



## Summer 2021 EJA Fellow:



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**Organization:** Harvard Legal Aid Bureau

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### Update 1:

Working at the Housing Unit at HLAB, I have been learning a lot about housing justice and tangential issues such as employment, family, and disability law while in the field directly working with clients. Navigating these spaces while practicing in a fast-changing legal system due to Covid-19 has been challenging but has also been instrumental to my growth as a student attorney.

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### Update 2:

Advocating amidst an uncertain legal future as the courts and counsel grapple with how justice and access to justice would look like in a post-pandemic world has not been easy. Yet, legal aid providers have risen to the challenge and continue to navigate these troubled waters with our community, and I am grateful and proud to be a part of such dedicated efforts.

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### Update 3:

This past week has been particularly rough on legal aid service members as we scramble to address the wave of evictions that are imminent upon CDC moratoriums being lifted at the end of this month. Working with clients on their next steps while rents are being raised as many return to the cities they left at the beginning of the pandemic has been challenging. Many are still struggling with the human and economic costs the past year has brought, which disproportionately fell onto disadvantaged and oppressed communities. The pandemic has highlighted more starkly than ever the sharp disparities between those more privileged and those less so—and the law has, at best, lagged severely behind in addressing these harms.



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**Entry 4:**

With variants of the coronavirus on the rise, and governments lagging in securing the health and housing safety of families across the country, civil legal aid organizations are in need of more support than ever. Please consider supporting those working in legal aid at Equal Justice America at the following link: <https://lnkd.in/gaT9MPk>.

As the summer comes to a close, things at HLAB are busier than ever. The uncertainty rendered by the expiration of the eviction moratorium, the complex bureaucracies at play in distributing emergency rental relief funds to families in need have further complicated efforts in achieving housing justice and relief for many in the community. Having to pass on my cases and bid farewell to my clients and to the great city of Boston will be bittersweet, but I remain even more committed to civil legal aid work as I return to my final year of law school in DC.