



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Committee for Public Counsel Services

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CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW DIVISION

Position Posting

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW DIVISION SOCIAL WORKER

The Children and Family Law (CAFL) Division of the Committee for Public Counsel Services, the Massachusetts public defender agency, is seeking a social worker to work with attorneys representing children and indigent parents in care and protection, child in need of services, and termination of parental rights cases in our Worcester office.

Responsibilities

The social worker in the Children and Family Law office is an integral member of the legal team. Led by the attorney, the team zealously represents and advocates for clients. The social worker works with the attorney and other team members to prepare a client's case and to get the best possible outcome for the client. Social workers interview clients, visit them in their homes, perform needs assessments, develop plans for services, refer clients to service providers, make direct connections between clients and programs, develop linkages with local government agencies and service providers, help attorneys prepare for litigation, and advocate for clients in a client-directed practice. Social work intervention occurs at all stages of the court process.

Requirements/ Preferred Attributes

Candidates must have knowledge of and training in child development, have experience working with children and families, preferably in an outreach capacity, and be committed to serving a culturally diverse, low-income population. The positions require travel; access to an automobile is necessary. An MSW degree and a Massachusetts LCSW license are strongly preferred.

In addition, an ideal candidate will have:

- Experience related to and knowledge of clinical issues regarding child placement and adoption, substance abuse, domestic violence, and related fields
- Experience in the field of child welfare
- Knowledge of social, psychological, medical, economic, and legal factors that influence behavior
- Skills and experience in interviewing clients, assessing their needs, case management, and service planning
- Good organizational skills and the ability to track and monitor individual client cases

- Skills and experience in interacting with persons of various social, racial, cultural, economic, and educational backgrounds
- Knowledge of public and private social services systems and programs
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively and persuasively, both orally and in writing
- Proven ability to work effectively as part of a team and independently
- Foreign language skills a plus

Salary

Range \$34, 517.86- \$52,212.68 per year, based on full-time status.

Hours

The position covered by this posting is full time.

How to apply

Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest and résumé to:

Sarah Derby
Director of Social Work
Children and Family Law Division
44 Bromfield Street
Boston, MA 02108

Candidates may submit application materials by mail, or email (CAFLsw@publiccounsel.net). Applications should be submitted by January 18, 2012 but may be accepted until the position is filled.

The Committee for Public Counsel Services is an equal opportunity employer.

The agency actively seeks to diversify its workforce.

Date of Posting: January 3, 2012