

1

mission
to help

50 million

people get the legal care they
need to be healthy.

Join the Movement

135

Hospitals
with MLPs

127

Health centers
with MLPs

32

Medical schools
that include MLP education

127

Legal aid agencies
with MLPs

46

Law schools
that include MLP education

70

Pro bono law firms and
corporate legal departments
that support MLPs

Many legal problems are health problems.

The social determinants of health – the circumstances in which people are born, grow up, live, work, play, and age, as well as the systems designed to improve health and treat illness – have a significant impact on the health and well-being of individuals and communities. Many of the social conditions at the root of poor health can be traced to laws that are unfairly applied or under-enforced, often leading to the improper denial of services and benefits that are designed to help keep people healthy.

People are wrongfully denied nutritional supports and health insurance coverage. Others live in housing with mold or rodents, in clear violation of sanitary codes, which leads to or exacerbates illness. One in six Americans has a civil legal problem like these that negatively affects her health. Addressing these problems effectively at an individual and policy level requires the expertise of lawyers.

The civil legal aid community works to address many of these health-harming legal issues, but its role in improving health is largely invisible, and it is limited in its capacity and impact because it works in a silo separate from the health and public health communities.

Medical-legal partnership bridges the divide.

Medical-legal partnership (MLP) is an approach to health that integrates the work of healthcare, public health and civil legal aid to more effectively identify, treat and prevent health-harming legal needs for patients, clinics and populations. MLP:

- **TRAINS** healthcare, public health and legal teams to work collaboratively and identify needs upstream;
- **TREATS** individual patients' health-harming social and legal needs with legal care ranging from triage and consultations to legal representation;
- **TRANSFORMS** clinic practice and institutional policies to better respond to patients' health-harming social and legal needs;
- **PREVENTS** health-harming legal needs broadly by detecting patterns and improving policies and regulations that have an impact on population health.

Find out more.

Visit: www.medical-legalpartnership.org

National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership at the George Washington University

The National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership's (NCMLP) mission is to mainstream an integrated, medical-legal partnership approach to the health and healthcare of individuals and populations. This transformation is critical to helping the most vulnerable Americans get and stay healthy.

Milken Institute School of Public Health
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

To achieve this mission, NCMLP convenes national partners and local practitioners in the health, public health and legal fields to:

- (1) Transform the focus of health and legal practice from individuals to populations with an emphasis on the medical-legal partnership approach;
- (2) Build and inform the evidence base to support the medical-legal partnership approach; and
- (3) Redefine inter-professional education and training with an emphasis on the medical-legal partnership approach.

The National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership (NCMLP) is a project of the Department of Health Policy in the Milken Institute School of Public Health at the George Washington University.

Annual Medical-Legal Partnership Summit

Each spring, the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership hosts a [national conference](#) that brings together hundreds of leaders in healthcare, law, public health and government to share ideas, insights and best practices about how to integrate healthcare, public health and legal care for vulnerable people. The 10th annual MLP Summit will be held April 8 – 10, 2015, in the greater Washington D.C. area.

Connect with the Movement

Medical-legal partnerships across the U.S. respond to the needs of their local communities, helping children, the elderly, veterans, and people with chronic illnesses get healthy. Learn about more about the MLP approach to healthcare, find an MLP near you, or start a partnership.



www.medical-legalpartnership.org

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