

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT



Position: Staff Attorney, Children's Holistic Immigration Representation Program, Immigrants' Rights

Reports to: Supervising or Managing Attorney

Bargaining Unit: Y

FLSA: Exempt

Type: Full time

Immigrants' Rights Legal Practice

Centro Legal's immigration legal practice provides comprehensive, full-service direct representation before USCIS and the immigration courts (EOIR), district courts and federal court of appeals. Centro also participates in impact litigation efforts, legal rights education, and local and national advocacy. We represent detained and non-detained immigrants in removal proceedings, as well as in connection with affirmative asylum, humanitarian, and family based applications.

Position Summary & Responsibilities

Centro Legal is seeking a staff attorney to work in collaboration with our staff social worker to provide trauma-informed, immigration legal representation as part of the State of California's Children's Holistic Immigration Legal Representation Project (CHIRP). This is a state-funded position guaranteed through September 2024, with the possibility of continued funding.

Duties include the following areas of responsibility:

- Directly representing unaccompanied minors in removal proceedings before the San Francisco Immigration Court and Board of Immigration Appeals;
- Preparing and submitting applications, legal briefs, and supporting documentation on behalf of clients seeking asylum, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, U/T visa status, and other applications before USCIS and EOIR;
- Representation of youth eligible for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status before the California Superior Courts;
- Conducting legal intakes and consultations, assess for eligibility for immigration-related benefits and relief, and assess cases for possible representation;
- Conducting Know-Your-Rights presentations to community members and participate in legal consultations in community events;
- Assist in identifying potential federal litigation cases arising from direct services work and leading impact litigation efforts in federal district and circuit courts: for in house representation and/or placement with pro bono attorneys and with other non-profit litigation partners;
- Assisting in determining appropriate case stories for use in reports, advocacy materials, and public education and providing expert testimony to media on current immigration law and policy topics;

- Participating in ongoing trainings to keep up to date on immigration law and professional development to improve client services;

Qualifications

First and foremost, the applicant must profoundly share Centro Legal's mission and vision of racial, social and economic justice. Below are additional qualifications:

- Fluency in Spanish is required by the funder for this position; alternatively, we may consider candidates who are proficient in Spanish and committed to attaining fluency;
- Admitted and in good standing with the California State Bar (applicants licensed in other states who commit to taking the California bar exam will also be considered; candidates awaiting results of the California bar exam, or planning to take the California bar exam upon graduation, will also be considered);
- Knowledge of and/or experience in immigration law strongly preferred, including pre-JD experience in a legal setting as a paralegal or other similar position;
- Excellent writing, research, analytical, and verbal communication skills;
- A demonstrated commitment to civil liberties, immigrant justice, and public interest law;
- Commitment to holistic legal representation of young people at risk of deportation, including interest in and enthusiasm for working in close partnership with a social worker or case manager to provide wrap-around, trauma-informed services to unaccompanied children;
- Experience working with immigrant and/or youth populations who are overcoming trauma;
- Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively on projects with lawyers, other staff members, and with diverse community organizations; and
- Demonstrated commitment to diversity within the office and a personal approach that values all individuals and respects differences regarding race, ethnicity, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, religion, ability, socio-economic circumstance, immigration status, and record of arrest or conviction.

Compensation

Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience ranging from \$71,321- \$80,731. We provide a generous benefits package, including life insurance, LTD, leave policies, vacation, and December holiday office closure at full pay.

To Apply

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Submit via email only:

- 1) Cover letter explaining why you believe your background and experience (professional or otherwise) make you well-suited to working with immigrant youth who are overcoming trauma;
- 2) resume; and
- 3) a list of three professional references.

Include **“Staff Attorney - Immigrants’ Rights - CHIRP”** in the subject line. Applications without a cover letter will not be considered. Please email application materials directly to jobs@centrolegal.org

THIS POSITION WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL FILLED. WE WILL CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FROM LICENSED ATTORNEYS, LAW GRADUATES AWAITING BAR RESULTS, AND THIRD-YEAR LAW STUDENTS.

About Centro Legal de la Raza

Founded in 1969 and headquartered in Oakland, California, Centro Legal de la Raza (Centro Legal) is a comprehensive legal services and advocacy organization protecting and advancing the rights of immigrant, low-income, and Latino communities through bilingual representation, education, and advocacy. We combine quality legal services with know-your-rights education, affirmative litigation, and youth development, ensuring access to justice for thousands of individuals and families each year throughout Northern and Central California.

For more information, visit our website: <https://centrolegal.org/>

Diversity Statement

Centro Legal's mission includes advancing social, economic and racial justice. We are committed to fostering, cultivating and preserving a culture of equity, diversity and inclusion within and ensuring a workplace where all staff can flourish and grow professionally and well beyond. Our staff are the most important part of our ability to achieve our mission. The collective sum of the individual differences, life experiences, knowledge, inventiveness, innovation, self-expression, unique capabilities and talent that our employees invest in their work represents a significant part of not only our culture, but our reputation, sustainability and our organization's success. Centro Legal is an equal employment opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, pregnancy), gender, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, medical condition including genetic characteristics, mental or physical disability, military or veteran status, marital status, family responsibilities, caregiver status, sexual orientation, gender identity (including transgender status), gender expression, weight, height, linguistic characteristics (such as accent and limited English proficiency where not substantially job-related), citizenship status, status as a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, HIV/AIDS status, or any other basis prohibited by law. Centro also prohibits discrimination based on a perception that an individual has any of the characteristics of the protected classes listed above, and further prohibits discrimination against an individual who is associated with a person who has, or is perceived to have, any of those characteristics.