### **QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

# The Laurel Leaflet

Issue No. 2 April, 2019

### THROUGH ALL WALKS OF LIFE, WE ARE HERE TO HELP





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1-800-253-9558







### Series - All Rise for Civil Justice Reform

We are excited to support the launch of All Rise for Civil Justice, an important new initiative of our partners at Voices for Civil Justice. All Rise for Civil Justice is the campaign to fix our civil justice system so it works for everyone. It centers the stories of people with life-changing problems that need legal solutions, and the advocates working to help them.

All Rise for Civil Justice tells the story of America's broken civil justice system, the people it hurts, the decisions that brought it to the brink, and the people working to make it better.

Many faces and stories comprise this crisis, but the common thread is a civil justice system that fails to meet America's promise of equal justice under law. In civil courts across the country, restricted and unequal access is the rule, not the exception, and the human toll is high.



Throughout the next issues of our newsletter, we will be highlighting client stories from our partner and describe the many reasons that emphasize the need for civil justice reform.

If you follow us on social media, we welcome you to share our posts in an effort to spread awareness in our communities.

For more information about All Rise for Civil Justice, please visit www.allriseforciviljustice.org

Every year, Americans encounter life-changing problems they can't resolve because our civil courts are a complex maze. At some point, most people have a problem like a divorce or wrongful treatment by a landlord or debt collector and need a legal solution. But millions lose their cases in civil court, not because they've done something wrong, but because they don't have the information or legal help they need.

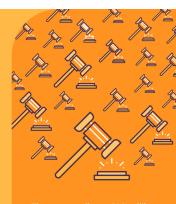
Want to join the discussion about civil justice reform? You can dive in by following @AllRiseJustice on Twitter, becoming a fan on Facebook, and checking out @AllRiseJustice on Instagram? Thanks!

**ALL** for Civil **RISE** Justice

#CivilJusticeCrisis

### EVERYBODY KNOWS SOMEONE WITH A CIVIL JUSTICE PROBLEM

Civil justice problems are common and numerous. Judges decide whether a child will live with her parents, whether a family can stay in their home, and whether a medical debt is really owed.



There are well over 100 million ivil justice problems in America every year.

### Mission, Priorities, & Client Testimonies

Established in 1967, Laurel Legal Services provides free civil legal representation to low-income clients in a six-county area covering 4,372 square miles.

#### **Our Mission**

The mission of Laurel Legal Services, Inc. is to provide a full range of high quality legal services to people of low income in civil, non-fee generating matters within the six (6) county area consisting of Armstrong, Cambria, Clarion, Indiana, Jefferson and Westmoreland Counties.

#### **Our Priorities**

- Securing and Preserving Safe, Decent, Affordable Housing for Low-Income People
- Protecting the Safety, Health, and Independence of Low-Income Families
- Providing Economic Stability for Low-Income Children, Families, and Individuals

Clients are financially eligible for our services at 125% of poverty Mortgage foreclosure cases are at 187.5% of poverty Protection from Abuse Victims are assisted regardless of income level.

### What are our Clients Saying?

- "My Advocate made me feel very comfortable in a stressful situation. He was very respectful and gave me confidence through the proceedings."
- Protection from Abuse Client
- "They were mentally supportive. They took pride in their work. Without them, I probably no I would not have followed through."
- -Protection from Abuse Client
- "I was very pleased. I won my unemployment case. My advocate was very polite and professional."
- -Unemployment Compensation Client
- "My advocate told me what to say and do. I was very happy to have her."
- -Debt Collection Client Brief Service
- "My advocate was very professional and took charge of my case immediately. She also made it easier for me to handle what needed done. She was excellent. She even spoke with me when I got emotional and calmed me down. I just loved her.
- -Protection from Abuse Client

### Some BIG Changes

In February, Laurel Legal Services held a farewell party at The Rialto in Greensburg for Renee Williams, Executive Director, who resigned on March 1st and Kathleen Kemp, Managing Attorney of Greensburg, who retired at the end of March.

#### Message From Kathleen Kemp:

"I have been proud to be a legal services attorney for the last seventeen years. I entered the profession to help people and I believe that I have been able to do so.

I have had enough interesting experiences that I could write a book, but will not be doing so any time soon. I am looking forward to some leisure time with family."



#### Message From Renee Williams:

"We went through a lot of changes, and I know at times those changes were terrifying and uncomfortable, but everyone stuck with it, and for that I am thankful. This was my first time at the helm - the staff made it fun and interesting. I've learned a great deal from everyone and I thank them for that and for their patience.

