

# **City of West Hollywood**

## **A Guide for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Immigrants and Asylum Seekers**



# CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

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*A special thank you goes to Bet Tzedek Legal Services, Jewish Family Services, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles LGBT Center, Program for Torture Victims, and the Refugee Forum of Los Angeles for their contributions to this resource guide.*

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*DISCLAIMER: The City does not provide legal advice or represent clients. The Guide for LGBT Immigrants and Asylum Seekers has been created to provide general information on social services assistance. The inclusion of an organization does not imply an endorsement or recommendation of the organization, nor does exclusion imply disapproval. There is no guarantee that all persons are eligible for services, that services will be provided, or that they will be provided to the person's satisfaction. This document is available in several languages and translation can cause some terms in the document to acquire a different meaning.*

## Terms and Definitions

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*The following terms are defined by Immigration Equality<sup>1</sup> and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services<sup>2,3</sup>.*

**Asylee** – An individual who has won a claim for asylum and is eligible to work and qualify for public benefits. One year after winning asylum, an asylee may apply for legal permanent residence.

**Asylum** – A form of protection available to people who meet the definition of refugee, who are already in the United States or seeking admission at a port of entry. Persecution on account of sexual orientation, gender identity and HIV status has been found to be grounds for asylum.

**Citizen/U.S. Citizen** – A person holds U.S. citizenship if they were born in the U.S. regardless of the immigration status of their parents. A non-citizen who becomes a lawful permanent resident may acquire citizenship through a legal process called naturalization. Children born to U.S. citizens abroad may also be U.S. citizens. Legal permanent resident children may obtain citizenship if their parents naturalize while they are minors.

**Green Card** – This is the informal term for an alien registration card or Form I-551. It is proof that its holder has legal permanent resident status.

**Immigrant** – A technical legal term defined as a foreign national who has been granted permission to remain in the United States permanently, who is a legal permanent resident, and distinguished from a person who comes to the U.S. on a temporary visa.

**Naturalization** – The process by which a foreign national applies for and obtains U.S. citizenship. Only lawful permanent residents may apply to naturalize, and generally only after they have held their green card for five years. Spouses of U.S. citizens may apply earlier. *For more information see the Department of Homeland Security publication: [A Guide to Naturalization](#).*

**Refugee** – A term used for people outside of their country who are unable or unwilling to return because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, and/or membership in a particular social group or political opinion.

**Refugee Status** – A form of protection that may be granted to applicants who meet the definition of refugee and are of special humanitarian concern to the United States. Persons apply outside the U.S. and they must meet the same standard of persecution as an asylum applicant. It is much more difficult to obtain refugee status based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and HIV status than to obtain asylum.

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<sup>1</sup> Immigration Equality Glossary of Terms (2015). Retrieved from: <http://www.immigrationequality.org/get-legal-help/our-legal-resources/immigration-101/glossary-of-terms/>

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Refugees and Asylum. (November 12, 2015). Retrieved from: <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/refugees-asylum>

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Victims of Trafficking and Other Crimes. (December 14, 2014). Retrieved from: <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/victims-human-trafficking-other-crimes>

**Trafficking** – The illegal movement of people, typically for the purposes of forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation. Also known as human trafficking.

**T-Visa** – Provides immigration protection to victims of trafficking. This visa allows victims to remain in the United States and assist law enforcement authorities in the investigation or prosecution of human trafficking cases.

**Undocumented** – The term used to describe foreign nationals who are present in the U.S. without lawful status. The term can refer to those who entered the U.S. without inspection, those who overstayed their allotted time, or those who violated the terms of their legal status.

**Visa** – A visa is a legal document that permits its holder to seek entry into the United States on either a temporary or a permanent basis. Legally, a visa permits a foreign national to board transportation to the U.S.

**U-Visa** – U nonimmigrant status provides immigration protection to crime victims who have suffered mental or physical abuse as a result of the crime. The U-Visa allow victims to remain in the United States and assist law enforcement authorities in the investigation and prosecution of the criminal activity

## **Employment and Volunteer Opportunities**

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### **Jewish Vocational Service of Los Angeles**

Office: 625 N. San Vicente Blvd.  
West Hollywood, CA 90069  
Phone: (310) 652-6378  
Link: [www.jvsla.org](http://www.jvsla.org)

Serving the widely diverse Southern California community, JVS Los Angeles helps people of all faiths and backgrounds overcome barriers to employment. The JVS goal is to provide individuals with the tools, resources and support they need through job training, mentoring, expert career coaching, job placement and retention support.

