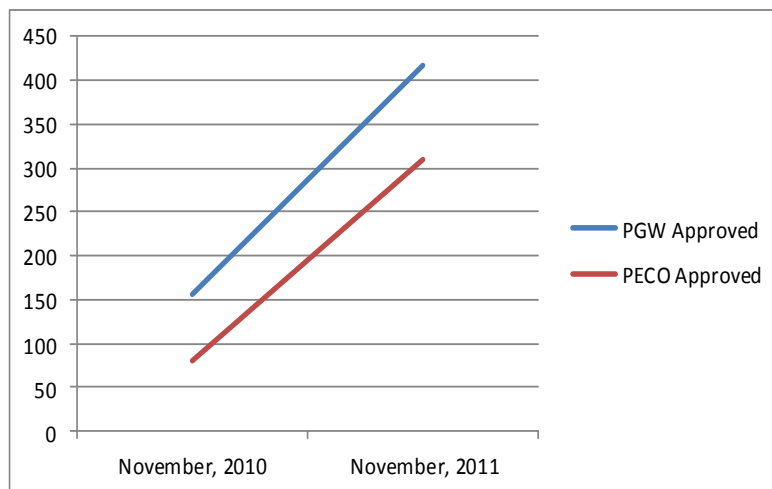


PHILAKIDS MLP | PHILADELPHIA
A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN LEGAL CLINIC FOR THE DISABLED
& ST. CHRISTOPHER'S HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN

Fast Facts

- To date, the MLP has collected over 3700 surveys from St. Christopher's families and 58 % have self reported at least one unmet legal need.
- LCD has provided legal advice, referrals or representation to over 750 families. The most common legal needs self-reported by the community have been a need for Health Insurance (628), Food Insecurity Worry (586), Food Insecurity (514) and Utility Shut-offs (415).
- Legal Clinic Attorneys have completed more than 600 intake interviews, provided services to over 500 families in a range of matters including divorce, custody, child support, evictions, land lord tenant disputes, public benefits, children's SSI and special education and advanced planning for children with special healthcare needs transitioning to adulthood.
- Due to the overwhelming number of families with unmet legal needs, the Legal Clinic for the Disabled now has three full time staff attorneys working at the PhilaKids MLP.
- In 2011, CCAH implemented a new protocol for handling families with Utility Shut-Off notices. Since its implementation, CCAH has dramatically increased the number of families being approved for PGW, PECO and PWD shut-off protection.

	PECO Forms Denied	PECO Forms Approved	PGW Forms Denied	PGW Forms Approved
Nov. 2010- Nov- 2011	127	155	88	80
Nov.2011- Nov.2012	50	416	74	310



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- Here are two Success Stories of how MLP attorneys helped families obtain and maintain health insurance coverage and avoid interruptions in medical care:

◇**Abigail and Andrea** are pediatric patients with multiple medical conditions including chronic asthma and mental health issues related to abuse and neglect by their estranged biological parents. The children receive therapy to help them with early childhood trauma. Abigail and Andrea had been cared for by their grandmother Lisette for the past 8 years. Lisette worked tirelessly to create a safe and stable home for her granddaughters. Neither parent had been involved in the girls' lives nor contributed any sort of financial support. Their mother had difficulty dealing with addiction issues and spent time in jail. One morning, the biological mother came to the girls' school, made contact with the children and attempted to take them from the school. After speaking with the grandmother, LCD worked to file a Protection from Abuse (PFA) order on behalf of the children. MLP attorney Elizabeth Oquendo successfully represented Abigail and Andrea and negotiated a 30 day stay away agreement to keep them safe. Elizabeth also worked with the elementary school staff to design and implement a safety plan that would reduce the girls' contact with unauthorized school visitors. Since then, the girls report feeling safe and have had no further incidents at the school or their home.

◇**Terry**, a mother of five young children was referred to the MLP by a social worker at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children. Terry told her child's pediatrician that she was having financial difficulty because her public assistance payments had stopped and she was not sure why. Terry and the social worker contacted the County Assistance Office to learn the status of her case but were unable restore her benefits although Terry had complied with all the program rules. MLP attorney Eileen Carroll was able to advocate on Terry's behalf with the County Assistance Office. As a result, Terry's benefits were restored and she received an immediate payment of back benefits.

- Each first year resident receives 1 hour of individual training during their Child Protection and Child Advocacy from the MLP lawyers on MLP and the social determinants of health. To date, the MLP has provided training to 45 pediatric residents through this rotation.
- Since February 2011, the MLP in conjunction with the Noon Advocacy Lecture Series has provided 11 noon advocacy lectures on various topics including: Introduction to MLP, Domestic Violence and Housing, Preventing Utility Shutoffs, Special Education, Family Law in Philadelphia County, and Understanding Children's SSI.
- MLP Y2 Focus Areas: Public Benefits, Unsafe Housing Conditions and Children's SSI

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