



Legal Counsel for
Youth and Children

2021 SUMMER LEGAL INTERNSHIP

Virtual, Paid Full-Time

Open to Rising 2nd and 3rd Year Law Students and Recent Law School Graduates

SUMMARY:

Legal Counsel for Youth and Children (LCYC) seeks a passionate, collaborative, and innovative law student, committed to social justice and anti-racism, to intern with our team this summer. The law student may engage virtually, from anywhere they have internet access and a laptop. Legal Supervisors are based in King County, Washington, as is most of our team. We also have attorneys in Tri-Cities and Walla Walla, Washington.

The legal intern will have the opportunity to delve into multiple areas of law, focused on advancing the legal rights of young people through direct representation, community partnerships, and systemic advocacy. LCYC's four main program areas include: child welfare, juvenile court, youth and family immigration, and youth homelessness. The legal intern will be connected to staff at all levels of the organization with an opportunity to bring their unique perspective and experiences to the ongoing development of our nonprofit.

INTERN DUTIES:

Best practice requires in-person contact with the young people we represent, but this summer we anticipate the internship to be entirely virtual. Due to COVID-19, LCYC is complying with recommendations of State and County Public Health Departments and currently limiting in-person contact with young people. During the summer, the legal intern will undertake a range of duties including, but not limited to the list below.

- Assist with intake for youth who are or are at risk of becoming homeless. Intake is conducted regularly at local shelter(s), drop-in center(s) school(s) and, due to COVID-19, over the phone.
- Assist attorneys in researching a wide variety of civil legal matters including, but not limited to family law, child welfare, education, no contact orders, identification, benefits, emancipation, truancies, immigration, consumer debt and landlord tenant issues. May also address restitution, registration for sexual offenders, court fees, warrants and record sealing.
- Assist attorneys in updating online, self-help legal resources.
- Observe LCYC attorneys in a variety of different legal hearings, with the possibility of participating if a Rule 9 license is obtained.
- Participate in regular case staffings with LCYC Legal Supervisor(s).
- Participate in monthly all staff meetings.
- Engage in one-on-one virtual meetings with LCYC staff throughout the organization.
- Participate in trainings on topics such as child welfare, juvenile court, and trauma informed services.
- Accurately track time and activities spent as an LCYC intern, reporting out weekly.
- Regularly participate in all staff meetings, trainings, and affinity group conversations on equity and systemic racism.

ABOUT LCYC:

LCYC improves the well-being of young people by advancing their legal rights. We accomplish our mission through direct legal representation, strong community partnerships, and systemic advocacy. We have four program areas: child welfare, juvenile court, youth and family immigration, and youth homelessness.

LCYC provides community-based, holistic legal advocacy to expand access to justice for young people in Washington. LCYC was created and continues to evolve in response to the community's needs. We meet youth where they are—geographically, developmentally, emotionally, culturally, and linguistically. We collaborate with the youth, family members, educators, service providers, and other community partners to ensure that the legal and non-legal needs of the youth are met.

LCYC empowers youth by helping them understand and engage in complex legal systems that impact their lives and their families. We help youth understand and assess legal issues, options, potential consequences, and opportunities, before the youth determines the path forward.

LCYC is a team of supportive, creative, risk-taking, and flexible attorneys seeking to disrupt the status quo. We are willing to fail forward, make mistakes and learn, and embrace change. We believe humor and teamwork are critical to doing this sometimes incredibly difficult work.

COMMITMENT TO INCLUSIVITY, EQUITY AND REPRESENTATION:

LCYC is an equal opportunity employer committed to having a diverse staff and board reflective of the communities we serve. We strongly encourage applications from people of color, those with lived experience, people with disabilities, members of the LGBTQ+ community, and other underrepresented and historically marginalized groups. LCYC particularly values lived experience in our practice areas of child welfare, juvenile justice, youth and family immigration, and youth homelessness.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Rising 2nd or 3rd year of law school or recent law school graduate.
- Ability to work 300 hours over the summer paid at \$22/hour. (flexible start and end dates)
- Demonstrated commitment to social justice.
- Interest and ability in working with youth and families of diverse racial, cultural, socio-economic backgrounds and inspire their confidence.
- Ability to be flexible and innovative.
- Ability or commitment to learning how to effectively communicate legal concepts, options and potential outcomes in a developmentally appropriate manner with youth.
- Ability to work professionally with youth and develop a relationship of trust and confidence.
- Ability to work under supervision and respond to training.
- Ability to work independently and be self-motivated.
- Commitment to learning about and addressing racism at an individual, organizational and systems level.

TO APPLY:

Please submit a letter of interest, resume, brief writing sample, and list of three references to LCYC's Managing Attorney, Rebecca Cate via email at rebecca@lcywa.org.

In your letter of interest, please include the following for your application to be considered: **How do you think your personal background or experiences, professional or otherwise, have prepared you to contribute to our commitment to anti-racism and equity internally and externally?**

The deadline for applications is **February 12th, 2021**. Applications will be reviewed upon receipt. Interviews will be scheduled February 15th-19th, 2021.