



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2001-2002

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Fiscal Year 2001-2002

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EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

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Who We Are...

The promise of equal justice is the promise of America. "With liberty and justice for all," are the words recited everyday by our nation's schoolchildren. It is a promise that has not been kept. The American Bar Association has estimated that this country fails to meet 80% of the civil legal needs of the poor. Unlike criminal defendants who are guaranteed an attorney by the U.S. Constitution, most low-income litigants must face civil adversarial proceedings without the benefit of counsel.

As a result, families are wrongfully evicted and forced into homelessness. Women and children victimized by domestic violence do not get the legal help they desperately need. Abuses and neglect by social service bureaucrats go without remedy. Senior citizens and other consumers defrauded by unscrupulous merchants and lenders have no recourse. All of this because there are not enough lawyers working to protect the legal rights of the poor. There can be no justice for those who must face these deprivations without the help of an attorney.

Equal Justice America is an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation established in 1993 in recognition of the fundamental absence of adequate civil legal representation for many members of our society. For nearly a decade, Equal Justice America has put law students to work with organizations across the country providing civil legal services to those who need it most. Students at over 40 law schools now have the opportunity to take part in the Equal Justice America Fellowship Program.

What We've Done

EJA has put close to 1,000 law students to work with over 125 legal assistance organizations throughout the United States. Working as interns under the supervision of staff attorneys, our fellowship recipients have provided crucial assistance to low-income clients struggling through the complexities of our civil justice system. What began in 1993 as an organization that sponsored just five law student fellowships in its first year, Equal Justice America has awarded more than \$2 million in grants and has provided more than 250,000 hours of free legal services with programs throughout the country working to protect the rights of the poor.

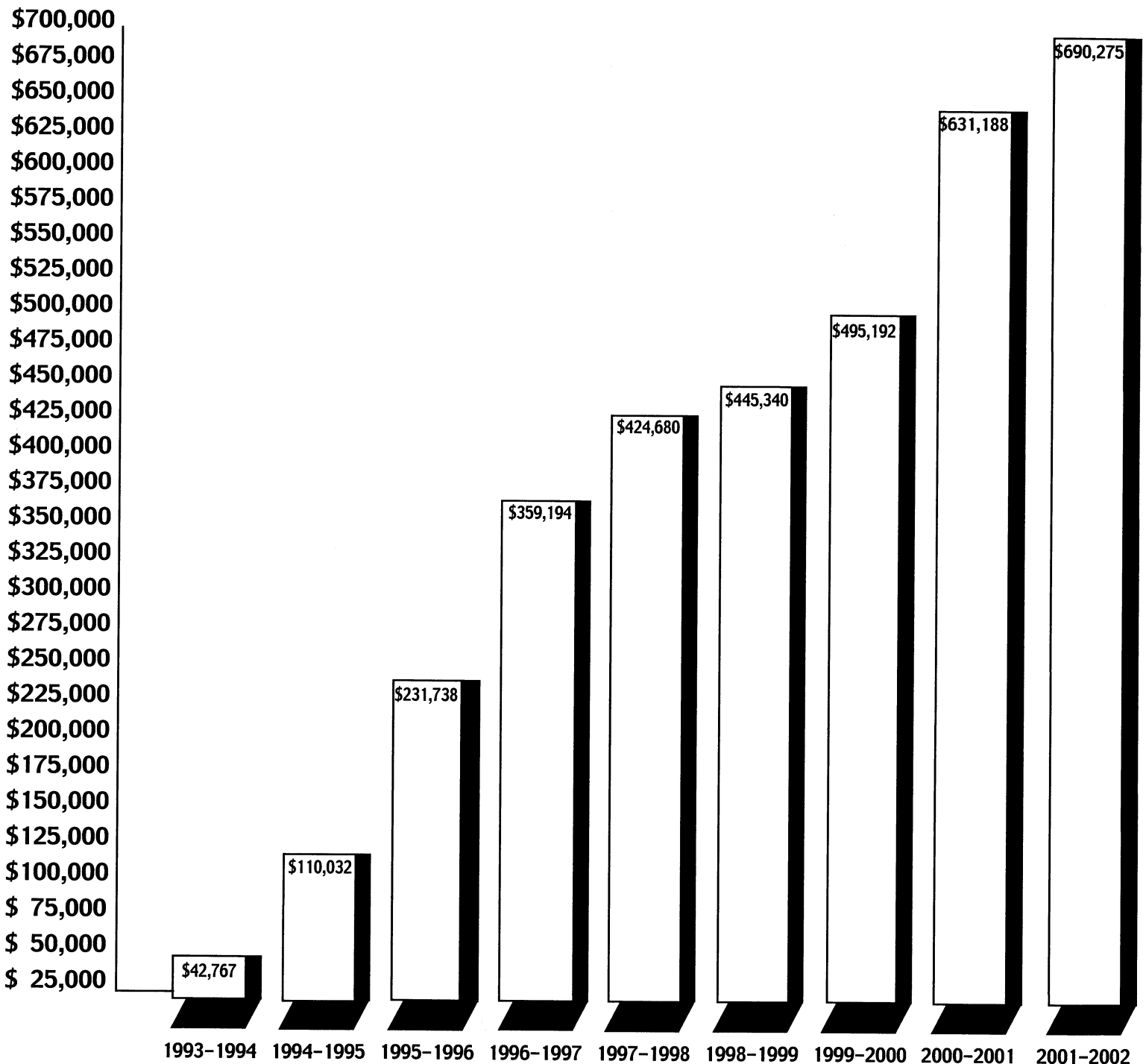
Last fall, Equal Justice America awarded its first two post-graduate EJA Fellowships, putting outstanding young lawyers to work on staff for two years at the Support Center for Child Advocates in Philadelphia and Western Massachusetts Legal Services.

In the Fall of 2000, EJA opened the *Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic* at Pace University School of Law. The clinic has delivered much needed legal assistance to indigent disabled children and adults, while educating law students who are committed to becoming effective advocates for those in need. The EJA Clinic has become a major new addition to Pace's highly regarded clinical program.

The *Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic* and the EJA Fellowship Program offer tremendous opportunities for law students and graduates and the fellowships are an enormous help to legal service programs throughout the country that work hard every day to make real the promise of equal justice.

