

Directory of **Public Interest Legal Organizations** in Philadelphia



A publication of the Delivery of Legal Services Committee of



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AIDS Law Project

1211 Chestnut Street, Suite 600, Philadelphia, PA 19107

215-587-9377 (phone)

215-587-9902 (fax)

www.aidslawpa.org

- **Intake Phone**

215-587-9377

- **Organization Mission**

To provide free legal services to Pennsylvanians with HIV/AIDS and others affected by the epidemic; educate the public about HIV/AIDS-related legal issues; and work at local, state and national levels to achieve fair laws and policies.

- **Client Eligibility**

Income guidelines: None; Geographic guidelines: PA Resident; Other Guidelines: anyone affected by HIV/AIDS needing legal information, advice, or representation

- **Intake Process**

By Phone: M-F, 9:30 am – 1 pm. A staff member will conduct a thorough telephone interview. Do not e-mail legal questions; call directly. Attorneys are available for emergencies and homebound or hospitalized clients.

- **Areas of Practice**

Confidentiality and medical record privacy; discrimination; access to health care; public benefits; private Insurance; wills; living wills; powers of attorney; family law; debt; immigration; and landlord-tenant management.

- **Programs**

Family Program: Helps parents with HIV/AIDS make legally secure plans for the future care and/or custody of their children.

Housing Advocacy: Outreach, education, advocacy and representation to ensure that people with HIV/AIDS who are facing eviction and imminent homelessness can maintain secure, affordable housing.

Case Management Advocacy Training: Intensive 2 day training for HIV case managers using our comprehensive public benefits advocacy manual.

Educational Seminars: The AIDS Law Project conducts three seminars each month in Center City which are free and open to the public.

1) Leaving Your Job: People with HIV/AIDS thinking about leaving a job need specific information to transition. Issues discussed include applying for disability benefits, keeping insurance coverage after leaving a job, and the effect of an HIV diagnosis on an existing insurance policy.

2) Back to Work: New Drug therapies have dramatically improved the health of many living with HIV/AIDS. Many people are considering a return to the workplace, but fear losing their benefits, particularly the healthcare that made them feel well enough to work in the first place. Issues include attempting work while receiving social security benefits, keeping Medicaid and Medicare while working, and returning to public benefits in the event of poor health.

3) Debt Management: Poor health can ruin a person's financial well-being. As people with HIV/AIDS are living longer, they find the debt incurred as a result of the illness has become an overwhelming problem. Constant harassment by debt collectors chips away at the strength necessary to fight HIV/AIDS. A poor credit history and unpaid debt may make it impossible to rent a better apartment, buy a home or otherwise move on with life.

Seminar participants will be advised on the range of options for handling debt, including reviewing a credit report for accuracy, writing judgment proof letters, credit counseling services, and filing bankruptcy.

- **Executive Director**
Ronda B. Goldfein, Esq.



American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania

P.O. Box 60173, Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-592-1513 (phone)

215-592-1343 (fax)

<http://www.aclupa.org/>

The American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership organization that serves as an enduring guardian of justice, fairness, and freedom, working to protect civil liberties and advance equity for all.

- **Intake Phone**

215-592-1513, ext. 1

- **Organization Mission**

The American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership organization that serves as an enduring guardian of justice, fairness, and freedom, working to protect civil liberties and advance equity for all.

- **Litigation**

Integrating litigation, legislative and policy advocacy, organizing, and communications, ACLU-PA's staff and volunteers work both independently and in coalition with those most affected by the issues we address to ensure that threats to liberty and the civil rights of all persons in Pennsylvania are met with stark resistance as we progress toward a more genuine multiracial, multicultural democracy.

- **Client Eligibility**

Income guidelines: None; Geographic guidelines: Violation must occur in the state of Pennsylvania, although client need not be a resident of PA.

Some of the issues we work on include:

Immigrants' rights

LGBQ & transgender rights

Voting rights

Reproductive freedom

Bail reform

Inability to pay fines, costs, and restitution

Freedom of speech

Access to government information

Freedom of religion

Students' rights

We generally DO NOT take the following types of cases unless they involve an illegal policy, pattern, or practice in one of our priority areas:

Individual criminal defense cases

Deportation defense

Housing disputes (e.g., landlord-tenant)

Employment disputes (e.g., over wages and hours)

Family law (e.g., divorce and custody)

Wills, estate planning, and probate

Cases involving incidents that occurred outside of Pennsylvania (click here for a national directory of ACLU offices)

- **Intake Process**

We encourage people to use the online complaint link: <http://www.aclupa.org/complaint>. Online complaints produce the most complete information and are responded to on the quickest timeline. The ACLU of Pennsylvania is neither a government agency nor a general legal service organization, and we normally do not provide emergency services. We have limited resources and staff and are unable to pursue every case that comes to our attention.

If you cannot fill out the online complaint form and you need to leave a voicemail message, please state and spell both your first and last name. In addition, please state your telephone number twice and give specific weekdays and times when we can contact you between the hours of 9 and 5. Then give a one sentence reason for your call.

- **Areas of Practice**

Through advocacy, education and litigation, our attorneys, advocates and volunteers work to preserve and promote civil liberties including the freedom of speech, the right to privacy, reproductive freedom, and equal treatment under the law. We stand in defense of the rights of women and minorities, workers, students, immigrants, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people, and others who have seen bias and bigotry threaten the rights afforded to all of us in this country by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

- **Programs**

Litigation that is precedent-setting in order to maximize the legal impact with minimal resources or that enforces a clearly established Constitutional right.

Public Education by the Speakers Bureau and staff members: The Speakers Bureau provides speakers to organizations, groups, and individuals throughout the state. The goal of this work is to educate the general public about their Constitutional rights and how they apply to their lives. Intake and referral service responds to individuals seeking legal advice or assistance on civil rights and liberties violations. Some cases are taken; others are referred to appropriate agencies.

- **Executive Director**

Reginald Shuford, Esq.

- **Legal Director**

Witold "Vic" Walczak, Esq.



COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES OF PHILADELPHIA

Community Legal Services

Main Office: 1424 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102; North Philadelphia Law Center: 1410 W. Erie Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19140

Main Office: 215-981-3700; North Philadelphia Law Center: 215-227-2400 (phone)

Main Office: 215-981-0434 North Philadelphia: 215-227-2435 (fax)

<http://www.clsphila.org/>

- **Intake Phone**

Main Office: 215-981-3700 North Philadelphia: 215-227-2400 Housing Unit: 215-981-3700

- **Organization Mission**

To help low income Philadelphia residents obtain equal access to justice by providing them with advice and representation in civil legal matters, advocating for their legal rights, and conducting community education about the legal issues that affect them.

- **Client Eligibility**

Income guidelines: Below 125% federal poverty level; limited representation to clients with incomes between 125-200% federal poverty level; Geographic guidelines: Philadelphia

- **Intake Process**

Main Office: Walk-in, M-F, 9 am to noon North Philadelphia Law Center: Walk-in M, W, F, 9 am to noon Housing (tenant): Call 267-443-2500

- **Areas of Practice**

Housing, Government benefits, consumer rights, employment, utilities, elderly, dependency and neglect, health, and other non-criminal legal issues.

- **Programs**

Direct legal services, administrative/legislative advocacy, class action litigation, and community education in the following:

Housing: Handles landlord/tenant and public housing issues and assists homeowners facing difficulties with their mortgages. Community Legal Services (CLS) advocates on behalf of tenants and homeowners in administrative and legislative forums.

Public Benefits: Including welfare, social security, food stamps, medical assistance and Medicare issues. CLS advocates on behalf of clients. CLS has recently been involved with the recent changes in federal and state welfare law, the SSI program and the shift of Medical Assistance to managed care. Consumer: Represents individuals who face foreclosure on their homes, have been victims of fraudulent practices, encounter banking or check cashing agency problems or face other consumer law violations.

Employment: Handles employment discrimination cases, unemployment compensation issues, and a variety of issues that come up for low-income workers. CLS advocates on behalf of clients who face many legal issues raised by the institution of workfare requirements.

Energy: Represents clients having trouble making utilities payments and facing termination of utilities. Serves as the public advocate before the Philadelphia Gas Commission, protecting the interests of consumers in rate setting and other proceedings.

Elderly Law Project: Provides assistance to elderly Philadelphians in and out of institutional settings on a variety of issues, including medical assistance and Medicare problems.

Family Advocacy: Represents parents of children faced with allegations of child neglect or abuse, providing them with constitutionally required representation as they seek to maintain family unity and access support services.

Advocating on Behalf of Children Program: Outreach to families with disabled children. Assists parents in obtaining SSI benefits for their children.

- **Executive Director**
Deborah L. Freedman, Esq.



Consumer Bankruptcy Assistance Project

718 Arch Street, Suite 300N
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215-523-9511/9510 (phone)
215-981-3866 (fax)
www.cbap-phl.org

- **Intake Phone**
None
- **Organization Mission**
To provide free legal advice and representation to low-income persons seeking relief from consumer debts.
- **Client Eligibility**
Income guidelines: below 187% federal poverty; Geographic guidelines: Philadelphia County residents
- **Intake Process**
Intake is conducted by the following agencies: Community Legal Services and Philadelphia Legal Assistance primarily but we also receive referrals from Homeless Advocacy Project, Legal Clinic for the Disabled, SeniorLAW Center, and Women Against Abuse. All agencies use standard CBAP referral form and provide supporting documents. Supervising Attorney reviews each case for merit. Case is then assigned to a volunteer attorney.
- **Areas of Practice**
Direct client representation in the areas of consumer debt and Chapter 7 bankruptcy matters.
- **Programs**
Direct legal services in the above legal issues free of charge to Philadelphians who qualify for our services.
- **Executive Director**
Sherry L Hoban



CORA Good Shepherd Mediation

8540 Verree Road
Philadelphia, PA 19111
215-843-5413 (phone)
267-534-2122 (fax)
<http://www.phillymediators.org/>

- **Organization Mission**
To encourage peace, reconciliation, and social justice, and to empower individuals to resolve conflicts.
- **Intake Process**
Call CORA Good Shepherd Mediation at 215-843-5413.
- **Program Administrators**
Sue Wasserkrug, Esq. (Mediation Department) Camila Pretel (Restorative Justice Department)



Disability Rights Pennsylvania

1800 JFK Blvd, Suite 900
Philadelphia, PA 19103

215-238-8070 (phone)

215-772-3126 (fax)

<http://www.disabilityrightspa.org>

intake@disabilityrightspa.org

- **Intake Phone**
800-692-7443 (voice) and 877-375-7139 (TDD)
- **Advocacy**
Disability Rights Pennsylvania (DRP) is a statewide, non-profit corporation designated as the federally mandated organization to advance and protect the civil rights of adults and children with disabilities. DRP works with people with disabilities and their families to ensure their rights to live in their communities with the services they need, to receive a full and inclusive education, to live free of discrimination, abuse and neglect, and to have control and self-determination over their services.
- **Client Eligibility**
Pennsylvanians with disabilities, their family members and organizations.
- **Intake Process**
Please call us toll-free at 1-800-692-7443, ext. 400
- **Areas of Practice**
Disability discrimination.
- **Programs**
Disability Rights Pennsylvania protects and advocates for rights of people with disabilities so they may live the lives they choose, free from abuse, neglect, discrimination, and segregation.
- **CEO**
Peri Jude Radecic
- **Legal Director**
Kelly Darr



Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law, Federal Litigation and Appeals Clinic

3320 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
(215) 571-4709 (phone)
(215) 571-4712 (fax)

<https://drexel.edu/law/academics/kline-difference/clinics/federal-litigation-and-appeals-clinic/richard.frankel@drexel.edu>

- **Intake Phone**
(215) 571-4709
- **Organization Mission**
To provide legal representation to needy individuals in immigration and deportation matters. We also provide legal representation in a select number of civil and criminal appeals.
- **Intake Process**
By phone, letter or email.
- **Areas of Practice**
Eligible law students, acting under the supervision of licensed attorneys, represent needy individuals in immigration-related proceedings. The clinic also represents individuals in a select number of civil and criminal appeals.
- **Director**
Richard H. Frankel, Esq.



