

## ACCESSING JUSTICE in D.C.



### Civil Legal Services: Helping Ward 1 Residents Build Better Lives

- More than 4,100 Ward 1 residents were served by Access to Justice Initiative-funded civil legal services providers in 2022
- With a poverty rate of 11%\*, more than 1 in 10 Ward 1 residents who experience civil legal problems - housing instability, family issues, domestic violence and economic insecurity - cannot afford legal help
- Having legal representation leads to better outcomes - stable families, secure incomes, and livable housing - and supports safe, thriving communities citywide
- The need for civil legal help - already at crisis level - surged during the pandemic & continues to grow

Source: DC Kids Count

### How the Access to Justice Initiative Helps



#### Safe, Affordable Housing

Gentrification has pushed up rents and displaced longtime residents across DC. In Ward 1, 31% of households report a high housing cost burden. Initiative grantees prevent foreclosures, help preserve affordable housing, maintain safe housing conditions, and use an intensive, in-person outreach model to stop evictions citywide.

Source: DC Kids Count



#### Economic Security

Income disparities in Ward 1 point to uneven financial security: the median household income for Black families in Ward 1 is less than one-third of that for White families.\* Initiative grantees help residents secure public benefits, fight illegal debt collection, and protect their rights in employment matters.

Source: DC Health Matters



#### Family Stability

More than 13,400\* children live in Ward 1. Initiative grantees assist District families with resolving custody disputes, securing child support, and undertaking long-term care and estate planning to help families manage unforeseen circumstances.

Source: DC Health Matters

#### Initiative-funded Legal Service Providers Work in Communities Throughout Ward 1

#### Did You Know?

- One Initiative grantee participates in several **medical-legal partnerships** with Ward 1-based medical clinics, accepting referrals for a range of legal matters, including family law and public benefits
- **Domestic violence survivors** can get free legal help at weekly walk-in clinics held by an Initiative grantee in Ward 1
- One Initiative grantee focuses on the **underserved Latinx community** in Ward 1 and assisted 213 residents last year with issues including immigration and employment
- In 2022, Initiative grantees provided legal assistance to **247 tenants threatened with eviction** in Ward 1

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## ACCESSING JUSTICE in D.C.



### Civil Legal Services : Helping Ward 2 Residents Build Better Lives

- More than 1,800 Ward 2 residents sought help from Access to Justice Initiative-funded civil legal services providers in 2022
- Low-income Ward 2 residents who experience civil legal problems - housing instability, family issues, domestic violence or economic insecurity - cannot afford legal help
- Having legal representation leads to better outcomes - stable families, secure incomes, livable housing - and supports safe, thriving communities citywide
- The need for civil legal help - already at crisis level - surged during the pandemic & continues to grow

### How the Access to Justice Initiative Helps



#### Safe, Affordable Housing

Gentrification has pushed up rents and displaced longtime residents across DC, including in Ward 2, where 33% of households report a high housing cost burden. Initiative grantees prevent foreclosures, help preserve affordable housing, maintain safe housing conditions, and use an intensive, in-person outreach model to stop evictions citywide.

Source: DC Kids Count



#### Economic Security

Ward 2 includes some of DC's most economically stable neighborhoods, but sharp disparities exist: the median household income for Black families in Ward 2 is less than one-third of that for White families, and 4.5 % of families in Ward 2 live below the poverty line.\* Initiative grantees help residents secure public benefits, fight illegal debt collection, and protect rights in employment matters.

Source: DC Health Matters



#### Family Stability


More than 9,500\* children live in Ward 2. Initiative grantees assist District families with resolving custody disputes, securing child support, and undertaking long-term care and estate planning to help families manage unforeseen circumstances.

Source: DC Health Matters

#### Initiative-funded Legal Service Providers Work in Communities Throughout Ward 2

#### Did You Know?

- One Initiative grantee focuses on supporting low-income Asian American communities in downtown DC, helping them **secure tenant rights and preserve affordable housing**
- In addition to **legal help**, one Initiative grantee offers wraparound services at its Shaw location, including housing search help, social work support, medical care, and free food and clothing
- **Domestic violence survivors** can receive free legal counseling at a weekly walk-in clinic held by an Initiative grantee at a Ward 2 medical clinic
- In 2022, Initiative grantees provided legal assistance to **90 tenants threatened with eviction** in Ward 2

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## ACCESSING JUSTICE in D.C.



