



/ The Morrison & Foerster Foundation Fellows

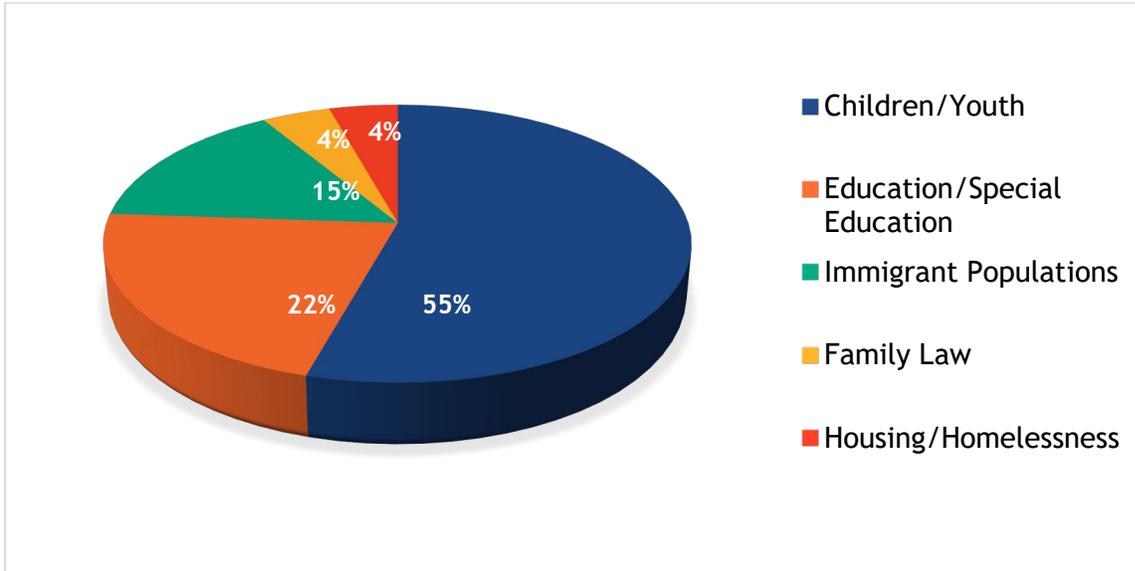
2000 - 2020

THE
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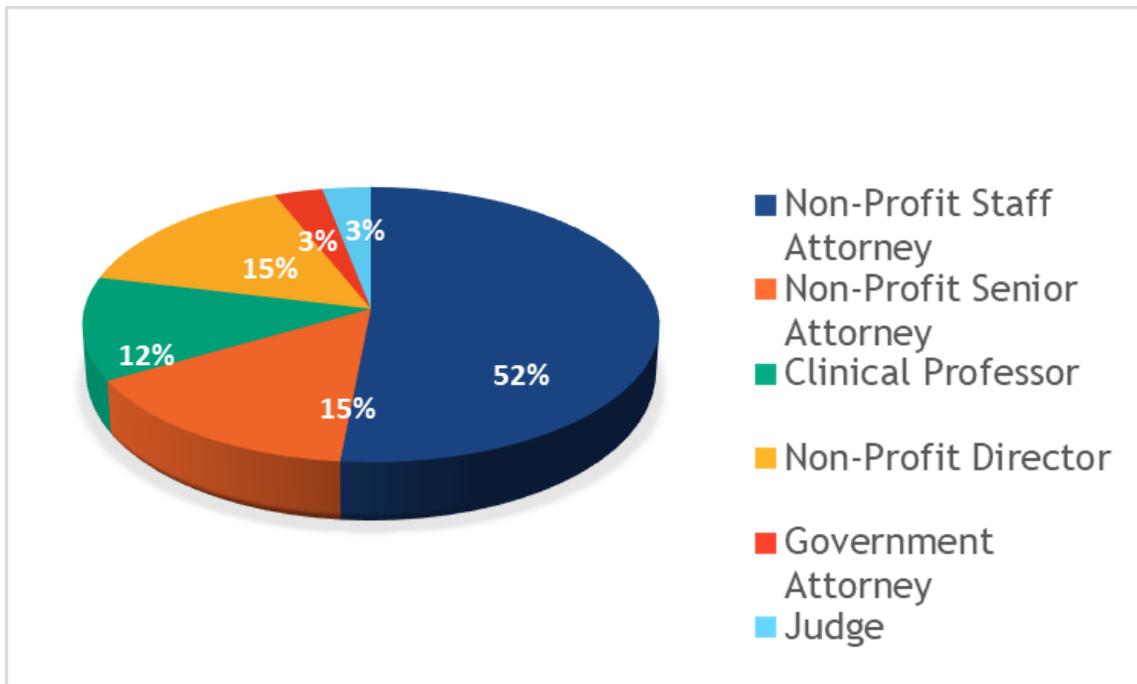
/ Equal Justice Works and The Morrison & Foerster Foundation celebrate 20 years of partnership

Equal Justice Works would like to thank The Morrison & Foerster Foundation for the tremendous contributions the Foundation has made to America's largest post-graduate legal fellowship program. Since 2000, The Morrison & Foerster Foundation has invested over \$5.3 million to fund 53 two-year Fellowships. These Fellows have delivered critically needed legal services at 36 nonprofit host organizations, working with a variety of populations on a variety of issues including immigration, criminal law reform, voting rights, environmental justice and community economic development. Among The Morrison & Foerster Foundations Fellows, 85 percent remain in public interest today, working in the nonprofit sector and defending underserved communities. This compendium demonstrates the impact that The Morrison & Foerster Foundation has had in launching the public interest careers of these attorneys. Equal Justice Works thanks The Morrison & Foerster Foundation for this outstanding commitment to ensuring equal access to the justice system for society's most vulnerable individuals and communities.

