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LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, INC.



MEET Your LAW FIRM



WE'RE THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY.

Our job is to make sure that the American system of justice works for you.

If you have a civil legal need or problem and cannot afford an attorney, we are here to help you.

We are *your* law firm.

If you meet the eligibility guidelines for our free service and make an appointment, you will be treated with dignity and respect.

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

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TOLL FREE: 800-403-9353

The Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, Inc. is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. The programs described in this brochure were made possible through the generosity of the following:

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Children's Services Council
of Palm Beach County

Community Services Dept. of Palm Beach
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Foundation for Indigent Guardianship

Goody Two Shoes Foundation

Lost Tree Village Charitable Foundation

Palm Beach County Department
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State of Florida Dept. of Elder Affairs

State of Florida Office of the Attorney General -
Victims of Crime Act Funds

Sun-Sentinel Children's Fund - A Fund of the
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Town of Palm Beach United Way

U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
(HUD) - Fair Housing Initiatives Program

U.S. Dept. of Justice -
Violence Against Women Act

U.S. Dept. of the Treasury - Internal Revenue
Service/Taxpayer Advocate Service

United Way of Palm Beach County, Inc.



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Promoting Justice!**



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PROGRAMS

When no one else can help, where do you turn?

Family Advocacy

Family Law Project

Provides services in dissolution of marriage matters to victims of domestic violence where child custody is an issue and services in adoption, visitation and support matters.

Ross Baer, *Supervising Attorney*
Angelia Patterson, *Staff Attorney*
Curt Sanchez, *Staff Attorney*
Sandra Davis, *Paralegal*
Jennifer Wiesen, *Paralegal*

Domestic Violence Project

Provides representation for victims of abuse or domestic violence at injunction hearings and in divorce and separation matters where appropriate.

Kathryn Oleksy, *Supervising Attorney*
Vrenda Cain, *Staff Attorney*
Andrea Reid, *Staff Attorney*
Hilda Roussel, *Paralegal*



Children's Advocacy

Foster Children's Project

Provides representation to children in the foster care system, seeking to reunite them, when appropriate, with their parents or prepare them for adoption placement, ensuring a safe and stable family environment in a timely manner.

James Walsh, *Supervising Attorney*
John Walsh, *Supervising Attorney*
Jorge Anton, *Staff Attorney*
Amy Genet, *Staff Attorney*
Susan Hendricks, *Staff Attorney*
Kirsten Herndon, *Staff Attorney*
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Anna Veguez, *Paralegal*
Karen Verner, *Paralegal*
Rachel Ware, *Paralegal*
Linda Norris, *Case Manager*
Paul Disse, *IT Manager/Database Analyst*
John Haas, *Facilities Manager*

Juvenile Advocacy Project

Represents children up to age 18 in Juvenile Court, Family Court, Probate Court and also before the School Board of Palm Beach County and the Department of Children and Families (DCF), to help access appropriate treatment and/or placement for youngsters with emotional, developmental or physical disabilities.

Michelle Hankey, *Supervising Attorney*
Bill Booth, *Staff Attorney*
Melissa Duncan, *Staff Attorney*
Jo Kaur, *Staff Attorney*
Shahar Pasch, *Staff Attorney*
Paula Carvajal, *Paralegal*
Paula Waller, *Paralegal*

Legal Advocacy for Minor Mothers Project

Provides representation to teen mothers and pregnant teens to ensure that they have access to appropriate living conditions, continued education and benefits.

Michelle Hankey, *Supervising Attorney*
Ashley Ortagus, *Staff Attorney*

Relative Caregivers Project

Provides legal assistance to relative caregivers (grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.) raising minor children. The project provides advocacy in custody, guardianship and adoption matters as well as with education, housing and benefits issues.

Judith Migdal-Mack, *Supervising Attorney*
Angela Brafford, *Paralegal*

Educational Advocacy Project

Provides legal advice and representation for children with disabilities to ensure that they have access to appropriate public education and to extricate them from the juvenile justice system.

Barbara Briggs, *Supervising Attorney*
Jannette Hernandez, *Paralegal*

Elder Advocacy

Elder Law Project

Provides legal assistance to individuals over 60 years of age with an emphasis on abuse and exploitation matters.

Tequisha Myles, *Supervising Attorney*
Bonnie Cohen, *Paralegal*
Georgene Eisenberg, *Paralegal*
Frances McNair, *Paralegal*

Public Guardianship

Provides guardianship services to indigent, adjudicated incapacitated elderly without family or friends to assist them.

Rena Taylor, *Supervising Attorney*
Libby Spillane, *Paralegal*
Rabin Armogan, *Social Worker*
Kathy Morakis, *Social Worker*
Stephanie Guynes, *Financial Manager*



Health Advocacy

Ryan White Legal Project

Provides free legal services to indigent individuals infected with HIV/AIDS. The areas emphasized are employment, health insurance, Social Security disability, Medicare/Medicaid and advanced directives.

John Foley, *Supervising Attorney*
Stephanie Carden, *Staff Attorney*
Vicki Tucci, *Staff Attorney*
Sandra Vines, *Paralegal*

Medical Legal Partnership Project

Provides legal services to address the unmet needs of low income and/or uninsured patients of Federally Qualified Health Clinics in Palm Beach County that contribute to their health and well-being.

John Foley, *Supervising Attorney*
Emma Keller, *Senior Attorney*
Amy Alberghini, *Paralegal*

Individual Rights Advocacy

Immigrant Advocacy Project

Provides legal services to immigrants applying for lawful permanent residence, with a focus on noncitizen victims of domestic violence and dependent immigrant children, and community education in the area of immigration and nationality law.

M. Shane O'Meara, *Supervising Attorney*
Ramona Hupp, *Staff Attorney*
Cynthia Blanco, *Paralegal*
Mariela Martinez, *Paralegal*
Christelle Jean-Felix, *Paralegal/Project Assistant*

Guardian Advocacy Project

Provides services for disabled youth aging out of foster care and individuals under 60 who have a developmental disability and are without family or friends to care for them.

Rena Taylor, *Supervising Attorney*
Blanca Deason, *Social Worker*

Fair Housing Project/Mortgage Foreclosure Defense Project

The Fair Housing Project provides community outreach, education, advocacy and enforcement activities regarding fair housing law so that no one in Palm Beach County is denied housing based on race, color, national origin, gender, disability, marital status, familial status, age and/or sexual orientation.

The Mortgage Foreclosure Defense Project provides services to victims of predatory lending schemes, truth in lending violations, foreclosure rescue, and unfair and deceptive trade practices.

Tequisha Myles, *Supervising Attorney*
Latrice Dean, *Staff Attorney*
Ferris Solomon, *Staff Attorney*
Shane Weaver, *Staff Attorney*
Carlton Smith, *Education and Outreach Coordinator*
Rick Collier, *Fair Housing Advocate*
Frances McNair, *Paralegal*
Laika Sanchez, *Paralegal*

Community Outreach

Non-Profit Legal Assistance Project

Provides in-house legal services to non-profit agencies serving Palm Beach County.

John Foley, *In-House Counsel*
Ana Casey, *Human Resources Generalist*

Pro Bono Project

Enlists over 2500 private attorneys in Palm Beach County who assist Legal Aid in providing free legal services for low income individuals.

Kimberly Rommel-Enright, *Supervising Attorney*
Rhona Altomari, *Pro Bono Coordinator*

Low Income Taxpayer Clinic

Resolves conflicts between the IRS and taxpayers as well as providing assistance to English second language taxpayers.

Arlene Kane, *Project Manager*
Rick Collier, *Taxpayer Advocate*

