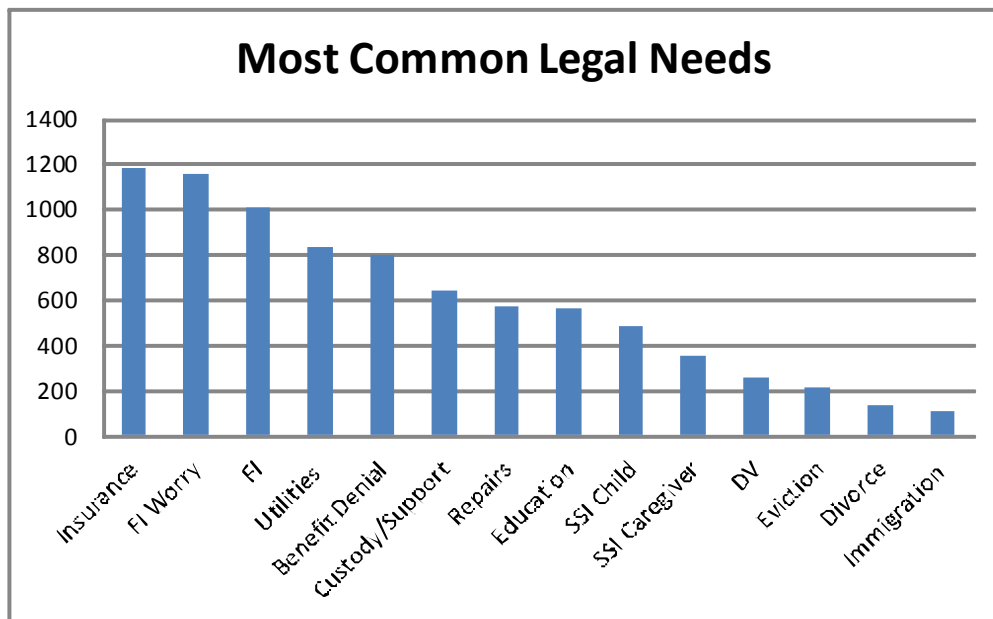


PHILAKIDS MLP | PHILADELPHIA
A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN LEGAL CLINIC FOR THE DISABLED
& ST. CHRISTOPHER'S HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN

- The PhilaKids Medical Legal Partnership (MLP) places two staff attorneys from the Legal Clinic for the Disabled at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children's Center for the Urban Child (CUC) each day to address the unmet legal needs and social determinants of health that negatively impact patient health.
- The MLP actively screens CUC families in the Resident run practice and to date, the MLP has collected 8,814 legal needs assessments from families and found 50 % have self reported at least one unmet legal need.
- The most common legal needs self-reported by the community have been a need for Health Insurance (1184), Food Insecurity Worry (1160), Food Insecurity (1007) and Utility Shut-offs (832).



- Legal Clinic Attorneys have provided services to over 2,500 families and opened 1,037 cases for direct representation in a range of matters including divorce, custody, child support, evictions, landlord tenant disputes, public benefits, children's SSI and special education and advanced planning for children with special healthcare needs transitioning to adulthood.
- Since Spring of 2012, the MLP has trained 62 pediatric residents at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children on how to address legal issues impacting their patients health. Training has led to more consistent referrals and incorporation of the MLP model into resident run clinic.



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What does an MLP attorney do for the partnership each year?

Legal Services

- Bilingual attorneys are onsite 5 days per week to provide free and immediate legal services to low income patients with physical disabilities.
- On average, attorneys meet with almost 500 families per year to conduct intake, give legal advice and, when necessary, provide full representation.
- Attorneys provide direct representation for an average of 200 families per year.
- In the past 12 months MLP attorneys have:
 - Secured almost \$3,000 Medical Assistance reimbursements for the hospital
 - Obtained a child support order for a patient of \$1,000.00 per month
 - Litigated 6 custody cases
 - Represented 4 families in Protection from Abuse proceedings
 - Assisted 6 families with applying for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits
 - Helped 25 people apply for Public Benefits such as SNAP, TANF and Medical Assistance with a valuated return of \$116,000.00
 - Secured ongoing SSI benefits for 6 children with disabilities in the amount of \$730 per month
 - Reduced an SSI overpayment by \$800.00 for one family
 - Successfully appealed SSI denials for 3 CUC patients, totaling almost \$50,000.00 in back benefits awarded to the families
 - Obtained \$1,000 in back SNAP benefits and \$330 in ongoing SNAP benefits for a family
 - Negotiated \$600.00 in back SNAP benefits awarded to a patient family
 - Helped a patient family avoid a judgment of \$540.00 in Landlord Tenant Court
 - Obtained Guardianships for 5 patients transitioning to adulthood
 - Referred 19 cases to a Pro Bono Special Education Lawyer
 - Referred 16 families for free confidential consultations with a private immigration lawyer
 - Drafted 6 power of attorneys for patients transitioning to adult care

Education

- MLP attorneys provide one hour of one-on-one training for all first year residents on the social determinants of health and the MLP model.
- Attorneys participate in daily huddles with providers to relay information and tips about legal issues patients may be facing
- Conduct workshops and Noon Advocacy Lectures for the hospital community on legal issues commonly affecting low income patients in the community.
- Create materials for Health Care providers to share with patients on common legal issues

The MLP is made possible by the generous support and pro bono services of Reed Smith LLP, Audrey Allen Immigration Law, McAndrews Law Office and Duffy+Partners Law Firm.

Legal Clinic for the Disabled

Making legal services accessible to low income persons with physical disabilities



St. Christopher's
Hospital for Children

Tenet
Pennsylvania