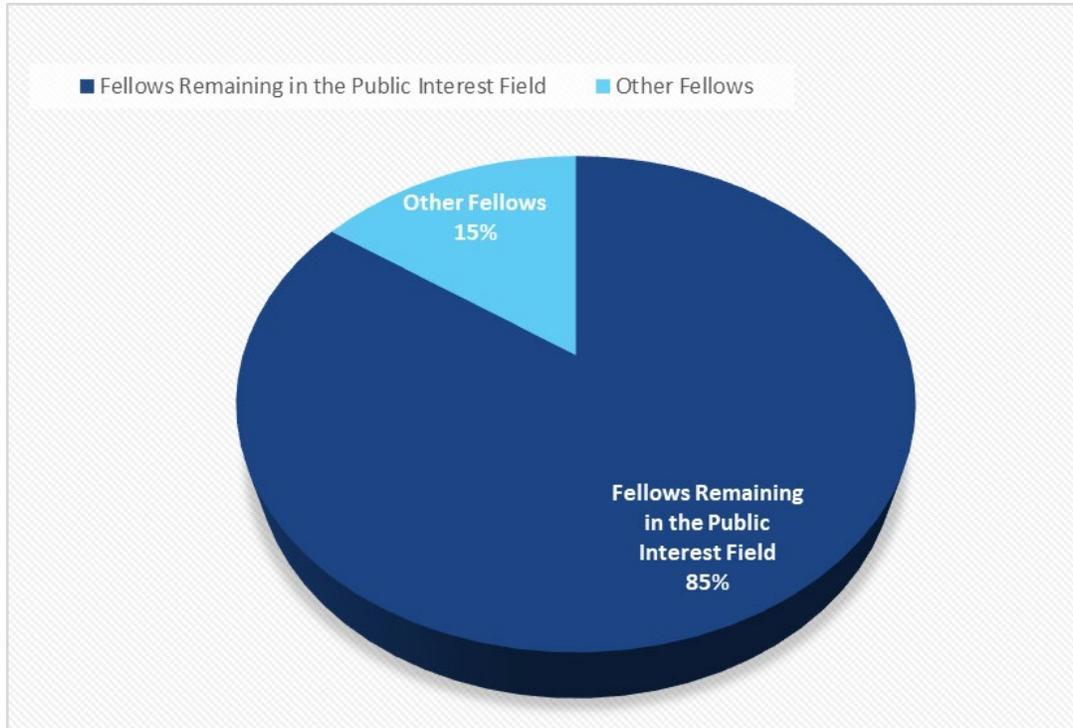
/ The Morrison & Foerster Foundation Fellows by Issue Area



/ Career Breakdown of The Morrison & Foerster Foundation Fellows Working in Public Interest



/The Morrison & Foerster Foundation Fellows Continuing to Serve in Public Interest



/ Words of thanks from The Morrison & Foerster Foundation Fellows...

“I would like to thank The Morrison & Foerster Foundation for supporting my project that grew into a permanent position at Ayuda, and which served as a foundation to my career in the public service advocating on behalf of immigrant children.”

Jennifer Podkul, Class of 2006

“[W]ith my Fellowship funding, we created an innovative program for the delivery of civil legal services to youth in San Diego. Nearly ten years later, I still receive inquiries about my Fellowship project from lawyers all over California. I always mention that my fellowship was funded by The Morrison & Foerster Foundation, and I often hear “oh, that’s a great firm” in response! Now as a tenured law professor, I encourage our top law students each year to apply for Equal Justice Works Fellowships.”

Michele Benedetto Neitz, Class of 2002

“The Morrison & Foerster Foundation’s support has enabled me to pursue my dream job. Not only have I had the opportunity to help many clients in a truly meaningful way, but I have also been able to build the foundation of what I hope will be a long career in public interest law.”

Margot Dankner, Class of 2012

“Thank you so much to The Morrison & Foerster Foundation for sponsoring my Fellowship. As a direct result of your support, I provided education to roughly 2,000 teens throughout Los Angeles County, and provided advice and counsel and legal representation to those teens that needed family law support. After my Fellowship ended, I continued the same work at the Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice, where I have remained for the last seven years. I now supervise our teen family law program - still the only one of its kind in the county.”

Suma Mathai, Class of 2000

“Because of The Foundation’s generosity, we will remove unnecessary barriers for California youth seeking reentry after juvenile justice system involvement and empower youth to start over strong! I am truly grateful for the support given by The Morrison & Foerster Foundation, and I could not have asked for a better start to my legal career. Thank you!”

Rachel Johnson-Farias, Class of 2012

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MELISSA FRYDMAN

Year: 2000

Host Organization: Bay Area Legal Aid

City/State: Oakland, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide civil legal services to youth involved in the juvenile justice system to help them enforce their basic rights to education, health care and safe homes, and to help prevent them from committing future crimes.

Where are they now? After her Fellowship, Melissa continued to represent children as a Staff Attorney at Bay Area Legal Aid. She then joined Legal Services for Children as Senior Staff Attorney and Director of the Dependency Project. She served as an acting assistant professor with the Lawyering Program at New York University School of Law for three years. Melissa joined the University of Illinois in April 2010 as a Clinical Professor of Law to develop and direct the new Family Advocacy Clinic, which provides legal representation to parents and children in juvenile abuse and neglect cases. In Fall 2016, Melissa was named Director of Clinical Education at the University of Illinois. In this capacity, she oversees the entire clinical program, faculty, and staff.

