



A Division of the New York Legal Assistance Group

# LegalHealth

Professional Partnership to Promote Well Being<sup>®</sup>

Since 2001, LegalHealth has partnered with medical professionals to address the nonmedical needs of low-income people with serious health problems. LegalHealth complements health care with legal care — providing free legal services in medical facilities and training healthcare professionals to understand the legal issues their patients face. LegalHealth extends its mission nationally by providing technical assistance to bring medical and legal partners together.

## NEW YORK PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL— COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

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### Clinic Location

Department of Social Work Services  
180 Fort Washington Avenue  
Harkness Pavilion 2nd floor  
Small Conference Room

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### Clinic Schedule

Wednesdays  
9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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### Appointments

212-305-4949 or 212-305-2641  
Robin Williams

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## LegalHealth at New York Presbyterian Hospital—Columbia University Medical Center

Every week attorneys bring the law office into the hospital, providing advice and representation to help patients:

- Secure government benefits
- Fix housing problems
- Address credit issues
- Handle immigration issues
- Plan ahead (e.g. wills, health care proxy, power of attorney and guardianship)
- Access special education services
- Solve insurance disputes
- Negotiate workplace accommodations

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### Patient Stories

#### *Frank*

66-year-old Frank came to LegalHealth because he could not pay his rent and often went without food. Frank wanted to work, but recent loss of his toes to diabetes left him unable to return to his job and dependent on minimal Social Security retirement benefits. LegalHealth analysis of the situation found Frank entitled to many benefits and services he was not receiving: additional Social Security income, food stamps and waiver of Medicare premiums. LegalHealth advised Frank about his eligibility for The Lifeline low-cost telephone service, the new Medicare Part D prescription drug program and long- and short-term housing options. Thanks to LegalHealth, Frank receives \$300 more monthly income and food stamps and is making long-term housing plans. He can pay his rent every month and eat a healthy diet every day.

#### *Eunice*

When her hospital social worker referred Eunice to LegalHealth, she was representing herself in a court case against her landlord and feeling overwhelmed against the landlord's private attorneys. The conditions in Eunice's apartment were terrible and her upstairs neighbor was making excessive noise at all hours of the night. LegalHealth assisted Eunice in her lawsuit. As a result, the landlord was ordered to relocate Eunice to a new apartment and pay her \$5,000 in damages. LegalHealth also made sure Eunice's Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption was transferred to the new apartment and that the landlord dropped its demand for attorneys fees.

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### Contact LegalHealth

For more information contact:

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