

# Legal Access

*Legal Access* supports working relationships between attorneys and victims of domestic abuse. Given that access to legal services is one of the main necessities to ending an abusive relationship and victims often struggle to find attorneys familiar with domestic abuse legal issues, *Legal Access's* goal is twofold:

## For JCADA Clients:

The Legal Access Coordinator provides clients with supports and resources throughout the legal process including:

- Attorney referrals.
- Tips for working with attorneys.
- Fact sheets on common legal issues.
- Answers to basic legal questions.

This program is only available to JCADA clients. JCADA will not provide legal advice or representation.

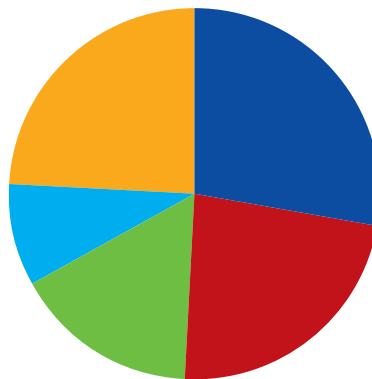
## For Attorneys:

Attorneys working with JCADA will have access to JCADA support and resources, including:

- Trainings on the dynamics of domestic abuse and best practices for working with clients who have experienced trauma.
- Networking opportunities with other local attorneys.
- Support from Legal Access Coordinator.
- Mentorship from experienced family law attorneys throughout the JCADA clients' cases.

## Legal Access Consultations by Topic

Divorce	28%	■
Child Custody	23%	■
Protective Orders	16%	■
Working with an attorney	9%	■
Misc. (Includes bankruptcy, tax, mandatory reporting, immigration, and landlord-tenant issues)	24%	■



## Impact

83% of victims represented by an attorney successfully obtained a protective order, while only 32% of victims without an attorney were able to get one.

*(Jane Murphy, Engaging with the State: The Growing Reliance on Lawyers and Judges to Protect Battered Women, 11 AM. U. J. GENDER SOC. POL'Y & L. 499, 511-12 (2003).)*

## JCADA Mission

**Support** victims of domestic abuse and their children to become empowered and obtain safe living environments.  
**Educate** community professionals and lay leaders about domestic abuse and appropriate responses to it.  
**Prevent** future generations from suffering domestic abuse by raising awareness.

JCADA is committed to providing high-quality services to all residents of the Greater Washington, DC Jewish community, as well as the community at large, without regard to ability, background, faith, gender or sexual orientation.

To learn more about the *Legal Access* program, please visit [jcada.org/LegalAccess](http://jcada.org/LegalAccess) or email [legal@jcada.org](mailto:legal@jcada.org).