What is the Liberty Aldrich Fellowship at LIFT—Legal Information for Families Today and how do I apply?

The New York University (NYU) School of Law is excited to share the Liberty Aldrich Summer Fellowship Program for a student at the NYU School of Law to work with LIFT—Legal Information for Families Today.

LIFT's mission is to enhance access to justice for children and families by providing legal information, community education, and compassionate guidance to empower individuals, while promoting system-wide reform of the courts and public agencies.

This fellowship was established in honor of Liberty Aldrich, a 1995 graduate of the NYU School of Law. In 1995, Ms. Aldrich co-founded LIFT after observing first-hand, as a family defense attorney, the lack of information available to litigants in family court and the dire consequences of this void. An active LIFT board member and supporter for 22 years, Ms. Aldrich now has emeritus status and continues to support the work of the organization. The Honorable Liberty Aldrich is currently a judge in Bronx Family Court.

The Aldrich fellowship will give a law student with a strong interest in family and domestic violence law, direct services, and access to justice issues, the opportunity to provide legal assistance and guidance to Family Court litigants in matters of child support, custody, visitation and orders of protection. The Aldrich fellow will receive comprehensive training in providing direct services to family court litigants and ongoing supervision and support from LIFT's team. The fellow will also have the opportunity to conduct legal research, analysis and writing. The location of the fellowship (in-person in LIFT's Brooklyn office, virtual or hybrid) will be determined closer to the summer.

The Fellow will receive a $500 supplement on top of their PILC summer funding for a 10-12 week internship at LIFT.

First and second year law students are eligible to apply. Applications are due by January 24, 2022. Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and list of three references to kathryn.neilson@nyu.edu.