



Summer 2018 EJA Fellow



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EJA Fellowship: Equip for Equality

Entry 1: Week of 6/11/2018

Since the end of May I have been working with Equip for Equality to help families access appropriate educational opportunities for students with disabilities. So many families rely on the support organizations like Equip for Equality to provide help to navigate the confusing world of special education. Appropriate education for all children is essential to the creation of a strong, successful community. We have a lot of work left to do. [#EJAFellowUpdate](#)

Entry 2: Week of 6/25/2018

[#EJAFellowupdate](#) Hard to believe it's been a month! Every day is a reminder that all children should have the right to access education. And a reminder we don't all access information the same way. So many people across the country are helping people access their rights in so many different ways, help them do this important work.

Entry 3: Week of 7/9/2018

[#EJAFellowUpdate](#) Every child can learn and achieve when we set ambitious goals and give them the support they need to achieve them. When we see only the disability and stop seeing the person, we stop serving the whole person individually. As an advocate for students with disabilities this summer, I've been a part refocusing the conversation on the individual so we start seeing their unique story, not just a disability. So many people across the country are helping communities rethink the way they see their world and the people around them.



Entry 4: Week of 7/23/2018

[#EJAFellowUpdate](#) Summer is almost gone and as I reflect on the work I've been a part of I am hopeful for the future. So many smart, dedicated people devote their time, resources, and energy to ensure that children with disabilities have every chance to succeed along with their non-disabled peers. These people are not just the other law students, lawyers, and staff I worked with this summer, but the parents of children with disabilities. The special education system is full of jargon, experts, and acronyms that can be difficult to understand, but the determination and drive of parents who navigate the system with their hard-won, firsthand knowledge amazed me all summer. I took this position in part as a tribute to my mother, who spent so much time and energy learning the intricacies of special education to ensure her children had access to the educational support they needed. It was an honor and eye-opening privilege to help teach and support other parents, like my mother, who wanted to be the strongest advocate they could be for the educational rights of their children.