Education Law Center

1800 JFK Blvd., Suite 1900A
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-238-6970 (phone)
215-772-3125 (fax)
<http://www.elc-pa.org/>

- **Intake Phone**
215-238-6970

- **Organization Mission**
The Education Law Center's mission is to ensure access to a quality public education for all children in Pennsylvania. We pursue this mission by advocating on behalf of the most under-served students — children living in poverty, children of color, children in the foster care and juvenile justice systems, children with disabilities, English Language Learners, LGBTQ youth, and children experiencing homelessness.

- **Client Eligibility**
Income guidelines: none
Geographic guidelines: PA residents

- **Intake Process**
By phone: ELC provides consultation and advice to individual clients in certain priority areas, though we are not able to respond to all calls. Clients should call ELC's main number (215-238-6970) for more information.

ELC is not able to accept walk-in clients.

- **Areas of Practice**
We focus on three key program areas: (1) Ensuring Equal Access, which includes advocating for access to school and needed services on behalf of children with disabilities, children in the foster care system, children experiencing homelessness, children of color, LGBTQ youth, and English language learners; (2) Stopping the School-to-Prison Pipeline, which includes promoting evidence-based prevention practices to improve school climate while advocating against exclusionary discipline policies that push at-risk children out of school and often into the school-to-prison pipeline; and (3) Fighting for Fair Funding, which includes advocating for adequate and equitable state funding for under-resourced schools in Pennsylvania. ELC employs a broad range of strategies to accomplish this mission including direct legal representation, impact litigation, educating parents and students about their legal rights, supporting community-based groups, and policy advocacy.

NOTE: ELC does not address issues of home-schooling, higher education/post-secondary education, issues relating solely to private schools or gifted education. However, publications on some of these issues are available on ELC's website.

- **Programs**
Advice and information to individual parents, students, and others through phone intake system in certain priority areas. In addition, ELC's publications can be downloaded from ELC's website, www.elc-pa.org.

Education & Support: Provides training programs on legal rights to parents, parent advocates, and service providers. Provides support and consultation to students, parents, and community organizations.

Legislative, administrative, and policy advocacy: Supports parents, students, and community organizations in efforts to influence state and local policies affecting under-served children in the public education system.

Impact Litigation: Represents individual families and classes of families/students to eliminate broad-based illegal practices or to establish important precedents.

- **Executive Director**
Deborah Gordon Klehr, Esq.



Elder Justice & Civil Resource Center

Room 278, City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-686-7027 (phone)
215-686-7055 (fax)

<http://www.courts.phila.gov/ejc/>
elderresource@courts.phila.gov

The Center works closely with the legal, aging services, and public interest communities and acts as a resource to educate, to increase access to justice, and to help individuals navigate the legal and judicial systems more effectively. The Center is designed to address and respond to the needs of persons age 60 and over, along with self-represented litigants, affected by legal proceedings or in need of court information. The Elder Justice & Civil Resource Center can be reached via phone Monday through Thursday, 9 AM to 3 PM. In-person appointments are suspended until further notice.

- **Intake Phone**
215-686-7027
- **Organization Mission**
To provide assistance to self-represented litigants who need help navigating the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas' Civil Trial Division.



Episcopal Legal Aid of the Diocese of Pennsylvania

P.O. Box 434
11 Booth Lane
Haverford, PA 19041
610-709-6665 (phone)
877-808-8340 (fax)
www.episcopallegalaid.org
info@episcopallegalaid.org

- **Intake Phone**
610-709-6665
- **Organization Mission**
Episcopal Legal Aid promotes access to justice by bringing pro bono civil legal services to low income residents of Philadelphia and surrounding counties.
- **Executive Director**
Stephen P. Chawaga



Esperanza Immigration Legal Services

Esperanza Immigration Legal Services

4261 N. 5th Street
Philadelphia PA 19140-2615
(347) 719-1402 (phone)
<https://www.esperanza.us/eils/>
EILS@esperanza.us

Esperanza Immigration Legal Services (EILS), a non-profit 501(c)3, was formed in 2009 with the mission to provide direct legal services, advocacy, and community education for underserved immigrants and their families so they have the opportunity to contribute to and participate in American society.

- **Organization Mission**

EILS is located in Hunting Park, the heart of Latino North Philadelphia. We offer convenient, affordable, and bilingual services to primarily low-income immigrants.

- **Executive Director**

Anu Thomas

Face to Face

hospitality • mutuality • transformation

Face to Face Legal Center

109 E. Price Street, Philadelphia, PA 19144

215-438-1390 (phone)

215-843-8040 (fax)

<http://www.facetofacegermantown.org/>

- **Intake Phone**
215-438-1390
- **Organization Mission**
To help support and stabilize Germantown by providing free legal services to the community.
- **Client Eligibility**
Low income, unemployed, and homeless individuals living in Germantown.
- **Intake Process**
Mondays and Tuesdays 10:00 – 12:00 noon and Saturdays 12:00 – 2:00pm (Note: the first Saturday of each month is reserved for birth certificates and credit report applications only.
- **Areas of Practice**
Legal services in the areas of public benefits; credit problems; utilities; landlord/tenant; boarding home disputes; social security benefits; and help in obtaining legal identification.
- **Programs**
Direct Legal Services with referral for pro bono legal assistance; Social Services; Health Center; Meals on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday; Neighborhood Arts and Writing Programs; After school children's' program; Summer Camp
- **Executive Director**
Mary Kay Meeks-Hank
- **Legal Director**
Anna Brickman Esq.

Family Court Help Center

1501 Arch Street, 11th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102
phillyhelpcenter@gmail.com

The Family Court Help Center is a collaboration of the Family Court, Philadelphia Legal Assistance, Women Against Abuse, and the Family Law Section of the Philadelphia Bar Association. Volunteer attorneys, with the assistance of students from local law schools, provide information and assistance with preparing and filing pleadings to unrepresented litigants in custody cases.

- **Organization Mission**
To assist unrepresented litigants in custody proceedings, by providing information and assistance in preparing and filing appropriate pleadings.
- **Intake Process**
Operating Hours: Every week day from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Walk-ins only.
- **Areas of Practice**
Child custody
- **Programs**
- **Contact**
Susan Pearlstein, Esq., Philadelphia Legal Assistance



HIAS Pennsylvania

2100 Arch Street, 3rd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103

215-832-0900 (phone)

215-832-0919 (fax)

<http://hiaspa.org/>

- **Intake Phone**
215-832-0900
- **Organization Mission**
To provide refugee resettlement, technical assistance, and legal aid and social services to immigrants and refugees.
- **Client Eligibility**
Income guidelines: people who are indigent or low-income (unable to afford a private attorney); Geographic guidelines: Southeastern PA; Other guidelines: people of all nationalities, including cases from the former Soviet Union.
- **Intake Process**
By phone: (215) 832-090. (Walk-ins discouraged) Potential clients who appear to be able to afford a private attorney are encouraged to seek the services of the private Bar. Our current intake schedule is available on our web-site: www.hiaspa.org.
- **Areas of Practice**
Immigration and nationality matters, with staff language capacity in French, Italian, Lao, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese and Chinese. All others will be served with an interpreter.
- **Programs**
Direct legal services in the following areas: immigration counseling and representation; family reunification visas; political asylum; adjustment of status; employment authorization; relief from removal/deportation; naturalization; replacement of documents; travel documents; extension/change of non-immigrant status

Other Services: Pre-migration counseling and processing for refugee resettlement; Social Service Referrals; referral to citizenship preparation classes; Russian-language text processing and publication; community education and outreach; location of displaced persons; translation; reparations claims processing; research; advocacy for the rights of foreign-born
- **Executive Director**
Cathryn Miller-Wilson, Esq.
- **Legal Director**
Philippe Weisz, Esq., Managing Attorney



Homeless Advocacy Project

1429 Walnut Street, 15th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102
215-523-9595 1-800-837-2672 (phone)
215-523-9599 (fax)
<http://www.HAPlegal.org>
info@haplegal.org

- **Intake Phone**
215-523-9595
- **Organization Mission**
To provide free civil legal services and advocacy to reduce the frequency and duration of homelessness in Philadelphia.
- **Client Eligibility**
Income guidelines: LSC income eligibility; Geographic guidelines: Philadelphia area; Other guidelines: homelessness
- **Intake Process**
HAP currently conducts regularly scheduled legal clinics at 25 sites located throughout Philadelphia. At these clinics, HAP staff attorneys, together with volunteer legal professionals working under their supervision, meet and interview prospective clients, assess their legal and social service needs, and offer them counsel, information, referrals, and, where indicated, ongoing legal representation and advocacy.
- **Areas of Practice**
HAP provides comprehensive legal services on a broad range of legal matters, including: establishing eligibility for benefits programs such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), medical assistance and food stamps (SNAP); establishing eligibility for Veterans Compensation and Pension benefits and services; enforcing custody, support, and other family law rights; accessing shelter, behavioral health services, and other supportive services; replacing lost or stolen identity documents; preserving private and subsidized housing eligibility; and protecting consumer rights.
- **Programs**
Children, Youth and Families Program (CYF Project) founded in 1994.

Veterans Project founded in 2001.

SOAR (SSI/SSD Outreach, Access, and Recovery) Project founded in 2007.
- **Executive Director**
Dean M. Beer, Esq.
- **Legal Director**
Michele Levy, Esq.



Justice at Work

900 Spring Garden, Suite 300
Philadelphia, PA 19123

5450 Second Ave, 2nd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

215-733-0878 and 800-729-1607 (phone)

215-733-0876 (fax)

<https://www.justiceatworklegalaid.org/>

- **Intake Phone**

215-733-0878 or 800-729-1607 (client only)

- **Organization Mission**

Justice at Work improves the living and working conditions of vulnerable low wage farmworkers, mushroom workers, landscaping workers, and food processing workers in Pennsylvania. We do this through the provision of Legal Services, Education, and Advocacy. Our signature programs include:

- 1) Direct Legal Services
- 2) Community Education
- 3) Advocacy
- 4) High Impact Litigation throughout the State of Pennsylvania

- **Client Eligibility**

Income guidelines: Below 125% of federal poverty level; Geographic guidelines: PA residents or migrant workers who have been employed in PA; Other guidelines: priority in representation for migrant farmworkers, mushroom workers and food processing workers who have employment related. Workers from immigrant and migrant communities with significant migrant and seasonal farmworker populations who are not employed in agriculture may under certain circumstances qualify for Friends of Farmworkers (FOF) representation. Undocumented persons not eligible for Legal Services corporation funded representation are eligible for representation by FOF. Representation may be available for organizations whose members are eligible clients.

