**AmeriCorps Member: Medical-Legal Partnership Attorney**

**Program Start/End Date:** 12/01/2016 to 11/30/2017, Members may be eligible to continue their service for two additional one-year terms.

**Schedule:** Full Time

**Education Level:** JD/Law Grad

New Mexico Legal Aid has received a multi-state grant from AmeriCorps to host one-year AmeriCorps members to facilitate the medical-legal partnership (MLP) program serving American Indians and Alaskan Natives throughout the US. 14 members will be recruited throughout the US as follows: six attorneys in Alaska (Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kodiak, Kenai, Nome, Sitka), four attorneys in Oklahoma (Oklahoma City), and one attorney in each Arizona (Phoenix), Nebraska (Omaha), New Mexico (Albuquerque) and Utah (Montezuma Creek). The attorney selected will be housed at host site’s local office. AmeriCorps Member will ideally begin as soon as possible and be in place for one year. Members may be eligible to continue their service for two additional one-year terms. Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC) will be the host site for the Alaska fellows.

**Practice Areas:** Children's Rights, Consumer Protection/Debt/Bankruptcy, Disability Law/Rights, Education, Elder Law, Employment/Labor, Family Law, General Legal Services, Health Law, Housing/Landlord-Tenant, Juvenile Issues, LGBTQ, Litigation, Native American/Indian/Tribal Law, Poverty, Probate/Trust & Estate Issues, Public Benefits/Social Security, Racial Justice Issues, Women's Rights

**Member Description**

AmeriCorps member will offer trainings for health providers and comprehensive legal assistance for low-income patients at partnering hospital or health clinic serving primarily Alaska Native and Native American individuals. By focusing on cases that promote income growth, housing stability, and personal safety, the MLP uses legal advocacy as a tool to address social determinants of health. The AmeriCorps member position is open in Kodiak, Alaska*.*

The AmeriCorps Member will provide direct legal assistance to low-income patients at a tribally-operated health care center. Areas of legal advocacy include public benefits, housing, special education, domestic violence, elder law, family law, and consumer law. The AmeriCorps Member will be an attorney authorized to practice in state and/or tribal court, and before administrative agencies. The AmeriCorps Member will be responsible for providing periodic trainings and presentations to providers at medical facilities, as well as for regularly consulting with medical providers.

Although AmeriCorps members will work independently at their local location, member will be part of a national collaborative network of members to improve social determinants of health for American Indians and Alaskan Natives. Each member will be trained on the vision of the project and each member will be armed with the tools to nurture each new attorney-hospital partnership. Each member will have a local litigation supervisor for day-to-day activities. Project support will be provided by the MLP Project Director, including monthly conference calls, and AmeriCorps updates.

**Qualifications**

* Alaska bar membership or eligibility for AK Bar Rule 43 waiver
* Legal experience assisting persons with low incomes (may include student legal clinics, internships)
* Knowledge of the legal issues impacting persons with low incomes
* Excellent written and oral communication skills
* Ability to work collaboratively in a variety of contexts
* Prior experience in managing independent projects or assignments
* Computer Proficiency
* Ability to travel throughout the surrounding region
* Those with experience regarding Indian Law strongly encouraged to apply
* Ability to begin program as soon as possible.

**Salary**

The AmeriCorps Member will receive annual living allowance. Additionally, members will receive a Segal Education Award, health insurance, and other benefits.

Other Benefits Provided:

* Health and dental insurance provided
* Parking provided
* Position related travel reimbursement

Established in 1967, ALSC is a private, nonprofit law firm.  Our mission is to provide high quality civil legal services to low income and disadvantaged people and communities to protect their safety, their health and promote family stability.  We are dedicated to bridging the statewide gap between those who need civil legal help and those who are able to get it.  We have an unwavering and longstanding commitment to assuring that Alaska’s rural communities have access to the justice system. Through advocacy, education, collaboration and litigation we empower individuals, protect fundamental rights, strengthen communities, create opportunities and achieve justice.

Member placement is contingent upon ability to pass AmeriCorps, State and Tribal-mandated criminal background checks.

**Application Instructions:**

Interested candidates should email a cover letter, resume, and list of three professional references to Nikole Nelson at nnelson@alsc-law.org with the subject line AmeriCorps Fellowship – [Your Last Name]. The letter of interest should clearly refer to the AmeriCorps MLP Fellowship position and identify which location you are interested in. Applications will be reviewed as they are submitted. The AmeriCorps Fellow is scheduled to begin the term of service as soon as possible.

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**Why become and AmeriCorps Member?**

***Help your community:*** Know that you are giving your time, talent, wisdom, and experience to your community and neighbors who need you.

***Help yourself:*** Through service, you can add to the quality and health of your life. Research indicates that volunteers enjoy better health, make new friendships, stay active and involved in the community, and learn new skills.

***Make a difference:*** Be part of a national movement to transform America through the involvement of its citizens.

***Save money for the organizations you serve:*** By donating your time and skills, you help make funds go farther for organizations that address critical needs in your community.