



Immigrants' Rights Staff Attorney Position, Community Development Project at the Urban Justice Center

The Community Development Project (CDP) at the Urban Justice Center seeks applicants for the position of staff attorney focusing on immigrants' rights advocacy on behalf of low-wage, immigrants connected to organizing campaigns. The immigrants' rights staff attorney will join an existing immigrants' rights team that partners with community-based organizations in all five boroughs of New York City.

Primary responsibilities include:

- Represent clients on a range of affirmative and defensive humanitarian and family-based immigration matters with an emphasis on complex case types (e.g. asylum, SIJS, T and U visas);
- Represent the Immigrants' Rights team at community legal clinics, including on evenings and weekends;
- Conduct intake interviews and advise clients of their avenues for relief;
- Conduct community education presentations for partner organizations and their members, including on evenings and weekends;
- Conduct legal research on immigration and related matters to support the work of partner organizations;
- Advocate to legislative and regulatory bodies on behalf of immigrants and partner organizations;
- Support CDP on other substantive and administrative projects; and
- Comply with all grant reporting requirements and supporting CDP's development department to ensure ongoing funding for the work.

Desired Qualifications:

- Admission to practice law in the United States, and at least two years of immigration law experience is required; admission to the New York bar preferred;
- Fluency in Spanish is required;
- Experience in the area of removal defense, including with detained individuals, strongly preferred;
- Demonstrated commitment to immigrants' rights is required;
- Commitment to CDP's mission and unique approach to legal work is required;
- Strong writing, analytical and interpersonal skills are required;
- Experience with legislative and/or regulatory advocacy is preferred; and,
- Experience working with community-based organizations is preferred.

Background:

The Community Development Project (CDP) at the Urban Justice Center CDP provides legal, participatory research and policy support to strengthen the work of grassroots and community-based groups in New York City to dismantle racial, economic and social oppression. CDP employs a unique model of partnership with grassroots and community-based groups. Our partners take the lead in determining the priorities and goals for our work, and advance our understanding of justice. Applicants are encouraged to learn more about the CDP's work by looking at our website: <http://cdp.urbanjustice.org/>

Our Immigrants' Rights team uses community education, direct legal services, and legislative and policy advocacy to advance the rights of low-income immigrants connected to community organizing efforts. We aim to protect individuals from detention and deportation, keep families together, and build power in immigrant communities. We assist with a wide range of immigration case types asylum, Special Immigrant Juvenile status, T and U visas, citizenship, removal defense and much more. Our attorneys are also involved in efforts to support the development of immigrant community defense networks, challenge harsh immigration laws and enforcement practices, promote language access and combat immigration fraud.

Salary and compensation:

A salary competitive in the NYC legal services community and excellent benefits package is available, including generous vacation, personal, and sick time, along with strong medical and dental coverage.

This is a bargaining unit position represented for collective bargaining purposes by the National Organization of Legal Services Workers, UAW, Local 2230.

The Community Development Project is an equal opportunity employer. CDP encourages applications from people with diverse backgrounds, including women, people of color, immigrants, people with disabilities, LGBTQ people, people from low income backgrounds, and people with personal experience with the criminal justice system. We strongly encourage applications from people with lived experiences in the communities we serve.

Application Instructions:

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume and writing sample by e-mail only (no hard copies please) with the subject line "Immigrants' Rights Staff Attorney" to cdpjobs@urbanjustice.org, attn: Melissa Brennan. Applications should be submitted by April 1, 2017 and will be considered on a rolling basis.