JOE ANNOUNCEMENT:
Medical Legal Community Partnership (MLCP) Staff Attorney – Innovations
March 2021

Join the Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County (NLSLA) and become part of an energetic team of advocates that provides a wide-range of legal services aimed to address issues that disproportionately impact the poor. These services include litigation, providing litigation, training, policy advocacy, technical assistance, and community education. NLSLA is the lead legal partner in the MLCP-LA project, a partnership between the LA County Department of Health Services (DHS) and key Los Angeles area legal services providers. NLSLA is also the primary legal organization serving patients in the LA County Department of Mental Health’s Innovations project in Boyle Heights.

NLSLA is seeking a staff attorney to join its growing and innovative MLCP team. This new team member will be focused on the delivery and coordination of legal services to patients within the LA County DMH Innovations Boyle Heights project (“Innovations”). Innovations aims to demonstrate how the close partnership between healthcare, supportive services, and legal services providers can improve health outcomes for patients facing poverty, illness, substance use disorders, and other systemic barriers impacting the social determinants of health.

Position: Staff Attorney

Availability: Availability is Immediate.

Salary: Starting at $60,000 + commensurate with experience. Excellent benefits which include: choice of medical, dental, vision; life and disability insurance plans; 125 plan; 403(b) with employer contribution, loan reimbursement, bilingual pay supplement, sick and vacation pay, and 13 employer-paid holidays.

Duties and Responsibilities: Staff Attorney is expected to develop legal expertise in the substantive legal areas impacting the social determinants of health including; family law, healthcare access, housing, immigration, public benefits, re-entry and more. Existing experience under any one of these areas, especially immigration or family law is strongly preferred. Under the guidance of the MLCP Supervisor, the staff attorney will:

- Play an active role in the implementation of legal service through Innovations including the ongoing refinement of processes and protocols;
- Collaborate with Innovations partners staff, healthcare providers, and community agencies through ongoing engagement, case reviews, and representing NLSLA at Innovations meetings;
- Provide direct client services, technical assistance to Innovations partners, and trainings for patients and healthcare providers;
- Provide substantive legal support to MLCP paralegals;
- Serve as an escalation point for service delivery issues arising out of Innovations;
- Conduct process, skills, and substantive trainings for Innovations staff, patients, and other community members
- Maintain an active caseload composed of direct patient referrals and technical assistance requests. Advocacy may include informal, administrative, litigation and/or policy work on a wide variety of substantive legal areas impacting the social determinants of health.

**Qualifications:**

The ideal candidate will be a skillful, self-motivated, attorney who excels in a fast-paced, dynamic anti-poverty law practice and is capable of fiercely advocating on behalf of NLSLA clients in multiple forums. They will have a demonstrated passion and commitment to public interest law and prior experience serving low-income individuals and client groups, with a sensitivity to those in crisis. Previous experience with the Medical Legal Partnership model is a plus and expertise in one or more of the substantive legal areas impacting the Social Determinants of Health is strongly preferred. At the time of posting, NLSLA’s is operating primarily from a remote work model. Regular travel between NLSLA program offices and MLCP sites will be required, consistent with NLSLA’s COVID safety protocols.

Excellent writing, research, organizational skills and the ability to communicate and collaborate effectively with clients, healthcare providers, community organizations, attorneys, the judiciary and the public are essential. Spanish bilingual skills strongly preferred. California Bar membership is preferred.

**About NLSLA:**

Founded in 1965 as part of our nation’s War on Poverty, NLSLA is now one of the largest and most prominent public interest law firms in California. NLSLA provides free assistance to more than 150,000 low-income residents of Los Angeles County each year. Its operating budget for 2020 will reach $22 million, with a staff of more than 160, including 80 attorneys.

NLSLA serves all of Los Angeles County with a special emphasis on the poverty communities of the San Fernando, San Gabriel, Pomona and Antelope Valleys, as well as the central county cities of Glendale, Burbank and Pasadena. NLSLA staff members are housed in four regional offices located in Pacoima, El Monte, Boyle Heights, and Glendale - where the program’s administrative offices are also located. In addition, NLSLA advocates are co-located in courthouses in Van Nuys, Lancaster, Chatsworth, Pomona and Downtown LA; Hospitals and health centers in Sylmar, Van Nuys, North Hollywood and El Monte; and with social services providers in the Antelope Valley.

Advocates specialize in areas of the law that disproportionately impact the poor, including affordable housing and eviction defense, access to public benefits, support for domestic violence victims, access to healthcare, worker and consumer rights, as well as employment and training. NLSLA is particularly known for its innovative programs and collaborative models for delivering services across the County. Among those are the NLSLA Health Consumer Center (HCC) and Medical Legal Community Partnership projects ensuring that everyone receives the health care they need; Shriver Housing - LA providing right to counsel for evictions; Self-Help Legal Access Centers assisting the un-represented with domestic violence, family law and eviction cases in nine courthouses; Preventing and Ending Homelessness Project (PEHP) providing legal help to the homeless in Antelope, San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys; and Disaster Legal Assistance providing support and help to low-income disaster survivors.
To apply: Forward cover letter, resume, and writing sample to (no phone calls):

**Applicants should send a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to:**
Elizabeth Brown, Director of Human Resources
Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County
1102 E. Chevy Chase Drive
Glendale, CA  91205
Fax: (818) 291-1790 E-mail: employment@nlsla.org

NLSLA is committed to the principle of equal employment opportunity for all employees and to providing employees with a work environment free of discrimination and harassment. All employment decisions at NLSLA are based on organizational needs, job requirements and individual qualifications, without regard to age, race, color, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran, disability status, family or parental status, or any other status protected by federal and CA state laws. NLSLA will not tolerate discrimination or harassment based on any of these characteristics.