

The Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Internship Program was established in 1991 to promote and support minority attorneys to work in the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network (PLAN) programs across the Commonwealth.

Initiated by the Pennsylvania Legal Services Black Caucus, the goal of the MLK internship program is to promote cultural and ethnic diversity in legal services and to honor Dr. King. Since its inception, 330 law students have participated in the program.

Summer internships are available throughout the PLAN during the summer months for first and second year law students who are social justice oriented and desire an opportunity to make a difference.

The MLK Internship is an integral part of the PLAN goal to initiate new lawyers to the life-long commitment of providing access to justice for all individuals regardless of their ability to pay. Students engage in unique situations through which they can better understand the special legal issues facing those who live in poverty and low income communities. In turn, they provide

2015 MLK Jr. Summer Interns



valuable services to clients of PLAN offices in which they are placed.

Law students experience the real world of legal advocacy. MLK Interns experience direct client contact, participate in court and administrative hearings (for those certified), and conduct legal research and writing on actual cases under the supervision of seasoned legal aid attorneys. Each MLK intern is treated as a valuable member of the legal staff and is expected to participate in case strategy and contribute to overall case management. Two days of poverty law training is provided at the beginning of the internship.

10 paid internships are awarded each summer to law students to participate in legal services work over the traditional 10 week summer internship period.

"My summer internship at the Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project was the most fulfilling job experience I have ever had. The internship gave me the opportunity to work with inmates who have had their civil rights violated while in prison. PILP has helped me realize that inmates face substantial injustice daily, in which society ignores."

*Addie Brice, Delaware Law: Widener University
2015 Intern — Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project*

"Through this internship, I was able to utilize my trial advocacy and communication skills. I had to learn when to interject on behalf of my client and when to just listen and offer words of support. I was also able to expand upon my research and writing skills and gain a better understanding of the process involved throughout the lifespan of a case."

*Redeate Dessalgn, University of Pittsburgh School of Law
2015 Intern — MidPenn Legal Services*

"Working at CLS was such a valuable experience. Aside from the daily client interaction, I enjoyed working on several research projects, participating in Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) hearings, writing memos and briefs, and doing other advocacy work on behalf of my clients."

*Cana Noel, Temple University Beasley School of Law
2015 Intern — Community Legal Services*



The Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network, Inc. is the principal funding and oversight agency for organizations that comprise the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network. The Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network (PLAN) is the community of legal services organizations that provide legal assistance to low income residents of Pennsylvania.

Alonso Arguedas- 2015 Summer Intern
Temple University School of Law and PLAN, Inc.
Board President - Wesley R. Payne, Esq.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellowship Program

In 2003, an evaluation of the MLK, Jr. Summer Internship Program revealed that while the internship experience had been a very positive one for PLAN, students, clients and programs, the goal to enhance cultural and ethnic diversity within the programs was not being realized.

In response, PLAN created the **Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellowship Program** in 2004. In partnership with a sponsoring regional or specialty program, law school graduates and attorneys who are new to practice are hired as full time staff attorneys for a two-year fellowship.

Fellows are assigned mentors and supervised by experienced attorneys. Salary and benefits are determined by the host program.

In addition, loan repayment assistance, up to \$11,000 is available during the first two years of employment.

The fellowship is intended to support and promote new lawyers who are interested in long term public interest careers.

Employment is not limited to two years.

To Apply

- ♦ **Summer Internship:** Send a cover letter, resume and three references by January 31, 2016.
- ♦ **Fellowship:** Send a cover letter, resume, three references and a writing sample by December 31, 2016

to

Arlene Marshall-Hockensmith, Esq.
Administrative Officer
118 Locust Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

For additional information about the summer internship or fellowship program contact
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Pennsylvania
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Martin Luther King, Jr. Summer Internship

&

Fellowship Program

2016

*A Program Established to Honor
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
In Pursuit of Equal Justice For All*

***“Injustice anywhere is a threat
to justice everywhere.”***

Martin Luther King, Jr.

*Letter from Birmingham Jail
April 16, 1963*

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**An Opportunity to
Make a Difference**