

Equal Justice Works

Equal Justice Works Fellowships Application Form

* indicates a required field

Candidate Information—Information has been redacted

Prefix
First Name
Last Name
Address
City
State
Zip
Telephone
Alt. Phone
Fax
Email

Law School [Law School]

Fellowship candidates must be third-year law students or graduates from a law school that is an Equal Justice Works member during the 2006-2007 academic year. Please [click here](#) for a list of current law school members. If your school is not a member, you will not be eligible for an Equal Justice Works Fellowship. For information on how to become a member, send an email to membership@equaljusticeworks.org.

Grad Month May *

Grad Year 2006 *

How did you hear about this program?
Friend/ Equal Justice Works Fellow

Information on Judicial Clerkships

Have you applied or do you intend to apply for a 2007 judicial clerkship? No *

Please note: Applying for a clerkship WILL NOT affect evaluation of your application. To elaborate on the selection process, proposals are evaluated multi-fold by external

reviewers. The reviewers will not see the clerkship question or response on the proposals assigned to them; therefore, proposals will be evaluated irrespective of whether candidates are seeking clerkships.

Equal Justice Works will only use the clerkship response information during the interview stage to ensure that there will be a sufficient number of semifinalists for each allotted Fellowship. In other words, candidates will advance to the semifinal stage regardless of their response to the clerkship question, but Equal Justice Works will be able to plan for additional candidates should the initial semifinalist candidate withdraw to accept a clerkship.

If you accept a judicial clerkship or other position at any time during the selection process, however, you must notify Equal Justice Works immediately to withdraw your Equal Justice Works Fellowship application.

Voluntary Diversity Survey

Equal Justice Works strives to attract program participants who are diverse in many respects and, in this diversity, are able to understand and empower clients and communities in new ways.

Completing the questionnaire below is voluntary, but strongly encouraged, in order to help us advance our goal of attracting diverse individuals to our programs. Your individual responses will be kept confidential.

I am: Female

Please check all that apply:

African/African American/Black

Native American/American Indian

Asian/Asian American/Pacific Islander

Caucasian/European American/White

Latino/Latina/Hispanic American

Arab/Arab American

Biracial/Multiracial

Other group (define): Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual

Person with disability

First generation college graduate

Poor or working class background

Country of birth: United States

Native language: English

Other languages spoken: Spanish

Host Organization Information

Name of Host Organization

Executive Director's Prefix
Executive Director's First Name
Executive Director's Last Name
Contact Person's Prefix
Contact Person's First Name
Contact Person's Last Name
Contact Person's Title
Contact Email Address
Address
City
State
Zip
Phone
Fax

Host Organization Match Funding Option Survey

Required section - to be completed by the host organization in consultation with the candidate.

All applications will be considered for a fully sponsored 2006 Equal Justice Works Fellowship. However, in order to maximize the potential of the Open Society Institute matching grant and the number of Equal Justice Works Fellowships, the Host Organization Match (HOM) funding option will also be available for the 2006 Equal Justice Works Fellowships competition. The HOM funding option allows a limited number of candidates who receive high scores, but who are not selected for a fully sponsored Fellowship, to raise matching funds for an Equal Justice Works Fellowship. The host organization must secure up to \$60,000 (payable over two years) in matching funds from law firms, corporations, individuals, bar associations and/or foundations. (Please refer to the 2006 Fellowships Brochure, pages 4-5, for more details).

The following questions are required and should be completed by the prospective host organization in collaboration with the candidate. This information will be used to assess the level of interest amongst the high scoring candidate pool for the HOM funding option. The responses will be confidential and will not factor into the application scoring process.

If yes or maybe, how much time would it take for your organization to secure or raise \$60,000 for this proposed Equal Justice Works Fellowship project?

If your proposed project is among the high scoring applications not chosen for a fully sponsored Fellowship, are you able to commit to the 2006 HOM funding option process? Yes, we are committed to the HOM funding option and prepared to raise \$60,000 for the 2006 Fellowships competition.

No, we are unable to commit to the 2006 HOM funding option.

Maybe, we may be able to commit to raising \$60,000 once the competition is underway. Please contact us in the fall if we are amongst the pool of high scoring applications.

Application Proposal Narrative

The Proposal Narrative consists of Parts I, II and III. Enter text responses in the boxes provided.

Spell check: This online system does not support a spell check function. It is therefore strongly recommended that candidates draft the Proposal Narrative in Word or WordPerfect, use the spell check tool in the word processing program and then paste the text into the text box below.

Formatting: This online system does not support special formatting, such as bold text, bullets or graphics. The lack of formatting will not negatively affect consideration of applications. Candidates should, however, structure the Proposal Narrative according to the way the questions are presented. For example, Part I Project Description contains 4 questions, lettered a, b, c and d. Candidates should precede the response to each question with "a," " b," "c," and "d," respectively. A space between each paragraph is helpful but not required.

Character limits: This system will only support the designated number of characters in each text box. A character counter is located in the bottom left-hand corner of each text box. Equal Justice Works urges candidates to scroll to the bottom of each box once edited text has been entered to ensure that the entire narrative fits within the character-limited space. Once the character limit is reached, any additional text will not appear. The character count used by other software programs may not be consistent with this system. Accordingly, candidates are advised to allocate time in advance of the application deadline to make any necessary edits. Also, each blank space is considered a character for purposes of this limit.

