



## EMERGING LEADER FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY, 2019-2021

### Pathways to Kinship Care

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**Beasley School of Law**

<b>Host Organization:</b>	Temple University Beasley School of Law
<b>Location:</b>	Philadelphia, PA
<b>Dates:</b>	September 2019 – September 2021
<b>Salary:</b>	\$60,000 / year, plus benefits

### Stoneleigh Emerging Leader Fellowship

The [Stoneleigh Emerging Leader Fellowship](#) is a two-year, full-time, hands-on position for early career professionals. Fellows work collaboratively with a host organization and the Stoneleigh Foundation to execute a project that advances the missions of these organizations and enhances Fellows' professional skills and leadership development. Fellows are also supported by a cohort of peer Emerging Leaders, who participate in Foundation programming.

### The Project: *Pathways to Kinship Care*

Research demonstrates that young people who are involved in the child welfare system have better outcomes when they are placed with relatives and family members (i.e. kin) than when they are placed in foster care with non-kin. While the percentage of young people in kinship care has increased in Philadelphia in recent years, there is still a widespread lack of information among families and advocates about kinship care, and there are practical barriers to accomplishing kinship placements.

To address this challenge, the Fellow will work with Temple University Beasley School of Law, local community groups, and the legal advocacy community to expand the percentage of child welfare-involved youth who are in kinship care in Philadelphia. Specifically, the Fellow will:

- **Interview key stakeholders** from community groups, relative affinity groups, youth-serving systems, and the Philadelphia Family Court to gather information about existing resources and obstacles for kin who are seeking to become caregivers for youth.
- **Provide direct legal representation to a limited number of potential kinship caregivers** to gain a deeper understanding of their barriers and opportunities.
- **Engage in policy implementation efforts** related to advancing kinship care, following the passage of the federal Family First Prevention Services Act and recent changes to state law.
- **Create, convene, and lead an advisory group** with representatives from the Philadelphia Department of Human Services, Defender Association of Philadelphia, Support Center for Child Advocates, Community Legal Services, and other public interest legal services organizations.
- **Design resource tools and trainings for attorneys, parents, and potential caregivers** about how to pursue kinship care placements, where appropriate, for children in dependency and domestic relations courts.

- **Develop a training program geared toward relatives in community groups**—particularly those in Temple University’s North Philadelphia community—about opportunities to serve as kinship care providers and the legal pathways to do so.

## Candidate Qualifications

Candidates must have earned a JD between 2016 and 2019 and must be either admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar or register to sit for the bar exam in July 2019. The candidate should have a strong interest in public interest law, family law and/or the child welfare system. Experience in legal services work or systems advocacy is strongly preferred. The candidate should be comfortable working both independently and in collaboration with others. Interest in clinical law school teaching is a plus.

## Application Process

Please submit the following materials to Associate Clinical Professor Sarah Katz ([katzs@temple.edu](mailto:katzs@temple.edu)) by **December 21, 2018**. Please contact Professor Katz with any questions.

- A resume or CV
- A writing sample
- Two written references preferred (one academic and one professional)
- A cover letter articulating why you would like to participate in the Fellowship, how it will advance your professional goals, why this project interests you, and what prior experience and training you bring that prepares you to lead this Fellowship project

Candidates chosen for an interview will be contacted directly by Temple University Beasley School of Law. One final candidate will be recommended to and interviewed by the Stoneleigh Foundation in January 2019. In March, Stoneleigh staff will present recommended candidates and projects to its Board of Directors.

## About Temple University Beasley School of Law

[Temple University Beasley School of Law](#) is committed to excellence in teaching, learning, scholarship, and service. The faculty is dedicated to preparing students to enter and continue in the legal profession with the highest level of skill possible, with a firm commitment to principles of professional responsibility, and with a sense of personal obligation to lead and to serve the communities in which they live and practice.

This position will be a Post-JD Fellowship at the Beasley School of Law. The Fellow will work under the supervision of the [Temple Legal Aid Office](#) and in conjunction with the [Sheller Center for Social Justice](#). The Temple Legal Aid Office and the Sheller Center for Social Justice, both of which operate within the School of Law, provide direct services to low-income clients while also engaging in law reform and policy advocacy on their behalf. Direct supervision will be provided by Clinical Professor Sarah Katz, with support from Professors Robert Schwartz, Len Rieser, Theresa Glennon and other faculty.

Temple University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, and we strongly encourage women, minorities, individuals with disabilities, LGBTQ individuals, and members of other groups that traditionally have been underrepresented in the legal profession to apply.