

Addressing COVID-19 Housing Insecurity Through Pro Bono

Ways to Get Involved

1. **Assist renters** by helping them fill out an eviction declaration from the CDC and offer legal aid resources to inform renters of their housing rights. [Link to the CDC moratorium tenant declaration form](#)
2. **Participate in pro bono clinics and trainings** to familiarize yourself with eviction defense, racial equity, and Fair Housing Laws.
3. **Partner with non-profit organizations** working to combat housing inequality through resources, advocacy, and renter protections.
4. **Engage in litigation** to resolve tenant/landlord disputes before they make it to Eviction Court, as well as represent tenants in eviction courts to ensure equitable resolutions.
5. **Participate in policy advocacy** catered towards increasing COVID-19 housing and eviction protections for low-income renters in vulnerable communities.
6. **Be Intentional with language.** When having discussions surrounding housing insecurity, prioritize conversations surrounding racial disparities. In order to address the impact, it is crucial to view the eviction crisis also as a racial justice and equity crisis, especially given the impacts on communities of color.

National Organizations

There are many national and local legal services organizations that address housing insecurity. The following is a sampling of national organizations that provide information and opportunities for engagement.

Princeton's Eviction Lab

Offers real-time updates and recent news regarding federal and state-specific COVID-19 related eviction policies and protections and affordable housing resources including a COVID-19 housing policy scorecard which tracks statewide housing policies, and an [eviction tracking system](#) that monitors updates on the federal moratorium.

Just Shelter State Resources

Offers a [map](#) of over 600 legal aid organizations categorized by the state that assist in eviction preventions, tenants' rights, education and advocacy, and affordable housing protections, as well as updated state-specific COVID-19 related eviction policies.

National Housing Law Project

Fair Housing and Equal Access Initiative "focuses on how the use of fair housing and civil rights laws can help low-income and very low-income tenants locate and maintain safe, decent, and affordable homes free from discrimination. Much of their advocacy focuses on how the Fair Housing Act and other anti-discrimination laws intersect with tenant rights in HUD and USDA housing programs." For COVID-19 specific relief efforts and access to more information, [click here](#).

National Low-Income Housing Coalition (Spanish Translation available)

Offers updated news on federal eviction moratoriums, resources for pro bono volunteers and renters to assess current federal, state, and local housing policies, and allows renters to check if their homes are covered by the CARES Act. For access to updates and more information, [click here](#).

National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty

A resource outlet for part-time pro bono attorneys to help develop, maintain, and oversee our large program of pro bono housing assistance legal projects through oversight of innovative legal work involving homelessness, housing, poverty, and education projects and work directly with attorney volunteers at major law firms and corporate legal departments. To learn more about getting involved, [click here](#), and for access to more resources, [click here](#).