

## The Persons We Help

We assist low-income women and men and their children who can show us they:

- Live in Los Angeles County
- Have limited funds by providing proof of their income and any property they own
- Are able to come to our office, and
- Have a case that we take (see “The Kind of Cases We Take” for more information)



## How Much Our Services Cost

We are completely free. Donations are gladly accepted. Donations help us pay for paper, copying, law books, forms, postage and pens. We will give you a receipt showing your contribution.

While we do not charge, the Court charges for such things as filing documents and making copies. The Court may waive these fees if you can prove that you are low-income and meet their guidelines.

## The Purpose of the Center

We protect victims of domestic violence and improve the well-being of children living in poverty. With the help of volunteers, we provide free family law assistance and legal education to the poor. We strive to empower people in need and assure them meaningful access to the courts. We aspire to create a community where poverty is not a barrier to those who seek to resolve critical family law matters.



**Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law**  
3250 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 710  
Los Angeles, CA 90010  
Admin: (213) 388-7505  
Fax: (213) 388-7503  
[www.hbcfl.org](http://www.hbcfl.org)

**To request an appointment,  
you must call:  
(213) 388-7515  
Monday—Thursday  
10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.\***

*\*Days and hours subject to change*



*Getting Help at the*  
**Harriett Buhai  
Center for  
Family Law**

**A Family Law/  
Domestic Violence Project**

**Co-sponsored by**

Black Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles,  
Los Angeles County Bar Association  
and Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles



## The Kind of Cases We Take

- **Divorces/Domestic Partnerships:** If you are married or were married to the other person or if you have a domestic partnership, we may help you:
  - Dissolve your divorce or domestic partnership
  - Obtain restraining orders protecting you, your family, and your property
  - Determine custody and visitation
  - Collect child support for your children including their health and child care expenses
  - Collect spousal support including health insurance
  - Establish rights to community and separate property
- **Parentage:** If you have a child with the other person but were never married, we may help you:
  - Establish who the legal parents are
  - Determine custody and visitation
  - Collect child support for your children including their health and child care expenses
  - Obtain restraining orders protecting you, your family, and your property
- If you already have a case, it must be filed in a Court in Los Angeles County

## The Kind of Cases We Do Not Take

- Child Support Cases from the Child Support Services Department
- Children’s Court Cases involving the Department of Children and Family Services
- Grandparent Rights
- Guardianships
- Adoptions
- Evictions
- Divorces and Parentage cases that are not in Los Angeles County
- Civil Harassment Restraining Orders

## How to Request an Appointment

- The only way to get an appointment is to call us.
- The telephone number to call is (213) 388-7515. We answer calls Monday-Thursday between the hours of 1:30-4:30 p.m. except for holidays and office closures\*.
- Demand for our services is high so you may experience long hold times.
- We cannot help you if you come to our office without an appointment.



*\*Days and Hours subject to change*



## What Happens When You Come to Your Appointment

- We will check that you qualify for our services
- An attorney will review your legal situation and may give you legal advice
- If we determine we can help you, we will begin the case acceptance process. If we are not able to help you, we will give you referral information.



## What Happens If We Accept Your Case

If we accept your case, we will give you the legal information, advice, and help you need so that you are prepared to go to court on your own. We will:

- Give you legal advice
- Help you prepare your court documents, and
- Teach you about the steps in the court process

