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 cancelling or postponing all public events through June 1st. Community members should check our online events listing for the most up-to-date list.
- We have suspended walk-in applications and have closed our offices to visitors. Residents who come to a Legal Aid office to apply will be directed to apply online 24/7 or to call our HelpLine during operational hours.
- Current clients should continue to work with their attorneys as planned.
- 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.
- Any concerns or questions should be directed to 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 avoiding homelessness, lockouts, and unsafe or unhealthy living conditions
- Unemployment assistance and other 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

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

- Child support
- Custody issues
- Divorce or dissolution
- Education
- Expungement or record sealing
- Probate matters

**Recent News/Press Releases**

You can view our most recent press releases about our response to the COVID-19 outbreak by visiting our [news page](#).

**Legal Education**

We’re pleased to offer our live **Ask A Lawyer** events throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. These online events are free and open to the public. To join, simply visit our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/CommLegalAid](http://www.facebook.com/CommLegalAid)) at 5:00 p.m. any Wednesday for information about a legal topic related to Covid-19, and for a chance to ask our attorneys questions you have on those topics.

We continue to develop educational pieces for legal issues surrounding the Coronavirus. You can see all available material here.

**Pandemic Unemployment Assistance** (for those who do not qualify for traditional Unemployment Compensation)

**Debt and payment issues**

**Visitation and child support during the public health crisis**

**Social Security Benefits and proceedings during COVID-19**

**Eviction proceedings during COVID-19**
IRS & tax implications for COVID-19

Preparing legally for a medical emergency

Safety tips for domestic violence victims during isolation/social distancing

Special education needs during school closures

Unemployment compensation during the Coronavirus

Workers' rights during the Coronavirus

**Information related to the CARES Act economic stimulus payment**

Stimulus Payment

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