

# 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 FRANKLIN COUNTY

Through a partnership between the Legal Aid Society of Columbus (LASC) and the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Board of Franklin County, eligible clients seeking treatment for a substance use disorder can receive a referral to legal aid. Legal aid helps residents navigate the oftentimes complex paperwork healthcare providers require to authorize coverage for services, such as treatment and recovery housing, or to appeal a denial for coverage.

As a member of the Franklin County Opiate Taskforce, LASC also collaborates with other stakeholders to help residents with access to recovery housing and healthcare coverage for substance use disorder treatment.



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# LEGAL AID AND OHIO'S OPIOID CRISIS



## KEEPING ANDREW IN TREATMENT

Andrew\* struggled with an opioid addiction for over a decade before finally finding a medication assisted treatment program that helped him get his life back on track.

After six months of successful treatment, Andrew was dismayed when he received notice that his Medicaid Managed Care Plan would no longer cover his treatment. Andrew, his doctor, and his counselor all thought Andrew needed to continue on the treatment to keep his recovery in place, but Andrew could not afford the \$1,200 monthly cost without insurance.

Andrew was referred to legal aid for help. Legal aid helped Andrew successfully appeal Medicaid's decision. Two years later, Andrew has stayed clean, secured a steady job, and gotten his life back on track.

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