

Project HEAL

at Kennedy Krieger Institute



Advocacy and civil legal services
for children with intellectual and
developmental disabilities and
their families



Maryland Center for
Developmental Disabilities

Do you need help obtaining special education and related services for your child?

Do you need representation to appeal an SSI or SSDI denial?



Our Program

Project HEAL (Health, Education, Advocacy, and Law) is a community-based program of the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities at Kennedy Krieger Institute and is Maryland's only comprehensive medical-legal partnership. Project HEAL's attorneys collaborate with Kennedy Krieger's staff members and trainees to provide advocacy and civil legal services (e.g., representation and limited representation) for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities who receive clinical services at Kennedy Krieger, and their families, regardless of their immigration status.

How can Project HEAL help me?

You may have challenges in your day-to-day life that affect your child's health and well-being. Project HEAL's attorneys provide the following advocacy and civil legal services:

- **Representation:** In special education matters, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) appeals, adult guardianship matters and less restrictive alternatives, and simple family law matters
- **Limited representation:** Brief advice, document review, referrals, information and resources
- **Case consultations:** Advice for Kennedy Krieger's staff members and trainees
- **Pro bono referrals:** To law firms and other nonprofit legal service organizations
- **Professional training:** For Kennedy Krieger's staff members and trainees
- **Community training:** For children, families, service providers, law firms, local educational agencies and organizations



“Project HEAL secured additional evaluations through the school system and effectively advocated for a more appropriate educational program and placement for my son.”

– Parent

Am I eligible? What does it cost?

Project HEAL provides civil legal services for patients at Kennedy Krieger Institute with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and their families, who meet the income eligibility requirements and have a civil legal issue requiring an attorney. Fees are determined based on a sliding scale. Written proof of income and advance payment are required. Project HEAL provides representation at the discretion of its attorneys.

For current income eligibility guidelines and fees, contact Project HEAL at **443-923-4414**.

Project HEAL offers mentorship programs at schools that include:

- Towson University
- University of Baltimore School of Law
- University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law

Funders:

- Family foundations
- RE/MAX Advantage Realty
- Individual donors
- WITH Foundation

Kennedy Krieger Institute recognizes and respects the rights of employees, trainees, and patients and students, and their families. At Kennedy Krieger, we ground our care, services, training and research in treating others with respect and civility. We respect the cultural identity of every person. Kennedy Krieger does not discriminate against people based on, but not limited to, perceived or actual race, color, culture, ethnicity, national origin, age, language spoken, accent, marital status, veteran or military status, immigration status, socioeconomic status (i.e., access to resources), physical or mental disability, religion, pregnancy status, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. We strive for equitable care for all individuals for whom we provide services, training, education and research participation. We encourage employees, trainees, and patients and students, and their families, to become active partners in the services provided by asking questions, seeking resources and advocating for their needs. Our culture of care is extended to our patients, the patients' family members and other people served. Here, "family" refers to parents, other family members, guardians, surrogate decision-makers and healthcare agents. ©2025 Kennedy Krieger Institute 2/2025

A PROJECT OF:



Maryland Center for
Developmental Disabilities

The Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities (MCDD) is one of a national network of University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service federally funded by the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities are increasingly assuming their rightful place in society. Staff members who work on MCDD projects adhere to high ethical standards of professional practice, and they respect and support the legal and human rights of people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Contact Information

Project HEAL at Kennedy Krieger Institute

For more information or to complete a phone intake, please call **443-923-4414**. TTY users, please contact us at **443-923-2645**, or dial **711** to make a Maryland Relay call.

Visit **KennedyKrieger.org/ProjectHEAL** to complete an English or Spanish intake form online.

Fax: **443-923-4417**

Location

1741 Ashland Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21205

Visit **KennedyKrieger.org/SupportProjectHEAL** to make a donation to support Project HEAL.

** The photograph on the cover is for illustrative purposes only, and the person shown is a model.*



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