



WHEN YOU THINK THERE IS NO ONE TO TURN TO...
turn to us.

Even if you do not qualify for direct assistance (for example, legal providers can't help with divorce proceedings or personal injury cases) we can often make a referral or offer alternatives.

In Colorado, ombudsman and legal services programs are coordinated through a partnership between the State Unit on Aging, 16 Area Agencies on Aging and The Legal Center for People with Disabilities and Older People.



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

The Legal Center for People with Disabilities and Older People
 Programs for Older Americans
 455 Sherman Street, Suite 130
 Denver, CO 80203-4403

303-722-0300
 303-722-3619 (TTY)
 1-800-288-1376 (toll free)

For assistance in your area, please contact:

The Legal Center for People with Disabilities  and Older People
Colorado's Protection & Advocacy System

ARE YOU age 60 or over?

ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT long-term care?



ARE YOU ANXIOUS ABOUT a legal matter?

Here's help.

PLEASE CALL TODAY.

The Legal Center for People with Disabilities  and Older People
Colorado's Protection & Advocacy System

Older Americans Act Programs
 We protect and promote the rights of older adults – we advocate for the very best quality of care and quality of life for Colorado's seniors.



WHAT IS AN OMBUDSMAN?

Ombudsman (om-budz-man) is a Swedish word meaning “one who speaks on behalf of another.” Ombudsmen protect the rights of people living in nursing homes and assisted living residences.

WHAT IS A LEGAL ASSISTANCE DEVELOPER?

Each of Colorado’s 16 Area Agencies on Aging has a legal assistance developer who coordinates free legal services for older people. The legal help may be provided by local private attorneys or a nonprofit organization that specializes in elder law.

Colorado’s ombudsmen and legal assistance developers work together to protect and promote the rights of Colorado’s older adults and to improve their quality of life.



HOW CAN THE OMBUDSMAN HELP?

If you are in a nursing home or assisted living residence, the ombudsman can:

Help **RESOLVE COMPLAINTS** about the facility or individual staff members, such as

- physical or verbal abuse
- poor quality of care
- substandard or dangerous living conditions

Help **PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS** under the law –including your right to:

- consideration, respect and dignity
- privacy in care and treatment
- voice grievances without retaliation

If you are considering a move to a nursing home or assisted living residence, the ombudsman can:

- Provide information on your long-term care options
- Provide advice on how to choose the long-term care facility that is right for you

Ombudsman services are completely free of charge.

Most legal assistance is provided at no cost, although in some cases filing fees and small charges may apply.

All services are completely confidential.



HOW CAN THE LEGAL ASSISTANCE DEVELOPER HELP?

If you **LIVE IN YOUR OWN HOME**, the legal services developer can help with concerns such as:

- foreclosure or eviction notices
- the need to modify your home to allow you to continue living independently
- a family member or professional caregiver trying to move you out of your home against your will
- denials of public assistance benefits or being told your existing benefits are being reduced or terminated

Some legal problems are a concern whether you live in your own home or in a **LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY**, such as:

- harassment by a collection agency for unpaid bills
- financial exploitation by a relative or caregiver
- unwanted guardianship action