Provide a compelling one-sentence description of your proposed project:

Please note that any formatting and text that exceeds 125 characters (including spaces) will not remain once you have typed or pasted your text into the box below. If you find that the cursor does not allow you to type any additional text or that the text that you pasted has been truncated, please check the "characters left" indicator at the bottom left-hand corner of this box, as you have likely reached the limit. You should spell check text in a word processing program, as the box below does not have that capability.

The sentence should begin with a verb. For example: "Provide legal advocacy and outreach to...

Provide holistic legal representation, outreach, and impact advocacy to women immigrant detainees throughout Florida.

Please select the most relevant subject area classification for your project.

*

Part I. Project Description (recommended length: approximately four pages or 13,200 characters, including spaces) This section should be completed by the candidate in collaboration with a representative of the prospective host organization.

a. Statement of need: Describe the need and community to be served by the proposed Fellowship. Acknowledge any services that are currently provided to meet the need in the target community and how the proposed project is distinguishable from or complements those existing services.

b. Project activities, goals and timeline: Describe the planned project activities to address the need, including a brief statement of the specific goals of the Fellowship project and the sustainable impact it will have beyond the Fellowship term. On a two-year timeline, describe the work that will be accomplished by the Fellow, in six-month increments, in order to achieve the overall project goals.

c. Collaboration with other providers: Describe how you will collaborate with other legal and/or non-legal service providers in the community. Please provide specific information on the agencies or groups who have committed to collaborate on the project, and those with whom you hope to collaborate during the Fellowship. If there is an agency or group providing similar services in the community with whom you do not plan to collaborate, please explain.

d. Innovative and/or replicable project: Describe how the work of the project is innovative and/or replicable and distinct from that of a general staff attorney or any previous Equal Justice Works/NAPIL Fellow at the host organization. For example, a project might take a new approach to a community issue that has not been tested at the organization or it might replicate a service model that has proven successful in another state, organization or community.

a. NEED

Female immigration detainees in Florida include mothers of U.S. citizen children, long-time legal permanent residents who have pled guilty to minor crimes, and asylum-seekers tortured in their home countries. Many immigration detainees arrive alone in the United States, do not speak or understand English, have limited educational backgrounds, no knowledge of U.S. culture, and no training in immigration laws. For women, the problems are magnified. Many risk losing their dependent U.S. citizen children, some

have fled persecution, others have complex medical problems, and still others have suffered horrific domestic violence either in their home country or in the United States.

In 1996, Congress passed strict U.S. immigration laws, often mandating detention of asylum seekers and legal permanent residents, and increasing the burden and likelihood of possible deportation. As a result, the average number of U.S. immigration detainees skyrocketed from 8,591 in 1995 to 20,653 in 2002. The total is even higher today, and by Department of Justice (DOJ) estimates, is expected to reach 62,000 by 2010. As instances of detention have dramatically increased, so too has the need for skilled legal advocates to assist these detainees and monitor conditions and services.

In 2000, the DOJ issued a set of core detention standards to be instituted in facilities that housed immigration detainees throughout the country. After one review of 40 such detention centers (comprising 30% of the non-citizen detained population), the DOJ found that facilities were compliant with only 50% of the standards in the areas of health care, safety, and sanitation. Women in immigration detention in Florida have fared much worse than even these bleak figures portray.

For example, until December 2000, women immigration detainees were held at Krome Detention Center in Miami. After a sex abuse scandal against these detainees which resulted in numerous convictions of federal Krome Detention Center guards, the women were moved to the local Turner-Guilford-Knight (TGK) Jail. Conditions at TGK were deplorable, but the women were at least detained in Miami, where some have family members. In September 2004, the women were again transferred – four hours away to Monroe County Jail in Key West. They are now located even farther away from FIAC and other Miami-based attorneys, as well as their family and friends, and social service providers. Due to the travel time and expenses, FIAC and other service providers have been unable to offer consistent legal or social assistance.

In Florida, the situation for women detainees is dire. Unlike male detainees at Krome, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) does not hold female immigration detainees in facilities with outdoor exercise facilities and in-person immigration hearings. Instead, the women are locked up in five separate county jails throughout the state, and subjected to the whims of the county jail officials who employ widely variant systems of punishment, visitation, and other rules.

One jail, Broward Transitional Center (BTC), in Pompano Beach, includes a significant number of asylum seekers, the majority of whom are unrepresented. [Host organization] estimates that nearly half of the approximately 200 women at BTC have asylum-based legal claims; many of them have fled persecution, torture, rape, and abuse in their home countries, only to be locked up in a U.S. jail, re-victimized again.

Women held in Monroe County Jail in Key West include long-term legal U.S. residents with minor criminal convictions, many of whom are eligible for waivers, cancellation of removal or other relief from deportation. FIAC estimates there are at least 10-15 unrepresented women with cases pending at any given time. But these cases are often

complex and labor intensive, making it even more difficult to find competent legal assistance.

