**About the Faculty**

**JEANNE FUNK** is a senior immigration attorney with the immigration unit at Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI), joining in December of 2023. Jeanne has practiced family-based immigration since 2002 specializing in VAWA and U visa relief. She has worked with non- profit organizations and had her own solo practice. For the last four and a half years, she has been the Training and Technical Assistance Manager and Policy Analyst for World Relief providing immigration technical assistance and training to World Relief&#39;s field offices and affiliate members, led the immigration law basics training for new practitioners, and drafting advisories on changes in law. Her past trainings include AILA’s 2016 National Conference, the 2011 Federal Bar Association’s Immigration Conference and CLINIC trainings. Jeanne received her B.A. from Villanova University and her J.D. from Northeastern University. She has served on the NH Human Trafficking Collaborative Task Force, the Greater Manchester Committee Against Domestic Violence, and the NH Attorney General’s subcommittee on Immigrants and Domestic Violence.

**PATRICIA J. BAKER** is a senior policy analyst at the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute in Boston, a statewide support center for legal services programs that provides litigation and legislative and administrative rulemaking advocacy on behalf of low-income persons in Massachusetts. Ms. Baker has over thirty years of legal services experience and has worked extensively on poverty and anti-hunger issues that affect immigrants, persons with disabilities, children, teen parents, and homeless persons. In addition to her legislative work, agency rulemaking negotiations, and presentations at countless statewide and regional training events, she is the coauthor of numerous publications on benefit issues including the MCLE published SNAP Advocacy Guide.

**JESSIA CHICCO** (she/her), Director of Training, joined MIRA as Staff Attorney in January 2020 after more than a decade working with immigrants and immigrant communities. She oversees our education and training programs and our citizenship program, and will also work on federal policy issues.

Most recently, she was the Senior Immigration Attorney at DOVE (Domestic Violence Ended, Inc.) in Quincy, a MIRA member organization, where she represented immigrant survivors of domestic violence. Before joining DOVE, she was the Human Rights Fellow at Boston College’s Post-Deportation Human Rights Project, where she focused on advocacy and representation of deported individuals as well as various interdisciplinary collaborations with community-based immigrant organizations in the greater Boston area.

She started her legal career as an associate attorney at Human Rights First’s Refugee Protection Program in New York, where she provided legal rights presentations to detained immigrants and co-authored a report on the detention of asylum seekers.

Outside of work, Jessica serves on the Diversity, Inclusion and Community Relations commission of her town, with a focus on immigrant advancement. Jessica spent her childhood in Italy, and has lived and studied in Corsica, Senegal and Spain.  She holds a JD from NYU Law School and a BSFS from Georgetown University. (October 2024)

**MARK MARTINEZ**

**NAOMI MEYER** is a Lead Attorney in the Welfare Law Unit at Greater Boston Legal Services, where she has worked since 2002. She represents clients in cash welfare, Food Stamps/SNAP and subsidized child care cases, often representing those facing problems with immigrant eligibility and language access barriers. She also engages in systemic advocacy to improve these programs throughout Massachusetts, including legislative advocacy through the Lift Our Kids Coalition. Before coming to GBLS, she advocated for access to state-sponsored health insurance and patients’ rights in managed care at Consumers Union in San Francisco.  Ms. Meyer holds a J.D. and a Masters of Public Policy from the University of California at Berkeley. (February 2025)

**ANDREA M. PARK** joined MLRI in 2016 as a housing and homelessness attorney and is the Director of Community Driven Advocacy. Prior to that Andrea worked as an Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights and Consumer Protection Divisions of the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office; an attorney at the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau on an innovative foreclosure defense project partnering lawyers and community organizers; and a staff attorney at Community Legal Aid in Worcester specializing in housing, foreclosure, consumer and bankruptcy litigation. Andrea grew up in East Tennessee and is a lifelong musician. (March 2025)

**VICTORIA PULOS** is a senior staff attorney with Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI), having joined MLRI in 2000 as a health law attorney. Her work concentrates on assuring low-income people access to health care, through policy advocacy, training, technical support, and litigation. Prior to joining MLRI she did children’s health work at Families USA in Washington D.C. and prior to that worked as a managing attorney at New Hampshire Legal Assistance. She is the author of MLRI's MassHealth Advocacy Guide. She has also worked extensively on immigrants' eligibility for health care programs. She received both her law degree and a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University. (March 2022)