

Host Site: Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas

Topic of Project: Housing; Consumer Finance

Location: Wichita Falls, TX

This project will be conducted in-person if public health conditions allow. Remote work will be possible for some tasks as necessary. If health and safety standards do not permit in-person work, then all work will be remote.

Description of Fellow Project:

The Fellow serving at Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas (LANWT) will focus on providing direct legal services and outreach/community education to the underserved populations in the rural counties served by the Wichita Falls Office. The Fellow will focus on three priority areas below relating to economic stability, with the overall objective of providing housing stability.

Housing: Due to the Pandemic, the eviction crisis and related rental assistance resources are a high priority demanding both outreach/education in live and virtual clinics, and direct legal assistance in eviction defense/rental assistance cases. The Fellow will also provide assistance with the unusual number of rent to own/contract for deed issues in Wichita County and surrounding counties to keep people in their homes.

Consumer Finance: The Fellow will help address issues in the area of Consumer Law and specifically debt collection cases. Legal assistance in these cases has a direct impact on economic stability.

Barrier Removal: The Fellow will also address removal of barriers. This includes direct legal assistance in obtaining expunctions and driver's license restoration. The Fellow will participate in barrier removal clinics and assist with direct legal services to remove barriers to employment, education and housing.

Applicant Qualifications:

- Language proficiency in both Spanish and English is preferred.
- Access to reliable transportation.