

06/13/2024

STAFF ATTORNEY (With 0 to 3 Years of legal experience) WELFARE LAW UNIT

Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS) is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity/ Accessible Employer and strives to ensure that our staff members reflect the diversity of the communities we serve.

Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS) seeks to hire a staff attorney with 0 to 3 years of legal experience to join our Welfare Law Unit (WLU). The WLU uses a range of legal advocacy to enforce legal rights to cash welfare benefits, food assistance and childcare benefits. The WLU's legal advocacy includes direct representation of individual clients and their families; systemic administrative advocacy directed at targeted state and federal agencies; class action and other impact lawsuits and; legislative advocacy campaigns to expand, improve, and defend income, food, and childcare programs. The WLU's clients include parents with children and single adults with disabilities. Many of our clients have experienced domestic violence or other traumas, have disabilities and/or children with disabilities, are unhoused, and are immigrants.

Core Responsibilities:

- Provide high-quality direct representation and manage caseload involving cash assistance benefits; SNAP food assistance benefits; subsidized childcare; and disability and language access rights within these programs.
- Provide services to culturally and linguistically diverse clients in an inclusive, respectful, and trauma-informed manner.
- Specific tasks include written and oral advocacy, legal and other research, communicating effectively with clients, attention to detail, and documenting casework in the client's GBLS case record.
- Engage in the WLU's systemic advocacy, including using individual cases to promote systemic change.

Qualifications:

- Law degree and admission to the Massachusetts bar, or eligible for admission.
- 0 to 3 years of legal experience.
- Ability to work effectively and inclusively with diverse clients in an accessible manner.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.

- Demonstrated capacity to analyze and work with complex materials.
- Prior relevant experience is preferred, including experience with welfare law or another area of administrative law, or prior work in legal services or other social justice organizations. Lived experience with poverty and/or navigating safety net systems is also recognized.
- Ability to handle and prioritize multiple tasks.
- Ability to work independently and collaborate with other advocates, staff and community partners.
- Preferred, but not required: fluency in Spanish, Haitian Creole or another language prevalent among our clients.

Salary & Benefits: Salary is based on a union scale. Effective July 1, 2024, the annual salary for an attorney with less than 1 year of experience is \$74,000. GBLS offers generous benefits, retirement contribution, student loan repayment assistance for eligible attorneys, and generous PTO leave.

How to Apply: Candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to the Human Resources Team via e-mail at jobs@gbls.org. Please refer to Job Code: WLU-ATT when applying for this position. The deadline for application is **June 30, 2024** or until the position is filled.

GBLS values diversity and encourages applicants from a broad range of backgrounds.