



CCHS and CLASI announce a new collaboration: Delaware Medical-Legal Partnership

Christiana Care Health System (CCHS) and Community Legal Aid Society, Inc. (CLASI) are pleased to announce a partnership to improve patient health and experience as well as reduce costs for CCHS. This new collaboration, the Delaware Medical-Legal Partnership (DMLP), provides free civil legal services to serve high utilizing patients in New Castle County with incomes below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

DMLP will integrate poverty lawyers into the health care team so that social determinants of health at Wilmington Health Center (with availability to assist patients elsewhere in the CCHS community) can be effectively addressed. The DMLP will provide trainings and consultations for healthcare providers. CCHS staff who identify patients with unmet legal needs will be empowered to connect eligible patients to the DMLP legal staff for free legal services in a variety of civil legal matters. Examples of legal problems that may be addressed through the project: denials or terminations of public benefits like Medicaid, food benefits, or Social Security, eviction defense, preventing utility shut-offs, and obtaining reasonable accommodations from employers, Advanced Healthcare Directives / Powers of Attorneys and more.

The Medical-Legal Partnership model has demonstrated positive impact on improving health outcomes and reducing stress of vulnerable populations by addressing the social determinants of health and this partnership will allow CCHS and CLASI to do the same for high utilizing, low-income CCHS patients.

CCHS and CLASI anticipate that this project will launch and be ready for patient referrals this winter! More information will be forthcoming.

Questions about the DMLP at CCHS?

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