Your Project-Based Fellowships Action Plan

Lucy Benz-Rogers and Deep Kaur Jodhka
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Key Questions

- What is the legal need you’ve identified?
- Why are you the one to meet it?
- Why is your host the ideal partner in this?
- Why should the project be funded?
- What impact will it have?
- How does your project match the funder’s priorities?
Funders

Skadden Foundation

EQUAL JUSTICE WORKS

CATALYST

FULBRIGHT

PRIDE LAW FUND

BERKELEY LAW FOUNDATION

OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS

Borchard Foundation Center on Law & Aging
Examples

Empowering Low-Wage LGBTQ Workers in California
Impact Fund

David Nahmias is the Litigation Fellow at the Impact Fund in Berkeley, California, where he is launching a project advocating for low-wage LGBTQ workers in the Central Valley and the Bay Area through impact litigation, trainings, direct services, and policy advocacy. A 2018 graduate of the U.C. Berkeley School of Law, David served as a Supervising Editor of the California Law Review and the Editor-in-Chief of the Berkeley Journal of International Law. He also worked with the International Human Rights Law Clinic, California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc., Legal Aid at Work.

Molly Lao

University of California, Berkeley School of Law

Fellowship
Legal Aid at Work
San Francisco, CA

Will establish a medical-legal-social services partnership with a local one-stop resource and community health center, to provide employment representation for formerly incarcerated individuals with disabilities in Fresno.
Action Plan!

- Find host organization (we’ll be going into this in more detail)
  - Now through August
- Design a project (including legal research)
  - Now through August
- Draft application (incl. review and letters of rec)
  - August-September
  - Review review review! Use CDO, alums, your host supervisors, and more.
- Submit applications on time
  - Early September- EJW and Skadden
  - Others may vary- October (Justice Catalyst prospectus) to January (Berkeley Law Foundation)
- Interview
  - October (Skadden) - April (end of EJW)
Host Considerations

- Organization’s capacity to supervise new attorneys and take on actual work with you.
- Past experience with fellows (not absolutely necessary, but good to have)
- Capacity to help develop your project and help you with your applications
- Mission alignment
- Funder specific priorities- how this relates to hosts
Finding a Host

- Pathway 1: pre-existing connections
- Pathway 2: lead with a host
- Pathway 3: lead with a project

And remember, do your homework and legwork when looking into hosts!

- With some hosts you may need to approach them, and we at the CDO can help with that.
- With other hosts, they may have a more formalized application process (often quite similar to a regular job application) that you’ll need to look out for and be on top of.
Support from Berkeley Law

- Google Group
- Alumni Contacts
- Host Organization Search Counseling
- Project Planning Counseling
- Application Strategy Counseling
- Midsummer Workshopping
- Proposal Draft Review
- Mock Interviews
- Berkeley Law website and resources: https://www.law.berkeley.edu/careers/for-students/public-interest/find-jobs/post-graduate-public-interest-fellowships/
Panelists

**JINA KIM**
- Hosted by Communities for a Better Environment
- Service location: Oakland, California
- Issue area: Environmental Justice, Racial Justice
- Program: Design-Your-Own Fellowship
- Sponsored by: The Clorox Company Foundation
- Law school: University of California, Berkeley School of Law
- Fellowship class year: 2021

**MATTIE ARMSTRONG**
- Hosted by Dolores Street Community Services
- Service location: San Francisco, California
- Issue area: Criminal Justice Reform, Immigrant Populations
- Program: Design-Your-Own Fellowship
- Sponsored by: Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
- Law school: University of California, Berkeley School of Law
- Fellowship class year: 2021

**RACHEL APPEL**
- Hosted by Campaign Legal Center
- Service location: Washington, District of Columbia
- Issue area: Civil Rights/Civil Liberties, Voting Rights/Electoral Participation
- Program: Design-Your-Own Fellowship
- Sponsored by: The Arnold & Porter Foundation
- Law school: University of California, Berkeley School of Law
- Fellowship class year: 2023

**ISHVAKU VASHISHTHA**
- Hosted by Inner City Law Center
- Service location: Los Angeles, California
- Issue area: Civil Rights/Civil Liberties, Economic Justice, Housing/Homelessness
- Program: Design-Your-Own Fellowship
- Sponsored by: Kutak Rock, U.S. Bank
- Law school: University of California, Berkeley School of Law
- Fellowship class year: 2023