

CHAPTER XII

NATIONAL RESOURCE AND SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

(UPDATED AUGUST 2001,
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A. INTRODUCTION

Those involved with the delivery of legal services should be aware of the many organizations available to assist them. What follows is a directory listing of some of the National Resource and Support Organizations, along with a brief description of the services and resources offered by each organization.

A prior version of Chapter Twelve included a lengthy description of each organization as well as a list of its publications. Due to the difficulty inherent in keeping each organization's publications current, we have revised the format of Chapter Twelve to include only a brief description of each organization along with contact information for each organization. Please contact the individual organization for its publications.

B. NATIONAL RESOURCE AND SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

Administration on Aging (AoA)

330 Independence Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20201

(800) 677-1116 Eldercare Locator

(202) 619-7501 National Aging Information Center

(202) 401-4541 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Aging

Website: www.aoa.gov

AoA was created in 1965 with the passage of the Older Americans Act. It is headed by an Assistant Secretary appointed by the President, and it is housed within the Department of Health and Human Services. AoA funds the National Support Centers in Law and Aging, and runs a National Family Caregiver Support Program and Eldercare Locator to name just a few of its initiatives.

Alliance for Retired Americans

888 16th Street, NW

Washington, DC 20006

(888) 373-6497, Fax: (301) 578-8911

Website: www.retiredamericans.org

The Alliance for Retired Americans is a national organization that works to create an America that protects the health and economic security of seniors, rewards work, strengthens families and builds thriving communities. Retired members of participating unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO and members of the former National Council of Senior Citizens are automatically members.

American Association of Homes & Services for the Aging (AAHSA)

901 E Street, NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20004-2011

(202) 783-2242, Fax: (202) 783-2255

Website: www.aahsa.org

AAHSA represents not-for-profit organizations dedicated to providing high quality health care, housing, and services to the nation's elderly. Its membership consists of over 5000 not-for-profit nursing homes, continuing care retirement communities, senior housing facilities, assisted living and community services.

AARP

601 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005–1022
(800) 424–3410, Fax: (202) 662–8698
Website: www.aarp.org

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan association dedicated to shaping and enriching the experience of aging for its members and all Americans. It is the nation's largest organization of midlife and older persons with more than 30 million members.

American Bar Association (ABA) Commission on Legal Problems of the Elderly

740 15th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005–1022
(202) 662–8690, Fax: (202) 662–8698
Website: www.abanet.org/elderly/home.html

The ABA Commission on Legal Problems of the Elderly seeks to improve legal services for the elderly through involvement of the private bar. The Commission is involved in legal issues surrounding long term care, surrogate decision-making, individual rights, guardianship, housing, social security, elder abuse, and other public benefit programs.

American Society on Aging (ASA)

833 Market Street, Suite 511
San Francisco, CA 94103–1824
(415) 974–9600, Fax: (415) 974–0300
Website: www.asaging.org

ASA is founded on the premise that the complexity of aging can only be addressed as a multidisciplinary whole. To that end, it brings together researchers, practitioners, educators, business people, and policymakers concerned with the physical, emotional, social, economic, and spiritual aspects of aging.

Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

1101 15th Street, NW, Suite 1212
Washington, DC 20005-5002
(202) 467-5730, Fax: (202) 223-0409
Website: www.bazelon.org

The Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law is a nonprofit legal advocacy organization. The Center's advocacy is based on the principle that every individual is entitled to choice and dignity.

Brookdale Center on Aging

425 East 25th Street
New York, NY 10010
(212) 481-4426, Fax: (212) 481-5069
Website: www.brookdale.org

The Brookdale Center on Aging of Hunter College is a university-based gerontology center. It is made up of a multidisciplinary team of social workers, nurses, lawyers, educators, and ethicists who provide training and technical assistance to the aging network and non-aging agencies and businesses.

Center for Healthcare Rights

520 South Lafayette Park Place, Suite 214
Los Angeles, CA 90057
(213) 383-4519, 1-800-824-0780, Fax: (213) 383-4598
Website: www.healthcarerights.org

The Center for Healthcare Rights is a nonprofit, healthcare, consumer advocacy organization serving consumers through a combination of direct service programs and policy level advocacy.

Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

1616 P Street, NW, Suite 150
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 328–5140, Fax: (202) 328–5195
Website: www.clasp.org

CLASP is a national, non–profit organization with expertise in law and policy affecting the poor. CLASP seeks to improve the economic security of low–income families with children and secure access for low–income persons to our civil justice system.

Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc.

P.O. Box 350
Willimantic, CT 06226
(860) 456–7790, Fax: (860) 456–2614
Website: www.medicareadvocacy.org

The Center for Medicare Advocacy is a private, non–profit organization that provides education, advocacy, and legal assistance to help elders and people with disabilities obtain necessary healthcare. The Center focuses on the needs of Medicare beneficiaries, people with chronic conditions, and those in need of long–term care.

Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc. – Healthcare Rights Project

1101 Vermont Avenue, NW, Suite 1001
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 216–0028, Fax: (202) 216–0119
Website: www.medicareadvocacy.org/healthcarerights.htm

The Healthcare Rights Project is part of the Center for Medicare Advocacy. It is staffed by four attorneys who work to obtain and enforce healthcare rights for persons with chronic conditions and those in need of long–term care.

The Center for Social Gerontology, Inc. (TCSG)

2307 Shelby Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
(734) 665-1126, Fax: (734) 665-2071
Website: www.tcsg.org

TCSG is a non-profit research, training, and social policy organization dedicated to promoting the autonomy of older persons and advancing their well being in society. TCSG has pursued this goal through a variety of projects, including serving since 1985 as an Administration on Aging-funded National Support Center in Law and Aging.

Families USA

1334 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 628-3030, Fax: (202) 347-2417
Website: www.familiesusa.org

Families USA is a national, nonprofit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the achievement of high-quality, affordable health and long-term care for all Americans.

Gerontological Society of America

1030 15th Street, NW, Suite 250
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 842-1275, Fax: (202) 842-1150
Website: www.geron.org

The Gerontological Society of America provides networking opportunities for researchers, policymakers, educators, and practitioners; disseminates information on aging research; and advocates for increased public and private funding for research on aging.

Kansas Elder Law Network (KELN)

University of Kansas School of Law
202 Green Hall
Lawrence, KS 66045
Website: www.keln.org

KELN provides nationwide electronic access, via the World Wide Web, to primary and secondary materials pertaining to elder law. KELN is maintained primarily as a public service to Kansas senior citizens and their advocates, but its legal and quasi-legal databases are national in scope.

Leadership Council of Aging Organizations (LCAO)

409 Third Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024
(202) 479-1200, Fax: (202) 479-0735
Website: www.lcao.org

LCAO is a coalition of national, non-profit organizations concerned with the well-being of America's older population and committed to representing their interests in the policy-making arena.

Legal Counsel for the Elderly, Inc. (LCE)

601 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20049
(202) 662-4933
Website: www.aarp.org/foundation/capability.html

LCE is affiliated with AARP and the AARP Foundation. LCE provides a variety of legal and nursing home ombudsman services to residents of the District of Columbia.

Legal Services Corporation (LSC)

750 First Street, NE, Tenth Floor
Washington, DC 20002-4250
(202) 336-8800
Website: www.lsc.gov

The mission of LSC is to promote equal access to the courts by making grants to provide high-quality civil legal assistance for those who would be otherwise unable to afford legal counsel.

Medicaid Clearinghouse – Project of Families USA

1334 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 628-3030, Fax: (202) 347-2417
Website: www.familiesusa.org/html/medicaid/medicaid.htm

The Medicaid Clearinghouse offers a wide range of information and publications on the Medicaid program from Families USA and from other sources on the World Wide Web.

Medicare Rights Center

1460 Broadway, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10036
(212) 869-3850, Fax: (212) 869-3532
Website: www.medicarerights.org

The Medicare Rights Center is a national, not-for-profit organization that helps ensure that older adults and people with disabilities get good, affordable health care.

