

Agency Referral List (updated 9.16.2021)

The Advocates for Human Rights (Asylum, Detention): 612-341-3302

National Asylum Help Line: 612-746-4674

Detainees: 612-341-9845 OR 612-746-4674

Monday- Friday 9am-4pm

The largest provider in the Upper Midwest of free legal services to low-income asylum seekers. Thanks to our powerhouse of volunteer and staff attorneys, paralegals, and law students, we represent refugees and immigrants who cannot afford to hire an attorney. Contact if you are afraid to return to your home country and or are:

- Seeking asylum;
- A detained immigrant or someone trying to help a person who is detained;
- Trafficked for either labor or sex;
- Suffered harm while in detention or was unfairly detained; or
- A former client with an immigration question/issue.
- LGBTQ+ rights
- Death Penalty

https://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/free_legal_services

Arrive Ministries (Immigration): 612-798-4332

Direct Immigration Line: 612-243-2961

Monday-Friday 8:30-5pm

A Department of Justice recognized agency that provides immigration legal services to the immigrant community in the Twin Cities. Primary legal services include: Green card applications, family-based visas, travel documents, and citizenship applications. Arrive Ministries serves over 1,300 immigrants annually in immigration legal services such as:

I-485 permanent residence (green card)

I-751 removing conditions on residence

245(i) Life Act Lawful Perm Residence

N-400 naturalization (US Citizenship)

N-600 Certificate of US Citizenship (for children deriving citizenship from parents)

I-130 family based petitions for family members of U.S. citizens or green card holders

I-730 family based petitions for family members of refugees or asylees

AOR – Affidavit of Relationship – a special family sponsorship program for refugees

I-129F fiancé of a U.S. Citizen petition

I-131 refugee travel document

I-765 employment authorization (work permit) (renewal)

Document replacement for I-94 and green cards

<https://arriveministries.org/immigration-legal-services/>

Brian Coyle Neighborhood Center | Pillsbury United Communities (*Social Service Centers*):

612-338-5282

Founded to serve the “Ellis Island of the Midwest,” Brian Coyle is among the city’s busiest social service centers with a continuum of programs designed around the neighborhood’s rapidly changing immigrant communities.

Free legal advice and basic services on a variety of civil issues including immigration, housing, and debt collection. Days and times vary. Call your neighborhood center for details.

Mondays: 9:30 am – 4 pm

Tuesdays: 9:30 am – 4 pm

Wednesdays: Not open

Thursdays: Every 2nd Thursday/month from 12:30-2 pm, **by appointment only*

Fridays: 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

<https://pillsburyunited.org/site/brian-coyle/>

Center for Victims of Torture (*Healing services – physical and emotional*): **612-436-4800**

At the Center for Victims of Torture, we are forging new ways to advance human rights and build a future free from torture. Through research, training, advocacy and our healing services for survivors, each initiative we undertake plays a role in building a larger vision for the torture rehabilitation movement. We provide a bridge between torture victims, the local community and society as a whole, working to restore the dignity of the human spirit one survivor at a time.

<https://www.cvt.org/where-we-work/minnesota>

C.L.U.E.S.

St. Paul: 651-379-4200

Minneapolis: 612-746-3500

A linguistically and culturally relevant resource and service nonprofit organization by Latinos for Latinos. Our programs and services connect families to resources, skills, institutions, and systems and create an environment for people to be engaged and empowered. CLUES programs are designed to provide access to resources and opportunities for Latino families and individuals to be healthier, prosperous and engaged.

Behavioral Health

Family Wellbeing

Community Resource Navigation

Financial Empowerment

Employment & Workforce

Adult Education

Children's Education

Youth Engagement & Enrichment

Parent Engagement

In-School Partnerships

Public Policy

Civic Engagement

Cultural & Community Engagement

http://www.clues.org/wp_english/

Confederation of Somali Community in MN (CSCM): (612) 605-3222

Education and Youth Development: CSCM is Minnesota's leading Somali education and youth development agency. We focus on building skills, creating safe spaces for young people to express themselves, and educating youth.

