

Job Description - Staff Attorney

Legal Council for Health Justice (Legal Council) seeks an enthusiastic attorney to work with our Children and Families Program. The Children and 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 attorney will work with our established MLP partners, Legal Council staff attorneys and legal advocates to remove legal barriers to accessing healthcare and other related services.

The attorney will work on-site in healthcare clinics and at our downtown office, counseling and representing clients with health-harming legal needs. The attorney will handle legal issues including eligibility for public benefits, access to healthcare and health insurance, special education needs, and Social Security benefits.

About Legal Council

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

Legal Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer: People of color, women, persons with disabilities, seniors, LGBTQ+ and Veterans are welcomed and strongly encouraged to apply. 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 the diverse experiences, beliefs, and ways of thinking that employees of different backgrounds bring.

Principal Responsibilities:

- Provide legal representation, legal counsel, and referrals to eligible clients in a wide range of legal areas including public benefits, healthcare and health insurance, special education, and Social Security benefits.
- Engage in policy advocacy and other impact work on issues important to our client populations.
- Assist in training of other Legal Council staff members, evaluate law students and non-attorney fellows where appropriate, and provide consultation and advice at the request of other staff members;
- Coordinate and assist with project management of on-site legal clinics and intake at medical outreach sites; and
- Plan, implement, and document outreach and trainings for community partners.

Job Requirements:

All applicants must demonstrate a commitment to the mission of LCHJ and have:

- J.D. degree and be admitted to the Illinois Bar or be eligible for admission through reciprocity;

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills;
- Excellent organizational skills.

3 to 5 years of legal experience is a plus. Spanish proficiency is a plus. Legal practice experience with administrative agencies is a plus.

In addition, candidates should discuss any experience in the following areas in their cover letters:

- Social Security, Medicaid and other public benefits programs;
- Special Education
- Experience in any administrative law practice, including immigration and unemployment;
- Litigation experience;
- General poverty law;
- Medical Legal Partnerships;
- Community Organizing;
- Other Relevant Experience as defined below.

Relevant experience includes not only professional advocacy on behalf of others, but personal experience with poverty, chronic illness, HIV, mental illness, racism and its consequences, public housing or other issues affecting our client population.

How to Apply: To apply, email a resume, cover letter, writing sample, and two professional references to:

Katie Shelton, Legal Director, Children and Families Legal Program
job@legalcouncil.org

Salary: Salary is commensurate with experience and based on agency salary scale (\$66,000 to \$73,000) depending on experience), with opportunities for advancement and career development.

In addition to the salary range listed, Legal Council offers a comprehensive benefits package that includes major medical, dental and vision; Generous Holiday and Vacation Paid time Off; Sick Paid Time Off; Traditional 401k/Roth 401k with 2% employer non-elective match.

Additional items: Hybrid work is available. Employees are required to be on-site twice a week between Monday and Friday.

All Legal Council staff must show proof of full COVID-19 vaccination or be granted a reasonable accommodation by the Executive Director due to a valid claim of a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act or a valid religious exemption pursuant to Title VII. Full COVID vaccination is defined as the two shot Moderna or Pfizer vaccine plus a booster or the Johnson & Johnson one-shot vaccine plus a booster.