

LEGAL ASSISTANCE OF WESTERN NEW YORK, INC.[®]

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FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT - JAMESTOWN

Foreclosure Prevention Fellow

ORGANIZATION: Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.[®] (LawNY[®]) seeks an Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps Legal Fellow (“AmeriCorps Legal Fellow”) to be housed at our Jamestown, New York office. The position will focus on foreclosure prevention. Based on Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps’ guidelines, the AmeriCorps Legal Fellow is expected to begin their term of service between August 1, 2012 and September 30, 2012. The term of service is for one year, with a possible renewal for a second one year term.

LawNY[®] is a not-for-profit law firm established to provide access to the justice system to low-income people and other vulnerable populations who have civil legal problems. LawNY[®] serves a 14-county area in central and western New York through seven regional offices, located in Geneva, Ithaca, Rochester, Elmira, Bath, Olean and Jamestown. LawNY[®] provides civil legal services to low-income clients in the areas of housing, public benefits, family, employment, consumer, health and education.

POSITION DESCRIPTION: The AmeriCorps Legal Fellow will represent homeowners in foreclosure proceedings, settlement conferences and in other areas of civil law related to allowing borrowers to preserve homeownership, such as benefits advocacy. The Fellow will also work with local housing counseling agencies to provide outreach and information to homeowners who are threatened with foreclosure and will participate in an ongoing collaboration with the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition on issues related to homelessness and foreclosure prevention.

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES:

The AmeriCorps Legal Fellow housed at LawNY[®]’s Jamestown office will:

- Provide legal advice and representation to clients who are at risk of foreclosure
- Work collaboratively with community organizations, including housing counseling agencies, to provide outreach and education about the options available to homeowners facing foreclosure
- Work collaboratively with other LawNY[®] staff who are handling foreclosure cases
- Attend training sessions and participate in listservs to stay current with the latest developments and strategies related to foreclosure prevention.

QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants should be admitted to practice in New York or recent law school graduates who have sat for the last bar examination or are able to sit for the next available bar examination. Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to work both collaboratively and

independently are necessary. Consideration will be given to prior experience working with low-income people. Demonstrated strong writing skills are required.

COMPENSATION:

- Living allowance of \$24,200; and
- Supplemental benefits \$12,000

OTHER BENEFITS:

- Health and dental insurance;
- \$5,550 AmeriCorps Education Award upon successful completion of service;
- Student loan forbearance and interest accrual payment for eligible student loans upon successful completion of service;
- New York State Bar dues, if any;
- Participation in the Equal Justice Works Leadership Development Training and other training programs for public interest attorneys; and
- The opportunity to gain program management experience in a collaborative and innovative work environment

APPLICATION PROCESS: The AmeriCorps Legal Fellowship is expected to be available on or about **August 1, 2012**. All applications received on or before August 1, 2012 will be considered. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Applicants should email a letter of interest, a resume, a writing sample and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of 3 professional references, to Todd Thomas, Managing Attorney, Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc., at tthomas@lawny.org.

Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.[®] is an equal opportunity employer. Applications from minorities, women and people with disabilities are especially encouraged.