Female detainees in Clay, Wakulla and Orange county jails (near Tallahassee, Jacksonville, and Orlando, respectively) are supposed to be held only temporarily; however, many are kept for much longer, without explanation from DHS. [Host organization] estimates that at least five unrepresented women with viable immigration claims are detained at each of these facilities at any given time.

Immigration detainees have no right to legal representation and the vast majority of detained female immigrants do not have funds to hire a paid attorney. Therefore, low-cost and free legal services are crucial to many of these women. The Department of Justice publishes a list of free or low-cost legal service providers for immigrants in Florida. Of the entire list, [Host organization] is virtually the only organization that regularly represents detained non-citizens. However, [Host organization] currently employs just one detention attorney in the Miami office – who primarily works on detained men’s cases at Krome Detention Center – and one EJW fellow in the Bradenton office – whose fellowship focuses on the approximately 400 men detained on Florida’s west coast. Until recently, Miami offices of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network and Catholic Charities jointly funded a detention staff attorney who represented detained immigrants, including weekly rights presentations and individual immigration court representation for the women held at Broward Transitional Center. Sadly, as of September 2005, the two organizations have been unable to continue funding this position. The need for legal representation to these women detainees is great and unmet.

b. ACTIVITIES/TIMELINE

Based out of [Host organization]’s Miami office, this project comprises a holistic effort aimed at providing direct services, advocacy and legal outreach on behalf of female immigration detainees in Florida.

Direct Representation:

Conduct intakes of detained women at all five jails and evaluate their cases for possible claims. Work with skilled [Host organization] paralegals qualified to conduct intakes. Provide legal representation for low-income women with viable immigration claims for relief and secure release of eligible detainees. Refer cases to pro bono lawyers, law school clinics, and other practitioners, including family law attorneys and legal services organizations, and provide them with constant litigation strategy support.

Education and Training:

Conduct rights presentation for women immigration detainees in all five Florida jails. (Given the time and costs associated with visits to the Clay, Wakulla and Orange counties, the project will also provide presentations to male detainees and refer possible cases to other [Host organization] staff throughout Florida.) Furnish self-help packets for women forced to represent themselves and provide them with pro se legal advice and litigation strategy. Train local service providers, law students, and volunteers to conduct rights presentations and monitor detention conditions on jail visits. Provide trainings and

supplemental materials to public defense attorneys with non-citizen clients on the immigration consequences of criminal convictions and pleas.

Advocacy:

Empower female detainees to use grievance procedures within detention facilities. Encourage detainees to monitor and document detention conditions involving medical issues, attorney access, communication, hygiene, safety, and abuse. Advocate for improved detention conditions – focusing on the unique needs of female inmates, such as specialized medical concerns, mental health, and child custody issues – through jail conditions reports, meetings with DHS and jail officials, use of local media, and coordination with other organizations. Monitor medical and disciplinary conditions for Constitutional violations, and possibly file lawsuits or petitions on behalf of inmates, likely with pro-bono law firm help. Compile stories from women detainees to present in a report to use in advocacy, including national advocacy efforts championing limited use of detention. In conjunction with the report release, institute a public education effort aimed at positively influencing public awareness of immigration detention issues.

Timeline:

Months 1-6:

- * Receive frequent training at [Host organization] on substantive law and skills-based topics.
- * Visit women immigrants detained in Monroe and Broward county jails, give rights presentations, conduct intakes, hand out self-help packets with contact information, and monitor conditions.
- * Meet with jail officials to begin relationship-building.
- * Evaluate detainees' cases, identify those with viable claims for relief, and provide direct legal representation to 10-15 women.
- * Begin building relationships with social service organizations, pro bono attorneys, law schools, public defenders, and others.

Months 7-12:

- * Continue direct representation.
- * Refer some cases to pro bono lawyers and law clinics. Provide training sessions and strategy advice to attorneys.
- * Coordinate visits to women detained in Monroe and Broward counties (with law students, attorneys and other volunteers).
- * Visit detainees in Clay, Wakulla and Orange counties: give rights presentations, conduct intakes, hand out self-help packets, and monitor conditions. (Invite EJW sponsors, pro bono attorneys, and law students to participate in the visit.)
- * Represent a number of these women and refer others. Refer viable men's cases to other [Host organization] attorneys.
- * Train and encourage local service organizations to continue visits to detainees to monitor conditions.

- * Contact local public defenders. Initiate and conduct trainings on the immigration consequences of criminal convictions and pleas. Continue [Host organization]'s work with state public defenders in Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Monroe counties.
- * Initiate advocacy to improve conditions and services for women detainees at all the jails, through reports and meetings with officials. Possibly initiate litigation, with pro bono law firm assistance.

Months 13-18:

- * Continue representation and referrals to other attorneys.
- * Continue frequent visits to Monroe and Broward jails.
- * Follow up on Clay, Wakulla and Orange county jail visits.
- * Provide additional trainings to pro bono lawyers and students, and institutionalize their jail visits to conduct rights presentations, intakes, and conditions monitoring.
- * Continue active advocacy efforts.

