



MARYLAND
LEGAL AID

Advancing
Human Rights and
Justice for All

About Maryland Legal Aid

Maryland Legal Aid (MLA) is a statewide, nonprofit law firm that provides free, civil legal services to people experiencing poverty. MLA handles cases addressing the most fundamental needs of its clients, including family, housing, income support, healthcare, employment, and consumer law. MLA also represents children in CINA (Child in Need of Assistance) proceedings and other vulnerable populations, including homeowners facing foreclosure, migrant and seasonal farm workers, people with developmental and mental health disabilities, nursing home and assisted living residents, and veterans seeking benefits. MLA's Community Lawyering Initiative, which includes its Lawyer in the Library program, provides advice and assistance with expungement of criminal records and other vital civil legal matters through community-based clinics.

MLA receives funding from a variety of sources, including the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, the federal Legal Services Corporation, local governments, state agencies, United Way, law firms, corporations, foundations, and individual donors.

In 2017, MLA established a wholly-owned subsidiary, the Maryland Center for Legal Assistance (MCLA). The Maryland Center for Legal Assistance does not receive funds from the Legal Services Corporation. Through a contract with the Administrative Office of the Courts, MCLA operates the Maryland Court Help Centers in Baltimore City, Catonsville, Frederick, Glen Burnie, La Plata, Rockville, Upper Marlboro, Salisbury, and the Remote Services Center. Through a contract with Anne Arundel County, MCLA operates the Family Law Help Center in Annapolis.

The Help Centers deal with a wide range of civil legal matters, including landlord-tenant, consumer matters such as debt collection and credit card cases, child support, and criminal record expungements to remove barriers to obtaining housing, employment, and child custody.

Our Mission

To provide high-quality, free legal services to Marylanders living in poverty through representation and advocacy and to bring meaningful change to the systems that impact them.

