



Legal Services  
of  
New Jersey

**Northeast New Jersey Legal Services (NNJLS)** provides a broad array of free services, including legal representation and advice, legal advocacy, community education, and information and referral in civil law matters. NNJLS specializes primarily in Housing, Family, Public Benefits, and Consumer law matters for low income, disabled and vulnerable residents of Bergen, Hudson and Passaic Counties. The program has over 40 years of experience in providing legal help to the community, and our attorneys, paralegals, and support staff are dedicated to providing the highest quality legal services. Our mission is to assure that access to the civil justice system is not denied to our clients simply because they cannot afford a private attorney.

If you live in Bergen, Hudson or Passaic County and cannot afford a private attorney, call or visit one of our offices (listed below) to find out more about how we can help. We have highly trained, accomplished attorneys and paralegals who specialize in Housing, Family, Consumer, Senior and Disability, Education, Labor and Health Law. Our devoted support staff will introduce you to our services, determine whether you are eligible for our services, and be an important point of contact for you during your case. Each of our offices has bilingual staff to assist people who speak languages other than English.

NNJLS targets low income, disabled and vulnerable residents of the three counties we serve and, as a result of limited funding sources to pay for the cost of providing these services, we may not be able to provide assistance to all residents who are financially eligible. However, if we cannot provide you with legal services, we will refer you to other local agencies where you may receive help.

Through our **Private Attorney Involvement Program (PAI)**, we enlist the help of approximately 300 private attorneys who have volunteered their time and expertise to provide legal services to eligible clients free of charge.

#### ***Service Areas:***

**Consumer Unit:** Advice and representation in matters involving debt collection, unfair and deceptive practices, access to credit, and bankruptcy.

**Family Unit:** Assistance in obtaining domestic violence restraining orders, and advice and representation in child support, child custody, divorce, and other family law matters.

**Housing Unit:** Advice and representation in landlord/tenant matters, foreclosure, rental assistance programs, public housing, community economic development and other housing matters.

**Public Benefits Unit:** Advice and representation in matters involving eligibility for public benefits, such as Social Security Retirement and Disability, SSI, Medicaid, Medicare, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Food Stamps, General Assistance and other benefits.

In addition to the areas listed above, we operate the following projects:

The **Foreclosure Defense Project** provides legal assistance to homeowners facing the loss of their home due to a mortgage foreclosure.

The **Anti-Predatory Lending Project** provides representation for homeowners who are victims of predatory lending practices and in danger of losing their most important asset, their home.

The **Education Representation Project** helps parents with a range of education law issues such as special education, placement, discipline, early intervention, school residency, truancy, preschool and more.

The **Family Representation Project** offers legal advice and representation to parents in cases where The Division of Youth and Family Services takes action limiting their rights.

The **Health Care Access Project** provides representation at administrative hearings in Medicaid eligibility determinations, NJ FamilyCare and Medicare cases, and other disputes with commercial insurance carriers.

The **Workers Legal Rights Project** provides legal representation, education, and advocacy to low-wage workers in employment matters such as Wage and Hour Disputes, Family and Medical Leave Act, Discrimination Matters, Retaliation (Whistleblower/CEPA), Employment Benefits Issues and Barriers to Employment.

The **Immigration Legal Rights Project** seeks to increase awareness and education about immigration issues through advice and representation on behalf of citizens and Legal Permanent Residents as well as undocumented individuals who would be eligible for assistance through the Violence Against Women Act “VAWA”, or are eligible for a U Visa or T Visa.

The **Domestic Violence Initiative** offers legal representation for victims of domestic violence seeking civil restraining orders. They can refer you to the Women’s Shelter and other Domestic Violence Programs in your area.

The **Senior Law Project** provides legal advice, assistance, and/or representation in order to protect and secure the rights of older persons (60 years and older) in Housing, Family, Public Benefits, Consumer, Health and other matters.

The **Low Income Taxpayer Clinic** helps individuals with IRS related cases or controversies as well as provides educational services about tax rights and responsibilities.

**Community Economic Development** provides a range of legal services to community-based non-profit organizations.

**Northeast New Jersey Legal Services** also provides speakers on a variety of topics for community groups.

[www.lsnj.org](http://www.lsnj.org)

Please contact your local county office at:

Hudson County Division

574 Summit Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07306

201-792-6363 Fax: 201-798-8780

Bergen County Division

190 Moore Street., Suite 100, Hackensack, NJ 07601

201-487-2166 Fax: 201-487-3513

Passaic County Division

152 Market Street, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Paterson, NJ 07505

201-523-2900 Fax: 973-523-9002