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TO: Area Agency on Aging Executive Directors
Title III Legal Service Providers

FROM: Karen Alice Kloppe, Legal Assistance Developer

RE: COVID-19 Resources for Legal Service Providers

DATE: April 6, 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic is changing the way everyone is conducting business and guidance relating to safe service delivery is available from a variety of federal and state resources for legal providers. Be sure to check these resources often as updates are being made once new information becomes available.

Federal Courts

<https://www.uscourts.gov/about-federal-courts/court-website-links/court-orders-and-updates-during-covid19-pandemic>

Illinois Courts

<http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/Administrative/covid-19.asp>

For litigation matters, Illinois Supreme Court's March 20, 2020, Order M.R. 30370, In re: Illinois Courts Response to COVID-19 Emergency/Impact on Trials, ordered that the Chief Judges of each circuit may continue trials for the next 60 days and until further order of the Court. <https://courts.illinois.gov/SupremeCourt/Announce/2020/032020-1.pdf>

See also ISBA Covid-19 Judicial Information at: <https://www.isba.org/covid19/judicialinfo>.

General Information

To stay connected to national updates, resources related to COVID-19, and background information on webinars, you can visit www.disasterlegalaid.org/advocates/COVID-19. This Listserv's members include advocates from nonprofit legal aid organizations, bar associations, pro bono counsel from law firms and corporations, and legal advocacy nonprofits in the U.S. working to address issues around the pandemic. There is an Advocacy Center and a calendar of curated online events.

Stateside created the 2020 State and Local Government Responses to COVID-19 chart to track state legislative actions, executive agency actions, gubernatorial actions, and local government

Respect for yesterday. Support for today. Planning for tomorrow.
www.illinois.gov/aging

The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with appropriate State and Federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the Senior Helpline at 1-800-252-8966; 1-888-206-1327 (TTY).

responses as they develop. <https://www.stateside.com/blog/2020-state-and-local-government-responses-covid-19>

Best Practices – Remote Service Delivery

<https://ncler.acl.gov/getattachment/Resources/Covid-19-ACL-doc.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US>

The National Center on Law & Elder Rights held a webinar last week on Strategies for Providing Remote Legal Services to Older Adults. You can view the recording and slides at: <https://ncler.acl.gov/Legal-Training.aspx>. **There will be a follow-up live Q&A session today (4/6/20).**

<https://www.justiceinaging.org/covid-19-resources-for-advocates/>

The Self-Represented Legal Network has a COVID-19 page with resources on remote service delivery, best practices in legal hotlines, and remote pro bono delivery at: <https://www.srln.org/node/1427/covid-19-resources>.

Civil Justice Issues

Voices for Civil Justice has a COVID-19 Media Guidance for Civil Justice Advocates page: <https://voicesforciviljustice.org/for-advocates/covid19/>.

Consumer Protection Issues

The National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) has created a new COVID-19 and Consumer Protections page to provide updates on their current efforts to protect renters, homeowners, and consumers, and advocate for student loan borrowers whose ability to repay their loans may suffer due to lost income, insufficient paid leave, or lack of access to childcare at: <https://www.nclc.org/special-projects/covid-19-consumer-protections.html?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=949113cf-9cfb-4d84-bf31-04d0464d0339>

The NCLC is also offering free access to the digital edition of [Surviving Debt: Expert Advice For Getting Out of Financial Trouble](#), NCLC's most comprehensive guide to navigating debt for consumers and consumer advocates.

Counseling

The National Disaster Distress Helpline 24/7/365 crisis counseling & emotional support continues to be available for anyone experiencing distress or other mental health concerns during the ongoing COVID-19 infectious disease outbreak. Calls (1-800-985-5990; press "2" for Spanish) and texts (text TalkWithUs to 66746) are answered by trained counselors from a network of independently operated crisis centers located across the U.S.

Housing

The Anti-Eviction Mapping Project released a nationwide map of eviction moratoriums and tenant protections at: <https://covid19-evictions-moratorium-map.glitch.me/>.

The National Housing Law Project put together resources for attorneys, advocates, policymakers, and others for assistance during the COVID-19 national public health crisis at: <https://www.nhlp.org/campaign/protecting-renter-and-homeowner-rights-during-our-national-health-crisis-2/>.

The National Low Income Housing Coalition is maintaining a COVID-19/Housing and Homelessness News and Resource page at: <https://nlihc.org/coronavirus-and-housing-homelessness>.

Immigration

The Houston Immigration Legal Services Collaborate (HILSC) has created a new COVID-19 Resources page to provide information on the current pandemic, connect community members to local resources and amplify self-care tools as social distancing goes into effect at: <https://www.houstonimmigration.org/covid19-resources/>.

Relief Programs

The PaulWeiss Coronavirus Relief Center is an online portal with a repository of Federal, state, local and non-profit relief programs for businesses, employees and other individuals hit hard by the pandemic. See <https://www.paulweiss.com/practices/transactional/coronavirus-covid-19-relief-center/practice-overview/relief-center>.

Other

The American Bar Association has a web portal available to handle coronavirus-related housing, unemployment and other civil legal questions for income-eligible users at: <https://www.americanbar.org/news/abanews/aba-news-archives/2020/03/free-legal-answers-milestone/>.

The Legal Talk Network has compiled a list of podcasts related to the pandemic at: <https://legaltalknetwork.com/podcast-category/covid-19/>.

Thank you for all your efforts during these challenging times! If you have any questions, please contact me by email at Karen.Kloppe@Illinois.gov.