

Civil Legal Aid in The Opioid Crisis

Massachusetts
Legal
Assistance
Corporation

Line item 0321-1600

Legal aid lawyers help people affected by opioid crisis by:

- Resolving **family law** issues, including child abuse and neglect, child support, custody, and guardianship
- Ensuring people can receive **health care** services and access to treatment
- Helping families remain in stable **housing**, whether public or private
- Protecting **older adults** from financial risk posed by relatives living with addiction

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.



“Legal aid gave my son a second chance at life.”

- Lisa, whose son received help from Greater Boston Legal Services to obtain insurance benefits to secure treatment.

The opioid epidemic requires a multi-disciplinary response that includes first responders, doctors, mental health professionals, social workers, case managers, and civil legal aid.

Legal aid addresses not only the consequences of opioid addiction (such as child custody issues) but also helps promote stability, recovery, and independence for people struggling with addiction and their families.

**Last year
legal aid provided**

\$69 million

**in economic benefits
to the Commonwealth
and its residents**

Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation
18 Tremont St., Suite 1010
Boston, Massachusetts 02108
617-367-8544

Lynne Parker
MLAC
lparker@mlac.org
617-391-5640

Elaine O'Reilly | Mary Ann Walsh
Governmental Strategies
eoreilly@governmentalstrategies.com | 617-447-5174
mawalsh@governmentalstrategies.com | 617-447-3711