

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

With pride and excitement, we introduce the first members of the Fellowship Class of 2024.



Christine Connolly

Joe Brand Human Rights Fellow
Human Rights First
George Washington University Law School

Christine Connolly of the George Washington University Law School (2L) is this year's Joseph L. Brand International Human Rights Fellow, working with our partner organization Human Rights First. Christine's deep experience in human rights and immigration matters includes work at Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, the Immigrant Justice Corps, the Capital Area Immigrant Rights Coalition, and the Massachusetts Immigrant and Advocacy Coalition. A graduate of Connecticut College with a B.A. in History and a minor in Arabic Studies, Christine is pursuing her law degree "with the singular aim to become a human rights attorney."



Emily Kotulak

Public Policy Fellow
Children's Law Center in Cincinnati, Ohio
University of Cincinnati College of Law

Emily Kotulak, a second year law student at the University of Cincinnati College of Law, will serve her Fellowship at the Children's Law Center in Cincinnati, Ohio, working on matters including education, juvenile justice, custody, child victim legal assistance, civil rights actions and youth re-entry civil legal services. After graduating from the University of Florida in 2017 with a B.S. in Psychology and a B.A. in Criminology and Pre-Law, Emily taught in Philadelphia as a part of AmeriCorps and served as a domestic violence relocation advocate in Florida. Last summer, Emily worked as a legal intern at the Family Law Center of the Hamilton County Domestic Relations Court.



Alexander Trimis

Sustained Impact Veterans' Justice Fellow
Swords to Plowshares, San Francisco, CA
Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law

Our Sustained Impact Veterans' Justice Fellow this summer is **Alexander Trimis**, a 1L at the Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. A veteran of the United States Marine Corps, Alexander will be working with our partner organization Swords to Plowshares, which provides legal and other assistance to homeless and disadvantaged veterans in the San Francisco Bay Area. After his military service, Alexander earned a Bachelor of Journalism in Broadcast Radio and Television from the University of Missouri – Columbia and worked at radio and television stations in Columbia.



Ayeh Abdel Rahman

Sustained Impact Racial Justice Fellow
Lone Star Justice Alliance, Dallas
Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law

Ayeh Abdel Rahman will be a Sustained Impact Racial Justice Fellow working at our partner organization Lone Star Justice Alliance in Dallas. Ayeh earned her B.S. in Global Business and International Political Economy from the University of Texas and is now a 1L at the Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law. Ayeh previously served as an intern for the Innocent Project in Richardson, Texas. Her interest in law initially was sparked when her uncle was detained without charges in Egypt during the Arab Spring, and her family persistently petitioned the Canadian government to advocate for his release.



Estefanía Hernández

Sustained Impact Racial Justice Fellow
Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
The University of Miami School of Law

A 2L at the University of Miami School of Law, **Estefanía Hernández** will serve as our Sustained Impact Racial Justice Fellow at the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, where she will work on its Voting Rights Project. Estefanía served as Student Body President at her alma mater, Wheaton College, earning a B.A. in Theology and Peace and Conflict Studies. A leader on the Law School’s Public Interest Leadership Board, Estefanía aspires to be a civil rights lawyer and a congresswoman. She is currently an intern in the Human Rights Clinic at the Law School and works with the Clinic’s partner organization, Earth Rights, International.



Antonia Adams

Sustained Impact Racial Justice Fellow
Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law
George Washington University Law School

Antonia Adams is a member of the Class of 2026 at The George Washington University Law School. She graduated from the University of South Carolina and Piedmont Technical College *magna cum laude* and with other distinctions. Antonia’s leadership credentials include serving as student body president at Piedmont, as a peer leader at the University of South Carolina, and being a National Fellow at the Southern Education Foundation. She brings these credentials and extensive experience in education to her Sustained Impact Fellowship with the Education Project of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights.



Eva Kahan

Georgetown University Law Center
Office of the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia

Eva Kahan will serve her Fellowship in the Office of the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, supporting criminal prosecutions in anti-corruption, anti-trafficking and national security cases. Before law school, Eva spent several years supporting US and partner government efforts in the fight against transnational criminal networks at the Center for Advanced Defense Studies (C4ADS), a small non-profit, working on matters involving Sudan, South Sudan, Kenya and Mozambique. Eva earned her B.A. at Tufts University, majoring in International Relations and History with a concentration in the Middle East, and spent a postgraduate year in Cairo, Egypt studying Arabic literature.



Jordyn Daubenmire

Case Western Reserve University School of Law
Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of Ohio

Jordyn Daubenmire will be working in the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of Ohio. As an undergraduate, Jordyn was a Criminology major at the Ohio State University, where she engaged in research on nationally recognized terrorist organizations to be used in published research papers. Jordyn spent her 1L summer in the Office of the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, and now looks forward to working on the defense side. During law school, Jordyn has worked at Case Western’s Death Penalty Lab, and she hopes to continue her work with inmates on death row, and “to serve defendants who need help in any way I can.” is a member of the Class of 2026 at The George Washington University Law School. She graduated from the University of South Carolina and Piedmont Technical College *magna cum laude* and with other distinctions. Antonia’s leadership credentials include serving as student body president at Piedmont, as a peer leader at the University of South Carolina, and being a National Fellow at the Southern Education Foundation. She brings these credentials and extensive experience in education to her Sustained Impact Fellowship with the Education Project of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights.



