

How Do I Get Help?

Your income must meet Volunteer Lawyers Project income requirements.

Call Ahead

To see if you qualify before coming to the clinic, call (513) 946-9440.

Help is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

LIMITS ON SERVICE

The Custody and Companionship Clinic **may not be able to help you if:**

- The demand is too high on a certain day
- The volunteer lawyer thinks your case is too complicated for the clinic
- The volunteer lawyer has a conflict of interest.
- You are a parent in an open court case involving abuse or neglect
- You already have a lawyer
- Your case is in another county
- The Clinic does not help with Child Support.

What is Companionship?

Companionship is a new word in the law for “visitation.” It means the right to spend time with a child when you don’t have custody of the child.



The Custody and Companionship Clinic is a service of the following organizations:

- Hamilton County Juvenile Court
- Volunteer Lawyers Project
- Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati
- Hamilton County Law Library
- Hamilton County CSEA



CUSTODY AND COMPANIONSHIP CLINIC

Hamilton County
Juvenile Court
800 Broadway, 1st Floor
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Hours:

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
(513) 946-9440



What Kind of Help Can I Get at the Clinic?

- Learn about the law that applies to your case
- Which papers to file to ask for what you want
- Which forms to use and how to fill them out
- How to file the forms
- The next steps in your case
- What happens in the courtroom
- How to get the information or evidence you need for your court hearings
- Court programs to settle your case without having to go to trial
- Putting any agreement on paper and finishing up your case
- Resources for free or low-cost legal help if you need the full services of a lawyer
- Brief private meetings with a lawyer to get legal advice about your particular case.

What We Do

Volunteer lawyers, law students, and court staff provide free help for low-income people representing themselves in Hamilton County Juvenile Court. We offer advice before a case is filed, during the initial filing process and as the case makes its way through the court.

Please Be Advised

Representing yourself is not right for everyone. The help you receive at the Clinic is not a substitute for the full services of a lawyer. Help is provided only during Clinic hours. **No Clinic volunteer will appear with you in court.**

What to Bring with You

- Current ID (such as driver's license, state ID, or passport)
- Birth certificates for the children
- Court orders for any cases involving the children
- Death certificates
- Social Security numbers for all parties, including children and parents
- Names and addresses of all parties
- Proof of income

Contact Us

Hamilton County Juvenile Court
800 Broadway, 1st Floor Clerk's Office
Cincinnati, OH 45202
513-946-9440

Court forms, procedures, rules, and other helpful information is available online:
<http://www.juvenile-court.org/>