- **Intake Process**

Agencies referring clients should call on behalf of the client.

Clients are seen by appointment in Philadelphia, Kennett Square, Reading and other locations as needed.

Phone and fax intake with cooperating programs and agencies is possible and encouraged. Co-counseling is also possible. Seasonal outreach to farm labor housing.

- **Areas of Practice**

Employment related claims of workers, including: minimum wage and wage payment problems, violations of workers' rights under federal and state protective statutes, unsafe or unhealthy work conditions, problems associated with substandard housing provided to groups of workers, remedying discrimination or retaliation against workers for exercising their legal rights, enforcement of state and federal laws for protection of safety in the work place and labor camp housing, establishment of eligibility rights to public benefits; discrimination in

employment and housing on the basis of race, national origin, sex, disability, or familial status, providing legal assistance to income eligible worker organizations, providing community legal education to farm workers and mushroom workers about issues related to their legal rights.

- **Programs**

Direct legal services provided to farmworkers, mushroom workers and food processing workers in PA; to migrant farmworkers who have been employed in PA having claims arising out of employment in PA and to organizations whose members are client eligible workers and their families.

Community education provided on legal rights of farmworkers, mushroom workers and food processing workers, including outreach to farm labor camps, community groups and students.

Substantive FOF priorities for employment related claims of eligible workers and claims related to a client's status as a farmworker, including: minimum wage/wage payment problems; unsafe/ unhealthy work conditions; substandard housing for workers; employment/housing discrimination based on race/sex/nationality/disability/familial status; retaliation for exercising legal rights; establishment of eligibility rights to public benefits; and limited representation related to immigrant status.

Advocacy for litigants with Limited English Proficiency to promote equal access to the justice system and government funded programs and benefits.

- **Executive Director**

Meredith Rapkin, Esq.

- **General Counsel**

Arthur N. Read

Juvenile Law Center

Fighting for the rights
and well-being of youth

Juvenile Law Center

1800 JFK Blvd, Suite 1900B
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-625-0551 (phone)
215-625-2808 (fax)
<http://www.jlc.org/>
info@jlc.org

- **Organization Mission**

Juvenile Law Center advocates for rights, dignity, equity and opportunity for youth in the child welfare and justice systems.

Founded in 1975, Juvenile Law Center is the first non-profit, public interest law firm for children in the country. Through litigation, appellate advocacy and submission of amicus (friend-of-the-court) briefs, policy reform, public education, training, consulting, and strategic communications, we fight for children who come into contact with the child welfare and justice systems. Widely published and internationally recognized as leaders in the field, Juvenile Law Center has substantially shaped the development of law and policy on behalf of youth. We strive to ensure that laws, policies, and practices affecting youth advance racial and economic equity and are rooted in research, consistent with children's unique developmental characteristics, and reflective of international human rights values.

- **Litigation**

Our approach is multi-pronged and includes: impact litigation, appellate advocacy and amicus (friend of the court) briefs, policy reform, education and training, professional consulting, youth advocacy programming, and strategic communications.

- **Advocacy**

The issues we work on include: banning solitary confinement; abolishing juvenile sex offender registries; limiting the prosecution of children as adults; preventing youth homelessness; reducing the number of youth who "age out" of foster care and, for those who do, demanding appropriate planning to help them transition to adulthood successfully; eliminating fees and costs in the juvenile justice system; ending juvenile life without parole, "virtual life" or other harsh adult sentencing for youth; and ensuring educational success for youth in the child welfare and justice systems.

- **Client Eligibility**

Juvenile Law Center addresses issues surrounding children in the justice system and older youth in foster care and transitioning out of care.

- **Intake Process**

Juvenile Law Center provides legal information and referral to people who contact the office. Juvenile Law Center does not provide direct legal representation and therefore does not have an Intake process.

- **Areas of Practice**

Juvenile Law Center works on issues affecting older youth in foster care and youth in the juvenile and criminal justice system.

- **Programs**

Juvenile Law Center does not provide direct representation to the public.

- **Chief Executive Officer**

Susan V. Mangold, Esq.

- **Chief Legal Officer**
Marsha L. Levick, Esq.



Legal Clinic for the Disabled

215.587.3350 | 1513 Race Street | Philadelphia, PA 19102

Legal Clinic for the Disabled, Inc. (LCD)

1513 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-587-3158 (phone)

215-587-3166 (fax)

www.lcdphila.org

lpeyton@lcdphila.org

- **Intake Phone**

215-587-3158

- **Organization Mission**

The Legal Clinic for the Disabled (LCD) empowers low-income people with disabilities and the deaf and hard of hearing in the Philadelphia region to achieve inclusion, independence, and justice by providing free, quality legal assistance to overcome legal obstacles that would otherwise affect their independence, health, or quality of life.

- **Client Eligibility**

To be eligible for LCD's services, a person must (1) have a disability, chronic illness, or be deaf or hard-of-hearing; (2) be at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines; and (3) reside or have a legal matter in Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, or Montgomery county. LCD does not handle criminal or personal injury matters.

- **Intake Process**

Telephone intake is staffed Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm. Potential cases are screened for income eligibility and legal merit. Clients whose cases qualify for LCD assistance are represented by legal clinic attorneys or referred to volunteer attorneys and paralegals who represent them on a pro bono basis.

- **Areas of Practice**

Legal advice and representation for people with disabilities in the following areas: Consumer Protection; Advanced Planning Documents; Family Law; Housing; and Benefits.

- **Programs**

LCD connects with clients through a combination of outreach and open-access programs:

The Medical-Legal Partnership (MLP) Initiative is LCD's primary service delivery model and integrates legal services into healthcare settings in hospitals and health centers in the operation of four Medical-Legal Partnerships across seven sites in Philadelphia to promote improved health outcomes for low-income people with disabilities. LCD works with healthcare teams to proactively identify and resolve health-harming legal issues before they become a crisis.

The Housing and Habitability Initiative seeks to enforce the legal obligations of landlords when neglect, non-compliance, or abuse are in evidence; the Initiative also provides eviction defense in collaboration with the city-funded Philadelphia Eviction Prevention Project (PEPP). Clients are referred to LCD via PEPP partners or via a dedicated landlord/tenant intake telephone line.

Community Legal Outreach Clinics are offered in community settings where people with disabilities live or receive services, such as Associated Services for the Blind and Inglis House.

General telephone intake is staffed Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm.

- **Executive Director**

Linda Peyton, Esquire

- **Legal Director**

Theresa Brabson, Esquire



Mazzoni Center, LGBTQ Legal Services

1348 Bainbridge Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147

215-563-0657 (phone)

610-200-5540 (fax)

<http://www.mazzonicenter.org/>

legalservices@mazzonicenter.org

- **Intake Phone**

215) 563-0657

- **Organization Mission**

Mazzoni Center provides direct legal services as part of its mission to provide quality comprehensive health and wellness services in an LGBT-focused environment, while preserving the dignity and improving the quality of life of the individuals we serve.

- **Litigation**

On behalf of LGBTQ individuals and families, in the areas of practice identified below, along with a limited number of matters seeking to advance LGBTQ rights.

- **Advocacy**

For policy reforms that impact the LGBTQ community, including access to nondiscriminatory employment, health care, and insurance coverage.

- **Client Eligibility**

Mazzoni Center's Legal Services program provides direct legal services to low- and lower-income LGBTQ+ people on matters related to their sexual orientation or gender identity. We also provide advice and representation on discrimination claims and on matters that may impact the rights of LGBTQ people Pennsylvania.

If we are unable to provide representation in a matter, we can help identify attorneys who have advised us that they offer LGBTQ-sensitive counsel to individuals in many practice areas.

We also provide self-help materials and counsel to assist individuals in advocating for themselves without formal legal representation.

- **Intake Process**

By telephone or email to our Legal Services helpline, staffed by law student interns and other volunteer legal advocates.

Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Drop-in visits are discouraged due to staffing and resource constraints.

Referrals from other agencies are always welcome.

- **Areas of Practice**

Discrimination or harassment in employment, health care, education, or public accommodations;

Health insurance coverage;

Family law and parenting;

Relationship recognition and dissolution, including civil unions;

Name changes and other corrections to identity documents for people who are transgender or gender

non-conforming;
Wills, powers of attorney, and other advance planning documents;
Legal issues specific to particular age groups, such as youth or older adults.

- **Programs**
Mazzoni Center provides direct legal services and referrals for pro bono legal assistance to low- and lower-income persons experiencing legal problems relating to their LGBTQ identity in the areas of practice identified above.
- **Legal & Public Policy Director**
Thomas W. Ude, Jr., Esq.

Military Assistance Project

2005 Market Street
Suite 3500
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-557-3550, Ext. 113 (phone)
www.militaryassistanceproject.org
staff@militaryassistanceproject.org

Military Assistance Project provides free legal services for active duty, reserve component, or veteran military personnel and their widows/spouses in the form of pro bono consumer and selected veterans administrative law services

- **Intake Phone**
267.449.6067
- **Organization Mission**
The Military Assistance Project was established to provide free legal services for active duty, reserve component, or veteran military personnel and their widows/spouses in the form of pro bono consumer and selected veterans administrative law services
- **Client Eligibility**
Must have served one day active duty.
- **Intake Process**
Call 267.449.6067
- **Areas of Practice**
Chapter 7 Bankruptcy
Consumer Law
Veterans Administrative Law
- **Executive Director**
Dennis Miller
- **Legal Director**
Jack McLaughlin, Esq



National Clearinghouse for the Defense of Battered Women

Working for justice for battered women charged with crimes

National Clearinghouse for the Defense of Battered Women

125 S. 9th Street, Suite 302, Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-351-0010 or 800-903-0111 ext 3 (phone)
215-351-0779 (fax)
<http://www.ncdbw.org/>

- **Intake Phone**
215-351-0010 Accepts collect calls from women in prison
- **Organization Mission**
To ensure justice for battered women charged with crimes related to their battering while preventing their further victimization by the criminal legal system.
- **Client Eligibility**
No financial eligibility requirements.
- **Intake Process**
No direct legal representation to individuals; provide technical assistance/support to battered women defendants and their defense teams. To seek assistance, call the office directly.
- **Areas of Practice**
Domestic violence and criminal defense.
- **Programs**
The National Clearinghouse is a national nonprofit resource and advocacy center providing individualized technical assistance and other support to battered women defendants and their defense teams (attorneys, battered women's advocates and expert witnesses). Have worked with battered women who killed their abusive partner in self-defense; assisted in cases where battered women were coerced into crimes by their abuser or were charged with "failing to protect" their children from their batterer's violence. Correspond with incarcerated battered women filing appeals or applying for clemency. The National Clearinghouse also maintains an extensive Resource Library of articles, case law, and litigation materials; coordinates a national network of advocates and other professionals assisting battered women defendants; and conducts community and professional training seminars. For information on publications or the Supporting Members' Network, contact the National Clearinghouse.
- **Executive Director**
Sue Osthoff



Nationalities Service Center

1216 Arch Street, 4th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107

215-893-8400 (phone)

215-735-9718 (fax)

