



## Legal Aid Society offers free advice about child support orders

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By **Donna J. Miller, Plain Dealer reporter**

CLEVELAND, Ohio — The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland offers free advice about child support rights, responsibilities and altering court-ordered payments.

With so many people with child support obligations either losing their jobs or having a reduction in income, "the courts locally are seeing an increase in questions and an increase in requests for child support modification," spokeswoman Melanie Shakarian said.

"In many cases, the court has no choice but to reduce the child support obligation. This often leaves a custodial parent in dire financial straits. The court, however, must balance the needs of both parents against this reality."

Legal Aid and the Cuyahoga and Lorain County enforcement agencies host advice sessions beginning at 2 p.m. Thursday at Legal Aid's Cleveland office, 1223 West Sixth Street, and 4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30, at Lorain County Job & Family Services, 42485 North Ridge Road in Elyria.

Call 888-817-3777 to make an appointment.

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Legal Aid Society of Cleveland

Legal Aid attorney Susan Stauffer works with volunteer attorneys at a recent Legal Aid event.