Job Announcement Staff Attorney

MFY Legal Services, Inc. (MFY), a non-profit legal services organization that provides free civil legal services to low-income New Yorkers, is seeking a staff attorney for a one-year, temporary position in its Foreclosure Prevention Project. The attorney will be part of a team that represents homeowners in New York Supreme Court in Queens, Richmond and Kings Counties; prosecutes federal fair housing and other mortgage-related actions; works in coalition with advocacy groups city- and state-wide on policy issues; analyzes and provides testimony on proposed foreclosure-related legislation; conducts trainings for lawyers, housing counselors, and homeowners; and communicates regularly with elected officials and the media.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Conducting client intake; conducting legal research; drafting legal memoranda, advocacy letters and other legal papers; and litigating all phases of cases including handling settlement conferences, drafting complaints, engaging in motion practice, conducting trials, writing and arguing appeals and writing amicus briefs.
- Conducting outreach in the communities we serve, and training lawyers, community groups and homeowners on the rights of homeowners in foreclosure.
- Staffing off-site legal clinics.
- Identifying issues for impact or class-action litigation or policy initiatives, including white papers and legislative advocacy campaigns.
- Advocating and lobbying on issues of importance to homeowners and to the foreclosure defense community.
- Participating in coalition meetings and being the MFY point person for certain coalitions.
- Timely inputting and maintaining extensive records in a case management system.

Requirements:

- Admission to NYS Bar.
- Demonstrated commitment to serving low-income populations.
- Demonstrated ability to take initiative and leadership roles.
- Excellent research and writing skills.
- Strong grasp of numbers and an understanding of the cost associated with lending products.
- Ability to balance working on complex litigation, handling individual casework, and advocating for legislative or policy changes as well as traveling to various boroughs.
- Willingness to register as a lobbyist with New York City and New York State.
- Experience negotiating different residential mortgage loan modifications and working with mortgage servicers is preferred.
- Experience litigating standing and claims under various consumer and homeowner protection statutes is preferred.
- Fluency in Spanish, a Chinese dialect or another language spoken by immigrant populations in New York City is preferred.

Salary is pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement.

Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume and writing sample (preferably a brief or memorandum filed in court) addressed to Elizabeth M. Lynch, Supervising Attorney, and transmitted by e-mail to elynch@mfy.org with "Foreclosure Staff Attorney" in the subject line. Applications must be received by January 21, 2016. Early applications are appreciated. No telephone calls please.

For further information about MFY, please go to www.mfy.org.

MFY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

People of color, women, people with disabilities, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people are welcome and encouraged to apply.