

# Legal Aid offering free Brief Advice Clinic in Oberlin Thursday

Morning Journal Staff

OBERLIN—The Lorain County Office of the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland will offer a free Brief Advice Clinic Thursday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Oberlin Community Center, 285 S. Professor St., Oberlin.

Jessica Baggett, managing attorney for the Lorain County office, said the free event will cover topics in civil law, in-

cluding housing, family law, unemployment, foreclosure, consumer issues, predatory lending, education, Social Security and health issues. The event is being held in conjunction with the Lorain County Bar Association, Baggett said.

"We're grateful to the volunteer attorneys who have helped us meet the increasing need for our services,"

Baggett said.

Five attorneys have volunteered to answer questions, plus staff from Lorain County Office of the Legal Aid Society, which will include three additional attorneys, she said.

The free event will be on a first-come, first-serve basis, so participants should plan to arrive early, according to Baggett. Intake will begin at 3:15 p.m., and attor-

neys will start seeing people at 3:30 p.m.

"Many times, people don't need to hire an attorney, they just need to speak to an attorney," said Baggett. Everyone who attends Thursday's event will get to meet with a lawyer, she said. Help will include definitions of legal terms and deadlines, or referrals to appropriate agencies.

In cases where participants need more in-depth help from an attorney, Legal Aid

Society staff will make an appointment for them to meet with an attorney, she said. According to Baggett, attorneys Tony Giardini, Kreig Brusnahan and Richard Panza have taken cases of people who needed legal representation.

Baggett said another Brief Advice Clinic has tentatively been scheduled for Aug. 16 at the House of Praise Church, 1875 North Ridge Road, Lorain.