Civil Legal Aid in Family Law & Domestic Violence

Legal Aid lawyers help families by:

■ Providing advice and representation and enforcing legal protections for survivors of domestic violence
■ Securing favorable property settlements and preventing foreclosure and eviction
■ Enforcing divorce and child support orders
■ Addressing denial of benefits

Low-income people at or below 125% of the federal poverty level ($32,750 per year for a family of four) qualify for civil legal aid.

“My children’s lives are completely changed because of the help we received from legal aid.”

- Kenda (center, with her attorneys), survivor of domestic violence represented by South Coastal Counties Legal Services

Nearly 2,500 Family Law Cases closed in FY19, including:

Divorce, separation and annulment - Custody and visitation - Domestic abuse - Child and spousal support - Adult guardianship and conservatorship - Paternity - Adoption - Name change - Parental rights termination

Last year legal aid provided $69 million in economic benefits to the Commonwealth and its residents, including $8.8 million through family law cases

Collectively, Massachusetts families will receive $46 million in lifetime benefits from child support cases legal aid won in FY19.