

AT THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



Yale NewHaven **Health** Yale New Haven Children's Hospital





USING LEGAL SERVICES AS PART OF A COMMUNITY STRATEGY TO IMPROVE MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

2022 LEARNING COLLABORATIVE • SESSION 2: MARCH 17





This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$625,000 with 0 percent financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit <u>HRSA.gov</u>.



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Presented on March 17, 2022



Needs Assessment for P-LAW

In 2020, the Georgetown University Health Justice Alliance conducted a needs assessment with our medical partner:

Most common health-harming legal issues observed by WIS providers:



Unstable or unsafe housing



Employment issues (accommodations, etc.)



Public benefits (disability, TANF, etc.)



Family law (custody, etc.)



Health insurance



Financial issues



Domestic violence

Additional needs assessment findings:

- Unmet legal needs currently being referred to the social work team
- Strong interest from the WIS team in the medical-legal partnership model
- Screening fatigue from providers and patients
- Patients often have multiple legal needs





Trainings

- What is an MLP?
- Issue Spotting and Referrals
- Employment Law
- P-LAW Screening Guidance Chart
- Referral Feedback Form

Sample Provider(s) Letters Created:

- Leave of Absence Request (work)
- Work Schedule Accommodations
- Work Duties Accommodations
- Educational Accommodations
- Housing Accommodation Emotional Support Animal

CASE STUDY – BREAK OUT

It is July 13th and Alicia Smith is here for her 28 week appointment. When Alicia came in last month, she was very excited because she was getting ready to move out on her own into a new apartment. Alicia is usually well-groomed, however, at this appointment, she looks a little worse for wear. Her chart shows a decline in weight since her last appointment. She admits money is a little tight right now and she eats what and when she can and puts the rest towards her bills and getting ready for the new baby.

When you ask her how she is liking her new apartment, she states, "it's a nightmare." She was given a different unit than the one she signed for. The a/c does not work and it makes the apartment unbearably hot. She tried to talk to her landlord about it, but he has yet to return any of her calls or texts. Alicia's electricity bill has sky-rocketed because she is forced to keep multiple fans running throughout the day and night and she has already fallen behind on her payment(s). She has trouble sleeping at night due to the heat and noise from all of the fans. She shares with you that she has been written up twice in the past week for falling asleep at work and her manager has threatened to take her off the schedule and dock her pay if she is late again. Her shift at the restaurant begins at 5:30am. Alicia is constantly on her feet and lifting more than 35 pounds despite her provider telling her she should limit how long she is on her feet and that she should not be lifting more than 25 pounds.



Type any challenges and barriers to her maternal health that may require more than just medical intervention to fix into the chat BUT do NOT hit enter until we instruct you to.



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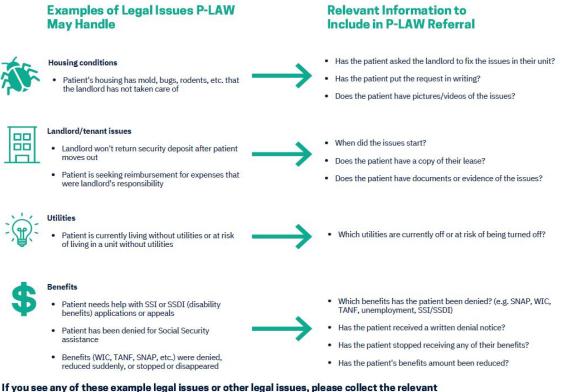
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What Can P-LAW Help With?

The Perinatal Legal Assistance & Well-being Project (P-LAW) offers NO-COST legal services to WIS patients. This document can help you identify patients who might need legal help. Here is a list of common legal issues that WIS patients may face and that should be referred to P-LAW, and additional information to gather and include in a referral. Note: the example legal issue list is not exhaustive; patients may have legal issues not listed here. When in doubt, make a referral to P-LAW!



you see any of these example legal issues or other legal issues, please collect the relevan information to the right of the legal issue, and make a referral to P-LAW.



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QUESTIONS?





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Action Items for Next Session

Complete the Homework (Ada and Alice will discuss next!)
Complete the <u>Post-Attendance Evaluation</u>

Contact Danielle Rahajason nrahajas@gwu.edu for assistance.

Homework



- 1. What do you wish you were doing now that you are not?
- 2. Identify a MLP action that you are really hoping to do in the next two months. Write a goals statement!





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Identifying Interventions



- 1. Deciding what's important to you what's the Wish/Pain Point?
 - What bugs you?
 - What bugs your patients or clients?
 - What is working but could work better?













1. Deciding what's important to you - what's the Wish/Pain Point?

What bugs you?

What bugs your patients or clients?

What is working but could work better?

- 2. Putting it in a doable way a SMART goal
 - S Specific
 - M Measure
 - A Achievable
 - R Relevant
 - T Time-bound





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Within 3 months we have clients referred at a rate of 5 per week.

Within 3 years we will obtain grant funding that will fund 80% of our costs.

Within 6 months we will increase the rate at which screeners get documented by 50%





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Homework



- 1. **2** minute: write down a wish / pain point
- 2. 5 minute: share with a colleague help each other come up with a good SMART goal that includes something you can measure!

Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant Time-bound



Scan the QR code to read "<u>6 Tips to Set SMART Goals for Lawyers</u>" from *The National Law Review*.





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Thank you! We'll See You at our Next Session March 31, 2022, 2-3 PM ET with a focus on Child Health led by **Yale New Haven Children's Hospital and the Center for Children's Advocacy**

Contact Danielle Rahajason nrahajas@gwu.edu for assistance.