

MidPenn Legal Services Cumberland County Office 2019-2020 Fact Sheet



<u>MidPenn is free civil legal aid</u>. 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.

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

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

<u>Vision</u>: 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.

| Cumberland County Statistics: | <u>2010</u> | <u>2018</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Population | 222,311 | 251,423 |
| Residents below the poverty level* | 6.5% | 7.8% |
| Households Receiving Food Stamps | 3.6% | 7.0% |
| Poverty Population* | 15,036 | 18,110 |

^{*}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.

Cumberland County Residents
Eligible for Legal Aid
(at 125% of poverty level)
24,611

| Cumberland County Fiscal Year 19-20 Overview | MidPenn Staff | Volunteer Attorney | Total | % |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------|---------|
| Family | 111 | 201 | 312 | 28% |
| Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault/Intimidation | 419 | 16 | 435 | 38% |
| Housing | 137 | 3 | 140 | 12% |
| Public Benefits/Health | 61 | 0 | 61 | 5% |
| Consumer | 37 | 31 | 68 | 7% |
| Employment/Expungement | 13 | 4 | 17 | 2% |
| Other | 27 | 91 | 118 | 8% |
| TOTAL | 805 | 346 | 1151 | 100.00% |

7,293.6 hours spent on cases.

2,118 residents in Cumberland County benefited from MidPenn's advocacy. \$93,735.56 in savings and economic benefits to Cumberland County clients and their communities.

<u>Funding</u>: 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 Cumberland County Bar Association, the Cumberland County Commissioners, the Big Spring Community Chest, the United Way of Carlisle and Cumberland County, the United Way of the Capital Region, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and individual donations. MidPenn also receives Violence Against Women funding through a subcontract with the Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland and Perry Counties.

Staff in the Cumberland County MidPenn Office: 401 East Louther Street, Suite 103, Carlisle, PA 17013

Nicole Sipe, Managing Attorney Jillian M. Copeland, Attorney Joseph A. Donegan, Attorney Sandra L. Dolan, Attorney Alisa Petersen, VOCA Attorney Lynn Knight, Paralegal/Support Staff













