



MLPB

ADVANCING HEALTH THROUGH JUSTICE

October 2020



**Massachusetts's COVID-19 Eviction & Foreclosure
Moratorium Law is set to expire on Oct. 17, 2020.**

MA-based tenants at risk for eviction may be eligible for:

Federal eviction moratorium protection (in effect through at least 12/31/2020):

- Tenants still can be evicted for reasons other than nonpayment of rent.
- At-risk renters need to meet the requirements spelled out in the CDC notice and sign and share [this declaration](#) with their landlord.
- The Declaration has been translated into multiple languages. More information [here](#).
- The protection applies to new and already-filed evictions so long as the tenant completes the declaration.
- If landlords fail to comply with the moratorium, there are criminal penalties enforceable by the Department of Justice.
- Tenants are encouraged to make partial payments to their landlords.

Rental Relief: The Commonwealth announced on Monday a [COVID-19 Eviction Diversion Initiative](#) with supports for both tenants and landlords.

Check out [Frequently Asked Questions](#) here.

Rhode Island

There is no state-specific eviction moratorium in RI, so the protections offered by the federal moratorium are even more valuable in the Ocean State.

- At-risk RI renters need to meet the requirements noted in the CDC notice and sign and share the [HHC/CDC declaration](#) with their landlord.
 - Key resources:
 - Limited eviction defense is available through [RI Legal Services](#) and the [RI Center for Justice](#).
 - **Safe Harbor Housing Program** offers tenants a solution outside of the court system by supporting them to create payment plan with their landlord. To apply, tenants or landlords can visit [United Way RI's website](#).
 - **HomeSafe** rental assistance fund is open and a common application can be found [here](#); this is a one-time grant of financial assistance for families experiencing housing instability.
 - [WeR1 program](#) supports those unable to access benefits due to immigration status.
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MLPB will continue to monitor developments and provide updates to care teams. For more up-to-date information, check out the *On Our Mind* content at the end of this newsletter and MLPB's [Digital Digest](#)!



READ ALL ABOUT IT

The evidence base is growing for
[Legal Partnering for Child & Family Health!](#)

Check out [*Before Crisis Hits: Embedding Legal Support in Preventive Health Care for Families with Young Children*](#), a hot-off-the-presses Research Brief from [Chapin Hall](#) that synthesizes how legal partnering is strengthening [DULCE](#) communities. MLPB is honored to be part of the DULCE National Team and Learning Network, led by the [Center for the Study of Social Policy](#) with support from the [JPB Foundation](#).

- Want to dive deeper on DULCE and legal partnering? Learn more [here](#) and [here](#).
- Interested in prevention-oriented legal partnering for your organization or workforce? Contact MLPB's Partnership Manager [Jeff Gilbert](#).



When Paperwork Isn't Just Paperwork.

MLPB has long spotlighted how [healthcare providers](#), and increasingly [interdisciplinary care teams](#), are not merely engaged in screening, triage, and response when they engage with people's health-related social needs. Rather, care teams actually function as "gatekeepers" who – by virtue of paperwork requirements – often stand between people and the benefits, services and legal protections that they want and to which they are legally entitled. *Paperwork-as-barrier* was highlighted this month in a *Health Affairs* brief Check out [How Administrative Burdens Can Harm Health](#) and be in touch with us at MLPB if you want to explore how we might partner to reduce social need-related paperwork burdens together – both for individuals and families and for the care teams who problem-solve with them!



. . . to our two new Legal Advisors!



Andrea Darling

Marsophia Ducheine

Head to our team member's page to see their full bios!

Read more!



Anti-Racism & Health

- [Value-Based Health Care Must Value Black Lives](#) (*Health Affairs*, Sept. 3, 2020)

- [Making Anti-Racism a Core Value in Academic Medicine](#) (*Health Affairs*, Aug. 25, 2020)

Care Delivery & Financing

- [Beyond Survival to Transformation: Investing in Safety-Net Innovation to Address the Impacts of COVID-19](#) (*Health Affairs*, Oct. 5, 2020)
- [A New "PPE" for a Thriving Community: Public Health, Primary Care, Health Equity](#) (*Health Affairs*, Sept. 25, 2020)
- [To Design Equitable Value-Based Payment Systems, We Must Adjust for Social Risk](#) (*Health Affairs*, Sept. 17, 2020)
- [Health Care's Social Movement Should Not Leave Science Behind](#) (*The Milbank Quarterly*, Sept. 3, 2020)
- [How Foundational Moments In Medicaid's History Reinforced Rather Than Eliminated Racial Health Disparities](#) (*Health Affairs*, Sept. 1, 2020)
- [Recognizing Privilege as a \[SDOH\] During COVID-19](#) (*Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.* Aug. 27, 2020)
- [Collaborative Approach to Public Goods Investments \(CAPGI\): Lessons Learned from a Feasibility Study](#) (*Health Affairs*, Aug. 13, 2020)

