RE-ADVERTISEMENT: Legal Counsel - We are hiring!

The Kenya Legal & Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS (KELIN)

KELIN was formed in 1994 and registered as a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) in 2001. While originally created to protect and promote HIV-related human rights, its scope has expanded to also include: sexual and reproductive health and rights, key populations, and women, land and property rights. KELIN advocates for a holistic and rights-based system of service delivery in health and for the full enjoyment of the right to health by all, including the vulnerable, marginalised and excluded populations in these four thematic areas.

Legal Counsel Position:

KELIN is part of the Initiative for Strategic Litigation’s (ISLA) Feminist Litigation Network (FLN). The FLN is made up of women’s human rights organisations across the continent who join the network with the objective of strengthening their institutions’ strategic litigation capacity and that of their lawyers, being part of a pool of African feminist litigators, and contributing to the development of feminist jurisprudence. ISLA provides resources through a sub-grant to the partner organisation to hire a lawyer, coordinates the activities of the FLN partners, and provides an array of strategic litigation capacity strengthening programmes and resources for its FLN partners in order to achieve its objectives.

KELIN therefore seeks one dynamic lawyer with substantial litigation experience to help us undertake strategic litigation cases for the FL Network and to strengthen and support KELIN’s strategic litigation unit. The lawyer will exclusively focus on strategic litigation and will be based in Nairobi.

- Job Title: Legal Counsel
- Reports to: KELIN’s Executive Director
Main Duties and Responsibilities:

- Be a part of strengthening the strategic litigation unit team and help to develop the litigation unit in the network partner’s organisation;
- Demonstrate an ability to take a strategic and dynamic approach to the use of law as a tool for the promotion of human rights;
- Research substantive issues of comparative and international human rights law and practice;
- Draft clear and concise legal memoranda, briefs and opinions;
- Provide legal representation on cases before domestic, regional and international human rights fora;
- And build and strengthen alliances and coalitions to support cases with relevant social networks and groups;
- Contributing to strategic and operational planning of the organisation and to organisational development;
- Preparing and contributing to key network partner's publications, briefing papers and websites;
- Undertaking strategic litigation work within the network partner's mandate in collaboration with colleagues;
- Facilitating capacity strengthening workshops on international human rights law and practice;
- Providing support for interns, volunteers and staff members as needed;
- Representing the network partner and its programmes as required; and
- Supporting the work of the ISLA FLN Manager as appropriate.

Essential requirements:

- A legal degree and admission to legal practice in the relevant country Kenya;
- Strong research and exceptional writing skills;
- Keen analytical ability;
- Meticulous attention to detail;
Substantial experience (5 years or more) using constitutional, regional and international human rights law, with preference to candidates who have had such experience in litigation;

In-depth or sophisticated understanding of international/regional and comparative human rights mechanisms, and institutions;

Knowledge and understanding of women’s human rights and feminist analysis on the following issues:
  o Violence against women, women’s economic justice including women’s land and property rights, and women’s socio-economic rights

Fundraising experience, including a demonstrated ability to cultivate relationships with individual donors, is beneficial; and

Fluency in English.

Desirable qualities:

- Fluency in Kiswahili;
- Priority will be given to qualifying women applicants;
- Advanced degree on human rights, gender or a relevant subject;
- Supervisory experience. An added advantage will be, experience in coordinating and managing projects and evidence of being a self-driven, resourceful person who is able to manage and coordinate teamwork well;
- Experience in contributing to the overall strategic planning of an organisation; and
- Exhibit the highest standards of excellence and integrity, and display, at all times and to all persons, a courteous, professional and cooperative attitude.

Salary: This position offers a competitive salary that is commensurate with experience.

Applications close at 4pm, 28 February 2020. Kindly note that interviews for shortlisted candidates will take place in Nairobi, Monday 2 March 2020. Details of these interviews will be communicated to the shortlisted candidates.

All applications should be submitted to recruitment@kelinkenya.org with a copy to info@kelinkenya.org

This application is also open to other Feminist Litigation Network partner lawyers.