National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Inc. (NAELA)

1604 North Country Club Road
Tucson, AZ 85716
(520) 881-4005, Fax: (520) 325-7925
Website: www.naela.org

NAELA is a non-profit association that assists lawyers, bar associations, and those who work with older clients and their families. NAELA provides information, education, networking, and assistance to those who deal with the many specialized issues involved in delivery of legal services to the elderly and disabled.

National Aging Information Center (NAIC) – Administration on Aging

330 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 4656
Washington, DC 20201
(202) 619-7501, Fax: (202) 401-7620
Website: www.aoa.gov/naic

NAIC is operated by the U.S. Administration on Aging. NAIC provides a central source for a wide variety of program and policy related materials, as well as demographic, and other statistical data on the health, economic, and social status of older Americans.

National Association for Public Interest Law (NAPIL)

2120 L Street, NW, Suite 450
Washington, DC 20037
(202) 466-3686, Fax: (202) 429-9766
Website: www.napil.org

NAPIL is the country's leading organization engaged in organizing, training, and supporting public service-minded law students. It is the national leader in creating summer and postgraduate public interest jobs.

National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators (NAAPSA)

960 Lincoln Place
Boulder, CO 80302
(720) 565-0906, Fax (303) 443-3361
Email: NAAPSAOTTO@aol.com
Website: none

NAAPSA is a national membership organization. NAAPSA's mission is to improve the quality and availability of services for disabled adults and elderly persons who are abused, neglected, or exploited, and other vulnerable adults who are unable to protect their own interests.

National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (NAAAA)

927 15th Street, NW, 6th Floor
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 296-8130, Fax: (202) 296-8134
Website: www.n4a.org

NAAAA is the umbrella organization for the 655 Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) and the more than 230 Title VI Native American aging programs in the U.S. NAAAA advocates on behalf of the local aging agencies to ensure that needed resources and support services are available to older Americans.

National Association of Legal Services Developers (NALSD)

C/o The Center for Social Gerontology, Inc.
2307 Shelby Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
(734) 665-1126, Fax: (734) 665-2071
Website: none, but for more information and a listing of Legal Services Developers in each state, go to www.tcsg.org/lspdpage.htm

NALSD is the national, membership organization for Legal Services Developers (LSD). LSD's in each state assist in the development of quality legal and advocacy assistance for older persons in greatest economic or social need.

National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NAPAS)

900 Second Street, NE, Suite 211
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 408-9514, Fax: (202) 408-9520
Website: www.protectionandadvocacy.com

NAPAS is a national, voluntary, membership organization for the federally mandated, nationwide network of disability rights agencies, protection and advocacy systems, and client assistance programs.

National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)

1101 Vermont Avenue, Suite 1001
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 682-6899, Fax: (202) 684-3984
Website: www.nanasp.org

NANASP is a professional membership organization with members drawn from persons working in or interested in the field of aging, community-based services, and nutrition and the elderly.

National Association of State Ombudsman Programs (NASOP)

Contact Person: Sara Hunt
2007 Trail Wood Circle
Midland, MI 48642-3787
(517) 631-3817, Fax: (517) 631-3525
Website: none

NASOP is an organization composed of State Long Term Care Ombudsman Programs created by the Older Americans Act. NASOP is dedicated to improving the quality of care of long-term care consumers through effective Long Term Care Ombudsman Programs.

National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA)

1201 15th Street, NW, Suite 350
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 898–2578, Fax: (202) 898–2583
Website: www.nasua.org

NASUA is a national public interest organization that provides information, technical assistance, and professional development support to the State Units on Aging. NASUA also works to promote social policy at the Federal and State levels that is responsive to the needs of older Americans.

National Bar Association (NBA)

1225 11th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 842–3900, Fax: (202) 289–6170
Website: www.nationalbar.org

The NBA is America's oldest and largest bar association for people of color. It maintains a historical leadership role in the legal struggle for equal rights, equal opportunity, and equal justice.

National Caucus and Center on Black Aged (NCBA)

1220 L Street, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 637–8400, Fax: (202) 347–0895
Website: www.ncba-blackaged.org

NCBA is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for African Americans and low-income elderly. NCBA concentrates its efforts on employment and training, housing, health promotion, and advocacy.

