

Civil Legal Aid in Family Law & Domestic Violence

Massachusetts
Legal
Assistance
Corporation
Line item 0321-1600

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.

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