



# Driving Justice

Molly Quillin, Gonzaga University  
Wolff Fellow at the Center for Justice



## Project & Goals

Throughout my work at the Center I aimed to create a welcoming environment for low-income people in the Spokane community to access legal support. My other goals are below:

- Support vulnerable populations navigating the legal system
- Assist intake and processing with the Drivers Relicensing Program

## Background & Partner Organization

The Center for Justice is an organization run by, with, and for the community. The organization empowers individuals to live dignified lives, in the form of record expungement, getting licenses back, and coordinating landlord/tenant disputes or other housing issues.



## Critical Issue

My project sought to address the multiple burdens and difficulties presented in a person's life when they live without a driver's license. This insecurity affects housing, food, income, and transportation. The Center for Justice's well-known Drivers Relicensing Program helps people get their lives back by getting their driver's license back.

## What I Did

- I helped complete court orders for people going through the Drivers Relicensing Program.
- I talked individuals through the process of working with a collections agency to pay off fines holding their licenses.
- I went to the courthouse and advocated for my clients.
- I engaged deeply with issues of inequality and injustice in Spokane.

## What I Learned

Many people are simply in the wrong place at the wrong time and then struggle to get out of bad situations. The Center for Justice and other nonprofit legal organizations help provide that guidance through the legal system to get people through the most difficult times in their lives.

## Community Asset

Throughout my experience at The Center for Justice I have realized just how much every vulnerable community needs a resource like the Center. Free and low-cost knowledge of the legal system is so important to provide for everyone. So many people are negatively affected by situations almost completely out of their control and having an ally to help them through the legal questions is vital.

## Civic Perspective

My work at the Center has developed my civic perspective because the pro-bono legal work done at the Center is so vital in our Spokane community. So many people in Spokane need access to legal resources, many of whom cannot afford the legal help they need. Resources such as the Center for Justice are a community asset to help keep people's lives stable.

## Vocational Discernment

My experience working at the Center reinvigorated my drive to attend law school. I hope to utilize my hard skills with the legal system to support vulnerable populations in our society. This position at the Center provided me the opportunity to see how legal work in a nonprofit setting can transform lives.

## What Next?



**JESUIT VOLUNTEER CORPS**

*DARE TO CHANGE*

In support of my goal to attend law school, I will be joining the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in Detroit, Michigan as a Paralegal at the United Community Housing Coalition.