Education

Youth Development

Youth Leadership

Connecting Generations

CSCM through our partners connect individuals and families to wraparound support that meet a wide variety of needs, including education, employment, housing, and legal assistance.

CSCM's Shaqodoon (job seeker in Somali) program creates empowerment through employment. Our employment programs and services serve the Twin Cities metro region and are targeted at Somali youth ages 14-24.

<http://csc-mn.org/>

State and County Bar Association Referrals:

Public Resources such as help with finding a lawyer, finding legal help, forms and resources and high school mock trials

As a leader in the state of Minnesota, the Minnesota State Bar Association strives to improve the law and equal administration of justice for all. The MSBA offers resources

for Minnesotans seeking legal guidance. In addition, the MSBA educates Minnesota youth through the annual High School Mock Trial competition. This program connects high school students with attorneys and introduces the students to the American legal system through rehearsed trials.

The MSBA offers a free online referral service called MN Find a Lawyer. This directory is available to anyone looking for legal help anywhere in Minnesota and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Thousands of attorneys across all practice areas are available. Search by location, language, keywords, fee structures and more.

For those pursuing pro bono legal representation, there are several statewide resources. Legal forms, fact sheets and self-help clinics are also available to the public at no cost. The Minnesota State Bar Association is unable to provide advice, counsel or representation to members of the public concerning specific legal matters.

<https://www.mnbar.org/public-resources>

Department of Justice Immigrant and Employee Rights Section: The Immigrant and Employee Rights Section (IER), enforces the anti-discrimination provision of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), 8 U.S.C. § 1324b. Regulations for this law are found at 28 C.F.R. Part 44. This federal law prohibits: 1) citizenship status discrimination in hiring, firing, or recruitment or referral for a fee, 2) national origin discrimination in hiring, firing, or recruitment or referral for a fee, 3) unfair documentary practices during the employment eligibility verification, Form I-9 and E-Verify, and 4) retaliation or intimidation.

If you feel you have suffered one of these forms of discrimination, click here to file a charge or call our Worker Hotline: 1-800-255-7688.

<https://www.justice.gov/crt/immigrant-and-employee-rights-section>

Casa de Esperanza: (651) 772-1611

A leader in the domestic violence movement and a national resource center for organizations working with Latin@s in the United States. Based in St. Paul, Minnesota Casa de Esperanza's mission is to "mobilize Latinas and Latin@ communities to end domestic violence." Founded in 1982 to provide emergency shelter for Latinas and other women and children experiencing domestic violence, the organization has grown to become the largest Latina organization in the country focused on domestic violence. Casa de Esperanza is also committed to becoming a greater resource to organizations and communities in the areas of sexual assault and trafficking.

- Mostly in the twin cities
- 24 hour crisis line: [\(651\) 772-1611](tel:6517721611)
- Shelter
- Work on day 1 to find local shelters
- Order of Protections

- Do assist minors, depends on the abuse

<https://casadeesperanza.org/>

Children of Incarcerated Caregivers:

a nonprofit in Minneapolis devoted to promoting the best interests of children when their parents are sentenced to prison or otherwise involved in the criminal justice system.

- Resource guide <https://cicmn.org/resource-guide/>

<https://cicmn.org/>

Centro de Trabajadores Unidos en Lucha (CTUL): CTUL organizes low-wage workers from across the Twin Cities to develop leadership and educate one another to build power and lead the struggle for fair wages, better working conditions, basic respect, and a voice in our workplaces. CTUL is an organization of workers and for workers, committed to securing fair working conditions for present and future generations.

<http://ctul.net/>

International Institute of Minnesota: 651-647-0191 press 2 ext 305

No lawyers; DOJ accredited representatives

The Institute delivers services and resources to assist New Americans in the transition to a new life leading to economic self-sufficiency. Working together, New Americans, volunteers, and staff create not only a new home, but also a new future for those who have been displaced. From language learning and job training to citizenship classes and the celebration of cultural traditions, the Institute offers New Americans a pathway for a strong start to a new life in our community – something we all benefit from.