### **The Los Angeles LGBT Center — Transgender Economic Empowerment Project**

Office: 1220 N. Highland Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90038  
Phone: (323) 860-3713  
Link: [www.lalgbtcenter.org/social-service-and-housing/transgender/employment](http://www.lalgbtcenter.org/social-service-and-housing/transgender/employment)  
Email: [teep@lalgbtcenter.org](mailto:teep@lalgbtcenter.org)

The Los Angeles LGBT Center offers services to help transgender women and men develop professional skills, find employment with trans-friendly employers and thrive in the workplace. Free services include help setting and achieving career goals, job interview workshops, resume development, name and gender change; as well as other legal assistance, both employment and non-employment related, including criminal record expungement.

## English as a Second Language (ESL) Instruction

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### Venice Skills Center

Office: 611 Fifth Ave.  
Venice, CA 90291  
Phone: (310) 664-5888  
Link: [www.veniceskills.org](http://www.veniceskills.org)

Free and low-cost English as a Second Language (ESL) courses are offered at all levels from literacy through advanced. The curriculum integrates the study of English language structure with selected topics in areas such as life skills, culture, and employment. For more information and a complete class schedule, please visit [www.veniceskills.org/aprenda-ingles](http://www.veniceskills.org/aprenda-ingles).

## Financial and Documentation Assistance

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*Note: Financial Assistance programs funded by the City of West Hollywood require verification of West Hollywood residence. Please inquire with the program for eligibility requirements.*

### **Jewish Free Loan Association**

Office: 6505 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 715  
Los Angeles, CA 90048  
Phone: (323) 761-8830  
Link: [www.jfla.org](http://www.jfla.org)

The Jewish Free Loan Association provides interest-free loans to individuals and families of all faiths facing financial challenges. Loans are available for emergency situations, education, children with special needs, home healthcare and more. Fill out an online pre-application at [www.jfla.org/Apply](http://www.jfla.org/Apply) or email [info@jfla.org](mailto:info@jfla.org).

### **National Council of Jewish Women, Los Angeles**

Office: 543 N. Fairfax Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90036  
Phone: (877) 655-3807  
Link: [www.ncjwla.org](http://www.ncjwla.org)

NCJW/LA is a grassroots organization committed to the welfare and well-being of the entire Los Angeles community. The agency provides supportive services such as financial and rental assistance, case management, clothing, education scholarships for adults, and youth engagement programs.

### **Comprehensive Services Center of Jewish Family Service**

Office: 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.  
West Hollywood, CA 90046  
Phone: (323) 851-8202  
Link: [www.jfsla.org/westhollywood](http://www.jfsla.org/westhollywood)

The Comprehensive Services Center at Plummer Park has English/Russian-speaking staff to assist immigrants with variety of services, classes, lectures and excursions. Services include assistance with filling out forms, benefits advocacy, counseling and case management.

## Food Assistance Resources

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### **The Jewish Family Services of Los Angeles, SOVA Community Food & Resource**

Office: 8846 W. Pico Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90035  
Phone: (818) 275-4537  
Email: [communications@jfsla.org](mailto:communications@jfsla.org)  
Link: [www.jfsla.org/sova](http://www.jfsla.org/sova)

The JFS, SOVA Community Food & Resource Program provides individuals and families with the resources they need to regain self-sufficiency and independence, including free groceries, case management, counseling, and other supportive services, such as legal counseling and job search assistance. Pantry hours are from Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. except for holiday weekends.

### **The Los Angeles LGBT Center — Youth Services**

Office: 1220 N. Highland Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90038  
Phone: (323) 860-2280  
Email: [youthservices@lalgbtcenter.org](mailto:youthservices@lalgbtcenter.org)  
Link: [www.lalgbtcenter.org](http://www.lalgbtcenter.org)

The services offered through the LGBT Center Youth Services program include meals, shelter, drop-in services, case management and outreach. All youth ages 12-24 years old are welcome.

### **Downtown Women's Center**

Office: 442 S. San Pedro St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
Phone: (213) 680-0600  
Link: [www.downtownwomenscenter.org](http://www.downtownwomenscenter.org)

The Downtown Women's Center provides permanent supportive housing and a safe and healthy community fostering dignity, respect, and personal stability. The Day Center provides meals, clothing, showers, and referrals Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday through Sunday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. The organization serves women only and is inclusive of transgender women.