The program is in the best shape it has ever been and, I believe, we are thriving. That is in large part due to everyone's efforts. I hope that everyone continues to serve our clients with the same dignity, respect and fervor, and help to make positive changes in their lives and in our community."



The Staff and the Board of Directors thank both Renee and Kathleen for their hard work and dedication to providing legal services in our community.

### LEGAL TOPIC: CLEAN SLATE: EXPANDED & AUTOMATED RECORD SEALING

#### WHY DOES CLEAN SLATE MATTER?

One out of three Americans has a criminal record of some kind, and one out of two children living in the U.S. has a parent with a record. Technology has made records much more available and records are regularly used to deny people employment, housing, education, and more. Many people who are eligible for expungement do not file due to lack of legal access, filing fees, etc. Until now, Pennsylvania had one of the most limited expungement laws in the country.

Clean Slate is a new Pennsylvania law that expands criminal record sealing to include more types of offenses, including some first-degree misdemeanors, which can now be sealed by filing petitions.

Clean Slate will also create an automated computer process to seal arrests that did not result in convictions within 60 days, summary convictions after 10 years, and some second and third-degree misdemeanor convictions if there are no subsequent misdemeanor or felony convictions for a period of 10 years after the time of conviction. The automated process will go into effect between June of 2019 and June of 2020.

Once your record is sealed under Clean Slate, it can generally only be viewed by the following:

Law enforcement entities (e.g. police, District Attorneys, courts, etc.)

Employers who are required to consider records under federal law

Employers who utilize FBI background checks

The vast majority of employers, landlords, schools, and the general public will NOT have access to sealed records.

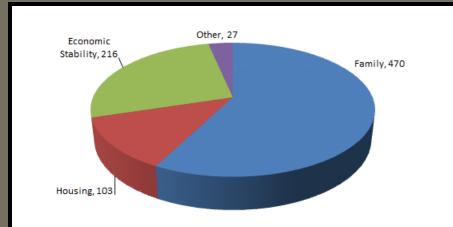
But, unlike expunged records, sealed records are not destroyed.

The law does not seal serious offenses such as endangerment, firearms charges, sexual offenses, cruelty to animals, and corruption of minors.

#### **TERMINOLOGY**

- Expungement: Complete destruction of criminal record information via a court petition
- Sealing/Limited Access: Removal of criminal record information from public view by either petition or through an automated process; law enforcement still has access and it will still show up on FBI records
- Pardon: Clemency that "forgives" a criminal conviction allowing it to be expunged; requires an application to and recommendation from the Board of Pardons subject to final approval from the Governor
- Conviction: A criminal charge to which someone pleads guilty or nolo contendere or is found guilty
- Non-Conviction: A criminal charge that is withdrawn, dismissed, nolle prossed, results in acquittal, or otherwise does not result in conviction.

### BY THE NUMBERS -JANUARY 1 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2019 CASES



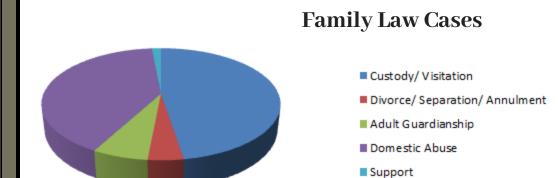
#### **Total Cases**

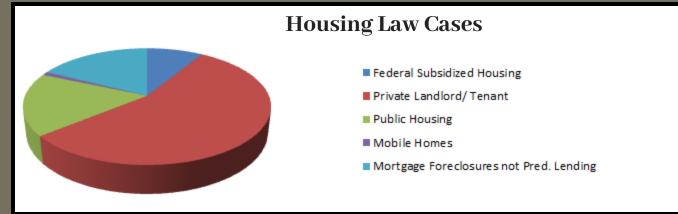
Family Law Cases: 470 Housing Cases: 103

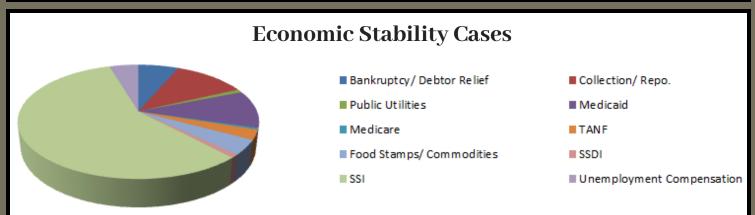
Economic Stability: 216

Other: 27

Total: 816







### **CENSUS 101: What You Need To Know**

The 2020 Census is closer than you think!

Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.



# **EVERYONE** COUNTS.

The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place

# IT'S ABOUT REDISTRICTING.

After each census, state officials use the results to redraw the boundaries of their congressional and state legislative districts, adapting to population shifts

#### IT MEANS \$675 BILLION.

Census data determine how more than \$675 Billion are spent, supporting your state, county, and community's vital programs.

# IT'S ABOUT FAIR REPRESENTATION.

Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets

# IT'S IN THE CONSTITUTION.

The U.S. constitution requires a census every 10 years. The census covers the entire country and everyone living here. The first census was in 1790

## TAKING PART IS YOUR CIVIC DUTY.

Completing the census is required. It's a way to participate in our democracy and say 'I COUNT!'

More information can be found from Census.gov

#### **Announcements**

# LAUREL LEGAL SERVICES WELCOMES ATTORNEY BENJAMIN McGIFFIN TO GREENSBURG

Ben joins us as a new Staff Attorney.

He graduated in 2015 from the Duquesne University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and a minor in Sociology. Ben then attended the Penn State Law, graduating in 2018. In law school he participated in the Civil Rights Appellate Clinic as well as the Veterans and Service members Legal Clinic. Ben also interned with the Army JAG Corps in Ft. Gordon, GA, and has been selected for a commission with the Army Reserve JAG Corps. In these roles, he fell in love with public interest law. Ben passed the Bar Exam in 2018 and he is licensed to practice law in The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Ben lives in Monroeville with his dog. He enjoys Pittsburgh sports teams, Penn State sports, and playing soccer. Ben is originally from Butler County and is enjoying working out of Greensburg and helping clients in the surrounding counties.



# 3-YEAR CONTRACT BETWEEN LAUREL LEGAL SERVICES AND CITIZEN'S FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC COMES TO AN END IN JUNE.



For the past three years, Laurel Legal Services and Citizen's Family Health Clinic in New Kensington have maintained a stable relationship through a grant from the Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts (IOLTA). The contract included referrals to Laurel Legal Services and our advocates traveling to their office one day a week for patients in the clinic seeking legal advice.

Although the contact will be ending, we plan to maintain a working relationship with the clinic by keeping them as a community partner.

For anyone not familiar with the Citizen's Family Health Clinic first opened their doors in 2008 to provide health care across the life cycles, regardless of the patient's ability to pay. They accept most insurances. For uninsured patients, fees are based on income. NO ONE will be refused treatment. Services include vaccines program (VFC) for infants and children, blood draws, work, school and sports physicals, and respiratory therapy by certified respiratory therapists.

For more information about Citizen's Family Health Clinic, visit: https://citizensfamilyhealthclinic.com/



### **Announcements (cont.)**

#### **April is National Fair Housing Month**

National Fair Housing Month increases efforts to end housing discrimination and raises awareness of fair housing rights. The month also remembers the assassination of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968 and his contributions to the Civil Rights Movement.

The Fair Housing Act also celebrates its anniversary during April.

Support an end to housing discrimination. Learn more by visiting www.hud.gov and use #NationalFairHousingMonth to share on social media.





#### Fair Housing Month 2019 POSTER CONTEST

#### "WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR"



"You've made this day a special day, by just your being you. There's no person in the whole world like you; and I like you just the way you are."

Mr. Rogers believed in opening doors to all. In his television show, Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, everyone was welcome and valued. Mister Rogers helped us to appreciate and respect others.

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination based on race, col-or, religion, national origin, sex, familial status and disability and HUD's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule aims to overcome historic patterns of segregation, promote fair housing choice and foster inclusive communities free from discrimination.

Please draw a neighborhood and all the different people who make it a diverse and welcome community!

A winner will be selected in grades 5-8 and in grades 9-12. Winners will receive a prize and their teacher will receive a prize for their classroom! Winning posters will be displayed in the Fair Housing Law Center throughout the year and posted on our website!

Prizes!

All entries must be received by April 15, 2019. Winners will be notified by April 30, 2019  Posters must be between 8.5" x 11" and 11'x14"

 Posters will be judged on appearance and demonstration of the theme

 On the back of your poster include: (1) student's name; (2) student's school; (3)teacher's name; (4) teacher's email; (5) grade

 If you have any questions, please contact Jaime Milligan at jaime@splas.org or 724.884.2783.

