



## Christian Legal Aid of Los Angeles

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*Pursuing justice, bringing hope, changing lives.*

### Thank you for your interest in Christian Legal Aid of Los Angeles!

CLA-LA seeks to demonstrate the love of Christ and bring hope to those in need by offering **basic legal services** to anyone in Los Angeles County who meets our very-low-income requirement.

While people accused of a crime are guaranteed the right to an attorney, victims and others with legal needs are not. This includes people facing eviction, parents seeking to obtain custody or protect their children, employees who have been mistreated, and people dealing with probate, debt, or bankruptcy. Many forms of injustice disproportionately affect the poor. There are, in fact, 6,136 potential clients for every 1 attorney working full-time to offer free legal services.

#### CLA-LA seeks to bridge this justice gap in several ways:

**CLA-LA recruits and equips volunteers** to serve at clinics and office hours that operate like legal urgent care clinics for our most vulnerable citizens. Our clinics serve disabled veterans, the elderly, victims of domestic abuse, homeless families, and political refugees. CLA-LA typically has more than 40 volunteers serving at each clinic.

**CLA-LA cross-trains attorneys** to handle crucial legal issues facing the poor so that they can serve beyond their usual area of practice. In doing so, CLA-LA empowers attorneys to “[d]efend the weak and the fatherless [and] uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.” Psalm 82:3.

**CLA-LA partners with established organizations** including Homeboy Industries, World Impact, Malibu Labor Exchange, Faithful Central Bible Church, LA Law Library, and Catholic Charities. We help them to more holistically care for their communities by offering workshops and legal urgent care clinics (often at their facilities). Together, we restore hope and change lives by giving their clients a future.

**CLA-LA engages with entire neighborhoods** to ensure that everyone in the areas where we work has access to justice. Because we serve anyone regardless of their faith, a significant percentage of the clients at our clinics are unchurched. CLA-LA relies upon clergy members and community groups to assist us in serving these clients, and—where possible—guiding them to the right faith community after our clinics.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

In Christ,

#### **Dean Wilson**

Executive Director

Christian Legal Aid of Los Angeles