



Champions for Justice

Join a community of
like-minded philanthropists

**London
Legal
Support
Trust**



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Changes over the past several years have left more people in need... scores of people are now facing new issues with debt, employment, housing, and more...

The Circle

We are bringing together a group of individuals committed to supporting legal advice services for those in need.



Members will primarily be thought leaders and senior professionals in their respective fields who share a passion for supporting access to justice for disadvantaged people.



Funds generated will form a lasting foundation to create sustainable funding for the free legal advice centres in London and the surrounding areas.

The Foundation

Funds from the the Patrons Circle will be ringfenced within LLST's accounts to build a sustainable funding source for the best advice agencies in the region.



Added Benefits of Membership

- Private LinkedIn network
- Networking events with sector leaders
- Invitation to annual members' event
- Regular news from frontline legal advice agencies
- Invitation to the senior judiciary's area at the London Legal Walk
- Free advice (on request) from LLST experts on CSR projects
- Access to like-minded individuals to introduce new concepts that will drive change and make a difference.

Membership Types

Supporter

£600 / year

Advocate

£1,200 / year

Benefactor

£2,400 / year

Contribute monthly, quarterly or annually.

To join and for further information please visit
<https://londonlegalsupporttrust.org.uk/donate-today/champions-for-justice/>



The need for free legal advice is greater than ever.

Changes over the past several years have left more people in need. The 2012 Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act drastically cut the scope of legal aid in civil matters.

Other factors include changes to disability benefits, Universal Credit, the no recourse to public funds policy, restrictions on Housing Benefit payments, and Brexit (with its implications for immigration and refugee issues).

In addition, with the onset of the coronavirus pandemic and lockdowns, scores of people are now facing new issues with debt, employment, benefits, housing, and more.

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Before the coronavirus pandemic, the funding gap for advice services was estimated to be £13 million.

The UK ranks 79th on an international ranking on the accessibility and affordability of civil justice.

Marginalised groups (BAME, disabled, low income, less educated, and younger people) have less access to legal services.

Case Studies

01

My eldest child developed a rare brain disorder and had to spend three months in hospital.

My income was greatly reduced since I had to take a lot of time off work. So I didn't have enough money to pay the rent. I tried explaining my situation to the council but they didn't seem interested.

I felt really alone. I was trying my best but I just couldn't manage. Some days I felt suicidal. Eventually I had to stop working and rely on Universal Credit.

Because I wasn't paying the rent, I was due to be evicted. I contacted the Law Centre and it felt like someone was finally on my side.

The Law Centre established that I was owed £4,200 in underpaid housing benefit, which more than covered my rent arrears and the possession order was discharged. I was so relieved – paying the rent had always been a struggle but now I knew my children would have a roof over their heads.

— One Law Centre client's story

02

Joy* came to the advice centre heavily pregnant and homeless.

She had been trafficked to the UK when she was 16 years old, and ten years later, her captor died leaving her on the streets with no documents to show for the years she had spent in the country. The centre helped gain the necessary documentation. Joy also started attending their group for migrant mums. They were able to accommodate her in one of the houses that they manage and later helped her to move to stable independent accommodation.

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My caseworker improved my life a lot. After ten years struggling everything changed when I met her. Now I've started college. I'm not homeless anymore. Am I happy? Of course I am!

— Joy

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**real name changed for privacy*

Outcomes

These statistics show the extraordinary outcomes from **just one** of the advice agencies you could support.

13,385

A total of 13,385 clients sought help from the Centre in 2019.

3,344

3,344 client contacts were made with vulnerable, elderly, disabled or isolated clients at surgeries or home visits.

712

712 clients were represented at review and tribunal.

£4,839,689

£4,839,689 was secured in previously unclaimed, enhanced or reinstated benefits.



Get in touch

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