

# IDAHO POLICY COUNSEL/LOBBYIST

## Position Overview



**Legal Voice fights for gender liberation across the Northwest. From courtrooms to the court of public opinion, we challenge patriarchal and racist power structures to widen pathways to justice.**

Legal Voice works in the state and federal courts in the Pacific Northwest, and advocates for legislative change at the local and state level in Idaho and Washington State.

**REPORTS TO:** Senior Director of Advocacy

**POSITION STATUS:** Exempt; Full time

**POSITION SUMMARY:** The Policy Counsel/Lobbyist will work to advance Legal Voice's goals for gender equity in Idaho through legislative and other policy advocacy and legal rights education. The Policy Counsel also will support Legal Voice's impact litigation work in Idaho.

The Policy Counsel must have experience in one or more of the following substantive areas: civil rights, reproductive rights/justice, LGBTQ+ rights, economic justice (labor and employment, housing, etc), gender-based violence, and/or environmental justice.

As a progressive feminist organization with an intersectional approach to gender justice, we strive to center marginalized community voices and racial equity in our litigation and legislative strategies. We are committed to prioritizing racial justice in our advocacy and among our staff, board, and volunteers.

**Focus on Race Equity:** Legal Voice is in the process of developing internal and external structures that support our efforts to responsibly and meaningfully center race equity in our work. The ideal candidate for this position will have a well-developed equity framework that includes an understanding of systemic racism and oppression, and will be self-reflective and willing to grow and learn around these topics.

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

### LEGISLATION

Reporting to the Senior Director of Advocacy, the Policy Counsel/Lobbyist will liaise with staff attorneys with subject matter expertise to work collaboratively with lobbyists, community partners, coalition stakeholders, and volunteers to advance legislation that supports Legal Voice's mission and is aligned with Legal Voice's race equity commitment.

- In collaboration with community and stakeholders, identify subjects appropriate for legislation; research and draft legislation.
- Monitor, track, and analyze state and local bills and administrative policies, prepare Legal Voice comments, and draft testimony, fact sheets, or related materials in support of or opposition to proposed legislation or rulemaking using an intersectional and race equity lens.
- Consult with Senior Advocacy Director regarding legislative strategy and tactics.

- Work with coalitions, task forces, and community groups aligned with Legal Voice on legislative issues within subject areas.
- Seek input from community members most impacted by the subject of the legislation to better understand their goals.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & RACE EQUITY

- Working with community engagement staff to develop and maintain meaningful relationships with community organizations, particularly in communities we have not historically engaged with, especially communities of color; represent Legal Voice on various coalitions; and center community voices in Legal Voice’s programs and strategies.
- Act as a legal resource to community organizations, attorneys, advocates, and stakeholders.
- Work closely with Legal Voice’s race equity consultant and the internal race equity team as the organization develops a broader roadmap to ensure that our policies, practices, and culture promote principles of racial equity.

#### PUBLIC EDUCATION & MEDIA

- In collaboration with the Legal Director and other Legal Voice staff, engage in outreach and public education by:
  - Providing public presentations on legal issues to community groups, lawyers, law students, etc.;
  - Responding to media requests and inquiries;
  - Writing or reviewing newsletter articles, emails to supporters, press releases, public statements, etc.;
  - Prioritize public education/media pieces that are specifically targeted to communities of color and publications that are widely read by communities of color

#### OTHER

- As appropriate, engage in scholarship to further intersectional feminist legal jurisprudence.
- In collaboration with other attorneys, support law student intern recruiting, mentoring and evaluation.
- Provide technical support on litigation and legislation to attorneys, advocates, and other community partners throughout the region within areas of expertise.
- At the request of the Legal Director and/or Senior Director of Advocacy, and in collaboration with other program staff, assist with the drafting and editing of grant proposals and reports;
- Provide written monthly reports to the staff;
- Other duties as assigned.

#### **REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS**

- Three or more years of policy and/or lobbying experience, ideally in a substantive area of Legal Voice’s work (listed at the top of this job description).
- Excellent writing and communication skills.

- A commitment to Legal Voice’s mission and vision of intersectional gender justice.
- A demonstrated commitment to social justice, racial equity and gender justice.
- A demonstrated desire and ability to build and maintain relationships and foster engagement and collaboration with marginalized communities, particularly communities of color.
- A desire and commitment to engage in transitional race equity work, participate in race equity training and recognize personal biases and improve performance through a racial equity framework.
- Strong time management and planning skills.
- Bar membership in Idaho within a year of hire.

**DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS**

- Experience with legal issues affecting communities of color, immigrant or non-English speaking communities, and/or transgender, intersex and non-binary people.
- Flexibility, motivation, and openness to learning
- Ability to work generativity through conflict
- A relationship builder who fosters engagement and collaboration
- Sense of humor
- Creative thinker with problem-solving skills
- Fluency in a language other than English
- Prior experience working in a non-profit setting and/or with community-based organizations

**Salary & Benefits:** This full-time position has a salary range of \$75,000-\$95,000; depending on experience. Benefits include medical, mental health, dental and vision coverage; annual leave is PTO 45 days per year; 401K eligibility after six months of employment with a possible employer contribution; flexible and generous family leave; and professional development opportunities.

**Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and resume to [info@legalvoice.org](mailto:info@legalvoice.org) by August 31, 2022.** In your cover letter, please share why you are interested in the staff attorney position, how your lived or professional experience would contribute to our advocacy, and if you prefer Legal Voice retain your application for future consideration. Writing samples and references will be requested upon offer of an interview.

***Non-discrimination:*** As an organization committed to prioritizing reproductive justice, economic justice, and racial justice, Legal Voice believes in fostering the leadership of all women, particularly those from underrepresented and marginalized communities. Legal Voice follows an equal opportunity employment policy and employs personnel without regard to race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, physical or mental ability, veteran status, and marital status.

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