<http://www.nationalitiesservice.org/>

- **Intake Phone**
215-893-8400
- **Organization Mission**
To provide legal, education, senior and social services to immigrants and refugees.
- **Client Eligibility**
Income guidelines: immigrants and refugees who are low-income or indigent; Geographic guidelines: The Philadelphia Metropolitan area.
- **Intake Process**
Walk-in hours are every Wednesday between 1:00 p.m and 5:00 p.m. Appointments are made by telephone if necessary. In order to receive legal services at Nationalities Service Center (NSC), you must first attend an initial consultation. The consultations will be limited to the first eight people to arrive during walk-in hours.
- **Areas of Practice**
Immigration and refugee law
- **Programs**
 - 1) Direct legal services for immigrants and refugees
 - 2) Social services & counseling
 - 3) Refugee resettlement
 - 4) English classes
 - 5) Nutritional services to the elderly
 - 6) GED classes
 - 7) At-risk youth services
 - 8) Educational seminars for lay people, law students, and attorneys
- **Executive Director**
Margaret M. O'Sullivan
- **Senior Director of Legal Services and Immigration Policy**
Steven Larin



*Helping People in Need Get
the Health Care They Deserve*

Pennsylvania Health Law Project

123 Chestnut Street, Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19106
800-274-3258 (HelpLine); 215-625-3990 (Administrative) (phone)
215-625-3879 (fax)
<http://www.phlp.org/>
staff@phlp.org

- **Intake Phone**
800-274-3258 (Consumer HELPLINE)
- **Organization Mission**
Provide legal advocacy and services to low-income consumers, the elderly, and persons with disabilities statewide having trouble accessing publicly funded healthcare coverage or services.
- **Client Eligibility**
Persons who qualify for or are seeking to qualify for one of Pennsylvania's publicly finance, means-tested health insurance programs, including Medicaid/Medical Assistance and CHIP;
Geographic guidelines: Pennsylvania
- **Intake Process**
By phone: M & W, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.; applicants seeking counsel and representation can leave a voicemail message that will be returned by PHLP staff by the next day.
- **Areas of Practice**
 1. All aspects of the Pennsylvania Medicaid/Medical Assistance Program, including eligibility, managed care grievances and appeals, community based services waivers, Medical Assistance for workers with disabilities, service limit appeals, Medicaid transportation programs, rural health, and behavioral health.
 2. Children's Health Insurance Program eligibility and services.
 3. Charitable obligations of health care providers and insurers.
 4. Health care policy and financing for low-income programs.
 5. Health care provider education.
- **Programs**
Community Education: newsletters, Web site, treatises, and direct outreach to the community.

Legal Representation and referrals on low-income health issues.

Health Policy Advocacy on behalf of consumers.
- **Executive Director**
Laval Miller-Wilson, Esq.
- **Legal Director**
Kyle Fisher, Esq.



Educating, advocating, ensuring access to justice.

Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center

P.O. Box 20339
112 Pleasant Acres Road, Suite I York, PA 17402
717-600-8099 (phone)
717-600-8044 (fax)
<http://www.pirclaw.org/>
info@pirclaw.org

- **Intake Phone**
717-600-8099
- **Organization Mission**
To provide access to justice for vulnerable immigrants, both adults and family members, who are held in civil immigration detention and who are survivors of violence in the community. PIRC advances this mission through education, advocacy, and legal services.
- **Client Eligibility**
Income guidelines: 125% – 187.5% of federal poverty level Geographic guidelines: Pennsylvania
- **Intake Process**
For immigrants in detention, intakes are taken as part of Legal Orientation Program services during an Individual Orientation. Intakes permit case assessment and identification of particularly vulnerable immigrants and others in need of representation. For immigrant victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, human trafficking and other crimes in the community, intakes are conducted in locations easily accessible to victims, often in the offices of partner domestic violence and sexual assault agencies.
- **Areas of Practice**
Immigration Law: removal/deportation proceedings with an emphasis on asylum, withholding of removal and protection under the Convention Against Torture; forms of relief with an emphasis on VAWA, T and U visas
- **Programs**
Provides direct legal services, pro se assistance, education, and referrals for pro bono representation in two major program areas: Detained Programs – removal/deportation proceedings with an emphasis on immigrants who have fled torture or fear being returned to their home country, who have mental challenges, and other vulnerable populations; and Community Programs – survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and other crimes.
- **Executive Director**
Mary Studzinski
- **Managing Attorney**
Christina Powers - Detained Programs Diana Locke - Community Programs

PENNSYLVANIA INNOCENCE PROJECT



Pennsylvania Innocence Project

Temple University Beasley School of Law
1515 Market Street, Suite 300
Philadelphia, PA 19102
215-204-4255 (phone)
215-204-0199 (fax)
<http://www.innocenceprojectpa.org/>
innocenceprojectpa@temple.edu

- **Organization Mission**

To exonerate those who have been convicted of crimes they did not commit, to prevent the innocent from being convicted and to help formerly convicted innocent people in their transition to freedom.

- **Client Eligibility**

To be eligible for review by the Pennsylvania Innocence Project, the individual must have been convicted in Pennsylvania of a crime s/he did not commit (that is, in which s/he had no involvement or complicity), and be currently in prison or serving a probation sentence with at least 7 years remaining. We do not accept cases only involving narcotics violations

- **Intake Process**

The Pennsylvania Innocence Project only accepts case inquiries through the mail, not by e-mail or phone, and the request must come directly from the inmate; we do not accept referrals from friends or family members. If you are interested in having your case reviewed by the Pennsylvania Innocence Project you need only write us a letter with a brief factual summary of the case, a statement as to why you are seeking our help and a list of the evidence used against you at trial.

- **Executive Director**

Nan Feyler, JD., MPH

- **Legal Director**

Nilam Sanghvi, Esq.



Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project

718 Arch Street, Suite 304, Philadelphia, PA 19106

215-925-2966 (phone)

215-925-5337 (fax)

<http://www.pailp.org/>

- **Intake Phone**

215-925-2966

- **Organization Mission**

To provide free legal assistance in civil matters to low-income people who are incarcerated or institutionalized.

- **Client Eligibility**

Income guidelines: 187.5% of federal poverty level; Geographic guidelines: PA residents; Other guidelines: people who are in prisons, jails, state hospitals (because of mental illness) or state centers (because of mental retardation)

- **Intake Process**

By appointment, telephone or correspondence. Collect calls are accepted from current clients only, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Due to a large volume of requests for legal assistance, Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project (PILP) has a staff person who responds to every inquiry. An assessment of legal merit is made and if appropriate, information and referrals are given.

- **Areas of Practice**

Civil legal matters of incarcerated or institutionalized low-income people.

- **Programs**

Direct legal services to low-income people in PA who are in prisons, jails, state hospitals, or state centers.

- **Executive Director**

Angus Love, Esq.



PENNSYLVANIANS
FOR MODERN COURTS

Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts

Two Penn Center
1500 JFK Boulevard, Suite 1140
Philadelphia, PA 19102
215-569-1150 (phone)
215-569-9153 (fax)
<http://www.pmconline.org/>
info@pmconline.org

- **Intake Phone**
215-569-1150
- **Organization Mission**
PMC functions as a court watchdog, identifying and speaking out on issues that impact the public's confidence in our courts, and then working proactively, constructively and cooperatively to reform and modernize the judiciary. We serve as a highly respected information hub for the public, policymakers, the legal community, the courts and the media. And we are a champion of the elimination of bias in Pennsylvania's courts in all its forms.
- **Client Eligibility**
Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts (PMC) is an available resource to individuals and organizations on a variety of issues concerning the courts and their administration. PMC does not provide direct legal services.
- **Intake Process**
PMC hears from Pennsylvanians through our website, mail, phone calls and at speaking engagements about a variety of issues, from problems with judges and the court system to juror experiences, to confusion with the judicial selection system.
- **Areas of Practice**
PMC specializes in the areas of judicial discipline, court financing, judicial selection reform, jury system improvement, and bias in courts.
- **Programs**
Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts seeks to improve and strengthen the justice system in Pennsylvania by reforming the judicial selection and judicial discipline processes; seeking systemic improvements in court administration, court funding, and the jury system; eliminating bias from and increasing fairness in the courts; educating the public, and assisting individuals, including litigants, jurors, or witnesses, who have questions or concerns about the courts.

PMC in the Community™ is a multi-faceted program which aims to guide individuals confronted by the often intimidating and unfamiliar rules and processes of the court system. The program is intended to create new points of entry for citizens to learn about the judicial system on their time and in areas of their interest. It consists of PMC Shares™ Community Outreach, PMC Listens™ Helpline, and PMC Watches™ Citizen Court Monitoring program.

- **President & CEO**
Deborah R. Gross



Philadelphia Bar Association Lawyer Referral & Information Service

1101 Market Street 11th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19107

215-238-6333 (phone)

www.philadelphiabarlawyers.com

LRIS@philabar.org

- **Intake Phone**

215-238-6333

- **Organization Mission**

To provide access to justice for those who can afford to pay for an attorney or who have a matter that may be handled on a contingent fee basis, by providing referrals to attorneys in private practice according to area of law who are experienced, insured and in good standing in their practice.

- **Client Eligibility**

LRIS: Income guidelines: none (anyone may call, referrals to attorneys are for clients who either are able to pay an attorney in private practice, or have contingent fee cases.); Geographic guidelines: Philadelphia area;

Modest Means Program: Income guidelines: income greater than 187.5% of the official poverty threshold (OPT) guideline but no more than 250% of the OPT or income below 187.5 % of the OPT who are nevertheless ineligible for free legal services; Geographic guidelines: legal matter in the Philadelphia area.

- **Intake Process**

LRIS: By phone, M – F, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., or through the website: www.philadelphiabarlawyers.com 24/7.

Hours are extended to 8 pm on the third Wednesday of every month, when phones are staffed by volunteer lawyers.

Modest Means Program: Intake is done by the referring agency, who determines client's eligibility for the Modest Means Program. If client is eligible, LRIS staff will refer the client to an attorney.

For the Modest Means Program, the following cases are accepted at varying flat rates: No Fault Divorce (no financial issues); No Fault Divorce (no financial issues with stipulation as to custody or visitation of children); Spousal Support; Child Support; Protection from Abuse; Bankruptcy (Chapter 7 only); Personal Planning Package; Simple Will; Living Will; Power of Attorney; Unemployment Comp.; Deed Transfer; and Administration of Small Estates

For the Modest Means Program, the following cases are accepted at reduced hourly rates:

Consumer, Creditor/Debtor (defense), Eviction (hearing), Landlord/ Tenant, Negligence Defense, and Small Claims Court (hearing)

- **Areas of Practice**

All civil and criminal matters.

- **Programs**

LRIS staff provides referrals to attorneys who are in private

practice. When referred to an attorney, clients must expect to pay \$35 for the first half-hour consultation. In contingent fee

matters, the consultation fee does not have to be paid upfront. Thereafter, the client may negotiate the fee with the attorney.

Fee Dispute Program: resolves disagreements about fees

between clients and lawyers out of court. For more information, call (215) 238-6369.

