



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2025

EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



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| NAME | Amy Abbott |
| LAW SCHOOL | University of Houston Law Center |
| ORGANIZATION | The Texas Foster Youth Justice Project at Texas RioGrande Legal Aid |

Final Reflection: As I enter my final days with the Texas Foster Youth Justice Project at Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, I've been reflecting on just how profoundly this work has impacted me.

Every one of our clients has a story rooted in resilience. These young people have endured unimaginable challenges - housing insecurity, family instability, systemic failures - and still show up every day fighting for a better tomorrow. Their strength and determination are nothing short of humbling.

One young client in particular has left an indelible mark on me. Despite lacking a stable roof over his head and consistent access to food, he remains fiercely committed to his future. He independently enrolled in both high school and college classes while simultaneously navigating complex systems that even adults find overwhelming. That he found his way to us for legal support - and trusted us to help - means everything.

It's a powerful reminder: no child should have to carry the weight of legal and systemic burdens alone. Standing beside him and helping shoulder just a part of that load is exactly why this work matters.

I'm also incredibly grateful for the mentorship and supervision I've received from the passionate attorneys at TRLA. Sarah D. Worthington, your deep commitment to youth justice, steady compassion, and fearless advocacy have been both inspiring and transformative. Watching you lead with integrity, clarity, and heart has not only sharpened my understanding of the law but also shown me the kind of advocate I aspire to become. This experience has deepened my passion for youth justice and affirmed my belief that the law can - and should - be used to create real, lasting change.