



The Unique Role of Medical-Legal Partnerships in Helping Health Centers Address Disability & Chronic Disease Discrimination

Building a Disability/Chronic Disease MLP

HRSA

Health Resources & Services Administration

National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership

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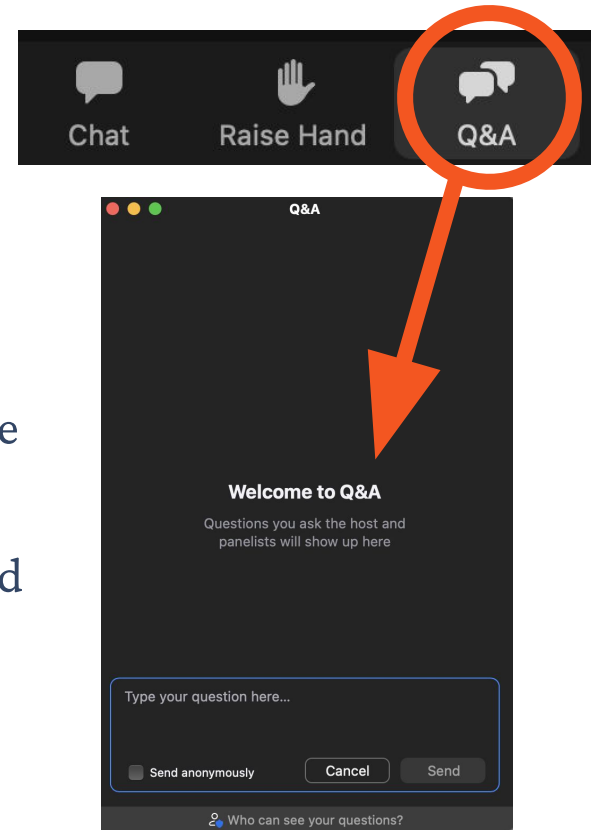
Health Outreach Partners

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Housekeeping

- Attendees are muted throughout the webinar.
- Type questions into **Questions & Answers pane**.
- If you cannot see the ASL interpreters, make sure that your view is set to “Side-by-Side” gallery.
- To activate captions, select “Live Transcript” and “Show Subtitle.”
- This webinar will be recorded and shared at medical-legalpartnership.org/resources/
- Email ncmlp@gwu.edu for help





Katie Hathaway

Moderator
NCMLP Consultant

Katie Hathaway is a consultant for the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnerships and the moderator of this webinar series. Katie has nearly 20 years of experience as a disability rights attorney, and spent 17 years at the American Diabetes Association building and then leading its legal advocacy program seeking to end discrimination against people who live with diabetes.



Bethany Hamilton

Co-Director

National Center for Medical-Legal Partnerships

Bethany Hamilton is the co-Director of the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership (NCMLP) at the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University. She has a unique understanding of healthcare and legal services operations and the challenges and opportunities inherent in each. Prior to joining NCMLP, she served as Deputy Director, State Affairs at the National Association of Community Health Centers, and she began her career as an Equal Justice Works AmeriCorp Legal Fellow at Legal Assistance of Western NY. In these roles, she built legal services capacity and led projects to expand access to health care, strengthening the ability of organizations to carry out their missions. As a member of NCMLP's Advisory Council she was part of a team that oversaw its transition to become a federally-funded technical assistance hub for health centers.



Sara Huffman

Managing Attorney
Medical-Legal Partnership for Seniors

Sara Huffman, JD, is the Managing Attorney of the Medical-Legal Partnership for Seniors (MLPS) clinic at UC Hastings College of the Law. The MLPS clinic partners with UCSF and the San Francisco VA Medical Center to provide free legal services to older adults in the areas of income and health care benefits, housing, legal planning for incapacity, and consumer issues. Sara handles her own clients and supervises staff attorneys and clinical students. She also serves on a multi-disciplinary consultation panel for VA system patients with highly complex medical/social needs and regularly provides health law related trainings to medical providers and community organizations. Sara founded the Veterans Project MLP partnership with the San Francisco VA Medical Center at MLPS in 2015 through an Equal Justice Works Fellowship.



Abby Nerlinger, MD, MPH, FAAP

Pediatric Hospitalist, Nemours/AI duPont
Hospital for Children

Assistant Professor Pediatrics, Sidney Kimmel
Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University

Abby Nerlinger MD, MPH, FAAP is a pediatric hospitalist at Nemours/AI duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Delaware and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Sidney Kimmel Medical College/Thomas Jefferson University. Dr. Nerlinger has experience in legislative and community advocacy, specifically in the areas of pediatric environmental health and health care finance. Her current research focuses on health system-community partnerships, specifically measuring health and economic outcomes associated with medical-legal partnerships (MLPs). During her pediatric hospital medicine fellowship at Children's National Hospital, Dr. Nerlinger led efforts to develop evaluation standards for medical-legal partnerships. She is currently overseeing the creation, implementation, and evaluation of the first pediatric-focused medical-legal partnership in the state of Delaware.



