

LEGAL AID HELPS FIGHT THE OPIOID CRISIS



KINSHIP CARE

...with custody, adoption, and guardianship when parents are unable to care for their children because of a substance use disorder.



TREATMENT

...by securing health care services through Medicaid or Medicaid Expansion so that Ohioans can gain access to services such as inpatient or outpatient treatment.



JOBS

...by removing obstacles to employment by helping seal or expunge criminal convictions or complete applications for a Certificate of Qualification for Employment (CQE).

Ohio's legal aids are working throughout the state to help Ohioans struggling with substance use disorder.

SUPPORTING RURAL CAREGIVERS

As communities grapple with strategies to address the challenges of the opioid crisis, Ohio's grandparents are stepping up to care for the children of the epidemic.

Recognizing that families in these situations have unique legal challenges, particularly in rural areas where resources are limited, Legal Aid of Western Ohio has created a specialized Grandfamilies Legal Assistance Project serving Erie and Huron counties. Through the project, legal aid helps grandparents with coordinated advice, brief service, or representation to resolve problems involving custody, guardianship, public benefits, housing, and access to school.

LEGAL AID AND OHIO'S OPIOID CRISIS



HELPING RALPH GAIN CUSTODY OF HIS GRANDCHILDREN

Ralph* is a devoted grandfather with three young grandchildren. Ralph's grandchildren needed a safe and stable environment to grow after suffering abuse and neglect by their opioid-addicted parents.

Legal aid filed a Motion to Intervene on Ralph's behalf and represented Ralph at his custody hearing. Because of legal aid, Ralph and his wife were granted custody of their grandchildren, who are now safe and secure and thriving in their care.

CONTACT

Kristin Sutton
Legislative Liaison
ksutton@olaf.org
(614) 715-8569



*Name and photo have been changed to protect client privacy.