## **Food on Foot**

Phone: (310) 860-0022  
Link: [www.foodonfoot.org](http://www.foodonfoot.org)

Food on Foot is dedicated to providing the poor and homeless of Los Angeles with nutritious meals, clothing, and assistance in the transition to employment and life off the streets. Food on Foot serves meals every Sunday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the private parking lot behind the LA LGBT Center on 1625 N. Schrader Blvd., Los Angeles, CA.

## **Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition**

Address: Salvation Army Hollywood Campus  
5939 Hollywood Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90028  
Phone: (323) 462-2032  
Link: [www.gwhfc.org](http://www.gwhfc.org)

Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition is broad-based grassroots organization that serves a hot, fresh, and nutritious meal nightly to people who are homeless and hungry.

## **St. Thomas the Apostle Church**

Address: 7501 Hollywood Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90046  
Phone: (323) 876-2102

St Thomas the Apostle Church provides free breakfast, counseling, and referrals every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. The LGBT community and persons of all faiths are welcomed.

## **AIDS Project Los Angeles — Necessities of Life Program**

Office: 611 S. Kingsley Dr.  
Los Angeles, CA 90005  
Phone: (213) 201-1500  
Link: [www.apla.org](http://www.apla.org)

The Necessities of Life Program provides fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, eggs, cheese, yogurt, an assortment of canned and dry good, hygiene, and cleaning supplies to people living with HIV/AIDS.

## Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission

Address: 6425 Tyrone Ave.  
Van Nuys, CA 91401  
Phone: (818) 392-0020  
Email: [info@hopeofthevalley.org](mailto:info@hopeofthevalley.org)  
Link: [www.hopeofthevalley.org](http://www.hopeofthevalley.org)

Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission provides emergency services consisting of hot meals, food items, clean clothes, new undergarments and socks, hygiene kits, basic medicine, blankets and referrals at Central Lutheran Church/Hope of the Valley Help Center at 6425 Tyrone Ave. Van Nuys, CA. Clients can call the Help Center at (818) 804-5507 to get more information on the lunch schedule.

## Health and Mental Health Care

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*Note: Sliding scale fees may apply for the listed service providers and no-one is turned away due to their immigration status or inability to pay. Providers listed below serve the uninsured and underinsured and are sensitive to the needs of the LGBTQ immigrant community.*

### **APLA Health — Gleicher/Chen Health Center**

Office: 3743 S. La Brea Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90016  
Phone: (323) 329-9900  
Link: [www.aplahealth.org](http://www.aplahealth.org)

APLA Health's mission is to achieve health care equity and promote well-being for LGBT and other underserved communities and people living with and affected by HIV. APLA Health is a nonprofit, federally qualified health center serving more than 14,000 people annually with services that include: medical, dental, and mental health care; PrEP counseling and management; health education and HIV prevention; and STD screening and treatment. For the APLA West Hollywood Mobile Dental Facility, please call (213) 201-1388.

### **Being Alive**

Office: 7531 Santa Monica Blvd. #100  
West Hollywood, CA 90046  
Phone: (323) 874-4322  
Link: [www.beingalivela.org](http://www.beingalivela.org)

Being Alive is an HIV service organization that provides no-cost mental health care in addition to various health and wellness programs. Being Alive offers individualized psychotherapy, group support, and social and recreational activities for people living with HIV.

### **Cedars-Sinai-Financial Assistance Program**

Office: 8700 Beverly Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90048  
Phone: (323) 866-8600  
Link: [www.cedars-sinai.edu/Patients/index.aspx](http://www.cedars-sinai.edu/Patients/index.aspx)

The financial assistance program helps low-income individuals receive emergency care. Patients who do not have health insurance, or who are underinsured, may qualify for financial assistance to help pay the cost of the care they receive at Cedars-Sinai.

## **Center for the Pacific Asian Family**

Office: 1102 Crenshaw Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90019  
Phone: (800) 339-3940 (24-hour Access)  
Link: [www.nuturingchange.org](http://www.nuturingchange.org)

Center for the Pacific Asian Family was founded to address domestic violence and sexual assault in the Asian and Pacific Islander communities. CPAF created the first multi-lingual 24-hour hotline assisting survivors and services include: sexual assault and domestic violence counseling, crisis intervention, case management, and shelters for domestic violence survivors.

## **Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles — Central Intake**

Phone: (877) 275-4537  
Link: [www.jfsla.org](http://www.jfsla.org)

Professional therapists from JFS provide counseling and mental health intervention for children, teens, adults, survivors of violence, couples, and families. From coping with life transitions to dealing with tragedy and addiction, JFS gives clients the tools to make positive life-long changes. JFS provides outreach to the Farsi speaking community and operates the Iranian Peer Counseling Warmline as well educational workshops.

