

Job Announcement
Staff Attorney – Representing People with Mental Illness in Civil Matters

MFY Legal Services, Inc. (MFY), a non-profit legal services organization that provides free civil legal services to low-income New Yorkers, has an opening in its Mental Health Law Project for a staff attorney. The emphasis of the position will be engaging in innovative, multi-forum advocacy to support people with mental illness as they seek to enter, remain in, or return to the workforce. The attorney will also have opportunities to engage in advocacy to prevent eviction, ensure income stability, and facilitate access to healthcare. The Mental Health Law Project works in collaboration with mental health providers and social workers in inpatient and outpatient settings using a medical-legal partnership model.

MFY's 60-person staff is comprised of attorneys, paralegals, social workers and support staff. It is a diverse, unionized, and collegial workplace. For more information, visit www.mfy.org.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Interviewing, developing facts, conducting legal research, and providing advice and representation to clients;
- Engaging in community outreach and in affirmative policy advocacy;
- Working in partnership with a paralegal to lead the Mental Health Law Project's efforts to support the employment-related goals of people with mental illness;
- Appearing at administrative agencies and in housing, supreme and federal courts; and
- Maintaining records in an office case management system.

Requirements:

1. Admission to the NYS Bar;
2. A master's level degree in public health or social work;
3. Experience in advocacy with the Social Security Administration;
4. Strong organizational skills and ability to manage responsibilities of various projects;
5. Ability to work collaboratively yet independently; and
6. Interest in working with people with mental illness and in identifying areas of unmet need.

Strong preference will given to applicants with Spanish language skills.

Salary is pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement with excellent fringe benefits.

Applicants should send a cover letter, résumé and writing sample addressed to Kevin Cremin, Director of Litigation for Disability and Aging Rights, via email to [kcremin\[at\]mfy.org](mailto:kcremin[at]mfy.org) with MHLP Staff Attorney in the subject line. Cover letters should reference where the applicant first saw the posting for this position. **Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. Eastern on Monday, December 9, 2013.** No phone calls, please. Due to the high volume of résumés received for recent postings, we will respond only to applicants selected for interviews.

MFY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

November 25, 2013