OVERVIEW:

Northwest Immigrant Rights Project is seeking law student applications for full-time (10 week) summer internship positions in our Granger and Wenatchee offices. Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP) is the only nonprofit organization providing comprehensive immigration legal services to immigrants with low income across Washington State. NWIRP promotes justice by defending and advancing the rights of immigrants through direct legal services, systemic advocacy, and community education. NWIRP’s Granger and Wenatchee offices work closely with farmworkers and their families in rural communities in Eastern Washington, and this position aims to support this rural community population. The ideal candidate is part of the Washington State rural community. The position will be remote due to COVID.

NWIRP’s Granger and Wenatchee offices provide humanitarian based immigration legal services to immigrant communities in North Central and Eastern Washington. At NWIRP’s Granger and Wenatchee offices, law students will gain exposure to a variety of immigration law areas and have the opportunity to improve their client interviewing and advocacy skills, and legal research and writing skills in a fast-paced environment while working with clients on both affirmative and defensive immigration matters.

Legal interns will be asked to commit at least 35 hours per week for these virtual internships. The internships are provided a stipend. We currently have availability for 1 intern position based out of Granger and 1 intern position to be based out Wenatchee - UPDATE: The Wenatchee position is now full. We are still seeking candidates for our Granger office.

A first round of consideration will be given to applications received by Friday, February 23, 2021. However, all applications will be considered on a rolling basis, until the positions are filled.

COMMITMENT TO INCLUSIVITY, EQUITY, AND REPRESENTATION:

Northwest Immigrant Rights Project is an equal opportunity employer committed to having a diverse staff, board, and Intern base reflective of the communities we serve and that enhances our ability to create a vibrant environment where all members of the NWIRP community thrive. We strongly encourage applications from individuals who identify as Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), immigrants (including people who were formerly detained, undocumented, or who have navigated the immigration legal system), women, people with disabilities, members of the LGBTQ+ community, and individuals with diverse cultural backgrounds and language abilities.

It is the policy of NWIRP to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws prohibiting employment discrimination. NWIRP is committed to providing a work environment free from discrimination and harassment. NWIRP does not discriminate on the basis of class, race, color, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status, political ideology, age, creed, religion, ancestry, national origin, or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability. Please email guadalupe@nwirp.org if you have an accommodation request.
ELIGIBILITY – MULTIPLE POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The internship is open to first, second, and third year law students. Applicants should have excellent written and oral communication skills, an interest in immigration law, a commitment to advancing and defending the legal rights of low-income immigrants and refugees and should value working in a diverse and fast-paced work environment. Applicants must be fluent in Spanish.

Our work focuses on:

Asylum: Helps people who face persecution in their home countries in applying for asylum, and assists asylees and refugees in applying for permanent resident status and petitioning for their family.

Children & Youth Advocacy: Helps children and youth seek Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, asylum, & DACA

Family Services: Promotes family unity and stability by assisting with family visa applications and waivers.

Impact Litigation: Works for systemic change through individual and class-action lawsuits.

Naturalization: Assists immigrants and refugees, particularly elderly and/or people with disabilities, obtain citizenship, including seeking disability waivers from the required English and civics tests.

Removal Defense: Represents individuals, who are either detained or non-detained, facing removal proceedings in immigration court and other agencies.

VAWA: Assists immigrant survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, and other crimes in obtaining U & T visas and other immigration benefits derived from the Violence Against Women Act.

INTERN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under attorney supervision, interns will assist with case matters before the Immigration Court, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), and the Department of State consulates and embassies. Specific duties and responsibilities vary depending on office and unit placement. Generally, for all offices, interns’ responsibilities may include:

- Identifying legal issues and potential forms of relief for immigrants;
- Drafting legal briefs in support of applications for relief;
- Preparing applications, motions, and other filings with immigration courts and agencies;
- Drafting client declarations and gathering evidence in support of applications;
- Appearing in immigration court proceedings;
- Conducting intakes with individuals;
- Participating in workshops and other community education and outreach events; and
- Performing various administrative tasks as needed.

ABOUT NWIRP:

NWIRP is a nationally-recognized immigration legal services organization with four offices in Washington State. Our mission is to promote justice by defending and advancing the rights of immigrants through direct legal services, systemic advocacy, and community education. NWIRP provides direct legal representation and assistance in immigration matters to over 20,000 people with low incomes from over 160 countries, speaking over 70 different languages. NWIRP challenges unjust policies through high-impact lawsuits, and advocates for laws and policies that respect the rights of immigrants.
TO APPLY:

Interested applicants should apply by February 23, 2021. Please submit a cover letter and resume to this link: Application Form link. For your Cover letter, please describe how your lived/ work experience or volunteer experience would make you a good fit for this role. Candidates should be available to start by Candidates will receive a $6,000 stipend for the duration of their 10 weeks service disbursed on a monthly basis. Start date TBD- preferably by June 5th, 2021 but there is flexibility on the start date. Contact information: nwirplaurelrubin@nwirp.org. Please DO NOT submit application materials to this email.