Spencer Lewis

University of Denver’s Sturm College of Law
Office of Legal Counsel for the Governor of Colorado

Spencer Lewis will be spending his summer in the Office of Legal Counsel for the Governor of Colorado, reviewing the legality of bills passed during the last legislative session and will research and contribute to crafting several policy recommendations to the Governor for the upcoming year in the fields of environmental, economic, and housing policy. Spencer earned a B.A. in History from University of Oklahoma and worked as an archaeologist, where his work included returning Native American artifacts to the tribes he worked with. In these interactions, he discovered the power of the law and policy to right historical wrongs. Spencer describes policy as a means of tapping “into the nervous system of the country.”



Lauren Owens

Yale Law School
Lawyers for Children

Lauren Owens will be working with Lawyers for Children in New York City this summer. Lawyers For Children empowers children in foster care, youth justice, and family court proceedings by giving them a voice in the decisions that directly impact their lives and working to minimize the trauma of being out of home. Lauren earned her B.A. in Public Policy from Duke University, and has a long history of working with disadvantaged youth. As Lauren put it, "I am passionate about children's advocacy, and I understand that the issues that impact children involve many interconnected disciplines."



Sarah Burt

American University Washington College of Law
Office of Health Plan Standards and Compliance Assistance within the Employment Benefits Security Administration

Sarah Burt will serve as a legal intern for the Office of Health Plan Standards and Compliance Assistance within the Employment Benefits Security Administration ("EBSA") within the Department of Labor. Sarah received her B.A. in Economics and Philosophy at St. Olaf College and a Master's of Public Policy from Georgetown University, and served in several public policy internships over the last three years. At EBSA, Sarah will assist in writing draft regulations, guidance, and other compliance materials in addition to conducting research projects. Among other things, Sarah anticipates working on ensuring compliance with the Mental Health Parity Act and reforms to the Affordable Care Act.



Izzy McCale

Sustained Impact Human Rights Watch Fellow
Human Rights Watch
Ohio State University Moritz College of Law

Isabelle (Izzy) McCale is the recipient of our 2024 Sustained Impact Human Rights Watch Fellowship, working with our partner organization, Human Rights Watch (HRW). Izzy graduated with a B.A. in Political Science and Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies from the Ohio State University, and they are now completing their second year at OSU's Moritz College of Law. Having worked extensively with traumatic brain injury (TBI) patients at a private law firm, Izzy will be supporting a HRW effort to demonstrate how and why the long-term harms associated with TBIs in civilians should be taken into consideration when assessing whether the use of explosive weapons in densely populated areas will violate the laws of war regarding proportionality and weapons selection.



Alexa Finkelstein

Prosecutor's Office for Morris County, New Jersey
Catholic University Columbus School of Law

Alexa Finkelstein will intern this summer at the Prosecutor's Office for Morris County, New Jersey. A graduate of the University of Georgia with a B.S. in Psychology and minors in Criminology and Sociology, Alexa is the 1L representative for the Criminal Law Society, among various other activities. Alexa hails from New Jersey, and her "goal is to help victims of crime in the community I have lived in for over fifteen years." Alexa hopes to rotate through all the units of the Prosecutor's Office over the course of her internship. Having previously worked on mental health and addiction issues, one of her policy goals is to "garner an environment where citizens feel comfortable seeking treatment locally."



Cailee Grzebienik

Legal Department of the Jeffco Public Schools
University of Denver's Sturm College of Law

Cailee Grzebienik will serve her Fellowship in the Legal Department of the Jeffco Public Schools, the second largest school system in Colorado. A former middle school teacher, Cailee will engage in district-level policy analysis and development regarding civil rights, special education, employment issues, and student welfare as part of her role. This will include "assessing the impact of existing policies and proposing improvements to ensure they align with the district's commitment to providing a world-class education for all students."



Obrian Rosario

Public Defenders Service for the District of Columbia's Juvenile Services Program
Howard University School of Law

A member of the inaugural cohort of Howard University's B.A./J.D. Joint Degree program, **Obrian Rosario** will serve his Fellowship at the Juvenile Services Program of the District of Columbia Public Defenders Service. Obrian's dedication to social justice causes dates back to high school, where he participated in civil rights litigation as a student intervenor, advocating for the rights of low-income Black and Brown youth in New York City, and worked with two organizations to fight segregation in the New York City Schools. Obrian's goal this summer is "to gain a meaningful understanding of the juvenile justice system and wield that expertise in policymaking rooms as an advocate with a legal hat on in the future."



Mary Elizabeth Barrow

US Navy Judge Advocate General's Office in Bremerton, WA
University of Colorado School of Law

Mary Elizabeth Barrow will be interning with the US Navy Judge Advocate General's Office in Bremerton, WA, which provides legal assistance, counsel and representation to members of the Navy and Marine Corps. Its clients range from active-duty service members to veterans and their families, ensuring they receive fair and just treatment under the law. Mary Elizabeth earned her Bachelor of Public Health from the Tulane University School of Public Health. Her past projects have included training a service dog to serve a disabled military veteran, and conducting research in the Choco rainforest in Ecuador to inform tropical restoration initiatives.



Anna Pollard

US Senate's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations
George Washington University Law School

Anna Pollard will serve her Fellowship with the US Senate's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. She will be conducting research, drafting documents and participating in briefings. Anna graduated *summa cum laude* in 2020 from the University of Alabama with a B.A. in Political Science, minoring in Women's Studies and Criminal Justice. Anna's public service career goal is shown through past and present experiences; she has interned with all three branches of the federal government.