

Transitional Attorney Two Positions

Legal Aid of Arkansas is a public interest, not-for-profit law firm dedicated to assuring equal access to justice in civil matters for low income Arkansans. Legal Aid's advocates provide wraparound legal services in housing preservation, domestic violence prevention, economic justice, and consumer protection.

Legal Aid will host two transitional attorneys for one year starting in the summer of 2018. The selected attorneys will express a desire to live and practice in a rural location and demonstrate a commitment to continue public interest law practice or pro bono service at the end of their term. The project will give new attorneys supervised practice experience and prepare them to enter practice on their own, while providing rural areas with access to Legal Aid services.

It is contemplated that these positions will be full time embedded in Legal Aid for one year, then transition into private practice. Legal Aid will consider part-time candidates who intend to locate in one of the target counties and immediately open a private practice, changing the compensation schedule to reflect part-time commitment to Legal Aid clients and provide financial support for law office logistics, which may include reimbursement for rent and operating expenses.

Project Descriptions

- One position will be located in East Arkansas in the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Judicial Districts and will focus primarily on the Rural Impact project run by the Community Action Program in Mississippi County and the Monroe County Children Living in Trust project. Legal Aid will be part of a larger community effort to provide intense services to discrete populations living in poverty with the goal of having a lasting positive impact on futures. The intent is to screen all project participants for civil legal needs, and address those needs as appropriate, providing a avenue for a successful path out of poverty.
- The second position will be in the rural Ozarks. This position will focus on the 14th or 20th Judicial District where there are higher than state average rates of poverty and a significant elderly population living below the poverty line. An emphasis will be on consumer rights and services to the elder population, but the attorney will handle a wide range of legal issues in preparation for entering private practice. This position will also focus on starting a Medical-Legal Partnership with a rural community health clinic.

Qualifications

The ideal candidate will possess the following qualifications:

- A desire to live in and practice law in rural Arkansas

- Licensed to practice law in Arkansas, sitting for the July Bar Exam, or eligible for immediate reciprocity
- A demonstrated commitment to public interest work
- Strong writing, communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills
- Valid driver's license and reliable transportation

Salary, Benefits and other support

The Fellow will receive a salary of \$2,500 monthly plus \$1,200 in loan repayment assistance upon the successful completion of the transitional attorney term. Legal Aid of Arkansas offers health and dental insurance, retirement, Supreme Court and bar association dues, CLE, position-related travel reimbursement and per diem, and other benefits.

Application Instructions:

To apply please email resume, writing sample, and a minimum of three references to lrichardson@arlegalaid.org. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled, but candidates are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

Legal Aid of Arkansas is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, age, disability or veteran status.

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