Months 19-24:

- * Continue representation and referrals to other attorneys.
- * Visit all five jails.
- * Continue institutionalization of visits by other organizations and volunteers. Provide additional trainings to ensure sustainability of project beyond fellowship.
- * Continue active advocacy efforts.
- * Compile conditions information and testimonials, and produce a report on women in Florida detention to be disseminated to DHS, service providers, media contacts, and legislative offices both locally and in Washington D.C., as part of a public education and lobbying campaign.

c. COLLABORATION

Constructing a collaborative effort to deal with the multiple needs of the female detainees is a long-term objective of this project.

[Host organization] houses the Florida Immigrant Coalition, which is a statewide coalition of organizations working together for fair treatment of Florida's immigrants. This coalition provides a starting point for networking and relationship-building with service providers. [Host organization] also has relationships with pro bono attorneys, criminal defenders, and some law schools. The project will refer women detainees with domestic violence or trafficking claims to [Host organization]'s Lucha Project attorneys.

Another goal of the project is to attract law students, through clinics and student rights groups, to assist in conducting intakes, rights presentations, and monitoring detention conditions. Seven Florida law schools are located within reasonable proximity to the five jails where women are detained; the project will approach each of these for possible collaboration.

d. INNOVATION/REPLICATION

This project will offer a significant new component to [Host organization]'s existing detention program. Currently, [Host organization]'s one Miami-based detention attorney

focuses primarily on services to men at Krome Detention Center, including asylum and criminal cases. FIAC also currently has an EJW fellow based out of a partner organization in Bradenton, but her detention project focuses solely on services to men detained in Bradenton.

This project replicates the successful techniques used by [Host organization]'s detention program, but it is innovative in that it will provide holistic service to all women and will not be constrained to only a regional center. This project will be replicable because it will cover women throughout Florida. Other detainees in the U.S. are similarly held in rural jails far from legal service providers, and this project aims to mitigate the situation, at least for Florida's sizeable detained female population. The project will focus on sustainability and post-fellowship viability through education and outreach to train other service providers, including law students, attorneys, and community organizations to continue after the fellowship term.

Potential sponsor involvement: Many Equal Justice Works sponsors (law firms, corporations, individuals, bar associations and foundations that provide funding for Fellowships) are interested in being involved in the Fellowships they fund. Equal Justice Works would like to learn how Fellows could potentially involve sponsors in their projects. In 3 - 5 sentences, please describe how your project can involve a sponsor (i.e. pro bono attorney involvement, administrative support, inviting sponsor to events, media for sponsor, etc.). This information will be used to understand the ways in which sponsors can be involved in the Equal Justice Works Fellowships program. Your individual responses to this question will be kept confidential and will not factor into the application scoring process.

Collaboration is a primary focus of this project. Sponsors could be involved in myriad ways, including: direct representation of detained women; accompanying the fellow on detention center visits; participation in advocacy or public outreach; or assistance in filing litigation to improve detention conditions. Sponsors could also assist in networking with pro bono attorneys, law schools, family law practitioners, and other community service organizations that provide services to immigrant women. The fellow would also be available to provide training for potential pro bono attorneys at the sponsoring organizations.

Part II. Host Organization (recommended length: approximately three pages or 9900 characters, including spaces) This section should be completed by or in collaboration with a representative of the prospective host organization.

- a. State the name and title of the host organization representative completing this section.
- b. Briefly describe the organization's mission and history. (not to exceed 1500 characters or approximately one-half page)

c. Describe how the particular project idea was conceived and how it relates to the overall current work of the organization. Include any prior work by the candidate with the host organization.

d. With regard to the organization's plans for providing training, support and supervision throughout the term of the Fellowship, please state:

- * Who will be the Fellow's primary supervisor and that individual's position/title;
- * How many years of experience the supervisor has (i) in the substantive area of the Fellowship project and (ii) as a supervisor in any capacity;
- * If the project represents a new practice area for the organization, how substantive expertise will be made available to the Fellow;
- * Whether the supervisor will be responsible for supervision of others aside from the Fellow, and if so, how many;
- * How often the supervisor will meet with the Fellow.

e. Briefly describe the Fellow's physical work environment (e.g., desk, office, technology available) and the number of staff in the office.

f. Please provide specific plans for the Fellow's training and professional development during the Fellowship. You may describe both skills-based and substantive trainings, in addition to opportunities to serve in community coalitions or task forces.

a. HOST ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE COMPLETING FORM
[Host organization representative], Administrator, [Host organization]

b. ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY & MISSION

[Host organization] was established in January 1996 to combat restrictions in services to immigrants. Its mission is to protect and promote the basic human rights of immigrants of all nationalities at the local, state and national levels. It provides both direct representation of individuals in immigration or public benefits cases and carries out advocacy work on issues that will affect large groups of immigrants. [Host organization] has a staff of 40 and a \$2.3 million budget. In addition to its main office in Miami-Dade County, [Host organization] also has an office in Fort Pierce (St. Lucie County), as well as a current EJW fellow in a partner office in Bradenton (Manatee County).

c. PROJECT IDEA CONCEPTION

[Host organization] has long been involved with detention work, including monitoring and improving conditions of detention, representing individual clients, and providing Know Your Rights presentations on a regular basis at the Krome Service Processing Center, Broward Transitional Center, and Boystown (for unaccompanied minor children).

