Spring Break Pro Bono Trips 2024
Trips

1) Immigration Services to, San Diego, CA @ Jewish Family Service
   w/ HIP and La Alianza

2) Broadband Access Trip to Clarksdale, MS @ CREW w/ Mississippi Delta Project
   + Local Boston-area pro bono projects (Boston and Cambridge, MA)
Jewish Family Service

[Images of two individuals, one leaning on a fence and the other standing in a room with bunk beds.]
Student volunteers will work on asylum or Special Immigrant Juvenile status, preparing application materials, and/or, where needed, interviewing clients and attending immigration proceedings.

Students will learn about immigration statuses, put language skills to use, engage in client meetings and interviews, and draft legal documents within the particulars of practicing in a border zone.
Jewish Family Service

- Preference for speakers of other languages: Arabic, Haitian Creole, Dari, Pashto, Portuguese, Spanish, and Russian.

- Trainings prior to departure

- Passports required if visiting Mexico

- More at [https://www.jfssd.org](https://www.jfssd.org)
Jewish Family Service

- Eight-ten students
- Two Rental cars
- Airbnb in San Diego
- Saturday March 9 - Saturday March 16
Broadband Access in the MS Delta
Broadband Access in the Delta

- Clarksdale, MS birthplace of the blues
- Delta Fellow Jillian Morrison
- With Community First Research Center for Wellbeing and Creative Achievement (CREW) at the University of Mississippi
- Work site Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi in Clarksdale
Broadband Access in the Delta

- Students will conduct outreach on Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) authorized by Congress under the Infrastructure and Jobs Act, assist eligible households with signing up for ACP. Estimated that ~572,000 households in Mississippi are eligible.

- Legal and community-based research (i.e., interviews) into the practical application of ACP, program’s overall impacts in the MS Delta region, and potential alternative funding avenues.

- Mississippi residents face service barriers due to the state governments’ historic disinvestment in rural communities predominantly comprised of people of color and households with lower incomes; disparities especially acute in Mississippi Delta.
Broadband Access in the Delta

- Background and resources from Mississippi Delta Project

- Training on community outreach and interview techniques, and specifics of ACP

- Blues show, Memphis visit to National Civil Rights Museum
Broadband Access in the Delta

- Four to six students
- One or two rental cars
- Housing at Auberge Clarksdale Hostel
- Sunday March 10 - Saturday March 16, with Friday night in Memphis (tentatively)
Boston/Cambridge

- Projects and host organizations to be finalized. Open to proposals. Past projects with local legal services and remote.
- No overnight or long-distance travel required
- As many students as can be accommodated will be selected.
- Applications open end of January/early February
Legal Work

- All legal work is eligible for HLS pro bono credit

- Travel and training time not for pro bono credit (likely not reach 50 hours)

- Must work all days required by specific trip
Student Costs

Students will pay for their own:

- food
- transportation to and from Boston airport
- baggage fees after 1 bag
- entertainment
- $150 towards airfare, unless financial hardship
Funding

- Students book own flight and receive travel grant after (possibly OCP book)

- Need volunteers to rent car and be reimbursed for car and gas (full amount) after

- Hotels/Air BnBs paid in advance by HLS
Application

- Must submit application with resume by **11:59 pm on Monday, November 13** (on OCP website)
- Decisions announced by **Wednesday, November 22**
- Selected students must commit by **Thursday, November 30**
- Decisions based on a final composition of students representing a range of class years, perspectives, skills, or experience relevant to project
- Anticipating more applications than slots
Student Requirements:

- Attend group meeting(s) before trip, usually February and early March
- Reading material and training before trip
- Written evaluation upon your return
- Travel grant paperwork
- HLS Pro Bono paperwork
Keep In Mind

- You must be **flexible**
- You are going to help
- Volunteers needed to rent cars (preferably over 25) and pay gas and parking, etc. on credit card and be reimbursed
Questions?
https://hls.harvard.edu/pro-bono/spring-break/

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