Digital Equity

- [Bridging the digital equity divide through digital equity offices](#) (*Brookings*, July 23, 2020)

Early Childhood

- [How COVID-19 Threatens the Safety Net for U.S. Children](#) (*Health Affairs*, Oct. 2020) (subscription required)
- [Principles and Policies to Strengthen Child and Adolescent Health and Well-being](#) (*Health Affairs*, Oct. 2020) (subscription required)
- [Racial and Ethnic Inequities in Children's Neighborhoods: Evidence from the New Child Opportunity Index 2.0](#) (*Health Affairs*, Oct. 2020)
- [Spreading Fear: The Announcement of the Public Charge Rule Reduced Enrollment in Child Safety Net Programs](#) (*Health Affairs*, Oct. 2020) (subscription required)
- [Changing the Face of Health Care Delivery: the Importance of Youth Participation](#) (*Health Affairs*, Oct. 2020) (subscription required)
- [When Reimagining Systems of Safety, Take a Closer Look At The Child Welfare System](#) (*Brookings*, July 23, 2020)

- [Protecting Our Children's Well-Being During COVID-19: Recommendations for Supporting Children and Families Who Have Experienced Trauma and Stress During the Pandemic](#) (*Mass.gov*, June 2020)

Economic Inclusion

- [\[RI's\] minimum wage increases today: Here's how we compare to the rest of New England](#) (*The Boston Globe*, Oct. 1, 2020) (subscription required)
- [Momentum for Basic Income Builds as Pandemic Drags On](#) (*PEW*, Sept. 17, 2020)
- [Elorza says Providence set to launch guaranteed income program for city residents](#) (*Providence Journal*, Sept. 16, 2020)
- [It's Time for an Official Measure of Economic Well-being](#) (*CSSP*, Sept. 15, 2020)
- [Long Beach City Council votes in support of universal basic income pilot program](#) (*Press-Telegram*, Sept. 1, 2020)
- [\\$1,000 'Baby Bond' Proposed in N.J. in Bid to Narrow the Wealth Gap](#) (*The New York Times*, Aug. 25, 2020) (subscription required)

Health Justice

- [The Flint Settlement: The Exception that Proved the Rule](#) (*Health Affairs*, Sept. 2, 2020)
- [Legal Interventions to Address U.S. Reductions in Life Expectancy](#) (*JAMA Network*, Aug. 24, 2020)
- [Assessing Legal Responses to COVID-19](#) (*Public Health Law Watch*, Aug. 2020)

Housing

- [More time, money key to easing eviction pain](#) (*The Boston Globe*, Oct. 14, 2020) (subscription required)
- [Will Baker's rental relief plan be enough to fend off a feared wave of evictions?](#) (*The Boston Globe*, Oct. 12, 2020) (subscription required)
- [Walsh says major landlords promise not to evict tenants when moratorium ends](#) (*The Boston Globe*, Oct. 7, 2020) (subscription required)
- [Elderly and Homeless: America's Next Housing Crisis](#) (*The New York Times*, Sept. 30, 2020) (subscription required)

- [Communities Can Better Prevent Homelessness Through Housing- and Justice-System Partnerships](#) (*Housing Matters*, Sept. 16, 2020)
- [The Rent Eats First, Even During a Pandemic](#) (*The New York Times*, Aug. 29, 2020) (subscription required)

Immigration

- [The Final Public Charge Admissibility Rule: Implications for Massachusetts](#) (*Commonwealth Medicine*, Sept. 2020)
- [Correcting the Contradictions: Immigration Policy and HIV](#) (*Health Affairs*, Nov. 8, 2019)

LGBTQAI+ Health

- [Another Court Vacates LGBTQ-Specific Rollbacks from New 1557 Rule](#) (*Health Affairs*, Sept. 4, 2020)

MLPB equips communities of care with legal problem-solving education and strategies that disrupt the evolution of a person's social, economic, or environmental need into a legal — and health — crisis.

Through training, consultation and technical assistance, we help workforce partners understand their unique capacities to *unlock access* to a range of health-promoting benefits, services, and legal protections — thereby advancing health equity.

MLPB is a fiscally sponsored program of [TSNE MissionWorks](#).

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Connect with us



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