In addition, [Host organization] has periodically visited county jails around the state to give rights presentations, take statements from detainees, and intervene in situations that cry out for justice. These advocacy efforts have succeeded in benefiting detainees. [Host organization] has also issued numerous reports about detention conditions including: I

running out of hopely... Profiles of Children in INS Detention in Florida (October 2002); INS Detainees in Florida: A Double Standard of Treatment (December 2001 and Supplement, January-April 2002), Florida County Jails: INS's Secret Detention World (November 1997); and Krome's Invisible Prisoners: Cycles of Abuse and Neglect (July 1996). In addition, [Host organization] has collaborated with dozens of national organizations to make changes in detention policy and procedures to improve the plight of detainees. In particular, [Host organization] has worked closely with The Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children on reports it has authored, as well as other policy advocacy efforts. Despite [Host organization]'s strong efforts in this area, much remains to be done.

As a legal intern at [Host organization] during the summer of 2004, [Fellowship candidate] worked on many detention-related issues, particularly focusing on direct services and conditions monitoring for women detainees. On her own initiative, Ms. Corrigan traveled almost weekly to visit the women detained at Turner-Guilford-Knight jail (TGK), conducting rights presentations and intakes, and monitoring conditions. She spearheaded an effort aimed at improving detention conditions at TGK, and organized a site visit of [Host organization]'s Executive Director and two representatives of the Miami-Dade County Women's Commission.

After concluding her internship, [Fellowship candidate] has remained in touch with [Host organization] staff, and she eventually approached us with the idea of designing a project aimed at alleviating the dire situation facing the women in immigration detention throughout the state of Florida. Given [Fellowship candidate]'s dedication and outstanding work as an intern with us, we chose to sponsor her as an EJW fellowship candidate to develop a holistic approach to dealing with the multiple needs of these detained women. Since the conception of the fellowship proposal, [Fellowship candidate] has twice traveled to Miami to meet with [Host organization] staff in person, and we have shared ideas and strategies for this project's design.

This project fits easily within the agency's mission, which reads in part, "Priority is given to those poverty-level immigrant clients who are most vulnerable or have the most difficulty accessing attorneys, such as families with children, those in INS detention, victims of domestic violence, asylum seekers, dependent children, individuals who are HIV+ or have AIDS, the elderly and disabled facing termination of public benefits, migrant farm workers, and the homeless." This project will serve some of the most vulnerable members of the immigrant community – women in immigration detention, many of whom have dependent children, are survivors of domestic violence or other abuse, who have fled persecution in their home countries, or face the difficulties of detention after already serving time for minor criminal convictions.

d. TRAINING, SUPPORT & SUPERVISION

Primary Supervisor: [Fellowship supervisor], Esq., Supervising Attorney, Immigration
Years of experience: (i) substantive area: 11 years, (ii) as a supervisor: 9 years.
[Fellowship supervisor] has been a Supervising Attorney at [Host organization] since she joined the agency in June 1996. She is a 1994 graduate of Harvard Law School. She has

extensive experience training and supervising new attorneys, paralegals, and numerous legal interns. She supervised [Fellowship candidate] when she worked as a legal intern during the summer of 2004. [Fellowship supervisor] has directly supervised attorneys who work on detention issues, and currently supervises [Former Fellow] and [Current Fellow], former and current Equal Justice Works fellows, respectively. [Fellowship supervisor] has developed a special expertise in representing immigrants with criminal convictions and has trained at national conferences. She also has litigated cases in immigration and federal court involving detention issues and authored an amici curiae brief in a Supreme Court case regarding the deportation of lawful permanent residents with criminal convictions. [Fellowship supervisor] reports directly to the Managing Attorney.

Practice area:

The project does not represent a new substantive practice area for [Host organization], as other attorneys have represented detained immigrants. The candidate, however, does plan to network with pro bono family law attorneys to learn to recognize issues that may be referred to those attorneys for substantive support, if applicable.

Supervision:

[Fellowship supervisor] currently supervises five attorneys and three paralegals. Three of the attorneys are on Fellowships, although one would end by the time this position, if granted, would begin. One is a current EJW fellow and is based in Bradenton. She works out of Gulfcoast Legal Services. Another fellow just started and will be working with the Children's Legal Project. The third attorney is the Holland & Knight Chesterfield Smith Community Service Fellow. If selected as an Equal Justice Works Fellow, [Fellowship candidate] will report to [Fellowship supervisor], who will meet regularly with her to review cases, devise strategies for representation, supervise her caseload, and provide substantive trainings in immigration law and the legal representation of detained clients. In addition to regularly scheduled meetings, [Fellowship supervisor] will be constantly available to the fellow in the case of questions or concerns.

e. Work Environment

Each [Host organization] attorney has a private office to ensure client confidentiality. Most offices have windows. Every attorney has a desk, chair, two side chairs, file cabinet(s) for client files, bookshelf, computer/monitor/keyboard/mouse and computer cart. [Host organization] offices are networked using Windows NT as the operating platform. Attorneys have e-mail and Internet access, as well as the ability to do legal research online through Lexis*Nexis. The agency provides multiple printers, copiers and fax machines throughout the office area.

