

The Children's Law Center of Massachusetts (CLCM), headquartered in Lynn,

seeks volunteers/interns to support its statewide help-line. Volunteer positions on the helpline require an availability of a minimum of 12 hours a week and at least ten weeks, although longer engagement is also possible.

The help-line volunteer experience offers a great opportunity to assist in CLCM's advocacy on behalf of young clients in critical legal matters.

CLCM is a non-profit legal services agency with 501(c)(3) status. CLCM provides direct representation to impoverished disadvantaged children and youth in child welfare, children requiring assistance (CRA, formerly CHINS), delinquency, immigration, and educational matters. CLCM's statewide phone help-line logs 1200-1500 calls a year from individuals seeking assistance on issues that impact children.

Help-line volunteers at CLCM will:

- Ø Manage intake from CLCM's statewide help-line
- Ø Be trained on civil legal issues that impact children and youth
- Ø Respond to requests for advocacy and support from parents, relatives, and helping professionals on issues including:
 - Children not receiving the educational services to which they are entitled
 - o Immigration
 - Rights of children involved in foster care and other state human service systems
 - Juvenile court involvement
- Provide support to attorneys on their full representation cases and projects, depending on the volunteer's interests and experience and as schedules allow.

Ideal candidates will possess:

- Ø Passion for and/or experience working with low-income, diverse youth
- Ø Pleasant telephone demeanor
- Ø Experience or interest in one or more of CLCM's substantive legal areas
- Ø Ability to work independently and juggle several priorities
- Ø Ability to speak Spanish desired but not required

Volunteers generally work out of CLCM's Lynn office, although one volunteer position is also available at CLCM's medical-legal partnership in Chelsea. Volunteers must have their own transportation to either location. The Lynn office is accessible by commuter rail and MBTA bus.

CLCM's help-line volunteers contribute a great deal to our mission – we look for individuals who want a challenging and meaningful volunteer experience. Many of our volunteers have utilized their experience at CLCM to focus their future plans and hone their skills.

Because of the nature of this work, CLCM conducts criminal record checks for all accepted candidates.

To apply, <u>e-mail</u> a completed application form and resume to Help- Line/Intern coordinator at info@clcm.org