

**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Managing Attorney for Asylum Project**  
**May 2006**

The Midwest Immigrant & Human Rights Center (MIHRC), a program of Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights in Chicago, Illinois, is seeking a managing attorney to oversee MIHRC's asylum project. The position will oversee the delivery of legal services for asylum seekers (including those fleeing sexual orientation-based, gender-based, and HIV-based persecution in their home countries). The position offers a unique opportunity to specialize in cutting-edge issues impacting low-income immigrants seeking protection-based relief under U.S. and international law as well as providing technical assistance to pro bono attorneys, community-based organizations, law enforcement agencies, and other legal service providers nationwide.

The Managing Attorney for Asylum has three core responsibilities: 1) to manage a team of attorneys and paralegals providing legal counseling and representation to asylum seekers, and other low-income immigrants seeking protection from persecution through the immigration administrative processing system, immigration court system, and federal courts; 2) to train and mentor *pro bono* attorneys, community-based organizations, law enforcement, and other legal service agencies striving to serve these populations; and 3) to advocate for access to justice and protection for these populations through educational outreach to policymakers and the public. The Managing Attorney will incorporate an international human rights framework into the program's direct services, training, and advocacy efforts. In addition, the Managing Attorney will represent the organization to the legal community, policymakers, media, and the general public, foster collaborative leadership within the organization, and support relevant donor relations and development.

Qualifications

- Licensed attorney with:
  - One to three years experience in immigration law and/or refugee law.
  - One year experience in civil or criminal litigation in federal court.
  - One year of supervisory experience.
- Knowledge of international issues and law, conflicts and policies impacting flows of refugees and asylum seekers to the United States.
- Experience in analyzing the impact of laws on vulnerable populations and advocating for improved laws and policies.
- Excellent legal research, writing, and oral communication skills.
- Excellent communication skills in both English and a relevant second language (Spanish or French, preferred but other languages will be considered).
- Excellent computer skills in Microsoft Office applications.
- Ability to manage multiple tasks simultaneously, work independently, and collaborate effectively in a fast-paced environment.

**MIHRC:** Since the 1970s, MIHRC has garnered a national reputation for its quality legal services and advocacy on behalf of immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers. MIHRC serves nearly 8,000 low-income or impoverished non-citizens and their families each year in the greater Chicago area and advances their rights and protections through national and international advocacy. MIHRC's trainings, publications, and technical assistance reach a diverse constituency of *pro bono* lawyers, nonprofit community groups, policymakers and government officials. MIHRC conducts direct litigation, files *amicus curiae* briefs, and participates in impact litigation on behalf of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers.

Position is open immediately. To apply, please complete the online application and create an online profile, including cover letter and resume by accessing the Careers section of the Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights web site at [www.heartlandalliance.org](http://www.heartlandalliance.org).

AA/EO -- Minorities, Women and Persons with Disabilities are encouraged to apply. A Heartland Alliance Partner.