HAVE FUN!

#### **OUR WORK IN THE COMMUNITY**

As you may recall from our newsletter in January, Laurel Legal Services was advertising for a free legal clinic in Johnstown. We teamed up with the Pennsylvania Bar Association, the Cambria County Bar Association, PA CareerLink, and the Johnstown Library to host and it was a grand success!

#### From Jessica Lynch, Director of Pro Bono Services:

For those who saw the line out the door and the crowd waiting to be seen, you know it was a huge success. In the course of 5 hours, we counseled 50 individuals on an assortment of issues, and some people came in with a multitude of topics for which they sought advice. The range of topics included custody, bankruptcy, divorce, child support, and criminal matters (expungement, sealing, etc.), as well as others. The clinic drew a number of people from outside of the Johnstown area, including areas like Altoona, Tyrone, Bedford, and South Fork.

My sense is that everyone was very grateful for the opportunity to talk with a lawyer, even if they did not hear what they had hoped for. Several people asked us to have another clinic again.

Of course, we could only have a successful clinic with the participation of volunteer attorneys. Thank you to David Trevaskis (PA Bar Association) for enduring a long drive and rough weather to bring his expertise, to Robin for recruiting several local attorneys, and to Charlie Himmelreich for joining us – twice!

# LAUREL LEGAL SERVICES SEEKS PRIVATE ATTORNEYS TO ASSIST WITH CASES

Laurel Legal must meet requirements established by LSC to involve private attorneys in the delivery of legal information and legal assistance to eligible clients. Therefore, we are seeking private attorneys to join our Private Attorney Involvement ("PAI") program roster.

PAI Attorneys volunteer to receive a set hourly rate to help ensure our clients' legal interests are protected and provide representation for a fair and just outcome. Our staff initially reviews the client's legal issue and decides if a PAI assignment is appropriate. If so, we contact the PAI attorney for availability and interest. The legal issues our clients are coping with are diverse, which allows us to refer cases that fit the PAI attorney's experience and interests. See below for the list of case closures by topic.

For more information about joining the PAI roster, please contact:

Jessica Lynch, Esq., Director of PAI & Pro Bono Services at jlynch@wpalaw.org

Top Five Problem Categories, 2017

Level of Services for PAI Case Closures, 2017











19.496

Limited
12.296

Contested
68.496

Extended (not Contested)

Family 95.9%

Housing 2.0%

Consumer 1.0%

Income 1.0%

Education 0.0%

#### **UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CLINICS**



### Indiana County Workshop for Landlords Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Center May 16th, 2019 8:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Laurel Legal Services will be joining members of the community in an event about housing and landlord/tenant practices. Our advocates will discuss leases and what should and should not be included in the lease. Other presenters include Southwest PA Legal Services, Indiana District Court Judge Guy Haberl, the Indiana District Attorney Pat Dougherty, and Indiana County Housing Authority, Bonni S. Dunlap.

### **Sponsored By:**



Housing Consortium of Indiana County



# INTERESTED IN ASKING OUR ADVOCATES TO ATTEND A LEGAL WORKSHOP?

If you are planning an event and would like one of our advocates to attend and discuss about a particular area of civil law, please reach out to our Manager of Operations and Development, Kimberly Tarbell:

ktarbell@wpalaw.org

#### INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

From time-to-time, Laurel Legal Services will host our own legal workshops. If you are interested in volunteering for a legal clinic (either as an attorney to give advice or to help during events), please reach out to Jessica Lynch, Esq., Director of Private Attorney Involvement and Pro Bono Services: jlynch@wpalaw.org

### **JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**

#### LAUREL LEGAL SERVICES, INC. IS HIRING: FULL-TIME STAFF ATTORNEY

Laurel Legal Services, Inc., which provides free legal aid to indigent clients in a six county service area, is currently seeking applicants for a Staff Attorney position. This position is based out of the Johnstown office, but will require travel both within Cambria County as well as the other six counties Laurel Legal serves.

#### GENERAL DEFINITION OF WORK:

This work primarily involves assisting, counseling and representing low income clients and victims of domestic violence in all aspects of a legal problem. Staff attorneys will be expected to interview, gather of facts, identify and clarify legal problems or issues, discuss of various options available to the client and formulate appropriate strategies to deal with this particular problem, which may include full representation before Courts or other administrative bodies, negotiation with other parties, etc.

