



# Your Project-Based Fellowships Action Plan

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Lucy Benz-Rogers and Deep Kaur Jodhka  
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# Key Questions

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- 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



Borchard Foundation Center on Law & Aging

# Examples



David Nahmias

2018 - 2019 Fellow

## 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.

## DARBY AONO

 **Hosted by** UnCommon Law

 **Sponsored by** Covington & Burling LLP, The Clorox Company Foundation

 **Service location** Oakland, California

 **Law school** University of California, Berkeley School of Law

 **Issue area** Criminal Justice Reform, Elder Abuse

 **Fellowship class year** 2022



# Action Plan!

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

🏢 **Sponsored by** The Clorox Company Foundation

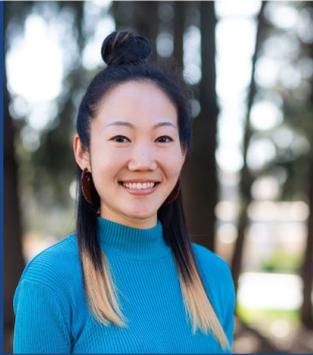
📍 **Service location** Oakland, California

🎓 **Law school** University of California, Berkeley School of Law

💡 **Issue area** Environmental Justice, Racial Justice

🎓 **Fellowship class year** 2021

🔄 **Program** Design-Your-Own Fellowship



## MATTIE ARMSTRONG

🌟 **Hosted by** Dolores Street Community Services

🏢 **Sponsored by** Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

📍 **Service location** San Francisco, California

🎓 **Law school** University of California, Berkeley School of Law

💡 **Issue area** Criminal Justice Reform, Immigrant Populations

🎓 **Fellowship class year** 2021

🔄 **Program** Design-Your-Own Fellowship



## RACHEL APPEL

🌟 **Hosted by** Campaign Legal Center

🏢 **Sponsored by** The Arnold & Porter Foundation

📍 **Service location** Washington, District of Columbia

🎓 **Law school** University of California, Berkeley School of Law

💡 **Issue area** Civil Rights/Civil Liberties, Voting Rights/Electoral Participation

🎓 **Fellowship class year** 2023

🔄 **Program** Design-Your-Own Fellowship



## ISHVAKU VASHISHTHA

🌟 **Hosted by** Inner City Law Center

🏢 **Sponsored by** Kutak Rock, U.S. Bank

📍 **Service location** Los Angeles, California

🎓 **Law school** University of California, Berkeley School of Law

💡 **Issue area** Civil Rights/Civil Liberties, Economic Justice, Housing/Homelessness

🎓 **Fellowship class year** 2023

🔄 **Program** Design-Your-Own Fellowship

