

# Addressing Family Needs With Civil Legal Aid

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# Agenda

Overview of Legal Services

Legal Aid of the Bluegrass

Southeastern Ohio Legal Services

Legal Aid of West Virginia

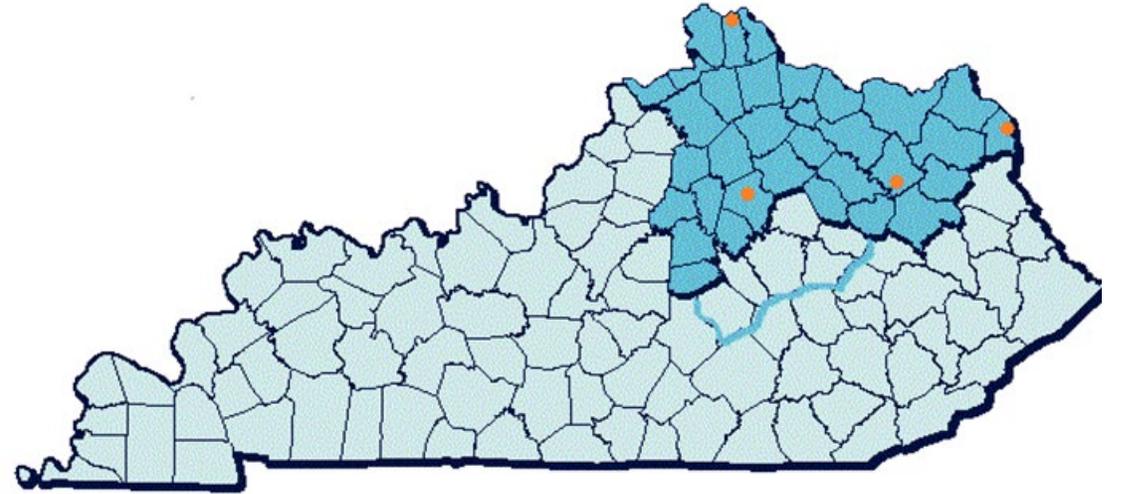
# Overview of Legal Services

- **Legal Services Corporation (LSC):** Promoting equal access to justice and providing high-quality civil legal assistance to low-income individuals
- Nationwide non-profit organizations
- Regulations and oversight
- Individual legal aid programs obtain funding through other sources in addition to LSC funding





LEGAL AID  
— OF THE —  
BLUEGRASS



# Legal Aid of the Bluegrass

- **Who We Serve:** Low-income families with children, the elderly, veterans, survivors of domestic violence, individuals with barriers to employment, and those who lack the basic necessities of life.
- **Our Areas of Practice:** Attorneys practice in areas including family/domestic law, housing, public benefits, and health and safety.

# Kentucky Kids Rise Project

- **Our Mission:** Stabilizing families with children impacted by the opioid epidemic by removing legal and social barriers.
- Trauma-informed approach including an in-house social worker.
- Continuity of some services through new grants

# Cases and Clients

- **Our Typical Clients:** We often represent grandparents raising grandchildren, fictive kin, and parents who have left dangerous situations. In some circumstances, we represent children, or parents who have a prior history of substance use but have demonstrated a significant period of and dedication to sobriety.
- **Our Typical Cases:** The majority of the Kids Rise caseload is based in family/domestic law and advanced planning. However, we also practice in areas of public benefits, education, and housing.

# Working with Children's Advocacy Centers

- **Legal Clinics**
- **Referrals**
- **Opportunity to provide services to a child's caregivers**
  - Wills, protective orders, obtaining public benefits, social resource assistance
- **Participation in Outreach**



# SEOLS

Southeastern Ohio Legal Services

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SEOLS Office

- Portsmouth
- Athens
- Chillicothe
- Newark
- New Philadelphia
- Steubenville



Southeastern Ohio  
Legal Services

SEOLS provides civil legal aid and advocacy to combat unfairness and injustice and to help people rise out of poverty.

# What We Do:

Housing

Family Law

Domestic  
Violence Protection

Education

Consumer

Public Benefits

Tax

Reentry

Access to Court

# How We Help:



Legal Information



Referral to Community Resources



Legal Advice



Assistance with Legal Forms



Connection to Pro Bono Services



Representation in Court



Training & Introduction to  
Services



Self-Help Materials On Site



Referrals for Legal Services

Working with  
Child  
Advocacy  
Centers

Lawyer in the  
School



LEGAL  
AID  
OF WEST VIRGINIA

# What is Lawyer in the School?

Mission: stabilize the home lives of West Virginia's school children and enhance their education experience by helping with family legal issues.

