

## 2018 Summer PILF Grant Recipients

### Alex Askerov '20, Washington State Attorney General's Office



Alex is a rising 2L at Seattle University School of Law. He is a first generation American, born in the United States just after his family emigrated from Russia. Alex's current plan is to either work as a public defense attorney or an immigration defense attorney. His goal is to provide diligent legal service to marginalized communities and believes that the public interest sectors are the most valuable in the legal profession. Alex spent his summer interning at the Tumwater, Washington office of the Washington State Attorney General's Office and was assigned to the CMR (Child Support, Economic Services, and Revenue Recovery) Section. Throughout the summer, Alex had the opportunity to dive deep into both Washington's complex Administrative Code as well as its statutory law. He feels very fortunate to have been placed under the supervision of the excellent attorneys and legal staff that work for the CMR section.

### Renee Ballou '20, Center for Justice



After graduating in 2016 from University of Washington with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Renee entered Seattle University School of Law in 2017. Renee is originally from Spokane, WA so it was not surprising that she chose to spend her summer working in Spokane at the Center for Justice. The Center for Justice is a nonprofit organization serving clients and developing policies related to reentry, housing law and environmental law issues specific to the Inland Northwest. As a legal intern in the housing program, Renee worked on research for housing policy in the city. She subsequently worked with her supervising attorney to draft an ordinance for just cause eviction, tenant relocation assistance, and a rental registry in Spokane. After the Center for Justice received funding to start a free housing clinic, Renee also worked with her supervisor to create policies and procedures for the clinic. Working at the Center for Justice reaffirmed her desire for a career in legal aid. She enjoyed working with the community, hearing people's stories, and

feeling as if her work would help the Spokane community in the long run.

### Samantha Barry '20, Northwest Health Law Advocates



With an undergraduate degree in Public Health and Sociology from University of Massachusetts – Amherst, Samantha is passionate about women's health and ensuring that everyone has access to quality medical care. Prior to entering Seattle University School of Law, she spent two and half years as a Patient Services Representative for an OB/GYN and Midwifery office. This past summer, Samantha worked at Northwest Health Law Advocates (NoHLA), an organization committed to improving health policies for individuals in Washington. She worked on a variety of projects over the summer including drafting suggestions to improve the Healthplanfinder application (used by individuals applying for insurance through the healthcare exchange, as well as Medicaid or any insurance

tax credits) and its paper counterpart. Samantha is looking forward to incorporating what she learned this summer into her work this year and strengthening her advocacy skills.

### **Catherine Bentley '20, Project Safety**



Catherine, a rising 2L, spent her summer interning with Project Safety, an innovative collaboration between the King County Bar Association and other agencies working to address the civil legal needs of crime victims in King County. With Project Safety, she assisted the King County Bar Association with developing comprehensive training and educational materials. Catherine also worked with the King County Prosecutor's Office aiding survivors file for Domestic Violence Protection Orders. Catherine graduated from Lawrence University with a B.A. in WWII history, and has an extensive background working with trauma-informed advocacy in both domestic abuse shelters and sexual assault centers in the Midwest. The financial assistance from PILF allowed her to give all of her time and energy to her clients and to be committed without question.

### **Caleb Carr '20, Unemployment Law Project**



Caleb Carr is an incoming second year law student. During the summer of 2018, Caleb spent the majority of his time representing clients in administrative hearings under the umbrella of the Unemployment Law Project (ULP). Caleb had worked at ULP prior to the summer and by the end of the summer had litigated over 100 hearings. By the end of law school, Caleb intends to pursue the military JAG corps before entering into health care law. Caleb also serves as the Technology Chair for PILF and is a member of the Student Bar Association. When not in school or working at ULP, Caleb serves as the CEO of a defense company called Vita Inclinata Technologies which develops Black Hawk helicopter technologies for the US military. Meanwhile, in his free time you will notice him either mountaineering or serving as a Fire Fighter in Tacoma.

### **Cloie Chapman '20, Disability Rights Washington**



Cloie is a rising 2L at Seattle University School of Law. She earned her BA in a self-designed, interdisciplinary concentration titled: The Past, Present, and Future of Environmental Politics from Fairhaven College at Western Washington University. She is interested in pursuing a career in public interest law, focusing on how she can empower marginalized communities to seek meaningful policy change. Cloie spent her summer working for Disability Rights Washington in the Treatment Facilities Program. Disability Rights Washington (DRW) is a private non-profit created by the federal government in an effort to establish a protection and advocacy system for people with disabilities. The internship was a great opportunity for Cloie to work with clients directly and provide assistance to those who otherwise would not have access to legal services. This experience inspired her to continue working with marginalized communities and find ways to increase their access to legal resources. She is excited to continue working with DRW this fall and hope to establish connections with other organizations that do this crucial work in our communities.

