Staff Attorney – Litigation Program, San Diego/Tijuana

THE ORGANIZATION

Al Otro Lado is a binational legal services organization serving asylum seekers and deportees in Tijuana, México, detained immigrants in Southern California, and medically vulnerable immigrants in Los Angeles County. Al Otro Lado’s mission is to provide screening, advocacy, and legal representation to individual immigrants, seek redress of individual civil rights violations, and to address other legal and social service barriers that our clients experience. Through impact litigation, Al Otro Lado challenges policies and practices that violate the rights of migrants at the US-México border and inside US immigration detention centers. Al Otro Lado’s current litigation includes: Al Otro Lado v. Wolf; East Bay Sanctuary v. Trump, Innovation Law Lab v. Wolf, East Bay Sanctuary v. Barr, Al Otro Lado v. DHS, Southern Poverty Law Center v. DHS, Fraihat v. ICE, Novoa v. GEO Group, and Gonzalez v. Core Civic.

THE POSITION

The Staff Attorney position will be based in San Diego California, with occasional travel to Tijuana, México. Start date: January 2, 2020 or ASAP  Deadline for application: December 24, 2020

Duties include but are not limited to the following:
- Screen individuals for relief and possible representation.
- Provide direct representation to immigrants detained at the Otay Mesa Detention Facility, which may include representation at Credible/Reasonable Fear Interviews, humanitarian parole requests, custody determination hearings, merits representation, and representation before the Board of Immigration Appeals.
- Engage in federal litigation work including habeas representation for migrants detained at the Otay Mesa Detention Facility
- Support the Litigation Program on various aspects of class action litigation.

This is a full-time, salaried exempt position. The salary is 60-70K dependent on experience plus benefits.

QUALIFICATION AND REQUIREMENTS

Fluency in Spanish is required. The applicant must be licensed to practice law in any jurisdiction, but licensure in California is preferred. We are seeking applicants with a minimum of 1-2 years of immigration experience, and will consider Federal Courts experience, civil litigation experience, immigration paralegal experience, organizing experience, and/or law school clinic experience. Applicants should be self-directed and self-reliant, highly organized, flexible, and able to work in a high volume setting with limited resources. This position may require regular travel to detention facilities and travel to Tijuana, México. The applicant must have reliable transportation and be able to cross the US-Mexico border.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please submit a letter of interest, resume, writing sample, with three professional references to jobs@alotrolado.org, with San Diego Staff Attorney in the subject line. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. Al Otro Lado values diversity in the workplace and strongly encourages applications from people of color, LGBTQ individuals, formerly incarcerated individuals, individuals with disabilities, and members of underrepresented communities.