

John Boner Neighborhood Centers, Near Eastside

The Consumer Advocacy Project Mission

Protecting the consumer rights of individual residents of the Near Eastside community and planting the seeds for a secure future.



This Project was first made possible in 2014 by *Cy Pres* awards by the Marion County Circuit Court. A grant from the Office of the Indiana Attorney General as well as Legal Services Corporation & United Way funding are sustaining the Project during 2016.

Who We Are

Indiana Legal Services, Inc.

Ensuring equal access to justice through free legal representation and advice to low-income individuals in civil matters

Contact Us

Phone: 317-631-9410

Web: www.indianalegalservices.org

John Boner Neighborhood Centers

Improving the quality of life on the Near Eastside of Indianapolis

Contact Us

Phone: 317-633-8210 Web: <u>www.jbncenters.org</u>

Address: 2236 E. 10th St., Indianapolis



DO YOU HAVE A LEGAL ISSUE AFFECTING YOUR FINANCIAL HEALTH? ASK ABOUT

THE CONSUMER ADVOCACY PROJECT



A joint project of Indiana Legal Services, Inc. & John Boner Neighborhood Centers











The Consumer Advocacy Project

began in 2014 and is a joint project of Indiana Legal Services, Inc. (ILS) and the John Boner Neighborhood Centers (Center) in the Near Eastside community of Indianapolis.

ILS provides one-on-one free legal consultation and legal assistance to individuals* working with the Center's Financial Foundations staff to meet their financial goals. In addition, ILS provides consumer education through brochures and through live legal educational clinics, with support from the Center.

ILS also works closely with the Heartland Pro Bono Council, which connects low-income individuals with civil legal needs to private attorneys who represent individuals *pro bono* (free or a reduced rate). When ILS cannot assist directly, ILS can refer individuals with certain legal issues who meet specific qualifications to Heartland.

The Indianapolis-based ILS attorney is available at the John Boner Neighborhood Centers to help individuals with legal issues involving consumer rights and legal barriers to employment. The attorney is on-site at the Center each week on most Monday mornings, Wednesdays, & Fridays.

Please **contact your financial coach** at the Center to set an appointment with the ILS attorney. If you do not have an assigned financial coach, please request one at the Center.



Consumer Advocacy Project Client Feedback

"I would recommend this service to anyone who needs legal advice." "I don't know what I would have done without that help; I wouldn't have been able to pay a [private] lawyer." "This program was basically a lifesayer for me."

Legal Assistance

We provide legal assistance with consumer law issues and legal barriers to employment, such as:

- Bankruptcy
- Credit reporting errors
- Criminal record expungement petitions
- Debt collection
- Federal tax debt & related state tax debt
- Foreclosure prevention
- Predatory lending: pay day/ cash advances, pawn shop, other short-term loans
- Repossessions
- Specialized driving privileges petitions
- Wage garnishment



^{*}income and asset guidelines apply