Staff Attorneys are expected to be aware of and apply/implement rules, regulations, and instructions of Laurel Legal Services Inc. and its funding sources. This includes proper case management (including case closings), documentation and file maintenance. If also includes maintaining a working knowledge of program priorities, client eligibility requirements, and various funders and reporting requirements.

#### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS/ TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:

- Graduation from a college or university with a B.S. or B.A;
- Graduation from an American Bar Association accredited law school
- A Pennsylvania Law License
- 1-3 year's legal experience or a combination of equivalent experience or training. Specialized experience in a legal services program or other skills may substitute for amount of time, as determined by the Executive Director.
- This position will be based out of Cambria County, Johnstown, Pennsylvania but may require significant travel within Laurel Legal Services' 6 County service area.

#### HOW TO APPLY:

Interested candidates must submit their application not later than February 4, 2018. To apply, please submit the following documents:

- A cover letter
- A current resume that includes all experience, education, training, outside activities, and other information relative to the position.

All applications and inquiries should be sent to:

Kim Tarbell

Laurel Legal Services

16 E. Otterman Street

Greensburg, PA 15601

Email: ktarbell@wpalaw.org

Email is preferred.

Laurel Legal Services Association is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

# For More Information about Legal Services





Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network (PLAN) is the state grantor for Laurel Legal Services. Their website provides up-to-date news about civil legal aid in the local community and provides a wealth of information to both advocates and the general public. For more information, visit: https://palegalaid.net/



Legal Services Corporation (LSC) promotes equal access to justice by awarding grants to legal services providers through a competitive grants process; conducting compliance reviews and program visits to oversee program quality and compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements as well as restrictions that accompany LSC funding, and by providing training and technical assistance to programs.

For more information, visit: https://www.lsc.gov



PALawHELP.org is a guide to legal information and free civil legal services for low-income persons and seniors in Pennsylvania. Here you can locate information on a variety of legal issues, as well as information on how to contact programs providing legal assistance in Pennsylvania.



Voices for Civil Justice is a national communications initiative that taps the awareness-raising power of the media to spotlight the critical role of civil legal aid in assuring fairness for all in the justice system. For more information,

visit: https://voicesforciviljustice.org

### Helpful Legal Resources





The Fair Housing Law Center, in close collaboration with its partners, provides the first and only coordinated effort in the 28 county region of Western Pennsylvania to affirmatively promote through testing, legal advice, counsel, and representation the rights of the protected classes delineated in the Fair Housing Act.

For more information, visit: https://www.fhlaw.org



Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic
Violence PCADV's 60 community-based Programs and
statewide office are joined in a coalition, acting hand in
hand on behalf of domestic violence victims and their
children. The community Programs and statewide
Coalition form interconnecting links in a chain of
services and sup- port so victims can find safety, obtain
justice and build new lives free of abuse.

For more information, visit: https://www.pcadv.org



National Women's Law Center has worked for more than 40 years to protect and promote equality and opportunity for women and families. They champion policies and laws that help women and girls achieve their potential at every stage of their lives — at school, at work, at home, and in retirement.

Form more information, visit: http://www.nwlc.org



National Legal Aid & Defender Association leads a broad network of advocates on the front lines to advance justice and expand opportunity for all by promoting excellence in the delivery of legal services for people who cannot afford counsel.

For more information, visit: https://www.nlada.org

# Legal Services in Southwestern Pennsylvania





Service Area:
Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, and
Lawrence Counties
(412) 255-6700

Because Justice is for All

Service Area:

Westmoreland, Armstrong, Cambria, Clarion, Indiana, and Jefferson Counties. **1-800-253-9558** 





Service Area: Fayette, Greene, Somerset, and Washington Counties. **1-800-846-0871** 

# Community Partners of Laurel Legal Services





Advocates for the rights of all individuals to live free from domestic and sexual violence and other forms of violence by eliminating the root causes of this violence and providing for the well-being and safety of survivors/victims



Provides education, health and family services for children from birth to age five who live in low-income families



Provides safe and suitable housing for the elderly, families, and those with disabilities who meet income guidelines



#### AGING SERVICES INCORPORATED

A vital organization comprised of a compassionate staff, dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of older adults in Indiana County, providing opportunities to enhance senior social, physical, and mental skills utilizing their various programs.



