
Disability Rights Legal Center

CLRC

Cancer Legal Resource Center

For Immediate Release:

April 20, 2007

Contact:

Paula Pearlman 213.736.8362

Paula.Pearlman@lls.edu

Joanna Morales 213.736.8364

Joanna.Morales@lls.edu

CANCER LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER ASSISTS 20,000TH CALLER

LOS ANGELES, April 20, 2007 – The Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC), a joint project of the Disability Rights Legal Center (DRLC) and Loyola Law School, has assisted its 20,000th caller to its national, toll-free Telephone Assistance Line (866-THE-CLRC).

The CLRC was founded in 1997, to help people with cancer resolve the legal issues that arise as a result of a cancer diagnosis. These legal issues cause people unnecessary worry, confusion, and stress, and can be overwhelming. When these legal issues are not addressed, people may find themselves surviving the disease, only to find that they have lost their homes, jobs, insurance, or families.

The CLRC provides free services to callers from all 50 states with cancer-related legal issues, such as health insurance, employment, government benefits, estate planning, advance health care directives, family law, and consumer assistance. The CLRC's caring, respectful assistance helps callers resolve their legal issues, focus on their recovery, and get back to their lives. In addition to the 20,000 calls received by the Telephone Assistance Line, the CLRC has reached over 50,000 people through its Cancer Rights seminars, community outreach events, and pro bono attorney panel.

"We are delighted that during this 10th Anniversary year of the CLRC, we have reached this significant milestone," said Joanna L. Morales, Director of the Cancer Legal Resource Center, "Being able to provide valuable information and assistance during such a stressful time in people's lives, means improving their access to life-saving treatment, continued employment, and health insurance coverage." According to the American Cancer Society's Facts and Figures, 1.4 million people will be diagnosed with cancer in 2007. The need for CLRC services will only increase over time.

The CLRC is planning a slate of events to celebrate its 10th Anniversary, including a casino night on August 4, 2007, a golf tournament on September 30, 2007, the presentation of a Cancer Vanguard Award at the DRLC Annual Gala on November 30, 2007, and a Cancer Rights Conference in 2008. The CLRC is supported by the American Cancer Society, Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Lance Armstrong Foundation, California Office of the Patient Advocate, grants, and donations.

ABOUT THE DISABILITY RIGHTS LEGAL CENTER

The mission of the DRLC, formerly known as the Western Law Center for Disability Rights, is to promote the rights of people with disabilities and the public interest in and awareness of those rights by providing legal and related services. The Center provides legal and related services through its five programs: Cancer Legal Resource Center, Civil Rights Litigation Project, Community Outreach Program, Disability Mediation Center, and Education Advocacy Project. For more information about these programs visit www.disabilityrightslegalcenter.org.