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Legal Aid Society to offer brief advice and referral clinic in Old Brooklyn on May 12

465 by Judith Pindell

judithp@oldbrooklyn.com

Volunteers are a vital component of any nonprofit agency. The same goes for The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland which coordinates the Volunteer Lawyers Program (VLP). The VLP was organized in 2005 to supplement the work of the Legal Aid staff. Nearly 1,000 lawyers volunteer at Brief Advice and Referral Clinics to provide free high-impact legal advice that day that often help solve the problem. The clinics are held twice a month at various locations around Cleveland.

On Saturday, May 12th a Brief Advice and Referral Clinic will take place at the Deaconess Krafft Center, 3100 Devonshire Road, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, brought to this neighborhood through The Legal Aid Society, the Cleveland Bar Association and City Year. Volunteer lawyers will be on hand to provide free, high quality legal advice and referrals for those unable to afford a private lawyer.

Various civil legal problems are handled through the clinics. The volunteer lawyers can assist with foreclosure and predatory lending issues and help people who have problems with unfair sales practices and home improvement problems. They can also review contracts before being signed.

Volunteer lawyers are available at the clinic to assist with welfare and health benefits such as Disability Assistance, Social Security and SSI payments and appeals, Medicaid and Food Stamps. They will also assist with tax related issues and unemployment benefits.

Legal advice and referrals are also made at the clinics for domestic violence cases and divorce cases that include children. Other cases include special education, student loan, and suspension and expulsion problems; immigration problems; elder law issues; and almost all other important legal matters.

Living wills and medical Power of Attorney documents can be ready for clients at the clinic by calling ahead to the Legal Aid Society at (216) 687-1900. A paralegal can prepare the documents so that they will be available for a signature right there at the clinic on May 12th.

Be sure to bring all related paperwork, documents and letters related to the legal issue. This will ensure that the volunteer lawyers have all of the information in order to give the best advice or referral.

For additional dates and locations of Brief Advice and Referral Clinics or more for information about The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland call (216) 687-1900.