Children’s Law Center gets children on the road to better health.

The Need

All parents want their children to be healthy. But sometimes poor health can’t be solved by medicine alone and requires legal advocacy to fix unsafe housing or secure the appropriate care a child needs.

In DC, unsafe housing, inadequate education, exposure to violence, lack of good health care and other problems related to poverty can harm children’s physical and mental health. Children who have been neglected or traumatized by abuse often have more fragile health and greater mental health concerns.

Children living in DC’s poorest neighborhoods have some of the highest rates of asthma in the country, exacerbated by housing infested by rats, mold and cockroaches. Whatever the cause, children with poor health are repeatedly in the ER and miss many days of school – putting their future in jeopardy.

Our Work

Children’s Law Center fights so that all children in DC can grow up healthy.

Through our Healthy Together project, we partner with Children’s National, Mary’s Center and Unity Health Care to put lawyers side-by-side with pediatricians to fix the root causes of a child’s health problem. We currently work in six health clinics across the District.

When our lawyers are appointed by judges to look out for the best interest of children in foster care, we also make sure these children get the mental health and other services they need to recover from trauma and neglect.

Our policy work removes city-wide barriers to children’s poor health. This includes expanding access to children’s mental health, increasing funding of proven health interventions and breaking down bureaucratic barriers that impede children’s health.

Learn more

www.childrenslawcenter.org