**Attorney**

**Public Justice Center**

**Baltimore, Maryland**

July 2022

Be a critical member in a team of social justice advocates! The Public Justice Center seeks an attorney to join its Education Stability Team.

**The Public Justice Center (“PJC”) and the Human Right to Housing Project**

The Public Justice Center pursues systemic change to build a just society. Founded in Maryland in 1985, the PJC uses legal advocacy tools to pursue social justice, economic and racial equity, and fundamental human rights for people who are struggling to provide for their basic needs. The PJC is a civil legal aid office that provides advice and representation to low-income clients, advocates before legislatures and government agencies, and collaborates with community and advocacy organizations. [www.publicjustice.org](http://www.publicjustice.org).

The Public Justice Center’s Education Stability Project seeks to advance racial equity in public education by combatting the overuse of practices like suspension, expulsion, and school policing that disproportionately target students of color and push students out of school. Project attorneys represent individual students facing disciplinary removals from school; educate students, parents, and community members on the rights of students with respect to student discipline and school policing; and engage in policy advocacy to discourage school pushout and support the use of effective and inclusive strategies for achieving positive student behavior and school climate. The attorney will report to the lead attorney of the Education Stability team.

COVID-19 Info: As long as there is a state of emergency during the pandemic, this position and most PJC positions will be working remotely most of the time, and will be required to come to the office, schools, the courts, or other public meetings only as necessary. The PJC is providing PPE for employees and guests and maintaining other risk reduction measures in the office.

**Core Duties:**

* Providing legal advice and representation to public school students facing school pushout, along with their parents or guardians;
* Providing know-your-rights trainings and outreach to community groups;
* Thorough and timely case and file management;
* Developing and advancing the goals of the Education Stability Team at the PJC, including contributing to the team’s workplan and race equity analysis;
* Actively participating in coalition and team meetings and advancing policy advocacy, including in the Maryland General Assembly, before local school boards, and at the state board of education.

**Desired Skills and Experience**

**The following qualifications are valued for this position. Applicants should also identify other related or supplementary skills and experiences.**

* Maryland bar admission or admission to another state bar.
* Prior legal experience with low-income and other oppressed communities and clients.
* Passion for social justice and commitment to the vision of the Public Justice Center.
* Understanding of the principles of race equity analysis and the intersection of racism and poverty and their application to the PJC’s organizational life and to our work.
* Attention to detail and keen organization skills.
* Ability to work under deadline and manage multiple tasks.
* Lived experience with our client communities highly desired.
* Ability to empathize and sensitively respond to people in crisis situations.
* Excellent use of MS Outlook, Word, and Excel
* Strong problem-solving abilities, time management, and organizational skills.
* Ability to work both independently and collaboratively with others both in and outside of the PJC.

**Compensation: This** is a full-time, exempt, professional position. The attorney may be called upon to work hours in excess of 40 hours in a workweek, including the potential for evening and weekend work. Local travel will be required at times. Salary range for an attorney with 1-5 years of experience is $60,000-70,000 and increases with experience, plus $1,000 Spanish language bonus if qualified. An excellent cafeteria benefit package is offered including options for health, dental, disability and life insurance, and retirement plans.

**Applications:** Applications should be submitted by August 19, 2022, to be assured of consideration, but applications will be accepted and interviews conducted on a rolling basis until the position is filled. To apply, please submit, by email only, a cover letter explaining your interest, resume, two legal writing samples, and the names and telephone numbers of three references. Please send applications to Monisha Cherayil, cherayilm@publicjustice.org, with “Education Attorney applicant” in the subject line.

**Physical/Mental Demands and Office Environment**

The physical/mental demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

The Public Justice Center is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer that encourages all interested persons to apply regardless of race, color, national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, citizenship, creed, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, transgender status, age, religion, genetic information, physical or mental disability, marital status, or any other legally protected status. ***We strongly encourage Black, Latinx, Indigenous, and other applicants of color, people with disabilities, and other people historically underrepresented in the practice of law to apply.***

SHORT AD:

Public Justice Center in Baltimore, MD seeking attorney for education project. See http://www.publicjustice.org/en/jobs-and-internships-attorney/ now for details. EOE.