National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA)

1201 15th Street, NW, Suite 350
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 898–2586, Fax: (202) 898–2583
Website: www.elderabusecenter.org

NCEA exists to provide elder abuse information to professionals and the public, offer technical assistance and training, conduct short-term research, and assist with program and policy development. NCEA is a consortium of six partners: National Association of State Units on Aging, National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, ABA Commission on Legal Problems of the Elderly, Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect of the Elderly of the University of Delaware, San Francisco Consortium for Elder Abuse Prevention of the Goldman Institute on Aging, and the National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators.

National Citizen's Coalition for Nursing Home Reform (NCCNHR)

1424 16th Street, NW, Suite 202
Washington, DC 20036–2211
(202) 332–2275, Fax: (202) 332–2949
Website: www.nccnhr.org

NCCNHR provides information and leadership on both federal and state regulatory and legislative policy development. NCCNHR also develops models and strategies to improve nursing home care and life for residents.

National Center on Poverty Law

205 West Monroe Street
Chicago, IL 60606–5013
(312) 263–3830, Fax: (312) 263–3846
Website: www.povertylaw.org

Formerly known as the National Clearinghouse for Legal Services, the National Center on Poverty Law identifies, develops, and supports creative and collaborative approaches to help achieve social and economic justice for low-income people.

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)

2000 L Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 955-3500, Fax: (202) 955-3599
Website: www.ncqa.org

NCQA is an independent, non-profit organization whose mission is to evaluate and report on the quality of the nation's managed care organizations.

National Consumer Law Center, Inc. (NCLC)

Boston Office:

18 Tremont Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA 02108-2336
(617) 523-8010, Fax: (617) 523-7398

District of Columbia Office:

1629 K Street, NW, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 986-6060, Fax: (202) 463-9462
Website: www.consumerlaw.org

NCLC is America's foremost advocate for low-income consumer justice, and a leading expert on low-income consumer issues.

National Council on Aging (NCOA)

409 3rd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024
(202) 479-1200, Fax: (202) 479-0735
Website: www.ncoa.org

NCOA is the nation's first association of organizations and professionals dedicated to promoting the dignity, self-determination, well being, and contributions of older persons.

National Employee Rights Institute (NERI)

Mercantile Library Building, Suite 911
414 Walnut Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
(513) 241-5157, Fax: (513) 241-7863, (800) 469-6374
Website: www.nerinet.org

NERI provides information, education, and assistance to individual employees and promotes public policy to advance employee rights. It also provides resources to organizations, unions, and civil rights groups that help employees.

National Guardianship Association (NGA)

1604 North Country Club Road
Tucson, AZ 85716
(520) 881-6561, Fax: (520) 325-7925
Website: www.guardianship.org

NGA provides educational, training, and networking opportunities for guardians; promotes the highest level of values, standards, and ethics; and ensures a nationally recognized standard of excellence for guardians.

National Health Law Program, Inc. (NHeLP)

2639 La Cienega Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90034
(310) 204-6010, Fax: (310) 204-0891
Website: www.healthlaw.org

NHeLP is a national, public interest law firm that seeks to improve health care for America's working and unemployed poor, minorities, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

National Housing Law Project (NHLP)California Office:

614 Grand Avenue, Suite 320
Oakland, CA 94610
(510) 251-9400, Fax: (510) 451-2300

District of Columbia Office:

1629 K Street, NW, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 463-9461, Fax: (202) 463-9462
Website: www.nhlp.org

NHLP is a national housing law and advocacy center that seeks to advance housing justice for the poor. NHLP provides legal assistance, advocacy, advice, and housing expertise to legal services organizations, attorneys, low-income advocacy groups, and others who serve the poor.

National Immigration Law Center (NILC)

3435 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2850
Los Angeles, CA 90010
(213) 639-3900, Fax: (213) 639-3911
Website: www.nilc.org

NILC is a national support center whose mission is to protect and promote the rights of low-income immigrants and their family members.

