

Youth Law Center Seeks Candidates for Staff Attorney Position

The Youth Law Center is seeking a full time attorney with a minimum of seven years of experience in the juvenile justice and/or child welfare system, or a closely-related field, to play a leadership role in our advocacy on behalf of youth in the child welfare and justice systems. The Youth Law Center is a national impact legal advocacy organization based in San Francisco, CA. We believe every child and youth has the potential to live a healthy and productive life. For more than 30 years, the Center has advocated to ensure vulnerable system involved children throughout the country are able to receive the effective parenting and necessary supports for healthy development. Information on the Center and its activities is available on its website, www.ylc.org.

The areas of work will include ensuring children in the justice and child welfare system have individualized, developmentally appropriate parenting; protecting children in foster care and the adult and juvenile justice systems from abuse and dangerous conditions; ensuring that government and other agencies provide support and services (e.g., health, mental health, education) to enable children in the foster care and justice systems to become healthy and productive adults; and ensuring that children in foster care and justice systems are connected to permanent families and to their communities. Advocacy strategies will include: policy advocacy, litigation, legislative and administrative work, collaborative systems reform campaigns, public education and media advocacy, legal and non-legal writing, training, and technical assistance.

Qualifications:

A successful candidate will be excited about playing a leadership role in an organization utilizing both traditional and innovative advocacy strategies based on the actual and evolving needs of system involved children and youth.

Successful candidates will have:

- Significant experience utilizing a variety of advocacy strategies
- Demonstrated ability as an advocate in juvenile justice, child welfare, or a closely-related field such as civil rights
- Technical proficiency in advocacy strategies, as well as creativity, passion and vision to challenge the status quo
- Exceptional communication skills for working effectively with multiple stakeholders
- Excellent legal, analytical, interpersonal, listening and organizational skills
- Ability to work well with diverse groups of people including families and youth
- Capacity to take initiative on identified goals, manage multiple tasks simultaneously, work independently and meet deadlines
- Capacity to be flexible and adapt to varied environments
- Ability to travel regularly

- Previous management or supervisory experience will strengthen the application

We strongly encourage people of color, and individuals who themselves were in the child welfare or juvenile justice system when they were young, to apply. This position is for an experienced attorney, not an entry-level position.

Salary: Commensurate with experience and excellent benefits.

Applicants are encouraged to apply before November 21, 2015.

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

The application requires a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and the names of three references. To help us better understand your qualifications, please describe in your cover letter: (1) your interest in this position, what you believe you bring to the work of YLC, and why both are compatible with YLC's mission and model; and (2) an issue, project or challenge you have handled that demonstrates your strengths as an advocate. Please send your application to:

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