

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

**MONTANA LEGAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION (MLSA) is hiring two AmeriCorps attorneys to staff its *Indian Wills Project* and *Self-Help Law Project*. Both positions located in Helena, Montana (a beautiful place, great for outdoors types).**

### ***AmeriCorps Attorney – Indian Wills Project:***

MLSA has an opening for an AmeriCorps Attorney to work with law students and pro bono attorneys to develop resources for creating wills and other estate planning documents for residents of Montana's seven Indian reservations. This position will provide a much-needed service to Montana's low-income Indian population. The Indian Probate Reform Act of 2004 frequently mandates the forced sale of lands owned by tribal members who die without a will. At present, there is no consistent resource within Montana to prepare wills for low-income tribal members, leaving them at the risk of losing their family lands.

The attorney will work with law schools to recruit and train law student volunteers, work with MLSA staff on Indian law projects, provide referrals and support and training to volunteer attorneys, develop community education and pro se materials. The attorney will carry a small caseload to gain direct service experience, and provide advice and brief services to clients. The position requires travel within Montana, as this position will conduct outreach to the University of Montana Law School and the seven Indian Reservations in Montana. Position is pending AmeriCorps funding approval expected 5/2/06.

### Requirements:

JD degree with above-average academic achievement;  
Licensed to practice in Montana, or able to take and pass next Montana bar exam;  
Excellent oral and written communication skills;  
Ability to travel, occasionally overnight;  
Ability to manage multiple tasks and work independently;  
Creative and willing to take on challenging projects;  
A commitment to providing high-quality legal assistance for Indian people.  
Experience working with Indian and/or low-income clients preferred.

Salary: \$21,800 AmeriCorps stipend.

### Benefits:

Health, vision, dental, and life insurance;  
Education Award from MLSA of \$1,200 in addition to AmeriCorps education award of \$4,725, for a total education award for one year of service of \$5,925;

Ability to place federal loans into forbearance during AmeriCorps service;  
Payment of state and local bar dues;  
Will receive substantive and lawyering skills training, including chance to attend national conference.

***AmeriCorps Attorney – Self-Help Law Project:***

MLSA has an opening for an AmeriCorps attorney who will develop, coordinate, and deliver self-help and community education programs to low-income people throughout Montana. The attorney will work with MLSA's Self-Help Law Project and Helpline. The attorney will work with law students and pro bono attorneys to create self-help projects, work on helplines, interview clients, fundraise, and conduct outreach and clinics in various substantive areas of law including housing, consumer, and family law. The attorney will carry a small caseload to gain direct service experience, and provide advice and brief services to clients. The position requires travel within Montana, as this position will conduct outreach to the University of Montana Law School and throughout the state. Position is pending AmeriCorps funding approval expected 5/2/06.

**Requirements:**

JD degree with above-average academic achievement;  
Licensed to practice in Montana, or able to take and pass next Montana bar exam;  
Excellent oral and written communication skills;  
Ability to travel, occasionally overnight;  
Ability to manage multiple tasks and work independently;  
Creativity and willingness to take on challenging projects;  
Comfort with technology including document assembly, website, and video conferencing;  
Experience working with low-income clients preferred.

**Salary:** \$21,800 AmeriCorps stipend.

**Benefits:**

Health, vision, dental, and life insurance;  
Education Award from MLSA of \$1,200 in addition to AmeriCorps education award of \$4,725, for a total education award for one year of service of \$5,925;  
Ability to place federal loans into forbearance during AmeriCorps service;  
Payment of state and local bar dues;  
Will receive substantive and lawyering skills training, including chance to attend national conference

**To apply for either position:**

Mail, fax, or email letter of interest, resume, writing sample, and list of three references to:

Montana Legal Services Assn.  
616 Helena Avenue, Suite 100  
Helena, MT 59601  
Fax: (406) 442-9817  
Email: [hire@mtlsa.org](mailto:hire@mtlsa.org)

MLSA is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Submission Deadline: Open until filled. Americorps Term of Service starts August 2006