Nine Years of Growth for Equal Justice America

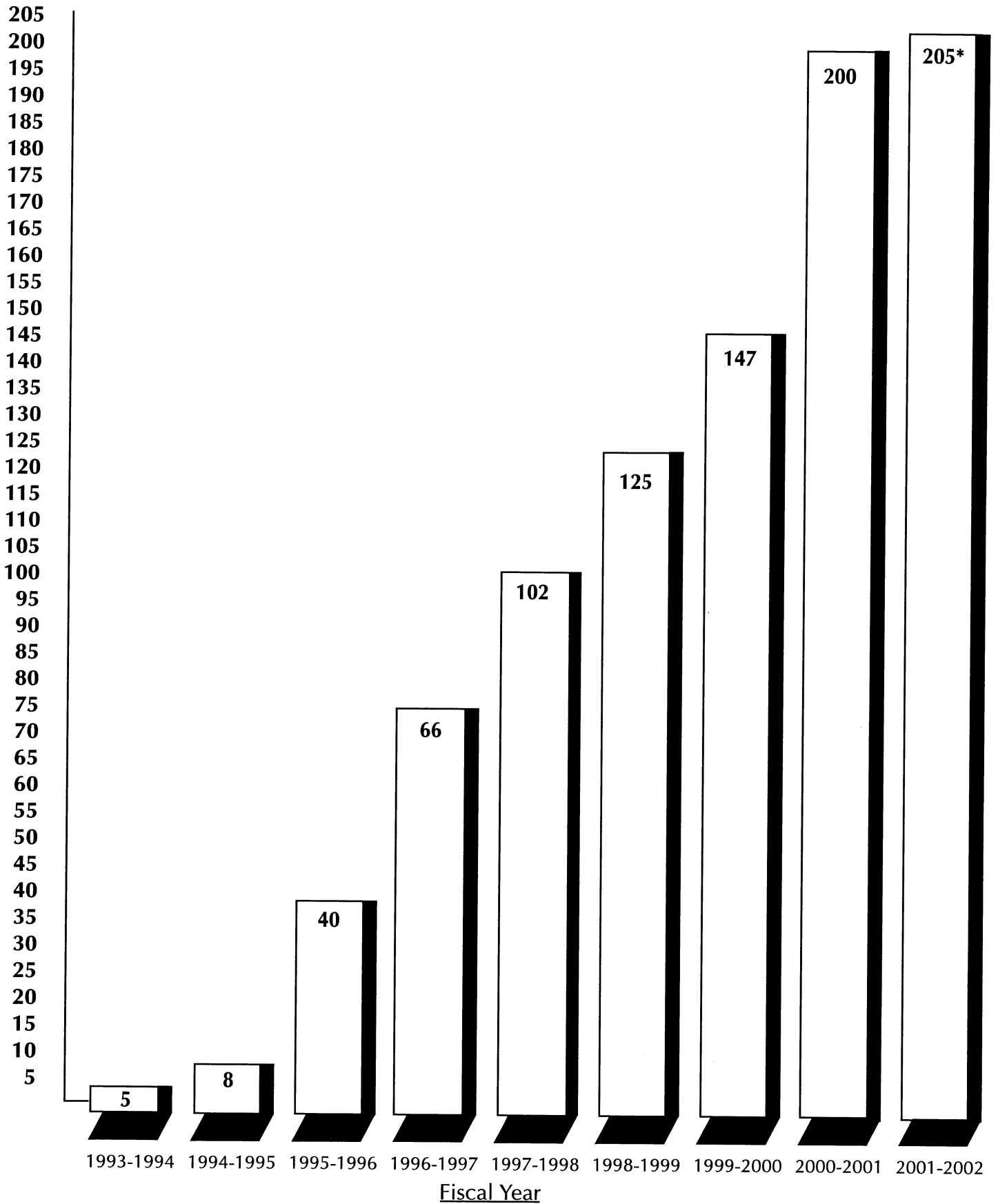
Contributions Raised



Fiscal Year

Nine Years of Growth for Equal Justice America

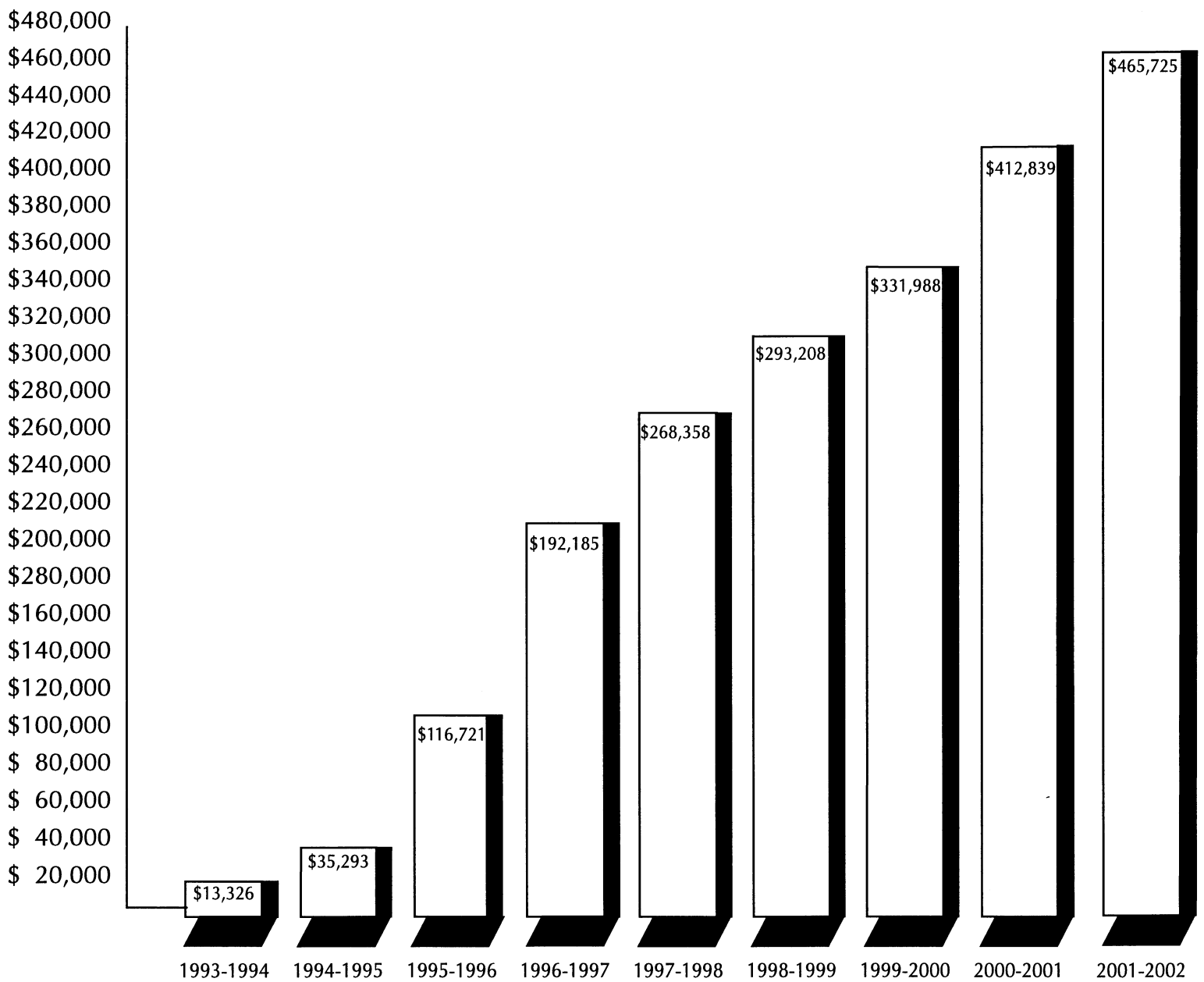
Number Of Fellowships Sponsored



* Funds for our first two full-time, 2 year EJA Post Graduate Fellowships, which began in the fall of 2002, limited the growth in the number of fellowships.

Nine Years of Growth for Equal Justice America

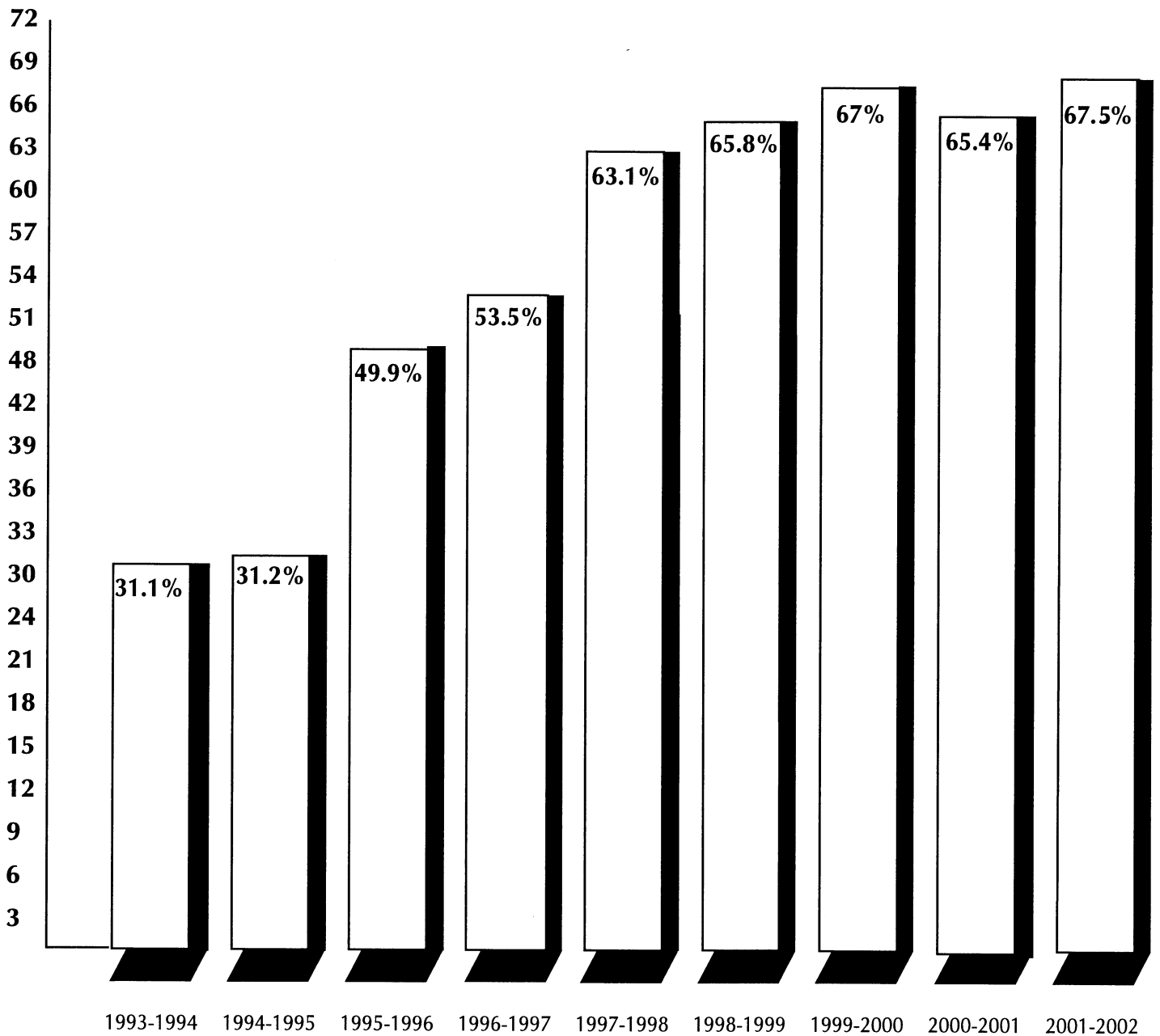
Dollars Spent For Program Services



Fiscal Year

Nine Years of Growth for Equal Justice America

Percentage of Funds Spent on Program Services



Fiscal Year



What They're Saying About Equal Justice America...

“How about all lawyers, particularly if you aren't doing your share of pro bono work, send a check to... [Equal Justice America.]”

Nancy Q. Keefe
Gannett Newspapers

“The support of Equal Justice America has helped us do even more to protect women from domestic violence and put the weight of our judicial system fully behind those who have been victimized. I know that Equal Justice America has a growing reputation for assisting organizations all over the country, which provide legal services to the poor, including many groups that devote much of their efforts to protecting battered and abused women and children. We look forward to continuing our successful partnership with Equal Justice America.”

Victoria L. Lutz
Director, Battered Women's Justice Center
Pace University School of Law
White Plains, NY

“I am very impressed with how Equal Justice America has grown—from funding a single student each semester to being a critical part of the largest legal services intern program in Michigan. With the current and pending cuts to federal legal services funding, outside funding for student interns will help us minimize the costs of these cuts to our struggling low-income clients.”

Robert F. Gillett
Director
Legal Services of South Central Michigan

“The support of Equal Justice America has consistently given Bet Tzedek the chance to expand our services, reach more people and provide equal access to justice for greater numbers of elderly, indigent and disabled residents of our community. On behalf of our staff, our Board of Directors and most especially the clients you help us serve, please again accept our deepest thanks for your support. We are incredibly grateful.”

David A. Lash
Executive Director
Bet Tzedek Legal Services
Los Angeles, CA

“It is fortunate that we have organizations like Equal Justice America to provide funds to students who would not otherwise be able to work for nonprofit organizations such as ours. I feel strongly that public interest law or clinical participation is essential to a law student's education in order to keep them grounded and balanced in the profession they are about to enter.”

Sylvia M. Brennan
Managing Attorney
Legal Services of Northern Virginia



“We deeply appreciate the assistance of Equal Justice America. Your funding enables us to stretch our limited resources to better represent our clients, for whom our student interns provide valuable service. With significant new funding cuts on the horizon, additional funding sources are crucial if the motto of “Equal Justice for All” is to be more than an empty slogan. Please accept our thanks for your assistance in bringing that motto closer to a reality for our clients.”

Peter Schneider
Community Legal Services
Philadelphia, PA

“Thanks to Equal Justice America, we have three new student fellows who are this semester’s student directors of the Yale Law School TRO Project. This project is one of the most successful student projects to come out of the Law School and is a demonstration project for law schools and legal services programs throughout the country. It provides critical services to victims of domestic violence who come to the courthouse and attempt to file for orders of protection on their own. I cannot thank you and the Yale Law School alumni enough for supporting the work that we do at legal services in such a constructive and positive way by funding law students to work with us. On behalf of the low-income community we serve, many thanks.

Patricia Kaplan
Executive Director
New Haven Legal Assistance Association

“I wanted to express my deep appreciation for all the support you have given us. I congratulate you on your efforts, and your commitment to providing students the opportunity to work with people who desperately need help. We look forward to continuing our relationship with Equal Justice America.”

Gerald Nordgren
Director of Legal Services
Chicago Legal Clinic

“Your fellowships have allowed us to provide quality, free legal services to the most vulnerable people in our community, particularly in the areas of assisting abused women and children and assisting with the adoption of children out of the foster care system. Your partnership is deeply appreciated by Public Counsel, and we thank you for helping us make a difference. Your ongoing support and commitment is critical and invaluable.”

