



Vermont Legal Aid provides free civil legal services to Vermont residents. We offer practical tools, forms and legal information on our [VTLawHelp.org](https://vtlawhelp.org) website. Our staff is grouped into 11 projects:

Disability Law Project: Helps people with civil legal problems related to their disability. We help with legal issues like: abuse, neglect and exploitation; access to education, assistive technology, health care, specialized (“waiver”) services and transportation; disability discrimination; and guardianships.

Director: Rachel Seelig, rseelig@vtlegalaid.org, 802-383-2217

Elder Law Project: Helps seniors with housing, state and federal benefits like unemployment benefits, Social Security, 3SquaresVT, Medicaid planning, elder abuse, and financial exploitation and neglect. We also represent Vermonters who get both Medicare and Medicaid, bringing cases to ensure Medicare pays for their home health, durable medical equipment, nursing care, and prescription drugs.

Director: Michael Benvenuto, mбенvenuto@vtlegalaid.org, 802-383-2224

Health Care Advocate Project: Helps Vermonters with problems and questions related to health care services and health insurance. We often help people: get onto insurance plans, sort out problems, and get involved when an insurance company improperly denies medical treatment.

Director: Mike Fisher, mfisher@vtlegalaid.org, 802-383-2226

Homeowner Legal Assistance Project: Provides legal services to Vermont homeowners at risk of losing their housing due to financial hardship. We give advice to Vermont homeowners who have past-due mortgage payments, property taxes, utility bills, etc. We represent them in foreclosures and advocate for them to get help through Vermont’s Homeowner Assistance Program (VHAP).

Director: Grace Pazdan, gpazdan@vtlegalaid.org, 802- 839-1331

Housing Discrimination Law Project: Works to stop housing discrimination and to protect Vermonters' right to choose where they live. We conduct housing discrimination investigations educate the public about housing discrimination practices and how they harm everyone.

Director: Rachel Batterson, rbatterson@vtlegalaid.org, 802-383-2231

Housing for Everyone Law Project: Helps tenants get Vermont Emergency Rental Assistance Program (VERAP), Reach Up Emergency Rental Assistance (RUERA), and utility benefits. This project also defends tenants facing eviction cases in court.

Director: Jean Murray, jmurray@vtlegalaid.org, 802-839-1311

Medical-Legal Partnership Project: Helps Vermonters with legal needs that may harm their health. We have partnerships with several Vermont medical providers. We help Vermonters in a wide variety of areas: expungement of criminal records, evictions and habitability in rental housing, emergency housing, custody and visitation, public benefits, and driver's license reinstatement. We train and support our partners.

Director: Rebecca Plummer, rplummer@vtlegalaid.org, 802-495-0459

Mental Health Law Project: Represents Vermonters in involuntary mental health treatment and/or medication cases, both in hospitals and in outpatient settings, to ensure that their rights and liberty are protected.

Director: Jack McCullough, jmccullough@vtlegalaid.org, 802-241-3222

Poverty Law Project: Represents low-income Vermonters with legal problems and advocates for system change. We believe that housing is a human right. We help tenants stay in their homes, enforce the rental housing code, and represent people who need income support from Reach Up, 3 Squares, Social Security, and Unemployment Insurance.

Director: Sandra Paritz, sparitz@vtlegalaid.org, 802-223-6377

Vermont Long-Term Care Ombudsman Project: Protects the health, welfare and rights of people who live in nursing homes, assisted living facilities and other group homes for adults. We also help people who receive long-term care in their homes through Choices for Care (CFC). We work to empower our clients and improve their quality of life. We resolve individual concerns about long-term care.

Director: Kaili Kuiper, kkuiper@vtlegalaid.org, 800-789-4195

Victim's Rights Project: Helps survivors of crime with legal issues related to the crime. We focus on helping survivors with their physical and financial security, and address a wide variety of issues, including: relief from abuse, orders against stalking and sexual assault, vulnerable adult protection orders, protecting victims' rights in criminal cases, and any legal issue directly related to the client's victimization.

Director: Laura Bierley, lbierley@vtlegalaid.org, 802-383-2207