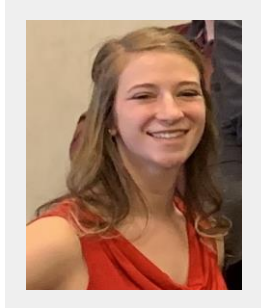




## Summer 2020 EJA Fellow:



**Name:** Jennifer Pantell

**Law School:** GW Law School

**Organization:** Migrant Legal Action Program

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**6/15/20**

This summer, I am honored to say I have been chosen as an Equal Justice America Summer Fellow. Equal Justice American is an organization committed to making legal help available to those who cannot afford it and need it most.

During my fellowship, I am interning at the Migrant Legal Action Program, a non-profit organization that fights to protect the rights and improve public policies for migrant workers. As a law clerk, I am researching legal issues that affect the migrant worker, English-learning, and immigrant and undocumented communities. It is an amazing experience, and I am excited to learn more as the summer continues.

Part of my fellowship includes raising funds for EJA to give back to the communities that need it most. Legal assistance can make or break someone's case, and that should not be determined by someone's wealth. If you're able, please consider donating.

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**7/6/20**

Time for another EJA Fellow Update! I am so grateful for my experience with the Migrant Legal Action Program this summer, where I have been learning about the status of education law and what students across the country are entitled to. Every child deserves an education that will allow them to pursue whichever career and life they desire. I am learning about what the law requires so we can assist school districts in providing those services regardless of a student's level in English-proficiency, or their migratory or documentation status.



# EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

LEGAL SERVICES FELLOWSHIPS

I am extremely fortunate to be a Summer Fellow for Equal Justice America, where I can gain learn from the Migrant Legal Action Program, as well as help raise funds for Equal Justice America. EJA provides legal services to those who need it most. "Across the country, people who can't afford legal help are forced to choose to either represent themselves in court or forego legal action entirely." An individual's inability to pay for counsel should not and cannot be what decides their case.

If you can, please consider donating to this amazing organization.

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**7/27/20**

As a Summer 2020 Fellow for Equal Justice America, I have been able to work with the Migrant Legal Action Program in DC to help educate people around the country on their rights. The migrant, spanish-speaking, and immigrant community in this country have been marginalized in every way, and now the administration is fighting to classify individuals as "non-persons" because they don't have proper documentation, thus excluding them from the census for reapportionment of representation purposes in Congress. At MLAP I have the opportunity to work with my supervisor on this issue and help disseminate all the information we can find so people around the country are not left in the dark. Both MLAP and EJA work hard to bring protections and knowledge to people who are not given the help they deserve, and are often too afraid to ask for it. As a Summer Fellow, I am helping to fundraise for EJA so they can provide more pro bono legal services to those who need it most.

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**9/18/20**

As the school year kicks back up into full gear, I find myself thinking about my experience at the Migrant Legal Action Program for my last EJA Fellow Update, and the work I did with them. The organization is committed to fighting for adequate education systems for students across the country, regardless of their race, ethnicity, primary language, or upbringing. Whether a student is a child of migrant parents who traverse the country to find work so their child can get a better education than themselves, or a student is a child of hardworking parents in a city who want their children to get the education they need to continue on their parent's legacy, all students deserve an education that provides them with the resources they need and deserve. We are seeing a lot of problems in our education system today, and with MLAP I studied the precedent cases for where the law stands on what students are entitled to in their education. I was able to see the progress made, as well as the limits set by the lack of recognition of a constitutional right for at least a minimally adequate education. I could not be more thankful for the opportunities I had at MLAP, and for the ability to continue my research of the law so I can work to make our systems better for the future.