



# Small Organization, Big Impact

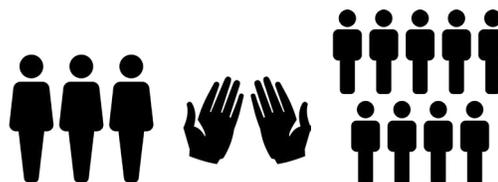
## 2016 Overview

The Lawyers Clearinghouse connects pro bono lawyers with nonprofits and people in need to promote access to justice, strengthen communities, and end homelessness. By calling on practicing and retired lawyers to volunteer their time and expertise, we are able to leverage our small budget to have a big impact.



### A little becomes a lot.

On an annual budget of less than \$400,000, our pro bono lawyers provide an estimated **\$6 million** worth of legal assistance for our nonprofit and homeless clients.



### A few help many.

In FY2016, with four staff members and the help of hundreds of volunteers, we facilitated legal assistance for **154 homeless clients** and **172 nonprofits**, and provided educational programs for **592 attendees**.

## What We Do

### Legal Referral Program

Designed to help nonprofits with legal needs while offering quality pro bono opportunities for transactional lawyers in a wide range of areas, including real estate, nonprofit law, and corporate law. Legal assessments for nonprofits are also offered through this program.

### Legal Workshops for Nonprofits

A variety of legal seminars on topics relevant to nonprofits are developed and presented by expert attorneys on a volunteer basis.

### Access to Justice Fellows Program

Connects retired or transitioning lawyers and judges with nonprofit and legal services organizations to provide critical legal assistance to underserved individuals and community groups.

### Massachusetts Legal Clinic for the Homeless

Volunteer lawyers from law firms and corporate legal departments provide pro bono representation to homeless and very low-income individuals.

# How We Do It

## Legal Referral Program for Nonprofits



Nonprofits and prospective nonprofits contact and are vetted by the Clearinghouse.



Nonprofits are connected with a lawyer or a team of lawyers.



Nonprofits meet with lawyers to discuss their needs.



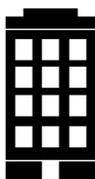
Nonprofits work with lawyers to find solutions at no cost to the organization.

"Thank you so much for matching us with [firm]. This is so valuable to us and I am very grateful for your help in making it happen."

### Client

Legal Referral Program

## Massachusetts Legal Clinic for the Homeless



Every other Friday, volunteer lawyers meet at one of five Boston-area homeless shelters.



Volunteers conduct intakes with clinic clients seeking help with civil legal issues.



Volunteers meet with legal services experts and staff to discuss the cases and form potential strategies.



Volunteers contact clients to let them know if they will take their case.



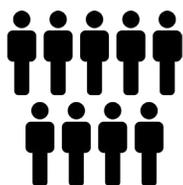
Clients work with volunteer lawyers to access housing, receive benefits, clear their records, and more, at no cost to the client.

"You aren't hearing no, which you are used to hearing. For someone to say, 'Yes, I can help you' – it's amazing."

### Client

Legal Clinic for the Homeless

## Access to Justice Fellows Program



Senior lawyers and retired judges sign on to serve as Access to Justice Fellows.



Each Fellow partners with a nonprofit organization, court, or other public service project working on access to justice issues.



Fellows and partner organizations work together to support the nonprofit community and ensure access to justice for people in need.

"It can be very isolating to retire and this program gives people a whole new way to engage. I get to sit down with other Fellows, talk about these problems, try to unravel them and do something good about them; it's a great thing."

### 2015-16 Fellow

Access to Justice Fellows Program