



**JOB POSTING**

***Part-Time National Policy Advocate***

***Sex Workers Project at the Urban Justice Center***

***New York, NY***

The Urban Justice Center serves New York City's most vulnerable residents through a combination of direct legal and social services, systemic advocacy, community education and political organizing. The Urban Justice Center's unique model supports 10 distinct Projects that serve different populations with legal or social services, and bring the voices of their clients into broader advocacy efforts. Founded in December 2001, the Sex Workers Project (SWP) at the Urban Justice Center is the first and only program in the country to focus on the provision of legal and social services to sex workers. SWP protects and promotes the rights of individuals who engage in sex work, regardless of whether they do so by choice, circumstance, or coercion. Our clients include current and former sex workers, people profiled as sex workers, and survivors of human trafficking - including people of all genders - who encounter enormous barriers to accessing services. SWP engages with this critically underserved population through therapeutic counseling and case management, legal service provision, outreach, and leadership development. We engage in research and policy advocacy, working to document the needs of sex workers and survivors of trafficking, and educate the media, the public, and policy-makers about our findings.

The National Policy Advocate will assist the Managing Co-Director in building support for policy reform, with a focus on SWP's *Vectors of Justice Project*. The *Vectors of Justice Project* continues ongoing research by the Sex Workers Project on how mandated HIV testing and the criminalization of HIV affects sex workers across the US. The National Policy Advocate will work on a report on the practical impact of these policies in target states, including interviews with stakeholders and report drafting. The National Policy Advocate will identify and engage with key allies and advocates in target states to facilitate and support campaigns for reform on sex work and HIV issues.

This is a half-time position of 20 hours of work per week. This is a grant-funded and time-limited position of 1 year, with the possibility of renewal and/or growth.

**ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:**

1. Assist with research and writing on a national report on mandated HIV testing and the criminalization of HIV
2. Develop relationships with local/state advocates, stakeholders and policymakers
3. Create media and advocacy materials, including basic information about legislative advocacy, sample talking points, advocacy letters or op eds
4. Coordinate, plan and facilitate meetings with advocates to develop campaigns and strengthen networks
5. Support leadership of sex workers in campaigns
6. Provide local partners in multiple states with advice and support on policy initiatives

7. Analyze and synthesize research to support campaigns
8. Develop media messages and represent SWP to the media
9. Present and represent the Sex Workers Project at national conferences

**QUALIFICATIONS & Skills:**

1. At least 2 years of direct experience advocating for the rights of people with HIV, sex workers, or on related issues
2. Demonstrated expertise in community organizing and/or political advocacy
3. An advanced degree in law, political science or policy is favorable
4. Ability to interact effectively with a wide variety of people of diverse backgrounds and facilitate communication between them, including sex workers, local advocates, academics, politicians, service providers, and police
5. Ability to work collaboratively, to take leadership, and to take direction from a supervisor
6. Sound judgment, a high level of personal and professional confidence and strong interpersonal, diplomatic and communication (verbal & written) skills
7. Ability to juggle multiple tasks, work independently, assess priorities and take initiative
8. Passion for the Sex Workers Project mission and a commitment to criminal justice reform
9. People of color; gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people; people with disabilities; and people with life experience with sex work are especially encouraged to apply

**COMPENSATION:**

The salary for this position will range from \$25k to \$35k commensurate with experience.

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:**

To apply, please submit a cover letter detailing relevant experience and a resume via email to [sbaskin@urbanjustice.org](mailto:sbaskin@urbanjustice.org) or fax to 212-533-4598 attn. Sienna Baskin.

This is a bargaining unit position represented for collective bargaining purposes by the National Organization of Legal Services Workers, UAW, Local 2230.