

**Host Site:** Legal Aid of Arkansas, Inc.

**Topic of Project:** Opioid Epidemic

**Location:** Newport, AR

This project will be conducted in-person if public health conditions allow. Legal Aid of Arkansas staff are experienced at working and supervising remotely, thus if a fellow were to work remotely, they would be provided the necessary technology and software to continue their work successfully.

**Description of Fellow Project:**

The Fellow will join the statewide justice, "Beyond Opioids - Breaking Legal Barriers for Families in Recovery," the first collaborative project among legal aid programs within a state focused on people impacted by the opioid crisis and other substance use disorders. In Arkansas, two legal aid programs are the Center for Arkansas Legal Services (CALS) and Legal Aid of Arkansas (Legal Aid), serving a total of 75 counties. This Fellow serves in Legal Aid's service area.

This Fellowship is an advocacy project focused on providing free civil legal aid to low-income Arkansans with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) with barriers to treatment. The Fellow, under the tutelage of the Beyond Opioids workgroup leader, will provide direct legal services to the target population and conduct outreach and education in partnership with methadone providers in the underserved Delta Region. This Fellowship will work towards the short-term goal of rooting out prejudicial practices in clinical and judicial settings to pave a path for civil legal advocacy to reduce treatment barriers for individuals with OUD.

**Applicant Qualifications:**

N/A