Refugee Services:

Refugee Resettlement, Housing Services, Medical Services, Refugee Employment Services and Secondary Arrivals

Workforce Development:

Refugee Employment Services

Hospitality Careers Pathway: Hotel Housekeeping, Dietary Aide and Supervisor Training

Medical Careers Pathway: Nursing Assistant Training Program, College Readiness

Academy, Intro to Human Body Systems, Academic Advantage at Saint Paul College and

Medical Career Advancement

Education:

English for Work, Evening English, Advanced English, Evening Spanish, College Readiness Academy, Intro to Human Body Systems, Academic Advantage at Saint Paul College and Diversity in Social Work Advancement Program

Immigration & Citizenship:

Citizenship Filing Assistance, Anti-Human Trafficking, Unaccompanied Minors and Citizenship Classes

Immigration Services:

Citizenship through Naturalization (N-400)

Citizenship through Parent (N-600)

Lawful Permanent Residency (I-485) for Refugees and Asylees

Replacement of Green Card (I-90)

Petition to Remove Conditions on Green Card (I-751)

Employment Authorization (I-765)

Replacement of Certificate of Citizenship/Naturalization (N-565)

(DACA) Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (I-821D)

Refugee/Asylee Family Petitions for less than 5 years (I-730)

Replacement of I-94 (I-102)

Diversity Visa Lottery: *Please visit the State Department website for more information.*

<https://iimn.org/>

La Oportunidad: (612) 872-6165

Serving the Twin Cities since 1987, La Oportunidad's mission is to champion the development of Latino individuals and families to create a strong, peaceful community. Our ultimate goal is to close the achievement gap and to break the cycle of poverty and violence

Programas:

Programa para niños 'El Camino'

Programa para Jóvenes Latinos

Jóvenes Profesionales

Programa para Padres

Alfabetización Temprana

Programa para Latinos Eliminando el Abuso (LEAP)

Programa de Televisión 'En Familia'

La Conferencia Anual de Paz y Liderazgo

Voluntarios

Programa para Jóvenes, "Latino Power"

<https://oportunidad.org/>

Legal Rights Center: 612-337-0030

The Legal Rights Center is a community-driven nonprofit law firm, specializing in adult and juvenile criminal defense, and restorative justice practices and advocacy.

The Legal Rights Center runs two programs: Community Defense Program and Youth: Education, Advocacy & Restorative Services. While each program has distinct goals and methods, collectively they point to the overall vision of improving the experience of the justice system for communities of color, if not proactively solving problems that prevent involvement in the justice system in the first place.

Community Defense Program:

Attorney representation in criminal or juvenile court (Hennepin County only)

Legal advice regarding potential criminal charges

Information and legal advice regarding criminal records problems

Information and referral for non-criminal legal problems

Youth: Education, Advocacy & Restorative Services (YEARS):

Families have the ability to build on strengths, address harm, and move towards reconciliation and healing. They are in the best position to determine the course of their own restoration.

As much as possible, our communities and families should come together to solve problems before intervention from the court system becomes necessary.

Restorative justice brings healing not only to individuals but to their communities as well.

Restoring offenders and healing victims is of greater value than punishment and vengeance.

<https://www.legalrightscenter.org/>

Lutheran Social Services 651-642-5990

Refugee and Immigration Services: Offers Immigration Legal Services for a nominal fee to help refugees, asylees and other immigrants living in the Twin Cities and St. Cloud complete immigration documents – including Permanent Resident, Naturalization, Employment Authorization, and family visa applications.

Due to the complexity of the immigration process, LSS Refugee Services provides free consultation and screening services during walk-in hours every Tuesday at the Minneapolis office and every Wednesday at the St. Cloud office.

