Nebraska Appleseed Law Clerk Job Description:

Nebraska Appleseed clerkships are full or part time positions and provide opportunities to experience a wide variety of public interest law. Law clerks will do research, legal writing, litigation support, assist with administrative appeals and advocacy, and conduct public policy research and analysis. Law clerks work directly under the supervision of Nebraska Appleseed Staff Attorneys allowing them to get one on one attention and direction.

Law clerks are assigned projects from several of Nebraska Appleseed’s four core program areas:

1. **Economic Justice Program**: We think of our poverty-fighting efforts as building a ladder that leads people out of crisis. Public services can and should work this way – finding people who have fallen into poverty, then connecting them to programs and resources that lead to true financial independence. Up and up. Step by step. If you imagine that ladder, Nebraska Appleseed’s work is focused on filling in the gaps – fixing broken rungs or building new ones. When we find a problem, we look past short-term or surface solutions to get to the underlying need. And we try to think about the entire system. *What help do people need now? What will they need next? Is there a clear pathway to financial security?* Our work is motivated by hope and confidence. We believe that most people can reach financial independence if the path out of poverty is clear.

2. **Child Welfare Program**: A functioning child welfare system gets help to children and families who need it – but never makes a family’s situation worse with intervention. At Nebraska Appleseed, we’re working to reform our state’s broken child welfare system. That means collaborating with government, lawmakers and communities on better policies and practices – and sometimes taking legal action to protect the rights of children. Our children in the foster system are entitled to caring, safe homes; education; medical and mental health care; substance abuse treatment; and thoughtful case management.

3. **Immigrants and Community Program**: Immigrants have been working and building lives in Nebraska for generations. At Nebraska Appleseed, we believe that our state has everything to gain from welcoming these new residents with open hearts and minds. A welcoming environment not only helps newcomers become stronger, more valuable members of the community; it also helps the community itself take in and benefit from fresh perspectives. With this in mind, Nebraska Appleseed is working to rebuild the immigration system – and to reframe the conversation about immigration – in our state.

4. **Health Care Access Program**: Health care coverage is a vital part of living a good life. People with health insurance are physically healthier – and economically more secure. They seek out preventative care, they see a doctor when they need to, and they’re more likely to bounce back, financially, from injury or illness. But, today, more than 225,000 Nebraskans can’t afford even basic health care coverage. At Nebraska Appleseed, we’re working to make quality health care affordable for everyone. Currently we’re focused on – and enthusiastic about – the federal Affordable Care Act. The law is the best opportunity our state has had to make real progress. We’re working with government agencies and lawmakers to make sure the Affordable Care Act is implemented fairly in our state; that new systems are simple and easy to use; and that the law reaches the people it was intended to help.

To Apply, please fill out the online form and submit a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and transcript.