

## ABOUT US

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### Community Legal Aid

is a non-profit organization that provides free civil legal services to low-income and elderly residents of Central and Western Massachusetts.

### Springfield & Worcester Fair Housing Project

Community Legal Aid's Springfield & Worcester Fair Housing Project assists renters who have been treated unfairly because of their race, religion, sex (including gender identity and experiences with domestic violence), color, national origin, disability, and familial status in Hampden and Worcester Counties. We can provide legal advice, advocacy, and representation.

The Fair Housing Projects also conducts educational workshops on fair housing laws for tenant groups, social service providers, landlords, and other community members and trains civil rights investigators to “test” whether housing providers are unlawfully discriminating against tenants and applicants for housing.

## Contact Us

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### Springfield

One Monarch Place, Suite 400  
Springfield, MA 01144

### Worcester

370 Main Street, Suite 200  
Worcester, MA 01608

### Call us:

855-252-5342

Find us:    

[WWW.COMMUNITYLEGAL.ORG](http://WWW.COMMUNITYLEGAL.ORG)

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## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS:

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# SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND FAIR HOUSING



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*Springfield & Worcester Fair Housing Project*



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## People who are in recovery with a substance use disorder are protected by both federal and state anti-discrimination laws.

That is because being in recovery from a substance use disorder, and having an alcohol use disorder, qualify as disabilities under the law.

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## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

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### Housing providers cannot:

1. Refuse to rent to you because of an actual or perceived disability
2. Refuse to rent to, or evict you, because you take prescribed medication like methadone, Naltrexone, and Buprenorphine.
3. Evict you because of an alcohol use disorder as long as your alcohol use does not pose a direct threat to the health and/or safety of other tenants.

**If you are denied public or subsidized housing because of a criminal record, and that criminal record was the result of a substance of alcohol use disorder, you have the right to appeal that denial.**

If you think you are being discriminated against, document the interactions you have with the housing provider.



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**TALK TO A LAWYER ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS. IT'S FREE!**

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### Reporting Discrimination

- File a complaint with the US Department of Housing & Urban Development
- Contact the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination
- Contact us at Community Legal Aid



### Report Housing Discrimination to Community Legal Aid:

[WWW.COMMUNITYLEGAL.ORG/  
REPORT-HOUSING-DISCRIMINATION](http://WWW.COMMUNITYLEGAL.ORG/REPORT-HOUSING-DISCRIMINATION)

Scan this QR code with the camera on your smartphone to be taken to the online intake application.

