About Us

Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida is a nonprofit law firm which provides free legal assistance to low-income people with civil legal problems in twelve counties across Central Florida. For 50 years, dedicated CLSMF lawyers, paralegals, legal assistants and advocates have worked diligently to solve civil legal problems for people facing life-changing situations, such as domestic violence, unlawful eviction, or the loss of veterans' health or public benefits. We are committed to delivering the highest quality legal aid, with dignity and respect, for those who are seeking access to justice.

How It Works

To contact CLSMF, call the Helpline at 1-800-405-1417 from 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday through Thursday.

When you contact the Helpline you will speak directly to an attorney. The attorney will determine if you are financially eligible for our services and if your problem is one we can handle. If you qualify for our services and we have the resources to assist you, we will either:

- Give legal advice, brief services or educational information to help you with the next steps of the legal process;
- Refer you to a volunteer attorney, or
- Provide a staff attorney to represent you in your legal matter.
OVERVIEW OF SERVICES

Consumer
We help people with consumer problems such as:
- Debt collection and garnishment
- Unfair sales practices and home improvement problems
- Bankruptcy
- Student loans
- Utility problems

Children’s Rights
We help children with Special Education issues such as:
- School related arrests
- Suspensions and expulsions
- Evaluations and educational placements
- Disability discrimination
- Support for students with HIV/AIDS
- Autism related services

Family Law
We help families with matters that include:
- Domestic violence
- Divorce and custody where children are at risk
- Temporary and Relative Custody
- Child support and visitation

Elder Law
We provide legal assistance to senior citizens with:
- Living wills and advanced directives
- Financial exploitation through the misuse of their money or property
- Deprivation of necessities by a caregiver
- Physical and sexual abuse
- Durable powers of attorney

Housing
We provide legal services to homeowners and renters on issues such as:
- Foreclosure and evictions
- Landlord and tenant disputes in private or public and subsidized housing
- Housing counseling
- Discrimination in housing sales or rental
- Discriminatory mortgage loans
- Mortgage scams
- First-time home buyers’ education

Public Benefits & Healthcare
We assist people with public benefits and health benefits such as:
- Social Security Disability and SSI Issues
- Reduction or denial of Medicaid benefits
- Medicare denials
- Reemployment Assistance
- Developmental Disabilities waiver (iBudget) reductions and denials
- Denials or other issues with SNAP (Food stamps)

Veterans Advocacy Project
We provide free legal advice, counsel, referral, education and representation to low-income U.S. Veterans with:
- Filing VA claims and appeals
- Defending inappropriate discharge characterization
- Disability ratings
- Dependent / survivor benefits
- Public benefits & social services

Other Issues
If you have a legal problem not seen here, please call us to find out if we can help at 800-405-1417. You can also receive assistance through community legal education, brief advice and free legal advice clinics that CLSMF hosts throughout Central Florida. Check our website for dates and locations at www.clsmf.org.

We do NOT handle criminal, traffic, or personal injury cases.