



**A free legal center serving
Bergen, Hudson, and
Union Counties**

**The Waterfront Project, Inc.
Lead Attorney Sexual Assault Survivor Legal Services Project**

Background

Founded in 2013, The Waterfront Project, Inc. (WFP), is a legal help center and HUD-certified counseling agency. WFP Staff Attorneys provide free civil legal representation, brief advice, and advocacy to our most vulnerable residents - the working poor, seniors, homeless, and those living with disabilities. Currently, WFP's primary focus is pursuing creative legal strategies to allow low-income people to stay in their homes and communities, especially in neighborhoods experiencing rapid development. WFP represents clients on matters related to their public benefits, housing, and consumer debt.

WFP is honored to have been entrusted with a grant from a sexual assault survivor and advocate and charged with direct representation of survivors of sexual assault and legal efforts on behalf of survivors. WFP's Sexual Assault Survivor Legal Services Project will provide trauma informed, client centered advocacy, legal advice, and legal representation to survivors across New Jersey in a variety of matters in the aftermath of assault. Additionally, the Sexual Assault Survivor Legal Services Project will serve as a hub and resource center for survivors, connecting them with services and support on their path to healing, justice, and recovery.

Position

The Lead Attorney will work, with substantial discretion, under the direction of WFP's Executive Director and WFP's Managing Attorney to shape the Sexual Assault Survivor Legal Services Project. She/He/They will provide direct representation to survivors in civil matters, work on matters of legal reform and advocate for favorable legislation. She/he/they will also be charged with supervising additional staff as needed to fulfill the project's mission. Further, she/he/they will be the public face of the project interacting with the media and legislators, conducting workshops, etc.

Responsibilities

- Provide advice, counsel, and direct representation to clients in civil proceedings primarily in Superior Court restraining order matters, Victims' Compensation Board Proceedings, housing and employment matters;
- Provide advocacy and support to clients as they interact with the criminal justice system;
- Provide training and technical assistance for external partners on sexual assault related matters;
- Build a coalition to fight for the rights of survivors, conduct related media/legislative advocacy;
- Fundraise on behalf of the program and write grants; and
- Hire and supervise staff.

Qualifications

- License and ability to practice law in New Jersey required;
- 5-7 years litigation experience and experience with legal matters involving sexual assault;
- Experience participating in fundraising campaigns and/or with grant writing highly preferred;
- Confidence in the courthouse and public speaking;
- Aptitude in providing trauma informed and client centered representation;
- Ability to lead a team, build a network, and establish oneself as a leader with external partners
- Strong organizational, research, analytical, and oral and written communication skills;
- Demonstrated commitment to social, economic, and racial justice;
- Willingness to participate in grant reporting requirements and fundraising efforts;
- Familiarity with Google Organization & Productivity Tools and/or ability to learn new technologies;
- Ability to work in a small, nonprofit environment, both independently and as part of a team;
- Ability to track legal developments in the area of sexual assault survivor advocacy;
- Ability to work with underrepresented communities, including but not limited to people living with physical or mental health disabilities and clients of diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds
- Bilingual (such as English/Spanish or Arabic/English) skills preferred but not required;
- Access to reliable transportation.

Pay and Benefits

This is a full-time position (40 hours per week), with work occurring during normal business hours, though some workshops may occur during nights and weekends. WFP offers a competitive nonprofit benefits package that includes health and dental insurance, 10 days of paid time off, 12 days of paid sick leave, 12 office holidays, a retirement plan with a 2% employer contribution, and professional development opportunities. The salary range for this position is \$70k to \$85k.

How to Apply

Please email a resume and cover letter to aalbert@thewaterfrontproject.org. Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. **Given WFP has an immediate opening, candidates are strongly encouraged to submit their application at their earliest convenience.** No calls, please. Only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

WFP is an equal opportunity employer and values a diverse workforce. Women, people of color, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people, veterans, people with disabilities, and people with lived experience of housing insecurity are encouraged to apply. WFP does not discriminate against applicants on the basis of race, creed, nationality, sex, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, genetic information, mental or physical disability, marital status, familial status, domestic partnership status, civil union status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, atypical cellular or blood trait, military status or any other category protected by federal, state or other law applicable in the location of employment.