SUMA MATHAI

Year: 2000

Host Organization: Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law

City/State: Los Angeles, CA

Issue Area: Domestic Violence

Project Description: Provide comprehensive legal services to youth ages 12-22 in an effort to end domestic violence by working proactively with youth.

Where are they now? After her Fellowship, Suma continued at the Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law, working as a staff attorney until 2004. In September 2004, she took a position at the LA Center for Law and Justice (LACLJ) as a Teen Advocate/Family Law Attorney. She then moved on to supervise the Family Law Unit, coordinate LACLJ's pro bono program, assist in grant reporting, participate in community outreach and advocacy groups, and represent South Asian and teen clients. She served as Associate Director for LACLJ from April 2013 to September 2014. In January 2017, Suma became an adjunct professor at USC's Suzanne Dworak-Peck's School of Social Work. Suma is currently the acting interim managing attorney at Break the Cycle.

Suma has served as the Vice President of the Board of Trustees of the Asian Pacific Women's Center, a transitional domestic violence shelter; the Board President of the South Asian Bar Association of Southern California; and she helped found the South Asian Bar Association's Public Interest Foundation in 2003. Suma received the 2015 South Asian Bar Association of Southern California Public Interest Foundation's Public Service award, the 2011 University of Southern California Public Interest Law Foundation's Public Interest Attorney of the Year award, the 2009 Domestic Violence Prevention/Intervention award from the Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council, and the Community Activism award from the South Asian Network in 2008.

DENISE DOMINGUEZ

Year: 2001

Host Organization: Make the Road New York

City/State: New York, NY

Issue Area: Immigrant Populations

Project Description: Provide low-income, immigrant parents with high quality legal services on education-related issues; train community residents about their education-related rights; and catalyze civic activism around improving Brooklyn's worst public schools.

Where are they now? First elected in 2013, Denise is currently the Honorable Civil Court Judge of the 7th District in the borough of Manhattan. She also has her own law office where she represents individual clients, small businesses, and corporations in criminal defense, derivative actions, matrimonial, family, and landlord-tenant matters.

MICHELE BENEDETTO NEITZ

Year: 2002

Host Organization: Legal Aid Society of San Diego, Inc.

City/State: San Diego, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide civil legal services to juveniles in group homes and foster care.

Where are they now? After her Fellowship, Michele joined Morrison & Foerster as an associate in the San Diego office. Currently, Michele is a Professor of Law at Golden Gate University, where she teaches Business Associations, Professional Responsibility, and Poverty Law. In 2019, Michele joined the California Blockchain Working Group as a Member. She has published extensively on topics including judicial ethics in immigration and juvenile courts, the substantive due process rights of foster youth, and the rights of shareholders.

PABLO ESCOBAR

Year: 2003

Host Organization: Disability Rights Center

City/State: Los Angeles, CA

Issue Area: Education

Project Description: Safeguard the rights of learning-disabled children of low-income families through direct legal advocacy.

Where are they now? After his Fellowship ended, Pablo became a Family Law Attorney at Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County, where he represented domestic violence survivors in family law matters. He continued to practice law focused on protecting the rights of children with special needs as an Associate Attorney at the Law Offices of Bonnie Z. Yates, and later as a Senior Associate Attorney at Woodsmall Law Group. Pablo is currently the Director of Legal Services at 1736 Family Crisis Center where he represents victims of domestic violence. He also has his own practice where he represents individuals and families in matters involving Immigration, Family Law, Special Education, and Wills and Trusts.

YESINIA GUTIERREZ

Year: 2003

Host Organization: New York Lawyers for Public Interest

City/State: New York, NY

Issue Area: Health Care

Project Description: Enable homeless children to overcome barriers in accessing health care by providing legal advocacy and community education.

Where are they now? After her Fellowship, Yesinia served as a Staff Attorney at the Columbia University Tenant Assistance Project from 2005 to 2007. In 2007, she moved to Oregon to become a Staff Attorney at Legal Aid Services of Oregon. In 2009, she became a Commissioner for the Family Services Review Commission and joined Disability Rights Oregon, where she worked as an attorney. In 2014, she became the Director of Equal Opportunity and Deputy Title IX Coordinator at Oregon State University, where she worked to advance inclusion in the increasingly diverse Oregon State University community by ensuring university compliance with all federal and state anti-discrimination laws. Yesinia is currently the Director of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity as well as the Deputy Title IX Coordinator at Portland State University.

AMY SEFF (LEVINE)

Year: 2004

Host Organization: Disability Rights California

City/State: Oakland, CA

Issue Area: Education

Project Description: Enforce special education rights of and create a sustainable network of educational advocates for Bay Area foster youth.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Amy worked as an Associate Deputy Attorney at the Alameda County Public Defender's Office. Amy is currently a solo practitioner working as a Juvenile Dependency Appellate Attorney in the San Francisco Bay Area.

JESSICA STEINBERG

Year: 2004

Host Organization: Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County

City/State: San Mateo, CA

Issue Area: Housing/Homelessness

Project Description: Provide legal representation and policy advocacy aimed at increasing the supply of affordable housing in San Mateo County.

