

WHAT IS PROJECT HEAL?

Project HEAL is a partnership between Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service (MVLS) and the Harriet Lane Clinic of the Johns Hopkins Children's Center. The Project Director is an MVLS attorney.

Created in 1981, MVLS is a non-profit organization, whose mission is to provide quality civil legal services to people in need. MVLS matches experienced lawyers with people who need legal help.

The Harriet Lane Clinic has served children and their families in East Baltimore since 1912. The Clinic has a staff of 159 clinicians, nurses, social workers, and other health care professionals and serves over 8,000 infants, children, and adolescents a year. The Clinic provides a multidisciplinary approach to health care. Services include general health care for children, youth, adolescents, HIV infected children, children with chronic illness, children who receive psychosocial support through social work and Child Life specialists, and special programs in literacy, fitness, obesity, injury prevention and legal advocacy.

Beginning in July 2003, MVLS teamed up with the Harriet Lane Clinic to create Project HEAL. The Project brings together attorneys, doctors, social workers and health care advocates, enabling them to work collaboratively for the benefit of children and adolescents needing both legal and medical assistance.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PROJECT HEAL PLEASE CONTACT:

Hope Tipton, Esq.
Director of Project HEAL

Harriet Lane Clinic
200 North Wolfe Street
Office 1118
Baltimore, Maryland 21287

410-502-0058 (Office)
410-955-0304 (Fax)
htipton2@jhmi.edu



Project HEAL

(Health, Education, Advocacy and Law) offers children and their families access to free legal help while receiving medical care at the Harriet Lane Clinic and the inpatient pediatric wards at the Johns Hopkins Children's Center.



MARYLAND VOLUNTEER LAWYERS SERVICE

MVLS

Legal assistance for people in need



HOW CAN PROJECT HEAL HELP ME?

If you have legal problems in your day-to-day life, such as poor housing conditions, they may affect your child's health. These legal problems can make health problems more serious or difficult to handle if not taken care of in a timely manner. You may need a lawyer to help resolve these issues. Project HEAL provides legal help to children, adolescents and their families, who receive health care services at the Harriet Lane Clinic as well as the inpatient pediatric wards at the Johns Hopkins Children's Center.

PROJECT HEAL CAN OFFER YOU FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE ON MANY ISSUES INCLUDING:

- Poor housing conditions
- Landlord/Tenant disputes
- Denial of public benefits, such as TCA, food stamps, WIC
- Education services, suspension, special education, IEP issues
- Family issues: divorce, separation, custody, guardianship, informal kinship care, problems with birth certificates
- Immigration
- Social Security and SSI
- Collections
- BGE resources
- Consumer problems
- Taxes
- Bankruptcy
- Wills and Advance Medical Directives
- And many other legal issues

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR PROJECT HEAL?

Project HEAL provides legal advice and assistance to any child, adolescent or family, who receives health care services at the Harriet Lane Clinic and inpatient pediatric wards at the Johns Hopkins Children's Center.

COST

Project HEAL services are FREE of charge.

You will not receive a bill for any legal advice or services that the Project HEAL attorney provides to you. ***However, if there are any court costs or filing fees associated with your legal matter, you are responsible for these fees, if they cannot be waived.***

HOW CAN I CONTACT PROJECT HEAL

Project HEAL is located in the Harriet Lane Clinic. You can contact Project HEAL in the following ways:

- You can contact the Director of Project HEAL, Hope Tipton, directly at 410-502-0058.
OR
- You can ask your pediatrician, nurse practitioner, nurse or social worker to refer you to Project HEAL.

HOW TO USE PROJECT HEAL

1. Need help with housing? Government benefits? Special education services? Immigration? Other legal issues? If you are a patient or a family member of a patient, who receives health care services from the Harriet Lane Clinic, then you should contact Project HEAL. Your doctor, nurse, nurse practitioner or social worker may also refer you to Project HEAL if you have a legal problem.
2. You DO NOT need a referral from anyone in order to receive legal services from Project HEAL.
3. Talk to the Project HEAL attorney about your legal problems and receive FREE legal advice and services.
4. Services from Project HEAL are available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. in the Harriet Lane Clinic.
5. You do not need to have an appointment at the Harriet Lane Clinic in order to receive services. You can talk with a Project HEAL attorney at any time.
6. When you come for your appointment with Project HEAL, please ask the security desk to call the Director, Hope Tipton, at 2-0058.
7. If security is not available, you will need to take a number and proceed through the registration process. Once you are at the registration station, explain that you are here to see Project HEAL. The registration assistant will notify the Director that you are here for your appointment.
8. You can still drop-in to discuss your issues with Project HEAL without an appointment. If you drop-in, please use the same process as if you had an appointment to notify the Director that you would like to see her.

