

SUMMER FELLOWSHIP OPENING

California Bar Foundation 2018 Summer Fellowship Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project

Background:

Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project, a program of Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc., is a non-profit law firm which provides community education and legal representation to Southern California's most vulnerable immigrant communities. Esperanza provides legal representation to immigrants who are in detention and/or removal proceedings, and focuses on particularly complex immigration cases which may involve unaccompanied minors, adults with mental health issues, and cases with past criminal or gang history. Esperanza also provides community education programming and pro se assistance to immigrants in removal proceedings both in detained and non-detained settings. More information can be found about Esperanza at <u>www.esperanza-la.org</u>

Position Description:

With support from the California Bar Foundation, Esperanza is hiring a summer fellow for 2018. Supervised by a Managing Attorney the summer fellow will assist both our detained and non-detained programs in providing assistance and representation to individuals who find themselves in removal proceedings as a result of the administration's new enforcement priorities.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Conduct legal research and analysis;
- Draft correspondence, memoranda and other legal documents,
- Assist with client intake;
- Complete other assignments consistent with the request of a managing attorney; and
- Appear in immigration court under the supervision of an attorney.

Qualifications:

- Second and third-year law students who are interested in immigration law and specifically removal defense;
- Those with experience in immigrant communities or who have completed immigration law courses are preferred;
- Strong organizational, case management, legal research, and legal writing skills required;
- Experience working with vulnerable client populations, particularly with children, families, or those with mental health issues is a huge plus;
- Spanish language proficiency required and will be tested at time of interview;
- Willingness to be a team-player with an attitude and aptitude for collaboration;
- <u>Passion for social justice for immigrants and vulnerable communities</u> required.

Location:

Our office is located at 1530 James M. Wood Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90015. This position may require regional travel. We represent clients throughout the region, including: Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange County and even Kern County.

Salary: The fellow will receive a stipend in the amount of \$7,500, through the support of the California Bar Foundation Legal Fellowship Program.

Deadline to Apply: December 10, 2017

How to apply:

Email cover letter, resume, at least 2 references, and a brief writing sample (5 pages or less) to:

Patricia Ortiz, Program Director, Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project, portiz@ccharities.org In email subject line please place your full name, and the position you are applying for. 1530 James M. Wood Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90015.

Only those applicants selected for interviews will be contacted. No phone calls please. Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc. is an equal-opportunity employer.



About the California Bar Foundation Legal Fellowship Program

Launched in 2015, California Bar Foundation's Legal Fellowship Program supports diverse, emerging leaders of the legal profession who are committed to representing low-income and underserved populations in California. Our goal is generate career opportunities for diverse attorneys who want to make a social impact.

California Bar Foundation is an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit foundation. At CBF, we believe that as trustees of the justice system, lawyers have a special responsibility to ensure access to justice. Through this fellowship program, along with our diversity scholarships and grants, the California Bar Foundation is catalyzing diversity, equity, and inclusion in the legal profession and, by extension, the justice system as a whole. For more information about the California Bar Foundation Legal Fellowship Program, email Sheila Bapat at sheilab@calbarfoundation.org.