



Summer 2018 EJA Fellow



Name: Alli Langley
Law School: Columbia Law School
EJA Fellowship: New Hampshire Legal Assistance

Entry 1: Week of 6/11/2018

#EJAfellowupdate:

This summer, I'm interning at [New Hampshire Legal Assistance](#), a state-wide organization that provides civil legal aid for low income people. In three short weeks, I've worked on everything from an eviction defense to a city welfare denial. I've interviewed clients and drafted pleadings. I've had the opportunity to participate in the conversation as smart, creative advocates strategize how to tackle a case and the privilege to listen closely as clients tell me their stories. The work is hard and the need overwhelming—and I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to learn how to do it (and do it well!) with the advocates at [NH Legal Assistance](#). I'm able to do so thanks to a grant from [Equal Justice America](#), which funds work like mine at organizations like NHLA across the U.S. The sad reality is that there is never enough resources or enough people doing this work—so please consider supporting Equal Justice America so that my work, and the work of my peers, may continue. If you're interested, check out this article about the people I have the privilege of working with this summer: <https://www.nhcf.org/what-were-up-to/taking-the-hard-cases/>. And consider donating to [NH Legal Assistance](#) as well!!

Entry 2: Week of 6/25/2018

#EJAfellowupdate:

I'm halfway done my summer internship, and I've been thinking a lot about how legal services is so often the last defense: against things like eviction, the loss of much needed disability benefits, and utility shutoffs. In a country with a social safety net that has more gaps than substance, this work is so important. It's also incredibly underfunded, and organizations like Equal Justice America ensure that it continues. If you can, donate to and [New Hampshire Legal Assistance](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/NHJustice4All/>) to ensure it continues.

Entry 3: Week of 7/9/2018

#EJAfellowupdate:

Lately, I've been doing a lot of work with the benefits working group at New Hampshire Legal Assistance, which assists clients with issues related to their state and federal benefits. We help clients navigate things like denials of applications, changes in the amount of benefits they receive, and terminations. People rely on these benefits to provide for life necessities, like accessing healthcare, putting food on the table, and paying for childcare. Despite how vital these are, the programs that provide these benefits are complex and difficult to navigate—and the large majority of people who are navigating them don't have access to a lawyer. Thanks to EJA, I've been able to work with NHLA to assist clients as they navigate this administrative morass.



Entry 4: Week of 7/23/2018

#EJAfellowupdate:

Last week, I finished up my summer internship. I am so incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work alongside the fierce and creative advocates at New Hampshire Legal Assistance. I learned as much in ten weeks as I did in my first year of law school, and know that the hands-on experience I gained and the guidance I received will shape my growth as a lawyer. I was able to take the time to do this internship thanks to generous funding from EJA. If you can, donate to [Equal Justice America](#) to ensure that future students will have the same opportunity I did.