

Parent Surveys:

Been to Legal Help Center before?	No 235 (43.5%)	Yes 305 (56.5%)
Been here before & have comments?	No 165 (54%)	Yes 140 (46%)

Parents' responses grouped by theme:

Custody/Visitation or Parenting Plan	26	18%
Safer/more stable environment	22	16%
Procedure/Paperwork/Explain law	16	11%
Don't know/not yet/not sure	12	9%
Generic Yes	10	7%
Divorce	8	6%
Child now has time with non custodial parent	7	5%
Reduction in stress	7	5%
Restraining order	6	4%
Reduce kids' exposure to parents' conflict	6	4%
Financial—child support	5	3%
Grab bag	3	2%
Generic No	3	2%
Agreements/settlements	3	2%
Guardianship	2	1%
No with commentary	2	1%
Financial—legal costs	2	1%

Total: 140 97%

(percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.)

Sample answers from themes:

Custody/Visitation/Parenting Plan

Got me full sole custody of my son

In a custody/visitation case. To see my son.

Hopefully at the next event the judge will award me more time Aiden (my son) so he can see me more and visa versa. The Family Court Clinic has helped me get more quality time with him already and helped me get my stuff in order so I wouldn't be completely bulldozed by the respondent (who is represented). Thank you (signature)

My child is healthy and happy living 50/50 custody with both parents.

They have helped me by filling out the correct paperwork needed for my custody hearing!

Sent us to mediation.

Helped me regain custody.

It helped set a parent plan with my ex wife.

It has helped my child have a set schedule between his father and I.

Safer/more stable environment

Helped me create a marriage dissolution agreement that provided the legal content to keep my 3 yr old son away from a dangerous environment.

They have helped me with my custody case and that helped me protect my children.

She has been with me with few visitations from her father (whom is violent) which is a very good thing. My daughter is very happy, healthy, and safe. For that, I thank you.

They have always found a safe + positive way of solving my child custody/visitation problems.

By providing me with the ability to get divorced & sole custody to provide a safe and stable environment for my child.

Helped keep them safe from their father who is unstable mentally, abuses drugs, and violent. Providing them with a safe, stable, healthy environment with their mother.

The services have helped my child by assisting me in establishing a consistent schedule with my son.

They assisted me with paperwork allowing my daughter to continue her daily activities.

protecting children

They have helped my children be protected and having their needs met.

children are safer with mother.

to have a stable environment

By keeping him safe, and by making him a big boy.

Procedure/Paperwork/Explain Law

Had all the answers to all my questions in regards to my divorce and child custody paperwork.

Answer legal ?'s & help fill out & understand paperwork.

All court necessities

I have been able to get help filing paperwork when I didn't understand it.

explained procedure on how to obtain custody + file divorce

Answer questions—child support/restraining order

They have helped me fill out and file required paperwork for DVR, custody, support, and other various documents concerning my case.

Yes. they helped me with my paperwork, and to understand, they also introduced me to the MIC program wich was very helpful.

Divorce

I am here for help in my divorce. While my children are not from the marriage I am trying to dissolve, I will be able to marry my son's father once this divorce is final.

I'm trying to get a divorce so I can legally adopt my grandson.

Made the divorce process smoother. Thank you for all your help!

Child now has time with non-custodial parent

The clinic has helped me to get the appropriate time with my son. Also has helped to determine the correct amount of child support.

Yes. She has got to have more time with her dad.

I wouldn't see my son if you had not helped.

Their father is in their life now.

You guys helped keep me involved in my son's life.

Reduction in stress

Yes—tremendously. Helping me in having TRO's made my husband more cooperative & non-violent (TRO scared him). Also the facilitator helped us to objectively agree on child custody, etc. My children, as a result, experienced less emotional hardship as a result of both (above).

Parents were more able to settle issues. Limited processes in court & without as much stress on the child as possible.

Less stress due to faster, easier resolution of legal issues between parents. Helped us understand the laws & process. Ultimately guided us toward best decisions about our child along the whole process of divorce.

Helped make the actual divorce process easier so as not to bring unnecessary stress to them during that process.

They inform me and help in a very stressful time when nobody else does. It helps lower my stress which helps my home environment and my child's well-being.

The information I have received, has helped me be stronger in making decisions. My x-husband threatens me, but I now know better.

She's 6 now but she was 5 when I started this in June of 2005. By helping me, I am a better mother to her and I know that even though this is the hardest thing I've ever done in my life, I am dealing very well because of the support and help the staff here has given me.

Restraining Order

Restraining order. With the abuser out of the home, kids and I are happier, more content, emotionally healthy. Kids miss him a lot but what's more important is the above.

I have a restraining order for me and my child.

You helped me at a critical time w/a restraining order against my husband.

Reduces children's exposure to parents' conflict

Much less conflict, disagreement, and financial burden on parents. Needed 3rd party "voice of reason" with experience to help with immediate child visitation & support.

helped keep the peace between my ex husband and I.

Child support & mediation services establish a clear parenting plan—reduced conflict!

Helped figure out fair custody and child support. Kids are happy to see parents not fighting and just sharing time with them.

to get away from fighting!

A lot. less arguing, setting times & dates is better. You guys are great!

Financial—child support

Receive the child support that's rightfully his; he is now able to have those things he needs.

They have helped tremendously in child custody and with child support issues.

Grab bag

Gave me some ideas on how to help my kids.

My children are currently in foster care.

Name change!

Agreements

Helped my wife + I reach an agreement.

Originally the clinic helped me determine course of action with my divorce & got me some child support figures. We were able to settle out of court. Now we need to make changes to the original settlement & I hope to do that out of court & without an attorney.

No with commentary

Told me to go to lawyer. I can't pay for one.

Not very much, basically empowered batterer to continue isolation, manipulation and abuse of myself & my daughter. My 2 ½ year old is suffering now.

Financial—legal costs

relieve costs of legal procedure

They helped me file my paperwork which would normally cost a fortune and that keeps more money in the house for them, plus a less stressed out mom. Thank you!

(signature)