New Haven Legal Assistance Association is seeking a Community Organizer

Job Description:

New Haven Legal Assistance Association (NHLAA) seeks a motivated individual to support a new community and economic development program within NHLAA. The Community Organizer will work with a transactional Staff Attorney to support grassroots organizations, nonprofits, small businesses and unincorporated groups to participate in the community and economic development occurring in their neighborhood. In some cases this will mean that these groups engage directly in real estate development and/or business development. In other cases, the Community Organizer will support these groups and their members should they want to identify and define their concerns and hopes for development carried out by other entities. The Community Organizer will work with these groups to ensure their voice is heard. The position offers a unique opportunity to develop a new model of community development work for local legal assistance organizations, which can be replicated in other communities.

Responsibilities

- Build and support neighborhood coalitions that empower low-income residents
- Work with local grassroots and community-based organizations to build community resources.
- Develop trusting relationships with neighborhood coalitions and organizations that will result in meaningful community input into community development projects.
- Collaborate with others to develop affordable housing opportunities and encourage small business opportunities.
- Organize events to boost community engagement.

Qualifications

- 1+ years outreach and community engagement experience.
- Bachelor’s Degree or four years of directly related experience.
- Dedication to economic, gender, social and racial justice.
- Ability to work independently and take initiative to lead projects while also working with a team
- Enthusiastic, self-motivated, and creative problem solver.
- Strong organizational skills, works well under pressure and takes deadlines seriously.
- Exceptional interpersonal and communication skills: proven ability to work with, cultivate relationships with, and establish networks among a diverse set of
people including community residents, business owners, city officials, and partner organizations.

- Proven ability to work effectively and creatively with diverse people and groups.
- Willingness to work a flexible schedule including some evenings and weekends.
- Ability and willingness to travel occasionally throughout Connecticut.
- Computer proficiency in Google Drive, Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint and willingness to develop additional skills. Knowledge of GIS a plus.
- Experience leading workshops and trainings.
- Experience working with both conventional and social media.
- Access to a vehicle and insurance coverage.
- Experience in community organizing, including canvassing and phone banking.

Closing Date: March 9, 2018

Salary and compensation: Commensurate with experience and extremely generous benefits.

For more information, please see www.nhlegal.org

Please send cover letter and resume to: Carolyn Gontarski at cgontarski@nhlegal.org

It is the policy of New Haven Legal Assistance to provide equal employment opportunity (EEO) to all persons regardless of age, color, national origin, citizenship status, physical or mental disability, race, religion, creed, gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, genetic information, marital status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local law.