Caroline Wick

Practitioner-In-Residence
Disability Rights Law Clinic

American University Washington College of Law

Caroline Wick is a Practitioner-in-Residence with the Disability Rights Law Clinic at American University Washington College of Law. There, she teaches and supervises students who represent clients in a variety of matters related to disability law. She also teaches Legal Ethics. Previously, she worked as a senior attorney at Children's Law Center (CLC) in Washington, D.C., where she worked in CLC's medical-legal partnership and was the lead on-site attorney at a community-based medical center. She managed a caseload of 30-plus patient-families, representing clients primarily in the areas of special education, housing conditions, public benefits, and access to healthcare.

Office Hours with Katie

Have questions about anything you heard during this webinar series?

Join Katie for open office hours.

Next sessions:

- Thursday, June 23, 2022 – 2:00-3:00 PM ET
- Tuesday, June 28, 2022 – 2:00-3:00 PM ET

Register here to receive Zoom link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TAOHncmlphop22>



Today's Presentation Will Cover:

- Overview of MLP building
- Building a disability & chronic disease medical-legal partnership:
 - What makes it different and where to build it
 - Strategies
 - Potential partners
- Resources
- An open Question & Answer period





MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIP

is an intervention where legal and health care professionals collaborate to help patients resolve

**SOCIAL, ECONOMIC &
ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS**

that contribute to

HEALTH DISPARITIES

and have a remedy in civil law.



MLPs embed lawyers as members of the health care team, creating:

- Healthier patients
- Stronger health center workforce
- Improved health equity

Legal Assistance

to address patients' social needs & help the health center workforce operate at "top of license"

Training

to build knowledge, capacity, & skills that strengthen the health center workforce's response to SDOH

Clinic-Level Changes

that leverage legal expertise to shape clinical practices to address many patients' needs at once

Policy Change Strategies

that advance healthy regulatory, administrative, & legislative policy solutions for whole communities

Resources

National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership Toolkit: A planning, implementation, and practice guide for building and sustaining a health center-based MLP

<https://medical-legalpartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Health-Center-MLP-Toolkit-FINAL.pdf>

NCMLP Issue Brief: "Socially Vulnerable Older Adults & Medical-Legal Partnership"

<https://medical-legalpartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Socially-Vulnerable-Older-Adults-and-MLP.pdf>

Study: Medical-Legal Partnerships Benefit Families of Developmentally Disabled Children

<https://doi.org/10.18848/2156-8960/CGP/v11i01/85-96>

Study: Reductions In Hospitalizations Among Children Referred To A Primary Care–Based Medical-Legal Partnership

<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hlthaff.2021.00905>



Resources

State protection & advocacy (“P&A”) organizations

- Find your state P&A through the National Disability Rights Network:
<https://www.ndrn.org/about/ndrn-member-agencies/>



Screening Tools



Disability Discrimination Screening (Adult)

Explore any YES responses

Has the patient experienced any of the following at work or while trying to get a job?

Unable to take time at work to manage their condition	YES / NO
Not permitted to have disease management tools/medications nearby or to use them freely while working	YES / NO
Unable to take time off work when sick or seeking treatment for their condition	YES / NO
Deemed a safety risk because of their condition or fears about their condition when active	YES / NO
Told their condition is not a disability and they are not eligible for any accommodations	YES / NO
Terminated, suspended, not promoted, not hired, or other adverse job action because of their condition	YES / NO

Has the patient experienced any of the following accessing places, programs, or services?

Told they cannot participate because of their condition?	YES / NO
Unable to safely participate due to rules about how the program or service is run?	YES / NO
Denied changes to the way the program or service is run?	YES / NO
Not permitted to have disease management tools/medications nearby while participating?	YES / NO



Disability Discrimination Screening (Children & Young Adults)

Explore any YES responses

Has the patient experienced any of the following at school?

No one to administer medication or help manage their condition	YES / NO
Not permitted to attend field trips without parent/guardian	YES / NO
Not permitted to participate in extracurricular activities	YES / NO
Not allowed to keep disease management tools/medications nearby or to self-treat their condition if able	YES / NO
Denied an evaluation or development of a section 504 plan/ Individualized Education Program (IEP)	YES / NO
Denied services needed to access an education	YES / NO

Has the patient experienced any of the following in or trying to access a childcare program?

Told they cannot enroll because of their condition	YES / NO
No one to administer medication or help manage their condition	YES / NO
Unable to safely participate due to rules about how the program or is run or denied changes needed to access the program	YES / NO

Has the patient experienced any of the following at a college, university, or graduate program?

Denied participation in activities because of their condition, or fears about their condition	YES / NO
Denied academic or other accommodations needed to safely attend and fully access the program	YES / NO
Treated poorly, bullied, or stigmatized by teachers or staff because of their condition	YES / NO





Open Question & Answer

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moment to fill
out our survey!

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