

EAST BAY CHILDREN'S LAW OFFICES
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT FOR YOUTH ADVOCATE SOCIAL WORKER

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

East Bay Children's Law Offices, Inc. (EBCLO), a nonprofit organization, provides free legal representation to children and youth who are the subject of abuse and neglect proceedings in Alameda County Juvenile Dependency Court. EBCLO is dedicated to high-quality legal representation that incorporates a comprehensive approach to advocate for children in dependency proceedings. EBCLO staff agree that advocacy and representation of children is a team effort and we use an attorney-social worker team model. EBCLO seeks social workers who are passionate about working with children and youth in the juvenile dependency system.

JOB DESCRIPTION

This is a full time, non-exempt position. Training and experience in early childhood development is strongly preferred. As a part of the legal team, the Youth Advocate Social Worker works with the child's attorney to evaluate the client's needs and make recommendations, including in written reports to the attorney. The social worker connects with the youth, and his/her family and community. As the child's advocate, the social worker is responsible for working with our clients to develop a case plan to facilitate their future success. In addition, the social worker will be responsible for investigating all aspects of juvenile dependency cases, including interviewing clients, child welfare workers, and other service providers and professionals, and gathering records and reports. The social worker will visit homes and other placements for children, evaluating and reporting on the same as required.

The social worker will prepare written reports and testify in court as required by the attorney with whom the social worker is partnered.

Primary Duties:

- Conduct interviews with clients, family members, and other interested parties to obtain a comprehensive assessment of the child's needs.
- Obtain and analyze confidential psychological, medical and social histories of clients.
- Refer clients to agencies and other appropriate services. Identify specific services and resources in the community to address the psychosocial needs of clients.
- Provide crisis intervention and management.
- Assist and advise attorneys in case assessment, strategy and management.
- Maintain records, logs, and case files.
- Conduct psychosocial needs assessments and prepare written reports and treatment plans in support of client's position.
- Testify in court as required.
- Travel to visit homes and placements.
- Assess the suitability for placement and visitation with parents, relatives and foster care providers.
- Assist attorneys in mediation, as needed.
- Participate in the client's IEP and other school meetings as required.
- Assist with supervision of social work students or interns.

- Schedule flexibility is required due to needs of clients.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Master's degree in social work or social welfare, marriage, family and child counseling, child psychology, child development, counseling psychology, or social psychology, or a Bachelor's degree with professional experience working with children in the child welfare system.
- Experience and training in early childhood development is strongly preferred.
- Demonstrated interest and ability in working with children and youth, and with low-income diverse ethnic communities.
- Strong writing ability, analytical ability, and excellent interpersonal skills
- Bilingual Spanish speaking ability strongly preferred.
- Ability to work in a stressful environment.
- Valid CA driver's license, auto insurance, and access to an automobile as needed.
- Applicants with experience in juvenile dependency and a strong commitment to child advocacy, who also possess a familiarity with mental health issues, the development of social history issues, and special education are encouraged to apply.

SALARY: Salary is comparable to similar organizations in the Bay Area. EBCLO provides health, dental, vision and vacation benefits.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Position open until filled.

TO APPLY: Email cover letter, resume, and a list of three references to ebclojobs@gmail.com (Please specify "Social Worker" in subject line)

The East Bay Children's Law Offices is an equal opportunity employer, a drug-free workplace, and an ADA accessible facility. The East Bay Children's Law Offices values and promotes diversity. Applications invited regardless of race, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, age or disability.