

Housing

45.5%

District renters with high housing cost burden (over 30% of income)

15,098

Tenants served by CLCPP Aug. 2019 - Dec. 2025

339

of non-eviction tenant petitions handled in 2025 - mostly related to housing conditions

359

families assisted with foreclosure matters by one ATJ grantee in 2025

Access to Justice Initiative funding supports crucial civil legal help for low- and moderate-income District tenants that resolves disputes and promotes safe and stable housing:

In FY2025, the Civil Legal Counsel Projects Program (CLCPP):

- Conducted 5,087 intake calls
 - Assisted 3,847 tenants (impacting 8,178 household members)
 - Assisted tenants who were referred by DC Courts, private landlords
 - Helped tenants recertify subsidies so landlords got paid
 - Only 22% of CLCPP cases required judicial ruling to end the dispute
 - **77% of tenants** at-risk of losing vouchers retained subsidies*
 - **86% of tenants** who wanted to remain in their unit retained possession (71% overall)*
- *in cases where case outcome known*

Providing tenants with legal support helps resolve issues with landlords and avoid the need for further court intervention.

- Between Aug. 2019-Sept. 2025:
 - 69% of eviction cases were settled (32%) or were voluntarily dismissed by landlords (37%)
- In FY25, landlord dismissal reasons included: the tenant paid the rent owed (38%), the tenant moved (17%), or the tenant addressed or “cured” other violations (10%)
- Landlords had legal representation in 95% of these cases in FY25

The program promotes housing stability for some of the District’s most vulnerable residents. In FY25:

- Almost half of tenants served lived in Wards 7 & 8; 15% in Ward 5
- 42% of households had at least one minor child
- 27% of tenants served had disability, chronic health condition
- 45% of tenants lived in subsidized housing

PRESERVING SAFE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- Addressing health-harming housing conditions violations, reasonable accommodation requests, and housing discrimination
- Assistance with voucher terminations, illegal rent increases, security deposit returns, other rights

INTERGENERATIONAL TRANSFER OF PROPERTY

- Heirs property, probate work and financial and future planning to help families transfer homes - allowing District families to stay in the District

FORECLOSURE DEFENSE

Sources:
ACS 1-year estimates (2024);
DC Bar Foundation

To learn more: visit us at <https://dcaccesstojustice.org> or go to <https://www.dcbfoundation.org/>

