

Project Description – Tennessee Justice Center, Summer 2019

Laura Taylor

The Tennessee Justice Center (TJC) is a 501(c)(3) organization focused on advocating for the reform of Tennessee's healthcare laws and securing coverage for Tennesseans through these laws. TJC obtains vital access for Tennesseans for services such as health care and nutrition, which are essential to human life and wellbeing. TJC does this through advocacy for systemic reforms; TJC also works for individual Tennesseans to help secure services critical to daily life, particularly with Medicaid. Located in the heart of Nashville, TN, the Tennessee Justice Center has advocated for Tennesseans for more than 20 years, finding victories in both courts and casework.

As a Casework and Client Services Intern at the Tennessee Justice Center during the summer of 2019, I will work closely with the advocacy and legal services team. As a casework intern, my main purpose will be to work directly with those Tennesseans in need, focusing on health insurance issues including enrollment, eligibility, and service. As an intern, I will be trained to conduct intake for new clients and manage the database system, navigate the PIKA database to ensure proper tracking, assist the intake coordinator to distribute cases to client advocates, and handle cases on my own. I will have the opportunity to work alongside experienced client advocates who secure better coverage for Tennesseans, and I will also be able to interact with the legal team as they advocate for meaningful statewide reform. Since I aspire to become a lawyer who works with underserved populations, I will gain invaluable experience at TJC while also giving my time to an important cause that serves those who most need it. I am incredibly thankful to have the opportunity to serve in an area that I am passionate about – health care advocacy and representation.