

Summer 2025 EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



NAME	Ava Kuch
LAW SCHOOL	Northeastern University School of Law
ORGANIZATION	Pathway for Immigrant Workers

Final Reflection:

My summer at Pathway for Immigrant Workers was an incredible experience. The work I did during this co-op has given me a passion for immigration law and has motivated me to pursue a career in the field.

During my time at Pathways, I learned how to conduct a PERM case, or an employment-based green card application. An employment-based green card is often a great avenue for individuals to obtain lawful permanent residency in the U.S. Learning about the PERM process taught me about different This was extremely meaningful. As many immigrants are currently losing their status, it was an eye-opening experience to understand the moving parts that go into getting a green card. This experience has taught me how difficult it is to obtain permanent legal status in the U.S., especially under a presidential administration that is as anti-immigrant as our current administration.

The most significant part of my time at Pathways was spent helping organize and coordinate the Habeas Project. The Habeas Project files habeas petitions, which challenge unlawful detention, for immigrants who are detained by ICE.

To date, the Habeas Project has filed petitions for more than 40 clients. These petitions have helped individuals who were unlawfully detained by ICE and were at risk of being transferred out-of-state or to a third-party country, subject to expedited removal even though they had been in the U.S. for more than two years (the limit to the amount of time someone can be subject to expedited removal), or where the detention presents significant humanitarian concerns to the individual.



The Habeas Project helped release a woman from ICE custody whose son needed medical treatment in Boston. Her son depended on her to care for him and take him to his medical treatments at a local Boston hospital. If the individual was not released from ICE custody, she likely would have been transferred outside of the jurisdiction, separating her from her family and giving her a narrower chance of being able to stay in the United States; therefore, affecting her son's ability to receive life-saving medical treatment. This is just one of many innocent individuals who the Habeas Project has been able to assist.

America is experiencing an immigration crisis right now. As immigrants, regardless of their status or personal situation, are fearing for their safety, freedom, and ability to pursue a life in the United States, organizations like Pathways and resources like the Habeas Project are more important than ever. It was a privilege to play a small role in the work that these amazing organizations do. Following this co-op, my goal is to continue my education in immigration law, so I can continue to help people, like our client above, who just want to make a better life for themselves and their families in the United States.

I am so thankful for this experience and for being a part of the Equal Justice America Fellowship Program, which made it possible.