Directory of Public Interest Legal Organizations in Philadelphia

A publication of the Delivery of Legal Services Committee of Philadelphia Bar Association

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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/

- **Intake Phone**
  215-592-1513, ext. 1

- **Organization Mission**
  To defend the civil rights and civil liberties of individuals as guaranteed by the constitutions of Pennsylvania and the United States with a comprehensive program including impact litigation, public education and advocacy.

- **Client Eligibility**
  Income guidelines: None; Geographic guidelines: Violation must occur in the state of Pennsylvania, although client need not be a resident of PA; Other guidelines: focus on clients with civil liberties problem best addressed through litigation.

- **Intake Process**
  Callers should leave a message at extension 1: calls will be returned M-F, 9 am – 5 pm and Sat., 11-3. (Walk-ins not accepted). Cases accepted present a civil liberties issue that needs to be addressed through litigation.

- **Areas of Practice**
  Civil liberties, civil rights, due process, Constitutional law, particularly First Amendment.

- **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. Some cases are taken; others are referred to appropriate agencies.

- **Executive Director**
  Reginald Shuford, Esq.

- **Deputy Legal Director**
  Mary Catherine Roper, Esq.
Community Legal Services

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

- **Intake Phone**

- **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 Section 8: Walk-in or phone, T &Th, 9 am to noon Landlord/tenant: Walk-in or phone, M-W, 9 am to noon

- **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 200N
Philadelphia PA 19106.
215-523-9511/9510 (phone)
215-981-3866 (fax)

- **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: AIDS Law Projects of PA, Community Legal Services, Homeless Advocacy Project, Legal Clinic for the Disabled, Norris Square Civic Association, Philadelphia Legal Assistance, SeniorLAW Center, Tenant Action Group, 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**
  Mary Anne Lucey
Council on American-Islamic Relations
1501 Cherry St.
Philadelphia PA 19102
267-515-6710 (phone)
http://pa.cair.com
info@philadelphia.cair.com

- **Organization Mission**
  CAIR-Philadelphia advocates against anti-Muslim bias and discrimination in American society, and our Civil Rights Department represents persons who experience unlawful discrimination based upon actual, or perceived, Muslim identity. CAIR’s mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding.

- **Client Eligibility**
  Neither client income, nor immigration and/or citizenship status, are criteria for acceptance of a legal case.

- **Areas of Practice**
  In choosing cases for direct representation, we focus our practice on the most widespread problems affecting community, cases which will have the largest impact upon our community, and on serving the most vulnerable persons within the American Muslim community. A high priority is given to cases involving local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and to cases involving school bullying and/or harassment.

- **Executive Director**
  Jacob Bender

- **Staff Attorney**
Disability Rights Pennsylvania

1315 Walnut Street, Suite 500
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-238-8070 (phone)
215-772-3126 (fax)
http://www.disabilityrightspa.org
drnpa-phia@drnpa.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 that 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, Appellate Litigation Clinic

3320 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
(215) 571-4709 (phone)
(215) 571-4712 (fax)
http://drexel.edu/law/academics/clinical/appellate_litigation_clinic/
richard.frankel@drexel.edu

- Intake Phone
  (215) 571-4709

- Organization Mission
  To provide legal representation to needy individuals in 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 civil and criminal appeals in state and federal courts and before state and federal administrative agencies.

- Director
  Richard H. Frankel, Esq.
Education Law Center

1315 Walnut Street, Ste. 400, Philadelphia, PA 19107
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 at-risk students — children living in poverty, children of color, children in the foster care and juvenile justice systems, children with disabilities, English Language Learners, 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, 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 legislative, regulatory, and policy advocacy.

  NOTE: ELC does not provide direct counseling to individual families in special education matters, and 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 their phone intake system in certain priority areas. In addition, ELC’s publications can be downloaded from their Web site, 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 disadvantaged 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, 7028, 7029 (phone)
215-686-7055 (fax)
http://www.courts.phila.gov/ejc/
elderresource@courts.phila.gov

The office assists litigants by offering procedural information, legal resources and referrals, and offers free legal advice from volunteer attorneys and law students by appointment or on a walk-in basis if available. The Elder Justice & Civil Resource Center is open Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM. The EJCRC does not provide in-court representation.

