

## MAKE EQUAL JUSTICE FOR ALL A REALITY

Restore state funding for legal aid

The NC Equal Access to Justice Commission is asking the General Assembly to restore state funding for North Carolina's three legal aid programs – Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy, Legal Aid of North Carolina and Pisgah Legal Services. These resources will increase legal services to abused women and their children, veterans seeking rightfully earned benefits and victims of natural disasters.



### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Battered women and children need legal protection from their abusers to avoid future harm – legal aid organizations secured 2,869 Domestic Violence Protective Orders in 2017.



### VETERANS ISSUES

37,000 unemployed North Carolina veterans need legal help to obtain access to health care, housing and federal benefits to which they are entitled.



### DISASTER RELIEF

Victims of disasters, such as 2018's Hurricane Florence, need legal representation to help deal with landlords, predatory lenders, government agencies and more.

Our government is founded on the principle of equal access to justice under the law for all, but that promise of equal justice, as a practical matter, cannot be fulfilled without access to a lawyer to protect the rights of individuals who have been wronged. While the civil justice system generally works for those able to pay, 80% of the civil legal needs of the poor – legal representation in the areas of domestic violence, child custody, housing, consumer protection and more – go unmet.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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