

LEGAL FIRST AID®



GET LEGAL FIRST AID CERTIFIED

**BECOME A FRONTLINE
ADVOCATE WITH LEGAL FIRST
AID TRAINING**

Join Legal Link's Legal First Aid® Certification Program and gain critical legal knowledge to address real-life challenges. Equip yourself with the tools to support your community, prevent legal crises, and create lasting impact.



MEET GLORIA

Gloria, a single mother in San Francisco, had just 90 days to use her housing subsidy—but landlords were illegally turning her away. Her caseworker, freshly trained in Legal First Aid, knew what to do. Together, they navigated the barriers, asserted Gloria's rights, and secured stable housing in time—just before the subsidy expired. As a result, Gloria kept her children stably housed, and the family avoided homelessness.

This is the power of Legal First Aid: an early intervention model designed to prevent legal crises before they escalate. Each year, low-income families like Gloria's face multiple civil legal problems such as eviction, custody battles, immigration challenges, and debt. Yet, fewer than half seek help from lawyers or legal aid. Even when they do, the legal system is overwhelmed. In California alone, nearly 9,000 additional full-time attorneys would be needed to address the civil legal problems of low-income individuals. As a result, over 90% of people do not receive the legal support they need, often facing devastating consequences like housing loss, family separation, and wage garnishments.

Legal First Aid equips frontline, trusted community providers to identify and address those issues early, improving long-term outcomes for families.

ABOUT LEGAL LINK

Legal Link trains caseworkers to identify and address early-stage legal issues among their clients, so that low-income people can obtain increased economic stability. Since 2015, we've trained over 2,000 frontline professionals from more than 100 leading nonprofits through our innovative Legal First Aid certification program. By integrating these critical legal supports into trusted community-based services, such as social services and healthcare, Legal Link helps prevent evictions, reduce homelessness, and foster stronger, more resilient communities.

Legal Link Yields Impact

Our proven, cost-effective model for removing legal barriers is focused in Northern California, but we support other regions across the country to stand up Legal First Aid programs. The impact is clear:

- **94%** of trained participants report increased legal confidence and capability
- **82%** of clients experience improvements in economic, family, or housing stability
- **80%** of legal issues addressed through this model result in successful outcomes

A new layer of legal support

As states explore new models to address unmet legal needs, Legal First Aid® offers a vital framework for strengthening the legal ecosystem. Similar to Community Health Workers, Legal First Aid-trained professionals provide culturally competent, community-based guidance that helps clients access essential legal protections.

At the heart of this approach is the belief that the law should do more than just exist—it should empower. Legal First Aid ensures that the law is not only accessible but actively used to uplift and support those who need it most.

ABOUT THE LEGAL FIRST AID® CURRICULUM

The Legal First Aid program is a comprehensive, two-part training program designed to equip frontline staff with the skills they need to identify and address legal issues before they escalate. The program combines virtual learning with interactive skills practice, ensuring that participants are fully prepared to support their communities and prevent legal crises.

Part I: Asynchronous Virtual Training

This self-paced 2-hour training module introduces the core principles of Legal First Aid®, providing participants with a foundational understanding of how to identify and address legal issues.

Designed for a statewide or national audience, Part I covers essential topics and offers practical takeaways that participants can apply in their communities.

Key Components of Part I:

- Access to Justice Problem + Legal Link Solution
- Introduction to Legal Link's "A.I.D." Method to use with any legal issue
- Rules + Ethics
- Overview of Legal Issues + key takeaways
- Legal Resources

Upon completion of Part I, participants are eligible to proceed to Part II.

Part II: Synchronous Virtual Training

Part II is a live, interactive 2-hour training module focused on skills and practice that will help providers to engage with legal issues. This session gives participants the opportunity to practice key skills and ensures that participants are fully equipped to intervene effectively and ethically.

Key Components of Part II:

- Review of Part I
- Legal Issue Identification Practice
- Trauma-Informed Client Interviewing Skills
- Preparing for Legal Meetings
- Skills Practice Using the A.I.D. Method

Upon successful completion of Part II, participants will receive their Legal First Aid® Certification.

ONGOING SUPPORT & NETWORK ACCESS

Upon earning their certification, participants gain access to the Legal Link network, joining a growing community of over 2,000 frontline advocates committed to legal empowerment.

As part of this network, members will benefit from:

- **Monthly Newsletters from Legal Link Attorneys:** Stay up-to-date with the latest legal developments, practical resources, and tools to enhance your work and expand your legal knowledge.
- **Access to Ongoing Training:** Legal Link provides optional continuing education opportunities designed to deepen your understanding of pressing legal issues, keep you informed about the latest changes, and help you refine your skills.
- **Support and Integration Guidance:** Participating organizations will have access to meetings with Legal Link staff, providing tailored guidance on how to integrate Legal First Aid® into their existing programs. This support ensures smooth implementation and maximizes the impact of their legal empowerment work.

This continued support ensures that participants remain connected, empowered, and equipped to make an ongoing impact in their communities.

FIVE CORE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LEGAL FIRST AID-RESPONDERS

1. Culturally Competent, Community-Embedded Support

These frontline professionals, trusted within their communities, offer culturally relevant legal guidance tailored to the specific needs of the people they serve.

2. General Legal Knowledge Across Key Areas

Legal First Aid provides workers with foundational legal knowledge to identify and address a wide range of issues, including housing, family disputes, immigration delays, and economic hardship—before they escalate into crises.

3. Pre-Legal Problem Solving

Trained professionals can intervene early, helping clients address potential legal issues before they require formal legal representation. This proactive approach reduces court congestion and improves client outcomes.

4. Legal Empowerment

Legal First Aid fosters self-advocacy and informed decision-making, empowering clients to navigate the legal system, assert their rights, and access critical legal protections.

5. System Navigation and Trusted Referrals

These professionals guide clients through the complexities of the legal system, offering tools and resources to understand their rights and connecting them to legal specialists when necessary.

DELIVERING LEGAL FIRST AID® ON THE FRONTLINES



CONTACT US
FOR TRAINING PARTNERSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES

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**WE LOOK FORWARD
TO WORKING
WITH YOU**

