

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 CLEVELAND

The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland and St. Vincent Charity Medical Center's medical legal partnership provides free, on-site services to resolve civil legal issues that impact the overall health of patients. When the program launched in 2017, it was the first of its kind in Ohio to focus on the needs of individuals in treatment for behavioral health and addiction diseases.

Through the partnership, legal aid attorneys help patients with legal issues related to housing, unsafe family dynamics, environmental threats, and job and food insecurity. By resolving legal challenges, patients experience reduced stress and can better focus on recovery.



The Legal Aid Society
of Cleveland
Since 1905

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LEGAL AID AND OHIO'S OPIOID CRISIS



SUPPORTING BOB'S RECOVERY

Bob*, a proud veteran struggling with substance use disorder, was living without heat or electricity in Cleveland and was months behind on his rent. Bob relapsed after a period of inpatient treatment and began using drugs again. Through a medical legal partnership, legal aid worked with a partner agency to quickly step in and support Bob in his recovery.

Legal aid helped Bob connect with resources to pay his back rent, get his heat and lights turned back on, and to help Bob with transportation to his medical appointments. Because of legal aid, Bob is secure in his home, has found a job, and is sober and fully committed to his ongoing recovery.

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