Where are they now? After her Fellowship, Jessica worked as a Deputy City Attorney for the City of Salinas, California, where she litigated civil rights and liability claims on behalf of the city in state and federal court. She later served as the Jay M. Spears Fellow and Clinical Lecturer in Law in the Community Law Clinic at Stanford Law School, where she supervised students handling housing, employment, public benefits, and criminal records expungement cases and litigated housing policy matters. In 2011, Jessica joined the faculty at George Washington University in Washington, DC. There, she serves as an Associate Professor of Clinical Law where she directs the Prison & Reentry Clinic. Her scholarship focuses on access to justice with a focus on new models for court reform and the delivery of legal services to the poor. She has received the California State Bar Foundation's Public Interest Award in recognition of her achievements and commitment to public service work, and she is a member of the American Association of Law Schools' Poverty Law Section Executive Committee.

SUSAN ABRAMS

Year: 2005

Host Organization: Children's Law Center of Los Angeles

City/State: Los Angeles, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide direct client advocacy for those foster youth in danger of crossing into the juvenile justice system and work to affect new policies related to prevention and intervention.

Where are they now? Susan remained with the Children's Law Center of Los Angeles after her Fellowship as a Staff Attorney. She then became Policy Director of the Children's Law Center of California, a position she still holds. In May 2009, Susan Co-Founded the nonprofit Happy Trails for Kids, which provides enriching outdoor adventures to abused and neglected children in the Southern California Foster Care System.

MYRA ELGABRY

Year: 2005

Host Organization: Lawyers for Children, Inc.

City/State: New York, NY

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide legal advocacy to enforce the rights of immigrant children in foster care to obtain legal permanent resident status.

Where are they now? After her Fellowship ended, Myra remained at Lawyers for Children, Inc. She currently works as the Director of the Immigration Rights Project at Lawyers for Children, Inc. and continues to work to protect the rights of undocumented immigrant children in foster care.

KRISTIN PETRI

Year: 2005

Host Organization: Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network

City/State: Denver, CO

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Create an innovative, efficient, and sustainable program for delivering legal services to detained non-citizen children.

Where are they now? After her Fellowship ended, Kristin remained at the Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network, where she served for eight years as the Managing Attorney of the Children's Program. She then served as an immigration attorney contracted to The Law Office of Jessica Kunevicius. In 2016, she began working with Kelly Ryan Law LLC, a Denver firm that focuses on immigration. She presents on the topics of law and immigration to youth across the state of Colorado.

RITU GOSWAMY

Year: 2006

Host Organization: Homeboy Industries

City/State: Los Angeles, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Create and direct in-house legal services at Homeboy Industries, a gang intervention program in LA that provides jobs, job placement at other organizations, tattoo removal, job training, counseling, GED preparation, and life skills training.

Where are they now? After her Fellowship, Ritu opened her own firm, Holistic Legal Services, based in San Jose and Santa Cruz, California, where she specializes in immigration and citizenship law and holistic legal services. She helps individuals and families of immigrants with their legal status in the United States. She has successfully obtained visas, permanent residency, and citizenship for her clients who come to the United States from all over the world. She also defends immigrants in deportation proceedings and helps immigrants who have been convicted of crimes. Ritu is the former Chair and current Board member of the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and is also a member of the Santa Clara County Bar Association and the South Asian Bar Association.

JENNIFER PODKUL

Year: 2006

Host Organization: Ayuda, Inc.

City/State: Washington, DC

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide legal representation to child victims of trafficking and other violent crimes. Children are regularly trafficked for forced labor in domestic service, agriculture, textiles, prostitution, restaurants, and other sectors.

Where are they now? After the completion of her Fellowship, Jennifer spent another two years at Ayuda as a KIND Fellow. While at Ayuda, she created and managed the first project designed to provide legal representation to trafficked children, and advocated for policies designed to protect vulnerable immigrant populations. Jennifer then worked as an immigration attorney representing both detained and non-detained immigrants before the US government along the US/Mexico border and in the DC area. Jennifer then became a Program Officer for the Detention and Asylum Program at the Women’s Refugee Commission in Washington, DC, where she advocated for the protection of women, children, and families seeking asylum in the United States. She then became the Senior Program Officer for the Migrant Rights and Justice Program at Women’s Refugee Commission, where she researched issues facing vulnerable migrants seeking protection in the United States and advocated for improved treatment. In 2016, Jennifer joined KIND as Director of Policy. Jennifer is currently the Vice President for Policy and Advocacy at KIND.

Jennifer is a national expert on issues involving immigrant children, and has published articles, reports, and handbooks on U.S. immigration law. She co-authored “Forced From Home: The Lost Boys and Girls from Central America” and was a contributing author to “Childhood, Migration, and Human Rights in Central and North America: Causes, Policies, Practices, and Challenges.” She also regularly presents on the topic. Jennifer has also taught child migration at Georgetown Law Center’s Human Rights Institute.

CLAIRE RAMSEY

Year: 2006

Host Organization: Child Care Law Center

City/State: San Francisco, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Improve access to childcare issues for children up to three years of age.

Where are they now? After her Fellowship ended, Claire continued at Child Care Law Center as a Staff Attorney working on disability issues and childcare. She worked as part of a project called the “Child Care Inclusion Challenge Project,” an interdisciplinary collaboration working to improve access to childcare for children with disability and special health care needs. She was a Staff Attorney at the Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County, where she worked on senior legal issues, including elder abuse, Social Security, SSI, and other government benefits. Claire joined ADZ Law in 2015 where she worked until joining Justice in Aging’s Health Care team in 2016. She is currently a Senior Staff Attorney there.

EMILY BERGER

Year: 2007

Host Organization: Alliance for Children’s Rights

City/State: Los Angeles, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide legal advocacy, outreach, and education to high-risk youth aging out, or about to age out, of the Los Angeles County foster care system.

