



2023-25 Brian Lewinstein EJA Fellowship

Equal Justice America (EJA) and the East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC) are pleased to invite graduating Berkeley Law students to apply for the 2023 Brian Lewinstein EJA Fellowship. The EJA Fellowship will place the successful applicant for a period of two years with the Education, Defense and Justice for Youth (EDJY) Practice at EBCLC. The EDJY Practice advocates for young people at the intersection of the juvenile justice and education systems in Alameda County by providing legal representation in juvenile delinquency, special education and school discipline proceedings. Comprised of the Education Justice Clinic and the Youth Defender Clinic, EDJY provides holistic, wrap-around legal and social work services to young people and their families.

EBCLC is a women of color-led and -centered non-profit legal services organization and the community-based clinical program for Berkeley Law. EBCLC is committed to increasing access to justice through education and advocacy and by building a culturally diverse workplace, centered on equity and inclusion. With about 80 staff, 150 law students per year, and a nearly \$10 million annual budget, EBCLC is the largest provider of free legal services in Alameda County, providing multimodal, collaborative, and holistic legal advocacy to over 5,000 clients annually and engaging in legislative and policy advocacy and affirmative litigation at the local and state levels.

The Fellow will support the work of both the Education Justice and Youth Defender Clinics. The goals of this Fellowship are: direct representation of youth, engaging with and enhancing relationships between youth-focused community organizations and EDJY, and strengthening policy efforts at the community and state levels that address critical education and other needs for youth impacted by the juvenile legal system. These goals are crafted to enable the Fellow to engage in community lawyering – a practice that recognizes the importance of community leadership in driving legal services and policy advocacy campaigns. The Fellow will be encouraged to take a lead role in enhancing EDJY’s community lawyering efforts in a manner that centers students of color and their caregivers in Alameda County.

Minimum Qualifications

- J.D. degree from Berkeley Law expected in May 2023*
- Demonstrated commitment to racial justice
- Excellent written and oral advocacy skills
- Ability to partner and work effectively with a diverse range of groups, including



people of color, people who are unhoused, immigrants, non-English speakers, people with disabilities, people experiencing domestic violence, law students, service providers, government employees, community partners, elected officials, and law school faculty

- Interest in law student supervision and clinical legal education

* This Fellowship is intended for recently-graduated Berkeley Law alumni. The Fellow must be able to commence work with EBCLC's EDJY Program in early Fall 2023. Candidates that graduated in 2021 or 2022, and will have spent the interim year(s) clerking, will be considered so long as they can begin the Fellowship Term in Fall 2023.

Preferred Qualifications

- Proficiency in Spanish
- Experience working with youth
- Knowledge of, and/or experience with community lawyering
- Knowledge of, and/or experience with, criminal, juvenile delinquency, special education and/or school discipline proceedings
- Knowledge of, and/or experience with community organizing and/or legislative advocacy

Interested applicants should submit application materials by email to both fellowship@ebclc.org and info@equaljusticeamerica.org (include "EJA Brian Lewinstein Youth Justice Fellowship" in the subject line) **no later than October 28, 2022. Please combine all materials into a single PDF.** EBCLC will review applications on a rolling basis and may schedule interviews before the closing date. Application materials should include a statement of interest, resume, short writing sample, and a total of 3 professional references.

The statement of interest should address all of the following topics in no more than three double-spaced, typewritten pages:

- Describe how you meet the minimum qualifications and any of the preferred qualifications above, and how any relevant lived or professional experience you may have had qualifies you for this position.
- Describe area(s) of our current systems of juvenile justice and/or public education systems where you believe the need for reform is most critical, and what changes you believe would be most effective in addressing social, racial, and/or disability justice in those area(s).
- Describe what community lawyering means to you, and provide examples of



how you might begin engaging in this practice during your first three months as a Fellow.

Salary and Benefits

Starting salary for this exempt position is \$68,000 – \$72,000 based on law school graduation date, as dictated by the EBCLC salary scale.

Benefits include fully paid health insurance (medical, dental, and vision) for employees and their dependents, life and disability insurance, and generous paid leave (vacation, sick, and holidays); EBCLC also offers flexible spending accounts for qualified health, dependent care, and commute expenditures; and retirement options.

Working at EBCLC

EBCLC is a unionized workplace and members of the bargaining unit are represented by the Engineers and Scientists of California Local 20, IFPTE. This position is part of the bargaining unit.

EBCLC is strongly committed to building a culturally diverse workplace centered on equity and providing an inclusive, welcoming, and culturally responsive environment for all members of our staff, volunteers, subcontractors, vendors, and clients. To achieve this goal, EBCLC works actively to improve our office climate, systems and structures, communications, and community engagement to create an inclusive and respectful workplace in which differences are acknowledged and valued. We strongly encourage individuals from traditionally underrepresented communities to apply. EBCLC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, age, national origin, ancestry, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, military status, prior contact with the criminal justice system, or any other basis prohibited by law.

Questions about the Brian Lewinstein Fellowship and the application process may be directed to EBCLC Co-Deputy Director, Rosa Bay (rbay@ebclc.org), and Atasi Uppal (auppal@ebclc.org), Co-Director, Education, Defense and Justice for Youth (EDJY) Practice.