### **Tamara Comeau '19, King County Department of Public Defense**



Tamara is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year law student at Seattle University School of Law. After earning a B.A. in Mathematics and Biblical Studies from Azusa Pacific University in Southern California, Tamara entered the field of actuary work. Shortly after, she made the decision to go to law school, wanting to use her strengths to fight for those without a voice in our criminal justice system. Tamara was a Rule 9 intern with the King County Department of Public Defense this summer. Of all of the things she have worked on this summer, what stood out to her was the opportunity to develop relationships with clients. In her spare time, Tamara enjoys cooking, reading, watching football, and spending time with family and friends.

### **Sonya Daisley-Harrison '19, King County Department of Defense**



Sonya is a 3L who interned as a Rule 9 Intern for King County Department of Public Defense in Kent this summer. Sonya is an aspiring criminal defense attorney who wants to help improve the criminal justice system and the ways in which people get lost in it. Last summer, Sonya worked at the Washington State Attorney General's Office in the Torts Division, Olympia. As the first person in her family to graduation from college, Sonya went to The Evergreen State College where she studied history and psychology. Sonya has been a Girl Scout since Kindergarten and volunteers with her local service unit mentoring young women. In her spare time, she coaches archery, plays soccer, and reads fantasy novels.

### **Tran Dinh '19, Public Defenders Association**



Tran is an international student from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Ever since she immigrated to the United States, Tran has been involved in social justice and organizing for a more equitable environment. This past summer, Tran worked with the Public Defender Association to build support for Safe Consumption Spaces in King County as well as to advocate for police reform and restorative justice. Interning at PDA provided her with a model of advocacy and leadership that is inclusive of the population most deeply directly affected by the issues at hand. She recounted that the office was such a welcoming space and she feels re-invigorated to come back to finish law school and begin her public interest career.

### **Edna Enriquez '19, King County Department of Defense**



Edna is a rising 3L at the Seattle University School of Law. She graduated from the University of Arizona with a bachelor's degree in Philosophy. Edna entered law school with the ultimate of goal of shaping herself into an effective advocate for underrepresented communities. This past summer, with the help of the Public Interest Law Foundation, she worked with the King County Department of Public Defense (DPD) as a Rule 9 intern. DPD's work appealed to her because she wanted to learn more about how the system works. This opportunity showed her that she has what it takes to be an effective defense attorney and she found the internship to be a unique and fulfilling experience.

### **Brian Ernst '20, TeamChild**



Brian is a sixth-generation Oregonian who graduated from the University of Puget Sound with a degree in Politics and Government and Music. After receiving his undergraduate degree, he spent the next four years in higher education, working with students from across the country as they applied to college. This past summer, Brian was thrilled to work for TeamChild, helping youth around Washington State access civil legal services. He spent the summer learning from and listening to young people currently incarcerated. He also had the opportunity to learn from and work with a team of attorneys focused on providing assistance and representation for youth incarcerated with Juvenile Rehabilitation. He is immensely grateful to the wonderful attorneys and staff at TeamChild and look forward to incorporating the lessons he learned this summer into his practice of law in the years to come.

### **Robert Froembling '20, Washington State Attorney General's Office**



Robert (Bobby) is a rising 2L. He serves on the Environmental Law Society Executive Board, is a mentor for Seattle Youth Traffic Court, and has completed over half of his committed 100 hours to the legal pro bono pledge. Bobby spent his summer clerking for the Washington State Attorney General's Office in the Ecology Division. This Division represents various clients and state agencies, such as the Department of Ecology, that seek to resolve environmental problems and disputes. This experience motivated Bobby to further his career goals of practicing environmental law, among other areas, on behalf of the public interest. He learned that protecting our environment and working to combat climate change as a lawyer is a public service that is extremely challenging, complex, and yet, rewarding. He is incredibly grateful for PILF and the assistance of corporate sponsors, auction attendees, and general fundraisers and donors who made his time in Olympia possible and rewarding.

### **Christina Holman '20, Northwest Consumer Law Center**



Christina is a rising 2L at Seattle University School of Law and a first-generation Cuban-American. She received her bachelor's degree in justice studies at Grand Canyon University in 2012. Christina chose Seattle University School of Law because of its commitment to diversity and social justice. At the law school, she is involved with the Social Justice Leadership Committee, the Student Bar Association Judicial Board, and the Immigrant Family Advocacy Project. Christina is passionate about the intersection between financial law and low-income families so she spent summer with the Northwest Consumer Law Center (NCLC). NCLC is a low bono bankruptcy and consumer protection center in Seattle, WA. At NCLC, Christina worked on bankruptcy, foreclosure, debt collection, and other financial law issues. The best part about her internship was seeing how people's lives were changed for the better. She was honored to receive the Public Interest Law Foundation Summer Grant so she was able to pursue this internship.

