

August 28, 2009

Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America
Building II - Suite 204
13540 East Boundary Road
Midlothian, VA 23112

Re: Equal Justice Summer Fellowship

Dear Mr. Ruben:

First and foremost, I would like to thank Equal Justice America for providing me with funding for my internship. This summer, I interned at the Alliance for Children's Rights (ACR), a nonprofit legal services agency that strives to protect the rights and future of abused and impoverished children throughout Los Angeles County. It was a wonderful work experience that reaffirmed my desire to be an advocate for children.

The majority of my time was spent working in ACR's Adoption Program. ACR represents prospective adoptive parents, adopting from the foster care system. It was my responsibility to conduct an initial interview on the families, to ensure their foster care children were receiving the appropriate services and benefits from the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), both pre and post adoption. When it was determined from the interview that a child was not receiving the appropriate services or benefits, their case was assigned to ACR's Benefits Program, which would work to correct the benefits problem. In cases where the appropriate services or benefits were not being provided by DCFS, it was very rewarding to know that I played a critical part in bringing the appropriate services to the families and improving the conditions in a child's life.

In addition, I was given the opportunity to complete an adoption from start to finish for two very deserving families. This involved interviewing the families, preparing the paperwork, filing it with the court and ultimately appearing with the family on the day of the hearing. The highlight of my summer came on the day of the hearing which was called "Adoption Day". For many of the families, the process to complete the adoption was not an easy one. Therefore, Adoption Day was a very anticipated and meaningful experience for the families. During the adoption hearings, I participated by giving the families their oaths before the Judge. I especially grew particularly fond of one of the families I completed the adoption for. Their 3 ½ year old son was born premature and needed additional services when I initially interviewed his adoptive mother. Seeing the family together on Adoption Day, helped me recognize the role I played in placing a child with loving parents and a wonderful family.

Through ACR, I have experienced firsthand the difference non-profit organizations can make in children's lives. The internship I experienced at ACR reaffirmed my passion and

commitment for children, and ultimately my desire to become a child advocate and improve the quality of life for children. I would like to once again thank Equal Justice America for making all this possible.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Moisa
Loyola University Chicago School of Law
Candidate for Juris Doctor May 2010