2020–2022 Law Graduate Fellowship Sponsorship
Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County
Redwood City, CA

The Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County invites proposals from candidates seeking sponsorship for Skadden, Equal Justice Works, or law school-sponsored public interest fellowships.

The organization: The mission of the Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County is to fight social injustice through civil legal advocacy for people living in poverty. We believe every person should have the basic necessities of life, including safe affordable housing, access to health care, economic security, secure immigration status, an appropriate education, and freedom from violence and abuse. We strive to empower people to overcome the causes and effects of poverty so they can participate in their community with dignity and respect. We seek to remove barriers related to poverty, disability, race, language, age, gender, sexual orientation and immigration status through community education, legal representation, systemic advocacy and collaboration with community partners.

Fellowship: Legal Aid invites law students and recent law school graduates to propose innovative and impactful two-year fellowship projects for the two-year period beginning in September 2020. Projects should focus on one of Legal Aid’s existing program areas: health, housing, public benefits, domestic violence, immigration, or education. Fellows will be expected to develop substantive area expertise, provide direct services to clients, complete community outreach and education, and when applicable contribute to policy and systems change that impacts low-income residents. Legal Aid is happy to work with applicants to help design projects that serve the needs of the community and align with Legal Aid’s mission and program areas.

Legal Aid is particularly interested in working with applicants to develop projects in the following areas:

- **Education** – Early intervention/education access for children
- **Housing** – Advance policy recommendations to address housing segregation and discrimination based on the findings of San Mateo County’s Assessment of Fair Housing and CASA recommendations
- **Public Benefits** –
  - Develop a Social Security clinic to increase services for older adults, people with disabilities, and immigrants
  - Advocate for systemic changes that address existing and emerging legal issues
  - Create meaningful self-help materials

Application Procedures: Email a cover letter summarizing your proposed project or the area in which you’d like to develop a project, your resume, and a list of three references to fellowships@legalaidsmc.org.