

## OUR PROJECTS

The **Adult Care Facility Project** represents residents of adult care facilities in matters relating to their finances, the facilities' conditions and the treatment of residents.

The **Child Support Project** provides non-custodial parents in Suffolk County with advice and representation on Child Support matters.

The **Civil Unit** helps people with rental housing issues, including eviction proceedings and federal rent subsidy issues.

The **Consumer Debt Legal Assistance Project** assists people with consumer debt issues, especially medical and credit card debt.

The **Disability Advocacy Project** assists people in appealing denial of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability (SSD) applications.

The **Domestic Violence Project** represents Suffolk County survivors of domestic violence in family law matters, including obtaining orders of protection and custody.

The **Education and Disability Rights Project (EDRP)** provides legal assistance to students with disabilities and adults with developmental disabilities who are seeking eligibility and services from Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).

The **Foreclosure Prevention Project** works with homeowners to avoid foreclosure and preserve their homes.

The **HIV/AIDS Project** assists people with HIV and their families on issues affecting public benefits, housing and health care and with planning for the future through wills, guardianships and advance directives.

The **Independent Consumer Advocacy Network (ICAN)** provides legal representation, education, information, and advocacy for participants and caregivers in Medicaid managed care and Medicare long-term care programs.

The **Behavioral Health Law Project** assists people with serious mental illness, primarily in matters of public benefits, family law, health care, and housing.

The **Re-Entry Project** helps people for whom a criminal record creates a barrier to reintegration into the community including civil matters relating to public benefits, food stamps, Social Security, housing and employment discrimination.

The **Senior Citizen Law Project** provides legal representation, advice and referrals to residents of Nassau County age 60 and over in matters relating to health care, housing, Social Security and future planning.

Our **Social Work Unit** serves clients of our legal projects who need support to navigate the legal system.

The **Veterans' Rights Project** helps veterans with low incomes. Services include assistance with veterans' benefits, discharge upgrades, public benefits, landlord/tenant and family law matters.



Appointments required.  
Call the Law Services office closest to you.

**Nassau County**  
Hempstead Office  
1 Helen Keller Way – 5th Floor  
Hempstead, NY 11550-3903

Telephone (516) 292-8100  
Fax Number (516) 292-6529  
Volunteer Lawyers Project (516) 292-8299  
Fax Number (516) 292-2618

**Suffolk County**  
Islandia Office  
(serves Suffolk West of Route 112)  
1757 Veterans Highway - Suite 50  
Islandia, NY 11749-1535

Telephone (631) 232-2400  
Fax Number (631) 232-2489

**Riverhead Office**  
(serves East of Route 112)  
400 West Main Street, Suite 200  
Riverhead, NY 11901-2840

Telephone (631) 369-1112  
Fax Number (631) 369-1612

For more information on program services  
and funding visit our website at:  
[www.nslawservices.org](http://www.nslawservices.org)



**Free Legal Assistance for  
Long Islanders with  
Low Incomes or Disabilities**



*Doing what's legally possible  
to create a just world.*

**NASSAU SUFFOLK LAW SERVICES** is a non-profit law firm that provides legal assistance in civil (non-criminal) matters to people with low incomes or disabilities throughout Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Established in 1966, NSLS was one of the first Legal Services Corporation programs in New York State. It now provides free services in roughly seven thousand cases every year.

**Our Goal:** NSLS is dedicated to providing equal access to the necessities of life, like housing, medical care and food, through high quality legal representation, public information and community advocacy training to ensure that people with low incomes or disabilities have equal access to the civil justice system on Long Island.

**Our Staff:** Our staff includes attorneys, paralegals, social workers and support staff.



### EXPERIENCED IN POVERTY LAW.

We are skilled poverty law advocates. Our focus is on supporting the safety and well-being of families with low incomes by maintaining their economic stability. Our cases deal with survival needs. NSLS is committed to assuring that public assistance, Medicaid, Food Stamps and temporary shelter, are provided fairly to those who are eligible.

### EXPERIENCED IN HOUSING RIGHTS.

With affordable housing in extremely short supply on Long Island, NSLS focuses on preventing homelessness. We provide representation on eviction and foreclosure matters, representation in administrative hearings to prevent the loss of housing subsidies, and advocacy on utility issues.



### DELIVERY OF SERVICES

NSLS delivers services in many ways:

- Direct representation in negotiations, administrative hearings and litigation;
- Legal advice or other brief service;
- Referrals to pro bono and community resources;
- Community legal education; and
- Participation in community advisory groups, work groups and task forces.

## SERVICES TO EMPOWER THE COMMUNITY

*Innovative programs that partner with community advocates and volunteer attorneys*

The **Legal Support Center for Advocates (LSCA)** offers legal information, advice and training to hundreds of community advocates each year. It also produces an educational newsletter. The initiative is often the only source of current information on legal developments relevant to Long Islanders with low incomes or disabilities. LSCA serves as a critical alternative to direct legal services by providing individualized assistance to community advocates. It thereby enables us to reach thousands more Long Islanders in need.

**Volunteer Lawyers Project/Pro Bono Project.** Since 1980, NSLS has worked closely with the Nassau and Suffolk County Bar Associations to increase the availability of legal services to people with low incomes. Our joint programs, the Pro Bono Project in Suffolk and the Volunteer Lawyers Project in Nassau, recruit private attorneys to represent people with low incomes without charge. These projects have greatly expanded our capacity and have become models for other pro bono programs throughout the country. Our volunteer attorneys handle cases ranging from bankruptcies and guardianships, landlord/tenant, matrimonial matters and wills.



### ELIGIBILITY

For most of our programs, eligibility is based on income. Others may be eligible depending on disability, senior or veteran status. Immigration status is a consideration, as well. We do not accept criminal cases.



### FEE

NSLS never charges clients for its services.

*Doing what's legally possible to create a just world.*