### Civil Legal Services : Helping Ward 3 Residents Build Better Lives

- More than 740 Ward 3 residents were served by Access to Justice Initiative-funded civil legal services providers in 2022
- Low-income Ward 3 residents who experience civil legal problems - housing instability, family issues, domestic violence or economic insecurity - cannot afford legal help
- Having legal representation leads to better outcomes - stable families, secure incomes, livable housing - and supports safe, thriving communities citywide
- The need for civil legal help - already at crisis level - surged during the pandemic & continues to grow

### How the Access to Justice Initiative Helps



#### Safe, Affordable Housing

Gentrification has pushed up rents and displaced longtime residents across DC, including in Ward 3, where 30% of households report a high housing cost burden. Initiative grantees prevent foreclosures, help preserve affordable housing, maintain safe housing conditions, and use an intensive, in-person outreach model to stop evictions citywide.

Source: DC Kids Count



#### Financial Security

Ward 3 includes some of DC's wealthiest neighborhoods, but sharp disparities exist: the median household income for Black families in Ward 3 is less than one-third of that for White families, and 8% of Ward 3 residents live in poverty.\* Initiative grantees help residents secure public benefits, fight illegal debt collection, and protect their rights in employment matters.

Source: DC Health Matters, DC Kids Count



#### Family Stability

More than 13,600\* children live in Ward 3. Initiative grantees assist District families with resolving custody disputes, securing child support, and undertaking long-term care and estate planning to help families manage unforeseen circumstances.

Source: DC Health Matters

#### Initiative-funded Legal Service Providers Work in Communities Throughout Ward 3

#### Did You Know?

- One Initiative grantee provides **legal assistance in housing matters to elderly tenants** in Ward 3, helping ensure that their units are safe, habitable, and affordable
- Sixty-five Ward 3 residents received services in 2022 through an Initiative-funded project that **connects tenants with legal assistance** before a landlord can file for eviction.
- One Initiative grantee provides **legal services to students with disabilities** in Ward 3, helping them obtain the educational support and services they need to succeed academically
- Last year, Initiative grantees provided legal assistance to **90 tenants threatened with eviction** in Ward 3

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## ACCESSING JUSTICE in D.C.



### Civil Legal Services : Helping Ward 4 Residents Build Better Lives

- More than 3,500 Ward 4 residents were served by Access to Justice Initiative-funded civil legal services providers in 2022.
- With a poverty rate of 10%\*, 1 in 10 Ward 4 residents who experience civil legal problems - housing instability, family issues, domestic violence or economic insecurity - cannot afford legal help
- Having legal representation leads to better outcomes: - keeping families housed, helping seniors secure critical public benefits, ensuring that children with disabilities receive services
- The need for civil legal help - already at crisis level - surged during the pandemic & continues to grow

Source: DC Kids Count

### How the Access to Justice Initiative Helps



#### Safe, Affordable Housing

Gentrification has pushed up rents and displaced longtime residents across DC. In Ward 4, 32% of households report a high housing cost burden. Initiative grantees prevent foreclosures, help preserve affordable housing, maintain safe housing conditions, and use an intensive, in-person outreach model to stop evictions citywide.

Source: DC Kids Count



#### Financial Security

With a 6% unemployment rate and a 10% poverty rate,\* many Ward 4 residents struggle to pay bills and meet their families' needs. Initiative grantees help residents secure public benefits, fight illegal debt collection, and protect their rights in employment matters.

Source: DC Health Matters, DC Kids Count



#### Family Stability

More than 18,300\* children live in Ward 4. Initiative grantees assist District families with resolving custody disputes, securing child support, and undertaking long-term care and estate planning to help families manage unforeseen circumstances.

Source: DC Health Matters

#### Initiative-funded Legal Service Providers Work in Communities Throughout Ward 4

##### Did You Know?

- One Initiative grantee helps **preserve affordable housing** in Ward 4, working with tenants to fight illegal rent increases, demand repairs for housing code violations, and challenge unfair landlord practices
- One Ward 4-based Initiative grantee provides **legal assistance to crime victims, including sexual assault and domestic violence survivors**, along with holistic and comprehensive advocacy and case management
- In 2022, Initiative grantees provided legal assistance to **224 tenants threatened with eviction** in Ward 4

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## ACCESSING JUSTICE in D.C.



