



## **IMMEDIATE JOB OPENING QUEENS LEGAL SERVICES SEEKS A STAFF ATTORNEY FOR ITS ASIAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LAW COLLABORATIVE**

Queens Legal Services (QLS) seeks a full time staff attorney to work with our Asian Domestic Violence Law Collaborative within our Domestic Violence Family Law Advocacy Project (DVFLAP). The position is available immediately.

### About Us

Founded in 1967, QLS seeks equal access to justice for all low-income residents of Queens through a range of legal advocacy, education and community partnerships. We provide free legal counseling, representation and referrals in civil matters involving the essentials of life including housing, public and disability benefits, domestic violence prevention, consumer and homeowner protections, access to education and employment rights to eligible low-income individuals and families. We work with our clients and partners to identify and address root causes for systemic inequalities in Queens and throughout New York City. We provide civil legal services from our Community Law Center (Center) in Jamaica and at the Queens Family Justice Center (QFJC) where we are the founding on-site community partner. We are part of a network of local programs that make up Legal Services NYC (LSNYC), the largest free civil legal services provider in the United States.

DVFLAP is an interdisciplinary team of attorneys, paralegals, and social workers whose mission is to provide holistic and culturally competent services to enable victims of intimate partner violence to live free of abuse and violence. Our attorneys provide direct legal representation to domestic violence survivors in all types of family and matrimonial law matters and some immigration matters. DVFLAP staff conducts borough-wide outreach and community education workshops related to domestic violence. DVFLAP staff are actively involved in community task forces and working groups and advocate on systemic and macro levels for policy changes to advance economic, racial, and gender justice for survivors of intimate partner violence.

### Responsibilities

The attorney will be primarily responsible for advancing the work of the QLS Asian Domestic Violence Law Collaborative, a Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)-funded initiative within our DVFLAP, through which QLS advocates partner with shelter and counseling programs serving Asian immigrant domestic violence survivors. Our partners include Sakhi for South Asian Women, Turning Point for Muslim Women and Families, Garden of Hope and Korean American Family Service Center. The attorney will represent survivors of domestic violence in Family Court, Supreme Court and the Integrated Domestic Violence Part of Criminal Court in a range of family law matters including family offense, child custody and visitation cases, child

and spousal support matters, and divorce proceedings. A small part of the attorney's practice may also include work on gender-based affirmative immigration-related matters such as VAWA Self-Petitions, Battered Spouse Waivers and U Visas.

Additional responsibilities include off-site legal clinics, intake at the Queens Family Justice Center, community outreach and education with our community partners. The attorney will work closely with QLS social workers and with community agency advocates to provide comprehensive, culturally sensitive representation. S/he will handle appeals and policy advocacy projects and will sometimes participate in advocacy on housing, benefits and other related matters. The attorney may be expected to work evening hours.

### Experience and Qualifications

We seek an attorney admitted to the New York State Bar with:

- A demonstrated passion for social justice and commitment to working with diverse, low-income communities and communities of color to advance equity;
- Experience working as part of an interdisciplinary team strongly preferred;
- Litigation and advocacy experience in family and matrimonial law, domestic violence and immigration;
- Excellent analytical, research, and writing skills;
- Strong interpersonal, communication, time management and oral presentation skills;
- Enthusiasm for partnering with community-based advocates and organizations;
- A facility working with software technology and basic knowledge of current technology in a law practice;
- Experience with LegalServer or other case management systems (preferred); and
- Fluency or strong working ability in Mandarin, Korean, Hindi, Urdu or Bengali strongly preferred.

### How to Apply

Applicants should email a cover letter, resume, names of three references and two recent writing samples to [jobs@queenslegalservices.org](mailto:jobs@queenslegalservices.org). Please write "**VAWA Staff Attorney**" in the subject line of the email. Only candidates selected for interviews will be contacted. No telephone calls please.

Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience (determined by the Collective Bargaining Agreement). Benefits include excellent health and dental insurance, an employer contribution to a pre-tax 403(b) pension plan, and generous leave time.

QLS is an equal opportunity employer. It is an organization committed to race, gender and economic justice in our work and within our workplace. QLS staff are members of the LSSA/NOLSW UAW Local 2320. People of color, women, people with disabilities, gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people, and people over the age of 40 are welcome and encouraged to apply.