Dan Grunfeld
President/CEO
Public Counsel Law Center
Los Angeles, CA



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA
Currently Offers Legal Services
Fellowships to Students at the
Following Law Schools

- ◆ American University Washington College of Law
- ◆ Boston College Law School
- ◆ Boston University School of Law
- ◆ Brooklyn Law School
- ◆ Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law
- ◆ Chicago Kent College of Law
- ◆ Columbia University School of Law
- ◆ Cornell Law School
- ◆ De Paul University College of Law
- ◆ Detroit College of Law
- ◆ Fordham University School of Law
- ◆ George Washington University School of Law
- ◆ Georgetown University Law Center
- ◆ Harvard Law School
- ◆ Howard University School of Law
- ◆ John Marshall Law School
- ◆ Loyola University of Chicago School of Law
- ◆ New York Law School
- ◆ New York University School of Law
- ◆ Northwestern University School of Law
- ◆ Pace University School of Law
- ◆ Saint John's University School of Law
- ◆ Southwestern University School of Law
- ◆ Stanford Law School
- ◆ Suffolk University Law School
- ◆ Temple University School of Law
- ◆ Union University Albany Law School
- ◆ University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall
- ◆ University of California Hastings College of the Law
- ◆ University of California, Los Angeles School of Law
- ◆ University of Chicago Law School
- ◆ University of Colorado School of Law
- ◆ University of Illinois College of the Law
- ◆ University of Michigan Law School
- ◆ University of Minnesota Law School
- ◆ University of Pennsylvania Law School
- ◆ University of Texas at Austin School of Law
- ◆ University of Virginia School of Law
- ◆ University of Wisconsin Law School
- ◆ University of Washington School of Law
- ◆ Wayne State University Law School
- ◆ Yale University Law School



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA
has sponsored Law Student
Fellowships at the Following
Legal Assistance Organizations

- AIDS Legal Council of Chicago
- Atlanta Legal Aid Society
- Advocates for Children, New York City
- Alaska Legal Services
- AYUDA Legal Aid, Washington, DC
- Battered Women's Alternatives, Concord, CA
- Battered Women's Justice Center, White Plains, NY
- Bay Area Legal Aid, San Francisco, CA
- Bay Area Legal Services, Tampa, FL
- Bet Tzedek Legal Services, Los Angeles, CA
- Boston College Immigration and Asylum Project
- Boston College Legal Assistance Bureau
- Break the Cycle, Los Angeles, CA
- Bronx Legal Services
- Brooklyn Legal Services Corp. A
- California Rural Legal Assistance
- Catholic Charities Immigration and Refugee Services, New York, NY
- Center for Arkansas Legal Services
- Central Virginia Legal Aid Society
- Charlottesville-Abermarle Legal Aid Society, VA
- Chemung Legal Services, Elmira, NY
- Chicago Legal Clinic
- Children's Legal Services, Boston, MA
- Columbia Legal Services, Seattle, WA
- Community Legal Services, Philadelphia, PA
- Cornell Legal Aid Clinic, Ithaca, NY
- DC Employment Justice Center
- DC Law Students in Court
- Disability Law Center, Seattle, WA
- East Bay Community Law Center, Berkeley, CA
- Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic, White Plains, NY
- Essex-Newark Legal Services, NJ
- Farmers' Legal Action Group, St. Paul, MI
- Farmworkers' Legal Services, New Paltz, NY
- Florida Justice Center
- Free Legal Aid Clinic, Detroit, MI
- General Assistance Advocacy Project, San Francisco, CA
- Georgia Legal Services
- Greater Boston Catholic Charities, Immigration Legal Services
- Greater Boston Legal Services
- Harvard Law School Legal Services Center, Jamaica Plain, MA
- Homeless Action Center, Berkeley, CA
- Kentucky Legal Services
- Knoxville Legal Aid Society, TN
- Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation, Champaign, IL
- Lawyers for Children, New York, NY
- Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
- Legal Action of Wisconsin
- Legal Advocates for Children & Youth, San Jose, CA
- Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
- Legal Aid of Central Texas
- Legal Aid of Western Missouri
- Legal Aid Society of Albuquerque, NM
- Legal Aid Society of Hawaii
- Legal Aid Society of New York City
- Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York
- Legal Aid Society of Orange County
- Legal Aid Society of Rochester, NY
- Legal Aid Society of San Francisco
- Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County, CA
- Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia
- Legal Aid Society of Westchester County, NY
- Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago
- Legal Services Center at the Door, New York, NY
- Legal Services of Central Michigan
- Legal Corps of Los Angeles
- Legal Services of North Florida
- Legal Services of South Central Michigan
- Legal Services of the Blue Ridge, Boone, NC
- Lifespan Center for Legal Services, Chicago, IL
- Make the Road by Walking, Newark, NJ
- Merrimack Valley Legal Services, Lowell, MA
- MFY Legal Services, New York, NY
- Michigan Poverty Law Program
- Montana Legal Services Association
- Nassau Suffolk Law Services Committee, NY
- National Center for Youth Law, San Francisco, CA
- National Employment Law Project, New York, NY
- Native Lands Institute, Albuquerque, NM
- Neighborhood Law Project, Madison, WI
- Neighborhood Legal Services, MA
- Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Washington, DC
- New Haven Legal Assistance Association
- New Jersey Legal Services
- New York Lawyers in the Public Interest
- New York Legal Assistance Group
- Northwestern University Legal Clinic, Chicago, IL
- Northern Virginia Legal Services
- North Carolina Justice Center
- North State Legal Services, Hillsborough, NC
- Oregon Legal Services
- Philadelphia Legal Assistance
- Piedmont Legal Services, Charlottesville, VA
- Pine Tree Legal Assistance, Maine
- Political Asylum Project of Austin, TX
- Pro Bono Partnership, Newark, NJ & White Plains, NY
- Public Counsel Law Center, Los Angeles, CA
- Public Justice Center, Baltimore, MD
- Restaurant Opportunities Center of New York
- Rhode Island Legal Aid Bureau
- Rocky Mountain Children's Justice Center, Denver, CO
- Sanctuary for Families Center for Battered Women's Legal Services, New York, NY
- South Brooklyn Legal Services
- Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services
- Sugar Law Center for Economic Justice, Detroit, MI
- Texas Rural Legal Aid
- Urban Justice Center, New York, NY
- Vermont Legal Aid
- Virginia Justice Center
- Welfare Law Center, New York, NY
- Westchester-Putnam Legal Services, NY
- Western Wisconsin Legal Services
- West Tennessee Legal Services
- Women Against Abuse Legal Center, Philadelphia, PA
- Women Empowered Against Violence, Washington, DC



**Equal Justice
America**

**Law Student Fellowships
2001-2002**



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA
Law Student Fellowships
Fiscal Year 2001-2002

Fall 2001/Spring 2002 Fellowships

- Susanne Aberbach-Marolda, Pace University School of Law, Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, White Plains, NY Fall/Spring.
- Grace Bonilla, Brooklyn Law School, Welfare Law Center, New York City, Fall.
- Kimberly Brayton, Yale University Law School, New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Fall/Spring.
- Brooke Bruner, Georgetown University Law Center, D.C. Employment Justice Center, Spring.
- Giliane Cherubin, Columbia University School of Law, Immigrant and Refugee Services, Catholic Charities, New York City, Fall/Spring.
- Lesha Cowell, Georgetown University, Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Washington, D.C., Spring.
- Elizabeth Coy, Georgetown University, Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Spring.
- Vivian Currie, Pace University, Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, Fall/Spring.
- Erin Donohue, Yale University, New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Spring.
- Erin Eliassen, Fordham University School of Law, Welfare Law Center, New York City, Fall/Spring.
- Jennifer Filippazzo, Pace University, Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, Fall.
- Tristan Fleming, Georgetown University, Children's Law Center, Fall.
- Alicia Frascione, Pace University, Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, Fall.
- Tricia Goostree, John Marshall Law School, Chicago Legal Clinic, Fall.
- Anjum Gupta, Yale University, New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Fall/Spring.
- Lung Shu Hung, University of Colorado School of Law, Colorado Legal Services, Fall.
- Jennifer Hutchcroft, University of Texas, Political Asylum Project of Austin, Spring.
- Negar Javaherian, University of California, Los Angeles, Public Counsel Law Center, Los Angeles, Spring.
- Stacey Kamyra, Yale University, New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Fall/Spring.
- Leah Kolodney-Pizer, Pace University, Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, Fall/Spring.

Equal Justice America
Law Student Fellowships
Fiscal Year 2001-2002
Fall 2001/Spring 2002

- Dianne Rose LaRocca, Harvard Law School, Harvard Law School Legal Services Center, Spring.
- Robert Lindley, George Washington University Law School, Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia, Spring.
- Amy Litty, Harvard, Harvard Law School Legal Services Center, Spring.
- Nancy MacEoin, University of Pennsylvania, Community Legal Services, Philadelphia, Spring.
- Fatma Marouf, Harvard, Harvard Law School Legal Services Center, Spring.
- Jason McLaurin, Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Fall.
- Lysandra Lopez Medina, American University, Washington College of Law, Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Washington, D.C., Fall/Spring.
- Diego Mendez, Georgetown University, D.C. Employment Justice Center, Spring.
- Leah Myers, Georgetown University, D.C. Employment Justice Center, Fall.
- Danielle Nelson, George Washington University, Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Fall.
- Erin O'Donohue, Yale University, New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Fall.
- Melanie Orhant, American University, D.C. Employment Justice Center, Fall.
- Melanie Orhant, American University, CAIR Coalition, Washington, D.C., Spring.
- John Owens, Fordham University, Welfare Law Center, New York City, Fall.
- Louis Panigrosso, Pace University, Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, Fall.
- Melynda Pryce, University of Texas, Political Asylum Project of Austin, Fall.
- Steven Sandor, Pace University, Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, Fall/Spring.
- Sandeep Satwalekar, Columbia University, Welfare Law Center, New York City, Spring.
- Lorraine Saunders, Pace University, Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, Fall.
- Joanne Schleifman, Harvard, Harvard Law School Legal Services Center, Spring.
- Christopher Sheehan, University of Michigan Law School, Legal Services of South Central Michigan, Fall/Spring.
- Hilary Shroyer, UCLA, Public Counsel Law Center, Los Angeles, Spring.
- Samantha Smith, University of California Hastings, Bay Area Legal Aid, San Francisco, Fall.
- Stephanie Suen, Loyola University of Chicago School of Law, Chicago Legal Clinic, Fall.

Equal Justice America
Law Student Fellowships
Fiscal Year 2001-2002
Fall 2001/Spring 2002

- Joseph Taborsak, Pace University, Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, Fall/Spring.
- Laura Tansey, University of Texas, Political Asylum Project of Austin, Fall/Spring.
- Alexandra van Nes, Pace University, Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, Fall/Spring.
- Christina Brandt Young, University of Michigan, Legal Services of South Central Michigan, Fall/Spring.

Summer 2002 Fellowships

- Susanne Aberbach-Marolda, Pace University, Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic.
- Ellyce C. Anapolsky, John Marshall Law School, Community Legal Services, Philadelphia.
- Barbra Arnold, Harvard, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Gwenaelle Barbier, George Washington University, Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Washington, DC.
- Lori Barrett, Cornell University, Cornell Legal Aid Clinic.
- Collene Beatty, Detroit College of Law, Legal Services of South Central Michigan.
- Jeff Bedell, University of Illinois College of Law, Legal Aid Society of Hawaii.
- Molly Biklin, Columbia University, National Employment Law Project, New York City
- Sarah Billeri, Suffolk University, Children's Legal Services, Boston, MA
- Elizabeth Bornstein, University of Chicago Law School, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago.
- Christopher Boundy, Boston University School of Law, Harvard Law School Legal Services Center, Jamaica Plain, MA.
- Terence J. Brennan, Temple University, Community Legal Services, Philadelphia.
- Aaron J. Buckley, DePaul University College of Law, Bluhm Legal Clinic, Northwestern University School of Law
- Mike Carew, Harvard University, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Aaron D. Cervantes, American University, Texas Rural Legal Aid.
- Connie Chan, George Washington University, Community Legal Services Philadelphia.
- Fei Yan Cheuk, Rutgers University School of Law, Essex-Newark Legal Services.
- Peter Chung, University of Michigan, Legal Aid Society of Orange County, CA.
- Neftaro Clark, Detroit College of Law, Legal Services of South Central Michigan.
- Melissa Cohen, Columbia University, Brooklyn Legal Services.