[Host organization] staff at the Miami office includes 18 attorneys, 8 paralegals, 2 professional staff, and 8.5 support staff. In addition, [Host organization] has one attorney and two paralegals in its Fort Pierce office, and one attorney in Bradenton.

f. Training & Professional Development

Substantive Law Training:

1. Immigration law under the Immigration and Nationality Act
- * Violence Against Women Act
- * Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act
- * Cuban Adjustment Act
- * Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (T and U Visas for trafficking victims)
- * Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act of 1998
2. Asylum claims
3. Family based adjustments
4. Ethics
5. Public benefits
6. How criminal convictions affect immigration relief and vacating criminal convictions
7. Discretionary waivers
8. Cancellation of removal
9. Child custody

Skills-based Training:

1. Client interviewing techniques
2. Orientation to case review process
3. File management procedures
4. Completing immigration applications, gathering documents, and submitting applications
5. Court hearing procedures
6. Oral and written advocacy skills
7. Orientation to services available to immigrant women in the community

Part III. Fellowship Candidate

Part III should be completed by the candidate.

- a. Previous public interest work (recommended length: approximately two pages or 6600 characters, including spaces)

Describe your public interest work, volunteer service or other relevant experience which has equipped you with the skills to accomplish the proposed Fellowship project.

For each of your most pertinent public interest positions or other experiences, provide the name, city and state of the organization, a one-paragraph description of the work you performed, the time period in which it was performed and the name and phone number of a contact person who can speak about your work there. Work that is non-legal in nature may be listed.

Equal Justice Works recognizes that traditional measures of commitment to public interest work such as volunteering for a public interest organization cannot be used as the sole indicator of a candidate's dedication given that students who are economically disadvantaged, heads of households, etc., might be unable to pursue such options. If you

have not had an opportunity to demonstrate a commitment to public service work, please elaborate on your other relevant experience.

PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE (PDS), Washington, DC

I currently work as a law clerk in the trial division of PDS, where I assist my supervising attorney in all aspects of client representation: conducting legal research, writing motions and memos, investigating evidentiary leads, visiting clients in jail, preparing witnesses, and providing assistance at trial. For non-citizen clients, I also provide research and advice on the immigration consequences of criminal convictions and pleas.

Aug. 2005-Present

[Contact name and phone]

Staff Attorney

CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS LEGALES Y SOCIALES (CELS), Buenos Aires, Argentina

In Argentina, I investigated cases of human rights violations, including gender violence, State terror, police brutality, and denial of prisoners' rights. I developed and drafted a petition in Spanish for presentation before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights regarding legal treatment of a female survivor of domestic abuse. I attended friendly settlement meetings with the government and participated in brainstorming sessions with other CELS attorneys. I am co-authoring an article on friendly settlement procedures within the OAS human rights system with my former supervisor.

May-Aug. 2005

[Contact name and phone]

Assistant Director

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW CLINIC, WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW (WCL), Washington, DC

In the law clinic, along with my student attorney partner, I represented a female detained client with a criminal conviction who was being removed to Kenya. I co-wrote an amicus brief on the Guatemalan death penalty for Amnesty International, which was presented before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. I also conducted a fact-finding mission to Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, from which we developed a proposal for presentation of a case within the OAS human rights system on behalf of a family of a murdered femicide victim.

Aug. 2004-May 2005

[Contact name and phone]

Faculty Supervisor

COLOMBIA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE (CHRC), Washington, DC

After volunteering for two years, I was elected Co-Chair of the CHRC in 2004. In this role, I provide decision-making and leadership for CHRC activities and act as liaison with other Colombia-focused NGOs in the United States, Europe and Colombia. I have helped organize U.S. speaking tours of Colombian activists, and have myself provided Spanish-language translations and interpretation. I have fundraised to support CHRC activities, and have worked to lobby members of Congress and the State Department on U.S. policy toward Colombia.

July 2002-Present

[Contact name and phone]

Executive Committee Co-Chair

UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE, Washington DC & Geneva, Switzerland

I was selected via a competitive application process to accompany Dean Claudio Grossman to Geneva to act as a law clerk during the 33rd session meetings in November 2004. I have assisted Dean Grossman on three consecutive Committee sessions by researching and preparing questions for reporting States, including Ecuador, Germany, and Czech Republic. I also drafted a memo with my proposals for a General Comment on Article II of the Convention, which Dean Grossman used to make suggestions during Committee sessions on the issue.

Apr. 2003-May 2005

[Contact name and phone]

Vice Chairman, Committee Against Torture

[Host organization], Miami, FL

As a summer legal intern, I assisted several immigration attorneys with numerous cases by conducting intakes and client interviews, writing affidavits, investigating legal issues and writing briefs, drafting motions and memos, researching country conditions, and preparing for hearings. I also traveled weekly to visit the female immigration detainees in a Miami jail, where I took intakes and researched conditions, and wrote a report urging compliance with DHS detention standards.

June-Aug. 2004

[Contact name and phone]

Supervising Attorney

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK, [Law school], Washington DC

As a first year student, I co-led the 2004 immigration-focused trip to the Arizona-Mexico border region, where we met with U.S. and Mexican officials, NGOs, attorneys and migrants. After the trip, I organized a group presentation to the student community and spearheaded a fundraising campaign.

Last year, I solely coordinated the 2005 trip of 12 students to study gender violence in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, where we met with families of femicide victims, visited several accused persons in jail, and talked with NGOs and government officials. I also co-organized a post-trip school-wide fundraising campaign and presentation.