Where are they now? Emily is currently a Supervising Attorney at the Law Offices of Marlene Furth, which is affiliated with the nonprofit organization Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers (LADL). LADL’s four law firms represent parents in juvenile dependency proceedings in Los Angeles County. When a petition is filed in court, LADL lawyers are appointed to represent parents in the case. LADL and its 109 lawyers are committed to keeping families together; their goal is to always advocate for the client’s right to retain or regain custody of his or her child.

ALEXIS FANOUS (MCLEOD)

Year: 2007

Host Organization: Public Law Center

City/State: Santa Ana, CA

Issue Area: HIV/AIDS

Project Description: Improve the lives of those living with HIV/AIDS by anticipating their potential legal issues through legal checkups, while providing direct legal services, advocacy, and outreach.

Where are they now? After her Fellowship, Alexis continued to oversee her project at the Public Law Center before accepting a position as a Legal Fellow at the International Justice Mission. During her time there, she assisted in the criminal prosecution of sex trafficking and forced prostitution offenses under India's Prevention of Immoral Trafficking Act and Penal Code; conducted extensive legal research and drafted briefs on procedural, substantive, and evidentiary issues; drafted trial briefs, motions, and internal memoranda; prepared witnesses to testify and assisted the Legal Director in managing the team of national staff attorneys. In July of 2011, Alexis became the Director of Development at My Friend's Place in Hollywood, California. Founded in 1988, My Friend's Place is a nonprofit resource center offering a comprehensive continuum of care that includes free emergency resources such as food and clothing in combination with health, educational, and therapeutic services to over 1,600 homeless youth and their children each year. From 2014 until 2017 Alexis worked as a freelance grant writer until starting as an attorney at Family Building, a professional Law Corporation in February 2017.

FIZA QURAISHI

Year: 2007

Host Organization: National Center for Youth Law

City/State: Oakland, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide direct representation for foster youth with unmet mental health needs.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Fiza continued to work for several years as a Staff Attorney at National Center for Youth Law (NYCL), specializing in Juvenile Justice Reform. She promoted systemic reforms and strategies that keep youth from entering the juvenile justice system and helped create community-based treatment programs.

In February of 2016, Fiza passed away at the age of 37 from brain cancer. She is remembered as an amazing lawyer and advocate who helped improve the lives of thousands of children. NYCL and her alma mater, the University of Michigan Law School, created the Fiza Quraishi Youth Law Fellowship in her memory; its purpose is to “allow young attorneys who share her spirit to follow in her footsteps and continue to fight on behalf of disadvantaged children.”

ALICE ROSENTHAL

Year: 2007

Host Organization: Advocates for Children of New York

City/State: New York, NY

Issue Area: Education

Project Description: Provide legal services and advocacy for teens transitioning or aging out of foster care in New York City to ensure that their educational and vocational needs are met with appropriate services.

Where are they now? Alice remained at Advocates for Children of New York after her Fellowship as a Staff Attorney. She is currently a Staff Attorney at the Center for Children’s Advocacy, where she leads a medical-legal partnership project at Yale-New Haven Hospital.

COURTNEY BOLIN NASH

Year: 2008

Host Organization: Legal Aid Society of San Diego, Inc.

City/State: San Diego, CA

Issue Area: Immigrant Populations

Project Description: Provide outreach services, legal advocacy, and independent living skills education to abuse, abandoned, or neglected undocumented children in San Diego.

Where are they now? Courtney has remained at the Legal Aid Society of San Diego since her Fellowship ended. She is currently a Pro Bono Staff Attorney working on the Income Maintenance team. She also works as an Associate Attorney with San Diego Elder Law Center. Courtney is a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, a member of the legal community supporting California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform, and secretary of the Board of Directors for San Diego Planning Partnership.

LAURA DALY ZARAGOZA

Year: 2008

Host Organization: Lawyers for Children

City/State: New York, NY

Issue Area: Children, Youth

Project Description: Provide legal advocacy, representation, and outreach for the general special educational needs of children living in foster care in New York City as a law guardian at Lawyers for Children.

Where are they now? Laura remained with Lawyers for Children in New York, where she works as the Legal Director of the Education Advocacy Project.

KRISTI LINK-CROSIER

Year: 2008

Host Organization: Legal Services of Northern California

City/State: Woodland, CA

Issue Area: Public Benefits

Project Description: Empower low-income residents and teen youth, primarily Latino immigrants, through capacity building activities, advocacy, and community legal and social education.

Where are they now? Kristi remained at Legal Services of Northern California after the completion of her Fellowship. She served as a Staff Attorney focusing on elder law issues and coordinated a new program that provides information and assistance to senior citizens in Yolo County. She then started her own law practice with a focus on estate planning, wills, and trusts, where she remains today.

HAYLEY UPSHAW

Year: 2008

Host Organization: Legal Services for Children

City/State: San Francisco, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide education, immigration, and dependency advocacy for unaccompanied, Spanish-speaking youth in the Bay Area through direct representation, policy advocacy, training, and outreach.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Hayley continued to work at Legal Services for Children in San Francisco, where she represented primarily immigrant youth in dependency proceedings, probate guardianships, school discipline hearings and immigration cases. She remained at Legal Services for Children until May 2017, and became a Senior Staff Attorney at the organization. In May 2017, Hayley became a Deputy Public Defender at the recently-formed Immigrant Defense Unit of the San Francisco Public Defender's Office.

KATHRYN BROWN

Year: 2009

Host Organization: Public Counsel

City/State: Los Angeles, CA

Issue Area: Education

Project Description: Support and raise the educational achievement of youth in Los Angeles' Pico Union community via direct legal representation, educational outreach, collaborative social services, and policy advocacy.

