



# SERVING VICTIMS OF CRIME

NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES

*Because Justice is for All*



**CIVIL LEGAL AID FOR  
VICTIMS OF CRIME**

**VOCA PROGRAM**

# What is the VOCA Justice for Crime Victims' Program?

The **Victims of Crime Act**, also known as **VOCA**, supports direct civil legal services for crime victims (those who have suffered physical, sexual, financial, or emotional harm as a result of a crime).

Victims, their families, and communities often need help understanding and using the legal system to enforce their rights. The *Justice for Crime Victims' Project* at NLS provides lawyers and social workers who step in and help victims resolve legal issues resulting from victimization.

## NLS helps in these civil matters:

- Custody problems
- Housing loss
- Domestic violence
- Identity theft/fraud
- Physical/Sexual Assault
- Reviewing Power of Attorney spending
- Harassment
- Stalking
- Some name changes
- Revoking Powers of Attorney

# Who We Are

Neighborhood Legal Services (NLS) is a non-profit law firm.

In 1966, we opened our doors with a commitment to **equal access to justice for all people** and a mission to meet the civil legal needs of economically disadvantaged individuals and families in our community.

We are attorneys, social workers, and staff working to provide civil legal aid in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence counties.



**NEIGHBORHOOD**  
**LEGAL SERVICES**



# What We Do

**NLS provides civil legal representation and social work support from trained staff at no cost to victims of crime.**

## **Our lawyers provide:**

- Legal education
- Court representation
- Advice and limited services

We focus efforts on helping to keep individuals and families **SAFE** by:

- Getting protection orders
- Keeping custody of or access to children
- Leveraging financial resources
- Staying safely housed
- Keeping income and assets protected from identity theft

NLS social workers connect clients to community resources and support in order to successfully stabilize and address housing, food insecurity, safety, and employment concerns. They also help individuals apply for Victim Compensation Assistance.

# Who We Can Help

Crime victims\* may be any age, gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. Being the victim of a crime has a lasting impact on the physical, emotional, psychological, social, financial, and legal well-being of individuals and their families.

## We work to build:

- Legal awareness and empowerment
- Information and referral
- Partnerships with service organizations that support our shared community

*\*There are some limitations on who we can help and what types of cases we can handle. For example, we do not handle personal injury cases or represent anyone charged with a crime. Other restrictions may apply.*

*If you are a victim of crime and are experiencing a civil legal problem as a result, contact NLS for help.*



## NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES

# How to Get Help

Visit our website and apply online at

[www.nlsa.us](http://www.nlsa.us)

and choose “Get Legal Help”

or call **1-866-761-6572**

NLS provides interpreters and translation services.  
All services are confidential.

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#### BEAVER COUNTY OFFICE

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500 MARKET STREET | BRIDGEWATER, PA 15009-2998

#### BUTLER COUNTY OFFICE

HOLLY POINTE BUILDING, SUITE C PLAZA LEVEL  
220 S. MAIN STREET | BUTLER, PA 16001

#### LAWRENCE COUNTY OFFICE

TEMPLE BUILDING, SUITE 329  
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