NO WALK IN HOURS CURRENTLY BECAUSE OF COVID

Phone hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5:30pm

Immigrant services included:

- Alien Address Change
- Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request
- Application for Replacement of Arrival/Departure Document
- Travel Document

- Adjustment of Status Form
- Employment Authorization Document Application
- Replacement Permanent Resident Card
- Application for Naturalization
- Application for Certificate of Citizenship
- Additional Copy Requests- For individuals who were resettled by LSS and require additional copies of documentation.
- Application to Remove Conditions on a Green Card
- Application for Immediate Family Visa
- Application to Replace Naturalization Certificate

<https://www.lssmn.org/services/refugees/services/immigration>

Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid:

Intake for potential client (immigration): 612-332-1441

General Intake: 1800-292-4150

Monday 10:30-12:30

Thursday 1:30-3:30

Current client that we do not have capacity for email:

MPLSImmigrationintake@mylegalaid.org

9am-4pm

Serve Hennepin and Anoka except for detention

Visit link for more information on the immigration services MMLA provides:

- Citizenship
- Delegation of parental authority
- Permanent resident status
- Asylum and protection
- Crime and trafficking victims
- ‘Domestic abuse protection
- Government benefits for immigrants
- Removal defense
- Detention
- Adjustment of status
- SIJS
- Housing
- Tax unit
- Family law unit

<https://www.lawhelpmn.org/self-help-library/immigration>

Minnesota Council of Churches – Refugee Services: 612-874-8605

No lawyers; DOJ accredited representatives

MCC Refugee Services provides the following low-cost immigration services for refugees and asylees.

Family Reunification

Green Card

Citizenship

Other Immigration Services:

I-90 Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card (Green Card) for Green Cards that are expired, lost, or stolen

I-765 Application for Employment Authorization to obtain or renew the Employment Authorization Document (EAD)

I-131 Application for Travel Document

Reentry Permit: Permanent Residents to reenter the US

Refugee Travel Document: For refugees to travel abroad

Advance Parole Document: to authorize the temporary parole of a person into the US

<http://www.mnchurches.org/refugeeservices/>

Minnesota Day One Services:

Crisis Line: 1866-223-1111

Text: 612-399-9995

MN Victim support line: 1866-385-2699 text: 612-399-9977

networks with over 80 victim service and youth serving agencies to provide immediate access to safety and services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Help is available to you no matter where you're located in the state of Minnesota.

Regardless of the time of day, you can get connected to resources and learn about your options. Whether you're experiencing domestic violence, sexual violence or human trafficking or simply questioning aspects of your relationship, advocates are ready to listen and provide information.

The Minnesota Day One Crisis Line is staffed around the clock, seven days a week.

When you call, you'll connect with an advocate who can provide options and help you access safe housing and other resources you need.

<https://cornerstonemn.org/emergency-services/statewide-hotline/>

Minnesota Department of Human Rights: The Minnesota Human Rights Act -- passed into law in 1967 -- protects the civil rights of all Minnesotans, in every county of the state. The Act protects Minnesotans in employment, housing, public accommodations, public services, education, credit, and business based on their protected class, such as: race, religion, disability, national origin, sex, marital status, familial status, age, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

The Minnesota Human Rights Act states that the Department will:

Investigate and eliminate discrimination;

Educate Minnesotans about their civil rights; and

Ensure a more equitable and inclusive workforce in Minnesota.

For Saint Paul office Walk-ins: On Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

MDHR takes walk-ins on a first come, first serve basis.

<https://mn.gov/mdhr/>

Navigate MN: Navigate meets students and families where they are from the moment of our birth, and continues to do:

Presentations to high school students, their families and educators about college access for students.

Community service internships that develop leadership and professional skills.

Scholarships for students who do not qualify for federal or state funding.

Annual NAVIGATE Leadership Development and College Access for Young Immigrants in MN Conference.

Regional Summits for Allies of MN Undocumented Students.

Civic and voter engagement opportunities

<http://www.navigatemn.org/>

Neighborhood House – Wellstone Center- (651) 789-2500

Neighborhood House offers services in the areas of basic needs and lifelong learning. We have six Family Centers to help people with food support and housing. Our lifelong learning programming takes place at our West Side location in the Paul & Sheila Wellstone Center for Community Building. All of our programs and services are offered free of charge to our participants.

