



SHRIVER CENTER

Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

Position Title: Domestic Violence Education & Opportunity VISTA

Reports to: Director, Women's Law & Policy Project

Location: Chicago IL

Organizational Description: The Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law (Shriver Center) is a not-for-profit organization that provides national leadership in advancing laws and policies that secure justice and improve the lives and opportunities of people living in poverty. We work directly to win positive change through our specific advocacy initiatives, and we provide a range of professional development resources that build and support the national network of advocates engaged in those efforts. We engage in a broad range of interrelated policy areas and accomplish our mission through programs involving legislative and administrative advocacy and education, policy development, litigation, organizing, communications, and training.

At the Shriver Center, we know that a richly diverse mix of professionals makes organizations more effective. As such, we make demographic and experiential diversity a hallmark and priority of all our work.

Position Description: The Domestic Violence Education and Opportunity VISTA supports the efforts of the Shriver Center's Women's Law and Policy Project (WLPP) to create and promote legal and policy solutions to improve the lives of low-income women and girls. This includes legal and policy solutions that help survivors of domestic and sexual violence to succeed in education, training and employment, and accessing public benefits.

Responsibilities:

- Support the Ensuring Success in School (ESS) Initiative by assisting in the development of a model school policy and related research on the treatment of elementary and secondary students who are expecting and parenting youth and survivors of domestic and sexual violence.
- Research and contribute articles to the publication WomanView, a monthly newsletter on developments in legal issues affecting low-income women and girls, as well as to the Shriver Center blog and other publications, as needed.
- Assist in updating and promoting *Getting Ahead: An Adult Student's Guide to Public Benefits in Illinois* as needed
- Assist in updating and promoting other manuals and educational materials as needed
- Stay up to date with media coverage of WLPP issues as well as state and federal legislation regarding WLPP issues.
- Assist in the development of social media content and other informational materials to promote the work of the WLPP.
- Other projects as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree preferred
- Experience working with domestic or sexual violence survivors a plus
- Active interest in and desire to learn more about issues that impact low-income women and girls
- Ability to work independently and as a team player, be a self-starter, balance multiple responsibilities, and flexibility with a changing work environment
- Strong organization, research, and documentation skills
- Strong oral, analytic, and written communication skills
- Ability to represent self and program in a professional and enthusiastic manner to the public
- Basic proficiency in commonly used Microsoft Office programs
- Open to learning skills within outreach and advocacy initiatives
- Spanish-speaking a plus
- Passion for the Shriver Center's mission to fight poverty and promote equal justice essential

Salary/Benefits:

Please note that this is a 12-month volunteer position beginning in July 2017 with benefits funded by the AmeriCorps*Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) program. Benefits include a monthly living allowance, a transportation stipend and, after successful completion of the term, an Education Award that can be used to repay students loans or for future education expenses. Student loans may also be deferred during the 12-month commitment.

Applications:

Send a cover letter, resume, writing sample (applicant must be sole author), and 3 references as a single PDF file to Wendy Pollack, Director, Women's Law and Policy Project at wendypollack@povertylaw.org. You must also apply through the AmeriCorps portal at my.americorps.gov. For more information on the Shriver Center, please visit our website at www.povertylaw.org. Visit <http://www.americorps.gov> for more information on the AmeriCorps VISTA program.

Deadline:

This position must be filled by May 12, 2017. Please apply as soon as possible.