

January 12, 2016

Des Moines Business Record
Forty Under 40 Nomination Committee
100 4th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Selection Committee Members;

It is with great pleasure that I support Charles Hill's nomination for the Business Record's Annual Forty Under 40 Award. I serve as the Director of Government Relations and Medical-Legal Project (MLP) for Blank Children's Hospital. Charles is the Lead Attorney for the MLP which is a collaboration between Iowa Legal Aid and Blank Children's Hospital to improve patient health by addressing the socio-legal issues that impact health. Charles typically assists children and families with issues such as benefit eligibility, claims denial, housing issues, education or employment accommodations, legal status and personal safety issues involving domestic violence or child abuse. For example, a child with asthma struggles with repeated breathing complications and emergency department visits, but it may be the underlying substandard housing issues that prevent the child from being well. The MLP assists our medical team at Blank Children's Hospital in providing the best possible care for our patients and their families. The MLP services are provided at no cost to the child or family.

I have had the privilege to work closely with Charles for the past year on the development and implementation of the MLP. Charles is driven to provide his clients with the compassion and legal expertise needed to improve the health of our community. He has handled difficult and complex legal matters impacting child health. He has removed victims from abusive situations, improved substandard housing conditions, secured medical treatment and insurance coverage, accessed educational accommodations for children with special needs, and ensured safe and stable guardianship for the children he serves. Not only does Charles provide legal assistance to our patients, he also works to educate our Blank Children's Hospital staff on the social determinants of health, so that they can better identify legal issues and refer patients and families to the MLP for assistance.

Charles is a caring and thoughtful individual who has a passion for helping those with his legal knowledge that otherwise would not have access to justice. While all the attorneys at Iowa Legal Aid share such a passion, Charles also has the skill and understanding to integrate himself as an important member of the health care team. I am grateful that there is an attorney such as Charles in the legal community that shares his skills for the health of community over his own personal financial gains. For these reasons, I believe Charles Hill should be named one of the Business Record's Forty Under 40 in 2016. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Chaney E. Yeast, LMSW, JD
Director of Government Relations & Medical-Legal Project
Blank Children's Hospital