

How we meet our mission

In order to meet our [mission](#), Community Legal Aid structures its work around advocacy priorities, legal practice groups, and projects.

Legal Practice Groups

Community Legal Aid's practice groups **define the organization's advocacy priorities** within each legal practice area. Each advocate is assigned to one or more practice groups and support each other through case discussion, cross-training, and co-counseling cases. By coming together, advocates can better identify trends and systemic problems facing our clients and communities and are well positioned to collaborate on impactful solutions.

- Consumer
- Criminal Records
- Education
- Family
- Housing
- Immigration
- Public Benefits
- Tax

Advocacy Priorities

Legal Aid's advocacy priorities are adopted each year by our Board of Trustees. These areas of need serve as beacons for our work with clients, in the community, and through advocacy. Our current priorities are:

Supporting Low-income Families and Special Populations

Central to our work is providing support for low-income individuals and families, as well as for special, vulnerable populations, including the elderly, those with language, cultural, or educational barriers, those with disabilities, and veterans.

Preserving the Home

We prioritize cases that support access to affordable and safe housing, both public and private.

Maintaining Economic Stability

Families and individuals must be economically viable in order to survive. To this end, we work toward prevention of unemployment, resolution to issues with the IRS, protection from predatory lending and unfair sales practices, and income stability for those disabled or otherwise unable to obtain employment.

Ensuring Safety & Health

We prioritize cases that support safety from domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault. Additionally, we work to preserve health for individuals and communities through individual representation and policy advocacy.

Protecting Access to Justice

Community Legal Aid places a high priority on activities designed to involve the entire community in ensuring access to justice. We place special attention on pro bono services of the private bar, education of organizations serving low-income clients, advocacy at regional and national levels on our priorities, and responding to the needs of the local communities we serve.

Projects

Legal Aid's projects organize our legal work, collaborative partnerships, and outreach activities to most effectively meet the needs of our clients while also being stewards for positive change in our community.

Population-based projects provide holistic legal services to specific at-risk populations. Several other projects are aimed at **mitigating a threat or barrier**

specific to low-income residents.

Each project has a core mission of how it supports the organization's overarching vision.

(Note: We are in the process of updating our web content. Check back often for new and updated information as it becomes available. We appreciate your patience.)

- [Advocating for Returning Citizens \(ARC\)](#)
- [Debt Relief](#)
- [Fair Housing](#)
- [Health, Education, Advocacy, and Law \(HEAL\)](#)
- [HelpLine](#)
- [Homeownership](#)
- [Immigrants and Refugees](#)
- [I Promise](#)
- [Legal Assistance to Victims](#)
- [Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic \(LITC\)](#)
- [Neighborhood Law Project](#)
- [Parenthood](#)
- [Public Benefits](#)
- [Tenant Assistance Project](#)
- [Veterans](#)
- [Volunteer Legal Services Program](#)

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News & publications

The news about recent activities for needed peoples.

[More News](#)

31 Jan 2023



Just like American citizens, all immigrants and refugees are required to file a tax return and pay taxes if they meet income requirements.



Taxes and the Immigrant Community

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

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25 Jan 2023



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.



Lifting children out of poverty

The Brief Expansion of the Child Tax Credit by Dana Goldstein, staff...

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Taxpayers are responsible for what is on their return, even if it's completed by someone else. Be smart, be safe. Use a trusted tax professional. Find free, reliable tax help at a VITA site near you. → <https://t.co/4MED7PDCCG> <https://t.co/a8INQppufv>

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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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Feb 1, 23

