

Riley Masse



Riley Masse is a staff attorney at New Mexico Legal Aid in the housing unit. Upon graduation from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 2017, Ms. Masse began her work at New Mexico Legal Aid as a Corinne Wolfe Fellow for Transformative Advocacy, a two year fellowship program that provides recent UNM graduates with the opportunity to design a project focused on improving the health or well-being of New Mexico's most vulnerable children and families through legal advocacy and policy work.

Ms. Masse's fellowship project centered on assisting families in New Mexico to stabilize their housing. Through direct representation, community education and outreach, and policy work, the project sought to lower the drastic eviction rate in New Mexico and protect families' existing housing subsidies to assist them in maintaining affordable rent. One of the major successes of the project was setting up a weekly table in the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court. The table project has outlived the fellowship term, and Ms. Masse and other New Mexico Legal Aid attorneys continue to provide free, brief advice and information to *pro se* litigants as they come to housing court every Wednesday morning.

As a housing staff attorney, Ms. Masse focuses primarily on eviction defense and administrative advocacy in relation to housing authorities on behalf of low-income tenants. Her practice also includes representation on a wide range of issues promoting safe and stable housing.