Manhattan Legal Services (MLS) seeks a passionate and seasoned attorney to join its Family Law/Immigration Unit.

About Us:

Manhattan Legal Services fights poverty and seeks racial, social, and economic justice for low income New Yorkers. MLS seeks equal access to justice for all low-income New Yorkers through a range of legal advocacy, education and community partnerships. MLS advises and represents Manhattan residents through its Housing, Family Law/Immigration, Disability, Government Benefits, HIV/LGBTQ Advocacy and Economic Justice Units. In addition to being the largest provider of civil legal services in the country, LSNYC provides numerous opportunities for growth and professional development. Our Learning Center provides opportunities to earn free CLEs and gain experience as a trainer. LSNYC also prides itself on its Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) efforts. In Manhattan, our DEI committee works to foster collegial relationships amongst staff, and growth in our own office’s approach to DEI and racial justice issues. Our numerous affinity groups allow staff to explore and advocate for racial justice growth within our own organization.

Manhattan Legal Services (MLS) seeks a passionate and seasoned attorney to join its Family Law/Immigration Unit. MLS’s Family Law/Immigration Unit handles a full range of family law and immigration issues. The Unit includes two social workers so that we can provide interdisciplinary and holistic services to support our clients. The Unit conducts outreach and works in partnership with community groups to ensure that we are best serving the community. This is a great opportunity to do substantive family law work in an underserved community. New funding will allow the Unit to engage in creative outreach strategies, provide listening and discussion forums for the community to discuss the needs of victims in Upper Manhattan and opportunities for the development of restorative justice models and create a written product of the findings. The attorney will be supervised by the Director of the Family Law/Immigration Unit.

Responsibilities:

- Interviewing clients, providing advice, brief services and assessment for representation to new clients.
- Advising and representing survivors of domestic violence (intimate partner violence) in family law and matrimonial cases in New York County Family Court, Supreme and Integrated Domestic Violence Courts
- Participation in the Upper Manhattan Domestic Violence Services Collaborative and related events
- Collaborate with social workers and paralegals on legal cases in an interdisciplinary practice model
- Providing KYR trainings relating to family law/victims’ rights
- Assist with the listening and discussion forums in the community
- Representing MLS at community events and stakeholder meetings
- Conducting on-site and off-site intakes
- Compliance with grant requirements

Experience & Qualifications:

- J.D. and admission to the New York State Bar required
- Minimum of 5 years of post-bar admission legal experience, with at least three years of family law experience, representing victims and traumatized clients; strong preference will be given to candidates who also have substantial criminal law (defense bar) experience
- Demonstrated passion for public interest law, social justice and commitment to working with low-income communities and communities of color to advance equality
- Stellar analytical, writing, communication and organizational skills
- Strong interest in litigation and working directly with survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and gender based violence
- Fluency in Spanish is strongly preferred

How to Apply

Interested individuals should email a resume, cover letter and writing sample (memorandum of law or brief) to jobpostingsmls@lsnyc.org. Please write “MLS Family Law Attorney” in the subject line. Only candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.

Salary is commensurate with experience and is governed by our Collective Bargaining Agreement. We offer an excellent benefits package. Manhattan Legal Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer. People of color, women, people with disabilities, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender persons, and persons over 40 are welcome and are encouraged to apply.