



ACLS Leading Edge Fellowship

Position Title:	Narrative Research Content Specialist
Organization:	Justice Action Center
Location:	Remote
Stipend:	\$66,000 per year in year one, \$70,000 in year two, plus health insurance, and \$3,500 per year in professional development funding
Start Date:	September 2023

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

Founded in 2019, [Justice Action Center](#) (JAC) is a startup social justice organization that combines the power of storytelling with impact litigation to bring justice to immigrant communities. We focus on fulfilling unmet needs historically overlooked in the nonprofit immigration space through creative legal and communications strategies that center the needs and experiences of our plaintiffs. JAC is permanently a fully remote office, with eight staff based throughout the U.S. We're looking for a skilled Narrative Research Content Specialist to implement strategies that amplify otherwise overlooked immigrant issues.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

JAC seeks a Narrative Research Content Specialist to join its Communications Department. We are searching for a sharp, creative, and curious individual to strengthen JAC's storytelling and research capacities in pursuit of immigrant justice. The Specialist will be supervised by the Communications Director and work alongside the rest of the department, composed of the Deputy Director and Communications Coordinator.

The Specialist's work will include engaging with JAC plaintiffs and other impacted individuals to create content that centers migrant voices; using storytelling strategies to support the communications, litigation, and research work of JAC; and applying their research expertise to help shape public narratives. The work will have three major facets:

Story gathering: The Specialist will work closely with plaintiffs and other directly impacted individuals to engage in interviews for fact gathering and to empower individuals to tell their own stories. For example, the Specialist may conduct trauma-informed plaintiff interviews for a video series illustrating the harrowing ordeals faced by asylum seekers.

Research: Working with the legal and communications team, the Specialist may utilize information received from FOIA requests and lawsuits to help the public better understand issues immigrants and asylum seekers face. The Specialist may also research and document the history of various messaging strategies within the immigrant rights movement in a report to present to partner organizations. The specialist will also participate in communications and narrative research to help develop immigrant-inclusive narratives for advocates to utilize.

Data presentation: The Specialist will work closely with the communications team to help present data or other information in a user-friendly manner, thus allowing non-legal actors to better understand complex facets of the immigration system. The ideal candidate would be excited by the prospect of creating new systems and projects to implement emerging communications and litigation strategies. Through the Leading Edge Fellowship, the Specialist will gain relevant experience and connections that may prepare them for careers in fields as diverse as journalism, law, political science, social work, storytelling/content

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You may *not* contact the host institution to inquire about this position.

creation, data science, or polling. Though working remotely, the Specialist would be fully integrated into the JAC team. As a fully remote office, JAC is committed to gathering for in-person meetings on a regular basis. The Specialist would be able to spend some in-person time with team members multiple times per year, in addition to weekly opportunities for formal and informal virtual meetings with team members. The fellowship tenure is 24 consecutive months, with an expected time commitment of approximately 37.5 hours per week.

Responsibilities and tasks:

Plaintiff Engagement (35%)

- Work with plaintiffs and directly impacted individuals to help them tell their own narratives to target audiences.
- Develop a story bank for communications and litigation use.
- Amplify the work of our coalition partners and breaking immigration news.

Legal Advocacy (35%)

- Work with litigators and communications staff to track and explain emerging legal threats to immigrant inclusive measures.
- Develop original research to bring relevant data or statistics to legal advocacy efforts.

Other Research Support (30%)

- Research existing narratives on asylum and migration.
- Build resources and tools for use in litigation or communications efforts.
- Assist with development of other messaging research projects, including focus groups, polls, and other tools.

Qualifications:

- PhD in any field of the humanities or humanistic social sciences. Read more about eligible fields [here](#).
- Familiarity with immigrants' rights or legal advocacy communities.
- Ability to engage with tough questions in a thoughtful and respectful manner and with a trauma-informed approach.
- While we know no one person will bring every criterion on this list, the successful candidate should have most of these qualifications. Don't check all of these boxes? This is a communications position -- convince us why we should hire you anyway!

Preferred:

- Experience in a nonprofit or advocacy setting.
- Fluency in a language other than English.
- Graphic design and/or videography experience to create visually engaging content.

APPLICATIONS

- Information on the Leading Edge Fellowship Program: <https://www.acls.org/Competitions-and-Deadlines/Leading-Edge-Fellowships>
- All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System (ofa.acls.org)
- Application deadline: 9:00pm EDT, March 15, 2023.

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