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SUMMARY OF CASE ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA

2012
FINAL

N.B. The decision to accept any individual case in any given office may be affected by staff workloads and available resources at the time legal assistance is requested. This listing of case types that we will consider is not intended to create an entitlement to services.

All offices

1. Income Maintenance issues, focusing on TANF, food stamps, SSI and SSA cessations and overpayments, unemployment benefits, consumer issues that threaten income or assets, defense of garnishments or other legal actions that threaten employment, protected income or assets.
2. Access to Health Care, including eligibility for Medicaid, Medicare, Miller Trusts, and receipt of necessary services available to beneficiaries; foreclosure on vehicles needed for transportation to health care; access to affordable prescription drugs and the indigent care trust fund.
3. Housing including mortgage foreclosures related to the homeplace, evictions from and/or admission to public or subsidized housing, protection of vouchers, nursing home evictions, predatory lending, and utility issues to prevent homelessness.
4. Domestic violence including protective orders and related issues such as elder abuse, child support, housing, Medicaid, food stamps, TANF; contempt actions on temporary protective orders, and divorces for current DV clients who are sued for divorce.
5. Education issues including discipline actions and admissions problems.



6. Other family issues including prevention of foster care placement, cessation of child abuse.

Special grant work

SENIORS

1. In addition to issues included among general Case Acceptance Criteria above, per grantor priorities, cases involving elder abuse and domestic violence, access to income and healthcare benefits, and prevention of loss of housing, including threats to nursing home residence.
2. Advanced directives, simple wills involving disposition of the senior's homeplace, and probate where necessary to preserve homeplace or qualify for benefits, nursing home issues such as conditions and discharge, home repair fraud.
3. Abusive collection practices against seniors, including garnishment of protected assets or income
4. Termination of guardianships.

HOMELESSNESS

1. Evictions and transitions from shelters, obtaining identification documents, expungement of criminal records.

GOIZUETA FOUNDATION

1. All above services for Latino/Hispanic clients; denial of services or access to benefits based on language or ethnic discrimination; correction of birth certificates.

Pro Bono/ Judicare Programs

1. Bankruptcy.
2. Wills, guardianships, advanced directives.
3. Domestic cases, including divorces.
4. Probate to protect the homeplace or qualify for benefits.
5. Other types of cases as volunteers are available.
6. Non-case-specific activities, including clinics, community education programs, mentoring, training, and similar efforts.

Services for special populations

1. Limited English proficiency clients: access to courts; access to and protection of public benefits; correction of birth certificates; domestic violence.
2. Persons with disabilities: discrimination; access to and protection of public benefits; advanced directives for persons with terminal illnesses.

Farmworker

1. Employment cases, both claims for wages, etc., under FLSA and contract theories, and retaliatory failure to hire or unlawful firing cases.
2. Cases that tie “real” employers to the subcontractors who increasingly are the “paystub employer.”
3. Address pervasive retaliation both against GLSP clients, against workers who complain generally, and against the workforce as a whole so that they will remain silent.
4. Address conditions related to employment, including housing, health, and safety.

Community Economic Development

Central, Savannah, Macon, Gainesville

Consideration of requests from community groups to assist with projects such as creating affordable housing through rehabilitation, or other preservation of existing housing, job training programs, after-school programs, microenterprise ventures, and others.