Parent and Early Childhood Education

Youth Leadership Programs

Adult Education

Food Support Program

Family Centers:

Crisis Intervention, Eligibility, Life Skills Education, Cultural and Social Engagement, and Basic Needs Program Events

<http://neighb.org/>

Neighborhood Justice Center: NJC is legal service corporation that has been providing comprehensive criminal defense services to low-income and indigent people in the East Metro area with a focus on communities of color since 1973. The agency focuses its work in St. Paul, Minnesota, and the surrounding East Metro area.

<http://njcinc.org/>

Park Avenue Walk-In Legal Clinic: (Note—services currently on hold due to COVID)

The Walk-In Legal Clinic offers free legal advice by volunteer attorneys in English, Spanish, and other languages available via telephone interpreters.

Walk-in Legal Clinic: Thursdays, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Park Avenue Methodist Church
3400 Park Ave. S
Minneapolis, MN 55407

First-come, first-served

NO CLINIC on 5th Thursday of the month

15-30 minutes of legal advice and brief services on immigration and other legal issues.
Employment law services on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Services provided in English, Spanish, other languages available via telephone interpreters

No appointment is necessary; clients are greeted in the order received, and assigned a lawyer.

Services We Provide

Services are free-of-charge for eligible persons.

Services are limited to brief advice, one-time legal service and/or referral, ongoing legal representation is not provided.

Individuals with on-going legal representation needs will be referred to other service providers, including private attorneys.

Eligibility for Services

You must earn under 300% of the federal poverty income guidelines.

You must not already have a lawyer who represents you

How We Provide Services

Intakes and appointments are done on a walk-in basis in the order of arrival.

Upon arrival sign-up with the Intake coordinator (sign ups start after 2:45 p.m.)

The intake coordinator will determine eligibility for services.

When your name is called you must be present or you may lose your turn.

There are between 9-12 appointments available every Thursday.

Consultations are limited to 30 minutes.

Volunteer Lawyers try to see every eligible person who walks in on the same day, however clients may need to return the next week if appointment slots become full.

Intake and consultations with an attorney are confidential.

Types of Questions We Answer

The Walk-in Legal Clinic is staffed by volunteer attorneys.

Generally, Walk-in Legal Clinic volunteers have expertise in the following areas of law:

Immigration

Discrimination

Employment and labor

Family law

Consumer/contract

Housing/landlord/tenant

Wills

Lawyers may also have expertise in other areas of law. If there is not an attorney on duty who knows the answer to your legal question, you may be referred to other service providers, or asked to return another day.

<https://parkavechurch.org/walk-in-legal-clinic/>

SEWA Asian Indian Family Resources: (763) 234-8301

Vaccines available: [\(763\) 234-8301](tel:7632348301)

In person health clinic starting in June

a nonprofit organization committed to serving, supporting, and enhancing family wellness for the South Asian community. Especially the vulnerable and underserved, in the Twin Cities and around Minnesota, by providing health care access and wellness information and resources; access to family violence resources and supports; and elder socialization activities

- Crisis Line:
 - 24 X 7 Support, Culturally Specific Services, South Asian Language Support, Shelter and Safe Place

Health Initiatives

They hold FREE Health Clinics at a various community locations. These are staffed by culturally sensitive volunteer doctors. Doctors complete preliminary screenings, and provide referrals and health resources to participants. A1C & Cholesterol testing is also available at our Hindu Mandir clinics with registration and a nominal fee to cover our cost of administering the tests.

Women Care:

Myths of Menstruation: At SEWA we have a goal to empower women to be healthy and active. Even living in the US, many educated South Asians of any gender still hold on to age old beliefs regarding menstruation which can often guide their decisions and activities.

Domestic Violence: SEWA-AIFW advocates and staff never tell a woman what to do; rather, we give women information about their rights and possible courses of action and help her become empowered to make her own decisions

Economic Empowerment Program: This program will provide courses, resources, referrals and grants that work to empower survivors of domestic violence in earning their own living and pursuing careers. Over time, as greater numbers of women are breaking the silence around their abuse and seeking ways to empower themselves. SEWA-AIFW has received more and more request from survivors for assistance in learning the skills needed to gain personal freedom and financial independence.

