

Position Announcement
The Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia
Domestic Violence/Family Law Staff Attorney

The Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia seeks a staff attorney for its domestic violence/family law unit. Legal Aid was formed in 1932 to “provide legal aid and counsel to indigent persons in civil law matters and to encourage measures by which the law may better protect and serve their needs.” Legal Aid is the oldest general civil legal services program in the District of Columbia. The largest part of our work is comprised of individual representation in housing, family, public benefits, and consumer law. From the work with clients, we identify opportunities for law reform, public policy advocacy, and impact litigation.

Tasks and Duties

Legal Aid has a broad and energetic domestic violence/family law practice. Our unit is staffed by three supervising attorneys, eight staff attorneys, one rotating “loaned associate” from a law firm, and a legal assistant. The staff attorney will handle a caseload of domestic violence cases, including civil protection order cases, and/or custody, child support, and divorce matters. In addition to an active litigation docket, the staff attorney will participate in community outreach, engage in systemic reform efforts, and be responsible for conducting interviews of prospective clients.

Legal Aid’s domestic violence/family law attorneys primarily work out of our NW office and may also work and conduct initial applicant interviews out of Legal Aid’s community office in SE. They also help staff the District’s two Domestic Violence Intake Centers – in NW at the D.C. Superior Courthouse, and in SE at United Medical Center – and the Child Support Resource Center, which operates out of the Paternity & Support Branch of D.C. Superior Court.

Qualifications

The ideal candidate will have the following:

- Strong litigation, organizational, communication, and leadership skills;
- The ability to work collaboratively with other staff;
- A demonstrated commitment to social and economic justice;
- Experience in legal services preferred, ideally with a background in DV/family law; and
- Bilingual skills (in Spanish, Amharic, or another language prevalent in Legal Aid’s client community) strongly preferred but not required.

Membership or eligibility for membership in the DC bar is required.

Salary and Benefits

The attorney will be paid in accordance with Legal Aid’s attorney salary scale. Legal Aid also offers a competitive benefits package.

To Apply

Legal Aid values an inclusive, diverse workplace and encourages applications from interested persons from diverse backgrounds of any race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, personal appearance, family responsibilities, matriculation, political affiliation, genetic information, or any other legally protected status. We strongly encourage applications from people with personal experience with the criminal justice system and/or with lived experiences in the communities we serve. Please submit a letter of interest and resume to: familyattorneysearch@legalaiddc.org.

Applications will be reviewed as they are submitted. Position remains open until filled.