Host Site: Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Inc.
Topic of Project: Re-Entry
Location: Edinburg, TX
Description of Fellow Project:
The Rural Summer Legal Corps Re-entry Fellow will work with Texas RioGrande Legal Aid's (TRLA) Re-entry Team, focusing on the civil repercussions stemming from a client's interaction with the criminal justice system.

The TRLA Re-entry Team prioritizes four areas of re-entry legal problems. First, the Team works on criminal record expunctions and non-disclosures of arrest records to help clients with barriers to employment, housing, education, and more. Second, the Team addresses barriers to obtaining a driver's license barrier, including lifting holds on licenses due to issues such as outstanding tickets, criminal debt, and administrative license revocation procedures, and advising on obtaining an occupational license. Third, the Re-entry Team addresses criminal debt, which can lead to outstanding warrants and barriers to a person getting their driver's license, registration, and more. Finally, the Team works on other issues such as general Class C assistance and advising on individual right to counsel.

The RSLC Re-entry Fellow would focus primarily on issues related to driver's license barriers and help to investigate and prepare comprehensive advice and/or services to assist the client in removing the barriers. This includes but is not limited to identifying any criminal debt or Class C "failure to appear/ failure to pay" holds and providing advice on how to handle those charges, identifying criminal debt matters and advising on the best way to remove the debt through pro-se advocacy by the client with the court, and identifying other holds such as failure to comply with a necessary class or helping to lift a hold that requires a court order by drafting and requesting the order from the necessary court.

## Additional Applicant Qualifications:

The Fellowship will be conducted in-person. Proficiency in a second language is not required.

