



BENEFITS STAFF ATTORNEY

POSITION SUMMARY

The Alliance for Children's Rights seeks a Benefits Staff Attorney to assist in securing funding to support children living in out-of-home care. This is a wonderful opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children living in foster care and poverty. Experience with the foster care, Dependency Court and/or Child Welfare System is helpful but not mandatory. The person in this position reports to the Benefits Program Director.

ABOUT THE ALLIANCE

The Alliance for Children's Rights protects the rights of impoverished, abused and neglected children and youth, by providing free legal and social services and promoting systemic solutions. Our lawyers, advocates and social workers, together with hundreds of pro bono attorneys and community volunteers, ensure that children have stable homes and families, and can access the healthcare, education, and financial supports that they need. We also help transition-age youth achieve independence and work statewide to improve child welfare practices and policies in order to remove the many barriers our clients face. Since its founding 27 years ago, the Alliance has helped more than 150,000 children.

Charity Navigator has awarded the Alliance its highest 4-star rating for the past nine years in a row. This puts the Alliance in the top 2% of charities in the U.S. rated by Charity Navigator. The 4-star rating reflects the Alliance's sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency.

The Alliance is well known in the child welfare community for its knowledge, expertise, and accomplishments. Alliance staff members find that being a voice for children who often have no voice, and otherwise could be forgotten, is incredibly rewarding.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Representing caregivers in the administrative fair hearing process to secure public benefits.
- Analyzing public benefits issues that arise for children and caregivers in the child welfare system.
- Preparing case summaries and files for placement of cases with *pro bono* attorneys.
- Providing trainings and technical assistance to *pro bono* attorneys and firms.
- Helping to train and supervise volunteers and law clerks.
- Developing and updating benefits materials for clients, *pro bono* attorneys, and the community.
- Maintaining knowledge of current trends and policies in public benefits that affect children and families in the child welfare system.
- Conducting community outreach and trainings.
- Assisting with impact litigation and both local and statewide policy advocacy.

REQUIRED EXPERIENCE & ABILITIES

- At least three years of experience as a practicing attorney (or judicial clerk) preferred.
- Experience in the foster care, Dependency Court and/or child welfare system is helpful.
- Excellent written and oral communication and advocacy skills.
- Excellent analytical skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills - ability to communicate effectively with clients, attorneys, child welfare agencies, the judiciary and the public.
- Excellent organizational and multi-tasking skills.

- Strong desire to help others.
- Ability to manage a high-volume caseload.
- Self-starter.
- Experience with public benefits, administrative advocacy and/or public speaking helpful.
- Ability to speak Spanish is preferred.

The Alliance for Children's Rights believes that all persons are entitled to equal employment opportunities and does not discriminate against its employees or applicants because of race, color, religion, sex, gender, national origin, ancestry, age, disability, or marital status.

The above statements are of a general nature and are intended to describe level of work being performed by people assigned to comparable positions. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all responsibilities and duties required of personnel so classified. The Alliance for Children's Rights offers a competitive salary and a generous benefits package. For more information about the Alliance visit <http://kids-alliance.org>.

TO APPLY

To be considered, please submit a resume and a cover letter that outlines your interest in joining the Alliance, relevant work experience, and how you heard of the position to Adam Cherensky at a.cherensky@kids-alliance.org (e-mail submissions only/no phone inquiries). Responses will be sent only to individuals meeting the stated qualifications of the position.