



# 2012-2013 Reproductive Justice Fellowship Program Placement Organization Application

**Law Students for Reproductive Justice (LSRJ) seeks applications from organizations working to advance reproductive justice, with offices in Washington D.C., to host a Reproductive Justice Fellow for the upcoming 2012-2013 fellowship year.**

LSRJ is a national network of law students, professors, and lawyers. LSRJ trains and mobilizes law students and new lawyers across the country to foster legal expertise and support for the realization of reproductive justice. Find out more at [www.LSRJ.org](http://www.LSRJ.org).

## REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

In 2010, LSRJ launched the Reproductive Justice Fellowship Program (RJFP) as a means to enhance the capacity of organizations working to influence law and policy as it relates to reproductive justice and to build a pipeline for future reproductive justice lawyers. LSRJ has successfully selected and placed total of 14 Reproductive Justice (RJ) fellows at non-profit organizations with offices in Washington D.C. For more information about the 2010-11 and 2011-12 RJFP participants, please visit: [www.RJFP.lsrj.org](http://www.RJFP.lsrj.org).

Currently, LSRJ is in the process of selecting the 2012-13 class of RJ Fellows. Current third year law students and recent law graduates will undergo a highly competitive fellowship selection process in which they must demonstrate a strong interest in and commitment to reproductive justice, as well as possess an excellent academic record and stellar recommendations. A selection committee will choose **six to eight** law school graduates to serve as the 2012-13 RJ Fellows, each receiving a stipend of \$50,000 plus fringe benefits, provided by the placement organization.

## RJ FELLOW'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The RJ Fellow's work will further the placement organization's reproductive justice agenda, which may include issues such as health care reform implementation as it pertains to reproductive health services; comprehensive sex education; restoring public funding for abortion services; ensuring reproductive rights for women in the military; analysis of reproductive health outcomes for women of color; and HIV/AIDS and domestic violence advocacy. The RJ Fellow may be responsible for conducting legal and policy analysis; educating policymakers, allies, and constituents; and participating in advocacy efforts. The RJ Fellow may also serve a key role in working for reproductive health policy change that meets the needs of vulnerable populations by representing the placement organization in coalitions, meetings with staff and Members of Congress, and collaborations to advance legislative priorities. As a law school graduate with an understanding of the reproductive justice framework, the RJ Fellow will assist in research, interpretation, and application of law to aid the host organization's litigation, publication, and policy pursuits. Thus, the RJ Fellow will play an integral role in helping to influence public opinion, shape litigation, and advance policy, aiming to ensure the future of reproductive justice for all people.

## ORGANIZATION SELECTION

Organizations with a commitment to reproductive justice and the requisite capacity for supervision and support are encouraged to apply to host an RJ Fellow in their headquarters or satellite offices in Washington D.C. A selection committee will choose the **six to eight** placement organizations, which will then participate in the matching process for their respective RJ Fellows, who will begin their terms in **August 2012 and end in August 2013**. Placement organizations will benefit from enhanced research, analysis, and advocacy capacity, bolstering their ability to achieve desired



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outcomes and lasting change. In addition to direct supervision from placement organization staff, the RJ Fellows will be mentored by the LSRJ Director of Academic & Professional Programs and participate in monthly meetings, trainings, and professional development and networking opportunities with their cohort.

## PLACEMENT ORGANIZATION ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

LSRJ is now accepting applications from organizations interested in hosting an RJ Fellow for the upcoming fellowship year (August 2012-August 2013). To be eligible to apply, prospective placement organizations must have a/an:

- Office in Washington D.C., with full-time, on-site staff available to act as primary supervisor;
- Commitment (at the project, department, or organizational level) to furthering reproductive justice and meeting the needs of low-income women of color and other marginalized communities in the U.S.;
- Capacity to support the RJ Fellow with adequate facilities (desk, computer) and fringe benefits (including group health insurance); and
- Project(s) appropriate for the RJ Fellow's experience and skill level.

**Six to eight placement organizations** will be selected for the upcoming year. In order to spread the capacity-building aspect of the RJFP to many organizations, the number of times an organization has hosted an RJ Fellow in the past will be taken into account during the selection process.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:** Applications from prospective placement organizations will be accepted through **Monday, January 16, 2012 at 5:00PM PST.**

The RJ Fellow must be assigned to work on legal and/or public policy issues related to reproductive justice, although your organization need not have an attorney on staff or focus solely with these issues. The RJ Fellow's work must be challenging, substantive, and provide the RJ Fellow with opportunities for professional growth and development. Throughout the fellowship year, the RJ Fellow must be directly supervised and mentored by an experienced advocate on staff, who will provide guidance and feedback on assignments and work product. Your organization must also agree to release the RJ Fellow to participate in all RJFP events, trainings, and seminars on a regular basis.

If your organization is awarded an RJ Fellow, the RJ Fellow's \$50,000 annual stipend will be covered by LSRJ through a one-time grant to your organization. Your organization will be responsible for distributing the stipend to the RJ Fellow on the regular payroll schedule throughout the fellowship year. Your organization will also be responsible for payment of the RJ Fellow's ordinary fringe benefits, including group health insurance, employment-related taxes, vacation and sick leave, and additional benefits provided to other equivalent staff at your organization.

*LSRJ is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to a diverse, multicultural work environment. People of color, people with disabilities, and those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer are strongly encouraged to apply.*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## 2012-2013 ORGANIZATION APPLICATION

Organizations interested in applying to host an RJ Fellow must send a letter of application and supporting documents via email to Mariko Miki at [Mariko@LSRJ.org](mailto:Mariko@LSRJ.org) by **5:00 PM PST on Monday, January 16, 2012**. Early applications are encouraged.

Please include the following information in your application:

1. A brief statement explaining what reproductive justice means to your organization and how your organization is working to implement that vision;
2. A brief statement explaining why your organization is well suited to host an RJ Fellow, including the impact the RJ Fellow is expected to have on your organization's office/department/program and on the proposed project(s);
3. An express statement that your organization meets all of the requirements for hosting an RJ Fellow for the 2011-2012 fellowship year, as outlined in the guidelines above;
4. A brief description of your organization's mission, operational structure, staff size, 2012-13 budget, and programming. If your organization engages in any legal work, a brief description of the nature of the different types of legal work conducted by your office (for example, impact litigation, amicus briefs, legislative advocacy, legal analysis of policy). A link to your website containing similar information is acceptable;
5. Your organization's tax status and classification under the IRS code and a copy of your most recent annual report, if available;
6. A brief description of the work that the RJ Fellow would undertake at your organization. Please describe any unique skills (e.g., language fluency), experience, (e.g., community organizing), and/or personal characteristics (e.g. identification with a particular community) that would enhance the RJ Fellow's ability to work effectively at your organization;
7. The name and title of the RJ Fellow's designated supervisor and a description of his/her work experience; whether a licensed attorney is available for guidance/mentoring;
8. If the RJ Fellow will be representing clients, a description of the organization's professional liability and malpractice insurance and a statement confirming the RJ Fellow's eligibility for its coverage;
9. A brief description of the office environment, including the physical workspace, computer, Internet and email access, and separate/shared resources and facilities that the RJ Fellow would use at your organization; and
10. A description of the employee fringe benefits, including group health insurance and vacation/sick leave, that would be provided to the RJ Fellow by your organization during the 2012-13 fellowship year.