



VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION HOMELESS PROGRAMS OFFICE

LEGAL SERVICES RESOURCES

Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF)

- Veteran households must be eligible for SSVF enrollment based on Veteran status, income below 80% AMI, and homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness
- Grantees may provide legal services through in-house counsel, contract, and/or referral networks
- Eligible legal services are directly linked to housing or housing stability and may include:
 - Eviction (threatening or pending)
 - Child support issues
 - Assistance obtaining SSI and SSDI benefits (including claims for benefits)
 - Landlord/tenant issues (protecting tenant rights, housing code violations, security deposits, and lease reviews)
 - Outstanding warrants and/or court fees
 - Assistance obtaining VA benefits (including claims for benefits)
 - Driver's license reinstatement issues
 - Criminal records expungement
 - Debt collection (pursuing debt forgiveness and processing personal bankruptcies)
 - Discharge upgrade (if Veteran already enrolled, upgrade must directly connect to housing stability plan)
- All members of the Veteran household may be eligible for legal assistance
- **To locate a SSVF Grantee, visit**
<https://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf/index.html>

Legal Services for Homeless Veterans and Veterans At-Risk for Homelessness Grant (LSV-H)

- 79 legal service grantees, award cycle began August 2023
- Eligibility criteria is Veterans with other than dishonorable discharge and experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless
- No income threshold criteria
- Legal services provided may include:
 - Housing law (eviction defense, foreclosure, landlord-tenant representation)
 - Family law (child support/custody, divorce, estate planning, advanced directives)
 - Income support (assistance in obtaining public benefits)
 - Criminal defense, matters symptomatic of homelessness (driver's license revocation, expungement)
 - Military discharge or dismissal upgrades
 - Protective orders and other matters related to DV/IPV
 - Access to healthcare
 - Consumer law matters
 - Employment law matters
- Focus on serving women Veterans
- Visit the Legal Services for Veterans Programs, administered by the Veterans Justice Programs, at <https://www.va.gov/homeless/lsv.asp>
- **To locate an LSV-H Grantee, visit**
https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/lsv/LSV-H_Grantee_Referral-Information_508c.pdf

Medical Legal Partnerships and VA-Affiliated Legal Clinics

A Medical Legal Partnership (MLP) is a collaboration between pro-bono legal service providers and VA healthcare staff with the primary focus on Veteran-centric care. These partnerships address health-harming legal issues that present a unique set of social determinants of health, impacting Veterans' overall well-being. Many legal service providers offer free civil legal clinics in VA facilities. Specific information on pro-bono legal clinics can be found at https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/lsv/MLP_LC_List.pdf.