



**MidPenn Legal Services
Blair County Office
2019-2020 Fact Sheet**



MidPenn is free civil legal aid. We are a legal emergency room for the poor. We provide advice and counsel to help very low-income families solve problems and get back on track.

Case Types: We handle critical civil matters: child custody, domestic violence, housing, elder law, public benefits and consumer. We do not handle criminal cases.

Mission: MidPenn Legal Services is a non-profit law firm providing free civil legal aid to low-income families in crisis.

Vision: We seek orderly resolutions for poor families with critical legal problems. We protect personal safety, stabilize housing, secure income, and obtain health care for those with nowhere else to turn.

| Blair County Statistics: | <u>2010</u> | <u>2018</u> |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Population | 129,144 | 122,492 |
| Residents below the poverty level* | 12.9% | 15.2% |
| Households Receiving Food Stamps | 11.5% | 16.7% |
| Poverty Population* | 15,934 | 18,527 |

*The U.S. Census Bureau excludes institutionalized people, people in military group quarters, college dorms and unrelated individuals under 15 years old when calculating poverty rates.

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| Blair County Residents Eligible for Legal Aid (at 125% of poverty level) 24,321 |
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| Blair County Fiscal Year 19-20 Overview | MidPenn Staff | Volunteer Attorney | Total | % |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Family | 21 | 0 | 21 | 4% |
| Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault/Intimidation | 273 | 0 | 273 | 53% |
| Housing | 115 | 0 | 115 | 22% |
| Public Benefits | 30 | 0 | 30 | 6% |
| Consumer | 54 | 0 | 54 | 10% |
| Employment/Expungement | 16 | 0 | 16 | 3% |
| Other | 8 | 0 | 8 | 2% |
| TOTAL | 517 | 0 | 517 | 100.00% |
| 4,364 hours spent on cases. 1,056 residents in Blair County benefited from MidPenn's advocacy. \$83,379.88 in savings and economic benefits to Blair County clients and their communities. | | | | |

Funding: The Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network provides 50.3% of our funding from various sources including, Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts, state and federal Title XX, filing fee add-ons, and the Disability Advocacy Project. The Legal Services Corporation provides 23.4% of our funds. Additional support comes from the Blair County Bar Association, the United Way of Blair County and individual donations.

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