- **Intake Phone**
  215-686-7027, 7028, 7029

- **Organization Mission**
  To provide assistance to self-represented litigants who need help navigating the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas’ Civil Trial Division.

- **Legal Director**
  Brian Kisielewski, Esq.

- **Manager**
  Erica Bray erica.bray@courts.phila.gov
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
Friends of Farmworkers, Inc.

699 Ranstead St, Suite 4
Philadelphia, PA 19106-2334

5450 Second Ave, 2nd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

215-733-0878 and 800-729-1607 (phone)
215-733-0876 (fax)
http://www.friendsfw.org/

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

- **Organization Mission**
  Friends of Farmworkers 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
Good Shepherd Mediation Program

Suite 301 Rodin Place
2000 Hamilton Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130
215-843-5413 (phone)
215-843-2080 (fax)
http://www.phillymediators.org/

- **Organization Mission**
  To empower Philadelphia community residents to creatively search for meaningful and lasting solutions to their conflicts without resorting to crime or violence.

- **Intake Process**
  Call Good Shepherd Mediation Program at 215-843-5413. Both parties must agree to mediate. The Mediation Program does not have the power to subpoena anyone to come to mediation. If you request mediation, Good Shepherd Mediation Program will contact the other party for you, if you wish, to explain the mediation process and ask if the other party is interested in mediating.

- **Executive Director**
  Cheryl Cutrona, Esq.
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.homelessadvocacyproject.org/

• Intake Phone
  215-523-9595

• Organization Mission
  To provide free civil legal services to homeless individuals and families in Philadelphia.

• Client Eligibility
  Income guidelines: LSC income eligibility; Geographic guidelines: Philadelphia area; Other guidelines: homelessness

• Intake Process
  Intake is done at regularly scheduled legal clinics, homeless shelters and soup kitchens. If a client calls HAP for intake, s/he will receive an appointment for intake at a legal clinic. Phone calls are taken M – F, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

• Areas of Practice
  Legal services for the homeless, with an understanding of the multiple legal problems and social issues of homeless people. The Homeless Advocacy Project (HAP) assists homeless clients with civil matters including: Benefits; Commercial/Credit; Education; Employment; Family Law; Health Care; Emergency Shelter/Housing; Property; Records; and Trusts/Estates. HAP also provides referrals to social services for homeless persons.

• Programs
  Direct civil legal services for homeless individuals and families.

  Legal Clinics at shelters and soup kitchens inform homeless people of their legal rights and provide representation. Volunteers conduct the initial interviews and see the case through to its conclusion.

  Adopt a Shelter Program: HAP provides training and support to attorneys at firms/legal departments who agree to staff one of HAP’s legal clinics at a shelter on a regular basis.

  Children and Families Project: HAP provides representation to homeless children and their families in the following legal matters: special education, children’s SSI, TANF benefits, child custody and support. HAP holds their clinics in 8 shelters located throughout Philadelphia.

• Executive Director
  Marsha Cohen, Esq.
Juvenile Law Center
1315 Walnut Street, 4th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-625-0551 (phone)
215-625-2808 (fax)
http://www.jlc.org/

- **Intake Phone**
  1-800-875-8887

- **Organization Mission**
  To protect and advance children’s rights in courts, legislatures, and executive agencies through litigation, appellate advocacy and submission of amicus (friend-of-the-court) briefs, policy reform, public education, training, and strategic communications. We strive to ensure that laws, policies, and practices affecting youth in the justice system and older youth in foster care are rooted in research, consistent with children’s unique developmental characteristics, and reflective of international human rights values.

- **Advocacy**
  Minimizing Court and Systems Involvement; Promoting Fairness in the Courts; Improving Outcomes for Court-Involved Youth; Securing Access to Services and Opportunities

- **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**
  Intake by phone, M-F, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Intakes may also be submitted by e-mail to info@jlc.org. JLC provides legal information and referral. Juvenile Law Center does not provide direct legal representation.