### Civil Legal Services : Helping Ward 5 Residents Build Better Lives

- More than 3,900 Ward 5 residents were served by Access to Justice Initiative-funded civil legal services providers in 2022
- With a poverty rate of 15%,\* many Ward 5 residents who experience civil legal problems - housing instability, family issues, domestic violence or economic insecurity - cannot afford legal help
- Having legal representation leads to better outcomes - more stable families, secure incomes, livable housing - and supports safe, thriving communities
- The need for civil legal help - already at crisis level - surged during the pandemic & continues to grow

Source: DC Kids Count

### How the Access to Justice Initiative Helps



#### Safe, Affordable Housing

Gentrification has pushed up rents and displaced longtime residents across DC. In Ward 5, 38% of households report a high housing cost burden. Initiative grantees prevent foreclosures, help preserve affordable housing, and use an intensive, in-person outreach model to stop evictions citywide.

Source: DC Kids Count



#### Financial Security

With a 5.8% unemployment rate and a 15% poverty rate,\* many Ward 5 residents struggle to pay bills and meet their families' needs. Initiative grantees help residents secure public benefits, fight illegal debt collection, and protect their rights in employment matters.

Source: DC Health Matters, DC Kids Count



#### Family Stability

More than 16,700\* children live in Ward 5. Initiative grantees assist District families with resolving custody disputes, securing child support, and undertaking long-term care and estate planning to help families manage unforeseen circumstances.

Source: DC Health Matters

#### Initiative-funded Legal Service Providers Work in Communities Throughout Ward 5

##### Did You Know?

- A **free monthly walk-in clinic** at Woodridge Library offered by one Initiative grantee provides legal help with public benefits, unemployment, student loans, and more
- In 2022, Initiative grantees provided legal assistance to **336 tenants facing eviction** in Ward 5
- A Brief Services Unit run by a Ward 5 - based legal service provider offers **legal information, advice, and brief assistance** to clients with a range of legal issues
- An Initiative grantee offers legal services in partnership with a Ward 5 **Children's National site focused on adolescents**

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## ACCESSING JUSTICE in D.C.



### Civil Legal Services : Helping Ward 6 Residents Build Better Lives

- More than 3,200 Ward 6 residents were served by Access to Justice Initiative-funded civil legal services providers in 2022
- With a poverty rate of 12%\*, many Ward 6 residents who experience civil legal problems - housing instability, family issues, domestic violence or economic insecurity - cannot afford legal help
- Having legal representation leads to better outcomes - more stable families, secure incomes, livable housing - and supports stable, thriving communities
- The need for civil legal help - already at crisis level - surged during the pandemic & continues to grow

Source: DC Kids Count

### How the Access to Justice Initiative Helps



#### Safe, Affordable Housing

Gentrification has pushed up rents and displaced longtime residents across DC. In Ward 6, 31% of households report a high housing cost burden. Initiative grantees prevent foreclosures, help preserve affordable housing, maintain safe housing conditions, and use an intensive, in-person outreach model to stop evictions citywide.

Source: DC Kids Count



#### Financial Security

Income disparities in Ward 6 point to uneven financial security: the median household income for Black families in Ward 6 is less than half of that for White families, and 7.3% of Ward 6 families live below the poverty line.\* Initiative grantees help residents secure public benefits, fight illegal debt collection, and protect their rights in employment matters.

Source: DC Health Matters



#### Family Stability

More than 16,800\* children live in Ward 6. Initiative grantees assist District families with resolving custody disputes, securing child support, and undertaking long-term care and estate planning to help families manage unforeseen circumstances.

Source: DC Health Matters

#### Initiative-funded Legal Service Providers Work in Communities Throughout Ward 6

##### Did You Know?

- Initiative grantees provide legal assistance at DC Superior Court in Ward 6 including the Child Support Resource Center, which offers **same-day representation and legal advice for low-income litigants in parentage and child support matters** and the Domestic Violence Intake Center, where Initiative-funded lawyers offer **representation to domestic violence survivors seeking protection orders** against their abusers
- One Ward 6-based Initiative grantee provides **legal assistance to people with disabilities**, such as ensuring they have equal access to public accommodations
- In 2022, Initiative grantees provided **legal assistance to 247 tenants facing eviction** in Ward 6

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## ACCESSING JUSTICE in D.C.



