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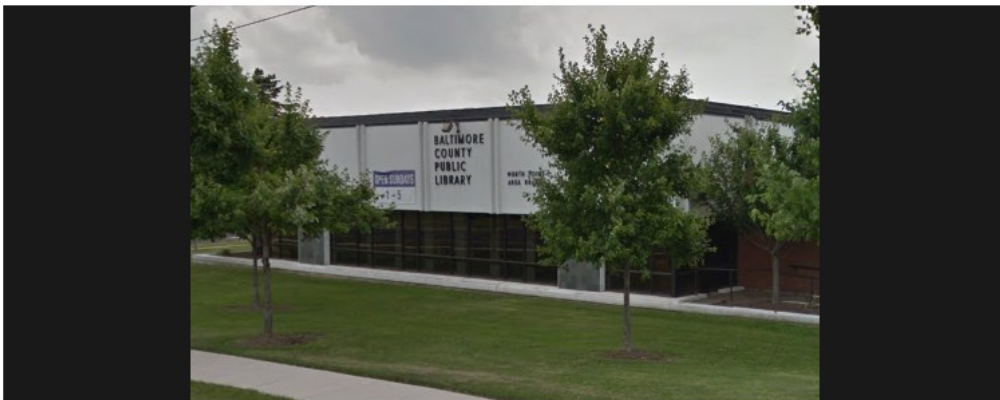
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TOP STORY

'Lawyers in the Library' coming to North Point branch



By Charlene Mayo cmayo@chespub.com Dec 18, 2017 Updated Dec 19, 2017



Lawyers in the Library will be held at the North Point branch on Thursday, Dec. 21, at 5 p.m.

Courtesy Google maps



Residents looking for legal advice are invited to attend the Lawyers in the Library event at the North Point branch of the Baltimore County Public Library on Thursday, Dec. 21, from 5 to 7 p.m.

The program offers local residents free legal advice in their neighborhood.

Maryland Legal Aid (MLA) and Enoch Pratt Free Library (EPFL), joined together to create 'Lawyers in the Library' following Baltimore City's unrest after the death of Freddie Gray.

Freddie Gray's death led to the Baltimore City riots in 2015.

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The Pennsylvania Avenue branch of EPFL, located at the intersection of Pennsylvania and North Avenue, where the primary events of the riots occurred, remained open after the unrest.

Benjamin Rosenberg, vice chair of the board of EPFL, said the branch offered serenity and hope at the corner of North and Pennsylvania Ave.

After the positive role the library played in the community following the riots, it set the stage for the 'Lawyer in the Library' program.

Once the protests died down, Gustava Taler, chief operating officer of MLA, contacted Rosenberg and proposed the 'Lawyers in the Library' program.

After a few weeks, the program was implemented. Rosenberg and other members were shocked at the swift success of the programs.

At each Lawyers in the Library event, the MLA gathers attorneys to discuss civil legal issues relevant to the local community. These topics include housing and landlord/tenant law, government benefits and family law.

Attendees are served on a first come first serve basis.

The patron receives approximately 20 minutes of legal advice. If the patron's issue is not the type of case that MLA can handle, the consulting attorney will refer them to a legal service that can assist them.

Here in Dundalk, local residents can take advantage of the program at the North Point Library, 1716 Merritt Blvd., on Thursday, Dec. 21, starting at 5 p.m.

For more, visit <https://www.mdlab.org>.

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Legal aid resources for those seeking employment, job training

From Staff Reports

BALTIMORE — Through the One Maryland for Jobs project, job seekers who come to Workforce Development Centers in Prince George's, Allegany, and Garrett counties can get help removing barriers they have in obtaining employment, such as criminal records, credit judgments, housing issues and child support concerns.

1M4J is funded by the Maryland Legal Services Corp. Through this initiative, two attorneys from Maryland Legal Aid are assigned to work at the Workforce Development Centers in the counties where they work with other vendors to provide one-stop assistance to participants seeking employment. The attorneys provide brief advice, criminal record expungements and full legal representation for those who are financially eligible. Attorneys also give "Know

your Rights" presentations on topics such as child support, consumer rights, domestic violence, housing law and public benefits.

1M4J was created as a spin-off of the One Baltimore for Jobs project, a partnership between the Baltimore City mayor's Office of Employment Development and MLSC to bring skills training to youth and young adults in distressed communities in Baltimore City. Maryland Legal Aid was among the first MLSC grantees selected to provide legal services at 1B4J training sites. The 1B4J grant also funds two full-time attorneys to work with participants at job training programs in Baltimore City.

"We are delighted to be able to support the One Maryland for Jobs initiative so that Maryland Legal Aid can offer services to remove civil legal barriers to those seeking employment in other areas of the state," said Susan Er-

lichman, executive director of MLSC. "With its extensive experience in community lawyering, Maryland Legal Aid is well-suited to build on the success of similar efforts in Baltimore City where civil legal aid is offered at workforce development sites."

Maryland Legal Aid attorneys who work for the One Maryland for Jobs project also rotate between Workforce Development partner sites, including the District Court Self-Help Center in Upper Marlboro (operated by the Maryland Center for Legal Assistance — a wholly-owned subsidiary of Maryland Legal Aid); the Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center, Prince George's County Office of Child Support, Adam's House Recovery Center, Allegany College of Maryland, Maryland Workforce Exchange, Western Maryland Consortium and Garrett College.

