

Legal Resources for Grandparents and Relative Caregivers

Online Resources

- **The Commission on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren**
Includes newsletters, events, articles, and resources: www.massgrg.com
- **MassLegalHelp.com**
The Children, Families and Divorce section of this website includes information about child support, custody and visitation, paternity, guardianship, Care and Protection cases and DCF involvement, as well as information about Probate and Family Court. There is also information about forms, applications, and useful brochures and booklets. All information provided is available in multiple languages. www.masslegalhelp.org
- **Volunteer Lawyer's Project**
The mission of the Volunteer Lawyer's Project is to increase access to justice by delivering high quality pro bono civil legal services to income eligible clients in the Greater Boston area. <https://vlpnet.org>
- **Lawyer Referral Services**
If you need to hire an attorney, many bar associations provide a lawyer referral service. Please note, many of these referrals are income eligible legal resources. For a list of these services and their contact information, visit: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/finding-legal-help>
- **Health Law Advocates**
If you are having difficulty accessing mental health services or special education services for your grandchild, you can contact the Mental Health Advocacy for Kids Program at Health Law Advocates. Check the website to see if your community is covered by this program: <https://healthlawadvocates.org/initiatives/mhapforkids>
- **Contact your State Representative or State Senator**
If you have a question or concern about state laws concerning guardianship or other related issues, you can contact your state representative or state senator: www.malegislature.gov

In Person and Virtual Legal Resources

- Court Service Centers**

Court Service Centers can help people navigate the court system. Centers are available to all court users without lawyers, and there are no income or immigration status requirements. All services in the Court Service Centers are free, but there may be other fees associated with your case, such as filing fees. For more information about locations of the Court Service Centers and what services they can provide visit: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/learn-about-court-service-centers>

These services are available in person at some courthouses and virtually through ZOOM or telephone. For more information about the Virtual Court Service Center visit:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/learn-about-the-virtual-court-service-center>

- Lawyer of the day programs at Probate and Family Courts**

The Lawyer of the Day provides:

- Consultation and assistance with completing court paperwork;
- Does not go into the courtroom to represent litigant;
- No lawyer-client relationship established;
- Cannot assist anyone who is represented by an attorney

To see a lawyer of the day on a specific date, check with the court division/location you plan to visit that day or the day before to be sure a lawyer is scheduled to appear.

*ADDITIONAL RESOURCE: **Kinship Navigator** is a program of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that assists all kinship caregivers (grandparents and other relatives) with accessing services for themselves and the children they are raising.*

For more information, please call 844-924-4546, or visit www.mass.gov/kinship-navigator

Scan QR Code to connect with a Kinship Navigator Staff Member directly via Zoom

9:00AM-12:00PM

Monday-Friday



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98782564090?pwd=RS9LY2x3bXNlb3NQanI6QnJrQXNXQT09>

Join Zoom by Phone

1-309-205-3325

Meeting ID: 987 8256 4090

Passcode: 099219