- **Areas of Practice**
  Information and referrals regarding the following issues: Adoption; Child Abuse; Child Welfare; Custody; Education; Emancipation; Foster Care; Health and Mental Health Issues; Juvenile Justice; and Teen pregnancy and Parenting

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

- **Executive Director**
  Susan V. Mangold, Esq.

- **Deputy Director & Chief Counsel**
  Marsha L. Levick, Esq.
Legal Clinic for the Disabled, Inc. (LCD)

1513 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102
215.587.3158 (phone)
215-587-3166 (fax)
http://www.lcdphila.org/
lpeyton@lcdphila.org

• **Intake Phone**
  215.587.3350

• **Organization Mission**
  Increasing access to our courts and community by providing free legal services to low-income people with physical disabilities and deaf and hard of hearing individuals in the five-county Philadelphia region.

• **Client Eligibility**
  To be eligible for LCD’s services a person must be at or below 150% of the Federal poverty guidelines and live in Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware or Montgomery county. LCD does not handle criminal or personal injury matters.

• **Intake Process**
  Telephone intake is on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. 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’s team of in-house attorneys and dedicated core of volunteer attorneys provide advice and advocacy, helping clients overcome legal obstacles that would otherwise affect their independence, health and quality of life. LCD offers direct services in a community-based setting at Associated Services for the Blind and Inglis House and has developed Medical Legal Partnerships (MLP) at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, Magee Rehabilitation Hospital, three nurse managed health centers through Family Practice and Counseling Network in Philadelphia, Hahnemann University Cancer Center and the Stephen Klein Wellness Center. Attorneys are on site during the week at the MLP sites partnering with health care professionals to identify health harming legal issues in order to address the issue before it becomes a crisis.

• **Executive Director**
  Linda Peyton, Esq.

• **Managing Attorney**
  Esther Miller, Esq.
Mazzoni Center, LGBTQ Legal Services

1348 Bainbridge Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147
215-563-0657 (phone)
215-563-0664 (fax)
http://www.mazzonicenter.org/
legalservices@mazzonicenter.org

- **Intake Phone**
  866-LGBT-LAW (toll free) or (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, and a limited number of matters seeking to advance LGBTQ rights.

- **Advocacy**
  On issues that impact the LGBTQ community, including access to nondiscriminatory health care and insurance coverage.

- **Client Eligibility**
  Mazzoni Center’s Legal Services program provides direct legal services to low- and lower-income lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer individuals and families on matters related to their sexual orientation and gender identity, and also provides advice and representation on discrimination claims and other matters that may impact the rights of LGBTQ people Pennsylvania.
  If we are unable to provide representation in a matter, we have a network of attorneys who have advised 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.
  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.

- **Staff Attorney**
  Iveliz R. Crespo, Esq.
Military Assistance Project

2005 Market Street
Suite 3500
Philadelphia, PA 19103
267.449.6067 (phone)
www.militaryassistanceproject.org
staff@militaryassistanceproject.org; dianna@militaryassistanceproject.org

Military Assistance Project provides free, trauma-informed 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
  Consumer Law
  Veterans Administrative Law

• Executive Director
  Dr. Cecilia M. Cardesa-Lusardi
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
Pennsylvania Capital Representation Project of the Philadelphia Federal Defender

Independence Square West, Ste. 545 West, Philadelphia, PA 19106
215-928-0520 (phone)
215-928-0826 (fax)

- **Executive Director**
  Helen Marino, Esq.
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-F, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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.
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

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, and to prevent the innocent from being convicted.

- **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 to serve. We cannot take cases where the individual pled guilty, and do not accept 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**
  Richard C. Glazer, Esq.

- **Legal Director**
  Marissa Boyers Bluestine, 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
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 consist of PMC Shares™ Community Outreach, PMC Listens™ Helpline, and PMC Watches™ Citizen Court Monitoring program.

- **President & CEO**
  Maida R. Milone
Philadelphia Bar Association Lawyer Referral & Information Service

1101 Market Street 11th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-238-6333 (phone)
215-238-1159 (fax)
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.
  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.
  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.
  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 Landlord/Tenant Legal Help Center, A Collaborative Project Administered by SeniorLAW Center

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

- **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**
  Operating Hours: Mondays through Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Tenants should sign-in at the Clerk’s Counter to meet with an attorney on a first-come, first-served basis. Tenants are encouraged to come early and bring all relevant documents. Interpretation services are available.

