

JOB DESCRIPTION: Yale Gruber COVID-19 Health Justice Legal Fellow at the Global Health Justice Partnership

December 2020

Brief description

The **Yale COVID-19 Health Justice Legal Fellow** is a two-year position, starting in or around **February 1, 2021**, designed for law or PhD graduates interested in health justice. The fellow will support GHJP's work to address COVID-19, for example to support a national COVID jobs corps, to ensure equitable access to safe and high-quality vaccines and therapeutics, and to support local community groups in advocating for vulnerable communities including sex workers and the homeless. It is a unique opportunity for individuals interested in preparing for a career in health justice, interdisciplinary clinical teaching, or engaged legal scholarship. Through close collaboration with Global Health Justice Partnership (GHJP) faculty, students, and partners, the fellow will gain hands-on experience with advocacy, community engagement, student mentorship, interdisciplinary exchange, and scholarly research and writing. The ideal candidate will have a JD or PhD, and several years of relevant work experience, such as policy/advocacy work related to health, work with community groups, or work on pharmaceuticals and vaccines.

About the GHJP:

The Global Health Justice Partnership ([GHJP](#)), an initiative of the Yale Law School and Yale School of Public Health, was established in 2012 to promote interdisciplinary, innovative, and effective responses to key problems in health justice. It is a transformative collaboration integrating different fields in order to make critical policy interventions, develop new kinds of cross-cutting research, and provide educational opportunities straddling a variety of academic disciplines. Leveraging Yale's institutional assets, the GHJP trains students to undertake collaborative, real-world research and advocacy to promote health justice in the U.S. and globally. It also organizes conferences and events; builds partnerships with local NGOs and social movements in New Haven, the U.S. and around the world to move research and critical analyses into action; and nurtures a truly interdisciplinary brain trust dedicated to effecting social change.

- Over the years, the GHJP has moved toward increased engagement in the U.S. and [locally](#) as part of our commitment to playing a role in a shift of access to knowledge and power to community organizations working for health justice. [Our work has expanded during the COVID-19 pandemic](#), to address local and national exigencies around policing marginalized communities and state failures to enact socio-economic supports for appropriate public health interventions that exacerbate long-standing injustices in the U.S.

The GHJP offers two courses: a “Health Justice: Theory to Practice” class, and the “Advanced GHJP Practicum.” Both courses combine classroom discussions on the theory and practice of health justice with hands-on experience in interdisciplinary research and advocacy.

Job Description:

The COVID Fellow will be an integral part of the GHJP, supporting all aspects of the GHJP's work. Likely tasks will include:

1. Support for our Spring course, "Health Justice: Theory to Practice," which will explore frameworks for understanding the health justice implications of COVID, and also anchor a new experiential learning opportunity for students related to COVID. Work may include assistance developing course materials and student supervision for projects linking inter-disciplinary student teams with outside partners.
2. Developing research or project work with students outside of the course on COVID-related work that GHJP is undertaking – for example, providing research and briefing materials for a "COVID [Community Health Corps](#)," work on the quality and accessibility of COVID-19 vaccines and therapeutics, and work with local community groups around COVID response from a health justice perspective.
3. Provide programmatic support for the GHJP, for example related to communications and events related to our COVID work.
4. Engaging in self-directed research and advocacy related to health justice.

The Fellowship is supported through the Gruber Project for Global Justice and Women's Rights at the Yale Law School.

Qualifications:

The ideal candidate will have the following qualifications:

- A J.D. degree from a U.S. law school (or the equivalent) and an outstanding law school record *and/or* an MPH or Ph.D. from a U.S. school of public health, public policy or other related discipline
- 2-4 years of prior experience in health law and health-relevant law, labor rights, community organization, human rights, or related advocacy
- Policy and advocacy experience, including in federal and state legislative and executive settings
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Prior teaching experience and an enthusiastic commitment to working closely with students
- An interest and proven capacity in legal and/or public health scholarship
- A commitment to developing relationships with community partners, with particular attention to the power issues arising from university-based advocacy
- An ability to work independently and as part of a team, including management skills

The position is for a two-year term, ideally starting on or around 1 February 2021 with a salary of \$68,000 plus excellent benefits and access to university facilities. In light of the exigencies of

COVID-19 and academic planning, there may be some flexibility in the starting date. The position may be remote for the Spring and summer, but the fellow will need to be located in New Haven (or close enough to spend significant time here) starting in Fall 2021.

Application Instructions:

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis starting immediately. We encourage interested applicants to submit the required materials as soon as possible. **We will begin reviewing applications on December 13, 2020, and continue until the position is filled. If you have questions about the process, send them to health.justice@yale.edu.**

Applicants should send a resume, a cover letter making the case for their candidacy, contact information for three references, and a 15-20 page writing sample (academic or substantive policy analysis, e.g.) by email to health.justice@yale.edu. Given the short timeline, please feel free to send your letter of interest before the complete materials are ready.

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