



Housing Justice Fellowship – Community Health Law Project

About the Community Health Law Project

Founded in 1976, the Community Health Law Project (“CHLP”) is a statewide not-for-profit legal service organization which provides legal representation and advocacy services to low-income individuals with disabilities and the frail elderly. CHLP offers services in a number of areas including, but not limited to, landlord-tenant and other housing related matters; Social Security Disability Insurance; Supplemental Security Income; public entitlements; family law; Medicaid/Medicare; home care issues involving private duty nursing, personal care assistance, and durable medical equipment; consumer law; foreclosure; reverse mortgage issues; barrier-free accessibility; housing discrimination; guardianships; and document drafting such as Wills, Living Wills, and Powers of Attorney.

About the Center for Social Justice

Seton Hall University School of Law’s Center for Social Justice is home to the Law School’s vibrant clinical program including the Civil Litigation and Practice Clinic; Equal Justice Clinic; Family Law Clinic; Immigrants’ Rights/International Human Rights Clinic; Impact Litigation Clinic; and Health Justice Clinic. Seton Hall Law School is part of a new initiative funded by the State of New Jersey to provide legal representation to low- and moderate-income tenants impacted by the COVID crisis as well as others facing eviction or other housing insecurity.

Position Opening

As part of a comprehensive Housing Justice Program funded by the New Jersey legislature in response to the global pandemic, Seton Hall Law School and the Community Health Law Project (“CHLP”) seek a Housing Justice Fellow who will be based in CHLP’s Elizabeth office. Applicants should have a demonstrated passion for social justice and be eager to learn more about housing justice law.

The Fellowship is intended to promote housing stability for low-income individuals with disabilities who reside in northern New Jersey. Work will include representation and legal assistance in eviction diversion and defense, habitability issues, rent control violations, ejection, protection against self-help eviction, reasonable accommodation requests, federally subsidized housing issues, administrative proceedings related to benefits and rental assistance, and foreclosure defense. The Fellowship is a one-year position but has the potential for a second-year renewal dependent on funding.



Primary Responsibilities

- Provide counsel and advice, limited legal assistance, and legal representation in housing related matters as outlined above;
- Engage in community outreach and educational activities in housing related matters;
- Develop relationships with stakeholders and community partners in the North Jersey area.

Requirements

- JD from an accredited law school and admission to practice law in New Jersey;
- A commitment to social justice and community lawyering;
- Excellent communication, analytical, organizational, and writing skills;
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively and respectfully with a diverse client population, including individuals with disabilities, as well as with community members.

Preferred Qualifications

- One to five years of legal experience;
- Seton Hall Law alum;
- Fluency or proficiency in Spanish.

Salary and Benefits

Salary up to \$65,000 based on relevant work experience, education, and bi-lingual skills. This position also includes a generous benefits package including medical and dental insurance and liberal leave policies. CHLP staff, absent valid exemption, are required to be vaccinated and to work in office.

How to Apply

Interested candidates should send a resume, cover letter with mission statement specifying a commitment to housing justice, a brief writing sample, and references to the Community Health Law Project, Attn: Sean Benoit, Esq., Managing Attorney of CHLP's Elizabeth office, at sbenoit@chlp.org.