- **Legal Director**
Charles J. Klitsch, Esq. Director of Public & Legal Services



Philadelphia Eviction Prevention Project's Help Center

Municipal Court, 1339 Chestnut Street, 10th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107

267-443-2500 (phone)

www.phillytenant.org

- **Intake Phone**
267-443-2500
- **Organization Mission**
To provide free legal information, advice, and limited representation to unrepresented, low-income individuals who are facing eviction and other legal rental housing problems in Philadelphia
- **Client Eligibility**
Services will be provided to tenants who live in Philadelphia and whose income is 200% of the federal poverty level or below.
- **Intake Process**
Call 267-443-2500
- **Attorney/Coordinator**
- **Alternative Contact Person**



Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity

1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia Pa 19102
267-519-5323 (phone)
215-839-3431 (fax)

www.plsephilly.org
info@plsephilly.org

PLSE maintains a large Video Library of Youtube-style educational and self-help videos: www.plsephilly.org/video-library; and a library for volunteers: www.plsephilly.org.pardon-coach-toolkit

- **Intake Phone**
267-519-5323
- **Organization Mission**
PLSE provides free legal advice and representation to low-income Philadelphia residents whose criminal records are holding them back from achieving their social and career potentials. PLSE seeks a more equitable social environment for those with criminal records through individual representation, strategic litigation, community education, research and advocacy. PLSE does this by seeking expungements in criminal court and pardons from the Governor; educating elected and community leaders; empowering and organizing under-resourced communities; and leading legislative, administrative and systemic reform.
- **Litigation**
Through our Fair Employment Opportunities Project, we connect clients with attorneys skilled in Pennsylvania's Criminal History Records Information Act (CHRIA), Philadelphia's anti-discrimination ("Ban the Box") law, and the anti-discrimination policies of the Pennsylvania Commission on Human Relations.
- **Advocacy**
Since 2018, PLSE has been leading the effort to completely overhaul the pardon process in Pennsylvania. As of the fall of 2020, the process is free, understandable and accessible without an attorney, and the Board of Pardons is recommending 87% of all the pardon applications it hears.
- **Client Eligibility**
Eligible client's income may be no greater than 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. For assistance, clients must also have either an arrest record or conviction in Philadelphia County.
- **Intake Process**
Individuals can become PLSE clients in four ways:
 - 1) over the internet: www.plsephilly.org/intake
 - 2) by direct referral from a community partner where they are already a client. Community organizations already serving low-income clients can contact PLSE at info@plsephilly.org to create this arrangement
 - 3) at a criminal records clinic, hosted by a community partner (see our online calendar)
 - 4) by telephone.
- **Areas of Practice**
Criminal records: removing them (expungements and pardons), and helping clients minimize the collateral damage they cause (employment, housing, credit, health care, etc)
- **Programs**

PLSE has 4 programs:

- 1) Expungement Project: representing clients in court seeking expungement (erasure) of criminal records
- 2) Pardon Project: helping individuals apply for pardons. We train and work with a growing volunteer (pro bono) network in which lawyers and non-lawyers provide informed assistance. PLSE conducts regular CLE-accredited training programs to train "Pardon Coaches"
- 3) Fair Employment Opportunities Project: representing (either directly or through a panel) clients who have had their rights violated either applying for a job or as an employee
- 4) Community Education and Organization. PLSE regularly offers programs via zoom on the variety of legal issues faced by people with criminal records (voting, employment discrimination, housing, etc).

- **Staff Attorneys**

Taylor Pacheco and Sarah Coyle

- **Executive Director**

Renee Chenault



Philadelphia Legal Assistance

718 Arch Street, Suite 300N
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1535
215-981-3800 (phone)
215-981-3860 (fax)
<http://www.philalegal.org/>

- **Intake Phone**
215-981-3800
- **Organization Mission**
Philadelphia Legal Assistance is dedicated to providing high quality, creative legal services, advice and referrals for eligible low income people. We are committed to educating and empowering our clients and working collectively with other advocates to achieve these goals.
- **Client Eligibility**
Income guidelines: below 200% of poverty, except that the Save Your Home Philly Hotline is available to all Philadelphia homeowners.
Geographic guidelines: Philadelphia residents or referral of non- residents with Philadelphia-based cases
- **Intake Process**
For intake days and times, call 215-981-3800.
Walk-in intake: M & W, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Telephone intake: T & Th, 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
No appointment needed for new clients.
Family law intake line: 215-981-3838.
Family law intake is telephone only: M & W, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Save Your Home Philly Hotline: M-F 8:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. (215) 334-HOME
- **Areas of Practice**
Family Law: Custody and Domestic Violence.

Public Benefits: Cash assistance, Food stamps (SNAP), Medical Assistance, and SSI.

Unemployment Compensation

Housing: Mortgage Foreclosure, Real Estate Tax Foreclosure, Predatory Lending, Bankruptcy
- **Programs**
Direct legal services through individual client representation in the practice areas listed above.
The Custody and Support Assistance Clinic (CASAC): Provides advice and pro se assistance to low-income families with custody matters. The clinic is operated by University of Pennsylvania law students at PLA. To make an appointment, applicants should call 215-981-3838 on Mondays or Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Guild Food Stamp Clinic: Provides assistance/representation to individuals seeking to obtain/ maintain food stamp benefits. The Guild Food Stamp Clinic is operated by law students from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. To find dates/times of operation, call 215-981-3800.

Pennsylvania Farmworker Project: Provides representation to migrant farmworkers throughout Pennsylvania in employment and housing matters. Intake is done on an outreach basis at farm labor camps throughout the state or by telephone by calling (888) 541-1544 toll free.

Save Your Home Philly Hotline: Funded by the City of Philadelphia, the Hotline operates 24/7 as a single point of access to a wide variety of services to help Philadelphia residents avoid foreclosure. Provides legal advice, brief legal services, and referrals to housing counselors and lawyers. 215-334-HOME (4663)

Medical-Legal-Community Partnership (MLCP): The MLCP is based on the nationally reputed medical-legal partnership model of integrated care delivery. This program integrates legal advocates into Health Center #3 and #4 which are operated by the Philadelphia Department of Public Health. Health Center patients are referred to on-site legal advocates to meet a broad range of legal needs, using a generalist approach to legal care. Legal advocates collaborate with healthcare providers and social services staff to meet the health-harming legal needs of patients.

Low Income Tax Clinic (LITC): Assists taxpayers with controversies with the Internal Revenue Service.

- **Executive Director**

Anita Santos-Singh, Esq.



Philadelphia VIP

1500 Walnut St, Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-523-9550 (phone)

215-564-0845 (fax)

<https://www.phillyvip.org/>

phillyvip@phillyvip.org

- **Intake Phone**

Intakes for most legal issues are accepted as referrals from other legal services and social services agencies; see "Intake Process," below. For information, visit <https://www.phillyvip.org/get-legal-help/> or call (215) 523-9550.

- **Organization Mission**

Philadelphia VIP leverages the powerful resources of the community to provide quality volunteer legal services and ensure access to justice for low-income Philadelphians.

- **Client Eligibility**

For INDIVIDUALS: Total household income is less than 200% of federal poverty level. Value of individual's assets does not exceed \$10,000, excluding primary residence. Individual is a Philadelphia resident with a civil, non-fee generating legal problem (non-residents eligible if case is in Philadelphia courts).

For NONPROFITS: The organization can demonstrate that hiring an attorney would significantly impair its finances. The organization is located in or primarily serves Philadelphia. The organization seeks transactional legal help.

For SMALL BUSINESSES: Total household income of all owners is less than 300% of the federal poverty level. The business is located in Philadelphia. The business seeks transactional legal help.

- **Intake Process**

Most cases must be referred to VIP by other legal services agencies that complete VIP-provided intake forms. Exceptions below.

Philadelphians seeking estate planning services can apply online at <https://www.phillyvip.org/get-legal-help/wills/>.

Nonprofits and small businesses can apply online using the links at <https://www.phillyvip.org/get-legal-help/>.

- **Areas of Practice**

VIP provides direct legal services through referrals to volunteer counsel in non-fee generating civil matters, including:

Family Stability: Adoption, Custody, Divorce, Support, Guardianship

Preventing Homelessness: Landlord/Tenant, Probate, Real Estate Litigation (Quiet Title: adverse possession, lease/purchase, fraudulent conveyance), Real Estate Transactions (deed transfers), Mortgage Foreclosure

Maintaining Income: Tax, Name Change/Birth Certificate Amendment, Auto Accident Defense, Tort Defense, Estate Planning

Community Economic Development: Transactional legal services for nonprofits and small businesses

- **Programs**

VIP provides referrals for pro bono legal representation in cases from adoption to zoning. VIP's focus is on areas of critical legal need for low-income Philadelphians; to maintain or increase income, to stabilize families, to prevent homelessness, and to support community economic development.

VIP's LawWorks Project provides referrals for pro bono representation for eligible nonprofit organizations and small businesses that benefit low-income communities and low-income homeowners seeking clear title to their homes.

- **Executive Director**
Rida Haq
- **Managing Attorney**
Kelly J. Gastley, Esq.

PHILADELPHIA VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS

Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts

200 S. Broad Street, Suite 700
Philadelphia, PA 19102
(215) 790-3836 ext. 1 (phone)
(215) 790-3790 (fax)
<https://pvla.org/>
pvlalegal@pvla.org

- **Intake Phone**

(215) 790-3836 ext. 1

- **Organization Mission**

Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (PVLA) is a non-profit legal services organization through which lawyers assist artists and cultural organizations throughout the greater Philadelphia area via legal representation, publications, advocacy, education and counseling.

- **Client Eligibility**

Subject Matter Eligibility: Client must be an individual artist/inventor, arts collective, or arts & cultural nonprofit or for-profit organization with an “arts-related” legal issue. PVLA defines the term “art” broadly to include both traditional artistic disciplines (e.g. fine art, music, dance, theater, film etc.) as well as more modern forms of creative expression (e.g. animation, game design, user experience, web design, etc.). The types of legal issues handled by PVLA attorneys are widely varied, implicating a wide array of legal practice areas.

Geographic Eligibility: Arts clients must have their primary residence or corporate headquarters within the greater Philadelphia area, which encompasses an 11-county region spanning Philadelphia County and the surrounding counties in southeastern PA, southwestern NJ and northern DE. Patent clients must have their primary residence or corporate headquarters in the state of PA.

Financial Eligibility: Individual artist/inventor clients must have a household adjusted gross income that falls below 300% of the federal poverty guidelines for their household size (Arts Collectives are generally treated as groups of individuals for eligibility purposes). Arts Organizations must have an annual operating budget of \$1 million or less. Liquid asset restrictions also apply.

Clients who do not qualify for pro bono services may request educational materials, courtesy attorney referrals for paid or reduced-fee representation, or referral to other legal services organizations in Philadelphia or elsewhere.

- **Intake Process**

By web application at <https://pvla.org/>. For assistance call (215) 790-3836 ext. 1.

- **Areas of Practice**

Legal services and educational programs for individual artists and arts and cultural organizations. PVLA volunteer attorneys provide legal assistance on a wide range of arts-related legal issues, including Administrative/Municipal Law; Arbitration/Mediation; Art and Entertainment Law; Bankruptcy; Censorship/Artistic Expression; Collections; Computer/Technology/Internet Law; Copyright/Licensing; Defamation; General and Management Agreements; Immigration; Insurance; Intellectual Property;

International Law; Labor and Employment; Landlord-Tenant; Litigation; Nonprofit Law; Patent Law; Real Estate; Right of Publicity; Small Business Start-Up; Small Claims; Tax; Trademark; Trusts and Estates.

- **Programs**

Legal-Line: A one-time-only telephone consultation between an artist or an arts & cultural organization representative and an attorney to discuss an arts-related legal matter. In a Legal Line consultation, the attorney will provide legal counsel and advice to the client, but is not obligated to take any additional action on behalf of the client. Legal Lines are available to artists and arts organizations and typically takes between 30 to 60 minutes. If a client still has unresolved legal issues following the completion of their Legal Line consultation, the client may contact PVLA to set up subsequent services.

