

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.

CREATING SPECIAL SERVICES IN CINCINNATI

Kinship care arrangements have become more common in Ohio as family members step up to care for children whose parents are incapacitated or incarcerated due to a substance use disorder. Many of these children have experienced trauma. Staying with a grandparent or other relative allows children to begin healing by maintaining their sense of belonging, culture, and traditions.

Recognizing that families in these situations have unique legal challenges, the Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati has created a specialized Kinship Care Team. The team provides clients with coordinated advice, brief service, or representation to resolve problems involving custody, guardianship, housing, and access to school.



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LEGAL AID AND OHIO'S OPIOID CRISIS



GETTING JENNY INTO TREATMENT

Jenny*, a Cincinnati-area resident with substance use disorder, was ready to turn her life around and enter treatment. A local recovery program was holding a bed for her, but due to a back-up at the Department of Job and Family Services, Jenny's application for Medicaid was delayed.

Legal aid stepped in to request that Jenny's application for Presumptive Medicaid eligibility be processed. Because of legal aid, Jenny's coverage was approved and she was able to start treatment at the recovery center.

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