

Position Title: Housing Counselor

Organization: Good Old Lower East Side, Inc (GOLES)

Position Type: Part-time

Good Old Lower East Side (GOLES) is a grassroots, community-based organization dedicated to keeping the people of the Lower East Side in their homes and community since 1977. GOLES serves the residents of the Lower East Side through community organizing, direct services, and resident education.

GOLES seeks an experienced housing counselor to join its direct services office on a part-time basis. The counselor is expected to have the expertise required to counsel rent-regulated, NYCHA, Section 8, and HDFC tenants. Candidates with a strong track record/expertise working with one particular type of housing will be considered with the expectations that they expand their expertise to other types of housing.

The position's core responsibilities include:

1. Counseling local tenants to help them understand and enforce their rights and ensure they can stay in their homes. The counselor will assist tenants with various housing-related issues, including:

- Reviewing and renewing leases
- Obtaining heat, hot water, and repairs
- Responding to landlord harassment (e.g. frivolous litigation, denial of services, etc.)
- Navigating housing court
- Applying to affordable housing housing lotteries
- Understanding specific NYCHA, HDFC, and Section 8 issues
- Completing SCRIE/DRIE applications and renewals
- Completing NYCHA and Section 8 Annual Income Recertifications

2. Leading workshops and town-hall style events on topics such as:

- Tenants' Rights to Heat and Hot Water
- The eviction process in NYC housing court
- Changes to tenant's rights (e.g. eviction moratorium, changes to NYC and NYS tenants' rights)
- Applying to housing lotteries through NYC Housing Connect
- SCRIE and DRIE eligibility

3. Working with GOLES' community organizers to:

- Identify building - and neighborhood wide issues, trends, and patterns
- Engage local residents in workshops, actions, rallies, Tenant Associations, and campaigns

4. Participating in special events and activities, including occasionally on nights and weekends, such as: GOLES' Annual Celebration, tabling at local events, participating in staff retreats, etc.

5. Completing projects and tasks as assigned by their direct supervisor.

Requirements

Strong candidates will:

- Be bilingual in English and Spanish, or have an advanced spoken Spanish proficiency
- Have at least three years of housing counseling experience, preferably in NYC
- Have a strong understanding of NYC rent-regulated and public housing laws and policies
- Be able to handle challenging situations in a professional, courteous and friendly manner
- Have a strong work ethic and a focus on resourceful problem solving
- Be committed to social, racial, and economic justice

Please email your resume, and a cover letter detailing your interest to info@goles.org.

Due to the high volume of applicants, GOLES will respond only to applicants who are selected for further consideration. Please do not call or email to inquire about your application status. GOLES is an Equal Opportunity Employer.