



## Justice and Advocacy Fellow

**Position:** Just Neighbors seeks a full-time Justice and Advocacy fellow to grow our advocacy efforts and increase community participation around immigration issues. This person will assist in developing and implementing a formal strategy to advocate for immigration policy reforms and systems changes that will benefit Just Neighbors clients and our community at-large. The fellow will also employ practices and outreach efforts that increase knowledge and participation around immigration reform issues. This is a one-year secured position with the possibility to extend.

### How to Apply:

Deadline: Position open until filled. Candidates must email a cover letter and resume to Erin McKenney, Executive Director at [Erin@justneighbors.org](mailto:Erin@justneighbors.org) with “Justice and Advocacy Fellow” in the subject line.

### Who We Are:

Just Neighbors ([www.justneighbors.org](http://www.justneighbors.org)) provides immigration legal services to low-income immigrants and refugees in Virginia, especially those who are most vulnerable. It was founded in 1996 to develop a practical response to the legal challenges immigrants face in the U.S. As a community-based 501(c)(3) organization located in Annandale, Just Neighbors has provided immigration legal services to thousands of low-income immigrants and refugees of all faiths and nationalities in Virginia for over 23 years. Through direct services and collaborative strategies, Just Neighbors empowers immigrants to build their own capacity and resources to become more self-sufficient, stable, and independent. Just Neighbors accomplishes its work efficiently and cost-effectively with a staff of ten and more than 200 volunteers. In addition to direct legal services, Just Neighbors educates community leaders, organizations, and potential clients through presentations about immigration law and policies.

### Responsibilities:

- Serve as leader in establishing and implementing advocacy strategy to address issues challenging the immigrant community at the federal, state and local levels.
- Coordinate all Just Neighbors outreach events and partnership opportunities.
- Give presentations regarding immigration issues and Just Neighbors services to Spanish and English-speaking audiences.
- Assist in staffing local outreach events and serve as the Just Neighbors representative at partnership and coalition meetings.
- Identify and implement ways in which to get former clients and volunteers involved in local, state and national immigration advocacy.
- Coordinate efforts at increasing racial equity and greater representation within the organization itself.
- Create a client/volunteer speaker’s bureau to give voice to immigration reform issues, with an emphasis on empowering immigrants and first-generation youth through training and support.
- Facilitate advocacy engagement through op-eds, social media, forums, demonstrations, conferences and lobbying days.
- Develop and implement a plan to engage more immigrants and minority youth in the work of Just Neighbors through volunteer opportunities and internships in order to increase representation in the legal field.
- Other Duties as Assigned

### Qualifications:

Bachelor’s degree with experience in advocacy and community organizing. Strong knowledge of

immigration issues on the local, state and national levels. Ability to communicate and engage in public speaking in Spanish. Commitment to the mission and culture of Just Neighbors.

**Skills needed to perform the job:**

- Self-sufficiency and willingness to take initiative
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively
- Fluency in Spanish
- Excellent organizational and communications skills (both oral and written)
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Attention to detail, precision, accuracy
- Professional demeanor
- Enthusiasm and dependability
- Strong community connections in Virginia and willingness to build new relationships
- Competency with technology
- Demonstrated skill in Microsoft Office Suite products and basic design software
- Ability to flourish in a challenging, but community-driven, environment
- Flexibility, creativity, enthusiasm, and a sense of humor

*Just Neighbors provides equal employment opportunities to all applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or gender.*