



## ILLINOISANS NEED ACCESS TO LEGAL HELP **NOW MORE THAN EVER**

Civil legal problems have spiked in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak, especially for people already struggling to make ends meet and communities of color.

IL Legal Aid Online reports a:

**1040%** increase in use of its unemployment tools

**1084%** increase in use of its emergency food stamp resources

### CIVIL LEGAL AID IS A VITAL PART OF ILLINOIS' RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS

The IL Equal Justice Foundation (IEJF), a trusted partner of the State for 20 years, distributes State funding for legal aid to programs across Illinois.

Only Legal Aid can help solve many of the problems caused by business closures and illness, like:



People being wrongly denied critical benefits that can keep their families afloat



Missed rent payments leading to eviction notices



Disputes over medical and consumer debt



Access to health care



Protection from domestic violence during quarantine

***In this crisis, everyone facing a serious civil legal problem should get the help they need. Please support state funding for the IEJF, which is housed in the Attorney General's budget.***

### ILLINOIS' LEGAL AID PROGRAMS ARE ON THE FRONT LINES HELPING PEOPLE NAVIGATE THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Through hotlines and expanded online resources, legal aid programs are bridging the physical divide to serve as a lifeline for people across Illinois.

Experts in **employment law**, **housing policies** and **public benefit rules** are providing up-to-date information, advice and counsel to people around the clock.



# Illinois' Legal Aid Programs Ready to Help During COVID-19 Crisis

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If people in your community need free or low cost legal assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, please contact the following:

## **CARPLS Legal Aid Hotline**

For legal information, advice and referrals for Cook County residents, 312-738-9200.

## **Land of Lincoln Legal Aid**

For free legal assistance in southern and central Illinois, 1-877-342-7891.

## **Prairie State Legal Services**

For free legal assistance in northern and western Illinois, 1-800-531-7057.

## **Illinois Armed Forces Legal Aid Network**

For free legal assistance for veterans, active service members, reservists and their dependents, 1-855-452-3526.

## **Illinois Legal Aid Online**

For online legal research, forms, guidance and statewide legal aid directory.

## **Illinois Free Legal Answers**

A virtual legal clinic where low-income Illinois residents can submit a question online to ask a lawyer for help with a civil legal issue.

## **Rentervention.com**

A free, online chatbot that can assist Chicago renters 24/7 by providing legal information about renters' rights and connecting tenants that need help with free lawyers.

