

- > Kinship petitions and custody matters
- > Education legal rights for children with HIV/AIDS
- > Representation of children in dependency/juvenile justice system
- Tenant/landlord court proceedings
- > Foreclosure and Bankruptcy
- > Obtaining identification (driver's licenses and birth certificates)
- > Immigration
- > Debt Counseling
- > Tax matters
- ➤ Provide 4 EDUCATION FORUMS annually to clients and HOPWA professionals

Legal checkup: client & attorney review barriers to

housing stability

Advice and counsel

**Direct legal representation** 

Collaboration with other HOPWA providers

Community outreach & education to clients and HOPWA providers

## November 16, 2012

TO:

Honorable Mayor

Members of Fort Lauderdale City Commission

RE:

Legal Aid Service of Broward County, Inc.

## Dear Sirs/Madams:

I am writing this letter in support of Legal Aid Service of Broward County, Inc. I am a client and I am very happy with how they helped me with my section 8 housing. Lorrie Schwartz and Patrice Paldino were there for me, my sick wife who recently had heart surgery, our daughter and grandchildren.

We were in dire need of assistance when we came to Legal Aid; we were losing our housing and had nowhere to go. The housing authority sent us 6 letters that they were going to terminate our housing. They had no heart. There was no way the housing authority wanted to take us back into section 8 and Legal Aid did what I thought was impossible. Through 1 step at a time, they told me the law and explained it to me. I was shocked. I spoke to many people and told them how great Legal Aid was for me and my family. I tell others to go to them for help.

I never lost hope because Legal Aid was with me. You don't see them, you feel them.

I hope that you will give Legal Aid the money it needs to help others who would lose their housing without them. For those people in need, who have nowhere to turn and are without hope, Legal Aid will help them.

Very truly yours,

Jan Richardson

## Reinfeld & Cabrera, P.A.

"Attorneys at Law"
950 South Pine Island Road, Suite A-150
Plantation, Florida 33324

Broward (954) 727-8357

Fax (954) 473-4305

November 16, 2012

City of Fort Lauderdale Attn: City Commissioners 100 North Andrews Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

RE: Legal Aid Service of Broward County's Request for HOPWA Grant

Dear City Commissioners,

I am writing this letter to lend my support to Legal Aid Service of Broward County's request for funds under the HOPWA Grant. As young attorney and former law student, I have had the privilege to work with the attorneys and staff at Legal Aid Service of Broward County "Broward Legal Aid" for the past 2 years.

At Broward Legal Aid, I have been exposed to a multitude of clients and cases that been handled with the upmost in professionalism and dedication. I have seen the attorneys and staff go above and beyond the requirements called for under the Florida Bar Ethic Rules. This... despite the rapid decline in funding and continued increase of cases.

As the City Commission may already know, the economy has taken a toll on everyone. Most non-profit businesses and organizations have been seriously hampered by the unavailability of funding and this has translated into a decline in services to those residents of Broward County who cannot afford to pay for their basic needs.

Broward Legal Aid has been one of such organizations that, despite the unavailability of funding, continues to do more with less. However, no matter how resourceful Broward Legal Aid has been, eventually the organization will have no choice to further reduce its services, resulting in a substantial loss to the residents of Broward County.

Broward Legal Aid services clients of every race and nationality and the attorneys and staff have significant experience in dealing with the important legal issues that surround the lives of Broward's economically disadvantaged residents. By awarding funds under the HOPWA Grant, Broward Legal Aid can continue its mission to provide high quality legal services to Broward's residents. As such, I hereby urge this Commission to award Legal Aid Services of Broward County funds under the HOPWA Grant.

Sincerely,

Michael Cabrera, Esq.

Managing Partner



November 19, 2012

Legal Aid Service of Broward County 491 N state Road 7 Plantation FL 33317

Mrs. Patrice Paladino:

This letter is to express our thanks and gratitude for your continuous assistance to those clients that our agency has referred to you in seeks of legal services. With your aid and legal advice, you have made a difference in many of our client's lives in our Broward community.

We are committed on continuing our collaboration with those individuals in need.

Thank you,

Carlos Ortiz, BSW

Case Manager Supervisor















