

# COVID-19: Legal Aid's response to the public health crisis



The health and safety of our clients, advocates, and community are a top priority for us at Community Legal Aid. We are committed to keeping you informed and updated as we continue to respond to the ever-changing landscape surrounding Coronavirus (COVID-19). This web page will house the most up-to-date information regarding our policies and procedures for responding to the public health crisis.

We are doing our part as a community leader to help prevent further spread of the disease. But we remain diligent in our pledge to fight for justice for our impoverished and disadvantaged neighbors.

## Current Policies

- We are still here and working for our clients. Anyone who needs legal assistance can [apply online](#) any time, day or night, or can call our [HelpLine](#) during operational hours.

- Our offices are generally open and are following CDC guidelines for public safety. Our offices may be closed in counties with high levels of community spread, in order to protect the health and safety of our staff, clients, and community. Please [check community spread levels here](#) to see protection tips for your county. If you plan on visiting one of our offices in person, [call first](#).
- Any visitors to the office with a fever of 100.4 or higher, who have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, or who has shown signs/symptoms of the virus are asked to please contact Legal Aid by phone or online instead of coming to the office in person.
- We are beginning to attend more and more public events as our staff members can attend safely. Community members should check our [online events listing](#) for the most up-to-date list of both in-person and virtual events.
- Any concerns or questions should be directed to [info@communitylegalaid.org](mailto:info@communitylegalaid.org).

## **Current Case Priorities**

In light of the public health crisis, Legal Aid is prioritizing legal issues that involve client health, safety, and ability to remain in stable housing, including:

- Domestic violence situations
- Housing issues, including evictions and lockouts
- Public benefits, such as food stamps and Medicaid
- Employment issues, especially as they relate to the virus
- Advanced directives and estate planning, healthcare powers of attorney, and living wills
- Some limited custody and visitation cases

In order to better serve these high-priority issues, Legal Aid currently is not taking cases related to the following:

- Child support
- Divorce or dissolution

## **Legal Education & Resources**

Learn about the [help available from the American Recovery Plan in our video series here](#).

You can also access our [online library of legal resources, Learn about the Law](#), for free 24/7. More legal tools, information, and resources are available at [OhioLegalHelp.org](http://OhioLegalHelp.org).

Last updated on June 03, 2022.

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## News & publications

The news about recent activities for needed peoples.

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Taxes and the Immigrant Community

By Koula Glaros-King and Melinda Smith Yeargin, staff attorneys ...

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Lesson that came from the fleeting American CTC expansion will stay with us as we continue to consider the best ways to help our poorest children and families.



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Feb 3, 23



February is dedicated as Black History Month, honoring the triumphs and struggles of the Black community throughout U.S. history. This month we want to spotlight and celebrate the achievements that Black Americans have accomplished in this country. <https://t.co/Svdqx6CgDU>

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Feb 2, 23



Along with new opportunities and a better chance for safety and freedom, our newest immigrants and refugees face many challenges, including the potential for tax problems. Find out what puts them at risk in this week's Big Idea - <https://t.co/urmTfV9gfQ> <https://t.co/7L1loq0riY>

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Feb 1, 23



We would like to thank The Rotary Club of Akron for giving us the opportunity to share information about our services at their meeting yesterday! Steven shared what we do best. <https://t.co/bYfZDcL8I7>

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