### **Eilish Malone '19, American Gateways**



Eilish Malone was born and raised in the Seattle region. She studied Global Studies and Hispanic Studies at University of Washington in Tacoma and graduated in 2016. Passionate about the issues confronting immigrant and working class communities in the US, Eilish went straight to law school at Seattle University School of Law. This past summer, Eilish interned at American Gateways, a non-profit organization in Austin, Texas that supports the local immigrant community. At American Gateways, Eilish worked on gender-based violence and asylum cases. Eilish's interest in gender-based violence work stemmed from being a survivor of domestic abuse and violence. Her dream is to become a powerful advocate and ally for women, immigrants, and working class people. Her favorite quote, by Audre Lorde, is as follows: "I am not free while any woman is unfree, even when her shackles are very different than my own."

### **Tom Mozingo '20, Fred T. Korematsu Center**



Tom grew up on Whidbey Island, and majored in Economics at the University of Washington. He interned at the Fred T. Korematsu Center at Seattle University School of Law this summer. The Korematsu Center is an organization that researches, advocates and works to combat discrimination in many facets, including race, gender, class, age and sexuality. Tom was honored to receive a PILF grant to fund his summer internship. Over the summer he developed faster research and writing skills which was an amazing experience that was hard to come by in a classroom setting. It was also rewarding for Tom to go through court documents and compile data on juveniles sentenced recently in Washington. Tom would like to thank the Korematsu Center and PILF for this opportunity.

### **Soyoung Park '19, Federal Tax Clinic at the University of Washington School of Law**



Soyoung Park was born and raised in Korea. She attended Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan, where she earned her B.A. in international liberal studies with concentration on political science. As a Waseda-US exchange scholar, she also studied at University of California, Berkeley where she was first introduced to the US legal system. Soyoung is currently a rising 3L at Seattle University School of Law. This past summer, Soyoung worked at the Federal Tax Clinic at the University of Washington School of Law as a PILF grant recipient. At the tax clinic, she worked closely with clients on a variety of cases, from IRS audits and collection actions to cases before the United States Tax Court. This was a great opportunity for Soyoung to gain both substantive knowledge and real-world experience in tax practice.

### **Lucas Riley '19, King County Public Defender's Office**



Luke is a rising 3L at Seattle University School of Law. This past summer, Luke spent his summer at the King County Public Defender's Office in Kent as a Rule-9 Intern. This organization provides legal defense to the county's indigent population that have become ensnared in the criminal justice system. He worked for the King County Department of Public Defense the previously summer in the dependency unit, where the goal was family reunification after state intervention. This past summer, Luke's assignment was in Domestic Violence (DV) court built on his experience with the dependency unit. His work focused on trying misdemeanors and assisting with felony cases of senior attorneys as needed. This opportunity is a continuation in Luke's dedication to public service, having served several

years in the Army. He cannot thank the Public Interest Law Foundation enough for everything they do. Without their assistance, Luke would never have been able to devote as much time and effort to this experience.

### **Alex Romero '19, Northwest Immigrant Rights Project**



Alex spent his summer as a legal assistant interning at the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP). He worked in the Naturalization Unit department, tackling complex naturalization cases. Not only did he learn how complicated the naturalization process can be but he also had an eye opening experience when he toured the Northwest Detention Center. This past summer, Alex gained valuable skills such as client interviewing and was able to use his language skills to interpret at a naturalization interview at the USCIS office. This direct experience with the undocumented community will further Alex's lifelong childhood dream of becoming an immigration lawyer.

### **Pardies Roohani '19, King County Department of Public Defense**



Pardies Roohani is a rising 3L at the Seattle University School of Law. Seattle is where she grew up, where her heart is, and where she hopes to practice law. She is committed to the growth and development of its surrounding community and ensuring that everybody has equal access to fairness and justice. One of the driving forces behind her decision to attend law school, and her decision to attend Seattle University, is her passion and commitment to serving her community. This past summer, Pardies had the humbling experience of working her second consecutive internship as a Rule 9 intern at the King County

Department of Public Defense. She hopes to foster the ideal of advocating for the voiceless and become a Public Defender after passing the Bar.