Provides opportunities and services to adults, age 60 and older, in order to promote their best possible well-being. They are designated by the state to administer human service programs at the local level



Dedicated to enhancing the lives of older adults in Jefferson County, PA. Services range from hands-on personal care to caregiver and nursing home transition support, transportation, meals, and volunteer services

# Community Partners of Laurel Legal Services







Community Action Agencies provide services and assistance towards the elimination of poverty through developing employment opportunities, improving human performance and productivity or bettering the conditions under which people live, learn and work.



Provides services to the community including shelter to parents and their children, disaster response, food pantry supply, winter coats for children, health care provision, and after-school programs.



Provides transformational support for children and families as they strive to become more independent, responsible, and caring members of the community.



Their mission is to serve the human needs of individuals and families, regardless of their religious affiliation, and to provide leadership in building collaborative efforts with parishes and communities in addressing these needs.



Provides thorough health care across the life cycles, regardless of the patients ability to pay.

# Become a Community Partner of Laurel Legal Services



In 2018, Laurel Legal Services undertook a series of organizational changes in an effort to help as many people as possible. Our efforts have included increasing community outreach and education sessions to the general public. It is our hope that, through these education sessions, attendees walk away empowered with a greater understanding about civil legal procedures. Just this past year, we have increased our outreach in a way that we were able to help 765 more people than last year.



#### What are the Benefits?

- Increased exposure for your organization you will be featured on our website (www.laurellegalservices.org) as a Community Partner with links to your services. In addition:
- The name of your organization will be displayed in the waiting rooms of our offices as one of our community partners
- Brochures and other informational materials about your services will be readily available to our clients in our waiting rooms
- In turn, Laurel Legal Services will provide your organization with brochures and other marketing materials
- Your organization will have the opportunity to host one-day clinics for legal information sessions, where your information and logo will be used in all promotional efforts prior to the events
- Coming in January of 2019, we will produce a quarterly e-newsletter, called the Laurel Leaflet. As a Community Partner, your organization's name and logo will be on the back of every issue.
- When vacancies occur, as a community partner, you will have the opportunity to appoint serviceeligible individuals to be a member of our Board of Directors.

#### **Interested?**

If you are interested in learning more about partnering with Laurel Legal Services, or if you would like more brochures from Laurel Legal Services for your organization, we encourage you to contact Laurel's Manager of Operations & Development Kim Tarbell (ktarbell@wpalaw.org). We would love to tell you about the wonderful work that our advocates do for our clients.

## Help to Support Our Newsletter



If you are interested in seeing more articles in our newsletters, we need your help. By donating to Laurel Legal Services, you will help the rest of the communities in our six counties learn more about the positive impact of Legal Aid.

By donating to our newsletter, you will be a promotional sponsor.

Our newsletters run quarterly and are read by attorneys and community organizations within our service area.

It is posted online and available for the general public to view through social media posts.

#### **Information and Donation:**

Being a Sponsor of our newsletter will give you a full year's recognition of support for legal aid

Full Page: \$200.00

Half-Page: \$100.00

Quarter Page: \$50.00

An image of your business/organization will be displayed, as well as any information that you provide. Once designed, a draft will be sent for formatting approval. A receipt of donation and consent form will be provided prior to any work done.

If you are interested in donating to our newsletter, we welcome you to complete the form on the following page and send it to Kimberly Tarbell, Operations & Development Manager at ktarbell@wpalaw.org

To remain within our funding guidelines, this newsletter is being used to:

- Increase public awareness about civil legal aid and grantee services;
- support special projects that complement grantee efforts to expand the availability and improve the effectiveness of legal aid; and
  - increase collaboration among organizations that promote access to justice.

Laurel Legal Services does not accept donations from any political cause or party.

All sponsorship requests are reviewed and may be rejected if there is an impression that they may be political in nature or target a specific group.

# Newsletter Sponsorship Inquiry Form



Whether your're a friend, a partner, or a sponsor - we believe that fostering relationships with our donors and community should be recognized for your support.

If you would like to support the work of Laurel Legal Services, we encourage you to complete this form to inquire about sponsoring the production of our newsletter.

<b>Information About Your Sp</b> First Name:	<b>onsorship</b> Last Name:	
Company or Organization Name:		
Street Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
E-mail Address:	Pho	one:
Sponsorship Type:		
Full Page \$200.00	Half Page \$100.00	Quarter Page \$50.00

Information to Include in your Sponsorship Message (Please be advised that all inquiries are subject to review and approval):