



Be Just Legal Fellowship 2017-2019

About Us

The Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti (IJDH) has successfully helped Haitians enforce their human rights since 2004. IJDH partners with the Haiti-based *Bureau des Avocats Internationaux* (BAI) to support grassroots struggles for justice in Haiti and in the powerful countries abroad where decisions about Haitians' rights are often made. IJDH and BAI combine traditional legal strategies with organizing, emerging technology and public advocacy to address the root causes of instability and poverty in Haiti.

We fight with routinely excellent legal work, but also with creativity, humility, inspiration and humor, and a supportive work culture. We effect broad changes with modest resources by nurturing large advocacy networks.

Fellowship Description

IJDH is offering a two-year legal fellowship for an emerging lawyer passionate about supporting justice struggles in the Global South. The Fellowship is part of the Bertha Foundation's Bertha Justice "Be Just" Initiative, a global network of progressive lawyers that provides solidarity and training to movement lawyers around the world. The Bertha Foundation supports 4-8 fellows at BAI in Haiti, and one fellow at IJDH. The Fellowship at IJDH will focus on developing skills necessary for lawyers from the Global North to support social change movements and progressive lawyers in the Global South and build effective transnational advocacy movements.

The IJDH Be Just Fellow will work closely with IJDH and BAI teams in the U.S. and Haiti on advocacy and legal work, including our groundbreaking project holding the UN accountable for introducing cholera to Haiti. The Be Just Fellow will also serve as a support to the BAI Fellows in Haiti and a liaison between the BAI and the broader Bertha Network.

Fellowship Details

The fellowship position is for two years starting September 1, 2017 and provides an annual salary and health benefits. Funding for this Fellowship is currently being finalized and is expected to be confirmed in March 2017. The Fellow will be based at IJDH's office in Boston, with regular travel to Haiti and New York. **Be Just Fellow responsibilities include:**

- Regular travel to Haiti to support BAI Fellows and promote their integration into Be Just Network activities;
- Domestic and international legal and policy research; preparing pleadings for national and international forums;
- Drafting public advocacy documents, including reports, action alerts, and op-eds;

- Developing and implementing high-level political and advocacy strategies and engaging directly with actors within the UN system, national legislators and other powerful international actors;
- Managing advocacy campaigns in collaboration with partner organizations, including Haitian diaspora communities, solidarity groups and human rights organizations;
- Organizing and supporting grassroots trainings and mobilization in Haiti;
- Engaging with international media;
- As with everyone else on the IJDH team, pitching in wherever needed to advance human rights in Haiti.

Qualifications

In our small, fast-paced office, fellows have a high degree of responsibility and autonomy from the start. The Be Just Fellow must be an excellent problem-solver and strategic thinker, flexible, highly motivated and reliable. In order to successfully support Haitian grassroots empowerment, the Fellow needs exceptional humility, a keen sensitivity to issues of race, class, colonialism and imperialism, strong resilience and a commitment to earning trust. **Additional requirements:**

- Emerging lawyer with a J.D. or equivalent law degree;
- Fluency in French or Haitian Creole; proficiency or willingness to learn the other language;
- Excellent research, strategic thinking, written and oral communication skills;
- Excellent interpersonal skills and demonstrated cross-cultural sensitivity;
- High level of initiative, resilience, independence and motivation;
- Ability to handle sensitive relationships and protect the confidentiality of our work and our communications;
- Prior experience in Haiti or other similar environments desired.

Application Procedure

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, short writing sample, and contact information for two references electronically to [hiring@ijdh.org](mailto: hiring@ijdh.org) by **April 1, 2017**. Please include “Be Just Fellow” in the subject line.