Equal Justice America
Law Student Fellowships
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- Sreoshi Datta, University of California, Hastings, Bet Tzedek Legal Services, Los Angeles.
- Meg Davis, University of Virginia School of Law, Legal Aid Justice Center, Charlottesville, VA.
- Rob Degregory, Harvard University, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Elizabeth R. Dembitzer, Boston College Law School, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Nancy Jean Doig, University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall, National Center for Youth Law, San Francisco.
- Molly Donohue, Suffolk University Law School, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Julie Dubitski, Boston University, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Mark Ellenbogen, University of Texas at Austin School of Law, Legal Aid of Central Texas.
- Jorge Elorza, Harvard University, Rhode Island Legal Services.
- Sally Espinoza, University of California, Hastings, East Bay Community Law Center, Berkeley, CA
- Emily Fan, University of Virginia, AIDS Legal Services, San Jose, CA.
- Rosa Figueroa, University of California, Hastings, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles.
- Mindy Foss, Columbia University, Brooklyn Legal Services.
- Michael R. Froehlich, University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall, Legal Aid Society, San Francisco.
- Stacy Garrick, George Washington University, Public Counsel Law Center, Los Angeles.
- Regina Gerrick, Boston College, Harvard Law School Legal Services Center.
- Edith Gimm, Boston College, Lawyers for Children, New York City.
- Clifford Ginne, Harvard University, Harvard Legal Aid Bureau.
- Andrea Gold, University of Michigan, Legal Services of South Central Michigan.
- Jeff Gold, DePaul University, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago.
- Luke Goodrich, University of Chicago, Chicago Legal Clinic.
- Sheila Gray, Cornell University, Legal Services of North Florida.
- Heather Graziano, University of Michigan, Oregon Legal Services.
- Tatiana E. Gutierrez, Georgetown University, D.C. Law Students in Court.
- Megan Hailey-Dunsheath, University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall East Bay Community Law Center, Berkeley, CA.
- Leonnette Hamilton, Temple University, Women Against Abuse.
- Julie Harcom, Loyola University of Chicago, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago.
- Brooke L. Heymach, University of California University of California, Hastings, Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County.

Equal Justice America
Law Student Fellowships
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- Eleanor Hicks, Georgetown University, Bay Area Legal Aid, San Francisco.
- Merrill Catharine Hodnefeld, University of Michigan, Legal Services of South Central Michigan.
- Mary Patricia Holper, Boston College, Ayuda Legal Aid, Washington, DC
- Olivia Horgan, University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall, La Razo Centro Legal, San Francisco.
- Noreen Hough, Loyola University of Chicago, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago.
- Kathy Kuynh, University of California, Hastings, East Bay Community Law Center, Berkeley, CA.
- Dean Joe, George Washington University, Legal Aid of Central Texas.
- Carol Melora Johnston, Harvard University, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Kevin V. Jones, Harvard University, Harvard Law School Legal Services Center.
- Rebecca Katz, Harvard University, Harvard Legal Aid Bureau.
- Mary Beth Kaufman, University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall, East Bay Community Law Center, Berkeley, CA.
- Cassandra Kelleher, Albany Law School, Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York.
- Jessie Kempf, University of Texas, Legal Aid of Central Texas.
- Marla Kerr, University of Colorado, Rocky Mountain Children's Justice Center, Denver, CO.
- Edith Kinney, University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall, General Assistance Advocacy Project, San Francisco.
- Natalia Kolasa, Cornell University, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago.
- Brian Lee, Temple University, East Bay Community Law Center, Berkeley, CA.
- Saejung Lee, University of Virginia, Sanctuary for Families Center for Battered Women's Legal Services, New York, NY.
- Meredith E. Lins, University of Minnesota, Western Wisconsin Legal Services.
- Lars Longnecker, University of Chicago, Chicago Legal Clinic.
- Andrew Lu, Boston University, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Alyssa Mahaffey, University of Wisconsin, Neighborhood Law Project, Madison, WI
- Sonia Mansoor, Columbia University, Sanctuary For Families Center for Battered Women's Legal Services
- Jody L. Marcucci, DePaul University, Chicago Legal Clinic.
- Maria Isabel Martinez, University of Illinois, Illinois Migrant Legal Assistance Project.
- Ashley Mason, Boston University, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Sa'asiyah Masoud, Boston University, The Boston Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights.

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- Matthew Mazur, Harvard University, Texas Rural Legal Aid.
- Mindy McCofsky, New York University, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Corlie McCormick, Jr., Howard University, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, Washington, DC.
- Eileen McDonough, New York Law School, MFY Legal Services, New York, NY
- Ed McKenna, Northwestern University, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago.
- Kelly McLain, University of Minnesota, Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services.
- Ayanna Z. McLean, Rutgers University, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Amanda A. Meader, Cornell University, Pine Tree Legal Assistance, Bangor, ME.
- Aleksander Mici, Fordham University, Pro Bono Partnership, White Plains, NY
- Nayila Miller, Brooklyn Law School, Brooklyn Legal Services.
- Jessica Munson, University of Minnesota, Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services.
- Miho Murai, University of California University of California, Hastings, Legal Services for Children, San Francisco.
- Usman Nawaz, St. John's University, Pace Battered Woman's Justice Center, White Plains, NY.
- Blaine Noblett, Southwestern University, Bet Tzedek Legal Services, Los Angeles.
- Kerry Ogle, Brooklyn Law School, Brooklyn Legal Services.
- Omar Ortiz-Velazquez, Harvard University, Restaurant Opportunities Center of New York.
- Biana Ostrovsky, Detroit College of Law, Legal Services of South Central Michigan.
- Jason Otano, Fordham University, Puerto Rico Legal Defense & Education Fund.
- Esther Kyung-ji Park, Georgetown University, Women Empowered Against Violence.
- Sally Spencer Peacock, University of Pennsylvania, South Brooklyn Legal Services.
- Tiesha R. Peal, Rutgers University, New York Legal Assistance Group.
- Denise Penn, Boston College, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Karla Pleitez, University of California, Hastings, Public Counsel Law Center, Los Angeles.
- Matt Povich, Loyola University of Chicago, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago.
- Paul Powell, Columbia University, Brooklyn Legal Services.
- Vijay Raveendranath, Fordham University, Restaurant Opportunities Center for New York.

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Law Student Fellowships
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- Erin M. Reid, Harvard University, New Haven Legal Assistant Association.
- Hannah L. Renfro-Sargent, University of Wisconsin, Legal Action of Wisconsin.
- Meredith Renquin, New York Law School, Pace Battered Women's Justice Center, White Plains, NY.
- Judith Reyes, Harvard University, Texas Rural Legal Aid.
- Shela Omell Richards, Brooklyn Law School, Brooklyn Legal Services.
- Stephanie Richardson, Boston University, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Elizabeth Rios, University of Michigan, Legal Services of South Central Michigan.
- Kimber Rodgers, University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall, Legal Aid Society of San Francisco.
- Rachele Rogers, University of California, Hastings, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles.
- Sophia Sasaki, Boston College, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles.
- Dan Schlanger, Harvard University, New York Farmworkers Legal Aid.
- Tarak Shah, Harvard University, Harvard Law School Legal Services Center.
- Althea Smiley, University of Virginia, Bet Tzedek Legal Services, Los Angeles.
- Tyler Smith, University of Michigan, Legal Aid Society, New York, NY.
- Femi Solade, Northwestern University, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago.
- Benlliam Soo-Hoo, St. John's University, Pace Battered Women's Justice Center, White Plains, NY.
- Amy Spotts, Harvard University, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Zoe Stark, Boston College, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Joseph Taborsak, Pace University, Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, White Plains, NY.
- Amber Tafoya, University of Colorado, Colorado Legal Services.
- Rebecca Talmud, Boston College, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Kavita Tekshandani, University of California, Hastings, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles.
- Richard Tisdale, Fordham University, Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation.
- Scott Torguson, University of Pennsylvania, Women Against Abuse Legal Center, Philadelphia.
- Daniel Traum, University of Michigan, Legal Services of South Central Michigan.
- Alexandra van Nes, Pace University, Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, White Plains, NY
- Hunter Van Valkenburg, Wayne State University, Legal Services of South Central Michigan.
- Luis Villegas, Boston University, Harvard Law School Legal Services Center.

Equal Justice America
Law Student Fellowships
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- Lawrence Wagner, DePaul University, Chicago Legal Clinic.
- Mohammed Walizadeh, University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall, Public Counsel Law Center, Los Angeles.
- Holli Wallace, Detroit College of Law, Legal Services of South Central Michigan.
- Derek Watkins, Wayne State University, Sugar Law Center for Economic and Social Justice, Detroit.
- Laura Herron Weber, University of California University of California, Hastings, Bay Area Legal Services, San Francisco.
- Catherine West, University of Wisconsin, Neighborhood Law Project, Madison, WI.
- Tobey Wiggins, Boston University, Greater Boston Legal Services.
- Christina Wilkes, George Washington University, Ayuda Legal Aid, Washington, DC.
- Caroline Williams, University of Michigan, Legal Services of South Central Michigan.
- Rebecca Woodworth, Suffolk University, Harvard Law School Legal Services Center.
- Sabrina Yohai, Georgetown University, Ayuda Legal Aid, Washington, DC.
- Joel Young, University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall, East Bay Community Law Center, Berkeley, CA.
- Thomas J. Zaszewski, Rutgers University, Mental Health Advocacy Project, San Jose, CA.
- Lauren Zimmerman, Brooklyn Law School, Brooklyn Legal Services.
- Eileen Zorc, Georgetown University, Public Counsel Law Center, Los Angeles.
- Kathleen Zvarych, University of Virginia, Legal Aid Justice Center, Charlottesville, VA.



Letters
to
Equal Justice
America
from
Legal Services
Organizations



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September 17, 2002

Dan Ruben
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Re: Fall Fellowships

Dear Mr. Ruben:

Robin Sommerstein just informed me that Equal Justice America has again been generous enough to fund three fellowships at Bet Tzedek for the fall semester. I wanted to personally thank you for all you do for us and our clients. The support of Equal Justice America has consistently given Bet Tzedek the chance to expand our services, reach more people, and provide equal access to justice for greater numbers of elderly, indigent and disabled residents of our community.

On behalf of our staff, our Board of Directors, and most especially the clients you help us serve, please again accept our deepest thanks for your support. We are incredibly grateful.

Best wishes,

David A. Lash
Executive Director

cc: Robin Sommerstein

David A. Lash
Executive Director
Gina Lobaco
*Marketing and
Development Director*



GREATER BOSTON
LEGAL SERVICES
...and justice for all

October 5, 2002

Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Mr. Ruben:

Allow me to take this opportunity to thank you and your organization for your generous funding of summer law students at Greater Boston Legal Services. This summer, with the support of EJA, these students contributed invaluable assistance to enable GBLS' attorneys to fulfill the mission of GBLS: to provide quality civil legal representation to as many low-income families and individuals as possible.

Greater Boston Legal Services is the primary provider of free, civil legal assistance to low-income people in the city of Boston and 31 surrounding cities and towns. GBLS represents individuals and families, assisting with individual client needs as well as systemic problems. Over the last year, GBLS served more than 18,000 people.

This past summer, Equal Justice America sponsored fellowship opportunities at GBLS for 18 students from a number of the area's finest law schools, including Boston College, Boston University, Harvard University and Suffolk University. The Equal Justice America Fellowship Program offers critical direct work experience to future lawyers, while instilling an appreciation for the crucial importance of legal services work. And most importantly, EJA Fellows provide essential support and services to hundreds of GBLS' most needy clients.

On behalf of our entire staff, I would like to express our gratitude for your organization's work and fund-raising efforts. As the budget crisis deepens, we are increasingly dependent on resources from EJA and other valuable supporters. We deeply appreciate our relationship with Equal Justice America and look forward to our continued collaboration in the future.

