Creative Outreach Strategies
How to Reach Communities during COVID-19

October 27, 2020
Panelists

- Alex Clark, Community Outreach Assistant, Montana Legal Services Association
- Hillie Teller, Assistant Director Community Outreach Program, Legal Information for Families Today (LIFT)
- Cynthia Garcia (she, hers, ella), National Campaigns Manager For Community Protection, United We Dream
Getting Started....

Cynthia Garcia
Deportation Defense Program

- MigraWatch Hotline
- Community Calls and Trainings
- Community Defense Materials
- Summer of Dreams Virtually
Intro: Outreach in Montana

- Alex Clark (he/him/his)
- Community Outreach Assistant
- Montana Legal Services Association (MLSA)
The Landscape for Outreach in MT

Libby to Ekalaka = 747 Miles / 12 Hr Drive

MLSA Office

Sovereign American Indian Nation

Washington, D.C. to Chicago, IL = 699 Miles / 2.5 Hr Flight
Outreach in Montana, B.C.
A New Normal for Outreach

4 Steps to Avoid Eviction for Nonpayment

1. Apply for the Montana Emergency Housing Assistance program:
   - Housing MT.Gov/Rental-Housing/CovidHousingAssist.

2. See which legal protections you qualify for:
   - CARES Act requirement for 30 day notice for "federally covered housing units"
   - Governor Bullock's directive protecting people who are vulnerable to coronavirus
   - CDC Order halting some evictions through 2020.

3. Communicate with your landlord:
   - Tell your landlord in writing which protections you qualify for
   - Try to work out a payment plan.

4. Get legal help:
   - Free legal info and forms: montanalawhelp.org
   - Apply for free legal help: mtsa.org.

COVID-19 STIMULUS PAYMENTS

Did you file a tax return for 2018 or 2019? NO

Do you have dependents and want to claim a $500 payment for each of them? YES

Do you receive Social Security, Retirement, Disability Insurance, or Survivor Benefits? NO

You will automatically receive a payment.

You only receive Supplement Security Income (SSI) from Social Security? YES

Do you only receive Supplement Security Income (SSI) from Social Security? NO

You will need to file a 2019 tax return.

REMINDER
ASK AN ATTORNEY:
HOUSING AND COVID-19
APRIL 2, 2020 AT 3:00 PM MDT

WILL IN A BOX
A FACEBOOK LIVE EVENT

LEARN MORE

10 Comments 29 Shares
Rising Awareness of Civil Legal Aid

"You don’t have health coverage. You’re living on the streets in the middle of a pandemic...

... The natural results of that are, unfortunately, pretty obvious,” MLSA Director of Advocacy Tal Goldin.

Applied for emergency housing assistance through the state of Montana but haven’t heard back yet? You’re not alone. A backlog of cases means that many people are still waiting to learn if they will receive assistance or not. This can cause problems for people who have received eviction notices from their landlords for not paying rent.

As MLSA Housing Attorney Amy Hall put it, “The whole purpose of this emergency housing assistance fund is to get money into the hands of housing providers or mortgage servicers so that folks don’t lose their homes. And that needs to happen quickly for it to be effective.”

To learn more about the Emergency Housing Assistance program and the backlog currently slowing down cases, visit Montana Public Radio at http://www.montanapublicradio.org.

"The whole purpose of this emergency housing assistance fund is to get money into the hands of housing providers or mortgage servicers so that folks don’t lose their homes."

MLSA Helpline Update

Hi Everyone -
I hope this finds you well. Here is this week’s MLSA Helpline Update.

- We will have all Intake Specialists available to answer calls to the Helpline through the week.

COVID-19 Updates

Having trouble making sense of all the different COVID-19 housing protections in place?

We did some housekeeping last week updating out-of-date resources, archiving irrelevant ones, and adding new content. Here’s what we have to report:

There are three sources of protection for renters in Montana:
1. The CDC order that halts some evictions through December 31, 2020, and
2. Governor Bullock’s Directive that halts some evictions, fees, rent increases, and utility shutoffs until the end of the COVID-19 pandemic for renters who are vulnerable to coronavirus,
3. The federal CARES Act requirement that requires a landlord of a “federally

Immigration Advocates Network
Our mission is to **enhance access to justice** for children and families by providing **legal information**, **community education**, and compassionate guidance, while promoting system-wide reform of the courts and public agencies.
New York family law information & advice on child support, custody, visitation, orders of protection, court procedure, and more.

- Legal Advice Consultations
- Family Law Helpline 212-343-1122
- Family Legal Connection
- Legal Resource Guides
- Community Legal Education

www.LIFTonline.org
Panelist Q & A

➔ shifting to remote
➔ informing your community
➔ impact on outreach
➔ meeting the challenges
➔ successful strategies
➔ failure too
➔ ongoing issues
➔ measuring success
➔ favorite tips, tools, events....
LIFT’s Favorite Outreach Tools

Conozca sus derechos en la corte de familia
Únase a nosotros a través de su computadora, tableta o teléfono en Zoom o Facebook Live

Webinar gratuito
23 de septiembre 3PM - 4PM
Inscríbete a www.tinyurl.com/2020LIFTSeptiembre

Legal Information for Families Today | www.LIFTonline.org

Do you need an Order of Protection from Family Court?
LIFT Family Law Helpline 212-343-1122

Thanks for watching!
Favorite Outreach in Montana
Community Outreach
Community Outreach

Apply Now

DACA UPDATE WEBINAR
Are you undocumented? Do you have DACA?

Text DACADECISION to 877-877 to be among the first to know what the Supreme Court decides and what it means for you.

United We Dream
Questions?

(Use the chat box on the right of your screen to ask questions.)
Join Us!

Join a community of over 9,000 advocates dedicated to protecting and promoting the rights of immigrants in the United States.

To learn more, visit

www.immigrationadvocates.org

twitter.com/immadvocates

facebook.com/immigrationadvocates