



AGRICULTURAL WORKER PROJECT

1000 Alliance Bank Building
55 East Fifth Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101
Telephone: (651) 894-6854 • Fax: (651) 228-9450
Website: www.smrls.org

Position: Bilingual (English/Spanish) Agricultural Worker Project Summer Advocate – Moorhead, Minnesota

Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services, Inc. (SMRLS) is seeking a **Bilingual (English/Spanish) Summer Advocate** to assist its Agricultural Worker Project (AWP). The position will be located in AWP's Moorhead, Minnesota office with significant travel throughout North Dakota and northwest Minnesota.

SMRLS provides free, high-quality legal help in critical civil matters to low-income people in southern Minnesota, as well as to eligible agricultural workers throughout Minnesota and North Dakota. For more than 100 years, SMRLS has helped individuals and families secure and protect their basic needs, maintaining freedom from hunger, homelessness, sickness, and abuse.

AWP provides free civil legal services to agricultural workers in Minnesota and North Dakota focused on improving clients' working and living conditions through legal representation, outreach, and education. It handles cases involving wage theft, workplace health and safety violations, inadequate employer-provided housing, labor trafficking, employment discrimination and retaliation, H-2A contract violations, and other legal matters that specifically impact agricultural workers. Additionally, AWP educates agricultural workers in Minnesota and North Dakota regarding their legal rights through extensive outreach and presentations to agricultural worker communities.

The summer advocate will play a vital role in increasing the program's outreach and legal education capacity throughout North Dakota and northwest Minnesota during its busiest season. The applicant selected will have the opportunity to learn firsthand about, and contribute to the effective resolution of, the legal problems of agricultural workers under the supervision and guidance of AWP's dedicated attorneys and paralegals.

Responsibilities:

- Perform daytime and evening outreach to agricultural workers throughout North Dakota and northwest Minnesota with other AWP staff in order to provide information regarding legal rights and AWP's services and to conduct intake interviews
- Compile information/draft reports related to outreach
- Conduct legal research and draft memos, if a law student
- Draft letters in an effort to resolve legal disputes, if a law student
- Answer/return phone calls, conduct intake interviews by phone, and provide referrals as necessary
- Other duties as based on interest, education, and skill set

Qualifications:

- Fluent in spoken and written English and Spanish
- Students who have completed their first year of law school are preferred but those with other educational backgrounds will also be considered

SMRLS Administrative Offices: 55 East Fifth Street, Suite 1000, St. Paul, MN 55101
SMRLS Board President: Gail M. Olson, Esq. Chief Executive Officer: Jessie Nicholson, Esq.
LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION



- Demonstrated interest in addressing the needs of low-income communities, preferably agricultural workers specifically
- Comfort serving, and the ability to relate to, individuals from varying backgrounds
- Attention to detail
- Positive and flexible attitude
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team
- Computer proficiency
- Possession of a current driver's license and vehicle is preferred but not required

Position open: May or early June 2019. End date is flexible but at least through August is preferred.

Compensation: \$15/hour. Outreach-related travel expenses will also be reimbursed.

Time commitment: Flexible based on applicant's preference; between 20-35 hours/week. Willingness to conduct outreach approximately two evenings each week is required.

Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis until the position is filled; however, applicants are strongly encouraged to apply **by March 15, 2019**. To apply, submit a cover letter, resume, and three references to:

Jessica Grosz, Lead Attorney
Agricultural Worker Project
Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services
55 East Fifth Street, Suite 1000
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1473
jessica.grosz@smrls.org

SMRLS IS COMMITTED TO DIVERSITY IN THE WORK PLACE. WOMEN, MINORITIES, AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ARE ESPECIALLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.