

**FORENSIC SOCIAL WORKER - THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY,
BROOKLYN OFFICE FOR THE AGING**

Education: Master (MA,MSW,etc.)

Location: Brooklyn, New York

Type: Full Time

Brooklyn Office for the Aging of the Civil Practice has an opening for a Forensic Social Worker to provide social services assistance to senior citizens.

The Brooklyn Office for the Aging provides a broad range of civil legal services for senior citizens, with an emphasis on housing (especially rent regulation and government housing subsidy issues) and government benefits (such as Social Security/SSI disability and non-disability issues, Medicaid, Medicare, home care, SCRIE, public assistance, protective services for adults) as well as family law, consumer law, guardianship defense and advanced directives.

MAJOR PURPOSE OF POSITION

The Social Worker is part of an interdisciplinary team paired with lawyers to provide representation to seniors and to determine social services needs in support of legal services.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

- Perform initial needs assessment screening
- Refer for and provide short-term social service assistance; refer for longer-term social service assistance
- Perform crisis intervention and short-term counseling
- Help clients navigate social welfare systems and develop casework plans in conjunction with the attorneys that include providing housing related benefits and/or income support assistance on cases
- Provide public assistance advocacy, fill out ongoing rental assistance and one-shot rental assistance applications, advocate for workers' compensation, unemployment benefits, Medicaid/Medicare, home care services, and charitable grants.
- Network with mental health, vocational and educational agencies.
- Advocate with City, State and Federal agencies
- Training, community outreach and education for individuals, local community based organizations, and the elderly at senior citizen centers
- Policy advocacy on behalf of clients

SECONDARY DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

- Other duties as assigned

TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Candidates must have an MSW degree and New York State certification in social work (LMSW); candidates with pending certification will also be considered
- Strong writing, verbal, organization, and computer skills
- Commitment to protecting the rights of under-resourced clients
- Experience in and/or commitment to advocacy on behalf of low-income people is

strongly desired

- Understanding of and sensitivity to the needs of mentally and physically impaired elderly clients is required
- This position may require home visits to homebound clients, off-site intake and evening hours
- Must be able to handle a high volume of individual cases and respond to the needs of community based organizations
- Proficiency in languages other than English is desirable, but not required

HOW TO APPLY:

Requests for consideration, including a cover letter and resume should be submitted via E-mail or regular mail to:

Aurore DeCarlo, Attorney-in-Charge at adecarlo@legal-aid.org

The Legal Aid Society is an Equal Opportunity Employer – Women, People of Color, Gays and Lesbians, Transgender People, Veterans and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply.