**PROJECT ATTORNEY, RACIAL JUSTICE PROJECT**

**CENTER FOR CHILDREN’S ADVOCACY**

### Position Description:

The Center for Children’s Advocacy (CCA), the largest children’s rights organization in New England, seeks a dynamic attorney for its Racial Justice Project. CCA is a non-profit organization dedicated to enforcing the legal rights of low-income children. More information about the Center can be found on CCA’s website: [www.cca-ct.org](about:blank).

The Racial Justice Project uses direct legal services, administrative advocacy, litigation, legislative advocacy and collaborative work with communities and agencies to increase educational equity for children and youth of color and defend the civil rights of children and youth of color who are subjected to policies and practices that result in racial disparities in educational opportunity and juvenile justice involvement.

The Project Attorney will:

* Lead Racial and Ethnic Disparities Reduction Committees in five Connecticut cities that have high rates of racial and ethnic disparities in chronic absenteeism and juvenile justice involvement. Facilitate work of Committee members, including school system, law enforcement, child welfare and juvenile court personnel, to analyze data and identify and reform local level policies and practices that result in youth of color being treated more harshly by the education and juvenile justice systems in those cities.
* Represent individual children and youth of color in education matters, regarding harsh school discipline, illegal push-out, bullying and discrimination in school, and denial of adequate educational services. Legal representation in limited juvenile delinquency proceedings is optional.
* Represent youth confined in or discharged from juvenile justice and correctional facilities to increase their access to appropriate education and other services and supports and reduce any barriers to reentry.
* Provide training and legal consultation to parents, professionals and advocates regarding children’s legal rights and discrimination, to enable them to protect the civil rights of children and youth of color.
* Collaborate with community partners and advocates to identify and address systemic policies and practices that contribute to inequities in education and the juvenile justice system, and engage in systemic advocacy to reform those policies and practices through strategies including administrative advocacy, participation on legislative task forces and litigation.
* Collaborate with other CCA projects to analyze and address systemic problems in child welfare, youth homelessness and health through a racial equity lens.

The Project Attorney will be based in CCA’s office in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

### Qualifications:

Minimum of four years related legal experience is required. Experience in education law is preferred.

Cultural competence, experience with children and youth of color and demonstrated deep commitment to racial justice is required.

Strong organizational, interpersonal and communication skills necessary.

Member of CT Bar or ability to waive in required.

Bilingual (Spanish) applicants are encouraged to apply.

### Compensation:

Salary and benefits are commensurate with experience.

### Application Process:

Please email a cover letter and resume to: Martha Stone, Executive Director, at [mstone@cca-ct.org](about:blank). CCA intends to fill this position as soon as possible.

**CCA is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to an inclusive and diverse workplace.**