



LEGAL ADVOCATE I

As a WC&S Legal Advocate, your primary role is to assist clients with legal or justice system issues. You will provide direct service through legal options counseling, advocacy and court accompaniment, safety planning, emotional support, case management, and information & referrals. This role will primarily assist and accompany victims of domestic violence as they file for temporary Protection From Abuse (PFA) Orders. The successful candidate is sensitive to trauma and cultural diversity issues with a passion for ending intimate partner violence. Currently, this role is primarily remote, with up to three partial days spent in court in Downtown Pittsburgh. The goal is to be co-located between the Legal Advocacy Department in Downtown Pittsburgh and home office.

WC&S is a comprehensive domestic violence program serving over 7,500 adult and child survivors of domestic violence annually & facilitating intervention groups to over 500 men who batter. All staff learn about and support the organization's mission, guiding principles, and values, as well as the tenets of Women's Center Business System (WCBS), and are sensitive to cultural and workplace harmony and infusing principles of Sanctuary (a model for providing trauma-informed care) and diversity, equity, and inclusion into their daily interactions with clients and co-workers.

This role provides you with the opportunity to showcase your crisis management and problem-solving skills, work with a diverse group of clients, collaborate with the legal community in Pittsburgh, and contribute to the organization's mission in a variety of ways. If you are excited to gain legal, client service, and systems advocacy experience, care deeply about the issue of intimate partner violence, and are ready to make a difference in your community then we are eager to hear from you. WC&S will offer you an environment that provides endless opportunities to advance your knowledge and skills.

Here's what you will do:

- Advocate for victims of intimate partner violence within the legal system by providing legal options counseling, advocacy, and court accompaniment, safety planning, emotional support and crisis intervention to clients.
- Provide referrals to WC&S services and other community services and provide follow-up counseling, as needed.
- Assist in the development and maintenance of Legal Advocacy Department programs and procedures; participate in team and agency meetings.
- Participate in speaking presentations and community events, as needed; work collaboratively with police, prosecutors, and others in the justice system to improve the response to victims of intimate partner violence.
- This position requires being available for regular business hours, 40 hours per week. Currently, the position is primarily remote.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Here's what we are looking for:

- Bachelor's degree in social work, criminal justice, or related field preferred.
- One year of direct service experience in a human service field required; legal experience preferred.
- Ability to establish healthy boundaries, trust, respect, and rapport with a diverse population of clients and legal professionals.

- Ability to understand confidentiality and safety procedures.
- A demonstration of the understanding of abusive family dynamics, including intimate partner violence, cycle of abuse, power and control dynamic, cultural diversity issues and child abuse and neglect.
- Proficiency in general technology including but not limited to Microsoft Office Suite is required; familiarity and understanding of information technology, including Salesforce, strongly preferred.
- Act 33/34 and FBI Clearances will be required.

WC&S offers a comprehensive and competitive benefits package, including: generous paid time off; health, vision, and dental insurance; short-term and long-term disability coverage; group life insurance; retirement plan; Flexible Spending Account; Employee Assistance Program; paid training and professional development opportunities; and is a Public Service (Student) Loan Forgiveness eligible employer.

WC&S is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to ensuring that both applicants and employees are treated without discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender identity expression, national origin, age, religion, disability status, sexual orientation/identity, citizenship status, veteran status, marital status or any other protected characteristic. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment to all.

TO APPLY:

This position will remain open until we find the best candidate for the position. To ensure consideration for an interview, please send a resume and cover letter to the Director of Administration at careers@wcpittsburgh.org by end of business on Wednesday May 26, 2021.