## **JQ International Warmline**

Phone: 855-JQI-HLPS (855-574-4577)  
Email: [Warmline@JQInternational.org](mailto:Warmline@JQInternational.org)  
Link: [www.jqinternational.org](http://www.jqinternational.org)

The JQ Warmline is a resource and social service referral line specifically designed to serve LGBTQ Jews, their families, and allies in the United States. Resources and social service referrals offered by the JQ Warmline include: Mental, Physical, and Sexual Health; Education; Religion and Spirituality; Sexuality and Gender Identity; Political Awareness and Activism; and Social Connections.

## Los Angeles LGBT Center

Main Office: 1625 N. Schrader Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90028  
Phone: (323) 860-3713  
Link: [www.lalgbtcenter.org](http://www.lalgbtcenter.org)

The Los Angeles LA LGBT Center is a Federally Qualified Health Center that specializes in primary care for the LGBT community and people living with HIV. The Center offers health and mental health care with a team of medical providers, therapists, and pharmacy staff that work together to help individuals lead healthier, happier lives. Services include:

- Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Services: The Center offers individual, couples, family, and group therapy, as well as psychiatric care. Domestic and intimate partner violence assistance and substance abuse treatment, support and counseling are also available.
- Transgender Health Clinic: Medical providers specialize in the care of transgender people and provide treatment and consultation.
- Women's Health Clinic: Offers a full range of primary medical care services for lesbian and bisexual women.

## The Los Angeles LGBT Center — WeHo

Office: 8745 Santa Monica Blvd., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
West Hollywood, CA 90069  
Phone: (323) 993-7440  
Link: [www.whatruinto.org](http://www.whatruinto.org)

The Los Angeles LGBT Center — WeHo offers free HIV and STD screening, HIV and STD treatment; as well as Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) and Pre exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) services.

## My Health LA

Phone: (844) 744-6452  
Link: <http://dhs.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dhs/coverageoptions/myhealthla>

My Health LA is a no-cost health care program that provides primary care physician and prescription services for people who live in Los Angeles County. Health care services are provided by 193 non-profit clinics called Community Partners. My Health LA is free for individuals and families who do not have and cannot get health insurance. To determine your eligibility, please visit [www.file.lacounty.gov/dhs/cms1\\_200025.pdf](http://www.file.lacounty.gov/dhs/cms1_200025.pdf). To find a participating clinic, please visit [www.dhs.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dhs/mhla/findaclinic](http://www.dhs.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dhs/mhla/findaclinic). *Note: There are restricted benefits for undocumented persons.*

## **National Council of Jewish Women — Community Mental Health and Support Services**

Office: 543 N. Fairfax Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90036  
Phone: (877) 655-3807  
Link: [www.ncjwla.org](http://www.ncjwla.org)

NCJW/LA offers high-quality, integrated mental health and supportive services to a diverse population of adults, children and families in need. Therapists provide in-depth individual, couples, family and group psychotherapy and all services are provided in English or Spanish. The Community Psychiatric Resource program is available for psychiatric evaluation, medication management, and financial assistance purchasing medications. Crisis Counseling is also available through the NCJW Talkline at (877) 655-3807.

## **Planned Parenthood Los Angeles — West Hollywood Health Center**

Office: 825 N. San Vicente Blvd.  
West Hollywood, CA 90069  
Phone: (800) 576-5544  
Link: [www.plannedparenthood.org](http://www.plannedparenthood.org)

The mission of Planned Parenthood is to provide convenient and affordable access to a comprehensive range of quality reproductive health care and sexual health information, through patient services, education and advocacy. The West Hollywood location services include: family planning and abortion services, birth control, emergency contraception, HIV and STD screening, treatment and vaccines, and women's health care.

## **Saban Community Clinic**

Office: 8405 Beverly Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90048  
Phone: (323) 653-1990  
Link: [www.sabancommunityclinic.org](http://www.sabancommunityclinic.org)

Saban Community Clinic has been in the Hollywood area since 1967, pioneering free health care and now incorporating the benefits of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to provide excellence in health care for all. Saban's services include medical care, dental services, and mental health care. Free showers are also available at this location.