ArtFax: a one-time-only telephone or in-person consultation between an artist or arts & cultural organization representative and an attorney to review a one- to three-page legal document, such as a draft agreement, waiver or privacy policy. The attorney will provide legal counsel and advice to the client regarding the content of the document in question, such as suggesting additional or modified language or provisions. Any substantial redrafting of a legal document requested by the client would fall outside the scope of an ArtFax consultation. Any client in need of such services following conclusion of their ArtFax consultation should contact PVLA to request additional pro bono services.

Full Service referral: For matters that cannot be resolved via consultation PVLA offers clients the opportunity to obtain referral to an attorney for Full Service Representation. In a Full Service case, the client is taken on as a pro bono client by a PVLA attorney for a limited scope of work established by PVLA through in-person meetings and discussions with the client. This attorney-client relationship is subject to all ethical and other requirements normally adhering to a paid attorney-client relationship. Examples of Full Service matters include negotiation, document drafting and filing, intellectual property registration, representation in court and litigation.

PVLA's Patent Pro Bono program provides restricted legal assistance (patentability counseling and patent prosecution) to qualifying inventors under a partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), following the implementation of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act of 2011.

PVLA's Speaker's Bureau program provides volunteer attorneys to speak to students and arts and cultural organizations on a wide variety of arts-related legal issues.

PVLA provides many Educational Programs, both for arts professionals and as Continuing Legal Education programs for attorneys. PVLA also maintains a large Library of pamphlets on a wide range of legal issues.

PVLA provides substantive and ethical training for new volunteer attorneys throughout the year.

- **Executive Director**

Kenneth L. Metzner, Esq. (215) 790-3822 Kmetzner@pvla.org



Public Interest Law Center

1500 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 802
Philadelphia, PA 19102
215-627-7100 (phone)
215-627-3183 (fax)
<http://www.pubintl.org/>

- **Intake Phone**
215-627-7100

- **Organization Mission**
The Public Interest Law Center uses high-impact legal strategies to advance the civil, social, and economic rights of communities in the Philadelphia region facing discrimination, inequality, and poverty. We use litigation, community education, advocacy, and organizing to secure their access to fundamental resources and services.

- **Client Eligibility**
The Public Interest Law Center does not require income eligibility, however, as part of its case approval process, board and staff consider whether a client or group of clients is below 185.5% of the poverty guidelines.

- **Intake Process**
Complete an intake form here: <http://www.pubintl.org/contact/>

All requests for are reviewed by lawyers.

- **Areas of Practice**
Healthcare; Education Equity; Environmental Justice; Housing; Employment; Voting

- **Programs**
Healthcare: Remove systemic barriers to medical and dental care for people enrolled in Medicaid, especially children

Education: Ensure all students have access to a high-quality public education, regardless of their zip code, the color of their skin, their language or their abilities

Environmental Justice: Provide tools for communities to advocate effectively for sustainable and equitable neighborhoods

Housing: Fight housing discrimination and promote quality, affordable housing for people in the neighborhoods of their choice

Employment: Help people with criminal records and people with disabilities fight and eliminate employment discrimination

Voting: Protect every citizen's right to vote by modernizing Pennsylvania's election system and challenging discriminatory barriers to the ballot box

- **Executive Director**
Jennifer R. Clarke, Esq.

- **Legal Director**
Mimi McKenzie, Esq.



Regional Housing Legal Services

2 South Easton Road, Glenside, PA 19038-7615

215-572-7300 (phone)

215-572-0262 (fax)

<http://rhls.org/>

- **Organization Mission**

To create housing and economic opportunity in under-served communities in Pennsylvania and to effect systematic change for the benefit of lower-income households statewide by providing free legal services and technical assistance to community based organizations that develop affordable housing and engage in economic development activities that benefit low-income people; informing, training and supporting consumers, and those who serve consumers, on housing and utility issues; and engaging in policy analysis and promoting system innovations focused on critical housing, economic development, neighborhood revitalization and utility.

- **Client Eligibility**

Regional Housing Legal Services (RHLS) represents organizations that meet the following criteria: the organization has some lower income Board members; the project for which the organization seeks assistance will benefit lower income persons; and the group cannot afford private legal counsel.

NOTE: RHLS does not represent individual clients.

- **Intake Process**

A group seeking RHLS representation must send a letter on the organization's letterhead describing its mission and the nature of services it needs.

- **Areas of Practice**

Affordable housing: Single Family Homeownership (New Construction and Rehabilitation); Multi-Family Rental; SRO Housing; Emergency Housing; Section 202/811 Housing; Shared Housing; Limited Equity Cooperative; Transitional Housing; Mobile Home Parks; Tenant Management of Public Housing; LIHPRHA; Special Needs Housing; Low Income Housing Tax Credit Projects; Historic Tax Credit Projects; Public Housing Restructuring; and Housing Choice Rent Subsidy Programs

Economic development: Representation of "Affordable Lenders"; Start-Up Businesses; Section 3 Employment; Business Opportunities for Low Income People; Mixed Use Developments; Commercial Developments; Childcare Developments; Facilities Development; and Open Space and Recreation Development

Other non-profit expertise: Entity Selection; Non-Profit Mergers and Acquisitions; IRS Tax Matters for Non-Profits; and Partnerships and Joint Ventures

Project development: Assist non-profits to envision, structure, finance and operate projects; serve as in-house counsel for project duration; maximize resident project participation; and help maximize funding and/or # of units

Policy analysis: Identify critical community development policy issues, and craft policy recommendations to maximize the preservation and production of affordable housing and facilitate more comprehensive community development

- **Executive Director**

Dina Schlossberg, Esq.

- **Associate Director/Deputy Director**
Rachel Blake, Esq.



Rutgers-Camden Law School Lawyering Program

217 North Fifth Street, Camden, NJ 08102

<https://camlaw.rutgers.edu/lawyering-program>

- **Advocacy**
Eve Biskind Klothen, Associate Dean for Pro Bono and Public Interest Programs
(856) 225-6608
- **Programs**
Sandra Simkins, Clinical Associate Professor and Chair for Clinical Programs
(856) 225-6568



SeniorLAW Center

Protecting The Rights of Older Pennsylvanians

SeniorLAW Center

Two Penn Center, Suite 1501
1500 JFK Blvd.
Philadelphia, PA 19102
215-988-1244 (phone)
215-988-1243 (fax)
<http://seniorlawcenter.org/>
info@seniorlawcenter.org

- **Intake Phone**
215-988-1242 (Local) 877-727-7529 (877-PA-SR-LAW)
- **Organization Mission**
We seek justice for older people by using the power of the law, educating the community and advocating on local, state and national levels.
- **Advocacy**
On issues of import to the lives of older Pennsylvanians, including elder access to justice, elder abuse and financial exploitation, tenant rights, homeownership issues, grandparent custody and voting rights.
- **Client Eligibility**
Income guidelines: seniors with the greatest economic and social needs
Age guidelines: 60 years old or older
Geographic guidelines:
*Extended representation: Philadelphia County (Victim Services available also in Bucks, Montgomery, Chester and Delaware Counties)
*All 67 counties of PA for legal advice, information, counsel and referral services (limited representation)
- **Intake Process**
Phone intake: M, T, W, Th 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Walk-ins: T & Th – Legal Emergencies Only, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Note: Victims of abuse and violence are seen as a emergencies at any time the office is open.

In-person intake appointments are also made for monthly community legal clinics at partner venues throughout Philadelphia. See www.seniorlawcenter.org for dates and contact information.

In-person intake for eligible participants of Mercy LIFE program are available onsite at MLP days and times. See www.seniorlawcenter.org for dates and contact information.

Potential clients speak with a legal staff member or volunteer who takes initial demographic information and a statement of legal issue, with extended follow-up by staff attorney or volunteer attorney who screens for eligibility, then assesses legal merit of those seeking extended representation and either provides legal advice and limited representation or completes intakes. These intakes are then reviewed by or under the supervision of the Legal Director and assigned to a legal staff member or referred to a volunteer attorney who specializes in that area of law. If client's case is an emergency, a response is within 24-48 hours.

Home, hospital, nursing home and hospice visits and services are available on a limited basis for homebound, chronically ill and severely disabled elders with critical legal issues.

Language Line available for all services.

- **Areas of Practice**

For Extended Representation:

Housing: forward and reverse mortgage foreclosures; home repair contractor disputes and fraud; landlord/tenant matters; real estate taxes and real estate tax foreclosures; deed transfers; tangled title probates; utility shutoffs during moratorium period.

Elder Abuse and Domestic Violence: protection from abuse and other protective matters including ejectments, financial exploitation (including scams, identity theft, unauthorized access and use of bank accounts, credit cards, other credit vehicles) spousal support for victims of domestic violence and ancillary civil legal issues involved in these matters.

Family Law: custody and support for grandparents and other kinship caregivers.

Advance Life Planning: with panels of volunteer attorneys, drafting of simple wills, living wills, financial and health care powers of attorney.

PA SeniorLAW HelpLine: All areas of Pennsylvania and some federal civil law.

- **Programs**

Victim Services: Services include: Free legal representation and counsel to end abusive situations and to remove perpetrators from the homes of victims; Free legal representation and counsel for older adult victims of financial exploitation, including protection from and remedies to address complex financial exploitation, identity theft, fraud and other crimes; Free civil legal representation to address the economic security of older adult victims of crime, including spousal support actions, housing issues (including fraudulent deed transfers and ejectments) to guarantee that the senior survivor can remain in his/her home, and consumer issues (including debt collection and consumer credit problems) caused by the abuser's economic abuse; Support, advice, guidance and information/referral services for older adult victims of abuse and financial exploitation, linking them to other resources and support services, including emergency financial assistance, support groups, health services, lock changes, and other resources; Community education and outreach programs to help older adults recognize abuse and exploitation and know how and where to receive assistance; Professional education and training to sensitize those working with older adults who may experience abuse and/or exploitation and provide referral information; Advocacy to help stem the crisis of elder abuse and financial exploitation; Partnerships with victim services colleagues, law enforcement, protective services and others interested stopping elder abuse and financial exploitation.

Homeownership Rights: Safe shelter is essential to health, safety and independence. Protecting and preserving the homes of senior homeowners also helps to retain the vibrancy of our intergenerational neighborhoods. SeniorLAW Center's Homeownership Rights team provides seniors with mortgage foreclosure assistance and mortgage modification, we correct deed and title problems, we administer estates of deceased owners and transfer the deed to the senior residing in the property, we resolve property tax delinquencies and we work to protect seniors from unscrupulous home repair contractors.

Tenant Rights: SeniorLAW Center's Tenant Rights Project provides direct representation to eligible Philadelphia seniors facing eviction and advises tenants on their rights and remedies in both private and public housing. We also provide housing counselor referrals and potential sources for emergency rental assistance and other resources. Through our statewide HelpLine, we can counsel senior tenants on their rights throughout Pennsylvania. SeniorLAW Center also advocates for systemic changes to improve tenants' lives and protect their rights.