### **Haley Sinclair '20, Center for Children and Youth Justice.**



Haley came to Seattle University School of Law, specifically for its focus on social justice and plans to work in international human rights law. This past summer, Haley Sinclair worked with the Lawyers Fostering Independence program at Center for Children and Youth Justice (CCYJ) which was created to help foster and homeless youth. Lawyers Fostering Independence provides help with record sealing, "know your rights" seminars, obtaining stable housing, and much more. This past summer, Haley assisted with client intake, performed legal research for cases, and helped to advertise and expand the program. She is so thankful to PILF for the opportunity to gain experience in public interest law that has tremendously increased her desire to do this much-needed work. In Haley's last week at CCYJ, she attended the Mockingbird Society's Youth Leadership Summit with many people from the CCYJ office. This event was such a fantastic way to end her summer as groups of foster youth from all over the state presented projects they have been working on to the Washington State Supreme Court Commission on Children in Foster Care and the Office of Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection Programs Advisory Committee. Haley plans to continue to volunteering with CCYJ during the upcoming school year and she is excited about the continued learning experience.

### **Sam Sung '19, Washington State Attorney General's Office**



Sam was a Rule 9 intern at the Washington State Attorney General's Office (AGO), working in the Labor & Industries Division (LNI) this past summer. This was her second summer at the AGO and she was grateful that PILF provided her with the financial support throughout this internship. With her path set and values affirmed, Sam is excited to enter into her final year of law school to continue striving to be the best advocate she can. Sam is interested in why the law disparately impacts marginalized communities, and how to prevent these devastating legal results. Because of this, she aspires to one day work in civil rights litigation in order to use the law as a tool to provide a platform and uplift voices that are too often either silenced or ignored. Prior to law school, Sam attended the University of Washington and graduated with a BA in English Literature and a minor in Comparative History of Ideas. In her spare time, Sam enjoys bouldering, drawing, and playing board games.

### **Erika Vranizan '20, King County Department of Public Defense**



Erika Vranizan is a rising 2L who worked with the King County Department of Public Defense this past summer. She worked in the Society of Counsel Representing Accused Persons (SCRAP) division of the public defender's office providing legal representation and advocacy to people in need of legal help in King County and the city of Seattle. The SCRAP division specifically focuses on juvenile defense. Erika came to Seattle University School of Law because of its strong recognition as an educational institution devoted to social justice and plans to pursue a career in child and juvenile advocacy. She is incredibly thankful to PILF and its various donors for providing her with the financial support she needed in order to pursue this experience. Erika can strongly say that the PILF donations have played a part in making her a stronger, more formidable attorney.

## **Cassidy Wisley-Paul '19, Washington State Attorney General's Office**



Cassidy is a rising 3L at Seattle University School of Law. This past summer, she was a law clerk for the Attorney General of Washington (AGO) in the Wing Luke Civil Rights unit. Cassidy always had a passion for civil rights, and that passion was the driving force that led her to law school. She sees the law as one of the ways to make significant changes within society, and that is why she chose a career as an attorney. Cassidy's path in law school has included various public interest externships, as well as time spent working in the Korematsu Center through the civil rights amicus brief and advocacy clinic. These experiences have strengthened her dedication to civil rights work. At the AGO this past summer, she assisted in the State's case against Motel 6 for providing ICE with motel guest lists and the lawsuit against GEO, Inc., the private company who runs the Northwest Detention Center and pays its detainee workers \$1 a day.

## **Javiera Wood '20, Northwest Immigrant Rights Project**



Javiera Wood is a rising 2L at Seattle University School of Law. She was born and raised in Santiago, Chile, and moved to the United States in 2010. Javiera graduated from the University of Oregon in 2015 where she majored in Chinese and International Studies: Human Rights. Javiera is currently an active member of multiple student organizations including the Latinx Law Student Association as well as the Asian and Pacific Islander Student Association. She also volunteers at the monthly legal clinic offered at El Centro de la Raza as a Spanish translator. Javiera has further assisted the Latino community by helping the Anderson Santiago Law Firm with communication and coordination between lawyers and clients. This past summer, she worked at the Northwest Immigrants Rights Project, in the Family Services Unit. She lead over fourteen individual cases where she was in charge of communicating and meeting with clients, drafting declaration and forms for adjustment of status and consular processing, collecting supporting documents, and ensuring that everything was advancing properly. Additionally, she assisted with client intakes, interpretations for interviews at the USCIS office, volunteered with pro-se I-589 workshops at the Federal Detention Center and assisted the Asylum Unit and Children & Youth Unit with translations and applications for individual court hearings at the Northwest Detention Center. At the end of her summer internship, Javiera could not help but to feel sad for leaving such an amazing team, but at the same time, to feel joyous for the lessons that she have learned.