



# EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

**Summer 2025**

## EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT

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<b>LAW SCHOOL</b>	Boston University School of Law
<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	Greater Boston Legal Services

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### Final Reflection:

The Equal Justice America Fellowship supported me throughout my internship with the Asian Outreach Center (AOC) of Greater Boston Legal Services. My internship alongside the fellowship provided me with a meaningful experience working in direct client services to support community members navigating the complex civil legal system. This opportunity enabled me to continue to pursue a public interest law career.

Using a movement lawyering model, the AOC serves as a cultural and linguistic bridge to the Asian community in Massachusetts, supporting their immediate civil legal needs and building community power. Throughout my ten weeks at the AOC, I witnessed the impact of language accessible and culturally competent legal services. I conducted Mandarin intakes in Quincy and Chinatown on a bi-weekly basis and supported primarily Mandarin speaking clients in accessing public benefits and navigating public housing among other legal matters. I researched and drafted memos on various legal issues ranging from habeas petitions regarding third country removals to bullying policies in a school district. Additionally, I conducted multiple FOIA reviews by sifting through hundreds of pages of USCIS documents to construct the timeline of clients' immigration statuses. I also volunteered to monitor Boston immigration court while sharing Know Your Rights information to often pro-se individuals. I particularly enjoyed engaging in the various community meetings to learn more about the varying needs of the Asian immigrant community and collaborate with community members and organizations to build grassroots power, while developing plans for harm mitigation. Three highlights of my summer include helping a community member navigate receiving SSI benefits after the SSA stopped sending them payments, helping a community member navigate requesting a refund of their office space deposit and pro-rated rent, and conducting habeas petition research on the revocation of



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releases of people under Orders of Supervision which ultimately led to the release of a community member from ICE detention.

Whether we were helping community members access basic necessities, pointing them toward available resources, or supporting them as they navigate legal issues, this work ultimately centers uplifting underrepresented voices, reaffirming my purpose for pursuing a legal career. Empowering community members in the successes or even non-successes of navigating these stressful situations is invaluable and I look forward to continuing to gain the knowledge and experience to be able to provide such legal services.

Thank you for this opportunity to receive the Summer Equal Justice America Legal Services Fellowship.