**Free Local Legal Services**

**2018**

**Legal Resources**

* Maryland Courts Self Help Center: [Live Chat](http://mdcourts.gov/legalhelp/selfhelpcenters.html) or call 410-260-1392 between 8:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
* Family Law Hotline: 800-845-8550
* Legal Forms Line: 800-818-9888
* Lawyer Referral: 800-649-1090
* Legal Aid:301-694-7414 or 800-999-8904
* [Maryland Volunteer Lawyer Service](http://www.mvlslaw.org/clients/) (MVLS): 800-510-0050

**Self-Help Law Clinic**

The Self-help Law Clinic is located on the Lower Level of the Frederick County Courthouse and is available to income-eligible litigants on a first-come-first-served basis. It is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. You must sign in by 12:00 p.m. to be served. For Spanish speaking litigants, the Clinic is open on the third Wednesday of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

**Heartly House**

We provide services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse who are either residents of Frederick County or have an open court case in Frederick County. We provide the following legal services (free of charge):

* Our on-site attorneys represent clients at Protective Order and Peace Order hearings in District and Circuit Court
* Our attorneys also represent a limited number of clients in family law matters in Circuit Court (income eligibility guidelines apply for family law representation)
* Our victim advocates provide accompaniment and support for civil and criminal proceedings
* Advocates provide safety planning, advocacy, referrals, support, hospital accompaniments and information on courthouse protocol.

Our legal department can be reached through our Hotline: 301-662-8800.

**Frederick County Courthouse Services**

Here is the link to the Circuit Court webpage that includes information on Ordering Transcripts, Drug Court, all Family Services, Mediation, and general information, etc.: <https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/2027/Courts>

**Family Law for the People Free Seminar**

Held on the second Tuesday of every monthfrom 5:30-8:30 p.m.  
*usually* held at the C. Burr Artz Public Library**,** 110 East Patrick Street \*

“Family Law for the People: Understanding the Law and Court Process” is a free informational seminar for individuals interested in learning about common family law issues and court procedures. Featuring experienced family attorneys, the seminar will cover topics including:

* Child custody and support
* Divorce
* Starting a case
* Trial process and procedures
* Finding and working with an attorney
* Alternatives to trial.

Family Law for the People was developed by the Department of Family Administration of the Administrative Office of the Courts – Programs, the Family and Juvenile Law Section of the Maryland State Bar Association, and the People’s Law Library of Maryland.

The seminar is for informational purposes only and is not intended as legal advice. **This seminar is repeated on the second Tuesday of each month.**

\* To confirm time and location, contact Lynn Macpherson at [blmacpherson@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:blmacpherson@frederickcountymd.gov) or 301-600-2023 or go to the County website <https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/5708/Family-Services-Program#Self-Help>.