



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2026

EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT

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ORGANIZATION	Rian Immigrant Center

Update #1: I have been working at Rian Immigrant Center for almost one month. So far I have learned so much! I have gotten to work on many different types of humanitarian immigration cases already including Medical Deferred Action, U visas, humanitarian parole, and naturalization cases. It has been great getting to meet clients and work with them directly on their immigration matters. I have also gotten to sit in on the free consultations that we provide at the public libraries.

Update #2: I am still working on many humanitarian cases. I recently started some naturalization cases which has been fun, and I have gotten to observe more consultations.

Update #3: I have successfully submitted two full applications now that I started and finished myself. I have also worked on many more, including different portions of larger applications or answers to Request for Evidence.

Final Reflection: I had an amazing summer at Rian Immigrant Center. I worked on a variety of different immigration cases including Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, U visas, DACA, Medical Deferred Action, humanitarian parole, permanent residency applications, and naturalizations. I was able to contribute to intake, client interviewing, writing affidavits, legal research, and completing immigration applications. I observed countless consultations with attorneys, both at Rian's free public library clinics and through our scheduled phone consultations. It was humbling and inspiring to get to work with clients who are working so hard to forge a life in the US.

At the same time, I learned how difficult it is to work in immigration legal aid today. The need for services is so great, and it is extremely difficult for attorneys to keep up with continuous policy changes and ongoing federal litigation, let alone for clients to be able to comprehend how these changes affect their ability to work and live in the US. I feel motivated to continue this uphill battle, and I have gained an enormous amount of respect for current immigration practitioners who continue to advocate for their clients each day.