Sincerely,

Robert Sable
Executive Director

NEW HAVEN LEGAL ASSISTANCE ASSOCIATION, INC.

426 STATE STREET
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06510-2018
TELEPHONE (203) 946-4811
FAX (203) 498-9271

October 18, 2002

Dan Ruben
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Dan:

Thanks to Equal Justice America, we have three new student fellows, Nola Breglio, Annie Harlan and Sarah Holland who are this semester's student directors of the Yale Law School Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) project. This project is one of the most successful student projects to come out of the law school and is a demonstration project for law schools and legal services' programs throughout the country. It provides critical services to victims of domestic violence who come in to the courthouse and attempt to file for orders of protection on their own. This project is now considered to be a permanent part of the law school programming.

We are also extremely excited about the new project that Equal Justice America will be funding to provide us with a full time attorney for two years to work in the area of domestic violence/family law. The Fellowship attorney will be working with our Family/Child Law Unit. S/he will be involved in the statewide partnership that coordinates the work of legal services attorneys and the domestic violence shelters. The partnership involves training on domestic violence issues for both the legal services' attorneys and the shelter workers, collaboration on referrals for victims of domestic violence for any other appropriate and necessary supportive services and representation of the victims to ensure that there are orders in court that provide the necessary legal protection. This project will expand our much stressed resources and allow us to help more victims of domestic violence achieve security and stability in their lives and a safer more secure environment for their children.

Again, I cannot thank you and the Yale Law School alumni enough for supporting the work that we do at legal services and helping us to expand our limited resources in such a constructive and positive way. On behalf of the low-income community that we serve, many thanks.

Sincerely yours,



Patricia Kaplan
Executive Director

WESTERN WISCONSIN LEGAL SERVICES, INC.
202 North Main Street, Post Office Box 327
Dodgeville, Wisconsin 53533-0327

Charles Kreimendahl
Managing Attorney

FAX (608) 935-2803
E-MAIL wwlsdvo@mhtc.net

Telephone (608) 935-2741
Toll-free (800) 873-0928

August 8, 2002

Dan Ruben, Executive Director
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Re: Meredith Lins Summer Fellowship

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I write with great pleasure and satisfaction in reporting the wonderful work done by Meredith Lins as a law student intern at our office under the fellowship Equal Justice America provided. Ms. Lins engaged in real, front-line advocacy for poor people for about three months this summer. She showed dedication, expertise and empathy in all of her work here. Her work on client cases in the consumer, family, housing and public benefit areas provided a great service to our clients. She was especially skilled in client contact including initial intake via telephone or in person as well as followup interviews and consultations. She progressed well enough to handle an administrative hearing herself before an unemployment insurance benefit administrative law judge. This is no small feat as the Wisconsin system is set up in a way that makes it difficult for claimants and their advocates to present their cases and to prevail.

I appreciate your organization making the funds available to have Ms. Lins here this summer. While the federal and other cuts in funding have hampered our ability to provide services to all needy clients, and the poor shape of the economy has created even more pressure on low-income persons, it is refreshing to work with an organization and its "charges" who truly care about protecting the rights and the already limited means of support for those most deserving. Thanks again.

Sincerely,



Charles Kreimendahl
Managing Attorney

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Dodgeville Law Office
202 N. Main Street
Dodgeville, Wisconsin 53533
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Executive Director

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650.558.0915 FAX 650.558.0673

August 8, 2002

Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Re: Brooke Heymach
Fellowship Report

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I am delighted to report to you on Brooke Heymach's ten week fellowship in our office this summer. Brooke's last day was July 26, 2002, and we were sorry to see her go. Her outstanding work led our office to decide to sponsor Brooke for post-graduate legal fellowships to continue the "Children's Access to Health Care" project she initiated this summer.

During her ten weeks here, Brooke researched and wrote an extensive memorandum on California's Early Start program (an early intervention program for children at risk for developmental disabilities); created an educational pamphlet about the Early Start program for parents of children with disabilities; developed a health care access questionnaire; participated in a local collaborative for premature infants; and worked on nineteen direct service cases. Brooke took on the work with enthusiasm and welcomed every challenge I gave her. For instance, I asked her to present her research on the Early Start program to a collaborative of community-based organizations, including an agency whose practices appeared to be violating the law. Brooke approached this challenge by researching California's Early Start regulations exhaustively, producing a clear, well-written and well-organized memorandum, and preparing a list of questions about the Early Start program for the collaborative. Brooke's tact and good judgment allowed her to ask thorny questions and gather important information at the meeting without alienating collaborating agencies. Brooke's research will also serve as the basis for policy negotiations or litigation in the future.

Brooke worked on nineteen cases -- a remarkable number for a law student over a ten week period. The cases ranged from research and advice, to negotiation, to representation at an administrative hearing. Four cases were still in progress after Brooke's fellowship ended. She resolved the other fifteen successfully. Brooke's skills and substantive knowledge grew rapidly

over the summer. Brooke began the summer observing my intake interviews. By the end of the summer, she was conducting her own intake without my presence or help. Brooke's empathy and warmth made all clients feel immediately at ease with her. Clients whose cases were still in progress after she left have asked me to give their regards to Brooke, and have commented to me on how much they liked her.

Brooke also demonstrated outstanding negotiation skills. To resolve several cases, she had to negotiate with hospitals, collection agencies, and the county welfare office. She advocated vigorously for her clients without becoming adversarial. Her interpersonal skills, combined with the substantive knowledge she developed, made her a powerful advocate. Brooke was also asked on very short notice to represent a Russian-speaking client at a disability hearing. She tackled an entirely new area of law, wrote an excellent brief, prepared the client for the hearing, and represented her at the hearing. (We have not yet received the hearing decision, but believe our client prevailed.) These accomplishments all testify to Brooke's intelligence, skills, and commitment.

Brooke will be an exceptional legal services lawyer. She is a natural. She is also eager to learn, enthusiastic, open to feedback, and a real pleasure to work with. We were very lucky to have her with us this summer. Thank you again for making it possible.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Very truly yours,



Melissa A. Rodgers
Attorney at Law

cc: Brooke Heymach
D:\MyFiles\Legal Aid\Brooke Heymach EJA Report.wpd

Farmworker Legal Services of New York, Inc.
Servicios Legales para Los Trabajadores Agrícolas
Trayayè-Fèm Sèvis Legal de New York

52 S. Manheim Blvd.
New Paltz, New York 12561
Tel: (845)255-1884
Fax: (845) 255-3629

September 10, 2002

Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Re: Law student intern Dan Schlanger

Dear Sir or Madam:

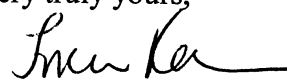
Farmworker Legal Services of New York, Inc. ("FLSNY") was fortunate to have had Harvard Law student Dan Schlanger with us this summer on a summer fellowship through Equal Justice America. Dan's contributions this summer were extensive, and his work was uniformly well-done.

Dan attended and helped with three day-long depositions in a case in which a group of migrant farmworkers were paid only approximately \$3.00 per hour. He was very involved in drafting a complicated settlement agreement (as part of which Dan enlisted his father, Mike Schlanger, an attorney in New York, to provide *pro bono* assistance). Dan's participation in drafting this document was very useful to the attorney on the case. Dan also prepared a detailed memo for me on civil rights issues which I am using to respond to a motion to dismiss in a recently filed case. Dan met with clients, performed community outreach, did research, and pretty much performed the whole range of law intern activities. He was also a good sport about helping out with the less glamorous aspects of legal practice.

One individual success that Dan had was recovering a security deposit for a former farmworker whose landlord was refusing to return the deposit (approximately \$700) to her. Dan took the initial intake call, met with the client (which involved his traveling over an hour each way), and ultimately wrote a letter to the landlord explaining the obligation to return the deposit. As a result of Dan's letter, the security deposit was returned.

We were delighted to have Dan with us this summer, and we thank you for your support of Dan's work and of our organization.

Very truly yours,



Patricia C. Kakalec



Holistic Services for Survivors of Domestic Violence

MAIN OFFICE:
1111 16th Street, N.W., Suite 410
Washington, DC 20036
Phone 202/452-9550
Fax 202/452-8255
www.weaveincorp.org

EMERGENCY DOMESTIC RELATIONS PROJECT
District of Columbia Superior Court
500 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Room 4235
Washington, DC 20001
Phone 202/879-0152 OR 202/393-6290
December 18, 2002 Fax 202/879-1191

Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Re: Evaluation for Esther Park

Dear Mr. Ruben,

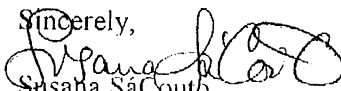
It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I submit an evaluation on behalf of Esther Park. I have been supervising Ms. Park since the summer of 2002, when she joined Women Empowered Against Violence, Inc. (WEAVE) as an intern.

In her capacity as an intern, Ms. Park assisted WEAVE's staff attorneys provide legal services to survivors of domestic violence. Her duties included conducting legal intakes, interviewing clients and witnesses, preparing court documents, gathering evidence, attending hearings, conducting legal research, and performing general office duties. From the very beginning, Ms. Park's work has been outstanding and we were thrilled when she chose to stay on as an intern throughout the academic year.

Although Ms. Park was relatively new to this field when she joined WEAVE, she quickly grasped the challenges facing victims of domestic violence and the legal options available to them. Her written work was consistently thorough, well-researched and well-organized. When relaying clients' stories to the legal team during our intake meetings, she demonstrated keen insight and the capacity to advocate on behalf of those whom she believed to be in most need of legal assistance.

Ms. Park is self-directed, but quick to ask questions and seek guidance when appropriate. She is an intelligent and hard worker who has performed her duties with compassion, skill and dedication. She is an exceptional individual, both as an advocate and as a person, and would be an asset to any internship program.

If you would like any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 452-9550 ext. 108.

Sincerely,

Susana SáCouto
Director of Legal Services



Letters
to
Equal Justice
America
from
Fellowship
Recipients

Omar Ortiz
48 Kinnaird St. #3
Cambridge, MA 02139

August 30, 2002

Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Mr. Ruben:

This letter is to briefly address the highlights and some of the most rewarding experiences I had during my Summer Fellowship.

On the whole, I must say that working for the Restaurant Opportunities Center of New York (ROC-NY) this summer has strengthened my commitment to provide professional support to the disadvantaged. Through ROC-NY, a non-profit born out of the September 11th tragedy, I was able to help in the effort to win improved long-term living conditions for the displaced workers and for the victims' families of the former World Trade Center's *Windows on the World* Restaurant.

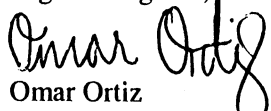
Among the specific tasks that I had at ROC-NY, I was responsible for developing and teaching a curriculum for a first-time series of ESL classes that was targeted at the workers and their families—many of whom are immigrants. Furthermore, I helped in conducting a series of job development, placement and training workshops. With regard to the job development workshops, I assisted in leading some sessions on topics related to "labor law".

Because ROC-NY does not only function as an educational source, I also participated in aiding food-service workers with their current or previous employment grievance legal cases. As such, I worked along with individual employees in trying to figure out the legality and extent of their grievance claim. In addition, I was assigned to do some legal research on the main restaurant conglomerates in New York City (particularly those with a history of workers' lawsuits) with the prospect of broadening the membership base of the organization in the time to come.

