SUMMER 2024 EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



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ORGANIZATION	The National Housing Law Project

Update 1:

My first two weeks at the National Housing Law Project have been great! Photos are me with Lisa Sitkin, a supervising attorney, and me attending the weekly AFR housing working group call. I'm working remotely on Federal Housing Policy research, studying the COVID Homeowners' Assistance Fund's impact and shortcomings, and I'm able to attend and contribute to strategy meetings with housing and tenants advocates across the nation. My work at NHLP directly serves legal aid providers as they advocate for clients on the front lines, and synthesizes their feedback for state and national policy advocacy. Nonprofit, Public Interest law work is crucial in our fight to decommodify housing and ensure that all people are equitably housed.

Update 2:

Never thought that my first time presenting to the US Treasury Dept would be from my bedroom! Working at the National Housing Law Project has connected me with so many incredible advocates and resources in the nationwide fight for housing justice. This past Wednesday, I was able to present several weeks of research and data analysis on the Pandemic Homeowners Assistance Fund relief program to both a nationwide call of legal aid advocates, and the Federal treasury staff who designed the program. I was really proud to be able to voice the concerns and needs of 100s of housing counselors to people in power, and I'm very grateful to Equal Justice America for supporting my public interest work!

Update 3:

In the NHLP office today! Though our work has mostly been remote this summer, part of that is because NHLP is moving to a new San Francisco office. Today I got to spend a wonderful morning with the SF NHLP staff in-person, and share a @woolypig lunch with the team! My work currently ranges from drafting legislative advocacy talking points for housing legal aid attorneys to crafting tools for tenant advocates to share with their communities. EJA helps to make that possible for me and many more- check out the link in my bio to learn more!



Update 4:

Work is going well! I'm incredibly grateful to Equal Justice America for sponsoring my work at the National Housing Law Project. I never imagined that I would be preparing 'debate cases' for legal aid attorneys across the country as they face harmful new legislation, and guides for tenant organizers as they seek to improve tenant law in CA. Housing work is incredibly necessary now more than ever, and 80% of those who need legal services are left to face obscure, kafkaesque bureaucracies alone.

Update 5:

I'm incredibly grateful for my summer at the National Housing Law Project, generously supported by Equal Justice America. Here are some snapshots of NHLP's work over the years, starting with an original print copy of their first published guide to Tenants Rights in public housing, to the current, recently published 6th edition of their iconic 'green book'. Jim Grow, one of the original authors of the first Green Book and a 40+ year member of the NHLP team retired this summer, and I had the wonderful chance to hear him recap his work here across several lunch sessions. Working at NHLP has been a deeply inspiring and meaningful experience: I got the panoramic perspective on housing policy advocacy work that I hoped for, alongside a warm, welcoming community of attorneys, advocates, and community organizers. Thank you again to NHLP and EJA for making it all possible!