Free walk-in legal clinics designed to remove barriers to legal assistance by meeting families where they feel safe, comfortable, and familiar.



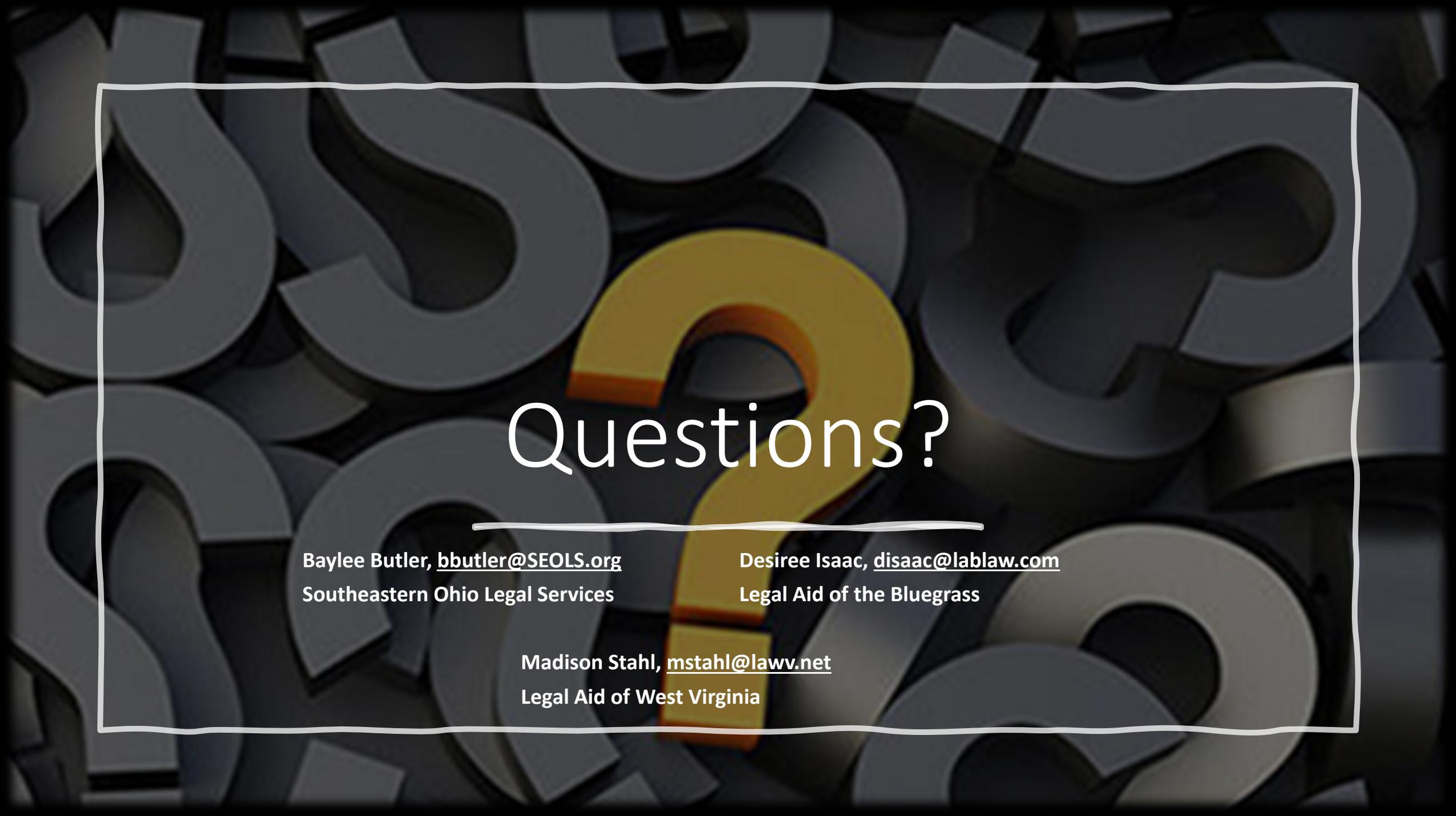
# Working With Child Advocacy Centers

**Referrals** – guardianships, adoptions, custody, wills, DHHR benefits, housing insecurity, expungements, protective orders

**Trainings**

**Joint Outreach**

**Collaborative Groups**



# Questions?

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