In the past I had partaken in numerous projects with professionals at multiple levels and areas of expertise. However, I had never really had a work experience at the very grassroots level. After working for ROC-NY, I have learned that no matter what the venue, it is at the grassroots level, where issues originate, that they must be ultimately resolved. What attracted me most about ROC-NY is the kind of concrete work it has undertaken in representation and defense of the frequently disenfranchised working poor. Coming from a quite modest socio-economic background, I adamantly subscribe to the view that the continuous economic success of this country fundamentally depends on the contribution of the working class. Indeed, working for ROC-NY has confirmed this view and enforced my commitment to champion the issue of economic justice.

I kindly thank Equal Justice America for supporting these endeavors.

Highest Regards,



Omar Ortiz
Harvard University, 2003



GREATER BOSTON
LEGAL SERVICES

Cambridge & Somerville Legal Services Office

August 6, 2002

Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I am writing to you to tell you about my wonderful experience this summer as a Legal Intern in the Housing Unit at Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services, a division of Greater Boston Legal Services. I have found the work to be incredibly rewarding; I have really helped people this summer, and I have learned a great deal in the process.

I accompanied my supervisor, Attorney Todd Kaplan, on his weekly visit to the Cambridge Multi-Service Center for the Homeless, where he interviewed prospective clients and dispensed legal advice to people whose legal problems did not necessitate a lawyer. I went to various Housing Authorities in the area in order to read clients' files and get copies of pertinent documents. I honed my interviewing skills, learning to ask the right questions to clients in order to gather the essential facts.

I have collected information about clients from their neighbors, relatives, doctors, case workers, and therapists; this has improved my research skills and has helped me become more assertive. While the time line of evictions has made me a better time manager, I have also learned to ask for help when help is needed: Housing Authorities understand when you are doing your best to help a client, and they will often be willing to postpone a trial in order for you to get that affidavit you've been waiting for all week. I have learned that even though you are on the other side of the "v." from opposing counsel, cooperation is far more productive than antagonism.

From my supervisor and the other attorneys in CASLS, I have learned with relief that it is OK to have a life outside of work; you can still be a good lawyer despite not working eighty-hours per week. I have enjoyed the spirit of fellowship among the staff at CASLS; everyone is very busy with heavy caseloads, but there is always laughter floating down the hall from somebody's office.

Dan Ruben

August 6, 2002

Page 2

One of the highlights of my summer at CASLS was when I represented a client in a grievance hearing at the Cambridge Housing Authority. The hearing was one of the most nerve-wracking and rewarding things I have ever done. My client was a battered woman who was trying to get help through religion and therapy; the Housing Authority was evicting her for letting an illegal occupant, her batterer, stay in her apartment. At the time of the hearing, my client had broken up with her batterer and had resolved to change her life. She had been abused as a young adult, and she had degenerative hearing loss and was almost completely deaf. Despite such obstacles, my client was extremely well-spoken and open. She was someone who had gone through a great deal in her life, and through her eloquence she was able to express this to the members of the Grievance Hearing Panel. The grievance panel voted unanimously to dismiss the eviction.

If my client at the grievance hearing was the only person whom I helped this summer, I would have been satisfied with my experience at CASLS. I have helped so many other people, and it amazes me that I have been able to do so many things after just one year of law school. This summer has shown me that I could be very happy and fulfilled in a career in public interest law. Thank you very much for this special opportunity.

Sincerely,



Molly H. Donohue
Suffolk University Law School
Class of 2004 (expected)

August 15, 2002

Amy C. Spotts
148 Maple Lane
Lebanon, PA 18042

Mr. Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I had not imagined that during the summer after my first year of law school I would be before a United States Administrative Law Judge, representing my own clients, in matters of such utmost importance. Having been employed this summer as a law clerk in the office of Greater Boston Legal Services in the Health and Disability Unit, I had the opportunity to do just that.

On the first day of work I was immediately thrust into the action. I met with my supervisor, Martha Martinez, for about fifteen minutes, just long enough for initial introductions and for me to obtain files for my first six clients. My assignment: to contact each and arrange interviews. So I set to work on a task that was not as easy as it seemed, as none of my clients seemed to be home. The first and only client I reached that first morning scolded me for waking her up and eventually hung up on me.

Over the next several weeks, I became well acquainted with the law students sitting in my row of cubicles (it was a tight work space!). We learned from each other, discussing the similar issues that each of us faced day-to-day. The students, attorneys, and paralegals in my unit came together every Tuesday at noon for case review, which provided not only a time for assignment of new clients, but also an opportunity for discussing policy, legislation, and unit issues, and for sharing of good news and victories as well as venting of frustrations and disappointments. The case review was followed by student training sessions on topics ranging from generalities of disability benefits to Massachusetts Medicare guidelines. By the end of the summer, I think each student could boast a well-established vault of information on the "ins and outs" of GBLS's Health and Disability Unit.

When my supervisor approached me about whether I wished to represent a client in an administrative hearing, I immediately answered affirmatively, though not really grasping what such an assignment entailed. I quickly discovered that the best way to learn how was to watch my supervisor in action, and I was very privileged to be able to observe many of her hearings before being responsible for my own.

Before I knew it, the day had come for me to do my own hearing. I had carefully prepared my file, making sure that the doctors had adequately documented the impairments of my client. I had met with my client and informed her of what the hearing would be like, reassuring her that it was an informal hearing and that there was nothing to worry about. I had prepared a thorough pre-hearing memo for the judge so that he would have a clear and concise analysis of the case and the legal argument I wished to make. And I had prepared a brief opening statement and a lengthy list of questions I wished to ask my client.


The judge began the hearing with his usual administrative questions, but proceeded to preempt my opening statement and questions by restating the legal argument I had conveyed in the memo, asking the client a few general questions regarding her pain, and closing the hearing, stating that the completeness of the file and pre-hearing memo was much appreciated and allowed him to make a fully-informed judgment. He then turned to my client and told her that she should be grateful for the work that her representatives had done in completing her file. Though we have not received an official opinion from the judge, my supervisor and I felt satisfied that the judge's compliment could be interpreted as his approval of benefits for my client.

My second hearing proceeded a bit differently but had similarly successful results. I prepared a pre-hearing memo and presented a complete file as I had done before, but this time the judge wanted to hear from me a bit more during the hearing. I offered my opening statement and went through a list of questions with my client. After I had finished, the judge looked puzzled and expressed concern about a discrepancy in the medical records of my client. He turned to me and said, "Counsel, do you have an opinion about how to reconcile this discrepancy?" I was reeling from my first time being referred to as "counsel", but I remained calm to answer the question before me. I concisely related my opinion on the matter to which the judge responded that he agreed with counsel's opinion and would close the hearing.

My time outside the hearing office was spent interviewing clients and writing an appeal for a client who had been denied benefits after a hearing. I feel fortunate to have had such a balanced mix of client interaction, writing and research, and oral presentations during my summer. GBLS provided me with experience that I did not expect as such a newcomer to the legal field.

Thank you again for providing me with additional funding to make this beneficial summer experience possible.

With warm regards,



Amy C. Spotts
Harvard Law School, 2004

2701 West Ainslie St., #2
Chicago, Illinois 60625

August 2, 2002

Dan Ruben, Executive Director
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Dan:

First, let me thank Equal Justice America for providing me funding for my summer with the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago (LAFMC). This experience of direct legal services to poor people has been fantastic and reaffirms my desire to pursue this type of work once I graduate next year.

I gained so much from my experience with LAFMC because of the variety of the work. Each week, I spent one day on intake interviewing prospective clients. I interviewed clients with a variety of issues and learned the important questions to ask in order to ascertain what the client needs right now and in the future. After intake, I would follow up on the clients' cases by writing letters or making phone calls to the responsible parties to get the information for the client.

I also spent time every week in court. With a law student license from Illinois Supreme Court, I appeared on LAFMC's behalf on numerous first appearances, jury demands, and various agreed orders. This courtroom time allowed me to further my basic knowledge of courtroom practice as I had learned the previous semester in a trial advocacy class. However, these times it was real and impacted a client's life.

One highlight of the summer was my representing a client at a Social Security Insurance (SSI) hearing. The client had been removed from SSI and wanted a return of his benefits. My initial review of his file seemed bleak and unlikely that the client could win. We decided to pursue our representation of the client because it could not hurt his efforts. However, on the morning of the hearing, the client showed me the newest report from his doctor. This report showed that the client's health indeed had worsened. I gave a copy of this new report to the judge who read it and told me before the hearing that the client had won. All I needed to do though was to make a record of my opening statement. I did and felt ecstatic that the judge was not going to argue with any of my assertions. I ended my statement, and the judge ruled in the client's favor. The client had been awarded his SSI benefits.

Another highlight was advocating for a client to get back her Section 8 voucher. CHAC, the administrative agency that administers the Section 8 program, had removed a client from a Section 8 Waiting List even though the client's building was being converted to market-rate rent. First, I advocated with CHAC on client's behalf that the general policy was wrong and that the

regulations did not allow this treatment. However, CHAC did not agree that the general policy violated the regulations. A more intensive strategy was needed to get the overall policy changed. Thus, because it was not in the best interest of this particular client to spend time on the larger problem, we decided to help get this client reinstated by showing CHAC that the client did not have the alleged criminal convictions. Upon seeing this information, CHAC reinstated the client to the Section 8 Waiting List. My client obtained what she wanted and deserved. The larger issue remains and can be fought later. The immediate struggle was fought and won.

Again, thanks to EJA for providing funds for this memorable and positive experience with LAFMC. I look forward to my future work with LAFMC and other legal services organizations.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeff Gold".

Jeff Gold

DePaul University College Of Law, 2003

Enclosure

SOUTH BROOKLYN LEGAL SERVICES

FORECLOSURE PREVENTION PROJECT

Brooklyn Legal Services Corp. B • John C. Gray, Project Director
105 Court Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 246-3275 • Fax (718) 875-8546

August 2, 2002

Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Dan:

Thank you for granting me an Equal Justice America fellowship for my summer legal internship at the South Brooklyn Legal Services Foreclosure Prevention Project. I am thrilled that you afforded me the opportunity to work on behalf of low-income citizens. It was such a meaningful experience and I am committed more than ever to doing public interest work in the future.

South Brooklyn Legal Services provides legal advocacy and information in civil cases to low-income people in southern and western Brooklyn, New York. The Foreclosure Prevention Project provides advice, referral and representation to low- and moderate-income homeowners who have been victimized by the predatory practices of mortgage lenders, mortgage brokers, and home improvement contractors.

My work involved interviewing clients, writing U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Housing Discrimination Complaints, helping clients prepare *pro se* answers in foreclosure cases, researching legal issues relating to the Truth In Lending Act and Home Ownership and Equity Protection Act, and drafting a motion for a summary judgment against a predatory lender.

This internship was highly meaningful to me. Most of my clients were elderly and people of color who had worked hard to buy their homes only to be tricked by unscrupulous lenders into risking their most important possessions - their homes. The majority of homeowners targeted by predatory lenders in New York City are senior citizens and people of color and the number of victims seeking our help constantly overwhelmed my office. With only two lawyers on staff, the other intern and I played a vital role in advising and advocating on behalf of our clients. Although I was enveloped by stories of victimization, I felt happy going to work each day, knowing that I was helping people fight against their victimizers.

