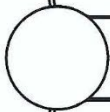




health law advocates
Lawyers Fighting for Health Care Justice



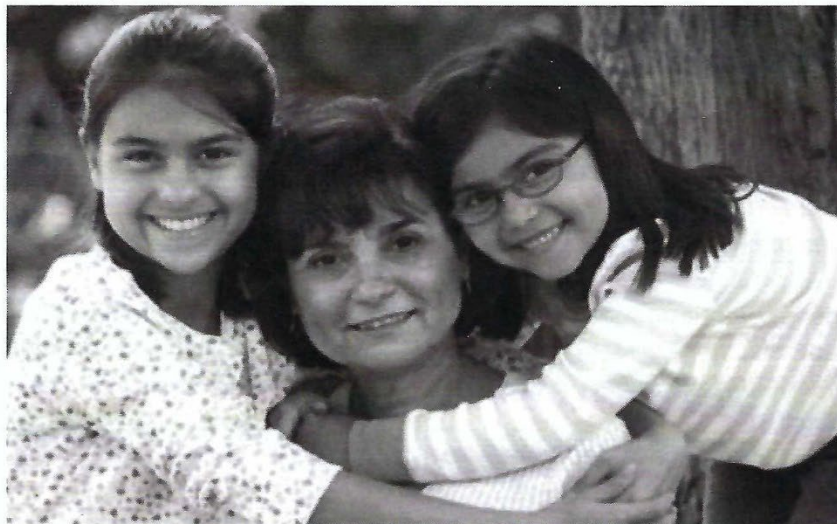
Is your child receiving the mental health/substance abuse treatment they need?



Has your child been denied access to mental health services?



Is your child struggling in school, at home, or in the community?



We're here to help.

Call 617.275.2919 or visit

www.HealthLawAdvocates.org/initiatives/MHAPforKids

Health Law Advocates • One Federal Street, 5th Floor • Boston, MA 02110
www.healthlawadvocates.org • Tel: 617-275-2919, Fax: 833-915-0171



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FAQs

What is Health Law Advocates?

Health Law Advocates (HLA) is a non-profit public interest law firm whose mission is to provide *free* legal representation to people whose incomes are below 300% of the federal poverty threshold and who are experiencing difficulty accessing or paying for needed health care services. HLA is committed to ensuring universal access to quality health care in Massachusetts, particularly for those who are most at risk due to such factors as race, gender, disability, age, immigration status or geographic location.

What is the MHAP for Kids?

HLA's Mental Health Advocacy Program for Kids (**MHAP for Kids**) improves the health and increases educational success of children with unmet mental health needs who are at risk for possible or further court involvement, by providing legal assistance to improve access to needed mental health services. **MHAP for Kids** has a proven track record of significantly improving the lives of high risk youth and their families in a cost-effective manner.

An independent study of MHAP for Kids found that the program substantially improves school attendance, improves families' mental health and functioning while decreasing the use of emergency and inpatient mental health services, and reduces unnecessary costs for the state. **MHAP for Kids** embeds a specially-trained attorney/advocate in Family Resource Centers (FRCs) statewide. The ten attorneys assist up to 300 youths at a time.

What services does MHAP for Kids provide?

- Begin or improve special education services
- Secure and/or coordinate community-based mental health services
- Collaborate with Dept. of Children and Families, Dept. of Mental Health, and Dept. of Development Services
- Advocate for general education accommodations
- Assist with health insurance coverage

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