Pennsylvania SeniorLAW Helpline: The Pennsylvania SeniorLAW HelpLine is a statewide free and confidential telephone-based legal service, staffed by attorneys, providing legal information, advice, and/or referrals as well as brief services for certain areas of law, to older Pennsylvanians (60 years and older) in all 67 counties of the Commonwealth. Attorneys provide free legal advice, information and referral on a wide variety of civil (noncriminal) legal issues including: Elder Abuse and Financial Exploitation – family violence, identity theft, unauthorized bank withdrawals, credit card fraud, fraudulent deed conveyances; Housing – foreclosures, landlord-tenant, deeds, utilities, home repair contractor fraud; Family Law – grandparents' rights, kinship care,

custody, support, divorce; Consumer Problems – credit, debt, bankruptcy;; Health Care; Estate Planning – health care and financial powers of attorney, living wills, simple wills; Many other areas of law.

Community Legal Clinics: SeniorLAW Center offers direct services in seven diverse Philadelphia communities at senior-focused venues on recurring dates and times each month. Community-based services expand our ability to reach isolated clients, increase access and provide services in a comfortable environment in seniors' own neighborhoods. We believe it is essential to serve clients in the neighborhoods in which they live and congregate, and in their own languages.

Limited English Proficient Seniors: SeniorLAW Center proudly provides legal, educational and advocacy services to older adults in their own neighborhoods and languages.

Pension Project: SeniorLAW Center is proud to be the Pennsylvania partner on the Mid-America Pension Rights Project, a regional pension counseling project, serving Pennsylvania, Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. This project includes those under 60 or those who are not Pennsylvania residents but who are seeking retirement benefits from a Pennsylvania-based company or employment. This project provides expansive services in the area of pension rights, including: Eligibility and rights; Benefit rights for spouses and survivors; Rights of divorced individuals; Finding lost pensions; Pension denials and appeals; Pursue pension questions and problems through the administrative process; Where litigation is required, the Mid-America Pension Rights Project may be able to assist people in finding a pension attorney to bring their case to court.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Services include: direct legal representation to eligible older adults who are or want to be kinship caretakers in both Dependency Court (when abuse or neglect and the child welfare system is involved) and Domestic Relations Court; legal advice, information and referral regarding kinship care issues; advice, information and referrals to resources and supports that can be of assistance to those providing care; Advocating for systemic changes to improve kinship caregivers' lives and protect their rights; Community outreach events and trainings regarding Kinship Care issues

Other Services: Advocacy through participation on task forces, councils, roundtables, coalitions and committees concerned with aging, access to justice, poverty, women's rights, domestic violence, intergenerational families, equality and other key issues. Community and professional education workshops on legal issues affecting the elderly. Law student training for students who work at SeniorLAW Center to develop skills in client counseling and representation, negotiating, advocacy, research and legal writing and elder law issues. Many diverse pro bono programs, practice groups, Life Planning Clinics, and other pro bono opportunities.

- **Executive Director**
Karen C. Buck, Esq.
- **Legal Director**
Dana N. Goldberg, Esq.



Change the story.

Support Center for Child Advocates

1617 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Ste. 1200
Philadelphia, PA 19103
267-546-9200 (phone)
267-546-9201 (fax)

<https://www.sccalaw.org/>
frontdesk@sccalaw.org

The Support Center for Child Advocates (Child Advocates) is the country's oldest and largest volunteer legal services agency dedicated exclusively to abused and neglected children and youth. Each child receives the service of a staff social worker who is teamed with a volunteer attorney from the Philadelphia legal community. Our legal and social services are offered to child victims through two service lines: 1) Direct Representation Services and 2) Child Advocacy Leadership & Training, which includes our systemic change efforts and our training programs. We represent over 1,100 children each year and train more than 4,000 lay and professional caregivers.

- **Intake Phone**
267-546-9200
- **Organization Mission**
To advocate for victims of child abuse and neglect with the goal of securing safety, justice, well-being and a permanent, nurturing environment for every child.
- **Litigation**
Representation of child victims of abuse and neglect in Dependency Court and Domestic Relations proceedings.
- **Advocacy**
Child welfare reform; quality of representation of children and parents.
- **Client Eligibility**
Income guidelines: none; Geographic guidelines: children from families who are residents of Philadelphia.
- **Intake Process**
By phone: M – F, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Child Advocates must be appointed by a judge to represent a child. Referrals are usually from courts, hospitals, the DA's office or other agencies.
- **Areas of Practice**
Intra-familial child abuse/neglect/sex abuse. Child Advocates provides pro bono legal and social service advocacy to child victims in both criminal and civil court cases related to child abuse.
- **Programs**
Project PROTECT (Philadelphia Response and Outreach to End Child Trafficking); Project YES! (Youth Educational Success); Center for Excellence in Advocacy (for training and consultation programs); Project for Children with Complex Medical Needs, Outcomes in Behavioral Health; and Empowering Older Youth Program.

More information can be found at www.sccalaw.org/resources/programs

- **Executive Director**
Frank P. Cervone, Esq.

- **Managing Attorney**
Marguerite Gualtieri, Esq.



Temple University Beasley School of Law Elderly Law Project

1719 North Broad Street Philadelphia, PA 19122

215-204-6887 (phone)

215-204-2570 (fax)

http://www.law.temple.edu/Pages/Academics/Clinical_LawSchool_Clinics.aspx

- **Intake Phone**
215-204-6887
- **Organization Mission**
Give legal assistance to senior citizens (60 years and older) who reside in Philadelphia.
- **Client Eligibility**
60 and over and live in Philadelphia
- **Intake Process**
Hotline and in various senior citizen centers in Philadelphia
- **Areas of Practice**
Public benefits, Social security, SSI, Disability, Medicare, Medical Assistance, Food stamps, Veteran's Benefits
- **Programs**
In house clinical program: law students get 3 credits to work with the project. The students provide direct legal assistance to clients in the community.
Telephone hotline: operates 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Monday through Friday. General legal questions are answered and either The Elderly Law Project handles the problem or an appropriate referral is made.
- **Executive Director**
Debra Kroll, Esq.



Temple University Beasley School of Law Legal Aid Office

1719 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19122

215-204-1800 (phone)

215-204-5521 (fax)

<https://sites.temple.edu/tlao/for-our-clients/>

- **Intake Phone**

215-204-1800

- **Organization Mission**

Temple Legal Aid Office (TLAO) has a dual mission; to provide qualified law students a clinical legal educational opportunity with actual clients by working under the supervision of experienced attorneys to provide free legal advice and representation to clients in civil, non-fee generating cases as a community service.

- **Client Eligibility**

Income guidelines: federal poverty guidelines; Geographic guidelines: Philadelphia

- **Intake Process**

By phone: M – F, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Each case is screened for case type and financial eligibility.

TLAO operates year-round with the professional staff assuming direct responsibility for cases. However, most intake occurs during the academic year in the months of Sept., Oct., Nov., Jan., Feb., and March.

- **Areas of Practice**

Family Law Litigation: Law students interview prospective clients at TLAO and, if the case is accepted, prepare and represent the client in court proceedings under the supervision of an experienced attorney. Typical cases include such matters as custody, support (child and spousal), paternity, adoption, and birth record amendments.

Legal Advocacy for people with cancer, HIV, and/or physical disabilities: Law students conduct intake at various sites where people with the above health problems or impairments receive other services. Some of the intake sites include or have included the Temple Hospital's Cancer Center, Jefferson Hospital's Cancer Support and Welcoming Center, Action Wellness, the Community Living Room, and Liberty Resources, Inc. Student work is supervised by an experienced attorney. Some of the matters handled include SSI hearings, life planning, and medical insurance issues.

- **Programs**

Outreach: Law students make presentations on custody and support law and procedures to victims of domestic violence.

TLAO professional staff members make informational presentations to community groups and agency personnel on the full range of issues handled by the law students.

TLAO maintains formal referral relationships with a number of organizations throughout Philadelphia to provide advice and

assistance on issues within TLAO expertise to qualified members of those groups. Limited intake may be generated from such referrals.

- **Attorney**

Spencer Rand, Esq., Clinical Professor of Law

- **Attorney**

Sarah Katz, Esq., Associate Clinical Professor of Law



Tenant Union Representative Network

The Land Title Building
100 South Broad Street, 8th floor
Philadelphia, PA 19110

215-940-3900 (phone)

215-940-3910 (fax)

<http://www.rturn.net/>

- **Intake Phone**
215-940-3900
- **Organization Mission**
To address an array of tenant issues.
- **Client Eligibility**
Income guidelines: none, all services are free
Geographic guidelines: serves Philadelphia residents
- **Intake Process**
Hotline: M – F, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Walk-in: M – F, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Tenants' Rights Workshops: M, W, F, 12:30 p.m.; and W, 5 p.m.
- **Areas of Practice**
Tenant issues, including: evictions, tenant unions, leasing and repairs
- **Programs**
Tenant's Rights Counseling: classes, information and referral hotline and individual counseling through crisis intervention and supportive services.

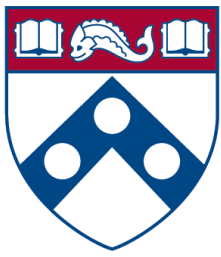
Court Preparation/Eviction Defense: for tenants facing eviction, to help them conduct pro se representation.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

Tenant Organizing

Community Education

Specialized Services for the Elderly, New Mothers, and Children
- **Executive Director**
Philip Lord, Esq.



Penn Law

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA CAREY LAW SCHOOL

University of Pennsylvania Law School Gittis Center for Clinical Legal Studies

3501 Sansom Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19104
215-898-8427 (phone)
215-573-6783 (fax)
www.law.upenn.edu/clinic

- **Intake Phone**
215-898-8427
- **Organization Mission**
To train law students in lawyering skills by providing free legal services under close in-house faculty supervision.
- **Client Eligibility**
Income guidelines: Litigation case applicants must meet or just slightly exceed legal services financial guidelines. Other clinic's guidelines are more flexible; Geographic guidelines: Philadelphia metropolitan area.
- **Intake Process**
Only conducts phone intake – no in-person intake. Referrals from other legal services organizations welcome. Cases are screened for case type and financial eligibility and are selected for their educational value to the student-lawyers. The office is open year-round but doesn't accept new cases during the summer months (May through August). Accepts new cases only at the start of the Fall semester (September) and Spring semester (January).
- **Programs**
Civil Practice Clinic: Law students certified by state and federal courts to represent clients in a wide variety of civil cases in courts and administrative agencies. Areas of practice include civil forfeiture, Social Security Disability, Unemployment Compensation, custody, support, housing, consumer educational rights, employment discrimination, civil rights and expungement of child abuse records. No divorce, bankruptcy, or criminal matters accepted.

Additional clinical programs include the Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic (for online application go to www.pennelc.com), Interdisciplinary Child Advocacy Clinic, and the Transnational Legal Clinic. Go to www.law.upenn.edu/clinic/ for a complete list.
- **Clinic Director and Professor of Law**
Praveen Kosuri, Esq. Associate Dean for Clinical Education Director, Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic
- **Clinic Administrator**
Beth Shapiro, Esq.



Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, Villanova Clinical Program

299 North Spring Mill Road, Villanova, PA 19085

610-519-5894 (phone)

610-519-5173 (fax)

<http://www.law.villanova.edu/academics/clinical%20programs.aspx>

- **Intake Phone**

CARES (asylum) Clinic: 610-519-6839; Civil Justice Clinic: 610-519-6417; Farmworker Legal Aid Clinic: 610-519-6839; Federal Tax Clinic: 610-519-4123

- **Organization Mission**

Providing free legal representation to under-represented individuals by law students working under close faculty supervision.

