

INTRODUCTION

The Cancer Legal Resource Center has designed this manual to provide health care professionals with information about commonly asked questions by their patients on employment, health and disability insurance options, navigating insurance, estate planning, and legislative advocacy. We encourage patients to work with their healthcare team to resolve many of the cancer-related legal issues that arise as a result of their diagnoses. This manual should be a starting point for advocates, navigators, community health workers, nurses, physicians, social workers, and psychosocial care providers to help patients find the specific information they need. Furthermore, the information in the manual can truly be utilized by anyone assisting people coping with cancer across the nation. Please feel free to contact the Cancer Legal Resource Center at (866) THE-CLRC (866-843-2572) or visit www.CancerLegalResourceCenter.org, for additional assistance.

ABOUT THE CANCER LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER

The Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC) is a national, joint program of the Disability Rights Legal Center and Loyola Law School Los Angeles. The CLRC provides free information and resources on cancer-related legal issues to patients, survivors, caregivers, health care professionals, employers, and others coping with cancer.

The CLRC has a national, toll-free Telephone Assistance Line (866-THE-CLRC or 866-843-2572) where people receive information about relevant laws and resources for their particular situation.

Since it opened in 1997, the Cancer Legal Resource Center has assisted over 310,000 people through telephone assistance, Cancer Rights Conferences, seminars, workshops, outreach programs, and other cancer community activities.

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We extend our gratitude to those who took the time to review this manual.

DISCLAIMER

This publication is designed to provide general information on the topics presented. It is provided with the understanding that the author is not engaged in rendering any legal or professional services by its publication or distribution. It is not intended to be legal advice or establish an attorney-client relationship. Although these materials were reviewed by a professional, they should not be used as a substitute for professional services. The author of this manual has made every attempt to verify the accuracy of the information in this document but assumes no liability for use of any information or resource. The resources are provided for informational purposes only. No endorsement of any agency or individual is intended or implied. This manual is intended to include agencies and organizations in the United States, and any omissions are unintentional and do not reflect adversely on the merits of such an omitted program.

We recommend that individuals with questions or concerns about their legal options act immediately, as there may be specific legal time limitations that could affect the validity of any case and any possible legal options they may have.

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L I V E S T R O N G[®]

In February of 2009, the Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC) received a grant from **LIVESTRONG** to educate health care professionals about the legal burdens associated with cancer survivorship. The grant partially funded the development of this manual.

The goal of the project and this manual is to empower health care professionals in the cancer community by:

- 1) Providing them with comprehensive cancer-related legal information in order to alleviate the psychosocial distress that may be associated with cancer survivorship;
- 2) Training them to identify the presence of cancer-related legal issues for the patients and to offer referral to legal resources as appropriate; and
- 3) Increasing the knowledge of the legal burdens of cancer survivorship to effectively advocate for cancer survivors, both within their own peer organizations and on a legislative level.

Cancer Legal Resource Center

2012 CANCER RIGHTS CONFERENCES

Visit www.CancerRightsConference.org for more information

on CLRC's 2012 Conferences in:

- Boston, MA (5/29/12)
- Chicago, IL (9/7/12)
- Fresno, CA (10/5/12)
- Houston, TX (10/19/12)

For more information about cancer-related legal issues . . .



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