- **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

• **Intake Phone**
  267-519-5323

• **Organization Mission**
Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity works towards just outcomes for low-income individuals who have had contact with the Pennsylvania criminal justice system. Through individual representation, strategic litigation, community education, research, and legislative advocacy, PLSE advocates for a more equitable social environment for those with criminal records, including expanding access to employment and social services.

• **Client Eligibility**
Eligible client’s income may be no greater than 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

• **Intake Process**
PLSE’s Criminal Records Expungement Project conducts intake sessions across Philadelphia in the communities most affected by criminal history record information. Please visit our website for upcoming clinic location and dates.

• **Areas of Practice**
Criminal records, employment

• **Managing Attorney**
M. Zane Johnson, Esq.

• **Interim Executive Director**
Carl Tobey Oxholm III
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)
http://www.phillyvip.org/

- **Intake Phone**
  Intakes are accepted from other legal services and social services agencies, see INTAKE PROCESS, below. For information, call (215) 523-9550.

- **Organization Mission**
  VIP’s mission is to recruit, train and support volunteer attorneys to provide free representation to low-income clients in non-fee generating civil cases. LawWorks, a project of VIP, provides pro bono assistance to nonprofits, small business owners and low-income homeowners seeking legal title to their homes.

- **Client Eligibility**
  Income guidelines: Up to 200% of federal poverty level; Geographic guidelines: Philadelphia resident (or non-resident) with a legal problem in Philadelphia courts.

- **Intake Process**
  VIP does not handle direct intake. Intake is done by a written referral from other legal and social service agencies. All requests for assistance should be directed to the Managing Attorney.

- **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: Civil Forfeiture, 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, Expungement

  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. 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**
  Sara Woods, Esq.
Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts

Arts + Business Council of Greater Philadelphia,
200 S. Broad Street, Suite 700
Philadelphia, PA 19102
215-790-3836 x 1 (phone)
215-790-3888 (fax)
http://artsbusinessphl.org/philadelphia-volunteer-lawyers-arts/
pvlalegal@artsandbusinessphila.org

- Intake Phone
  215-790-3836 ext. 1

- Organization Mission
  To provide legal services, educational programs and community building events for artists, lawyers and cultural organizations.

- Client Eligibility
  Income Guidelines: Pro bono legal services are available only to financially qualifying artists and arts and cultural organizations with an arts-related legal issue. The financial qualifications are: Individual Artists: Annual gross income of $35,000 per year or less if single, with a $3,000 per dependent credit; combined annual gross income of $55,000 per year or less if married or cohabiting, with a $3,000 per dependent credit. Arts Collectives and small businesses are generally treated as groups of individuals for eligibility purposes. Nonprofit Organizations: Annual operating budget of $1 million or less. Liquid asset restrictions also apply. Geographic Guidelines: Southeastern PA, Southern NJ, and DE. Clients who do not qualify for pro bono services may request educational materials or reduced-rate referral lists. Patent pro bono clients seeking to obtain assistance under the PVLA-USPTO partnership must live in Pennsylvania and meet PVLA’s financial eligibility limits and additional standards.

- Intake Process

- 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 is a one-time-only telephone conversation between any artist or arts or cultural organization client and an attorney in a given practice area to discuss a particular arts-related legal issue.

  ArtFax is a one-time-only telephone conversation between any artist or arts or cultural organization client and an attorney in a given practice area to discuss a particular short (no more than three-page) arts-related legal document.
In a Full Service referral, PVLA volunteer attorneys provide free legal representation for qualifying artists and arts and cultural organizations.

PVLA’s Patent Pro Bono program provides restricted legal assistance (patent counseling and 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 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’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 substantive and ethical training for new volunteer attorneys throughout the year.

