



Cleveland Homeless Legal Assistance Program

The Cleveland Homeless Legal Assistance Program (CHLAP) is a program of the CMBA. It works with the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless (NEOCH) and homeless shelters in the area to focus on the legal issues that are of concern to those in Cleveland who are experiencing homelessness or are at-risk of becoming homeless. The program offers an important service to the individuals in need by providing access to justice through brief advice and counseling clinics at regularly scheduled times in shelters and social service sites where they reside or gather for meals and other services.

CHLAP aims to provide pro bono legal assistance to homeless and at-risk individuals. Volunteers provide a variety of services, including shelter site intake interviews, brief advice, information service, and direct representation in matters requiring further assistance. Volunteers help individuals with civil legal issues, including driver's license reinstatement, credit problems, criminal record expungement, landlord-tenant problems, public benefits, and family law. Training, resources, and mentors are available to volunteers. Malpractice insurance coverage is available through the program's volunteer policy.

PRO BONO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO YOU NOW

- **INTAKE** interviewing, conducted on scheduled dates at selected shelters, neighborhood centers and other sites – you meet with homeless individuals and identify issues for later handling by other CHLAP volunteers, Legal Aid and other providers; or provide brief advice on the spot, when appropriate
- **CASEWORK** for individual homeless clients – limited to cases you're comfortable with and you decide to accept – referrals from CHLAP Intake interviews
- **CONSULTING** with CHLAP volunteer colleagues who need help on specific legal issues arising in cases they are handling – no client contact

These are some of the ways you can choose to volunteer through CHLAP. **YOU** retain complete control over the nature, extent and scheduling of your own involvement.

In addition to members of the Ohio bar, CHLAP welcomes *law students* and *paralegal assistants* as volunteers.

A long-term volunteer commitment is **NOT REQUIRED** before becoming involved with CHLAP. Each new Intake volunteer receives appropriate training and orientation - including shadowing an experienced volunteer during actual Intake interviews. All Intake sessions take place during regularly scheduled hours, in convenient, secure facilities managed by reputable nonprofit organizations, churches and the like.

CHLAP maintains appropriate professional liability insurance coverage for all services provided by its volunteers.

TO VOLUNTEER FOR CHLAP NOW – OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, fill out the form below and mail to the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, c/o the Cleveland Homeless Legal Assistance Program.

Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association c/o Cleveland Homeless Legal Assistance Program
1375 E. 9th St., Floor 2 Cleveland, OH 44114
Phone: (216) 696-3525
Fax: (216) 696-2413
Email: konders@clemetrobar.org

YES - I'M INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT HOW I MIGHT HELP AS A VOLUNTEER WITH CHLAP

Name: _____

Firm/Law school: _____

Address: _____

Work phone: _____

Cell phone: _____

Email: _____