



In 2018, legal services organizations collaborated to launch the Preventing and Ending Homelessness Project (PEHP), countywide, which is designed to remove barriers that prevent people from securing or keeping housing. PEHP is largely funded by LA County’s Measure H through the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). This project supports legal services for three different sets of constituents – single individuals, families, and transition-age youth or “TAY” (16-24 years of age) – who are currently experiencing homelessness or who are at imminent risk of homelessness, across all eight of the Service Planning Areas (SPAs) in LA County.

The six participating legal services organizations are:

- Bet Tzedek
- Inner City Law Center (ICLC)
- Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA)
- Los Angeles LGBT Center (LA LGBT Center)
- Neighborhood Legal Services, Los Angeles (NLSLA)
- Public Counsel

Each legal services organization primarily coordinates with specifically designated Lead Coordinated Entry System (CES) agencies in particular SPAs to deliver legal services to each population in that SPA, or countywide based on their specialized expertise.* The legal services organizations and their CES Lead partners by SPA are:

SPA	CES Agency	Legal Services Provider
1 - Antelope Valley	Valley Oasis (F/A/Y)	
2 - San Fernando Valley	LA Family Housing (F/A); Village Family Services (Y)	Neighborhood Legal Services, Los Angeles
3 - San Gabriel Valley	Volunteers of America (A); Union Station Homeless Services (F); Sycamores (Y)	
4 - Central Los Angeles	PATH (F/A); The People Concern (F/A); Covenant House (Y)	Inner City Law Center
5 - West Los Angeles	St. Joseph Center (F/A/Y); The People Concern (A); PATH (A); Safe Place for Youth (Y)	Bet Tzedek
6 - South Los Angeles	SSG HOPICS (F/A); St. Joseph Center (A); Volunteers of America (A/Y); Coalition for Responsible Development (Y)	Public Counsel
7 - East Los Angeles	PATH (A); The Whole Child (F); Jovenes, Inc. (Y)	Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
8 - South Bay/Harbor	Harbor Interfaith (F/A/Y); 1736 Family Crisis Center (A); PATH (A)	

* The LA LGBT Center offers its expertise to all 8 SPAs.
 Provider labels: F = Family; A = Adult Individual; Y = Youth

The range of legal support offered includes:

- Eviction prevention
- Landlord dispute resolution
- Preservation of Section 8 subsidies
- Subsidized housing
- Housing stabilization
- Service animal certification
- Reasonable accommodations requests
- Benefits advocacy
- Driver's license reinstatement
- Credit/Debt advocacy
- Criminal record clearing/expungement
- Vital Document assistance
- Domestic Violence-related assistance
- Limited immigration advisement

Who can be served?

Adult individuals, families, and transition-age youth who are experiencing homelessness or are at imminent risk of homelessness may be eligible for PEHP services. This includes older adults (seniors) and youth transitioning from foster care.

What are the specific eligibility criteria? How do potential clients receive services?

	Experiencing Homelessness	Preventing Homelessness
What are the Eligibility Criteria for PEHP?	<p>Anyone qualifies for PEHP services if they are currently experiencing homelessness.</p> <p><i>Generally this means, living in:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A place not meant for human habitation (street, car, park, abandoned building, etc.); or <input type="checkbox"/> An emergency shelter, Safe Haven, or Rapid-Rehousing or Transitional Housing; or <input type="checkbox"/> A motel or hotel paid for by a charitable organization or federal, state, or local government program. <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The individuals or family are fleeing life-threatening abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, etc. 	<p>Anyone in need of prevention services must meet certain eligibility criteria, namely, that they are "at imminent risk of becoming homeless."</p> <p><i>Generally this means:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The potential client's income is at or below 50% Area Median Income (AMI); <input type="checkbox"/> Residence will be lost within 30 days; <input type="checkbox"/> No subsequent residence has been identified; <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing.
How are Potential Clients Referred to PEHP?	<p>Anyone currently experiencing homelessness is encouraged to go directly to an Access Center or their population's (Adult Individual, Youth, or Family) designated SPA-based CES agency for intake assessment and possible referral to a PEHP legal services provider.</p>	<p>PEHP is <u>unable</u> to directly enroll housed clients/prevention cases. They must enter the program through the Lead CES partner agency in their SPA. The participant will be screened at the CES agency and, if eligible, referred to legal services. The CES agency will send referral information and supporting documents to their SPA's legal services partner. Legal services staff follow up with clients to conduct an intake.</p>

PEHP @ ICLC

Inner City Law Center is the lead organization for PEHP, and in addition to its own in-house PEHP team, manages all data and reporting on the countywide collaboration. For general inquiries, email PEHPinfo@innercitylaw.org.