

CENTER FOR Gender & Refugee STUDIES

2019 Judith Stronach Summer Fellow Position

About the Organization

The Center for Gender and Refugee Studies (CGRS), based at the University of California Hastings College of the Law, is seeking law student candidates for our 2019 Judith Stronach Summer Fellow positions. CGRS is one of the nation's leading refugee organizations, and works to advance the human rights of women, children, LGBT and other refugees who flee persecution both in the United States and internationally. CGRS provides legal expertise, training, and resources to attorneys representing asylum seekers, advocates to protect refugees, advances refugee law and policy, and uses domestic, regional and international mechanisms to address the root causes of persecution. For more information about CGRS, visit <http://cgrs.uchastings.edu/>.

Job Description

Summer fellowship positions are full-time for 10- to 12-week terms. Law fellows are involved in the full range of CGRS's work. Currently, our efforts include:

- Leading the legal battle against [Matter of A-B-](#). This decision, issued by then- Attorney General Jeff Sessions, reversed the grant of asylum to Ms. "A.B.," a CGRS client, and attempts to erode protections for domestic violence survivors and others fleeing persecution by nonstate actors.
- Litigating high-profile national challenges, including [Grace v. Sessions](#), to protect the rights of asylum-seekers.
- Launching the [#ImmigrantWomenToo](#) platform to raise awareness around the stories of refugee women and to push for effective policy change.

Law fellows will have the opportunity to work closely with CGRS lawyers and staff, and engage in substantive work on these cutting edge issues, at a time of critical importance. For example, specific projects might include:

- Researching and writing on key legal issues
- Assisting in the various stages of appellate advocacy
- Analyzing emerging asylum law trends
- Developing training and technical assistance materials
- Conducting national policy work
- Engaging in international human rights research and projects

Given our small office and high volume of work, law fellows must be able to work with minimal supervision.

Qualifications

- Demonstrated commitment to human rights and social justice
- Strong research and writing skills
- Experience or background in asylum or international human rights law
- Completion of two years of law school is preferred

- Ability to work independently and within a team
- Ability to protect the confidentiality of our work and our communications
- Fluency in Spanish is highly desirable, but not required. Fluency in other languages a plus.

Compensation

Because we have limited resources, CGRS requires applicants to make every effort to secure their own summer funding. Possible sources include: your law school; local Bar Foundation; Equal Justice America, etc. However, if a student can demonstrate they diligently sought alternate funding but were ultimately unsuccessful, CGRS will provide the student with a summer stipend. Accepted students will receive information on CGRS-sponsored stipends after receiving notice of their acceptance.

Application Procedure

Submit a cover letter, resume, brief writing sample (5-10 pages), and list of two references to CGRShires@uchastings.edu with the subject line "2019 Judith Stronach Fellow Position." The cover letter should explain how your experiences relate to the mission and work of CGRS, and state your language skills. **Applications are due on January 2, 2019 for first-round consideration. Applications received after January 2, 2019 will be considered on a rolling basis only if positions remain. No phone calls, please.**

CGRS is an equal opportunity employer (EOE). All qualified persons, including people of color, persons with disabilities, women, lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and transgender persons, are encouraged to apply.