

**Job Announcement**  
**Director of Advocacy and Partnerships**

**Reports to:** Executive Director  
**Latest update:** January 30, 2019

The International Legal Foundation (ILF), [www.theilf.org](http://www.theilf.org), the leading global advocate for the right of the indigent accused to legal representation and a provider of legal aid services in post-conflict and transitioning countries around the world, is hiring a Director of Advocacy and Partnerships to expand its global advocacy for the right legal aid as an essential component of a fair justice system. Driven by the belief that every person accused of a crime, no matter their ability to pay, deserves to be represented by a well-trained lawyer, the ILF has established pioneering public defender programs in Afghanistan, Myanmar, Nepal, Tunisia and the West Bank that are leading the fight for equal access to justice for poor and vulnerable accused. The ILF's uniquely practical and effective approach focuses on incrementally developing the knowledge and skills of local lawyers through mentoring—not simply dropping in and providing one off trainings—while collaborating with government and justice sector stakeholders to advocate for systemic changes. In addition to its ground-up work establishing effective legal aid systems, the ILF also engages in high-level global advocacy, pushing countries, international institutions, and donors to prioritize legal aid as a fundamental human right.

The new position of Director of Advocacy and Partnerships will contribute to strengthening the impact of the overall work of the ILF with a focus on elevating the role of the organization as the international leader in indigent defense and with a focus on supporting the advocacy portfolio, creating content for communications and establishing relationships and implementing new initiatives of the ILF. In partnership with the Executive Director and other senior management, the Director of Advocacy and Partnerships will help guide the ILF in implementation of its strategic vision and goals, creating and supporting new initiatives and partnerships to enhance and advance the ILF's work. The Director of Advocacy and Partnerships will also play a key role in developing and implementing the ILF's communication strategy at the international level, and work closely with the ILF's program team to develop and implement strategies to establish effective and sustainable legal aid systems in countries around the world. Working closely with the Executive Director, the Director of Advocacy and Partnerships will also lead the ILF's efforts to build strategic relationships with governments, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, law firms, global philanthropy and other key partners to increase awareness, action, and resources devoted to the right to counsel for the indigent accused.

**Responsibilities**

- Act as a principal, under direction of the Executive Director, to develop opportunities for growth and advancement of the ILF's mission and profile as a leader in indigent defense and in seeking to diversify private and government support for the ILF's work;

- Provide leadership in the development and implementation of strategic and operational planning, long-term goals, and organizational development with a focus on partnerships and advocacy projects not funded by country program grants;
- Expand the ILF's advocacy efforts on the right to counsel at the international, regional and country level through position papers, high-level speaking engagements, and traditional and social media; respond to emerging opportunities, mobilizing others to create awareness and support action through meetings with partners and stakeholders;
- Build strong relationships with outside partners to ensure alignment and prioritization of goals and activities in pursuit of mission and strategic and fundraising objectives; monitor, evaluate and report on progress; and assess the need for adjustments to plans;
- Oversee a coherent and dynamic plan to amplify external communications;
- Develop and maintain ongoing relationships with individual donors, foundation contacts and other key stakeholders such as Former Fellows and Board Members;
- Execute strategic prospect research and support team charged with securing new financial support from individuals, foundations, law firms and corporations;
- Supervise and lead a communications team, including monitoring performance and supporting professional development

### **Qualifications**

- A deep commitment to the ILF's mission, and demonstrated commitment to working with dedication and persistence in a mission-driven environment;
- A team-oriented approach with the ability to lead and participate as a member of teams demonstrating effective advocacy, consensus building and leadership;
- Strong organizational skills, ability to think strategically and execute tactically; a self-starter with an eye for impact;
- JD or Masters preferred;
- 5+ years of relevant professional experience (e.g. as a public defender, working in international development, human rights and/or criminal justice reform space, etc.);
- Ability to commit to some travel (both domestically and internationally) as necessary;
- A seasoned track record in advancing issues through communications, policy, and partnership building; ability to develop and deliver high impact messages and content, specifically tailored for the international development community;
- Excellent communication and writing skills; demonstrated public speaking skills and ability to coach staff around public speaking and advocacy;
- Excellent interpersonal skills

This position is based at the ILF's headquarters in NY, but some travel is expected, including to the post-conflict and transitioning countries in which the ILF works and advocates for reform.

Please submit your resume and a thoughtful cover letter by February 28, 2019 to: HR Director at [jobs@theilf.org](mailto:jobs@theilf.org). No telephone inquiries please. Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

***The International Legal Foundation is proud to be an equal opportunity employer, committed to inclusive hiring, and dedicated to diversity in our work and staff. We strongly encourage candidates of all identities, orientations, experiences and communities to apply.***