- **Client Eligibility**

Income Guidelines:

Civil Justice Clinic, Farmworker Clinic & Interdisciplinary Health Law Clinic applicants must meet legal services financial guidelines.

CARES (asylum) Clinic and the Clinic for law and Entrepreneurship applicants have no income guidelines.

Federal Tax Clinic applicants' income must not exceed 250% of federal poverty guidelines.

- **Intake Process**

Referrals & appointments required. No walk-ins. Cases are screened for case type & financial eligibility & are selected for their educational value to the student-lawyers. The office operates year-round but only accepts cases during the academic year.

The Clinic for Law and Entrepreneurship selects clients based on a variety of factors, including whether the prospective client has access to the traditional marketplace for legal services, their potential impact on society or communities, and the timing and character of their needs. Selection preference is accorded to ventures that embrace triple bottom line business objectives.

- **Programs**

CARES (asylum) Clinic: Students represent refugees seeking asylum protection in the U.S. because of threatened persecution in the countries from which they fled.

Civil Justice Clinic: Students represent clients in a range of civil matters including custody, support, disability, consumer matters, housing & employment.

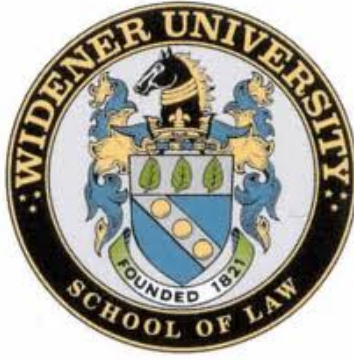
Farmworker Clinic: Students represent clients in agricultural & agricultural-related settings throughout eastern and central Pennsylvania.

Federal Tax Clinic: Students represent low-income taxpayers in controversies before the Internal Revenue Service & in the U.S. Tax Court.

Health Law Clinic: Law students & graduate nursing students work collaboratively representing low-income clients in health-related matters.

The Clinic for Law
and Entrepreneurship: Provides direct representation to
entrepreneurs, businesses, and social
ventures from the Philadelphia region.
No divorce, bankruptcy or criminal cases are accepted.

- **Clinic Director, Associate Professor of Law**
Caitlin Barry, Esq.
- **Clinical Program Administrator**
Andrea Meals



Widener University School of Law Clinical Programs

4601 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19803

302-477-2162 (phone)

<http://law.widener.edu/Academics/ClinicalProgramsandProfessionalTraining/Clinics.aspx>

- **Intake Phone**

Environmental and Natural Resources Clinic: 302-477-2182 Veterans law Clinic: 302-477-2090

- **Client Eligibility**

Environmental Clinic: No income guidelines. The Clinic represents clients throughout Pennsylvania and Delaware. The Clinic represents clients seeking non-monetary relief.

Veterans Law Clinic: Disabled Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey and Maryland veterans living at 150% of poverty level who have been denied benefits by the Regional Office and wish to take an appeal to the Board of Veterans Appeals.

- **Intake Process**

By phone, Monday – Friday 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Client will speak with Clinic Director about situation to determine if Clinic can assist client.

- **Areas of Practice**

The Environmental Clinic works on matters concerning impacts on the environmental from various activities, including enforcement of permits and federal, state, or local environmental laws for facilities that discharge pollutants into the environment; land use (including zoning and planning decisions) for activities or projects that may have adverse environmental effects; permitting of facilities or activities that may have adverse environmental impacts; and appeals of decisions concerning any of the above.

The Veterans Law Clinic provides free legal representation to eligible veterans to appeal compensation claims that were turned down by the Regional to the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA) and beyond, if necessary, to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC).

- **Director of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law**

Kenneth T. Kristl, Esq.



Women Against Abuse Center

100 South Broad Street, 5th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19110

215-686-7082 Hotline: 1-866-723-3014 (phone)

215-686-7041 (fax)

<http://www.womenagainstabuse.org/>

- **Intake Phone**
215-686-7082
- **Organization Mission**
To provide free legal services for domestic violence victims relating to protection from abuse, custody, and support matters.
- **Client Eligibility**
Income guidelines: none; Geographic guidelines: Philadelphia; Other guidelines: victims of domestic violence.
- **Intake Process**
By phone: M – F, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- **Areas of Practice**
Domestic violence, PFA, custody and support
- **Programs**
Direct legal services: counseling, advocacy, criminal and contempt court advocacy, court representation for victims who have filed cases, pursuant to the Protection From Abuse Act, court representation for victims of domestic violence who have a physical disability, limited custody and support assistance and representation (for litigants who are also victims of domestic violence), and limited appellate work.
Advocacy: WAA Legal Center works with the Philadelphia Family Court, the Philadelphia Bar Association and other agencies and groups working to improve the legal system for domestic violence victims.
- **Legal Director**
Molly Callahan, Esq.

WOMEN'S LAW PROJECT

Safeguarding Rights, Creating Opportunities

Women's Law Project

Philadelphia Office:
125 S. 9th Street, Suite 300, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Western Pennsylvania Office:
401 Wood Street, Suite 1020, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Philadelphia Office: 215-928-9801 Western PA Office: 412-281-2892 (phone)
Philadelphia Office: 215-928-9848 Western PA: 412-281-3054 (fax)
<http://www.womenslawproject.org/>

WLP's primary vehicle for direct service is its Telephone Counseling and Consumer Education Service, which provides legal information and referrals to legal and non-legal organizations. Non-attorney counselors return calls and discuss problems, relevant laws and procedures, and resources with callers.

- **Intake Phone**
215-928-9801
- **Organization Mission**
The Women's Law Project (WLP) works to create a more just and equitable society by advancing the rights and status of all women throughout their lives. To this end, WLP engages in high-impact litigation, advocacy, and education.
- **Litigation**
WLP accepts a very small number of high-impact cases having the potential to benefit large numbers of women or achieve an important doctrinal advance for women. Cases are identified through calls to the Telephone Counseling Service. WLP also supports litigation brought by others through the organizing and filing of amicus curiae briefs.
- **Advocacy**
WLP works to enhance the legal rights of women through litigation that will change or enforce existing laws and challenge discriminatory practices, in particular by bringing cases that might not otherwise be brought on behalf of women who might otherwise not be heard. WLP seeks to improve the responsiveness of official and institutional practices and systems to the needs of women, guided by the personal experiences of women and by evidence-based research. WLP empowers women by providing information about their rights and the law. WLP strives to ensure that public officials have current, accurate, unbiased information about key issues such as abortion, violence against women, and women's health.
- **Client Eligibility**
WLP accepts calls from anyone, without income or geographic restrictions. WLP cannot accept walk-in requests for counseling. Information is most extensive for the Philadelphia region, and more limited for other parts of Pennsylvania
- **Intake Process**
Consumers may call WLP's Main Office Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to complete an intake process for the Telephone Counseling Service. Counselors return calls in the order they are received, giving priority to emergencies. The wait for a return call varies according to call volume; it can sometimes be several days.
- **Areas of Practice**

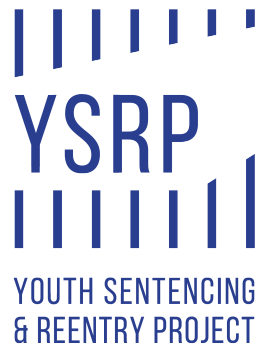
WLP's areas of practice include reproductive rights, violence against women, health care, family court and law reform, and discrimination against women and girls in education, with a special focus on Title IX, and in employment. We have a number of publications, all available on our website.

- **Executive Director**

Carol Tracy, Esq.

- **Managing Attorney**

Terry Fromson, Esq.



Youth Sentencing & Reentry Project (YSRP)

1528 Walnut Street
Suite 515
Philadelphia, PA 19102
267-703-8046 (phone)
267-543-7939 (fax)

www.ysrp.org
info@ysrp.org

The Youth Sentencing & Reentry Project (YSRP) is a Philadelphia-based nonprofit organization that provides comprehensive support to kids prosecuted in the adult criminal justice system. We have two goals:

1. Help lawyers with low-income clients get their cases transferred from the adult criminal justice system to the juvenile justice system; and

2. Help connect youth and their families with existing community resources and programs, so they have access to education, healthcare, stable housing and job placement.

- **Intake Phone**
267-703-8046

- **Organization Mission**

YSRP uses direct service and policy advocacy to transform the experiences of children prosecuted in the adult criminal justice system, and to ensure fair and thoughtful resentencing and reentry for individuals who were sentenced to life without parole as children (“juvenile lifers”). We partner with court-involved youth and juvenile lifers, their families, and lawyers to develop holistic, humanizing narratives that mitigate the facts of each case; get cases transferred to the juvenile system or resentenced; and make crucial connections to community resources providing education, healthcare, housing, and employment. We also provide trainings on mitigation, and recruit, train and supervise students and other volunteers to assist in this work. Our ultimate goals are to keep children out of adult jails and prisons and to enhance the quality of representation juvenile lifers receive at resentencing, and as they prepare to reenter the community.

- **Advocacy**

The practice of arresting, charging and sentencing youth in the adult criminal justice system is harmful for them, their families and our communities. Being charged in adult court, even if that charge never results in a conviction, means that children spend time in adult prisons and/or jails. Such experiences are traumatizing, exposing youth to physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and creating barriers to success in all areas, including education and employment. Although justice system involvement always produces serious consequences, the repercussions are especially far-reaching for low-income youth of color who are overrepresented in the criminal justice system in Philadelphia.

Through deep relationship-building with our client-partners and their families and supporters, we collectively surface issues of concern that stem from their direct contact with the criminal justice system. Through interrogation and research, these issues evolve into policy advocacy that allows for us to challenge the harmful practices that perpetuate mass incarceration. As more juvenile lifers return home to Philadelphia, the community on the outside is organizing to build up the leadership and skills of its members to lead in these advocacy efforts. Collectively, we seek to end the practice of prosecuting youth in the adult criminal justice system.

YSRP ultimately aspires to end the practice of prosecuting children as adults in Pennsylvania. In the nearer term, our policy advocacy seeks to diminish the destructive impact that incarceration has on children and families, from as close to their arrest in the adult justice system through their reentry. YSRP's most immediate policy goal currently is to move the youth out of the adult jails on State Road in Philadelphia.

- **Client Eligibility**

Youth facing charges in the adult criminal justice system.

Individuals sentenced to life in prison without parole before their 18th birthday.

Families with children or loved ones (under age 18) facing charges in the adult criminal justice system.

- **Intake Process**

Please call 267-703-8046 or email info@ysrp.org

- **Areas of Practice**

In Philadelphia, and recently with our partners at the Delaware County and Montgomery County public defender offices, YSRP supports low-income children and juvenile lifers who qualify for public defense services by virtue of their poverty, but are provided private ("court appointed") attorneys due to conflicts of interest with the public defender's office.

YSRP's case advocacy model is designed to system-level gaps and increase access to critical supports and services so that youth, and individuals sentenced when they were youth, will return home from incarceration with the best chances of success by accessing health and emotional health support and services, stable housing, employment training and meaningful educational and job opportunities.

- **Director**

Lauren Fine, Esq., Co-Director Joanna Visser Adjoian, Esq., Co-Director

- **Legal Director**

Emily Robb, Esq., Supervising Attorney