



**KANSAS APPLESEED**  
*Justice for all.*

## **JOB POSTING** **Litigation Director**

Kansas Appleseed seeks a Litigation Director to lead its statewide program of impact litigation and legal advocacy. This is an opportunity for a visionary attorney to work collaboratively with others to create this new position from the ground up, providing Kansas Appleseed a powerful new tool for statewide advocacy.

The ideal candidate is a strategic thinker with the passion and expertise to defend justice for all through litigation and legal advocacy. The Litigation Director is a key member of the senior leadership team and will work closely with the Executive Director and the Board's Litigation Committee to shape Kansas Appleseed's work. The Litigation Director reports directly to the Executive Director and will work in close coordination with the organization's research, communications, and advocacy staff.

Kansas Appleseed is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization born out of the legal community and dedicated to the vision that Kansans, working together, can build a state full thriving, inclusive, and just communities. We investigate social, economic, and political injustice in Kansas; we support the public's voice in policy decisions through community organizing and grassroots engagement; and we shepherd policy solutions through the decision-making process at the state and local level. Our board of directors is composed of leading attorneys and other community champions who contribute their expertise to ensure justice for all in Kansas. More information is available at [www.KansasAppleseed.org](http://www.KansasAppleseed.org).

**Location:** Lawrence, Kansas

**Start Date:** February 2019

### **Responsibilities:**

- In coordination with Executive Director and the Board of Directors develop vision and set overall strategy for Kansas Appleseed's legal program.
- Ensure Kansas Appleseed maintains an active and diverse litigation docket consistent with the priorities established by the Board of Directors through its strategic planning.
- Investigate and develop select priority cases that have the potential for strong systemic impact.
- Develop strong relationships with attorneys who will take pro bono impact litigation cases developed by the Litigation Director.
- Supervise legal staff (volunteers and legal interns/fellows), including overseeing legal intake, managing workloads, and providing mentorship.
- Prepare legal memoranda and demand letters. Review, comment on, or write amicus briefs.
- Coordinate collaboration with and legal support for other Kansas Appleseed programs in the promotion of integrated advocacy.
- Coordinate closely with the board's Litigation Committee.
- Serve as a spokesperson for Kansas Appleseed in the press, as a public speaker, and before other audiences, as appropriate. Coordinate media strategies for legal cases with communications staff.
- Collaborate with communications staff in drafting press releases, op-eds, and articles for newsletter, website, social media, and other outlets.
- Perform other related duties as assigned by the Executive Director.

### **Required Qualifications:**

- At least 5 years of trial and appellate litigation experience in state and federal courts. (Extraordinary candidates with less experience will be considered.)
- Experience working with clients from diverse constituencies.
- Strong leadership skills.
- Excellent research, writing, and oral communication skills. Demonstrated ability to communicate complex legal

issues in the courtroom and to the public.

- Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively with lawyers, other staff members, volunteers, and community organizations.
- Deep commitment to and passion for the advancement of justice in Kansas.
- Demonstrated ability to manage, prioritize, and meet numerous deadlines and diverse responsibilities in a timely and professional manner.
- A team-building, collaborative, and positive approach to work.
- A commitment to diversity and respect for differences of race, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, ability, and socio-economic circumstance.
- Kansas Bar admission is required. An attorney not currently admitted to the Kansas Bar shall seek admission and be admitted within a mutually agreed upon time frame.
- Candidates must be available for occasional evening and weekend commitments. Candidates will need a personal vehicle, valid driver's license, and auto insurance as the position requires frequent in-state travel. Travel expenses will be reimbursed.

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- A background in impact litigation related to issues of social justice.
- Experience recruiting, training, supervising, and motivating pro bono attorneys.
- Experience working in nonprofit settings, especially advocacy organizations.

**Compensation:** \$70,000 annually, plus benefits: premium health and dental plan fully paid by employer, retirement employer match up to 3% of salary, PTO (3 weeks), health leave (2 weeks), and 16 paid holidays.

**We strongly encourage people from historically underrepresented communities to apply.** Kansas Appleseed believes diversity and inclusion strengthen our communities and workplaces. Kansas Appleseed does not discriminate based on race, gender identity, religion, age, ethnicity, disability, military status, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital status or citizenship status.

**Application procedure:** Please send a resume and cover letter to Executive Director Benet Magnuson at [applications@KansasAppleseed.org](mailto:applications@KansasAppleseed.org). Please put "Litigation Director" in the subject line of your email. Applications received by December 9, 2018, will receive priority consideration.