



For economic and racial justice

67 E. Madison St., Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60603
312.263.3830 | povertylaw.org

June 27, 2023

Position Title: Housing Justice Fellow
Reports to: Director of Housing Justice
Location: Chicago, IL

The Shriver Center on Poverty Law fights for racial and economic justice. We litigate, shape local policy, and train and convene multi-state networks of lawyers, community leaders, and activists to advance opportunity for all — not just the few. Over nearly 60 years, we have secured hundreds of law and policy victories with and for people experiencing economic instability in Illinois and across the country.

Our country is rife with laws and policies that systematically disadvantage certain groups while advantaging others based on their race, gender, and other facets of their identities. We believe laws and policies — and the institutions that apply them — should be designed to support people. Together, we're turning this ideal into reality.

We are building a future where all people, families, and future generations have equal dignity, respect, and power under the law. Join the fight at povertylaw.org.

The Shriver Center on Poverty Law is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from qualified candidates of all backgrounds.

Position Overview: The Shriver Center seeks to host a fellow through a legal fellowship offered through Skadden, Equal Justice Works, Justice Catalyst, or another organization. In this posting, the Shriver Center seeks those interested in collaborating on an application to these fellowship programs. The position at the Shriver Center is dependent on acceptance of the fellowship application. The fellow, if accepted, will lead a project aimed at building, strengthening, and proliferating tenant associations.

The applicant must have graduated from law school by August 2024. Consistent with fellowship requirements, the applicant cannot have held a permanent position as an attorney.

Responsibilities:

- Support the work of tenant and community organizers in building and strengthening tenant associations.
- Draft, negotiate, and enforce collective bargaining agreements and memoranda of understanding on behalf of tenant associations.
- Assist tenant associations in drafting and complying with bylaws.
- Engage in legislative, administrative, and other advocacy to promote policies that enhance tenant organizing protections.

- Engage in direct advocacy on behalf of tenant associations and tenants.
- Advocate on behalf of tenants and tenant associations with local, state, and national administrative agencies.
- Recruit and train legal aid and pro bono attorneys.
- Attending tenant association meetings and conduct legal outreach to tenants.
- Participate in other housing-related advocacy and Shriver Center efforts to transfer its successes and knowledge to a national or multi-state scale.
- Contribute to raising funds for advocacy activities, including assisting with grant proposals, attending site-visits, and identifying new funding sources.
- Continue to learn about issues and potential or systemic housing solutions through contact with clients, direct service providers, and community organizations, and develop strategies for accomplishing positive changes for our clients.
- Contribute to the strategic thinking of all the Shriver Center's anti-poverty and race equity efforts.
- Engage in in-depth research and scholarship on matters related to housing equity.
- Oversee work of volunteers and law student interns as needed.
- Participate as needed in various administrative tasks and committees of the Shriver Center.
- Travel to Springfield, Illinois, and national conferences and meetings as needed.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Juris doctorate and licensed to practice law in Illinois by November 2024.
- Knowledge of and experience working with federal subsidized housing programs strongly preferred.
- Excellent research, analysis, and writing skills.
- Experience in or demonstrated commitment to public interest law and advocacy on behalf of families living in poverty.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Ability to develop and lead new and existing projects.
- Ability to participate in evening and weekend community and client meetings.
- Ability to travel for work-related meetings and conferences.

Salary/Benefits: This full-time position offers a competitive public interest salary ranging from \$75,470 to \$94,337 and a comprehensive benefits package that includes health, dental, vision, life, and disability insurance, generous paid leave, flexible work schedules, pre-tax flexible spending accounts, pre-tax commuter benefits, and a 401(k) plan. To maintain internal and external pay equity, the annual salary offered to the candidate of our choosing is nonnegotiable and commensurate with experience.

Hybrid Work Arrangement: The Shriver Center offers a hybrid work model that combines on-site and remote work. Employees must be able to attend periodic in-person meetings, including throughout northern and central Illinois

Opening/Closing Date: Open immediately; application deadline is July 12, 2023.

Applications: Send a cover letter, resume, writing sample not to exceed five pages (excerpts welcome), and three references via email to ericsirota@povertylaw.org and hr@povertylaw.org. Please note that the hiring committee will review the cover letter to evaluate each candidate's relevant background and experience related to the responsibilities and qualifications listed in the job description.

At the Shriver Center on Poverty Law, we know that a richly diverse mix of professionals makes organizations more effective. As such, we make demographic and experiential diversity a hallmark and priority of all our work. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.