- **Legal Director**
  Ryan W. Morris, Esq., Director of Volunteer Services, Arts + Business Council of Greater Philadelphia
Public Interest Law Center

United Way Building, 1709 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA, 19103
215-627-7100 (phone)
215-627-3183 (fax)
http://www.pubintlaw.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.pubintlaw.org/contact/](http://www.pubintlaw.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**
  Mark Schwartz, Esq.
• **Associate Director/Deputy Director**
  Rachel Blake, Esq., Associate Director; Dina Schlossberg, Esq., Deputy Director and Senior Attorney for Multifamily Housing
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
Scenic Philadelphia

1315 Walnut Street,
Suite 1650,
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-731-1775 (phone)
215-732-5725 (fax)
www.scenicphiladelphia.org

- **Intake Phone**
  215-731-1775

- **Organization Mission**
  Our mission is to promote healthy, vibrant and beautiful public spaces throughout all of Philadelphia through the use of education, advocacy, and legal action from the sidewalk to the skyline. Scenic Philadelphia promotes equal enforcement of laws affecting the built environment by providing free technical assistance and legal representation to low income communities who would not otherwise have access to the courts.

- **Client Eligibility**
  Citizens and neighborhood organizations in the Philadelphia region

- **Intake Process**
  Telephone intake from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Walk-ins are also welcome.

- **Areas of Practice**
  Zoning and land use issues where the larger community is adversely affected or where there is a city-wide impact.

- **Programs**
  Provide advice and direct legal services to individuals and community groups regarding land use issues.

- **Executive Director**
  Mary Tracy
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**
  To improve the lives of older Pennsylvanians and protect their rights through legal representation, education and advocacy.

- **Advocacy**
  On issues of import to the lives of older Pennsylvanians, including elder access to justice, elder abuse and financial exploitation, reverse mortgages, 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
  *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](http://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](http://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; and demolition and other property damage issues.

- **Elder Abuse and Domestic Violence:** protection from abuse and other protective matters including ejectments, defiant trespass, revocations of POAs, Representative Payee status (Social Security) and Fiduciary Status (VA benefits); investigation and prevention of 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.

- **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.

- **Consumer Protection:** contracts and warranties; fraudulent/unfair sales practices; small claims and unfair debt collection; credit reporting problems; private health/hospital insurance; and private pension issues.

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

**Programs**

- **Homeowners Assistance Program:** Addressing the needs of low-income elderly homeowners in Philadelphia, enabling them to maintain their homes and remain in their communities, helping them to lead safe, independent lives and expand their long-term care options by providing legal services, education, and advocacy.

- **KinC.A.N. (Kinship Caregiver Assistance Network):** Provides representation and education for grandparents and other seniors acting as caregivers for, or seeking custody of minor relative children, many of whom have been abandoned, neglected or abused by birth parents.

- **MLP for LIFE:** in partnership with Mercy LIFE (Living Independently for Elders), this medical-legal partnership for LIFE program participants provides onsite legal advice, information and referrals and allows community intake for extended representation for nursing home eligible seniors aging in place at home by accessing medical, social, rehab and legal services through the LIFE program. See [www.seniorlawcenter.org](http://www.seniorlawcenter.org) for more information.

- **Neighborhood Legal Clinics:** held monthly at several community partner sites throughout the city, focused primarily on minority and veteran communities. See [www.seniorlawcenter.org](http://www.seniorlawcenter.org) for details, dates and addresses.

- **Pension Rights Project:** partnering with Mid-America Pension Rights Project to handle a variety of issues related to pension benefits, including eligibility and vesting, military pensions, union pensions, 401(k) plans, and survivor, divorce and common-law marriage pension benefits.

- **Pennsylvania SeniorLAW Helpline:** a free and confidential telephone service, staffed by attorneys, providing legal information, advice and referrals to seniors 60 years and older throughout Pennsylvania. The Helpline addresses a wide variety of legal issues, including elder abuse, consumer problems (credit, debt, bankruptcy), health care (including Medicare Part D), estate planning, government and private pensions, family law (including divorce, custody, support), housing, financial exploitation and many other areas of civil law.

- **Philadelphia Landlord Tenant Help Center:** court-based services of free legal information, advice, and limited representation to unrepresented, low-income individuals of all ages who are facing eviction and other legal rental housing problems in Philadelphia.

