

José A. Palma

Professional profile:

Highly competent and self-motivated professional with proven years of experience in community organizing, legal understanding and campaign coordination. Possesses an experienced working background; broad organizing skills reflect outstanding abilities to work with ethnically and racially diverse groups in an organizing and advocacy context. Relevant skills include:

- Experience coordinating legislative and political campaigns at the state and local level
- Expertise in community organizing and legal coordination with legal providers
- Volunteer recruitment and coordination
- Strong inter-personal and communication skills
- Bilingual in Spanish and English, including translation
- Experience working with latino community
- Proficient in Microsoft Office.

Education

- North Shore Community College, Danvers, MA
Associate of Paralegal Studies, 2011
- University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston MA
Labor Studies Certificate Program, In Progress

Work Experience

National TPS Alliance

National Coordinator of the National TPS Alliance, 01/2019- Present

- Coordinate the work of a group of organizers working for the National TPS Alliance
- Coordinate the work at the national level to pass a federal law to provide permanent residency for people with Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- Provide leadership development to a group of leaders with TPS to lead the national campaign
- Help to coordinate public events in support to the permanent residency campaign for people with TPS

Justice at Work

Legal Program Coordinator, 6,2017-Present (On Leave)

- Coordinate legal training for organizers of partner organizations
- Coordinate basic Know Your Workers Right training for immigrant community
- Coordinate work with our partner organization and their members

- Keep and enhance working relationship with partner attorneys

Neighbor to Neighbor MA

Political and Organizing Director, 4/2014-Present

- Direct the implementation of issues and electoral campaigns in n2n's 3 chapters
- Supervised and train n2n's organizing team
- Represent the organization in State-wide and National coalitions
- Coordinate and facilitate leadership development trainings in English and Spanish
- Supervise interns and volunteers in our Boston office
- Fundraise for the organization

Centro Presente, Inc. Somerville, MA

Paralegal/Organizer, 1/2011-3/2014

- Help Centro Presente's clients to identify legal needs and coordinate with Attorneys if legal representation was need it
- Primary coordinator of the Trust Act Campaign, a multi-ethnic statewide coalition of pro-immigrant organizations
- Help Latino community members file applications to USCIS, e.g. N-400, I-90, I-765 among others
- Organize and implement community educational forums on themes such as immigration reform, citizenship, workers' rights, and the Trust Act
- Coordinate and facilitate community leadership trainings
- Recruit, coordinate and supervise volunteers

Student Immigrant Movement, Boston, MA

Lead Organizer/Executive Director, 2009-2011

- Led youth leaders to advocate for the Dream Act and education opportunities for undocumented immigrants
- Coordinated and mobilized 300+ people to support immigration reform
- Facilitated leadership development training for 100+ organizational members

Greater Boston Legal Services, Boston, MA

Paralegal-Intern 01/2010-05/2010

- Translated documents from Spanish to English
- Assist the immigration attorney to prepare for immigration cases representation

- Helped people to file immigration applications
- Organized files

Community Participation and Awards

- Lynn Community Health Center, Lynn MA
Board Member 10/2015-2018
- Malden Youth Soccer, Malden MA
Soccer Coach 2007/2009 and 2014/2016
- North Shore Community College, Danvers MA
Recipient of 2015 Distinguished Alumnus Award

Recommendations upon request