



A Division of the New York Legal Assistance Group

LegalHealth

Professional Partnership to Promote Well Being®

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.

NYC HEALTH + HOSPITALS/WOODHULL

Clinic Location

Geriatric Wellness Center
760 Broadway
Brooklyn

Clinic Schedule

Wednesdays
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Appointments

718-963-8537
Geriatric Wellness Center

LegalHealth at NYC Health + Hospitals/Woodhull

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

Patient Stories

Ms. F

Ms. F is an undocumented widow in her 80s from Jamaica. Four years ago, her daughter in Jamaica sent her to New York to live with her son and his family. Ms. F's health has deteriorated and she needs continuous care. Her son quit his job to care for his mother full-time, leaving his wife the sole wage earner in their household of six. Ms. F's son told her geriatrician about his lack of finances to continue to care for his mother. At the same time, he was distraught over the care she would receive in Jamaica with his sister who does not want their mother to return. The physician referred Ms. F and her son to the LegalHealth clinic. Ms. F's son learned he was eligible to naturalize since he has been a lawful permanent resident for 5 years. Once that was filed, Ms. F's son filed to adjust his mother's status making her eligible for NY State Medicaid. With Medicaid, she could receive homecare services, and her son could return to work.

Terri

Terri's husband is in prison and she struggles to raise their eight children alone. She is under treatment for mastoiditis, a dangerous ear condition, as well as depression with thoughts of suicide. She also sees a neurologist for her worsening headaches. When her public assistance, including food stamps and housing allowance, was cut in half for failure to comply with public assistance regulations, Terri panicked. Her doctor referred her to LegalHealth, where the attorney went through the paperwork and found that Terri actually was in compliance. She applied for a fair hearing and represented Terri at the hearing. Terri won her appeal and all her benefits were restored. She received a \$2,000 retroactive award and \$641 in monthly benefits were restored.

Contact LegalHealth

For more information contact:

Randy Retkin, Director · 212-613-5080 · RRetkin@NYLAG.org

Julie Brandfield, Associate Director · 212-613-5083 · JBrandfield@NYLAG.org