



# ACLS Leading Edge Fellowship

<b>Position Title:</b>	Advocacy and Research Specialist
<b>Organization:</b>	Gender Justice
<b>Location:</b>	St. Paul, Minnesota (In person/hybrid)
<b>Stipend:</b>	\$66,000 in year one, \$70,000 in year two, plus health insurance, \$3,500 per year in professional development funding, and up to \$5,000 for relocation costs
<b>Start Date:</b>	September 2023

## ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

[Gender Justice](#) works to advance gender equity through the law. We envision a world where everyone can thrive regardless of their gender, gender expression, or sexual orientation. Step by step we're creating that world by dismantling legal, structural, and cultural barriers that contribute to gender inequity.

We are facing the most significant attacks on bodily autonomy, abortion access, and transgender rights – targeting transgender children – ever. The Supreme Court opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson* undercuts not just *Roe*, but also the legal principles that underpin seemingly established law like rights to marriage equality, contraception, and interracial marriage.

Gender Justice sees all legal, legislative, and cultural attacks on body autonomy as part of the same regressive, right-wing playbook that seeks to reserve autonomy for the privileged, who are then invited to exercise power over others already living at the intersecting margins of race and gender. We've adopted a broader frame that views abortion, contraception, LGB rights, transgender rights, and more as part of the same fight for gender justice. We know that people who experience gender oppression are also affected by racism, ableism, poverty and other forms of oppression. We operate with a commitment to racial justice, and we prioritize partnering with allies across the social justice space to ensure that all of our work reflects intersecting identities and experiences, and an understanding of gender, racial, reproductive and economic justice. Gender Justice has built a unique organizational model – based in Minnesota and working across the Upper Midwest – that combines impact litigation with policy advocacy, public education and powerful communications. Our organizational model positions us as an innovator of local, state, and regional strategy and infrastructure and a leader in a post-*Roe* landscape.

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

Gender Justice seeks an Advocacy and Research Specialist to join our ambitious, highly-effective, and growing team. Under the supervision of Deputy Director Tana Hargest, the Specialist will lead projects to advance trans-inclusive policies in youth-serving organizations and research the experiences of people seeking abortion and pregnancy care in the Upper Midwest. As a member of the Advocacy Team, the Specialist will also contribute to the organization's legislative advocacy.

The Specialist will research the status of and gaps in trans-inclusive policies in youth-serving organizations and develop and implement a campaign to pass trans-inclusive policies. This project will include research, community outreach, cultivating relationships with community leaders, providing training for groups, and working with sports entities and schools to implement inclusive policies. The Specialist will also build and manage relationships with local and national partners to advance trans inclusion in youth-serving organizations in the Upper Midwest.

The Specialist will also work closely with abortion providers to learn about the experiences of people seeking abortion and pregnancy care in the Upper Midwest, including experiences with anti-abortion

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crisis pregnancy centers, to inform Gender Justice's advocacy to expand abortion access. This project will include the development of a research project, data collection and analysis, writing, and policy development.

The Specialist will work closely with the Advocacy Team on legislative advocacy, including monitoring bill introductions and progress, building and maintaining relationships with state and local legislative and agency staff, and other tasks as needed. They will also work with the Communications Director to develop support materials for the organization's advocacy projects, such as talking points, one-pagers, fact sheets, and messaging guides. The Specialist may gain experience in research analysis, community engagement, policy advocacy, public relations, government relations, policy analysis, external affairs, project management, community organizing and nonprofit leadership. The fellowship tenure is 24 consecutive months, with an expected time commitment of approximately 37.5 hours per week.

### **Responsibilities and Tasks:**

- Research gaps in abortion access and pregnancy care and trans-inclusive policies in youth-serving organizations.
- Write a report on the experiences of people seeking abortion care in the Upper Midwest.
- Organize schools and athletic associations to adopt new trans-inclusive policies.
- Identification of potential clients for litigation and storytellers.
- Development of materials for the public and policy-makers.
- Build strong relationships with community partners, policy-makers, and other stakeholders.

### **Qualifications:**

- PhD in any field of the humanities or humanistic social sciences. Read more about eligible fields [here](#).
- Knowledge of LGBTQ+ and/or reproductive health care issues.
- Confidence and success in building and developing relationships.
- Strong qualitative research skills.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills, including engaging style for persuasion and moving people to take action.
- Strong project management skills.
- Political savvy and good judgment.
- Commitment to our mission and values, which include racial, social, and economic justice in addition to gender justice.
- Experience working with BIPOC communities and gender diverse, transgender, and/or nonbinary people/communities.
- Sense of humor and a commitment to a diverse, collaborative work environment.

### **APPLICATIONS**

- Information on the Leading Edge Fellowship Program: <https://www.acls.org/Competitions-and-Deadlines/Leading-Edge-Fellowships>
- All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System (ofa.acls.org).
- Application deadline: 9:00pm EDT, March 15th, 2023.

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