

## **Law Firm Attorney Sabbatical Program**

### **San Mateo County – Redwood City**

#### **Domestic Violence Restraining Order Representation**

Description: BayLegal operates a Domestic Violence (DV) Restraining Order Clinic which assists self-represented DV survivors seeking protective orders with custody, visitation, support and other related orders. Additionally, staff attorneys have extensive expertise in advocacy and representation of DV survivors, including providing representation in a complete range of family law and immigration matters. A significant number of DV survivors must represent themselves in their DV restraining order hearings.

Responsibilities: Under the supervision of San Mateo County Managing Attorney and in collaboration with Staff Domestic Violence Family Law Attorneys:

- Represent DV Survivors in restraining order hearings and related family law matters (ex custody, visitation, support);
- Conduct community education and outreach;
- Work with pro bono attorneys - assisting with trainings, coordinating case placement and ongoing mentorship and technical assistance.

Qualifications:

- CA State Bar license required
- Expressed interest or experience working with DV survivors and immigrant communities.
- Bilingual in Spanish preferred

Location: San Mateo County - Redwood City

#### **Domestic Violence Restraining Order Clinic**

Description: A domestic violence (DV) restraining order is a powerful civil order which include orders protecting a DV survivor (and children) and providing means to gain independence to escape the violence. BayLegal coordinates DVRO Clinics throughout Contra Costa County assisting self-represented DV survivors seeking protective orders, custody, visitation support and other related orders.

Responsibilities: Attorney will:

- Assist self-represented litigants prepare pleadings and declarations required to obtain a Restraining Order;
- Assist clients with safety planning, accessing social services and navigating the court system;
- Community outreach and education regarding DV and restraining orders

Qualifications:

- Expressed interest or experience working with DV survivors and immigrant communities.
- Bilingual in Spanish preferred
- Bar License not required

Location: Redwood City, CA



## **Law Firm Attorney Sabbatical Program**

### **San Mateo County – Redwood City**

#### **Advocacy for Immigrant DV Survivors Seeking Government Benefits**

Description: The purpose of the project is to empower immigrant domestic violence (DV) survivors of by removing barriers to accessing public benefits and thus helping clients to escape their abusive relationships and develop independent self-sufficient lives for themselves and their children. BayLegal has extensive expertise in this area and has been a leader in establishing best practices and ensuring access to essential public benefits throughout the Bay Area and California. Systemic change to the welfare system will be achieved through direct representation of clients and advocacy work with the San Mateo County welfare department, Human Services Agency (“HSA”).

Responsibilities: Under the supervision and mentorship of the San Mateo County office Managing Attorney:

- Represent clients in their public benefits cases, including assisting with initial applications, educating individual caseworks and supervisors, pursuing appeals, obtaining retroactive benefits, and any other actions necessary in individual cases;
- Work with HSA to develop model protocols for working with immigrant DV survivors, including developing employee trainings on working with this population, tools for implementing the Family Violence Option, identifying DV survivors, working with non-English speakers, and working toward cultural competence.
- Participate in local, regional and statewide public benefits, DV, and immigration task forces which including advocates, attorneys, and county employees.

Qualifications:

- Expressed interest and experience working with DV survivors and immigrant communities;
- Bilingual in Spanish preferred
- Bar license not required

Location: Redwood City, CA