COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES

FACT SHEET

Adams & Broomfield Eviction Clinic

- Over **950 households** served keeping at least 2,400 individuals housed.
- Through CLS advocacy, $950,000 in emergency rental assistance payments provided to clients.

BACKGROUND

In late 2018 Adams County, the City and County of Broomfield, and the Cities of Westminster, Thornton, Federal Heights, Brighton, Commerce City, Aurora, and Northglenn collaborated to fund Colorado Legal Services (CLS) to create an eviction defense and housing assistance Legal Services Pilot Project.

The purpose of the Pilot Program was and continues to be to "provide legal assistance to low-income households, to help prevent or mitigate the adverse familial and societal impacts of involuntary displacement and/or homelessness within the contributing jurisdictions." CLS received continued funding for the Program in both 2021 through 2024.

CLS is requesting continued funding and support from IGA members to continue the Eviction Legal Clinic through December 2026.

OBJECTIVES

Reduce preventable evictions through the provision of high-quality legal services.

Mitigate eviction-related consequences for tenants by providing quality legal services and advocacy.

Connect tenants with community resources that will assist them with rental assistance and other resources that will help them stay housed.

PROGRAM PURPOSE

Provide onsite legal education and services at the Adams County Courthouse. Services include legal education and information, advice, and representation from CLS paralegals and attorneys. CLS staff also work with community partners to provide outreach and legal education.

THE CLINIC MAKES AN IMPACT

A 71-year-old client owned a mobile home and received a notice of eviction. CLS staff helped her understand the process and her options for receiving help. The CLS attorney successfully advocated for a 14-day stipulation, so she had more time. CLS staff made a referral for rental assistance and helped her complete an application so she could pay her past due rent. This client was not technologically savvy and needed a lot of help. Without CLS she would not have understood the court process or been able to satisfy the stipulation for past due rent. She is now compliant with her payments.

An individual came to Adams County clinic on the day of his trial without an attorney. The individual had not spoken to anyone from CLS prior to his trial date but had prepared to go to trial. The individual wanted to move but just needed more time. The CLS attorney spoke to the individual about his goals, legal rights, trial, and the collateral consequences of an eviction. He was a father and married with 4 kids and did not want to have an eviction on his record. The CLS attorney was able to negotiate a move out agreement with opposing counsel right before trial. The CLS client was able to sign a stipulation which gave him the time he needed to move his family and avoided an eviction on his record.