## **Southern California Men's Medical Group**

Office: 9201 Sunset Blvd., Suite 812  
Los Angeles, CA 90069  
Phone: (310) 550-1010  
Link: [www.tonymillsmd.com](http://www.tonymillsmd.com)

Southern California Men's Medical Group is devoted to delivering holistic healthcare by focusing on nutrition, exercise, and wellness with a goal of promoting healthy behaviors by giving patients the structure and opportunity to build and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Services include HIV and STD testing and treatment, Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) treatment, screenings and vaccinations, as well as other men's health services.

## **Housing and Homeless Resources**

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### **Alliance for Housing and Healing**

Office: 7531 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 201  
West Hollywood, CA 90046  
Phone: (323) 344-4888  
Link: [www.alliancehh.org](http://www.alliancehh.org)

The Alliance for Housing and Healing offers emergency financial aid for rent, utility assistance, housing support services; as well as group homes and permanent supportive housing for individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS throughout Los Angeles County.

### **Ascencia**

Office: 1851 Tyburn St.  
Glendale, CA 91204  
Phone: (818) 246- 7900  
Link: [www.ascenciaca.org](http://www.ascenciaca.org)

Ascencia provides a range of housing and programs to assist people out of homelessness, such as emergency housing, permanent supportive housing and street outreach.

### **Dolores Mission Guadalupe Homeless Project**

Office: 135 N Mission Rd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90033  
Phone: (323) 881-0018  
Email: [admin@proyectorpastoral.org](mailto:admin@proyectorpastoral.org)

Proyecto Pastoral at Dolores Mission is a community building organization whose mission is to provide training, education, and social services in the Pico-Aliso/Boyle Heights district of East Los Angeles. A majority of clients are immigrants who come to the United States looking for work, opportunity, and a way out of poverty.

- Men's Shelter: 171 S. Gless St., Los Angeles, CA 90033 – (323) 881-0032
- Women's Shelter: 135 N. Mission Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90033 – (323) 604-9985

## **Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles — Central Intake**

Phone: (877) 275-4537

Link: [www.jfsla.org](http://www.jfsla.org)

Through its shelter service programs, JFS serves homeless families as well as battered women and their children. JFS shelters are staffed by highly qualified professional staff trained to deal with the unique needs of clients. JFS shelter residents, in emergency and transitional shelters, benefit from a wide array of other services provided by JFS including individual therapy, support groups, case management, food and hunger services and vocational and legal assistance. JFS also operates two 24-hour hotlines for women who are in all stages of abusive relationships: (310) 858-9344 or (818) 505-0900.

## **Jovenes House**

Address: 1208 Pleasant Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90033

Phone: (323) 260-8035

Email: [jovenesinc@jovenesinc.org](mailto:jovenesinc@jovenesinc.org)

Link: [www.jovenesinc.org](http://www.jovenesinc.org)

Jovenes House offers a 12-bed emergency shelter for a stay of up to 90 days and an 8-bed transitional housing for a stay of up to 8 months for male youth ages 18-25.

## **Los Angeles LGBT Center – Youth Services**

Office: 1220 N. Highland Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90038

Phone: (323) 860-2280

Email: [youthservices@lalgbtcenter.org](mailto:youthservices@lalgbtcenter.org)

Link: [www.lalgbtcenter.org/youth\\_services](http://www.lalgbtcenter.org/youth_services)

The Los Angeles LGBT Center offers housing, training and services for LGBTQ individuals from 18-24 years of age.

- Housing: LGBTQ youths without a home can have a place to stay for up to 18 months while developing the skills, resources, and experience to make it on their own.
- Youth Center: LGBTQ youths without a home can obtain access to and information about services such as housing, food, clothing, showers, etc.

## **Los Angeles Youth Network**

Office: 1853 Taft Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90028  
Phone: (323) 467-8466  
Link: [www.layn.org/layn-programs/housing/emergency-shelter](http://www.layn.org/layn-programs/housing/emergency-shelter)

Through its 24-hour emergency shelters, group home, and transitional living programs, LAYN makes sure that not only are youth provided safe sleeping quarters, but a place of care and refuge they can call home. The LAYN Emergency Shelter & Drop in Center in Hollywood is open 24 hours for youths from ages 12-17. Call (323) 240-2253 for more information.

## **People Assisting the Homeless (PATH)**

Office: 340 North Madison Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90004  
Phone: (323) 644-2200  
Email: [path@epath.org](mailto:path@epath.org)  
Link: [www.epath.org](http://www.epath.org)

PATH Services provides the support that homeless individuals and families in order to successfully transition from living on the street to thriving in homes of their own. PATH Services include street outreach, interim housing and shelter, supportive services, and rapid re-housing for anyone who is homeless or at risk for homelessness.

