

# Legal First Aid Training Program

Removing legal barriers is a necessary step toward combating poverty, but the legal system is severely under-resourced, siloed, and inherently complex. As a result, low-income people receive adequate legal help just 14% of the time. Unidentified and unaddressed legal issues such as evictions, custody disputes, and warrants

act as barriers to employment, housing, and stability. Through its Legal First Aid training program, Legal Link supports community partners to act as navigators for families inadequately supported by the legal system. Navigators help to identify legal issues, surface unmet legal needs, and access legal protections.

## What does the Legal First Aid training cover?

The Legal First Aid Training Program trains client-facing staff in our Legal First Aid curriculum and builds legal navigation skills. Legal Link attorneys use a legal empowerment approach to:

1. Teach basic legal system concepts and an overview of legal issues faced by clients;
2. Provide a methodology and tools for navigators to use when confronted with legal issues; and
3. Offer practice opportunities through interactive exercises and active engagement with our online tools.
4. Trained navigators will have access to post-training support from Legal Link attorneys.

## What work can Legal First Aid trained navigators do?

Navigators will have added knowledge, ability, and confidence to: identify legal issues that clients face, connect clients to relevant legal tools, resources, and referrals, and deliver targeted navigator support. We clarify the line between lawyer and non-lawyer work, and encourage participants to embrace the valuable role they can play as community-based navigators.

*"Easily one of the best trainings I've been to."*  
Legal First Aid Trainee, 2020

*"All community workers should at least know the website and even better, receive the training!"*  
Legal First Aid Trainee, 2020