

## Summer 2025 EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



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LAW SCHOOL	UC Davis School of Law
ORGANIZATION	Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

## **Final Reflection:**

It has been a couple of weeks since my position with Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles as part of the Medical-Legal Partnership team ended, and I have used the time to reflect on my experiences this summer. MLP brings together healthcare providers and legal advocates to increase awareness of the availability of legal aid, and to provide legal services to our most vulnerable community members. By embedding legal services in healthcare settings, the MLP helps ensure that patients can address barriers that affect both their health and stability.

Over the course of my fellowship, I supported attorneys in a variety of tasks, from drafting legal documents to conducting client intake calls. My work often began with hearing a client's story and identifying the legal needs behind it, whether those needs related to housing, benefits, or other issues affecting their well-being. I learned how to balance the practical demands of a busy legal aid office with the patience and attentiveness that client-centered work requires.

One of the most meaningful aspects of my summer was seeing how the MLP's integrated approach creates real change. By working in partnership with medical centers, we could identify legal problems early and connect clients to help they might not otherwise have sought. Even small victories, such as ensuring a client received a needed benefit, had a visible impact on their ability to focus on recovery and stability.

This experience also gave me a deeper appreciation for the scope of legal aid work. Many of the cases I supported were not about dramatic courtroom battles but about ensuring access, security, and dignity for clients facing systemic challenges. I saw firsthand how persistence, careful preparation, and collaboration can make a significant difference in people's lives.



Professionally, this summer reinforced my interest in pursuing a career in public interest law. It gave me the opportunity to hone my research, drafting, and client interaction skills while also exposing me to the realities and complexities of serving underrepresented communities. Personally, it reminded me of why I came to law school: to use my skills to make a tangible difference in people's lives.

I am deeply grateful to LAFLA, the MLP team, and the Equal Justice America Fellowship for making this summer possible. The lessons I learned will stay with me as I continue my legal education and work toward a career dedicated to service and advocacy.