

How to Apply

Where to apply

Diana Avendaño, Volunteer Coordinator
volunteers@nls-la.org
818.834.7585
818.896.6647 fax

What to submit

Resume and volunteer application
(available from Diana or on www.nls-la.org)
Please submit in PDF or Word '03 compatible.



About Us

Since 1965, Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County (NLS-LA) has provided free legal services to low-income residents.

We serve all of Los Angeles County, including the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys, the neighboring communities in the Pomona, Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys, and the cities of Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena.

NLS-LA provides the highest quality services to its clients, individually and collectively. Our advocacy is directed towards both the needs of the individual client requesting legal assistance, and to clients who seek to enforce the broader rights of the low-income community.

Equally important to NLS-LA is the development of self-help skills and other tools, which allow clients and client groups to solve their own problems and improve their lives and communities.

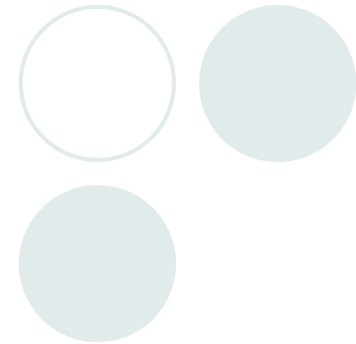


NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES
OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY



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Volunteer Opportunities



Areas of Law

Legal Clinics

SELF-HELP LEGAL ACCESS CENTERS

The Self-Help Centers are free walk-in clinics created to help people help themselves. Volunteers work one-on-one with litigants and assist with legal documents. Litigants are provided assistance in the areas of Family Law, Housing Law and other civil matters. The Center does NOT provide legal advice or representation. The Centers each assist between 60 -100 individuals a day. We have sites in Antelope Valley, Pasadena, Pomona, San Fernando and Van Nuys.

DOMESTIC ABUSE SELF-HELP CENTERS

Volunteers work in clinics assisting litigants one-on-one preparing their court forms when requesting a domestic violence restraining order. It usually takes about an hour to complete a litigant's paperwork. Volunteers also provide information about the legal process, shelters, counseling and other social services available to victims of domestic abuse. All volunteer work is reviewed and approved by an attorney. We have sites in Antelope Valley, Pomona, San Fernando and Van Nuys.

WORKERS' RIGHTS CLINICS

Center provides a place for low-income workers to come and learn about their rights as workers, and to get help as they pursue legal claims to wages, unemployment benefits, and criminal record expungement. Assistance is provided through written materials and one-on-one interviews. We assist people understand their legal rights and analyze their legal options. We have sites in Pacoima, El Monte & Glendale.

Legal Departments

HOUSING

Current initiatives include policy advocacy to obtain affordable loan modifications for homeowners in order to prevent foreclosure, defending and preventing unfair terminations of Section 8 rental assistance, and enforcing the Los Angeles rent stabilization ordinance through eviction defense. Services are provided in our Pacoima, El Monte, and satellite Lancaster office.

HEALTH CARE

Health Consumer Center of Los Angeles helps low-income residents of Los Angeles County navigate through the maze of today's health care system and helps people get the health care they need.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Assist non-profit organizations and low-income communities to develop the resources and infrastructure needed for economic self-sufficiency. Primarily provide transactional assistance on a variety of matters, ranging from non-profit incorporation and technical assistance to land use disputes to environmental justice advocacy.

FAMILY LAW

Volunteers assist victims of domestic violence with family law matters, including divorce, paternity, custody and restraining orders and other related issues. Interns work directly with attorneys, providing assistance to clients, drafting pleadings, discovery and declarations, preparing legal memoranda and working on public policy projects. Services are provided in our Pacoima and El Monte offices.

GOVERNMENTS BENEFITS

Assist low-income individuals to obtain or resolve issues with federal and/or state benefits such as: CalWORKs (AFDC/welfare); GAIN services, including job training, child care, transportation, and work/education supports; Food Stamps; General Relief; Refugee Cash Assistance; SSI, Social Security, Social Security Disability Insurance; CAPI; and foster care. Services provided out of our Glendale office.

EMPLOYMENT

Represent low-wage workers in wage claims, unemployment insurance benefit appeals, and criminal record expungement to enhance employability. Work on policy and regulatory advocacy to strengthen legal protections in the workplace.

MEDICAL-LEGAL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

MLCP places lawyers into the healthcare setting to work directly with the healthcare team, addressing the socio-legal determinants of health. The legal team not only takes referrals from the providers but also educates the healthcare team so that they can include legal remedies as part of the treatment plan.

IMMIGRATION

Volunteers assist immigrant victims of domestic violence, human trafficking, and other violent crimes in gaining lawful immigration status. Clients are also assisted with immigration applications, declarations and hearing preparations. Services are provided in our Pacoima and El Monte offices.