



Host Site: Michigan Indian Legal Services

Topic of Project: Tribal Law and Estates

Location: Traverse City, Michigan

Description of Fellow Project:

Since 1975, Michigan Indian Legal Services (MILS) has provided quality legal representation for the Native American communities and tribes throughout Michigan. MILS received a three-year grant to provide 107 on-site estate planning clinics at 17 Native American community locations around the state, primarily in the reservation communities in rural Michigan. There are 12 federally recognized tribes in Michigan and several large urban Indian communities (e.g., Detroit metro, Lansing, Grand Rapids, and Flint). The Rural Summer Legal Corps Student Fellow in the Estate Planning project will:

- Assist staff in the development of asset and wishes questionnaires that are culturally appropriate for our client communities.
- Assist staff with community outreach and planning for the on-site clinics (or virtual clinic, if necessary, because of COVID-19).
- Attend three clinics in rural/remote areas of the Upper Peninsula in August with the project attorney in northern Michigan or in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan (or held virtually if necessitated by COVID-19).
- Assist staff with preparation of estate planning document drafting (e.g., wills, powers of attorney, patient advocate forms). The Student Fellow will primarily work with the project attorney and a team of other staff attorneys participating in this project.

Additional Applicant Qualifications:

None