## **Legal Services and Advocacy**

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### **Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)**

Office: 2533 West 3rd St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90057  
Phone: (888) 624-4752  
Link: [www.chirla.org](http://www.chirla.org)

CHIRLA's mission is to achieve a just society that is fully inclusive of immigrants. CHIRLA organizes and serves individuals, institutions, and coalitions to build power, transform public opinion, and change policies to achieve full human, civil and labor rights.

CHIRLA provides legal immigration services and community education to the immigrant community of Los Angeles. CHIRLA is recognized by the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) to provide immigration legal services and all legal staff and volunteers at CHIRLA are supervised by licensed attorneys, BIA-accredited representatives, Juris Doctors, and trained paralegals.

For more information about CHIRLA's services and programs, call the immigrant assistance hotline: 1-888-624-4752. The hotline is staffed by bilingual (Spanish/English) referral specialists, available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### **The Los Angeles LGBT Center — Legal Services and the Anti-Violence Program**

Office: 1220 N. Highland Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90038  
Phone: (323) 993-7400  
Link: [lalgbtcenter.org/social-service-and-housing/legal-services](http://lalgbtcenter.org/social-service-and-housing/legal-services)

With a team of staff and volunteer attorneys, law students, paralegals, and interns, the Los Angeles LGBT Center serves the legal needs of all LGBT people with a special focus on survivors of violence, undocumented immigrants, the transgender community, and youth. All services are provided in English or Spanish.

## **Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles**

Phone: (800) 399-4529

Link: [www.lafla.org](http://www.lafla.org)

LAFLA's attorneys provide free legal assistance to low-income people in the areas of: immigration, family law (divorce, custody, restraining orders), employment law, eviction defense, housing and government benefits. LAFLA also assists Lawful Permanent Residents (green card holders) apply for US Citizenship. For help with obtaining citizenship, call (213) 640-3918.

LAFLA immigration attorneys provide trauma focused, client centered, and linguistically appropriate legal assistance. Attorneys can help LAFLA eligible persons with representation before USCIS and the Immigration Courts with various forms of immigration benefits, including asylum, U Visas for survivors of crime, VAWA for survivors of domestic violence, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status for immigrant youth who have been abused, abandoned or neglected by one or both parents, family re-unification with eligible family members abroad, as well as other forms of deportation defense. Attorneys also help survivors of Human Trafficking (modern-day slavery), who have been forced to work in the sex trade, sweatshops, fields, and even private homes for meager or non-existent wages obtain T visas.

In addition, clients receiving CalWORKS as domestic violence survivors as well as torture survivors are supported by a case manager who collaborates and guides the client through the complex legal, economic, and social issues associated with being undocumented and having experienced trauma. Case management services include one-on-one sessions to explore the emotional and social effects of domestic violence and torture. LAFLA social workers assist clients with court accompaniment, resource coordination, domestic violence education, safety planning, needs assessment, and other services.

## **Bet Tzedek — The House of Justice**

Office: 3250 Wilshire Blvd., 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Phone: (323) 939-0506

Fax: (213) 471-4568

Link: [www.bettzedek.org](http://www.bettzedek.org)

Bet Tzedek provides free legal services for low-income individuals and families. Services include advice and representation at trials, administrative hearings, and appeals. Bet Tzedek handles the following types of cases: consumer fraud, home equity fraud, advanced healthcare directives, powers of attorney, statutory wills, conservatorships, elder abuse, in-home supportive services benefits, Social Security, Medi-Cal, Medicare, disability benefits appeals, guardianships, landlord-tenant issues, wage and hour claims, human trafficking response, and Holocaust reparations.

## **EI Centro Legal Clinics — UCLA**

Email: [elcentro@lawnet.ucla.edu](mailto:elcentro@lawnet.ucla.edu)

Link: <http://law.ucla.edu/student-life/student-organizations/el-centro-legal-clinics>

As a joint effort between the Immigration Law Society and EI Centro, the Immigration (VAWA) Clinic helps undocumented immigrants who have left abusive relationships or have been victims of serious crimes to submit VAWA or U-Visa applications. These applications allow them to stay in the country, receive a work permit, and obtain permanent residence. Eligible applicants are also placed on the path to U.S. citizenship. Volunteers work directly with clients, including women who are victims of domestic violence, as well as men and children who have suffered sexual abuse, felonious assault, and attempted murder.