RENEE MURPHY (ERLINE)

Year: 2010

Host Organization: Children's Law Center

City/State: Washington, DC

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Change early intervention and early childhood special education services in DC by representing families to enforce their right to quality and timely services.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Renee continued as a staff attorney at Children's Law Center Healthy Together medical-legal partnership, which brings lawyers and physicians together in city health clinics to tackle legal issues that underlie problems in child health and wellbeing, including special education, housing conditions, and access to health care services. Renee then transitioned to a Supervising Attorney on the Children's Law Center's Policy team, where she advocated with DC government agencies and the DC Council to improve services and supports for the District's most vulnerable children and families, including children with needs for special education. In November 2018, Renee became the Managing Attorney for Advocates for Basic Legal Equality in Dayton, Ohio.

MICHAEL POPE

Year: 2010

Host Organization: Youth Represent

City/State: New York, NY

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide proactive, community-based civil legal representation to New York's indigent youth as they take the arduous journey from courthouse to community.

Where are they now? Following his Fellowship, Michael continued at Youth Represent. In 2015, he was promoted to Legal Director and, in 2019, to Executive Director. He continues to represent youth on all reentry matters including legal representation in criminal, civil, housing, and family court. Michael received a Presidential Appointment to serve as Board Member for the American Bar Association's Commission on Youth at Risk and is Co-Chair of the ABA's Criminal Justice Section's Juvenile Justice Committee.

TAMARA BRUNS (TRAWICK)

Year: 2011

Host Organization: Legal Aid Society of San Diego, Inc.

City/State: San Diego, CA

Issue Area: Consumer Rights

Project Description: Eradicate consumer legal obstacles to the homeless transitioning back into society via legal services such as debt counseling, credit report clearing, and bankruptcy aid, to end chronic homelessness.

Where are they now? After her Fellowship, Tamara remained at Legal Aid Society of San Diego as a Supervising Attorney of the consumer clinic. She currently practices law in her own practice.

NICHOLAS WEBBER

Year: 2011

Host Organization: Watsonville Law Center

City/State: Watsonville, CA

Issue Area: Farmworkers Rights

Project Description: Promote access to healthy workplaces, economic stability, and dignity to the low-income, primarily agricultural workers of the Pajaro Valley through employment-related advocacy, outreach, and education.

Where are they now? Nicholas currently works as an attorney at the Colorado State Public Defender's office in Denver, Colorado.

ELIZABETH ALEMAN

Year: 2012

Host Organization: East Bay Children's Law Office

City/State: San Francisco, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Advocate for Alameda County youth transitioning out of foster care and into adulthood by enforcing their rights to individualized transitional living plans and services under the new California Foster Connections to Success Law (AB12).

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Elizabeth remained at her host organization as a Staff Attorney, where she worked as an AB12 Specialist. She continues to advocate for foster youth transitioning into adulthood, representing children and adults ages zero to 21 in their juvenile dependency matters in the Juvenile Court. She is currently the Director of Interns and Volunteer Legal Staff at EBCLO.

MARGOT DANKNER

Year: 2012

Host Organization: Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)

City/State: Washington, DC

Issue Area: Immigrant Populations

Project Description: Improve access to services and immigration relief for unaccompanied minor survivors of sexual abuse and incest in Maryland through direct legal representation and outreach to community partners.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Margot became a Staff Attorney at Ayuda where she expanded their juvenile immigration practice in the DMV area and provided direct representation to immigrant victims of domestic violence. In 2015, Margot became the Pro Bono Coordinating Attorney at KIND in Washington, DC. She is currently working with US Citizenship and Immigration Services as a Policy Analyst in the Family Immigration and Victim Protection Division.

KATHLEEN GLYNN

Year: 2012

Host Organization: Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network

City/State: Denver, CO

Issue Area: Immigrant Populations

Project Description: Implement the recommendations of the Colorado Citizenship Pathways Taskforce to improve access to social services and immigration status options for undocumented children and their families with open child welfare cases.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Kathleen remained at Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network as a Managing Attorney. Kathleen currently works as a Senior Associate at Grob & Eirich LLC, a family law firm in Lakewood, Colorado. She focuses her practice on immigration law, continuing the work she started during her Fellowship. Kathleen lectures frequently on representing immigrant children before immigration tribunals.

RACHEL JOHNSON-FARIAS

Year: 2012

Host Organization: East Bay Community Law Center

City/State: Berkeley, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: The “Starting Over Strong” (SOS) project created a replicable model for comprehensive juvenile reentry legal services to minimize the collateral consequences confronting young people with records.

Where are they now? Rachel founded the nonprofit, Esq. Apprentice and serves as the Founding Director. Esq. Apprentice creates debt-free access to law licensing for low-income youth of color via legal apprenticeship. In 2017, Rachel received a prestigious Echoing Green Fellowship, which provides seed-funding and leadership development to Fellows and welcomes them into its lifelong community of leaders. She is now the Executive Director of UC Berkeley Law School’s Center on Reproductive Rights & Justice.

GABRIELLA BARBOSA

Year: 2013

Host Organization: Public Counsel

City/State: Los Angeles, CA

Issue Area: Education/Special Education

Project Description: Advocate for English Learners and immigrant students in Los Angeles to have access to education programs and language instruction in order to close the achievement gap and increase the graduation rate through direct legal representation, collaborative community education, impact litigation, and policy advocacy.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Gabriella served as Policy Director to Los Angeles School Board Member, Dr. Ref Rodriguez, where she developed strategies for advancing policy goals that uplift students, families, teachers, and community members. She is now the Director of Policy for The Children’s Partnership which is committed to improving the lives of children from marginalized and historically oppressed communities.

