



MARYLAND
LEGAL AID

Advancing
Human Rights and
Justice for All

500 East Lexington Street | Baltimore, Maryland 21202 | Phone: 410-951-7777 | Website: www.mdlab.org

About Maryland Legal Aid

Established in 1911, Maryland Legal Aid (Legal Aid Bureau, Inc.) operates 12 full-service offices, serving communities in all 23 Maryland counties and Baltimore City. With a staff of 250 people, including 150 attorneys, Maryland Legal Aid provides civil legal services to the most vulnerable communities in the state, with special targeted programs for child victims of abuse and neglect, the elderly, nursing home and assisted-living residents, seasonal farmworkers and veterans.

The only statewide, direct provider of civil legal services to low income-eligible residents, Maryland Legal Aid offers a wide range of services ranging from information and referrals and brief legal advice to extended legal representation, litigation, community education, *pro se* assistance, *pro bono* coordination and referrals, policy advocacy, and broad-based impact work. Areas of priority include family/domestic, housing, economic stabilization (public benefits and employment), elder, education, health, and consumer law. Last year, Maryland Legal Aid served over 121,000 people.

Maryland Legal Aid receives funding from a variety of sources, including the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, the federal Legal Services Corporation, United Way, law firms, corporations, foundations, and individuals. In addition, Maryland Legal Aid welcomes volunteers—attorneys and non-attorneys—to assist in the delivery of legal services. Those interested in volunteering can sign up to receive volunteer alerts for available opportunities (<http://www.mdlab.org/donate-or-volunteer/volunteer>). Financial contributions can be made by mailing a check, payable to Maryland Legal Aid, to Maryland Legal Aid, 500 E. Lexington Street, Baltimore, MD 21202, or online at www.donate.mdlab.org.



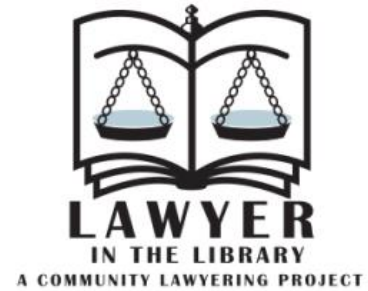
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Special Projects and Initiatives

Lawyer in the Library

Lawyer in the Library is a community lawyering initiative, the goal of which is to bring free, civil legal services directly to underserved communities. Offered in cooperation with the Enoch Pratt Free Library, the Baltimore County Public Library, and Montgomery Public Libraries, this program brings Maryland Legal Aid and volunteer attorneys, paralegals, and law students to the community library on a weekly basis to provide brief, free, one-on-one advice to attendees for a wide range of civil legal issues and help with criminal record expungements.



Community Lawyering Initiative

Maryland Legal Aid's *Community Lawyering Initiative* was established in 2015 in response to the community's increasing need for criminal record expungements to remove barriers to obtaining employment, housing, child custody, and driver's licenses. The *Initiative* grew out of Maryland Legal Aid's *Lawyer in the Library* program. Through the *Initiative*, Maryland Legal Aid collaborates with a number of community partners to host expungement clinics around the state in such locations as libraries and places of worship. Attorneys from Maryland Legal Aid's *Community Lawyering Initiative* expunge criminal records to help people remove barriers to securing employment that pays a livable wage, safe housing, child custody, and a driver's license.

Pro Bono Days

Twice a year, Maryland Legal Aid, in partnership with the Bar Association of Baltimore City and other legal services organizations, hosts Pro Bono Day in our Baltimore City office. At this legal clinic event, Maryland Legal Aid and volunteer attorneys provide free, brief, one-on-one advice to attendees on a wide range of civil legal issues, including employment, wage claims, bankruptcy, foreclosures, government benefits, family law, landlord-tenant, and criminal record expungements. Maryland Legal Aid also hosts Pro Bono Days in Baltimore, Frederick, and Washington counties.



Joining Forces Project

Maryland Legal Aid's *Joining Forces Project* is a free, statewide telephone hotline specifically for low-income veterans who have served in any branch of the military, regardless of discharge status. Volunteer attorneys provide, by phone, free legal advice to eligible veterans for a variety of civil legal issues and criminal record expungements.



For more information about Maryland Legal Aid initiatives and how to volunteer, visit www.mdlab.org.