



Yuko Watanabe

While working as an attorney in Japan, Yuko dealt mainly with cross-border and domestic corporate transactions until her husband was transferred to the Embassy of Japan in D.C. in 2012. She recently passed the NY bar exam and was seeking pro bono practice opportunities when her friend kindly referred her to CAIR Coalition. Along with volunteering at CAIR Coalition she has also conducted legal research in relation to asylum cases at other NGOs in D.C.

*Hotline Superstar*

Yuko has dedicated her time at CAIR Coalition to staffing the detention hotline, sometimes for even a full work day! We will miss Yuko at the hotline but wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors and safe travels back to Japan!

**"I have learned many things through listening to people from diverse backgrounds on the Detention Hotline, how important and how difficult it could be for an immigrant to obtain legal status in the U.S., and how significantly their status could impact their life."**

THANK YOU!

Yuko



Farrah Hassen

Farrah is a Syrian-American writer, activist, and filmmaker. She is currently pursuing her J.D. at Howard University School of Law in Washington D.C., with a focus on refugee and asylum law. She first became interested in refugee issues after visiting the Jaramana Palestinian refugee camp in Syria while filming the 2004 documentary, "Syria: Between Iraq and a Hard Place," directed by Saul Landau. In 2014, she interned with the D.C. office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), where she learned about and became more interested in the work of CAIR Coalition.

*Credible/Reasonable Fear Interview & Jail Visit Superstar*

Farrah has assisted CAIR Coalition with Credible Fear Interviews as well as attended jail visits at Farmville Detention Center. Farrah has brought her knowledge of immigration law both on jail visits and while writing memos following up from Credible Fear Interviews, and we look forward to having her volunteer more with CAIR Coalition in the future!

**"More than any casebook, both experiences have exposed me directly to the complexities and nuances of immigration and asylum law, and have reinforced the importance of exploring more just alternatives to mandatory detention."**

THANK YOU!

Farrah



UNHCR U.S. Protection Unit Individual Case Management Services

The U.S. Protection Unit of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Regional Office in Washington, DC receives individual inquiries via phone, letters, and emails from detained and non-detained persons who are applying for asylum or other forms of protection within the United States. Although UNHCR does not provide legal advice or legal representation, the U.S. Protection Unit can provide information to help asylum seekers prepare their cases and referrals to local legal organizations that may be able to represent them.

UNHCR interns work on a broad range of assignments, from answering letters from detention to providing legal analysis. Although Protection Unit interns speak with detained asylum seekers on the phone, UNHCR does not do detention visits with interns. Through volunteering on CAIR Coalition on detention visits, UNHCR interns are exposed to the conditions of detention facilities. Every semester the the protection unit counselor gathers a group of interested persons from UNHCR to attend a training with CAIR Coalition. Emily Bender, the current protection counselor, along with organizing the UNHCR interns has accompanied CAIR Coalition on jail visits and continues to facilitate a fantastic relationship between UNHCR and CAIR Coalition.

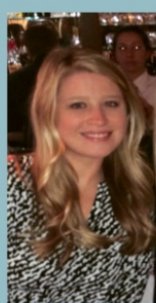
**"The opportunity to volunteer with the CAIR Coalition on detention visits exposes UNHCR interns to the conditions of detention facilities and it is a great learning experience."**

*Hotline & Jail Visit Superstar*

UNHCR interns have dedicated their time staffing the detention hotline, attending jail visits, and sitting in on Credible and Reasonable Fear Interviews. With a wide array of interests and experiences UNHCR interns are able to significantly contribute to the volunteer base and have often continued to volunteer with CAIR Coalition after their internships are over. Many have even been featured individually as volunteer superstars in the past!

THANK YOU!

UNHCR



Cristina Sacco & Jordan Cherry

Cristina and Jordan are recent graduates of Washington and Lee School of Law. They first heard about CAIR Coalition through the Director of the Immigrant Rights Clinic at Washington & Lee, Professor Baluarte. While Cristina and Jordan were in Professor Baluarte's clinic they volunteered on a Farmville visit as part of the class, but then continued to volunteer beyond that experience.

*Farmville Jail Visit Superstars*

**"I volunteered...because I really enjoyed getting to know the detainees, hearing their stories, and helping provide them with information that could aid them in attaining some sort of immigration relief. It is a unique and eye-opening experience and I would recommend it to anyone who is willing to volunteer a few hours of their time."-Cristina**

Cristina and Jordan were an incredible help on Farmville jail visits during spring 2015. They volunteered long days with us at Farmville in addition to putting us in contact with fellow students interested in coming on the visits. We will miss them on future Farmville visits but wish them best of luck and know they are off to fantastic things after law school! If you are in law school and are interested in coming on jail visit like Cristina and Jordan, please contact the volunteer coordinator to learn more.

**"It is very rewarding to see just how much the detainees appreciate the help they receive from CAIR Coalition and I would encourage anyone to volunteer if they can!"-Jordan**

Cristina & Jordan

THANK YOU!