Support For Seniors:

SEWA is licensed to provide home & community-based services for seniors aged 65+ in MN. Our Live Well At Home program helps older Minnesotans live well longer in their own homes, by providing services that include supporting caregivers, promoting independence, and giving respite care.

<https://sewa-aifw.org/>

Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS): 651-291-2837; intake line: 1-888-575-2954 (Monday to Friday, 9am-3pm)

Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services provides free, high-quality legal help to low-income people in critical civil matters. For 110 years, we've helped individuals and families secure and protect their basic needs, maintaining freedom from hunger, homelessness, sickness, and abuse

Immigration (normally handle):

Applications for permanent residence

Naturalization and Citizenship applications

Applications for victims of domestic violence and violent crimes

Replacement of lost, stolen or expiring documents

Family visa petitions (limited)

Family Law:

If you need help with a protection order, divorce, custody matter, or Indian Child Welfare Act case, we may be able to help. Our family law work focuses on preserving stability for children and protecting victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

Government Benefits:

If you have been denied government benefits, or if you have had your grant reduced or terminated, we may be able to help. Please call if you don't understand the reason for the action or if you believe the action was wrong.

Housing:

If your landlord is trying to evict you, raise your rent, shut off your utilities, is refusing to give back a security deposit or is not making necessary repairs

Education:

If your child is struggling in school or if you believe your child is not receiving a fair and appropriate early childhood to high school public education, we may be able to help. We handle educational cases in a variety of areas.

Seniors:

SMRLS represents people 60 years or older with a focus on those in greatest social and economic need. Although we do not apply a means test for Seniors representation, we direct our representation to those most in need.

If you are a senior and have a problem with Social Security's SSI program, Medical Assistance, or have a nursing home or other matter, we may be able to help.

Agricultural Worker Project/El Proyecto Para Trabajadores Agrícolas:

Are you working or have you recently worked in agriculture in Minnesota or North Dakota? Do you have a legal question or concern related to that work? If so, SMRLS' Agricultural Worker Project may be able to help. We assist agricultural workers with employment-related legal issues and are committed to improving the working and living conditions of agricultural workers in Minnesota and North Dakota.

<https://www.smrls.org/>

United Way 2-1-1: Provides free and confidential health and human services information for people in Minnesota. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to connect you with the resources and information you need.

<https://www.211unitedway.org/>

Vietnamese Social Services of MN: The primary work of the Vietnamese Social Services of Minnesota is to work with low-income immigrants and refugees of diverse backgrounds to meet their basic needs without public or private assistance.

<https://vssmn.org/>

Volunteer Lawyers Network: 612-752-6677 (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-1pm)

a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to connecting Minnesotans experiencing poverty with some of the top private lawyers in the state at no cost. Some issues VLN helps with:

Family Law: Divorce, child custody, child support and more

Civil Law: Unpaid wages, garnishment, debt collection, security deposits, property damage and more\

Housing:Eviction, rent escrow, eviction expungement, repairs, landlord/tenant issues and more

Immigration: Most kinds of immigration issues

Criminal expungement: Sealing of Minnesota state criminal records

Bankruptcy:Chapter 7, adversary proceedings and more

<https://www.vlnmn.org/>

Waite House: 612-721-1681

A long-standing pillar of the vibrant Phillips Community in South Minneapolis, our Waite House neighborhood center nurtures the health, prosperity, and social capital of over 4,500 community members each year. Resources and services are:

Food shelf

Community meals

Produce distribution

Free legal advice and basic services on a variety of civil issues including immigration, housing, and debt collection. Days and times vary. Call your neighborhood center for details.

Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 2-4 pm.

<https://pillsburyunited.org/site/waite-house/>

www.LawHelpMN.org: An online resource

www.mnlegaladvice.org: An online resource to receive legal advice from lawyers online. Must be 14 years or older to request information.