Manhattan Legal Services (MLS) is seeking law students to sponsor for post-graduate legal fellowships such as Skadden and law school funded fellowships to commence in fall 2021.

**About Us:**

MLS is a part of Legal Services NYC, the largest provider of free civil legal services for low-income people in the country. We are an anti-racist, anti-poverty social justice law office, dedicated to providing high quality legal services in the areas of housing, family law, public benefits, economic justice, education, immigration and disability rights, with special units serving particular vulnerable populations. We are committed to working in partnership with community-based organizations in the low-income communities we serve to address the causes of poverty and systemic oppression.

**Proposals:**

- MLS seeks proposals to provide direct legal services as well as to address systemic causes of social, racial and economic injustice. We are open to any proposal, but some ideas for fellowship proposals include:
  - Proposals designed to preserve employment for low-wage workers who, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, are unable to continue working or unable to return to their prior work, including circumstances in which the employer is preventing the worker from so returning. The proposal can address, among other topics, community education, assisting workers with accessing paid leave, unemployment insurance, or other forms of public benefits, advocacy surrounding reasonable accommodations, and advocacy to challenge discriminatory behavior by employers based on COVID-19.
  - Proposals designed to address barriers preventing marginalized student groups (LEP, LGBTQ, and students of color more broadly) from obtaining special education in a culturally sensitive manner (including representation in associated school disciplinary proceedings). The proposal may also address the unmet need for mental health services for students who have faced bullying due to COVID-19 exposure or perceived exposure.
  - Proposals to work with clients who lost jobs due to COVID-19 and need access to health care or pandemic-related mental health services. The proposal may also address discriminatory barriers to obtaining access to COVID-19-related care.

**How to Apply:**

We are looking for applicants with a demonstrated passion for social justice and a commitment to working with low-income communities and communities of color to advance equity.

Qualified students and recent law graduates are invited to submit a brief project proposal no later than August 13th. Please send a brief proposal and resume to Peggy Earisman, Director, by email to pearisman@lsny.org.