



Meeting Civil Legal Needs:

Legal Aid's Mission

To secure justice and resolve fundamental problems for those who are low income and vulnerable by providing high quality legal services and working for systemic solutions

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Meeting Civil Legal Needs:

Who Legal Aid Serves

- Individuals and families at or below 200% of federal poverty limit
 - Individual = \$24,280
 - Family of Four = \$50,200
- Most recent census data: 31% of Clevelanders live in poverty, including 43% of African-American and 40% of Hispanic residents. Almost half of Clevelanders under 18 have experienced poverty.
- In an average year -
 - 97% of clients made less than \$25,000 a year
 - 71% of clients were women
 - 24% of clients were older adults (age 60+)

Meeting Civil Legal Needs:

Legal Aid's Four Goals -

Improve Safety & Health

Promote Education and Economic Stability

Ensure Government and Justice Systems are Accountable & Accessible

Create Safe and Stable Housing

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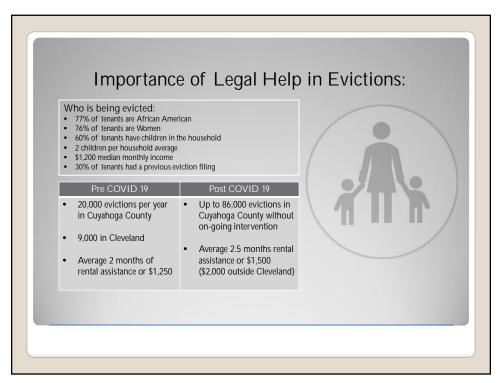
IMPORTANCE OF LEGAL HELP IN EVICTIONS:

Evictions lead to school instability, poor health, unemployment, community destabilization, homelessness and create barriers to future housing.

What does legal representation look like?

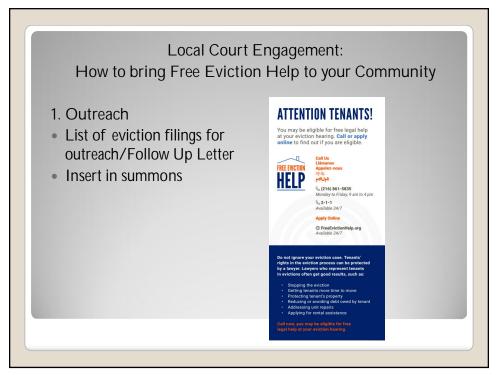
- Defending against the eviction
- · Facilitating access to the Court via technology
- Filing counterclaims against the landlord
- Seeking repair of poor housing conditions at the rental premises
- Facilitating rent assistance applications
- Providing Legal Aid social work services for warm referrals
- Internal Legal Aid referrals for additional legal help











Local Court Engagement: How to bring Free Eviction Help to your Community

- 2. Promote Housing Stability& Help Landlords Get Rental Assistance for Tenants
- Screening of Tenants
- Schedule eviction hearing at least 30 days from filing

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Local Court Engagement: How to bring Free Eviction Help to your Community

- 3. Procedural Efficiencies
- Bifurcate 1st and 2nd Cause filings or increase filing fee for cases with a 2nd Cause
- 1-week continuance
- Email or electronic access to pleadings
- If eligible for representation, automatic fee waiver
- Designate certain docket days for evictions

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4. Data Collection for Sustainability

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