



## **Supervising Advocate Specialist (2 openings)**

**California Office of Patient Rights' Advocate**

Remote (in Southern California or Coalinga)

Make a difference! We stand for the rights of people that have disabilities....JOIN US!

**Individuals who are Deaf or Disabled are encouraged to apply.**

**SALARY RANGE (Depending on Experience):** \$62,470 - \$68,875 annually

We base salary and position offers on experience and an internal equity analysis.

**EXCELLENT BENEFITS including 8% 401k Match**

**Application Deadline:** *Open until filled.* Applications should be received by April 12, 2022 (2 weeks) to be considered for the first round of interviews.

### **WHO WE ARE**

Disability Rights California (DRC) is a statewide, non-profit legal organization dedicated to advancing the rights of Californians with disabilities. DRC works to achieve fairness and justice for people with disabilities through individual and impact litigation, state and federal policy and regulatory advocacy, and community education and training.

### **CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF PATIENTS' RIGHTS (COPR)**

COPR is contracted by the Department of State Hospitals and working with Department of Healthcare Services to ensure that the treatment and legal rights of people receiving mental health treatment are maintained.

### **Position Summary:**

The Supervising Advocate Specialist (SAS) is responsible for providing supervision of state hospital sites and/or programs. This includes managing the complaint process, site visits and overall advocacy service delivery at a DSH site: Patton State Hospital/Metro State Hospital (So Cal) or Coalinga State Hospital. It also includes oversight and implementation of specialty programs such as Enhanced Treatment Program and involuntary medication hearings. SAS will supervise/manage the Patients' Rights Advocate(s) the complaint process, and providing technical assistance and consultations regarding Patients' Rights laws and practices to Patients' Rights Advocates. This

includes providing program reviews, planning for an annual advocacy training, maintaining training materials, and supervision of a Patients' Rights Advocate. These positions will require travel to the respective State Hospitals at least 3 times per month.

This position is the liaison between the State Department of Health Care Services, the COPR Director, and the county advocates.

## **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

### **EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE**

- Six (6) years of paid or voluntary work experience as: (a) an advocate in the social services, human services, community-based, public interest or health care environments working with people with mental health disabilities, (b) as an advocate in the practice of public interest law or (c) as an advocate directly representing clients in administrative hearings. This work should demonstrate relevant skills.
- A J.D., R.N., LVN, Psychiatric Technician (PT) or an advanced degree (e.g., MS/MA, teaching credential,) in a relevant field as described below. For internal promotions 10 years of direct mental health advocacy can substitute for an advanced degree. With a J.D. RN, or PT only 2 years of paid or voluntary work experience under paragraph 1 above are required.
- Two (2) years of direct supervision of 2 or more employees.
- Demonstrated ability to mentor and work with other advocacy staff, including developing their substantive knowledge, legal/administrative procedural knowledge, and general advocacy skills.
- Experience working with/or sensitivity to individuals with disabilities.
- Experience working with/or sensitivity to individuals from language or ethnic distinct communities.
- Commitment to outreaching to people with disabilities from underserved communities.

### **DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**

- One year of effective representation of clients in administrative hearings (e.g. Keyhea hearings, review, placement or certification hearings), covering a variety of issues and/or presenting varying degrees of complexity. The representation must have included such skills as interviewing clients and witnesses, researching the law and applicable facts, counseling clients on applicable options, presenting evidence, examining witnesses, and preparing technical assistance letters, written arguments, or briefs.
- Bilingual (English and Spanish or ASL).
- Experience with non-profit and/or social services organizations.
- Experience with ethnic or language distinct communities and/or extensive contacts with ethnic or language distinct communities.



- Familiarity with and/or extensive contacts with one or more of the following: homelessness, criminal justice, substance abuse or LGBTI communities.

**Working at DRC is more than just a job - it is a rare opportunity to do what you are good at while making a difference! DRC offers competitive salaries and a generous benefit package. To view the detailed job description and complete the application process [here](#).**