MARISA GOLD

Year: 2013

Host Organization: Lawyers for Children

City/State: New York, NY

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide children who are victims of sexual abuse while in foster care in New York City with targeted, direct representation to address their particular needs, and create a replicable model of best practices for attorneys handling those types of cases.

Where are they now? Following the completion of her Fellowship, Marisa continued her Fellowship project, serving as a Staff Attorney on the Sexual Abuse Education and Evaluation Project at her host organization, Lawyers for Children. In November 2017, Marisa became a Staff Attorney at Casa Myrna, Boston's largest provider of shelter and supportive services to survivors of domestic violence, providing safety, resources, advocacy, and information.

ROSIBEL MANCILLAS LOPEZ

Year: 2013

Host Organization: Legal Aid Society of San Diego

City/State: San Diego, CA

Issue Area: Immigrant Populations

Project Description: Empower indigenous Mexican immigrants in San Diego County through community organizing to reduce linguistic and cultural barriers that inhibit their understanding of and access to the legal system.

Where are they now? Rosibel volunteered with the Legal Aid Society of San Diego after her time as a Fellow. She is now a Staff Attorney there, where she continues to work to empower communities.

BETH KURTZ

Year: 2014

Host Organization: Children's Law Center

City/State: Washington, DC

Issue Area: Disability Rights

Project Description: Advocate through legal and administrative systems to connect at-risk children in Washington, DC with timely, community-based, well-coordinated, and effective mental health services.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Beth stayed with the Children's Law Center, where she worked as a Supervising Attorney in the Guardian ad Litem project. At the Children's Law Center, she represented children with mental health needs in abuse and neglect proceedings and works to ensure greater access to mental health care for at-risk children in DC. She recently became an Attorney for the American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law.

NICOLE BATES

Year: 2014

Host Organization: Legal Services for Children

City/State: San Francisco, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide trauma-informed legal advocacy for children in Bayview Hunters Point, San Francisco, that serves as a model for future Legal Services for Children community-based clinics.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Nicole continued in her role as at Legal Services for Children as a Senior Education Rights Advocate. Nicole volunteered as a Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for abused and neglected children. As a CASA, she worked collaboratively with attorneys, social workers, therapists, and teachers to identify needed services for youth.

WHITNEY RUBENSTEIN

Year: 2014

Host Organization: East Bay Community Law Center

City/State: Berkeley, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Co-Sponsor: The Clorox Company

Project Description: Provide a new model of holistic representation to juvenile court-involved Oakland youth and their families who live in subsidized housing in order to prevent eviction and create lasting stability.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Whitney remained in her role with The East Bay Community Law Center as a Staff Attorney and the Clinical Supervisor for Education Defense & Justice for Youth. In 2019, she became the Director of Social Work Practice and Staff Attorney at EBCLC.

MISHA SEAY

Year: 2014

Host Organization: Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto

City/State: East Palo Alto, CA

Issue Area: Immigrant Populations

Project Description: Provide legal representation to disadvantaged immigrant youth in East Palo Alto, California, and neighboring communities, and create a special juvenile docket to increase access to counsel at the local immigration court.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Misha stayed on at Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto, where she has become a Managing Attorney in the Immigration Program.

KARMENA DIGGS

Year: 2015

Host Organization: Advocates for Children of New York

City/State: New York, NY

Issue Area: Education/Special Education

Project Description: Provide direct legal representation, community outreach, and policy advocacy to help low-income students with disabilities in New York City learn to read proficiently so they can succeed in school.

Where are they now? After her Fellowship, Karmena moved to California to work as the Director of Business and Legal Affairs for L&L Management, a small business management firm. Karmena then went on to work as a Trial Attorney for the Children's Law Center of California. In February 2020, Karmena became a Trial Attorney for the Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers.

RACHEL JUDD

Year: 2015

Host Organization: Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center

City/State: Denver, CO

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide individual representation and systemic advocacy to keep at-risk (low-income, special needs, and minority) Denver-area students in school and out of court when facing disciplinary proceedings.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Rachel continued working the Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center as an Education Attorney.

REBECCA WOLOZIN

Year: 2015

Host Organization: Legal Aid Justice Center

City/State: Falls Church, VA

Issue Area: Immigrant Populations

Project Description: Provide legal services and advocacy to low-income immigrant youth in Northern Virginia with special health needs so they can access high-quality education and developmentally appropriate services.

Where are they now? Rebecca stayed on with Legal Aid Justice Center as a Staff Attorney in the Immigrant Advocacy Program.

DIANA SISSON

Year: 2016

Host Organization: Children's Law Center

City/State: Washington, DC

Issue Area: Health Care/Medical-Legal Collaborative

Project Description: Promote physical and mental health and provide stability for children whose families are experiencing or at-risk of homelessness in Washington, DC through legal representation, outreach, and advocacy.

Where are they now? Diana is now a Senior Attorney at DC's Children's Law Center.

HENRISSA BASSEY

Year: 2016

Host Organization: Bay Area Legal Aid

City/State: Oakland, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide trauma-informed, civil legal representation to formerly institutionalized youth with disabilities in Contra Costa County to promote successful reentry and reduce congregate care placements.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Henrissa joined Bay Area Legal Aid as a Housing Attorney.

