Position Announcement: Policy and Advocacy Attorney

Full-Time, Permanent, D.C.-Based with Work from Home Flexibility

Expected Start: August 2022 | Salary: $65,000+

The Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless – a D.C.-based, locally-focused legal services and advocacy organization – seeks to hire an attorney who shares our vision of a just and inclusive community for all residents of D.C., where housing is a human right and where every individual and family has access to the resources they need to thrive.

The Legal Clinic’s mission is to use the law to make justice a reality for our neighbors who struggle with homelessness and poverty. Combining community lawyering and advocacy to achieve our clients’ goals, our staff and network of volunteer attorneys provide low barrier legal services, helping our clients access housing, shelter, and other vital supports and services. Rooted in the experience of this client work, we blend system reform efforts, policy advocacy, client engagement and community education to advocate for long term improvements in programs that serve those who are homeless and low-income.

The Policy and Advocacy Attorney is an opportunity for an attorney who is committed to making systemic reform in the District of Columbia that promotes housing and racial justice. The Attorney will primarily work on advocating for policy, budget, and programmatic solutions within the District government that will lead to positive change for people experiencing homelessness in D.C., including people living on the street, in shelters, or participating in Rapid Rehousing. In addition, they will: participate in our Attorney of the Day program to field emergency calls and respond to “walk-in” clients; support our client education and engagement efforts; maintain a small caseload of their own; and explore opportunities for impact litigation as necessary to achieve change.

We are looking for an attorney to join the Legal Clinic who:

- is committed to social and racial justice;
- is committed to client-centered representation, values community leadership, and recognizes the importance of working with community members, organizers, and community-based organizations in developing advocacy positions and strategies;
- has experience working on issues related to housing, homelessness, civil rights, or poverty;
- has experience working with diverse communities;
- is comfortable being part of an organization that takes unpopular positions if justice demands we do so; and
- has D.C. Bar membership or immediate eligibility for D.C. Bar membership.
Our ideal candidate will have:

- experience representing clients in a public interest setting;
- experience with policy or legislative campaigns;
- strong writing and oral communication skills; and
- knowledge of D.C. government and resources.

The successful candidate will be comfortable working in a small, non-profit environment, both independently and as part of a team.

**Working Conditions:** The Legal Clinic is currently operating on a hybrid work schedule. While there is flexibility to work from home, the Policy and Advocacy Attorney is expected to be proximate to D.C. so they can work from the Legal Clinic’s office in northwest D.C. as needed. Our building requires proof of vaccination. (Note: the hybrid work schedule is subject to change depending on public health and other factors.)

**Salary:** Salary range begins at $65,000 for attorneys in their first year of practice and increases based on experience in accordance with the Legal Clinic’s salary scale. The Legal Clinic offers excellent benefits. Applicants may be eligible for loan repayment assistance through the D.C. Bar Foundation.

**To Apply:** Please send a cover letter and resume via e-mail to job@legalclinic.org and note “Policy and Advocacy Attorney” in the subject line. We are looking for thoughtful, personalized cover letters that demonstrate qualifications and interest in working to build a more just community. Interested persons are encouraged to apply immediately. The first round of interviews will be chosen from applications received by June 24.

The Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless values an inclusive workplace. Candidates who are Black, Indigenous, people of color, people with disabilities, and/or members of other underrepresented communities are strongly encouraged to apply.