



TITLE: SVLS Staff Attorney

REPORTS TO: Legal Director, Sexual Violence Legal Services

LOCATION: YWCA Opportunity Place, Downtown Seattle (2024 3rd Ave, Seattle WA 98121)

POSTING DATE: February 12, 2018

DESCRIPTION:

YWCA's Sexual Violence Legal Services (SVLS) program aims to improve the legal response to survivors of sexual violence through (1) holistic legal representation in King and Snohomish Counties; (2) consultations for survivors, attorneys and advocates assisting survivors statewide; (3) trainings and education for legal professionals and advocates statewide; and, (4) brief services and resources for survivors, attorneys and sexual assault advocates statewide.

The Staff Attorney implements the core services provided by SVLS. The ideal candidate will be a solutions-oriented, multi-tasking social justice advocate who is adept at facilitating creative and strategic trauma-informed legal representation and assistance for victims of sexual violence.

This position has a social justice component that requires critical thinking through the lens of racism and intersections with poverty. Knowing the core principals of antiracism and grounding those principles in everyday work are required job skills and core values. As an equal opportunity employer, we highly encourage people of color to apply.

This position has secured funding through December 31, 2018, with the possibility of continuation thereafter.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Direct Services

- Provide direct trauma-informed legal representation to petitioners for sexual assault protection orders in King County where the court has appointed counsel.
- Provide legal representation to sexual assault survivors in King and Snohomish Counties on a broad range of non-tort legal matters.
- Staff the SVLS hotline for survivors of sexual violence and provide legal consultation, brief services and referral to callers.
- Assist in conducting trainings for attorneys, advocates and other professionals working with victims of sexual assault and abuse.
- Provide limited technical assistance and support to civil attorneys, prosecutors, and other legal professionals representing victims of sexual assault.
- Conduct legal clinics in diverse communities on the legal rights of sexual assault victims.
- Draft legal publications and resources for survivors, attorneys, advocates and the general public.

Program Administration

- Assist Legal Director in ensuring that grant and contract deliverables are met.
- Maintain program and administrative records.

Community Relations (Internal and External)

- Work collaboratively and engage with community partners to facilitate holistic client services.
- Establish and maintain collaborative relationships with other YWCA departments, community partners, client populations and funders.

Other Responsibilities

- Incorporate the YWCA's Social Justice Initiative by understanding how racism, sexism, classism and other oppressions intersect and are embedded in institutions.
- Continue search for understanding of racial, gender and class equity.
- Adhere to all Volunteer Services protocol relative to volunteer usage, recognition and monitoring.
- Assure that clients, residents, staff, volunteers and community partners are treated with respect and dignity regardless of race, ethnic background, gender or socioeconomic background.
- Communicate regularly with Legal Director.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS & CORE COMPETENCIES:

- Juris Doctor degree.
- Valid license to practice law in the State of Washington.
- Two years of experience in the practice of law, preferably in the field of family law and at least one of SVLS's other main practice areas (civil rights, immigration, housing, employment, education, income maintenance, consumer rights, or privacy matters in criminal and civil cases).
- Valid driver's license and ability to travel independently for off-site meetings and to engage in mobile advocacy.
- Experience working with victims of violence, particularly sexual assault, domestic violence, or child abuse, whether in a legal or non-legal capacity.
- Litigation experience (whether in motions practice, trials, administrative hearings, or appellate advocacy).
- Fluency in a language other than English, or other personal qualities that contribute to YWCA's commitment to diversity.
- Experience with teaching/training other professionals.
- Experience working with communities of color and people from different cultures than your own.
- Demonstrated understanding of the intersection of racism and poverty
- Core Competencies Expected: Planning and Organizing (Time Management), Attention to Detail, Oral and Written Communication, Specialized Knowledge, Collaboration, Fostering Diversity, Social Justice Advocacy

PHYSICAL DEMANDS OF THIS POSITION: *The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an individual to successfully perform the essential functions of this job.*

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. In performing this position, the employee:

- Continuously exchanges information through listening and talking with agency staff, volunteers, clients and individuals in the community
- Frequently stands, walks, sits, and climbs in performing duties and in traveling to off-site meetings
- Frequently reaches and grasps using telephones and computers
- Occasionally lifts and carries up to 10 lbs. of paperwork, files, and materials

**Continuously = Over 80% of the time * Frequently = 20-80% * Occasionally = Under 20%*

HOURS, RATE, & BENEFITS:

- Hourly rate: \$32.97. Pay grade: 34
- FLSA Classification: Exempt
- Full-time, 35 hours per week
- Excellent benefits package including medical benefits, retirement plan, plus generous vacation, holiday and sick leave plans.
- At the time of hire, employees may choose to voluntarily enroll in the Fidelity 403b Plan. Typically after two years of employment, employees are eligible to participate in the YWCA Retirement Fund.

TO APPLY: Please email your resume, cover letter, references, and a sample of your work-product (no more than 10 pages) to svls@ywcaworks.org. Indicate in your cover letter if you prefer SVLS retain your application for future consideration. Please include where you found this posting in your application (HR purposes only).

CLOSING DATE: Open until filled; priority given to applications received by Sunday Feb. 25, 2018.

YWCA Seattle|King|Snohomish is an Equal Opportunity Employer