## **Immigration Equality**

Phone: (212) 714-2904

Email: [info@immigrationequality.org](mailto:info@immigrationequality.org)

Link: [www.immigrationequality.org](http://www.immigrationequality.org)

Immigration Equality is a national advocacy organization that represents LGBT and HIV-positive asylum seekers, detainees, and binational couples who are fighting for safety, fair treatment, and freedom. For more than 20 years, it has focused on providing free legal services to LGBT and HIV-positive immigrants.

## **Lambda Legal, Western Regional Office**

Office: 4221 Wilshire Blvd. #280  
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Phone: (213) 382-7600

Fax: (213) 351-6050

Email: [members@lambdalegal.org](mailto:members@lambdalegal.org)

Link: [www.lambdalegal.org/issues/immigration](http://www.lambdalegal.org/issues/immigration)

Lambda Legal provides assistance for legal matters involving sexual orientation, gender identity or HIV. Lambda Legal's National Leadership Council (NLC) is a group of volunteers who have agreed to take a leadership role in developing financial resources to support the mission of Lambda Legal.

## **Los Angeles HIV Law and Policy Project (LA HLPP)**

Phone: (310) 794-7367  
Link: [www.thelahlpp.org](http://www.thelahlpp.org)

The Los Angeles HIV Law and Policy Project (LA HLPP) serves as the centralized intake and outreach program for HIV-related legal issues in Los Angeles County and performs litigation and policy work on issues that affect people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA).

If you think you might have a legal need, call LA HLPP. LA HLPP works with different legal organizations to connect PLWHA to professionals who might be able to help. LA HLPP provides two main services for HIV-positive Los Angeles County residents:

1. Legal intake, referral and/or representation; and
2. Education and outreach on HIV-related legal issues.

## **National Immigration Law Center**

Address: PO Box 70067  
Los Angeles, CA 90070  
Phone: (213) 639-3900  
Link: [www.nilc.org](http://www.nilc.org)

Founded in 1979, the National Immigration Law Center is the primary advocacy organization in the U.S. exclusively dedicated to defending and advancing the rights and opportunities of low-income immigrants and their families.

## **Public Counsel**

Office: 610 S. Ardmore Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90005  
Phone: (213) 385-2977  
Link: [www.publiccounsel.org](http://www.publiccounsel.org)

Public Counsel's Immigrants' Rights Project represents individuals seeking asylum in the United States based on past persecution or a well-founded fear of future persecution on account of political opinion, race, religion, nationality or membership in a particular social group. Public Counsel also assists immigrants who have been abused by a US citizen or permanent resident, and victims of trafficking and other crimes.

## **USC Gould School of Law Immigration Clinic**

Office: 699 Exposition Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90089  
Phone: (213) 821-5987  
Email: [nfrenzen@law.usc.edu](mailto:nfrenzen@law.usc.edu)

Students in the Clinic provide pro-bono representation to clients in a variety of immigration cases including asylum, applications for relief under the Violence Against Women Act, and other applications for relief from removal. Many of the clients who are seeking asylum are victims of torture, sexual assault, and other forms of severe violence. In some cases, the client's life or freedom is at stake. Asylum cases comprise the majority of the Immigration Clinic's docket of 80-90 open cases. Currently the clinic is representing clients from over 25 different countries. Most come from Africa; others are from Mexico, the Middle East, Europe, and South and Central America.

## Human Trafficking

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### Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (CAST)

Office: 5042 Wilshire Blvd. #586  
Los Angeles, CA 90036  
Phone: (213) 365-1906  
Email: [info@castla.org](mailto:info@castla.org)  
Hotline: 1(888)-KEY-2-FREEDOM or 1(888)-539-2373  
Link: [www.castla.org/homepage](http://www.castla.org/homepage)

CAST was created in 1998 to provide intensive case management, comprehensive services, and advocacy to survivors of slavery. CAST is a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual human rights organization that has been nationally and internationally recognized for its dedication to the identification of trafficking survivors, the mobilization of all sectors of the community to identify and advocate against trafficking, and the provision of direct services for victims.

CAST provides comprehensive long-term services, including social services, legal services and outreach and training. The organization also operates the first shelter in the nation solely dedicated to serving victims of trafficking and established the first partnership of its kind with Saban Free Clinic — a family clinic in Los Angeles trained to address the health and mental health needs of trafficking victims.

CAST operates a toll-free human trafficking hotline to provide around the clock response to victims. It serves as a resource for the community for referrals, technical assistance and reporting tips regarding potential human trafficking cases.

### Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

Office: West Office and Program Administration  
1102 Crenshaw Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90019  
Phone: (800) 399-4529  
Link: [www.lafla.org](http://www.lafla.org)

LAFLA's attorneys provide free legal assistance that is trauma focused, client centered and linguistically appropriate to survivors of human trafficking. This includes persons who through force, fraud or coercion have been forced, to work in any field such as: homes, restaurants, sweatshops, massage parlors, construction, field work and/or provide sex. For some persons, this could include survival sex, prostitution, or pornography.

LAFLA will assist survivors with obtaining T visas to legalize their status, or another appropriate immigration remedy. In addition, LAFLA can also help with name and gender change, expungements and employment law related assistance. In addition, LAFLA will make appropriate referrals for social work, therapy and shelter, amongst others.

## Survivors of Torture

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### Programs for Torture Victims (PVT)

Office: 3550 Wilshire Boulevard #1906  
Los Angeles, CA 90010  
Phone: 213-384-4788 ext. 246  
Email: [refer@ptvla.org](mailto:refer@ptvla.org)  
Link: [www.ptvla.org](http://www.ptvla.org)

The Program for Torture Victims (PTV) is a non-profit organization that rebuilds the lives of torture survivors from over 70 countries who have stood up for freedom, democracy, and human dignity. The first organization of its kind in the country, PTV has helped heal the wounds of thousands of survivors through comprehensive services, empowering them to re-enter society, reclaim their identities, and work toward a world without torture.

PTV provides services to more than 300 survivors annually and offers specialized, trauma-informed counseling; case management; peer group support; and health services. PTV provides forensic psychological and medical reports for qualified torture survivors applying for asylum and other forms of immigration relief.

The Program for Torture Victims (PTV) has developed an integrated, comprehensive approach to healing. Our clients see a PTV case manager, physician and psychotherapist. We partner with some of the region's leading service providers, including the USC Eisner Family Medical Center, St. John's Well Child & Family Center, the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles and Public Counsel, among others.

## Transportation

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### City of West Hollywood Transportation Programs

Office: 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
West Hollywood, CA 90069  
Phone: (323) 848-6326  
Link: [www.weho.org/services/public-transportation-transit-options](http://www.weho.org/services/public-transportation-transit-options)

The City of West Hollywood offers many transportation options for getting around town:

- Subsidized Senior & Disabled Tap Card Program — The City of West Hollywood subsidizes senior (62+) and disabled monthly transit fare to West Hollywood residents. To qualify for a subsidy, you will need a current Senior or Disabled Orange TAP card. If Applications for Senior or Disabled TAP cards can be found at [www.metro.net/riding/fares](http://www.metro.net/riding/fares).
- Dial-A-Ride — Dial-A-Ride is curb-to-curb shared-ride transportation for West Hollywood Residents aged 62 and over, scheduled by appointment and managed by MV Transit under contract with the City of West Hollywood. Shopping shuttle is available weekly. To schedule a pick-up, call (323) 851-8202.
- Taxi Program — The City of West Hollywood offers a taxi subsidy card for West Hollywood residents aged 62 and over for use with regular City taxis. For more information, call (310) 981-9303.
- Cityline and CitylineX — Cityline is a free, local fixed-route service that runs Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. CitylineX is a free connection between West Hollywood and the Hollywood & Highland Metro Station during rush hours, Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more information and a route map, please visit [www.weho.org/cityline](http://www.weho.org/cityline).
- The PickUp — The PickUp is a free shuttle that runs along Santa Monica Boulevard between La Brea Avenue and Robertson Boulevard on Fridays and Saturdays from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. For more information, visit [www.wehopickup.com](http://www.wehopickup.com).



If you cannot find what you're looking for in this resource guide — 211 can help.

211 LA is a nonprofit organization that provides access to comprehensive health and social services information for housing, food, clothing, health and mental health care, crisis services and more.

If you are in Los Angeles County dial 2-1-1.

**Updated March 15, 2017**

City of West Hollywood's  
Department of  
Human Services and Rent Stabilization

**For more information, additional assistance, or to report updates to this guide, please contact the City of West Hollywood's Social Services Division at (323) 848-6510.**



**City of West Hollywood  
Social Services Division  
8300 Santa Monica Boulevard  
West Hollywood, CA 90069**

**General Information  
(323) 848-6400**

**TTY for People Who are Deaf or Hearing Impaired  
(323) 848-6496**

**[www.weho.org](http://www.weho.org)**

**   @wehocity**