One of my most memorable clients was an African-American retired domestic worker who had been victimized by a home improvement contractor, mortgage broker, and mortgage lender. The broker charged her a high broker fee, absconded with some of her money, and tricked her into hiring an unlicensed contractor who did minimal work and removed her kitchen cabinets and appliances, leaving her without means to cook her own meals. She was

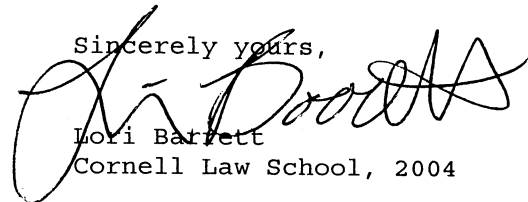
Towards justice and dignity for all • Por justicia y dignidad para todos

left with a high-cost mortgage without receiving any benefits, and because her income was barely enough to cover her monthly mortgage payments, she was at risk of losing her home to foreclosure. A staff attorney settled her case with the lender, and I wrote a Housing Discrimination Complaint against the broker, charging the broker with race and sex discrimination in the financing of her home. One of the last cases I worked on involved a senior who was raising seven grandchildren and great grandchildren by himself. A predatory lender was foreclosing upon his home, and because he had no income from employment, the children were at risk of being thrown out on the streets. I interviewed him about his case, and several agencies are now working with him to save his home from foreclosure.

Working at South Brooklyn Legal Services has been an eye-opening experience. Before my internship, I knew very little about predatory lending and its devastating impact on people of color and senior citizens. I felt so fortunate to work with Josh Zinner and Pamela Sah, the Foreclosure Prevention attorneys. Their energy and commitment to the work was inspiring. They gave me meaningful work and guidance, and they were always willing to teach.

Thank you again for the fellowship and for raising the funds to allow law students to get a taste for public interest work. Your mission has succeeded! I have taken a taste, and now I want to do more.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Barrett", written over the typed name.

Lori Barrett
Cornell Law School, 2004

August 20, 2002

Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Mr. Ruben,

First, I want to express my thanks and gratitude for being chosen as an EJA Summer Fellow. My wonderful experience at Bet Tzedek Legal Services was made possible by EJA, and I feel so fortunate to have had such a rewarding opportunity.

Among the many things I liked about Bet Tzedek, the amount of responsibility the attorneys gave me is at the top. While occasionally I provided intake for the organization, the majority of my time was spent handling cases. Throughout the summer I worked on 6 to 8 cases at any given time, and I probably handled close to 20 cases by the time I left. Some of the cases required very little of my time, while others demanded a great deal of it.

Typically, the attorneys would either assign a case to me after our biweekly case review sessions, or they would transfer cases to me that they had previously taken. In either situation, once my initials were on the file folder, the case essentially became mine to handle. I would consult with the supervising attorneys whenever I had any questions, and they would review the documents I prepared.

I worked at Bet Tzedek's San Fernando Valley Office, which is much smaller than the main office. I found the atmosphere there to be incredibly open and positive. The attorneys were very knowledgeable and helpful, and they always made themselves available for any questions. Everyone in the office (attorneys, staff, and other fellow law clerks) was very encouraging and supportive.

There were four other law clerks at the "Valley Office." We were each provided with our own desk, computer, phone line (and phone), filing cabinet, and other materials. I felt that having my own personal space allowed me to work efficiently and productively on my cases and projects.

While I have many highlights from the summer, I will include only two in this letter. The first began on my first day of work. I was given a Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") case, representing a man with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease with emphysema. He was appealing his initial denial for benefits, and the hearing date was about a month away. During that month, I learned about the Social Security Administration ("SSA") appeal process (as well as the SSA itself), generated many medical documents, prepared a brief that included 10 exhibits (each exhibit included pages and pages of medical

evidence), prepared my client for the hearing, and prepared myself to cross-examine both a medical expert and a vocation expert, among (many) other things.

At the hearing, the Administrative Law Judge found that my client was in fact disabled according to the SSA guidelines, and my client would be awarded retroactive payments for nearly tow years, as well as his regular monthly benefit. Because I was able to watch this case progress up to its successful outcome, it was certainly my most satisfying experience over the summer.

My second highlight involves a woman whom I met through an intake. She had bipolar disorder and was manic depressive and suicidal. She came in with a box full of credit card bills, and she estimated she was \$50,000 in debt. I listened to her as she cried and explained how her life had changed drastically since she had a mental breakdown and found out she was bipolar.

Because we found that she was judgment proof, we explained her rights and protections accordingly; however, because there were not other services with which we could provide her, we told her we were going to close her file.

About a week later, I received the nicest letter from this woman thanking me for all of my help. She told me that sitting with her as she told me her story made her feel like a human being, and that she could make it. I was touched that she appreciated our work so much, even though we did not even take her case! She was one of many clients that constantly expressed their appreciation for Bet Tzedek's work.

Overall, the experience was incredibly rewarding. Because I had just completed my first year of law school, I was still uncertain as to my future plans when I had made my decision to work for Bet Tzedek. However, I came back from the summer committed to public interest work and excited about looking at organizations for next summer!

Again thank you for everything!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Althea Smiley" followed by a horizontal line.

Althea Smiley
University of Virginia School of Law

Eileen Zorc
5910 16th St., NW
Washington, DC 20011

September 2, 2002

Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

RE: Summer Clerkship

Dear Mr. Ruben:

Thank you for your support of my summer clerkship at the Public Counsel Law Center in Los Angeles, California. The clerkship was a great experience for three main reasons: the range of issues in which the Center is involved, the energy and friendliness of the staff, and the opportunity to learn more about public policy and the law. I look forward to returning to Los Angeles next summer and hope to continue my relationship with Public Counsel.

The first day that I arrived, I worked with the staff social workers on client intake through the Children's Rights Project (CRP) hotline. By assisting with the hotline, I was quickly able to understand the range of issues that CRP tackles each week. Most importantly, I learned how to sift through a client's story to reach the legal problem. Sometimes clients would have complicated histories with multiple legal and social services problems. Often, calls to county social workers, family members, or other lawyers would be necessary before a client's problem would fully come to light. I would write the case summary for a pro bono attorney or help our staff attorney begin working on the case.

Primarily, the issues that I worked on were tort claims on behalf of minors in the foster care system, various government benefits questions (child care, SSI, and Cal-Learn), and referrals to CRP's guardianship or adoption clinics. In addition, I assisted Jenny Weisz, the CRP Directing Attorney, with filing an appeal on behalf of a minor abused in foster care. This was a great opportunity to learn more about the trial and appellate process and to research related cases and statutes.

In addition to working directly with clients, I researched government benefits for pregnant and parenting teens to update a CRP publication used to train area lawyers and social workers. Each week, I responded to calls to the CRP hotline and was able to use my Spanish to communicate with clients. In addition, I participated in the work of


another Public Counsel project by helping represent homeless clients at the Los Angeles Homeless Court Program.

It was easy to step in and learn about other Public Counsel projects because of the energetic and friendly work environment. The Executive Director, Dan Grunfeld and the Director of Litigation, Paul Freese, took every opportunity to say hello and to answer any questions that we had. I also learned more about the organization and had a chance to discuss my experience at the summer Board Meeting. I shared with the Board Members how much I appreciated the opportunity to learn intake skills from social workers. They have such powerful listening skills—demonstrating admirable patience and compassion in their interviews with clients. I was impressed at CRP's interest in keeping social workers on staff. It demonstrates the Project's dedication to the total well-being of the child. Instead of just helping with one legal issue, the Project takes a broader view to ensure that a child's needs are being met. The social workers help connect clients with other services available to them, and they also work with policymakers in Los Angeles to improve social services.

Public Counsel provided a great work experience and a friendly, energetic work environment. Ted Zepeda, the Pro Bono Coordinator, organized bowling and salsa events, beach day and arranged for tickets at the Hollywood Bowl. It was a great way to meet the other clerks and to get to know the staff better. The clerks also worked together to cook breakfast for the staff one Friday, and many of the staff regularly ate lunch together. Communication among staff was also made easy with a directory of clerks and staff, and computer and internet email access and phone extensions for each of the clerks.

I am very grateful for the opportunity that I had this summer, and I look forward to keeping in touch with Public Counsel. Thank you for your help in making this experience possible.

Very Truly Yours,



Eileen Zorc

Georgetown University Law Center
(expected grad. date: May 2004)



**Equal Justice
America
Disability Rights
Clinic
Annual Report
2001-2002**

SCHOOL OF LAW
DAVID COHEN
DEAN AND PROFESSOR OF LAW



25th Anniversary
PACE LAW SCHOOL

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TELEPHONE (914) 422-4407
FACSIMILE (914) 422-4426
DCOHEN@LAW.PACE.EDU
HTTP://WWW.LAW.PACE.EDU

July 24, 2002

Dan Ruben, Esq.
Equal Justice America
3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112-4408

Dear Dan,


I know that Visiting Professor Gretchen Flint wrote to you at the end of May to report on the activities of the Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic this past year.

I wanted to write to thank you and EJA for your support over the past two years. It has been a wonderful relationship, and we are looking forward to another successful year. The Clinic is a wonderful learning environment for our students, and an equally important service to a much deserving community.

I will be calling or writing early this Fall, or perhaps arranging a visit to meet you if that is feasible, to see if we might discuss a continuation or perhaps further development of the Program with your support.

Thank you again for all of your help.

Yours sincerely,



David Cohen
Dean of Law

C: Antoinette D'Orazio
Vanessa Merton

I. Introduction

Completing its second year of operation, the Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic at Pace University School of Law continues its dual mission of training future lawyers and providing free legal services to low income disabled persons of all ages. It has become an integral part of the Law School's Clinical Program located at John Jay Legal Services and its Health Law and Policy Program.

The Health Law and Policy Program provides Pace law students with the opportunity to gain specialized knowledge in the rapidly expanding field of health law. A Certificate in Health Law and Policy is awarded to those students who demonstrate proficiency in the field by taking a prescribed number of required and elective courses relevant to the practice of health law and related social and economic policy issues.

Pace Law School's clinical offerings enable students to gain proficiency in lawyering skills while representing clients pursuant to a Student Practice Order issued by the Appellate Division, Second Department of the New York State Supreme Court. Under supervision of clinical faculty, students enrolled in clinical courses may perform all lawyering functions normally reserved to lawyers admitted to practice. In addition to the Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic, clinical offerings are available in criminal defense, securities arbitration and the prosecution of domestic violence in cooperation with the Manhattan District Attorney's Office.

II. Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic

The Equal Justice America Disability Rights Clinic provides students with the opportunity to learn and apply lawyering skills as well as the substantive law relating to the rights of disabled persons in a highly controlled and intensively supervised legal practice environment. For most students, it is their first experience with law as lawyers.

In a weekly seminar, students learn and practice lawyering skills such as interviewing, counseling, negotiation, fact investigation, and conducting administrative hearings. The learning

of these skills is integrated with relevant substantive law, including eligibility for the government benefit programs available to disabled persons (Social Security Disability, Supplemental Security Income, Medical Assistance) and the planning tools available to disabled persons and their families (guardianships, wills, special needs trusts). The seminar also provides the opportunity for students to present issues and choices from the cases they are working on and benefit from the critical reflection of their colleagues. Ethical issues are discussed as they arise in individual cases with particular emphasis on the complexities of working with clients of diminished mental capacity. Students learn how to read and interpret medical records and work with medical personnel to describe a client's medical condition using legally relevant terminology. Students also learn how to work with other helping professionals, such as social workers, doctors, nurses and advocates to identify and meet clients' non-legal needs. Readings from an excellent text¹ for clinical students are supplemented with readings directly relevant to disability law. A copy of the syllabus for the Fall, 2001 semester is attached. During the spring semester, in addition to their individual caseloads, all students worked collaboratively on a particularly challenging guardianship case. This group effort enabled the Clinic to handle a case that could not have been managed by one or two students and gave the students the opportunity to learn about and put into practice the very important lawyering skill of collaboration.

