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JOB NOTICE:

INTERPRETER/TRANSLATOR

IMMIGRANT JUSTICE PROGRAM

Posted July 18, 2008: Open Until Filled

Legal Services of Southern Piedmont, a non-profit agency that provides legal assistance in civil matters to low-income persons in the Charlotte area and Western North Carolina, seeks an interpreter for its Immigrant Justice Program. The Program protects low-income, non-English-speaking residents and immigrants from exploitation, ensures accessibility of public services, stabilizes immigration status of clients and provides remedies in civil matters despite barriers to redress. Program advocates assist individual low-income immigrants in state and federal courts and administrative agencies in a variety of areas, provide community legal education, participate in community events, give legal advice, assist agencies in serving the needs of immigrants and engage in systemic advocacy projects and activities.

The interpreter will:

- Interpret interviews with Spanish-speaking applicants, clients, opposing parties, witnesses and others for non-Spanish speaking staff, in the LSSP office and in other locations;
- Translate government, legal, litigation, community education and other documents from English to Spanish and Spanish to English; and
- Provide related support to staff attorneys

The position is part-time, approximately 20 hours per week, and temporary, expected to be for about one year.

Requires high school diploma, GED or equivalent experience; commitment to working with low-income people; proficiency in oral and written communication; training or experience in interpretation and translation, *fluency in Spanish is required.*

Salary \$12.50+ per hour depending on experience.

To Apply send a resume; writing sample; names and telephone numbers of three references; and a *detailed letter explaining your qualifications for and your interest in this specific position and in this specific organization*, a description of your experience with low-income people and any other relevant information to: Traci Massey, Staff Attorney, Legal Services of Southern Piedmont, by email to tracim@lssp.org or by mail to 1431 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte, NC, 28204.

Equal opportunity employer. Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.



IMMIGRANT JUSTICE PROGRAM

The purpose of the Immigrant Justice Program is to protect low-income, non-English-speaking Hispanic residents and immigrants from other nations from exploitation, to ensure accessibility of public services, to stabilize the immigration status of clients, and to provide remedies despite barriers to redress.

The program provides individual advice and representation to low-income non-English-speaking Hispanics and immigrants from other nations before state and federal courts, administrative agencies and legislative bodies; conducts community legal education programs; educates community agencies concerning the legal rights of immigrants; and assists those agencies in serving the needs of immigrants.

CASE TYPES:

- Family law: domestic violence, child custody where child is in danger
- Housing law: habitability, preventing discrimination, defending evictions
- Consumer law: especially involving mobile homes and automobiles
- Public benefits: ensuring accessibility and proper eligibility determination
- Immigration law
 - Immigration assistance for victims of domestic violence
 - VAWA petitions
 - Cancellation of removal
 - U and T visas for victims of trafficking and domestic violence crimes
 - Gender-based asylum claims
 - Affirmative and defensive asylum claims
 - Family-based petitions necessary to reunite a family
 - Limited removal defense

For immigration cases, IJP will provide individual representation in Ashe, Alleghany, Watauga, Wilkes, Mitchell, Avery, Caldwell, Alexander, Catawba, Burke, Yancy, McDowell, Cleveland, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, Stanly and Union counties. For all other case types, IJP will provide individual representation in Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, and Union counties with some limited assistance in the other counties listed above. In addition, IJP will provide community education programs in all nineteen counties listed above.