

MANHATTAN LEGAL SERVICES SEEKS STAFF ATTORNEY FOR OUR HIV/LGBTQ ADVOCACY UNIT

Manhattan Legal Services is seeking a staff attorney to join our HIV/LGBTQ Advocacy Unit. The HIV/LGBTQ Advocacy Unit provides comprehensive civil legal services to people living with HIV and to low-income LGBTQ New Yorkers. The staff attorney will be expected to provide various levels of service and advocacy for clients, including litigating cases in administrative forums, and state and federal courts. The HIV/LGBTQ Advocacy Unit is a general practice unit, and the attorney will cultivate practice skills in an array of subject matter areas such as housing, immigration, identity documents, and affirmative anti-discrimination litigation through this work. The attorney in this position will focus on state and federal benefits programs (HASA, Social Security and Medicaid) but will have opportunities to practice in all other areas. There will also be opportunities to engage in policy advocacy. The attorney will develop materials for and participate in trainings for community members and other advocates, and participate in internal and external coalitions, as appropriate. Additionally the attorney will engage in off-site intake with our community partners. This position will involve close and creative collaboration with other members of the Unit and with our community partners to target areas of need to grow and direct the Unit's practice in service of our communities. For this reason, the Unit is looking for an attorney who can bring depth and breadth of advocacy experience, is eager to expand their practice areas, and who is deeply committed to social justice and community lawyering.

Manhattan Legal Services is part of Legal Services NYC (LSNYC), the largest provider of free civil legal services for low-income people in the country. The Manhattan office is dedicated to providing high quality legal services in the areas of housing, family law, public benefits, employment, immigration, consumer, education, and disability rights. The Manhattan program has designated units serving particularly vulnerable populations including domestic violence victims, people living with HIV, and people identifying as LGBTQ. We work in close collaboration with low-income communities in NYC.

Qualifications include:

- Experience providing civil legal services to low-income people;
- Experience or desire to learn administrative law and public benefits laws (with a focus on HASA, Social Security and Medicaid) preferred;
- Demonstrated commitment to working with LGBTQ communities and/or people affected by HIV;

Demonstrated passion for social justice;
Excellent interviewing, writing, and communication skills;
Ability to communicate openly and effectively with individuals from diverse backgrounds;
Excellent organizational skills necessary to handle high-volume caseload;
Law degree and eligibility for admission or admission to the New York State bar required;
Experience with HIV advocacy or LGBTQ advocacy preferred;
Fluency in Spanish or another language commonly spoken by members of our client communities is preferred.

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume, writing sample and references by email to jobpostingsmls@mls.ls-nyc.org. The e-mail should include “**MLS HIV/LGBTQ Staff Attorney**” in the subject line.

Only candidates selected for interviews will be contacted. No telephone calls.
Manhattan Legal Services is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. People of color, women, people with disabilities, gay, lesbian, transgender persons and persons over 40 are welcome and encouraged to apply.

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