Employer: Ohio Crime Victim Justice Center

Fellowship: Equal Justice Works Crime Victims Advocacy Program

Ohio Crime Victim Justice Center (OCVJC) seeks diverse and dynamic applicants for a 24-month, full-time attorney position at OCVJC as an Equal Justice Works Fellow in the Crime Victims Advocacy Program.

OCVJC has been competitively selected by Equal Justice Works as an implementing partner of Equal Justice Works’ Crime Victims Advocacy Program (CVAP), funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC).

OCVJC is dedicated to serving all crime victims, including surviving family members and victims’ representatives. In addition, Ohio Crime Victim Justice Center provides free victims’ rights training to nurses, counselors, advocates, law enforcement, prosecutors, other attorneys, courts, and the community.

This position will primarily be responsible for providing direct legal representation to crime victims in the criminal justice process. This includes making determinations as to whether crime victims’ rights are implicated in complex fact patterns, engaging clients to enforce these rights, and conducting legal research and drafting and filing motions, memoranda in opposition, amicus briefs, appellate briefs, and other legal documents to protect and enforce Ohio state and federal crime victims’ rights under the Ohio Revised Code, the United States Code, and the federal and state constitutions.

Despite the significant expansion of victim assistance services and resources in recent years, access to high-quality civil legal services and victims’ rights enforcement remains limited, especially for Black, Indigenous and other People of Color (BIPOC) and other individuals from communities with high levels of disinvestment.

The Crime Victims Advocacy Program will increase legal assistance to crime victims in BIPOC communities by mobilizing and training a network of 21 committed attorney Fellows and 21 law student Fellows who will serve at selected host organizations across the country, expanding the capacity of participating host organizations to provide legal assistance to victims of crime in BIPOC communities and communities with high levels of disinvestment, through the provision of civil legal assistance and victims’ rights enforcement.

Equal Justice Works Fellowship
An Equal Justice Works fellowship is an opportunity to transform your passion for justice into a career. As a Fellow, you will be part of a prestigious cohort of attorneys hosted by legal services organizations across the United States.

As a Fellow, you will develop experience and skills to be a social justice leader while contributing to a broader community of practice.

Fellowship responsibilities include:

- Protecting and enforcing victims’ rights on behalf of clients
- Providing civil legal assistance and legal assistance with rights enforcement for victims in BIPOC communities and communities with high levels of disinvestment. Fellows will provide direct legal services, and when appropriate, conduct outreach, education, and partnership-building activities
- Building key stakeholder relationships in furtherance of the fellowship objectives
- Engaging in peer-to-peer learning as part of the Equal Justice Works Crime Victims Advocacy Program Fellow cohort
- Actively contributing to and participating in Crime Victims Advocacy Program cohort activities (resource exchanges; interactive webinars and conference call with other Cohort and EJW Fellows and Alumni; and in-person trainings including Equal Justice Works Leadership Development Training in Washington DC in Oct 2023 and 2024.
- Contributing to required programmatic reporting

Qualifications

The ideal candidate for this fellowship possesses:

- A demonstrated commitment to social justice, with a desire to increase access to justice for underserved and BIPOC communities and achieve results
- Experience working with or connection to underserved, BIPOC communities
- A strong DEI lens
- A license to practice law in Ohio
- A license to practice in Northern and Southern federal districts of Ohio preferred
- Preferred experience in criminal justice system or victims’ rights
- Previous legal services experience, including civil legal aid, law school clinics, and internships is a plus
- Proven leadership skills with a strong work ethic
- Outstanding verbal and written communication
- Some level of experience with delivering trainings or presentations
- Values that are aligned with Equal Justice Works and OCVJC
- Exceptional interpersonal and organizational skills
• An ability to work collaboratively in a multidisciplinary setting to facilitate a coordinated community response and provide holistic services to clients

Please note Fellows must commit to fulfilling the twenty-four-month fellowship and will sign a Fellowship Agreement with Equal Justice Works.

Salary and Other Benefits

The Equal Justice Works Crime Victims Advocacy Program attorney will receive an annual salary and health insurance and other benefits through OCVJC.

Application Instructions

All applications should be submitted at https://www.equaljusticeworks.org/crime-victims-advocacy-program-fellowship-application/. Application materials include a cover letter, resume, and three references.

OCVJC is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national or ethnic origin, age, disability or veteran status.

Application Deadline: Applications must be received no later than July 1, 2023. Please note that applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, so early applications are encouraged.

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