborative's consultant. The Collaborative is then expected to execute the strategies identified in this planning over a 2-3 year period with additional grant funding.

This proposal represented one-third of a larger initiative called the Safe and Supportive Schools Collaborative. The Collaborative is a group of 9 organizations that share a vision of a Houston-area public school system that fosters positive school climates so all students might learn, graduate, and live up to their full potential. The Safe and Supportive Schools Collaborative will take a three-prong approach to realize this vision:

- Community-Based team will work to raise the visibility of the problems among families and educators they work with, engage their support, and determine what tools and resources they need to effect district-wide change.
- Policy team will develop policy recommendations, provide feedback on proposed policy support and analysis to the community groups and the collaborative, and work with stakeholders to move policy change forward.
- Legal team will provide the legal skills and expertise to the other partners.

ECI presented the joint proposal in February to participate in the collaborative in a policy recommendation role. The policy team includes Texans Care for Children, ECI, Texas Criminal Justice Coalition (TCJC), and Children's Defense Fund- Texas (CDF-Texas).

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## TMSL Street Law Clinic Joins Jack Yates High School as a Public Broadcast Learning Partner

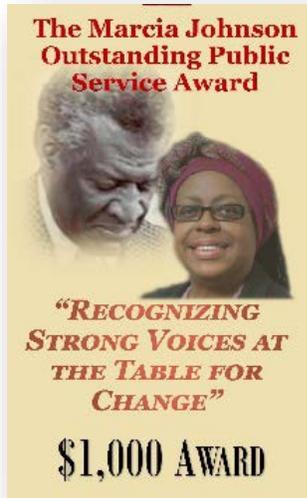


The TMSL STREET LAW Program is an educational, legal outreach program that trains current law students to teach law at schools throughout Houston-Harris County. The mission of the Program is to empower youth through interactive education about law, democracy, and human rights while furthering the professional development of law students. It is ECI's hope that

through accurate and current knowledge, juveniles will avoid becoming involved in situations that may lead to involvement in the criminal justice system.

This semester the TMSL Street Law Clinic is serving as a Jack Yates High School's public broadcast learning partner. As a public broadcast partner, TMSL's weekly Street Law sessions will be recorded and broadcast on Jack Yates's LION TV. LION TV is the only HISD student operated cable channel and may be accessed on channel 18 on Xfinity and on channel 99 on U-verse.

## A Voice at the Table for Change ~ The Annual Marcia Johnson Outstanding Public Service Award



The Earl Carl Institute's Annual Marcia Johnson Public Service Award provides a \$1,000 award to a TSU student, a community servant, and a local community organization in recognition of outstanding public service. ECI is seeking nominees for each category that demonstrate an outstanding level of commitment, passion, innovation and achievement resulting in substantial contribution to public service that has made a real difference to people's lives among communities of color and the traditionally disenfranchised. For more information and to download an application, please visit [www.earlcarlinstitute.org](http://www.earlcarlinstitute.org) under the Events tab.

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### ECI Welcomes Policy Analyst Whitney Threadcraft- Walker



After earning her Ph.D. from the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs at Texas Southern University, Whitney Threadcraft-Walker joined the Earl Carl Institute for Legal and Social Policy as a policy analyst. Her research interests run the gamut of issues at the intersection of data analysis and justice; ranging from predictive bias and error analysis to policy development and program evaluation. Currently she is working on a project examining data relating to Juvenile Detention in Harris County. Dr. Walker is also examining distinct patterns of offending and criminogenic needs across local jail populations to inform the development of data-driven interventions intended to interrupt the cycle of recidivism. Her most recent research, *"Predicting Staff Assault in Juvenile Correctional Facilities"* can be found in *Corrections: Policy, Practice and Research*. We are truly pleased to welcome this new member to the ECI family. She is already becoming invaluable.