# 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.

# BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS IN DAYTON

When grandparents or extended family take in the children of opioid-addicted parents, they are often unprepared to manage the child's educational needs, particularly if the child has a disability.

Through a partnership between Dayton Children's Hospital Kinship Navigator Program and Advocates for Basic Legal Equality's Medical Legal Partnership for Children, legal aid is working directly with support groups at the hospital to inform and help caregivers navigate educational challenges. Caregivers learn how to advocate for children in their care to obtain the support they need to be successful in school.

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# **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.