



## **Summer Legal Internship - The Perinatal Legal Assistance and Well-being (P-LAW) Project**

**Background:** The [Georgetown University Health Justice Alliance](#) (HJA) is an Academic Medical-Legal Partnership training the next generation of health, law, and policy leaders to work together in pursuit of health justice as they serve some of the most vulnerable members of our D.C. community. In 2021, HJA launched the [Perinatal Legal Assistance and Well-being \(P-LAW\) Project](#) to provide legal services to pregnant and postpartum patients receiving care at MedStar Washington Hospital Center. Throughout the prenatal, delivery, and postpartum periods, women and babies living in poverty regularly encounter health-harming legal needs around housing, employment, insurance, public benefits, family law, and other legal issues affecting health and wellbeing.

**Description:** The ideal P-LAW Summer Legal Intern will have a demonstrated interest in public interest law and experience working with vulnerable populations and the issues they face. We are looking for a Legal Intern to enrich our program by providing vital assistance with case management, healthcare team training, client relations, and direct legal services. Interns are expected to commit to a full-time schedule, however, flexible scheduling is available. Most work will be done remotely with the possibility of attending in-person hearings and meetings if/when available.

A list of possible responsibilities is included below. In addition to the duties listed, P-LAW will work with the Legal Intern to establish additional responsibilities based on the Intern's goals and interests.

**Responsibilities** include, but are not limited to:

- Obtaining referrals from patient's electronic health record and gathering legally relevant information
- Conducting phone intakes with prospective clients to identify potential legal issues and to obtain necessary information
- Reviewing applications for legal assistance with supervisor to determine next course of action
- Providing direct legal services with supervision
- Participating in the drafting of legal research and creation of self-help materials and template letters
- Assisting in the development of training materials and joining supervisor in conducting training workshops for the healthcare team based on materials created
- Attending weekly case review meetings (currently Tuesdays at 1:30pm)

The Perinatal LAW Project is an expansion of similar HJA work with cancer patients at MedStar Washington Hospital Center and will include opportunities for collaboration with other HJA attorneys, faculty, and staff.

### **Requirements and Qualifications:**

- Current Georgetown Law student
- Experience and/or interest working with vulnerable populations, specifically pregnant patients
- Ability to commit to no less than eight (8) continuous weeks beginning June 2022
- Willingness and ability to work collaboratively with legal and medical staff

- Excellent research and writing skills, attention to detail, and have good project organization skills including managing projects and tasks simultaneously
- Comfortable working with clients and communities from a wide range of identities and experiences

**Compensation:**

HJA will work with the intern to apply for summer funding through Georgetown University Law Center's Office of Public Interest and Community Service (OPICS) summer funding program.

**Application Process:**

Each applicant shall submit a cover letter with preferred start – and end – dates and prospective schedule, resume, and two references. Please be specific about your interest in maternal/perinatal health and what you hope to accomplish at P-LAW. *All files that are part of the application should be sent in order as one PDF.* Please send application materials to Roxana Richardson, [Roxana.richardson@georgetown.edu](mailto:Roxana.richardson@georgetown.edu). Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and the position will remain open until filled. Students are encouraged to submit applications as early as possible. Applicants selected for interviews will be duly notified.