



Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, Inc.

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Legal Services of Eastern Missouri (LSEM) is seeking candidates to apply for a Skadden Fellowship (due 10/6/14) to advance racial equity through education advocacy in Ferguson and other areas of North St. Louis County.

LSEM's mission, since 1956, is to provide high-quality civil legal assistance and equal access to justice for low-income people in 21 counties in Missouri. We accomplish our mission through systemic advocacy/impact litigation and individual case work in a wide range of substantive areas, e.g., family law for victims of domestic violence, housing, health, public benefits, consumer, education, community economic development, and immigration. As part of our community education/outreach efforts, LSEM works with over 150 agencies and participates in over 35 task forces/coalitions.

In pursuing its mission, LSEM has been working in Ferguson and surrounding areas for many years, and the recent unrest is a symptom of the broken system LSEM seeks to change. LSEM is committed to using the momentum created by recent events to enhance our ability to make lasting change.

Specifically, LSEM has identified three school districts in North St. Louis County – including the districts that serve the children of Ferguson - which evidence shows have significantly contributed to racial disparities in the “school-to-prison pipeline,” a nationwide systemic problem. Because the status quo is unacceptable and the need in that geographic area is great, we are excited to focus specifically on those districts by sponsoring a Skadden Foundation funded fellow to work full-time in those geographic areas for two years, primarily on education cases in the Children's Legal Alliance program at LSEM. We seek a candidate dedicated to systemic reform through affirmative litigation as well as individual representation of children facing removal from school or otherwise being funneled into the pipeline.

LSEM has begun an organization-wide initiative to use a racial equity lens when solving our clients' civil legal problems and to build a racial equity program at LSEM. We have staff members training as fellows with the Shriver Center's Racial Justice Training Institute (<http://povertylaw.org/training/racial-justice-institute>). We are actively looking for opportunities to implement a racial equity analysis to better serve our clients. The fellow would also help build a racial equity program at LSEM, including trainings for staff and collaboration with community partners.

The ideal candidate will have a demonstrated passion for and experience working toward racial equity. The candidate chosen by LSEM must work with LSEM staff to complete and submit an application to the Skadden Fellowship Foundation by 10/6/14 requesting to be a fellow at LSEM for two years starting in August 2015.

If interested, please send your resume, a cover letter, a list of three references and a writing sample to John Early, Human Resources Director at LSEM, via email at: JGEarly@lsem.org, as soon as possible and not later than September 15, 2014.

8/29/14

Daniel K. Glazier, Executive Director and General Counsel



Legal Services of Eastern Missouri is proud to be a Legal Services Corporation (LSC) grantee, and we comply with all LSC conditions and prohibitions in acceptance of all funds.

