



MONTANA LEGAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Position Title: Staff Attorney

Location: Missoula, MT

The Providence St. Patrick Hospital Montana Health Justice Partnership Attorney will work with the health care team at the Hospital to screen for health-harming legal needs and treat those needs by providing legal services to positively impact a client's health. This attorney provides representation to clients in matters relating to civil legal needs such as housing, family law, public benefits, consumer debt, and civil rights. Representation includes legal advice, limited scope assistance, and full representation. The attorney will be housed in MLSA's Missoula office and will also have a part-time office at the Hospital to provide direct services to clients and interface with Hospital staff.

Specific Duties

- Conduct training, hold regular office hours, and provide legal services to address patients' needs at the Hospital.
- Provide orientation and training activities for Hospital partners, including how to make appropriate referrals.
- Interview, advise, and represent eligible clients on civil matters.
- Develop and maintain specialized knowledge of the health-harming legal needs of patients.
- Consult with Hospital personnel on the health harming legal needs of patients.
- Provide services ranging from brief counsel and advice, to more extended representation on core legal issues affecting patients at the Hospital.
- Coordinate and support the medical legal partnership, including organizing regular partnership meetings, and assisting with evaluation and data collection.
- Compose correspondence, pleadings, and other documents.
- Research the law and prepare memoranda.
- Work with other MLSA staff to recruit, train, and support pro bono attorneys when appropriate.
- Participate in MLSA's statewide initiatives, impact work, and implement grant and contract requirements through casework.
- Other duties as assigned by the MLP Attorney or MLSA Executive Director.

Requirements

- Law Degree and current license to practice law in Montana.
- At least three years experience in the practice of law preferred.
- Prior legal services experience preferred.
- A willingness to assume a varied case load.
- An understanding of the civil legal needs of low-income people, including the unique needs of populations that experience particular barriers to access to justice systems.
- Knowledge of substantive legal areas affecting low-income people.
- Ability to effectively communicate with and motivate others.

- Ability to work collaboratively with diverse groups of people with varying perspectives, experience and expertise.
- Ability and willingness to learn and integrate new technologies and methodologies to efficiently perform responsibilities.
- A willingness to establish and maintain effective relationships with clients, the public, judges, court personnel, hospital personnel, and the bar.
- Ability and willingness to work cooperatively and collegially within a decentralized statewide law firm.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Excellent attention to detail.
- Ability to work independently in a deadline-oriented environment.
- A “can do” attitude and a willingness to pitch in where needed.
- Strong commitment to insuring equal access to justice.
- Proficient at the use of technology, including, but not limited to, word processing, spreadsheets, internet-based programs, and computer-based legal research.
- Ability to conduct overnight travel within the state of Montana.

The Montana Legal Services Association is an equal opportunity employer. People of color, women, people with disabilities, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons are welcome and are encouraged to apply.

Salary: \$50,000 per year and up, DOE. MLSA offers an attractive benefits package, including health, dental, vision, and life insurance, retirement and educational loan repayment assistance.

To Apply: Send a letter of interest, resume, writing sample, and the names of three references by email to [hiring@mtlsa.org](mailto: hiring@mtlsa.org).

Deadline: The priority deadline for applications is February 25, 2020, and screening will begin immediately. The position will remain open until filled.

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