I am currently leading a committee of students in organizing the 2006 trip to the southern gulf coast region of the U.S. which was devastated by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005.

Oct. 2004-Present

[Contact name and phone]

Director, [Law school]'s Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

PEACE BRIGADES INTERNATIONAL (PBI), Bogotá, Colombia & Washington, DC

After graduate school, I worked in Colombia, where I provided unarmed protective accompaniment to threatened human rights defenders, including attorneys, activists, and peace advocates. In the U.S., I conducted a two-week public speaking tour. I continue to occasionally meet with funders, speak at events, and network with PBI alumni. I have also been invited to join the PBI/USA National Coordinating Committee (NCC).

Mar. 2001-Mar. 2002 (Colombia Team)

Jul. 2003-Jan.2005 (Alumni Steering Committee)

May 2005-Present (Prospective PBI/USA NCC)

[Contact names and phone numbers]

Co-Directors, PBI/USA

CENTRO SANTA INES, La Ceiba, Honduras

Upon finishing college, I spent seven months in Honduras, where one of my primary projects included visiting women in their homes to help them earn their high school equivalency degrees. These women were unable to come to the Center for regular courses because of childcare duties during the day, and the danger of traveling in the evenings. I also conducted a U.S.-based fundraising campaign after Hurricane Mitch in 1998, and traveled back to Honduras to deliver supplies and rebuild homes.

Feb.-Aug. 1998

Supervisors no longer employed.

For general information, contact Sisters of St. Agnes: [Contact phone]

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE, St. Paul, MN

After completing training, I implemented an English Language Learning class for Central American immigrant women.

July 1997-Jan. 1998

Supervisor no longer employed.

For general information, contact: [Contact phone]

b. Personal Statement (recommended length: approximately two pages, or 6600 characters, including spaces)

Briefly describe in the first person anything that Equal Justice Works should know about you that has not been covered in the previous questions. If applicable, we encourage you to describe your connection to the community with whom you will work, how your personal background and experiences best suit you for the project and/or your unique qualifications for being chosen as a Fellow.

My commitment to this project stems from years of grassroots activism and advocacy efforts on prisoners' rights and immigrants' rights. I developed this specific interest area after years of varied volunteer experiences in the U.S. and abroad.

I was exposed to prison issues in dramatic fashion, as a volunteer in Colombia with Peace Brigades International, a non-governmental human rights organization. In July 2001, I accompanied two human rights attorneys as they attempted to negotiate an end to a prison

revolt. I stood just outside the front gates of Bogotá's infamous La Modelo prison. Inside, a riot raged. I could hear machine gun fire and women screaming for us to help their loved ones who were imprisoned there. Twelve inmates were killed that night.

On the way home, I asked one of the attorneys why he had dedicated himself to this work on behalf of Colombian prisoners. Not only did he work with a socially unpopular community, but he had also received numerous death threats as a result. He answered that the work is important because losing one's liberty is one of the most severe punishments possible and the prisoners were almost powerless to advocate for themselves. He felt called to give them a voice.

Upon returning to the U.S., I conducted a two-week speaking tour. I spoke at colleges, public events, and with the media, sharing stories of my year accompanying courageous and dedicated Colombian human rights defenders. After much reflection, I began to understand that accompanying others working for change in their own countries was not enough. I wanted to become that advocate myself and work on behalf of the powerless in my own country. My dream began to take shape when I earned a three-year full-tuition public interest scholarship to attend [Law school] in Washington, DC.

During my first year at [Law school], I co-led the alternative spring break to the U.S.-Mexico border. On the immigration-focused trip, I met with migrants and advocates, and watched detained migrants' immigration hearings. The detainees were herded into the courtroom in a large group, shackled and wearing jumpsuits. I vividly remember one pregnant woman who had been detained for the third time. She kept coming back because she wanted her baby to be born in the U.S., thereby conferring citizenship. The absolute desperation of these people became clear and I felt compelled to act.

I applied to intern at [Host organization] in Miami during the summer after my first year. I was particularly drawn to [Host organization]'s holistic approach to immigration issues – combining both immediate direct representation to immigrants and impact advocacy to push for systemic change. During my first week at [Host organization], I accompanied a detention attorney to the local Miami jail where female immigration detainees were held. I was struck by the appalling detention conditions, such as poor medical care, verbal and physical abuse, and a complete lack of information about their situations. I began to visit the women on my own almost every week. I conducted intakes, informed them of their rights, and discussed the detention conditions and services. Their stories were riveting.

Some of the women had faced torture and persecution in their home countries, and could not understand why they were being “imprisoned” in the U.S., which they had previously viewed as a beacon of freedom. Many of them were mothers of U.S. citizen children, some just infants, and had lived legally for years in the United States before being detained – simply for being accused of petty crimes or making poor decisions. These women's families were being torn apart. One woman sobbed as she told me how her young children were now calling her caretaker sister “mommy” because they did not remember her. Another woman – who was engaged to a U.S. marine and had three U.S. citizen children – was pregnant when I first met her. A few weeks later, she told me the

story of how she had miscarried: two armed guards brought her to a hospital in her orange jumpsuit, forced her to wait until she began hemorrhaging, and only then strapped her to a gurney where she proceeded to lose her baby, while never once removing her shackles or handcuffs.