Clinic students, either individually or in teams, have primary responsibility for the conduct of their assigned cases. The student lawyer is responsible for planning each lawyering activity, reviewing the plan with the Clinic Faculty Supervisor, conducting the activity and finally, reflecting on the experience and the usefulness of the preparation. Throughout the semester, each student engages in client interviewing and counseling, fact investigation and witness interviewing, legal research and analysis, and drafting a variety of legal documents and instruments. Most students have the opportunity to appear before a court or administrative tribunal.

¹ Stephan H. Krieger, et al., Essential Lawyering Skills (Aspen Law & Business, 1999).

Students have taken the Clinic for one or two semesters and for three or six credits each semester. The three credit option is especially appropriate for part-time and evening students, who may be working full-time in addition to attending law school. All students participate in the seminar and each student's case load is tailored to his or her interests and time constraints. For example, a student who is not available during normal working hours will be assigned to cases which involve transactional work only, which can be performed during the evening hours and weekends. Other students with more flexible schedules are assigned cases which may involve day-time appearances before courts or administrative tribunals. Students enrolled in the Clinic for three credits are expected to devote eight to ten hours per week to clinic responsibilities. The time commitment for students enrolled for six credits is 15-20 hours per week.

During the 2001-2002 academic year, a total of ten students were enrolled in the Clinic. Six students participated for two semesters; four students participated for one semester. In addition to the students formally enrolled in the Clinic, several students who were enrolled in the Clinic during the 2000-2001 academic year continued to work on their cases on a volunteer basis over the summer and during the 2001-2002 year. These students have demonstrated an early commitment to pro bono work, and for their clients were able to mitigate one of the shortcomings of legal services provided by law school clinics, namely, the frequent transfer of cases when a student lawyer's participation in the clinic ends. Several students have continued working on their cases, even after graduation.

The cases handled involved a variety of legal issues faced by disabled persons and their families. Clients were referred by several social service agencies with which we have formed alliances during the past three years, including Westchester ARC, New York Legal Assistance Group, DIHR (Dignity, Independence and Human Rights, a non-profit advocacy serving the developmentally disabled, their families and providers), Westchester Independent Living Center, Westchester Putnam Legal Services, Service Office of White Plains, Richmond Community Services, Visiting Nurse Service of New York, Westchester Residential Opportunities and New

York Assistive Technology Advocacy Project. Several former clients have returned to us for additional assistance as they developed new legal needs.

The cases handled this year fall into the following categories:

Supplemental Security Income	2
Social Security Disability	2
Waivers of Overpayments	2
Wills and Estate Planning	3
Guardianships of Mentally Retarded Adults	6
Medicaid Coverage for Assistive Technology	1
Medicaid Home Care	1
Nursing Home Advocacy	1
Disabled Access to Public Housing	1
Article 81 Guardianship	1
Hospital Advocacy	1

All of the clients are low income. They are unable to pay for the legal help they need and were unable to secure representation from other sources of free legal services.

Several of the cases, highlighted here, resulted in fully favorable decisions by an Administrative Law Judge, after an administrative hearing.

R.L. is a young woman with a long history of depression and anxiety disorder who has made many unsuccessful attempts to work. Her application for Social Security Disability benefits had been denied and the students assigned to her case spent many hours gathering and analyzing medical records which documented her impairments and enlisting the cooperation of her therapists in order to present an accurate picture of how her illness prevented her from successfully working. After an administrative hearing, the judge awarded Ms. L. benefits retroactive to March 2000. Ms. L., who had been dependent on public assistance benefits, can now count on a monthly income of \$565.

J.P., a quadriplegic, had requested that Medicaid approve the purchase of an item of durable medical equipment which would enable him to develop upper body strength and maintain respiratory health. After Medicaid denied his initial request, the Clinic helped his doctor prepare an appropriate request. After the request was denied, the case was assigned to new students who represented the client at a Fair Hearing. At the Fair Hearing, the students were able to show that the doctor's request established Mr. P.'s need for the equipment. The equipment has been delivered and Mr. P. is being trained to use it by his physical therapist.

The Clinic also successfully represented MR, who had been charged with an overpayment by the Social Security Administration. Despite severe mental illness, Mr.

R. has been able to work periodically as a messenger. Through a series of mistakes, Social Security overpaid Mr. R. over \$15,000 and asked him to repay it out of his monthly benefit. At an Administrative Hearing, the student assigned to Mr. R.'s case was able to prove that Mr. R. was not at fault in causing the overpayment and that it would be a hardship for him to pay it back. At the close of the hearing the Judge indicated that he would order the overpayment waived. We are awaiting that formal decision.

The Clinic also represented JC, whose application for Social Security Disability payments had been denied. Mr. C. had worked as a laborer until a severe injury to his arm made such work impossible. The students working with Mr. C. encouraged him to seek medical treatment, and, although he will not be able to regain the use of his arm, the documentation supplied by Mr. C.'s doctors was enough to convince the Administrative Law Judge to grant benefits without holding a hearing.

III. Plans for the Future

Over the summer, two students will be assisting with ongoing cases on a volunteer basis.

Six students have enrolled in the Clinic for the entire 2002-2003 academic year.

Beginning in the fall, the Clinic will be available as a two-semester offering.² Students will still have the option of registering for between 3 and 6 credits each semester. We are making this change based on our experience that students who are enrolled for only one semester usually do not get to complete the work on their cases. This happens both because even the simplest case before an administrative agency takes considerable time from start to finish and because so much of the first semester must be devoted to the fundamental practice skills in order to prepare students to handle their casework competently. We will continue to offer high quality representation to disabled persons and their families being served by cooperating social service agencies. Moreover, we anticipate that the Clinic's graduates will continue to use the skills they developed to effectively represent disabled clients once they become practicing attorneys.

² An exception will be made for students who are graduating in December.



**Equal Justice
America
Financial Statements
2001-2002**

EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA, INC.
INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2002

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Statement of cash flows	4
Notes to financial statements	5
Accountants' report on supplementary information:	
Schedule of expenses	6-7

BERMAN & SOSMAN, LLC.

Certified Public Accountants

450 7th Avenue
Suite 949
New York, NY 10123

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
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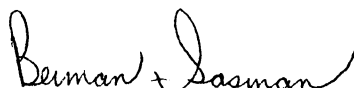
2079 East 65th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11234

Board of Trustees
Equal Justice America, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying balance sheet of Equal Justice America, Inc. as of June 30, 2002 and the related statements of activity and changes in fund balance and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amount and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Equal Justice America, Inc. as of June 30, 2002 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.


Berman & Sosman, LLC
October 25, 2002

EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA, INC.
BALANCE SHEET
JUNE 30, 2002

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Cash	\$ 90,339
Contributions receivable	<u>110,866</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>201,205</u>
Property and equipment - at cost (notes 1 and 3)	12,821
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(9,368)</u>
Net property and equipment	<u>3,453</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 204,658</u>

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities	
Grants payable	\$ 201,314
Accrued expenses	<u>2,010</u>
Total Liabilities	203,324

FUND BALANCE

Fund balance	<u>1,334</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$ 204,658</u>

See Notes To Financial Statements

EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA, INC.
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2002

Public Support and Revenue		
Public support:		
Contributions	\$690,275	
Revenue:		
Interest income	<u>896</u>	
Total Public Support and Revenue		\$691,171
Expenses		
Program services	465,725	
Management and general expenses	94,805	
Fund raising expenses	<u>133,387</u>	
Total Expenses		<u>693,917</u>
Expenses in excess of public support and revenue		(2,746)
Fund balance - July 1, 2001		<u>4,080</u>
Fund balance - June 30, 2002		<u>\$ 1,334</u>

See Notes To Financial Statements

BERMAN & SOSMAN, LLC.
Certified Public Accountants

EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA, INC.
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2002

Cash Flows From Operating Activities:		
Public support and revenue under expenses		\$ (2,746)
Adjustment To Reconcile To Excess Public Support and Revenue Over Expenses:		
To net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation of property and equipment	\$ 1,602	
Changes In Operating Assets and Liabilities:		
Increase in contributions receivable	(8,848)	
Decrease in accrued expenses	(1,909)	
Increase in grants payable	<u>\$ 56,566</u>	
Total adjustments		<u>47,411</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		44,665
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>-0-</u>
Net increase in cash during the year		44,665
Cash at July 1, 2001		<u>45,674</u>
Cash at June 30, 2002		<u><u>\$90,339</u></u>

See Notes To Financial Statements

BERMAN & SOSMAN, LLC.
Certified Public Accountants

EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2002

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Fund Accounting:

All funds over which the Board of Trustees has discretionary control have been included in the current unrestricted fund.

Depreciation:

Property and equipment is stated at cost and is depreciated on the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives, generally five to seven years.

NOTE 2: NATURE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Equal Justice America, Inc. is a not-for-profit, charity that provides grants to legal service organizations that deliver civil legal assistance to the poor. It is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The Board of Trustees and management employees of the Organization acknowledge that, to the best of their ability, all assets received have been used for the purpose for which they were contributed, or have been accumulated to allow management to conduct the operations of the Organization as effectively and efficiently as possible.

NOTE 3: PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT - AT COST

Property and equipment, is comprised of the following:

Furniture and equipment	\$ 1,185
Machinery and equipment	<u>11,636</u>
	12,821
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(9,368)</u>
	<u>\$ 3,453</u>

BERMAN & SOSMAN, LLC.

Certified Public Accountants

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Suite 949
New York, NY 10123

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
2492 Merrick Road
Bellmore, New York 11710
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Fax (516) 826-4343

2079 East 65th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11234

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Board of Directors
Equal Justice America, Inc.

The audited financial statements of Equal Justice America, Inc. and our report thereon are presented in the preceding section of this report. The following financial information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements of the Organization. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.



Berman & Sosman, LLC
October 25, 2002

EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA, INC.
SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2002

Program Expenses:

Grants	\$429,113
Program Administration:	
Executive Director's salary	21,966
Office salaries	5,800
Payroll taxes	2,380
Employee benefits	4,870
Telephone	902
Office	438
Postage	209
Stationary & printing	<u>47</u>
Total	<u>\$465,725</u>

Management and General Expenses:

Executive Director's salary	\$ 21,965
Office salaries	32,175
Payroll taxes	4,886
Professional fees	10,019
Advertising	292
Bank charges	473
Depreciation	1,602
Employee benefits	4,869
Insurance	581
Office	438
Postage	209
Stationary & printing	47
Rent	7,200
Repairs & maintenance	677
Registration fees	1,735
Payroll service fees	1,336
Telephone	1,805
Computer expense	3,027
Equipment lease	<u>1,469</u>
Total	<u>\$ 94,805</u>

See Accountants' Report On Supplementary Information

EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA, INC.
SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2002

Fund Raising Expenses:	
Executive Director's salary	\$ 21,965
Other salaries	64,352
Payroll taxes	7,792
Employee benefits	4,869
Credit card fees	8,355
Office	3,505
Postage	3,771
Stationary & printing	848
Telephone	15,340
Mailing lists	<u>2,590</u>
Total	<u>\$133,387</u>

See Accountants' Report On Supplementary Information

BERMAN & SOSMAN, LLC.
Certified Public Accountants

EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA Annual Report Fiscal Year 2001-2002
