



## **Battered Women's Support Services is Hiring**

We're looking for a woman to join our dynamic and extremely committed direct services team. Working at Battered Women's Support Services means joining a team of volunteers and paid employees who work as an integrated team to support individual women while advocating for social, systemic and institutional change.

Our programs are extremely busy and the issues facing girls and women survivors of violence are complex. Working at Battered Women's Support Services means making real change in the lives of girls and women survivors of abuse and violence.

### **Legal Advocate**

#### **Permanent Job Posting**

40 hours per week

Hourly pay 22.90 per hour plus benefits

Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 p.m.

Alternating Wednesdays 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Additional evenings and weekends may be required

### **Purpose of Position**

The Legal Advocacy program provides information, support and advocacy to women dealing with legal issues such as separation, divorce, custody and access, child support, and other issues related to family law, as well as immigration and other systems.

### **Key Responsibilities**

Program Services:

- Provide legal information, summary of case law, legal research and general assistance to women in building strategies for their legal case.
- Assume responsibility for the over-all operations of the Legal Advocacy Program
- Work from an anti-oppression feminist analysis of violence against girls and women
- Become familiar with and perform work consistent with the BWSS Legal Advocacy Program Outcome Measurement Framework
- Interviewing women, assessing/analyzing legal problems, assisting in resolving legal problems, assisting women prepare for court, preparing documents in consultation with legal supervisor
- Provide Court Accompaniments
- Deliver training workshops
- Provide consultation and support to BWSS volunteers related to legal advocacy issues

- Provide consultation and support to BWSS staff related to legal advocacy issues.
- Maintain an excellent working knowledge of emergent legal-social issues related to violence against women and to seek solutions.
- Research and write documents related to Law Reform
- Assist with the administration of all record keeping and service delivery obligations of the Law Foundation of B. C. contract, in keeping with legal and contractual obligations undertaken by the Society. Such administrative duties will include preparing refunding proposal and regular program activity reports as required by BWSS and the funder.

### **Qualifications**

The BWSS Legal Advocate must have a:

- Bachelor's Degree in the law, or certificate or diploma in appropriate area such as Paralegal Program or equivalent experience
- Minimum 4 years experience working with legal advocacy issues related to women who experience violence in relationships
- Analysis, knowledge and training in working with trauma survivors
- Excellent advocacy and problem solving skills
- Strong feminist analysis of violence against women
- Strong anti-oppression awareness and analysis
- Demonstrated cultural competency including awareness of diverse marginalized communities in the Lower Mainland and ability to work with women from various cultural communities
- Ability to speak language(s) other than English an asset
- Highly organized, able to motivate and provide strong leadership to staff, volunteers and colleagues.
- Satisfactory criminal record checks.
- Have experience in women's organizations and non-profit society environments
- Have excellent communication skills, both verbal and written.
- Be personable, flexible and self-directed.

### **Application Closing Date: Friday, January 4th, 2013**

Resume cover letter and three references to:

Rosa Elena Arteaga, Manager of Direct Services and Clinical Practice

Fax: 604-687-1864, Email: [rosa@bwss.org](mailto:rosa@bwss.org) Address: P.O Box 21503 1424 Commercial Drive, Vancouver BC V5L 5G2

This position requires union membership

This position is part of an organization where the sole purpose is to alleviate and address the conditions of a disadvantaged group (women who are marginalized by violence and various forms of inequalities) being female is a bona fide occupational requirement. As such, only women will be considered for this position. Aboriginal women, women of colour, lesbians and women from other under represented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.