

Overview

Community Justice Connect (formerly Legal Hand) is a network of neighborhood storefront sites that trains community volunteers to provide free legal information, resources, and referrals to their neighbors. People facing civil legal challenges in areas like housing, public benefits, employment, family law, immigration, can get help before the issues escalate into crises requiring court intervention.

Access to Civil Justice

Civil law touches many crucial aspects of people’s daily lives: including housing, families, government benefits, and wages. Civil legal problems, when unresolved, can cause serious harm: forcing people out of their homes, separating families, and imposing devastating financial burdens. Though New York City offers many public resources, it can be difficult to find available services, and to navigate processes to access them.

At Community Justice Connect, visitors are offered varied forms of assistance to answer questions and address issues. Services include navigation of the social services system, completion of online legal forms, facilitated workshops with local community organizations, and connections to public benefits and other services.

Community Member Volunteers

Community Justice Connect sites use a model in which volunteers, including students and retired professionals who primarily come from the neighborhoods they serve, receive in-depth training, resources, and ongoing support from on-site managers, associates, and an attorney. This empowers them to provide their neighbors with free access to legal information and assistance.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Community Justice Connect is a program of the Center for Justice Innovation, a community justice organization that centers safety and racial justice in partnership with communities, courts, and the people most impacted.

Currently, the program operates sites in Crown Heights, Brooklyn; the South Bronx; and Jamaica, Queens.

Locations

3213A Third Ave., Bronx, NY 10451

BronxConnect@innovatingjustice.org

250 Kingston Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11213

CrownHeightsConnect@innovatingjustice.org

149-13 Jamaica Ave., Jamaica, NY 11435

JamaicaConnect@innovatingjustice.org

Community Justice Connect

A Program of the
Center for Justice Innovation

innovatingjustice.org