The Appalachian Research and Defense Fund of Kentucky, Inc. (AppalReD Legal Aid) is seeking law clerks for the summer of 2020 in its area offices to assist attorneys in all phases of client representation and program work. Applicants should have completed their first or second year of law school before the summer of 2020. The clerkships are unpaid so students must provide their own funding. Work study and similar arrangements with a sponsoring institution will be considered.

Our well-established civil legal services program is in its 49th year of serving low-income clients and client groups in a 37-county area which includes the mountains of eastern Kentucky and the south central farming counties of the Kentucky Appalachian area. Offices are located in Barbourville, Hazard, Prestonsburg, Richmond, and Somerset. All offices are close to nearby outdoor activities as well as within driving distance of major Kentucky cities.

Our program has a proud history of systemic advocacy on behalf of the low-income community, individual client representation, and community engagement. AppalReD Legal Aid staff provides legal advice and representation to clients in the full range of poverty law areas including family law, housing, public benefits, consumer law, utility issues, and expungements. AppalReD Legal Aid has recently received grants to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence and to help prevent foreclosures.

Summer clerks handle a variety of tasks including performing legal research, interviewing clients and witnesses, drafting pleadings, assisting with case preparation, and working on special projects and impact litigation under the direction of program attorneys. As our attorneys maintain very substantial caseloads, clerks have the opportunity to attend court regularly.

Law clerks in our offices have represented many law schools including University of Chicago, Columbia University, Fordham University, Duke University, Vanderbilt University, University of North Carolina, University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, Washington and Lee University, George Washington University, University of Michigan, and Case Western Reserve University.

Interested applicants should apply to Robert Johns, Executive Director, AppalReD Legal Aid, 120 North Front Avenue, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, or by email at robertj@ardfky.org. Applicants should send a cover letter explaining their interest in the position, a resume, a list of references, and a statement regarding the applicant’s ability to provide funding for himself/herself. If you have questions, please contact Robert Johns at (606) 886-9876, ext. 1247 or at robertj@ardfky.org.

Deadline to apply is March 31, 2020, but applications will be considered as received.