RUBY (RENERIA) ACEVEDO

Year: 2016

Host Organization: Law Foundation of Silicon Valley

City/State: San Jose, CA

Issue Area: Housing/Homelessness

Project Description: Increase access to justice for geographically isolated, low-income tenants facing eviction in South Santa Clara County, particularly those who are Limited English Proficient Spanish-speakers.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Ruby worked as a Tenants' Rights Contract Manager for Centro Legal de la Raza. She is now a Staff Attorney at Public Advocates.

MIHAL ROSE ANSIK

Year: 2017

Host Organization: A New Way of Life Reentry Project

City/State: Los Angeles, CA

Issue Area: Prisoners' Rights

Project Description: Provide direct legal representation and advocacy tools to Los Angeles families impacted by incarceration as they navigate dependency court and overcome discriminatory barriers to family reunification.

EMMA ROTH

Year: 2017

Host Organization: ACLU Women's Rights Project

City/State: New York, NY

Issue Area: Education/Special Education

Project Description: Provide direct legal services and engage in policy advocacy on behalf of girls of color who have been systematically excluded from programs meant to redress the racial achievement gap in education.

Where are they now? Following her Fellowship, Emma joined the Southern District of New York as a Law Clerk.

ELIZABETH VOGEL

Year: 2017

Host Organization: Neighborhood Legal Services Program

City/State: Washington, DC

Issue Area: Family Law

Project Description: Promote family stability for teenage parents in Washington, DC and decrease their children's involvement in the foster care system through direct legal services, coalition building, and impact advocacy.

Where are they now? Following the Fellowship, Elizabeth joined Bread for the City as a Family Law Staff Attorney.

CURTIS DAVIS

Year: 2018

Host Organization: California Rural Legal Assistance

City/State: El Centro, CA

Issue Area: Education/Special Education, Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide legal advocacy and outreach to low-income Imperial County students, parents, and guardians to decrease unlawful and disproportionate alternative school assignments and disciplinary action.

Project Highlights:

- Undertook full representation of 8 student clients in matters involving school push-out issues, including student discipline and discrimination issues, and provided brief services to 21 parents to facilitate them becoming advocates for their children;
- Provided 7 know-your-education-rights workshop presentations with data on county and district school discipline practices to over 100 parents, legal guardians, and students;
- Created and disseminated know-your-education-rights materials in English and Spanish;
- Trained over 20 youth advocates and juvenile public defenders on education equity legal issues.

VICTORIA (TORI) PORELL

Year: 2018

Host Organization: East Bay Children's Law Offices

City/State: Oakland, CA

Issue Area: Children/Youth, Education/Special Education

Project Description: Provide early intervention representation for Alameda County foster youth ages 0-5 in special education, school discipline and developmental services, ensuring they start school with support they need.

Project Highlights:

- Represented 59 children with special education, school discipline, or developmental services needs, appearing in court 30 times and attending 11 IEP hearings;
- Reviewed 122 developmental screenings and followed up as needed;
- Was appointed to the Alameda County Early Care and Education Planning Council Steering Committee;
- Recruited 10 volunteer law students through the Berkeley Law Foster Education Project;
- Successfully negotiated for a three-year-old with severe Autism to be placed in an appropriate preschool program, including transportation.

HYUN-MI KIM

Year: 2019

Host Organization: Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach

City/State: San Francisco, CA

Issue Area: Native American Rights

Project Description: Protect the legal rights of indigenous children, parents, and tribes afforded under California Indian Child Welfare Act (Cal-ICWA) through community outreach, direct representation, collaboration with tribal lawyers and community organizations led by indigenous advocates, and educational workshops with California social service agencies and judicial personnel in the SF Bay Area.

Project Highlights:

- Provided legal advice to six clients on ICWA Inquiry and Notice Requirements, Parental and Tribal Rights under ICWA, and application of ICWA in Jurisdiction and Disposition hearings;
- Conducted two presentations for 85 individuals, one on the history of forcible child and family separation and crossover legal issues, and one on ICWA's legal protections;

- Reviewed and edited an All County Letter (ACL), which informs Child Welfare Agencies of each of 58 counties in California about AB 3176, a law that incorporates certain ICWA regulations into state law;
- Began to build relationships with eight organizations that serve indigenous individuals;
- Attended child custody proceeding hearings involving ICWA issues at the SF Superior Dependency court.

VEENA SUBRAMANIAN

Year: 2019

Host Organization: Open City Advocates

City/State: Washington, DC

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provide trauma-informed, post-sentencing representation for DC youth in the juvenile justice and foster care systems, ensuring that youth remain in the community rather than detention facilities.

Project Highlights:

- Fully represented five youth, including successfully representing a youth who had experienced difficulty enrolling in Medicaid, which prevented him from participating in employment initiatives and other programs;
- Provided sentencing mitigation and reentry planning for four additional clients;
- Collaborated with community partners to draft proposed updated regulations for Community Status Review Hearings. Proposed regulations are currently under review by the agency;
- Updated her organization's sentencing letters to include a section about the impact of trauma on neurobiology and behaviors that bring individuals into the justice system.

STEPHANIE HORWITZ

Year: 2020

Host Organization: National Center for Youth Law

City/State: El Segundo, CA

Issue Area: Education/Special Education

Project Description: Advocates for the rights of students of color with disabilities who face pushout to inferior alternative education settings through direct services, community advocacy, and impact litigation.

RENEE SCHENKMAN

Year: 2020

Host Organization: Lawyers for Children

City/State: New York, NY

Issue Area: Children/Youth

Project Description: Provides legal representation and advocates to address the needs of youth in Residential Treatment Centers and the ACS Children's Center and enforces the Family First Prevention Services Act.