



Civil Legal Services & Support

The Office of the Child Representative is starting a new partnership to support clients who might need a lawyer for a civil legal matter.

The Basics

If your client has a civil legal issue outside the scope of your representation that needs attention and counsel, our partnership with the Colorado Homeless Legal Project (CHLP) can now help. You and your client simply identify the civil legal issue and refer the matter to CHLP who will assign an attorney to the case. See also *IV-E Collateral Representation* in OCR's [Billing Policies and Procedures](#).

The Partner

The Colorado Homeless Legal Project is a non-profit organization providing trauma-informed, equitable, and client-centered legal advice, advocacy, and representation to youth and young adults.

The Legal Services

CHLP is available to consult with you on any civil legal issue you believe may be impacting your child/youth client.

Through our contract with OCR, CHLP may provide direct legal representation to your clients in the following areas:

- Sealing and Expungement of juvenile and criminal records
- Housing security (landlord-tenant disputes) and access
- Family Law (divorce, child support, child custody and decision-making)
- Debt issues (bankruptcy, old debt, small claims court, wage garnishment)
- Insurance/subrogation issues
- Deregistration legal services
- Birth certificates / Identification Cards
- Government Benefits (Medicaid/Medicare, cash assistance, supplemental nutrition assistance, childcare funding)

**Other Legal Matters – like Guardianship issues, Protection Orders, etc. – can be referred to CHLP and with the preapproval of OCR handled by a CHLP attorney. If there are questions whether CHLP is able to handle your client's civil legal issue, please contact CHLP.



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COLORADO OFFICE OF
**THE CHILD'S
REPRESENTATIVE**

How to Contact

Contact CHLP with a short introductory email or phone call with your contact information and CHLP staff will respond promptly.

Email: coloradolegalproject@gmail.com

Webpage: coloradolegalproject.org

Phone: 303-408-9960



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CHECKLIST - Does your client need civil legal support?

**If you do not see the legal issue your client needs assistance with, please reach out to CHLP to discuss the matter further. CHLP might be able to assist.

Housing

- Has your client received a Notice to Vacate or Notice to Quit his or her housing?
- Is your client having problems/issues with the landlord or another tenant?
- Does your client need assistance paying for housing (i.e., Section 8 benefits)?

Family Law / Guardianship

- Does your client have a child who is not being financially supported by both parents? Does your client want child support from the other parent?
- Does your client want full custody of the child or a change in the custodial arrangement?
- Does your client have a parental decision-making plan agreed to by both parents? Is your client and the child's other parent having problems regarding parenting time issues and decision-making?
- Does your client wish to allow someone else to take guardianship of the child, either temporarily or permanently? Does your client need to vacate a guardianship?
- Does your client want a divorce?

Civil Protection Orders

- Is someone threatening, harassing, or intimidating (etc. etc.) your client?
- Has a civil protection order case been brought against your client?

Debt/Insurance Issues

- Does your client owe money or have an outstanding loan that s/he cannot pay or are monies being garnished from their wages?
- Has your client's debt been referred to a creditor, debt collector or law firm?
- Is your client thinking of declaring bankruptcy?
- Does someone owe your client money from a legal transaction or agreement?
- Is your client having issues with an insurance company over a claim? Is the insurance company disputing coverage? Outstanding credit based on someone assuming the identity of your client?



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Benefits

- Does your client have/need health insurance?
- Does your client have/need government assistance and benefits for food, shelter or basic needs?
- Does your client have/need government assistance and benefits for their child?

Miscellaneous

- Does your client need a Colorado identification card or driver's license?
- Has your client been previously involved in the juvenile or criminal justice systems?
- Is your client on the sex offender registry?

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General Issue Spotting – Does Your Client Need a Civil Litigation Referral?

REFERRAL PROCESS

- (1) Go through the checklist with your client
- (2) If the client needs assistance in any of these legal areas, contact the Colorado Homeless Legal Project to receive legal assistance.
→Email coloradolegalproject@gmail.com or call 303-408-9960
- (3) CHLP will follow up and begin the client hand-off for the referred legal issue

REFERRABLE LEGAL ISSUES

****If you do not see the legal issue your client needs assistance with, please reach out to CHLP to discuss the matter further. CHLP might be able to assist.**

Housing

- | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eviction | <input type="checkbox"/> Lease violations | <input type="checkbox"/> Late rent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trouble finding housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Disputes with the landlord and/or tenants | |

Family Law / Guardianship

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce | <input type="checkbox"/> Child support | <input type="checkbox"/> Child custody |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disputes about parental time and decision-making / Need a parenting plan | | |

Debt Issues

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Problems with an insurance company, dispute over coverage, etc. al. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Owes money/Collection Agency involvement | <input type="checkbox"/> Declare bankruptcy? |

Benefits

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Need government benefits to meet basic needs of themselves or their child |
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Miscellaneous

- No Identification/Driver's License
- On the Sex Offender Registry
- Prior juvenile delinquency or criminal case
- Need/dispute civil protection order