

Job Description – Children’s Program Director

Legal Council for Health Justice (Legal Council), seeks an experienced attorney to direct our Children’s Program. The Children & Families Program provides civil legal assistance to children and their families through Medical-Legal Partnerships (MLPs) with children’s hospitals and Federally Qualified Medical Centers at multiple sites in Chicago. The Program Director supervises attorneys and legal advocates (paralegals) working in the program, collaborates with Legal Council staff on policy and advocacy issues, and assists in growing the Program and Legal Council.

People of color, women, persons with disabilities, older persons, LGBTQ+, and Veterans are welcomed and strongly encouraged to apply.

About Legal Council for Health Justice:

Founded in 1987, Legal Council is a non-profit law office that pursues legal remedies for discrimination, disadvantage, and disparities in health equity and well-being across the lifespan for Illinoisans impacted by life-changing medical conditions.

Legal Council believes that personnel diversity is an organizational strength and recognizes and values the intersectional identities that staff members bring to our organization. We are enriched by diverse backgrounds, experiences, beliefs, and ways of thinking.

Job Responsibilities:

Working with Legal Council’s Executive Director and Senior Directors:

- Supervise Children’s Program staff attorneys and legal advocates;
- Provide professional development, mentorship, and evaluation of project staff attorneys and legal advocates;
- Assist in complying with grant and MLP deliverables and goals;
- Provide direct client services as appropriate;
- Oversee project staff’s participation in policy advocacy that further the mission of Legal Council; and
- Engage in relationship building, partnership, and collaboration with courts, government and community agencies to maintain social safety net for low-income children and families served by Legal Council.

Characteristics and Skills Needed for Position:

- J.D. degree and admission to the Illinois Bar or be eligible for admission through reciprocity.
- At least 6 years of experience in legal services practice or similar practice.
- At least two years of experience supervising staff attorneys and paralegals.
- Experience in special education law and public benefits law a plus.
- Experience in affirmative litigation with an emphasis on administrative practice, e.g., hearings and appeals on Social Security benefits, Due Process hearings, subsidized housing terminations a plus.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Strong organizational skills and strengthens in managing multiple priorities.
- Demonstrated commitment to public interest law, social justice advocacy, and the mission of Legal Council.
- Fluency in a language in addition to English a plus.

Candidates should discuss any experience they have in the following categories in their cover letters:

- General poverty law;
- Medical Legal Partnerships;
- Other relevant experience as described below.

Relevant experience includes not only professional advocacy on behalf of others, but also direct and clinical services (social work, recovery support, CST and CSI), outreach and engagement, as well as personal/lived experience with poverty, chronic illness, HIV, mental illness, racism and its consequences, public housing, and the impact of substance use.

How to Apply: To apply, email a resume, compelling cover letter, writing sample, and two professional references to: job@legalcouncil.org, attn.: Thomas Yates Executive Director.

Salary Range: Salary is commensurate with experience and will range from \$75,000-90,000.

Submission deadline: Position is open until filled.