

Civil Legal Aid in Employment & Unemployment

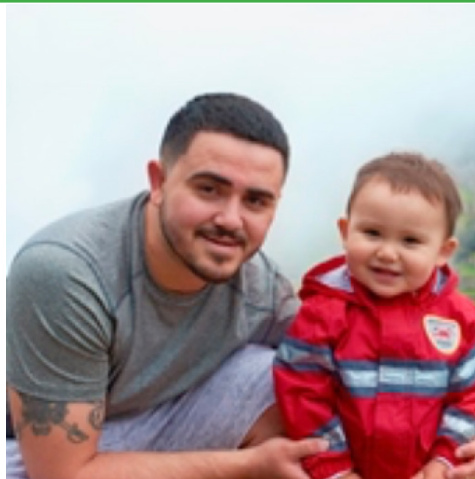
Massachusetts
Legal
Assistance
Corporation
Line item 0321-1600

Legal aid lawyers help low-income people facing:

- Wage theft
- Employment discrimination
- Unsafe working conditions or unfair labor standards
- Improper denial of unemployment compensation

Civil legal aid organizations also conduct policy advocacy on behalf of workers in partnership with unions, workers' groups, and social service providers.

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.



"I was trying to do everything right to support my family, and then my whole life got turned upside down... MetroWest Legal Services was life-saving."

- Carl, a veteran struggling with PTSD who was improperly denied unemployment insurance

1,121 employment-related cases closed in FY19, including:

Unemployment Compensation	616
Wage Claims & Fair Labor Standards Act Issues	171
Taxes (including Earned Income Tax Credit)	156
Employment Discrimination	64
Other Employment	76
Employee Rights	38

Last year
legal aid provided
\$69 million
in economic benefits
to the Commonwealth
and its residents

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