Staff Attorney – Clients' Right Advocate 1 or 2
Office of Clients' Right Advocacy (OCRA)

Location: INLAND REGIONAL CENTER -- 3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Ontario, CA
HYBRID SCHEDULE (home/min. of 2 days in the office)

Individuals who are Deaf or Disabled are encouraged to apply.

SALARY RANGE (Depending on Experience): $62,469 – $91,242 annually (CRA 1)

$67,477 – $98,816 annually (CRA 2)

EXCELLENT BENEFITS including 8% 401k Match, a LRAP (Loan Repayment Assistance Program) program that pays up to $300 per month depending on salary and debt and a language differential up to $250/mo. Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) - eligible employment.

Application Deadline: *Open until filled.*

WHO WE ARE
Disability Rights California (DRC) is the Protection & Advocacy (P&A) system for the state of California. DRC defends, advances, and strengthens the rights and opportunities of people with disabilities. DRC works for a world where all disabled people have power and are treated with dignity and respect. In this world, people with disabilities are supported, valued, included in their communities, afforded the same opportunities as people without disabilities, and make their own decisions.

DRC values all forms of human diversity. We are committed to a culture of belonging where all people are welcome. In order to be effective advocates for all people with disabilities, we must address discrimination in all its forms, including the unique challenges faced by people who experience the intersection of multiple systems of discrimination.

OFFICE OF CLIENTS' RIGHTS ADVOCACY
DRC has a contract with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), State of California, to provide Clients' Rights Advocacy services for clients of each of the 21 regional centers located statewide. That contract funds the Clients' Rights Advocate (CRA) position. We are a team of zealous advocates and disability generalists who are building a culture of teamwork and working for a world where all disabled people have power, are treated with dignity and respect, and make their own decisions.

PURPOSE OF THE JOB

The CRA advocates for people with developmental disabilities who are regional center clients, including people who reside in state developmental centers and community facilities. The CRA is a generalist who provides information, advice, and representation on a wide range of legal topics impacting people who receive regional center services. Examples are special education, Social Security, IHSS, healthcare and insurance, and living in the community.

The CRA works under the direct supervision of a supervising attorney and in collaboration with other OCRA advocates and attorneys in their advocacy and outreach efforts.

This position is in a location convenient to the regional center and is eligible for a hybrid schedule working both remotely and in-office, with a minimum of two days in-office per week.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience
- Juris Doctor degree.
- Two or more years of experience:
  - Advocating for the rights of people with developmental disabilities; or
  - In a paid or volunteer position relating to regional center services, special education, or Social Security; or
  - Working with vulnerable people or communities.
- Ability to conduct research and analysis of pertinent legal authority.
- Written and verbal communication skills sufficient to communicate complex legal questions and issues to the general public.
- Experience working with or sensitivity to people with disabilities.
- Experience working with or sensitivity to people from ethnic or language distinct communities.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS
- Three or more years advocating for the rights of people with developmental disabilities.
- Knowledge of statewide resources available to people with developmental disabilities.
- Experience reviewing medical or educational records.
- Able to communicate fluently and write effectively in Spanish or an Asian language.
- Alternate dispute resolution training and practice.
- One or more years supervising colleagues in a work or volunteer setting.
- Contacts with disability organizations and/or within disability communities.

- Experience with or ethnic or language distinct   extensive contacts in communities.

- Experience providing training to a diverse range of people.
- Life experience as a person with a disability or direct experience as a caregiver of a person with a disability.

- Proficiency with Windows-based computer applications including Microsoft Office and case management software.
- Demonstrated experience and ability to work effectively with a variety of organizations and individuals with diverse perspectives, including people with disabilities, administrators, advocacy groups, and the public, and to maintain confidentiality in all matters.

Licenses / Certificates

For placement as a CRA 2, must be admitted to the California State Bar, or eligible to practice under California's Registered Legal Services Attorney Program. If eligible under the RLSA Program, must become admitted to the California State Bar within three (3) years. If you are hired as a CRA 1 and later become licensed, you are eligible for an immediate promotion to CRA 2.

WORKING CONDITIONS

The following describes general working conditions and requirements of the job, which can be performed with or without disability-related reasonable accommodations.

- Duties are performed in office and home environments and the field in a wide range of settings, including courthouses, congregate care or other institutional settings, and community agencies.
- Duties frequently require sitting and communicating with others.
- Must be able to transport oneself to work-related meetings, hearings, facilities, and settings where clients live.

High speed internet connection is required to work for us.

Working at DRC is more than just a job - it is a rare opportunity to do what you are good at while making a difference! DRC offers competitive salaries and a generous benefit package. To view the detailed job description and complete the application process here.