

Skadden Fellow Board Report

Introduction

Cassie Chambers joined KEJC on December 1, 2017, as a Skadden Fellow. Cassie's work will focus on poverty-related barriers, particularly those in rural Kentucky. Cassie will use a combination of impact litigation, writing, and legislative advocacy to try to tackle poverty-related barriers.

Litigation

- DRC case: currently working with Tachau Meek to file a section 1983 complaint against domestic relations commissioners in the Western District of KY. This action, if successful, will generate attorney's fees.
 - Open Records request sent December 1, 2017. Awaiting further information
 - Next steps: the complaint is drafted and should be ready to file sometime in January
- Direct representation: continued to provide direct assistance to five family law clients in rural Kentucky

Outreach

- Meetings with stakeholders: holding a series of meetings to discuss other issues the poverty initiative may want to tackle; meeting with private law firms, Legal Aid organizations, and other stakeholders in the community
 - Example organizations/individuals: Appalachian Citizens Law Center, Appalred, Ben Carter, James Craig, Stites & Harbison, Tachau Meek, Philadelphia Public Interest Law Center
- Possible issues to tackle
 - Disability-related litigation in Eastern KY (reasonable accommodations in schools)
 - Bail in Immigration cases
 - Worker's compensation benefit reductions and access to justice (white paper in progress)
 - Ideas from you all?

Fundraising

- Identifying grants to apply for to continue the work
 - Possible ideas: KY Colonels grant, Snowy Owl Foundation, Impact Fund
- Identifying benefactors and organizations to ask for donations
 - Possible ideas: Brown Forman, large law firms, Humana
- Good Giving: raised \$1500 for poverty-related work as of 12/11