

For Immediate Release

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EAST BAY COMMUNITY LAW CENTER

ANNOUNCES

DAN BRADLEY SUMMER FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT

Berkeley, California, June 10, 2003 – The East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC) is honored and delighted to announce the selection of Ms. Charesa Garrett as one of two recipients statewide of the Dan Bradley Summer Fellowship. This grant is made possible through the generous support of the Legal Aid Association of California (LAAC), to offer law students, particularly those from low-income or working class backgrounds, the opportunity to consider a career in legal services.

Ms. Garrett, who was born and raised in Oakland, graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a B.A. in interdisciplinary studies. Her senior thesis, *From Inner City to Ghetto: West Oakland from 1880-1980*, explored the ethnic, environmental, economic, and physical changes that have taken place in West Oakland and considered how gentrification may affect its future. Her senior thesis prompted Ms. Garrett to couple her commitment to the community with her interest in the law. Ms. Garrett has just completed her first year of law school at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

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This summer, Ms Garrett will work in EBCLC's HIV/AIDS Law Project, providing a wide range of legal services to low-income residents of Alameda County who are living with HIV. Under the supervision of an attorney, Ms. Garrett will have primary responsibility for handling her own cases, which may include assisting clients: obtain disability income and health insurance benefits; execute wills and durable powers of attorney; resolve family law matters; establish joint guardianship for their children and; negotiate with creditors. Ms. Garrett chose EBCLC's HIV work because the disease has affected individuals close to her. This summer, in addition to working with EBCLC, she is training for the national AIDS marathon.

The East Bay Community Law Center was founded by students from UC Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law in 1988 with the dual mission of providing high quality legal services to low-income clients in Alameda County and clinical legal education opportunities for law students. EBCLC is now the largest provider of free civil legal assistance to the poor in Alameda County, with services including eviction defense and housing advocacy, employment and income support, HIV/AIDS law, and community economic development. EBCLC's nationally recognized clinical legal education program exposes law students to the needs of low-income communities and provides them with the skills to make a difference in the lives of real clients. The overall goal of EBCLC's work is to help make the lives of Bay Area community members more healthy, secure, productive, and hopeful.

The Dan Bradley Summer Fellowship Program was established in 1991 in honor of the former President and San Francisco Regional Director of the federal Legal Services Corporation, who died of complications related to AIDS in 1987. Dan was a member of the first class of Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellows in 1967, and became the Southern Regional Director for the OEO Legal Services Program in 1970. In 1975 he was named the first Regional Director in California for the new Legal Services Corporation. His rapid rise in national prominence culminated in his selection as President of the Legal Services Corporation in 1980.

For more information about Ms. Garrett and the Dan Bradley Summer Fellowship, please contact the East Bay Community Law Center at (510) 548-4040.

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