

Help for the Holidays

Law Student Volunteer Opportunity

Opening Date: November 3, 2017 **Closing Date:** November 20, 2017

Neighborhood Legal Services Program of the District of Columbia is recruiting volunteers to come to our office and volunteer during winter break. This December 11-22, we invite you to spend part of your holiday to help support NLSP attorneys and to provide free legal information to low-income District of Columbia residents. Last year, your fellow law students provided almost 200 hours of pro bono legal services to our clients during the winter break. It is a tremendous way to give back this holiday season while doing good in the community where you live. We ask that you commit to being in our office at 64 New York Ave NE from 9:30-5:00 for at least 4-5 days during this period.

HERE'S HOW "HELP FOR THE HOLIDAYS" WORKS

- **Understand the Need:** First, NLSP staff will take you on a tour of D.C. Superior Court's Landlord-Tenant court. Helping low-income clients keep affordable housing is one of the most significant "access to justice" issues in D.C. Learn about this issue by observing Roll Call in the Landlord and Tenant court with an experienced housing attorney who will give you a tour and answer questions about the housing law practice. "Roll Call" is the Court's daily calendar call and all persons with cases set for initial hearings are expected to be present. This will be an eye-opening experience.
- **Understand Our Work:** Then, we will introduce you to "Kevin Jackson", a potential NLSP family law client. We will follow "Kevin's" case through NLSP, beginning with an initial client interview that you will conduct. During this session you will learn about our intake process, the role of our Brief Services Unit in assessing cases, our legal services delivery model and our family law practice.
- **Serve:** This year's volunteers will have the opportunity to assist programs and attorneys across the firm, including our Brief Services, Family Law and Barriers to Employment Units and with our Right to Housing project. You will be drafting closing memos, conducting legal research, and providing support on specific projects. Students can also help staff the Small Claims Resource Center and may also do other community outreach. and help us staff a pop-up holiday gift shop for the children of our clients.
- **Have some Fun:** Volunteers will help staff a pop-up holiday gift shop for the children of our clients. You can also participate or help judge our annual Holiday Cookie Contest and join

NLSP at our Holiday Party. You will have the chance to meet our committed staff and other pro bono volunteers.

ABOUT NLSP

Since 1964, Neighborhood Legal Services Program of the District of Columbia (“NLSP”) has provided free legal services in civil cases to low-income residents of the District of Columbia. NLSP pioneered the concept of a law office rooted in the neighborhoods that it serves and established landmark precedents which have retained their vitality and relevance. NLSP remains embedded in D.C.’s most low-income communities, builds its work on strong partnerships with community-based organizations, and seeks to achieve lasting change for its clients and their communities by using a full range of advocacy tools. Its diverse, multi-lingual and passionate staff embrace an explicitly anti-poverty mission and share a deep commitment to securing meaningful access to justice.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Those interested in volunteering during their winter break (December 11-22) should **email the application materials by 5:00 pm on Monday, November 20, 2017.**

The application should include:

1. A short cover letter explaining why you want to volunteer at “Help for the Holidays.”
2. Resume
3. Your availability from December 11-22, 2017.

Application materials and any questions should be directed to:

Heather Molina, Managing Attorney, Brief Services Unit and Intake

Email: hmolina@nlsp.org **Phone:** 202-832-NLSP (6577)

NLSP IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

It is the policy of the Neighborhood Legal Services Program that no employee or applicant for employment or services will be discriminated against because of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, family responsibilities or family status, veteran’s status, or any other basis prohibited by law, including the D.C. Human Rights Act and Language Access Act.