

Cancer Legal Assistance & Well-being Project

PROMOTING THE HEALTH OF CANCER PATIENTS THROUGH LEGAL ADVOCACY AND INTERPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION AT THE MEDSTAR WASHINGTON CANCER INSTITUTE

SUMMER 2020 LEGAL SERVICES METRICS

Following a legal check-up...

16 new patients referred by the patient support team



Legal issues resolved via legal information, legal advice, brief service, and/or extended representation



11 legal intake appointments with new patients



Court appearances on behalf of a patient's fair housing issue



14 new legal issues identified



Critical estate planning documents completed for a late-stage patient



Resolved a patient's public housing issue, avoiding a 10 year waitlist

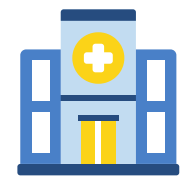


Removed a lien on a patient's SSA funds, allowing her to buy groceries for her family

Most Common Patient Legal Issues

1. Public Benefits
2. Future Planning
3. Health Insurance
4. Housing Issues
5. Debt Relief

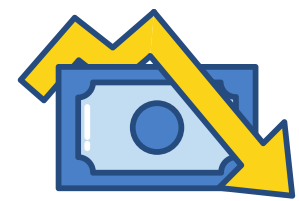
WHO DID WE SERVE?



Patients with breast, gastrointestinal, gynecological, and hematology cancers



Patients from DC Wards 1,2,4,5, and 7, and Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties



80% of patients live below 125% of the federal poverty level



60% of patients live below 100% of the federal poverty level



"Thank you for all of your help. I've lived in my apartment for 14 years, and I can never get help when my air conditioning breaks. Because of COVID-19 and the cancer, I didn't want to go to a senior cooling center to cool off. You sent that letter and they came and fixed the air conditioning the next week."
-Ms. A, WCI Patient and DC Resident

CAPACITY-BUILDING METRICS



Created patient education materials about new legal rights as a result of COVID-19 emergency legislation



"For many of our clients, simply having an attorney take the time to listen to their story and provide feedback about their issues is the victory. For so many, they never get the chance to share their story and get the legal advice they need."
-Sara Richman, WCI Patient Services Team Member

2 legal issue spotting trainings conducted by the C-LAW legal team

8 patient support team members trained in legal issue spotting, including interns and social workers

12 legal trainings attended by the C-LAW legal team, including COVID-19 specific trainings by DC Housing Authority and DC Department of Health