



Summer 2020 EJA Fellow:



Name: Meghan Murphy

Law School: Boston College Law School

Organization: Greater Boston Legal Services

Week of June 15th

I want to thank Equal Justice America for the opportunity to be an EJA Fellow this summer and Greater Boston Legal Services for hosting me as a legal intern.

The past 2 weeks in immigration law with GBLS have been a challenging yet exciting experience. I have had the privilege of assisting in asylum cases for individuals from Guatemala and El Salvador. While their stories are heartbreaking, their strength is encouraging. I am so honored to work for an organization that seeks to provide a home for these individuals here in the U.S. despite the overwhelming challenges involved. I look forward to continuing my work with GBLS this summer and to learning from the clients I have the privilege of meeting.

Week of July 6th

During the past few weeks, I have continued to work on asylum cases while conducting legal research in response to the Department of Justice's proposed amendments to asylum and withholding of removal procedure. These proposed changes create an unnecessary threat to the established law of asylum in the United States. If put into practice, they will directly and negatively affect many of our clients. Although challenging, it has been a privilege to participate in the fight for asylum seekers through my research at Greater Boston Legal Services. I am continuously grateful to work for an organization that is tirelessly dedicated to the rights of immigrants.



Week of July 27th

I once again want to thank Equal Justice America for the opportunity to be an EJA Fellow this summer and Greater Boston Legal Services for hosting me in their immigration unit.

In the weeks since my last update, the immigration unit was finally able to submit our comment in response to the administration's proposed asylum regulations. Having my research and writing be incorporated into a document worked on by attorneys who I greatly admire was a very surreal experience. I am hopeful that our work, along with the work of so many individuals across the country, stunts the administration's attempt to diminish asylum. Since the submission, I have been able to spend more time working one-on-one with clients in different immigration proceedings. I always appreciate the opportunity to work with these individuals, as they are a constant representation of courage and perseverance. I look forward to seeing what the next few weeks with GBLS have in store for me.

Week of August 10th

I want to once again thank Equal Justice America for the opportunity to be an EJA Fellow this summer and Greater Boston Legal Services for hosting me in their immigration unit.

I have spent the past two weeks working with clients to prepare their various immigration forms, which as anyone in the unit can tell you, is no simple task. I have spent numerous collective hours on the phone with clients brainstorming how to prepare all of the documentation, and it can often be overwhelming. However, I am always impressed with the determination and positivity with which our clients tackle the process. I genuinely appreciate working with our clients and getting to know them as individuals.

The past ten weeks have been an invaluable learning experience. I cannot speak highly enough about the people I've had the privilege of working with at Greater Boston Legal Services. I look forward to carrying this experience throughout the future of my legal career.