



## **JOB ANNOUNCEMENT: STAFF ATTORNEY, ECONOMIC JUSTICE UNIT**

**MANHATTAN LEGAL SERVICES** seeks a staff attorney for its Barriers to Employment Project in our Economic Justice Unit. Manhattan Legal Services is part of Legal Services NYC, the largest provider of free civil legal services for low-income people in the country. We are dedicated to providing high quality legal services in the areas of housing, family law, public benefits, employment, education, consumer, immigration and disability rights, with special units serving particular vulnerable populations including domestic violence victims and people living with HIV. We are committed to working in partnership with community-based organizations in the low-income communities we serve in order to address the causes of poverty.

The Barriers to Employment Project (“Project”) is part of our Economic Justice Unit, which seeks to create wealth in low-income communities and address economic and racial justice issues. The Project represents low-income New Yorkers who are having trouble obtaining or keeping jobs because of their credit, criminal history, or children’s services history. The Project provides various levels of service and advocacy for clients, including negotiating with employers, representing clients at administrative hearings, and representing clients in affirmative litigation against employers and agencies that have discriminated against them. The Project also works with community-based organizations to address the changing needs of our clients, including expanding practice areas to address barriers to employment.

Responsibilities include interviewing clients; providing legal advice; case investigation; drafting legal documents; direct representation of clients in administrative proceedings and State and federal courts; filing affirmative litigation and appeals; working closely with community-based organizations; providing community education such as training and workshops; participating in and leading coalitions of advocates; and periodic evening and weekend outreach.

Qualifications include:

- Experience providing civil legal services to low-income clients;
- Demonstrated commitment to social justice and working in low-income communities and communities of color to advance equity;
- Excellent advocacy, writing, and interviewing skills;
- Ability to communicate openly and effectively with individuals from diverse backgrounds, and to conduct community outreach in low-income neighborhoods;
- Experience in litigation, state or federal, preferred;
- Experience in employment law strongly preferred; and
- J.D. from an accredited law school and admission to the New York State bar or eligibility for admission required.

Salary is determined by a collective bargaining agreement based on year of graduation.

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume, writing sample and three references by email to [jobpostingsmls@lsnyc.org](mailto:jobpostingsmls@lsnyc.org). **Please put “Economic Justice Unit Attorney” in the subject line.**

Manhattan Legal Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer. People of color, women, people with disabilities, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender persons, and persons over 40 are welcome and are encouraged to apply.

Bar Associations and other organization: Manhattan Legal Services seeks and welcomes your recommendations for candidates who meet the foregoing qualifications and, in addition, requests that you or your organization encourage such candidates to apply.

Job #21\_2019; Posted: 2/14/19