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## **POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT (May 2019)**

### **DISABILITY ADVOCACY PROJECT ATTORNEY (JAMESTOWN, NY)**

The Jamestown office of Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.® (LawNY®) has an opening for a Staff Attorney to provide legal advice and representation to low-income clients who have been denied Social Security Disability and SSI benefits. Responsibilities will include interviewing clients, reviewing Social Security files, representing clients at administrative hearings and on appeals to the Appeals Council and U.S. District Court. The attorney will also participate in a Disability Advocacy Program, which provides excellent training and an opportunity to share strategies with advocates from throughout western New York. The attorney will be responsible for complying with grant reporting requirements.

**Program:** LawNY® is a not-for-profit law firm which provides civil legal services to low-income clients in a 14-county region in western New York State. The Jamestown office provides services to Chautauqua County. The office provides legal advice and representation in the areas of housing, public benefits, family law, employment and consumer law. Program attorneys and paralegals work across areas of specialization to bring a holistic approach to addressing issues affecting our clients and communities. LawNY® focuses on meeting the legal needs of individual clients, as well as addressing systemic problems that create barriers for clients living in poverty.

**Requirements:** Applicants should have relevant legal experience, a demonstrated commitment to working with low-income individuals, as well as excellent oral and written communication skills. Law school graduates who have taken the first available New York State Bar Examination following completion of law school may qualify for a practice order pending admission to the New York State bar pursuant to the LawNY® practice order. Attorneys in another jurisdiction may qualify for a practice order for up to (18) months pursuant to court rule.

**Salary:** Salary is dependent on experience and based on a pay scale with annual increments. The entry level salary for a Staff Attorney is \$50,000 increasing to \$56,000 for an attorney with five years' experience. LawNY® provides an excellent health and benefit package as well as generous leave provisions. This position is considered Exempt under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

**Procedure:** Applicants should submit: (1) a cover letter describing interest and qualifications; (2) resume; (3) writing sample; and (4) contact information for three references by June 21, 2019 in order to ensure full consideration. Applications will be accepted beyond that date until the position is filled. Applications should be addressed to the attention of Mr. Lynn Hartley, Managing Attorney, via email to: lawnyapplications@lawny.org by June 21, 2019.

Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.® is an equal opportunity employer. LawNY® encourages applications from diverse candidates. LawNY® welcomes applications regardless of race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or any other consideration protected by law.