



It's simple. Many people need legal care to be healthy.

## **MLP MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

Joe, a patient with kidney disease, needed legal care recently. He could not be discharged from the hospital because a local outpatient dialysis center was concerned he lacked necessary insurance coverage. MLP | Boston clarified for the provider that he did in fact have coverage for their services, and Joe was discharged to this more appropriate and convenient care setting.



# A TIMELY TIP FOR CLINICAL PARTNERS: DON'T FORGET...

The heat's going up, the windows are going up, and so is the risk of falls -- the leading cause of injury in young children. Window guards are available at low cost to Boston residents through <u>Boston</u> <u>Building Resources</u>, 100 Terrace St., Boston, MA 02120, (617) 442-2262.

If a child's disability increases her risk of falls, landlords are required by fair housing laws to allow installation of window guards as a "reasonable modification." If the housing is public or subsidized, the landlord is usually required to absorb the cost of the modification too! For more information about window falls prevention, visit: http://www.bphc.org/programs/cib/healthyhomescommunitysupports/injuryprevention/kidscantfly/Pages/Home.aspx

#### **UPCOMING EVENT**

• SAVE THE DATE! The annual state-wide MLP conference will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 2013. Stay tuned for more information about this event.

### **RECENT EVENTS**

• **Congratulations to Maureen Darrow and MetLife!** The Annual MLP Summit was held on April 11-12, 2013 in Bethesda, MD, hosted by the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership (now based at The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services). MLP | Boston staff presented on many subjects, and in addition, Maureen Darrow, a *pro bono* partner of MLP's at MetLife, received the ABA Outstanding Pro Bono Advocacy in MLP Award for her work on behalf of patients treated at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Ms Darrow is Corporate Counsel for MetLife in Boston.



#### Maureen Darrow (ctr) with Kelly Scott (I) from the ABA and JoHanna Flacks (r) from MLP | Boston (Photo credit: Becky Crowder)

- On June 6<sup>th</sup>, the Boston City Council held a hearing on the resources and services available to individuals with sickle cell disease. Our Equal Justice Works Fellow, Rajan Sonik, was among those who testified. You can watch a video of the proceedings through the <u>Boston City Council video library</u>.
- On June 27<sup>th</sup>, MLP | Boston hosted a training on the unique legal needs and rights of opiate-dependant women with children. Funded by the Children's Bureau (a program of the Adminstration for Children & Families, within the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services), this training was convened by the RESPECT-Plus project based at Boston Medical Center.

Svetlana Uimenkova, of the Disability Law Center, presents on disability benefits advocacy at the RESPECT-Plus training



### **NEW OPPORTUNITIES**

- **The American Cancer Society** has awarded a grant to the BMC Women's Health Unit and MLP | Boston to study the role of MLP services in strengthening patient navigation for cancer patients.
- Today we launched a new project in partnership with **BMC's Elders Living at Home Program (ELAHP)**, thanks to a successful challenge grant from the **Oak Foundation**. We are thrilled to be expanding our services to older adults!

Want to help us make these projects and others a success? PLEASE DONATE NOW!



MLP | Boston's mission is to anticipate, prevent, and address social determinants of health affecting vulnerable people through legal strategies. Informed by public health knowledge and interdisciplinary approaches, we tackle patients' health-harming legal risks and problems. Our services measurably improve the health and well-being of patients and reduce the incidence of health disparities.

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