



## Re-imagining Community Supervision in Minnesota: Research Assistant

**Role:** Research Assistant

**Company Name:** Minnesota Justice Research Center

**Location:** Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Compensation:** \$35/hour

**Industry:** Criminal legal system/Research

**Position Type:** Part time hourly, temporary term/project-limited (running from January 2023 through June 2023 with the potential for extension)

**Required Experience:** 2-5 years of relevant experience

**Required Education:** Bachelor's Degree PLUS enrollment in or completion of Graduate Degree

### OVERVIEW

The Minnesota Justice Research Center seeks a Research Assistant to support the production of a grounding report on community supervision in Minnesota to serve a larger campaign to transform local and state policies on community corrections in Minnesota. The position is an hourly contract role (approximately 3-5 hours per week) and time limited based on the project timeline (January 2023 - June 2023) with potential for extension.

### REIMAGINING COMMUNITY SUPERVISION IN MN

Community Supervision is designed to be an alternative to imprisonment, but in practice it too often exacerbates mass incarceration. Incarcerating individuals for rule violations undermines public safety by uprooting people from their neighborhoods, increasing recidivism, and worsening the criminal legal system's existing disparities.

The Minnesota Justice Research Center is launching a campaign to transform local and state policies through research, policy analysis, and grassroots mobilization to shift community corrections in Minnesota from an overreliance on punishment to one that supports individuals in reentry and prioritizes safety and wellbeing. This multi-year project will begin by examining existing research on community supervision systems in Minnesota. Our research team will review, synthesize, analyze, and make accessible to the general public existing research and clearly describe the status quo for community supervision in Minnesota to create an actionable grounding report for the campaign.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Research Assistant (RA) will be responsible for conducting in-depth background research on community supervision and drafting the report with the support of the Research Director. Detailed responsibilities include...

- Conduct background research including drafting annotated bibliographies, summarizing relevant research, and attending related webinars
- Regular check-ins with Research Director and regular meetings with entire project team
- Drafting sections of the report and working with the Research Director through editing cycles
- Presenting/sharing the final report in community

## **REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS**

- Bachelor's Degree AND some research experience beyond (e.g. currently enrolled in or completed a Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree, or work experience at a research organization or institution)
- Excellent writing skills for a wide/diverse audience (e.g. not just academics)
- Demonstrated ability to translate complex research topics into actionable and accessible research tools
- Reliable computer access and internet
- Excellent interpersonal skills; ability to work with a diverse clientele
- Ability to work as part of a team in a dynamic and virtual environment
- Willingness to travel to meet in-person as necessary - we require flexibility and a willingness to be in community to conduct our work when possible!

## **STRONGLY PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS**

- Advanced degree in criminology, sociology, social work, or other relevant social science or currently enrolled or employed by an academic institution
- Deep knowledge of the Minnesota legal system - and ideally the felony probation/community supervision process - and a firm commitment to understanding and transforming how we think about justice in Minnesota
- Experience working with and engaging diverse populations in research efforts
- Formerly incarcerated or with system experience

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Please send a brief (1-2 page) cover letter, resume, and writing sample all in one document (PDF preferred) to [info@mnjrc.org](mailto:info@mnjrc.org). Please highlight clearly how your qualifications and experiences align with those listed above. We will accept applications on a rolling basis until the position is filled.