### Civil Legal Services : Helping Ward 7 Residents Build Better Lives

- More than 5,700 Ward 7 residents were served by Access to Justice Initiative-funded civil legal services providers in 2022
- With a poverty rate of 26%,\* many Ward 7 residents who experience civil legal problems - housing instability, family issues, domestic violence or economic insecurity - cannot afford legal help
- Having legal representation leads to better case outcomes - stable families, secure incomes, livable housing - and supports stable, thriving communities
- The need for civil legal help - already at crisis level - surged during the pandemic & continues to grow

Source: DC Kids Count

### How the Access to Justice Initiative Helps



#### Safe, Affordable Housing

As gentrification has lowered Black homeownership rates east of the river and pushed up rents, 46% of Ward 7 households report a high housing cost burden.\* Initiative grantees prevent foreclosures, help preserve affordable housing, maintain safe housing conditions, and use an intensive, in-person outreach model to stop evictions citywide.

Source: DC Kids Count



#### Financial Security

With a 14.7 % unemployment rate and a median household income less than half of that for all of DC, many Ward 7 residents struggle to pay bills and meet their families' needs.\* Initiative grantees help residents secure public benefits, fight illegal debt collection , and protect their rights in employment matters.

Source: DC Health Matters



#### Family Stability

More than 20,000\* children live in Ward 7. Initiative grantees assist District families with resolving custody disputes, securing child support, and undertaking long-term care and estate planning to help families manage unforeseen circumstances.

Source: DC Health Matters

#### Initiative-funded Legal Service Providers Work in Communities Throughout Ward 7

##### Did You Know?

- An Initiative grantee is a **medical-legal partnership** with Unity Health Care in Ward 7, offering legal assistance to parents of children whose medical issues are related to poor housing conditions
- Community legal education workshops focused on **estate planning and probate matters** were held by one Initiative grantee at the DC Dream Center in 2022 and 2023
- A free monthly walk-in clinic at Benning Neighborhood Library offered by one Initiative grantee provides **legal help with public benefits, unemployment, student loans, and more**
- In 2022, Initiative grantees provided **legal assistance to 381 tenants threatened with eviction** in Ward 7

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## ACCESSING JUSTICE in D.C.



### Civil Legal Services : Helping Ward 8 Residents Build Better Lives

- More than 7,100 Ward 8 residents were served by Access to Justice Initiative-funded civil legal services providers in 2022
- With a poverty rate of 30%,\* many Ward 8 residents who experience civil legal problems - housing instability, family issues, domestic violence or economic insecurity - cannot afford legal help
- Having legal representation leads to better outcomes - more stable families, secure incomes, livable housing - and supports safe, thriving communities
- The need for civil legal help - already at crisis level - surged during the pandemic & continues to grow

Source: DC Kids Count

### How the Access to Justice Initiative Helps



#### Safe, Affordable Housing

As gentrification has lowered Black homeownership rates east of the river and pushed up rents, 53% of Ward 8 households report a high housing cost burden.\* Initiative grantees prevent foreclosures, help preserve affordable housing, maintain safe housing conditions, and use an intensive, in-person outreach model to stop evictions citywide.

Source: DC Kids Count



#### Financial Security

With a 16% unemployment rate and a median household income less than half of that for all of DC, many Ward 8 residents struggle to pay bills and meet their families' needs.\* Initiative grantees help residents secure public benefits, fight illegal debt collection, and protect their rights in employment matters.

Source: DC Health Matters



#### Family Stability

More than 23,000\* children live in Ward 8. Initiative grantees assist District families with resolving custody disputes, securing child support, and undertaking long-term care and estate planning to help families manage unforeseen circumstances.

Source: DC Health Matters

#### Initiative-funded Legal Service Providers Work in Communities Throughout Ward 8

##### Did You Know?

- In 2022, Initiative grantees provided **legal assistance to 628 tenants threatened with eviction** in Ward 8
- In addition to legal help with housing, public benefits, family law and more, one Initiative grantee offers **wraparound services** at its Anacostia location, including social work support, medical care, and free food and clothing
- Last year, one Initiative grantee that provides **legal help to children and their families with issues including family law and housing** served 596 Ward 8 residents
- **Children's National** sites in Anacostia and at THE ARC host Initiative-funded lawyers.

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