

Dan Ruben
Founder/Executive Director
Equal Justice America
Building II – Suite 204
13540 East Boundary Road
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Mr. Ruben,

I am writing at the close of my summer internship at the National Health Law Program (NHeLP) in Los Angeles. My ability to participate in this internship was made possible by funding from Equal Justice America, for which I am incredibly grateful. I chose this internship because of the amazing litigation, legislative, and advocacy work NHeLP does to achieve health care access and equity for underserved, low-income groups.

My role at NHeLP allowed me to participate in a variety of projects in Medicaid and reproductive justice, the two fields that interest me most. I loved two projects in particular: litigation to help four clients in Missouri receive Hepatitis C medication and a comprehensive guide to pregnancy-related health coverage in California for low-income women.

The Missouri litigation served four clients, all low-income individuals living with Hepatitis C in the state of Missouri. These clients have been denied medically necessary treatment because of guidelines that, we argued, are contrary to Medicaid statutes and thus invalid. As I worked on this project in a number of capacities, including discovery and deposition outlining, I was immensely gratified knowing that each piece of information or well-drafted question could help not only these clients, but many more, receive treatment to greatly improve their quality of life.

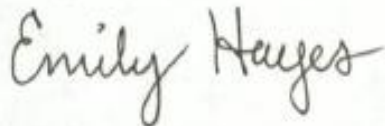
The pregnancy-related coverage project also allowed me to provide resources, albeit indirectly, to many women in California seeking medical care during and after their pregnancies.

It became clear to me in the course of my research that the number of programs and the confusing eligibility requirements are not something a woman should be expected to navigate on her own without comprehensive guidance. Maternal care is essential to the health of the mother and the fetus, and the ability to provide guidance to many women through this one document was very rewarding and enhanced my understanding of the different ways to provide legal assistance as an attorney.

Thank you again for enabling me to have these, and many more, experiences this summer in my internship at NHeLP!

Sincerely,

Emily Hayes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily Hayes". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Stanford Law School, Class of 2019