

Poverty is the worst form of violence.

Mahatma Ghandi

In New Jersey, there are approximately 1,200,000 people living at poverty level or below. One in every three, more than 400,000, will need civil legal help each year.

Yet they don't have the funds to retain a lawyer's assistance.



No one chooses to be poor. You gave me back my integrity, something to live for, and treated me with respect and patience. Thank you for a fresh start.

A. F., VLJ Client



There can be no equal justice where the kind of trial a man gets depends on the amount of money he has.

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black

Volunteer Lawyers for Justice (VLJ) was established in 2001 by a small group of New Jersey attorneys concerned about the scarcity of free legal assistance for the poor in their community.

Since its inception, VLJ has grown from a program of 30 volunteers to an organization boasting over 750 lawyers who have donated time and expertise to thousands of clients with almost every civil legal issue.



PO Box 32040, Newark, NJ 07102



Volunteer Lawyers for Justice
PO Box 32040
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post office
will not
deliver
without
stamp

I was facing eviction from my home and had nowhere to turn.

VLJ helped me keep my home and my family together. I don't know where I'd be without them.

M. W., VLJ Client



VLJ provides legal assistance through seminars, advice and counsel, *pro bono* representation and referrals. All services are provided free of charge and volunteers receive no compensation for their time. We do not provide assistance in criminal matters.

We've made a difference in the lives of many, such as assisting:

■ A cancer patient execute a will, health care proxy and advanced directive so that his wishes are made known

■ An autistic child receive special education services denied her but to which she is entitled at her school



■ A quadriplegic child secure a breath-propelled wheelchair in order to live independently rather than in a nursing home

■ An elderly couple prevent foreclosure on their home after being taken advantage of by unscrupulous lenders

You make a living by what you get; you make a life by what you give.

Winston Churchill

There are thousands more like them who need your help.

VLJ is funded entirely through grants secured by the program, yearly fund-raising events and through individual donations. Past and present major donors have included the IOLTA Fund of the Bar of New Jersey; the Junior League of Montclair-Newark; the Legal Services Foundation of Essex County; Merck & Co.; the New Jersey State Bar Foundation; the Turrell Fund and the United Way of Essex and West Hudson. Donations are urgently needed to continue our programs.

I would like to help provide free legal services to New Jersey's neediest.

Your Name: _____

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Make checks payable to VLJ

If donating by credit card, please provide the following information:

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_____ *This is a recurring yearly donation*

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To learn how you can volunteer, or to donate online, visit www.vljjnj.org

All donations are deductible for tax purposes to the extent provided by law.