National Institute on Aging (NIA)

Building 31, Room 5C27
31 Center Drive, MSC 2292
Bethesda, MD 20892-2292
(301) 496-1752, Fax: (301) 496-1072
Website: www.nih.gov/nia

NIA is one of the 25 institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health. NIA leads a broad scientific effort to understand the nature of aging and to extend the healthy, active years of life. Its mission is to improve the health and well-being of older Americans through research.

National Legal Aid and Defender Association (NLADA)

1625 K Street, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 452-0620, Fax: (202) 872-1031
Website: www.nlada.org

NLADA is the oldest and largest national, non-profit membership organization devoting all of its resources to advocating equal justice for all Americans. It champions effective legal assistance for the poor and serves as a collective voice for both civil legal services and indigent defense services throughout the nation.

National Legal Center for the Medically Dependent and Disabled, Inc.

7 South 6th Street, Suite 208
Terre Haute, IN 47807
(812) 238-0769, Fax: (812) 232-0260
Website: none

The National Legal Center for the Medically Dependent and Disabled is a legal resource for disabled and dependent people throughout the nation.

National Long-Term Care Ombudsman Resource Center

C/o National Citizen's Coalition for Nursing Home Reform
1424 16th Street, NW, Suite 202
Washington, DC 20036-2211
(202) 332-2275, Fax: (202) 332-2949
Website: www.ltcombudsman.org

The National Long-Term Care Ombudsman Resource Center supports the ongoing development and operation of the 52 state-wide long-term care ombudsman programs, which function under a Federal mandate to investigate and try to resolve the problems experienced by the residents of long-term care facilities.

National Senior Citizens Law Center (NSCLC)

District of Columbia Office:

1101 Fourteenth Street, NW, Suite 400

Washington, DC 20005

(202) 289-6976, Fax: (202) 289-7224

Los Angeles Office

3435 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2860

Los Angeles, CA 90010

(213) 639-0930, Fax: (202) 289-7224

Website: www.nsclc.org

NSCLC advocates nationwide to promote the independence and well-being of low-income, elderly individuals, as well as persons with disabilities, and racial and ethnic minorities.

National Veterans Legal Services Program, Inc. (NVLSP)

2001 S Street, NW, Suite 610

Washington, DC 20009

(202) 265-8305, Fax: (202) 328-0063

Website: www.nvlsp.org

NVLSP helps veterans who, because of the effects of military service, have been unable to share in the opportunities available to most Americans. NVLSP serves these veterans through advocacy, education, litigation, training, and publications.

Native American Rights Fund (NARF)

1506 Broadway

Boulder, CO 80302

(303) 447-8760, Fax: (303) 443-7776

Website: www.narf.org

NARF is a non-profit organization that provides legal representation and technical assistance to Indian tribes, organizations, and individuals nationwide.

OWL, The Voice of Midlife and Older Women

666 11th Street, NW, Suite 700

Washington, DC 20001

(202) 783-6686, Fax: (202) 638-2356, (800) 825-3695

Website: www.owl-national.org

OWL is the only national, grassroots membership organization to focus on issues unique to women as they age. OWL strives to improve the status and quality of life for midlife and older women. OWL accomplishes its work through research, education, and advocacy activities conducted through a chapter network.

Pension Rights Center

1140 Nineteenth Street, NW, Suite 602

Washington, DC 20036

(202) 296-3776, Fax: (202) 833-2472

Website: www.pensionrights.org

The Pension Rights Center works to protect the pension rights of workers, retirees, and their families.

Project for the Future of Equal Justice

1616 P Street, NW, Suite 150

Washington, DC 20036

(202) 328-5140, Fax: (202) 328-5195

Website: www.equaljustice.org

The Project for Equal Justice is a joint initiative of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association (NLADA) and the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP). The Project's mission is to strengthen and expand the provision of civil legal assistance to low-income people.

The Welfare Law Center

275 7th Avenue, Suite 1205

New York, NY 10001-6708

(212) 633-6967, Fax: (212) 633-6371

Website: www.welfarelaw.org

The Welfare Law Center works with and on behalf of low-income people to ensure that adequate income support is available whenever and to the extent necessary to meet basic needs and foster healthy human and family development.