

## **Bet Tzedek Legal Services 2020 Post-Graduate Fellowship Posting Small Business Development Project**

### **ABOUT BET TZEDEK**

Bet Tzedek sets the standard for innovation in public interest law and is one of the top legal agencies in the country providing both direct services and impact litigation assistance to Los Angeles' most vulnerable populations. Bet Tzedek's pioneering projects combine direct legal representation with powerful outreach, education, and legislative advocacy. Our leadership is a dynamic coalition between the public, private and non-profit sectors delivering innovative approaches to address root causes of poverty and exploitation. Our legal expertise and capacity to effect positive, sustainable social change continues to garner national attention.

### **SUMMARY**

Bet Tzedek seeks to sponsor a post-graduate fellowship to expand its existing Small Business Development Project to reach Latino/a small business owners, particularly entrepreneurs in the East Los Angeles area. Bet Tzedek seeks candidates who intend to apply for external funding, preferably for a two-year period; we will work with candidates to help prepare fellowship applications to funders as needed. The Small Business Development Project provides legal education, advice, and representation on a range of commercial and transactional issues, including real estate, entity formation, IP protection, labor law, and liability mitigation to comprehensively address small business owners' needs. Bet Tzedek's Small Business Development program has witnessed the rise of a small business renaissance in East Los Angeles, with clients as diverse as community art space co-ops and social media consultants focused on catering to Latino businesses reaching out for legal assistance. While local entities such as Omniworks and the soon-to-be built East Los Angeles Entrepreneur Center provide business development support, community members lack free legal support based in their community. Bet Tzedek is seeking to change that by hosting a fellow who would bring our project's resources directly to the community by, for example, holding office hours, providing presentations, and helping entrepreneurs build their dreams in their communities.

### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES**

Under the supervision of Bet Tzedek staff, the fellow will:

- Screen potential clients for income and subject matter eligibility
- Conduct in-depth intake sessions with potential clients to determine legal needs and business viability
- Help staff and supervise advice and counsel clinics
- Work closely with Bet Tzedek's Pro Bono Director to help place matters with pro bono attorneys
- Conduct program outreach to the legal community and community-based organizations.

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- Spanish language proficiency (required)
- Experience working with traditionally underserved communities, such as communities of color, LGBTQI, veterans, former foster youth, etc. (preferred but not required)
- Business law focus in law school or undergraduate studies (preferred but not required).

**To Apply:** Please contact Alisa Shudofsky, Director of Pro Bono Programs, at [ashudofsky@bettzedek.org](mailto:ashudofsky@bettzedek.org).