

Pennsylvania Health Law Project's VOCA Program

Helping Victims of Crime Get the Healthcare They Deserve

Pennsylvania Health Law Project (PHLP) is a non-profit law firm dedicated to helping individuals get healthcare coverage and services. For more than 25 years, we have engaged in direct advocacy on behalf of our clients while working on the kinds of health policy changes that support Pennsylvania's most vulnerable citizens.



NEED

Survivors of Violent Crime Need Health Care

In 2018, the Philadelphia Inquirer profiled survivors of crime facing lifelong disabilities and financial burdens: "While the slain are publicly mourned, disabled survivors are neglected. The price tag is staggering: Billions in hospital costs, even more for lifelong care." **Many survivors are not aware that Medicaid can meet these lifelong needs.** Even worse, those who try to access Medicaid are often improperly denied the coverage and care they need.

SOLUTION

PHLP Advocates for Survivors

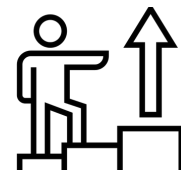
PHLP provides free legal services - including advice and client representation - to victims of crime. Thanks to a PCCD grant, PHLP is serving victims and survivors of crime so that they understand Medicaid eligibility, how to apply for coverage, and how to get services like in-home care, medical equipment, and home modifications. PHLP is collaborating with victim service organizations throughout the Commonwealth to educate them about the Medicaid program and support their efforts to secure healthcare for victims/survivors of crime.



FREE LEGAL SERVICES
1-800-274-3258
STAFF@PHLP.ORG



OUTREACH & EDUCATION
CONTACT US FOR A TRAINING:
1-800-274-3258



POLICY ADVOCACY

The Importance of Medicaid

Medicaid - known as *Medical Assistance* in PA - is a lifeline for people with disabilities, many of whom have significant medical needs and require lifelong care. Unlike most insurance plans, Medicaid covers not only medical and mental health services like doctor and therapy visits; it also covers services and supports that allow people with disabilities to live independently in their homes and communities, such as home care, assistive technology, medical equipment, home adaptations, job coaching, and respite.

Each year, PHLP provides legal advice and representation to hundreds of persons with disabilities; improving the lives of our clients and securing not just medical care but long-term services to help with activities of daily living.

**FOR FREE
LEGAL HELP**

Call PHLP's Helpline:
800-274-3258

CLIENT SPOTLIGHT

"Omar" (Philadelphia, Age 22)

After a gunshot wound left Omar paraplegic, his family knew he would require intense medical care, in-home supports, and other health services. They had to figure out how to pay for it. The hospital suggested sending Omar to a nursing home, but Omar and his family remained determined to get whatever supports they needed to let him live at home. A social worker connected Omar's family with PHLP's Helpline.

While Omar was in the hospital recovering from surgery, PHLP worked diligently to get Medicaid to pay for in-home nursing care, a power wheelchair, and a ramp so Omar could get into and out of his home.

For more information on PHLP's VOCA Program, contact Asha Ramachandran, VOCA Program Manager, at ARamachandran@phlp.org