My experience at [Host organization] with the women detainees affected me profoundly. Even though I was not yet an attorney, it was obvious that I was providing these women with what that they desperately needed – a sympathetic ear willing to listen and a source of legal and practical information.

During my second year at [Law school], I enrolled in the human rights law clinic. My professors knew I had immigration experience, so they assigned me a detained Kenyan woman who was being deported after serving time in prison for something she had been forced to do. The case was legally challenging. In the end, the client chose deportation over indefinite U.S. detention. Although we could not help the client stay in the U.S., my clinic partner and I made three eight-hour roundtrip visits to her rural Virginia jail, for which she was very grateful. We also collected clothes and supplies for her, and worked to create a protective accompaniment network for her in Kenya.

Recent opportunities have also added to my understanding of related issues. This summer I worked in Argentina, where I learned to use international human rights law to challenge government actions. This is another legal avenue by which I can envision challenging U.S. detention policy. Currently, I am working at the Washington DC Public Defenders Service, where I help represent a number of immigrants with criminal charges. These non-citizen clients could suffer severe immigration consequences from convictions or pleas; but defense attorneys often are not aware of these issues. This position has proven invaluable in my understanding of the information criminal defenders need to better serve their non-citizen clients.

My experiences have taught me many things, including the extent of my own personal strengths and abilities. I am confident that my individual attributes will be a significant asset to this fellowship project. I possess the knowledge and stamina to provide effective representation, outreach, and advocacy. I am also extremely motivated, dedicated, and passionate about this project and population. The women in immigration detention in Florida are some of the most vulnerable members of society. I hope to have the chance to use my unique skills and talents to work for these women and the other voiceless immigration detainees in the U.S.

Candidate Resume

Please paste your resume into the space below. Please note that any formatting and any text that exceeds 3300 characters (approximately one page) will not remain once you have pasted your resume. The lack of formatting will not negatively affect consideration of your application.

[Fellowship candidate]

EDUCATION:

[Law school], Washington, DC

J.D. Candidate, May 2006

Public Interest/Public Service Full Tuition Scholarship

Human Rights Brief

Alternative Spring Break Coordinator

Equal Justice Foundation Auction Committee Chair

BOSTON UNIVERSITY, Boston, MA

M.A. in International Relations/Communication, May 2000

Graduate Assistant Scholarship

Islam fellowship in Egypt, Summer 1999

Women's rights studies in Costa Rica, Summer 1998

ST. NORBERT COLLEGE, De Pere, WI

B.A. in Communication/Spanish, May 1997

Trustees Distinguished Scholarship

Honors Program

UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA DEL ECUADOR, Quito, Ecuador

Study abroad, Aug. 1996-Dec. 1996

RICHMOND COLLEGE, London, England

Study abroad, Jan. 1996-June 1996

EXPERIENCE:

PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Washington, DC

Law Clerk, Aug. 2005-Present

Conduct legal research on criminal law and immigration issues; write motions, memos and briefs; investigate evidence; meet with clients; prepare witnesses and provide trial support.

CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS LEGALES Y SOCIALES, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Legal Intern, May-Aug. 2005

Investigated human rights violations, including gender, immigration and prisoners' rights issues; researched and wrote petitions; attended meetings with government; wrote article on friendly settlement procedures.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW CLINIC, Washington, DC

Student Attorney, Aug. 2004-May 2005

Represented detained female client in immigration case; wrote draft amicus brief for Amnesty International; traveled to Ciudad Juarez, Mexico and developed strategies for gender-based human rights case.

COLOMBIA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE, Washington, DC

Executive Board Co-Chair; July 2002-Present

Liaise with Colombia-focused NGOs in the U.S. and abroad; lobby Congress and other government offices; organize speaking tours; provide language interpretation; fundraise.

[Host organization], Miami, FL

Legal Intern, June-Aug. 2004

Monitored conditions in women's jail and wrote compliance report; conducted intakes and rights presentations; interviewed clients and wrote declarations; researched country conditions; sought witnesses; drafted petitions and briefs; wrote memos on legal issues.

KAYE SCHOLER LLP, Washington, DC

Legal Secretary, Apr. 2002-Aug. 2003

Performed research; drafted reports on international trade; managed billings and collections; prepared and filed legal documents; provided Spanish and Portuguese translations.

PEACE BRIGADES INTERNATIONAL, Bogotá, Colombia

International Volunteer, Mar. 2001-Mar. 2002

Prospective Board Member, Present

Accompanied threatened human rights defenders; wrote reports on Colombian politics and security; planned sub-team strategies; met with diplomatic corps; liaised with U.S. Congress; conducted U.S. speaking tour; met with foundations.

CENTRO SANTA INES, La Ceiba, Honduras

Teacher, Feb.-Aug. 1998

Taught children and adults; led talks on health and gender relations; fundraised and built homes after Hurricane Mitch.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE, St. Paul, MN

ELL Teacher; July 1997-Jan. 1998

Taught English to immigrants.

LANGUAGES:

Fluent Spanish.

Basic Portuguese.