



Summer 2018 EJA Fellow



Name: Betsy Byra

Law School: Boston University School of Law

EJA Fellowship: MetroWest Legal Services

Entry 1: Week of 6/11/2018

[#EJAFellowUpdate](#)

Over the past few weeks I have started working with MetroWest Legal Services to progress the immigration cases of indigent individuals and survivors of domestic violence. The urgency of these cases and desperate need of these communities, especially in this political climate, is overwhelming.

Entry 2: Week of 6/25/2018

[#EJAFellowUpdate](#)

Through my internship at MetroWest Legal Services, I have had the opportunity to interact with women and children from a variety of backgrounds who are seeking asylum and/or other forms of status. Through this experience, I have learned so much about the immigration field as a whole and some of the pressing issues facing our justice system. This educational experience would not be possible without Equal Justice America's funding.

Entry 3: Week of 7/9/2018

[#EJAFellowUpdate](#)

One of my favorite parts of the summer thus far has been partnering with community organizations in Framingham to bring legal services to indigent individuals. I have particularly enjoyed working with Voices Against Violence, a service that seeks to end sexual and domestic violence, to do regular clinics. Not only am I grateful to MWLS for providing these opportunities to learn, but this work would not be possible or nearly as effective without the extralegal organizations that provide support to the work we do.

Entry 4: Week of 7/23/2018

[#EJAFellowUpdate](#)

Working in the immigration unit at MetroWest Legal Services has exposed me to a wide variety of legal issues. From family law to housing to financial support, immigration law is the crux of countless legal issues that our clients face. Without status, many undocumented immigrants are unable to seek remedies and resources available to them or are simply unaware of their existence. Luckily great organizations like MetroWest Legal Services and [Equal Justice America](#) help bridge that gap.