- **Planning to Age with Dignity:** provides life planning and advance decision-making document drafting for low-income seniors, including health care and financial POAs, living wills and simple wills.
Project S.A.F.E. (Stop Abuse and Financial Exploitation): combats various forms of elder abuse and financial exploitation of the elderly through direct services, training, community education, professional outreach and advocacy.

Protecting Older Veterans Who Once Protected Us: serving the wide-ranging needs of vulnerable Philadelphia veterans 60 and older, their widows/widowers and other senior family members who are victims of crime and elder abuse with a range of focused, collaborative victim services and resources, addressing their continuum of needs, including safety, health, shelter, and economic security.

Strengthening the Economic Security of Older Victims of Domestic Violence: provides comprehensive, expanded, holistic legal services to older survivors of domestic violence to ensure their safe housing and financial independence, free from financial manipulation by their abusers, including: legal actions to assist survivors in having their abusers removed from their homes; spousal support actions; legal assistance with housing issues (including fraudulent deed transfers and ejectments); legal assistance to prevent or address abuse by Social Security Representative Payee, Veterans Fiduciary and/or agent under Power of Attorney; providing information on and assistance with emergency and other financial assistance; connecting them to resources to address additional needs resulting from the victimization, including food, clothing and shelter, resources to change locks, install security bars and other immediate safety needs.

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**
  Wendy Bookler, Esq.
Support Center for Child Advocates

1617 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Ste. 1200
Philadelphia, PA 19103
267-546-9200 (phone)
267-546-9201 (fax)
http://www.sccalaw.org/
frontdesk@sccalaw.org

• 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.

• Client Eligibility
  Income guidelines: none; Geographic guidelines: Philadelphia County

• 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 YES! (Youth Educational Success), Center for Excellence in Advocacy, Immigration Project, Child Victim
  Assistance Project, Kinship Care, Project for Medically Needy Children, Outcomes in Behavioral Health and
  LGBTQ Youth Project.

  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)

- **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.

  Child Custody Mediation: Following intensive skills training, law students conduct mediation sessions at the Domestic Relations Branch of Family Court for cases referred by judges and custody Masters. All sessions are supervised by experienced mediators.

  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 Infectious Disease Clinic, Frankford Hospital Cancer Center, Street Joseph’s Hospital’s Care Clinic, 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 Associate Professor
• Attorney
  Sarah Katz, Esq., Visiting Clinical Professor
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.
University of Pennsylvania Law School Gittis Center for Clinical Legal Studies

3400 Chestnut 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 Enterpreneurship 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**
  Louis S. Rulli, Esq.

- **Clinic Administrator**
  Rachel Mayover
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, Professor of Law**  
  Michael Campbell, 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 environment 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
215-686-7041 (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

• 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

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

Western Pennsylvania Office:
401 Wood Street, Suite 1020, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
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)

123 South Broad Street
24th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19109
215-804-9093 (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
  215-804-9093

• 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
  Through the implementation of an innovative new service-delivery model, YSRP aims to disrupt the practice of sentencing children in adult criminal courts in Philadelphia, to inform the practice of resentencing individuals sentenced to life in prison without parole when they were under 18, and to refine a model that can then be applied to achieve similar system change across the country. We will accomplish these goals by providing targeted mitigation investigations, increased access to community resources, and reentry planning for youth facing charges in the adult criminal justice system and to juvenile lifers, with the goal of reducing the duration and impact of adult criminal sentences on low-income children and their families. In the long term, YSRP’s work has the potential to improve the quality of representation that poor children receive and to eliminate the practice of charging children as adults in our region.

• 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
Areas of Practice
Founded in 2014 with seed funding from the Echoing Green Foundation and based in Philadelphia, the Youth Sentencing & Reentry Project (YSRP) was launched in large part in response to the experiences of hundreds of Pennsylvanian children who were sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole, and their families. To date, YSRP has engaged in three key activities: (1) aiding under-resourced court-appointed attorneys with young (under 18) clients facing adult charges by providing mitigation services at the decertification and sentencing stages of criminal and juvenile court cases; (2) supporting youth and their families throughout their contact with the justice system, including during incarceration and as they plan for and execute reentry; and (3) advancing policy reform based on the experiences of our clients and their families.

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