

LEAP

LAWYERS' EXECUTIVE ADVISORY PARTNERS TO PREVENT AND END HOMELESSNESS

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“The work I’ve done with NLCHP makes me proud of my profession, and reminds me why I became a lawyer.”

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* Affiliation for identification purposes only.

LEAP is a national legal community philanthropic effort to help homeless and poor Americans achieve self-sufficiency. LEAP members provide financial support and pro bono legal services to help the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty (NLCHP) prevent and end homelessness.

Through membership in LEAP, NLCHP offers law firms, corporate legal departments, and individual practitioners pro bono opportunities such as:

- Protecting homeless children’s right to a free public education by breaking down barriers to enrollment and social services.
- Participating as *amicus curiae* in the Supreme Court and courts of appeals around the country in cases that affect the rights of homeless and poor Americans;
- Representing homeless people prosecuted for violating public ordinances against life-sustaining activities such as eating or sleeping in public spaces;
- Protecting domestic violence survivors from eviction or loss of housing due to the violence against them; and
- Helping homeless service providers around the country access surplus federal property available at no cost under Title V of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and the Base Closure Community Redevelopment and Homeless Assistance Act of 1994.

NLCHP’s mission is to prevent and end homelessness by serving as the legal arm of the nationwide movement to end homelessness. To achieve its mission, NLCHP pursues three main strategies: impact litigation, policy advocacy, and public education. To leverage the work of its small staff, NLCHP relies on interns, volunteers, and the pro bono assistance of the private bar.

NLCHP was founded in 1989, and is governed by a fifteen-member board of directors that includes lawyers, researchers, and activists. Based in Washington, DC, NLCHP works with thousands of groups around the country.

NLCHP was established by Maria Foscarinis, a former Sullivan and Cromwell litigation associate who became an advocate for homeless people through her pro bono work at that firm. For more information, contact NLCHP at (202) 638-2535.