THE ALIGHT LEGAL NEEDS MATCHING PROGRAM

CONNECTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS TO FREE LEGAL SERVICES THROUGH ALIGHT INTAKE ADVOCATE

As a service provider or advocate who works with survivors of human trafficking, you know that these individuals face an uphill battle. Many of their basic and interlocking needs are in fact legal issues with which attorneys can assist. For example:

- sealing criminal records
- obtaining order of protection
- accessing housing and benefits
- explaining terms of child custody agreement
- fighting for visitation rights
- negotiating with debt collection agencies

To help you meet the diverse legal needs of survivors, we offer a way for survivors to quickly connect to free counsel and representation from the legal community. You can make a difference for your clients who are survivors of human trafficking by directing them to call the Intake Advocate, who can post a request for legal help.

WHAT IS THE ALIGHT LEGAL NEEDS MATCHING PROGRAM?

ALIGHT uses an app to easily connect survivors (via service providers and the Intake Advocate) to *pro bono* attorneys with a range of expertise in Civil Law, Family Law and Criminal Law to assist with survivors' various legal problems.

Based on the survivor's needs, the app will match the survivor to an attorney with the relevant expertise.



IMPORTANT POINTS TO KNOW

- Please remind the survivor, when leaving a voicemail for the Intake Advocate, to include a phone number so that she can contact the survivor. Given potential safety concerns, the Intake Advocate will not return a call unless the survivor leaves a message.
- Most attorneys currently participating in the program are located in the Denver Metro area, and ALIGHT is actively recruiting more attorneys in other regions to join the program. That means while not all attorneys are able to travel for representation on all matters, phone consultations and other forms of legal assistance may still be available for survivors in other regions.
- While there are no guarantees of a match for free legal services, our program has a high rate of attorney response.
- The Intake Advocate is a mandatory reporter.



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STEPS FOR CONNECTING THROUGH ALIGHT INTAKE ADVOCATE

1. IDENTIFY POTENTIAL SURVIVORS WITH LEGAL NEEDS

- Be on the lookout for signs that your client may have experienced trafficking in their past.
- If your client believes they are a survivor of human trafficking with legal needs and you determine they are in financial need of free legal services, they may be eligible for ALIGHT services. Contact ALIGHT at program@alightnet.org for tips for identifying possible survivors and spotting legal needs.

2. ASK SURVIVOR TO CALL INTAKE ADVOCATE AT 720-608-6039

• If the Intake Advocate determines that your client is a survivor of human trafficking, she will discuss the legal (and other) needs.

When a survivor calls the ALIGHT Intake Advocate, she will ask the survivor questions about the survivor's trafficking experience and legal needs. The screening is designed to determine whether ALIGHT's services are an appropriate fit. The survivor can decide how much information they are willing to share to help the Intake Advocate make that determination.

3. INTAKE ADVOCATE POSTS SURVIVOR'S REQUEST FOR LEGAL SERVICES

- The Intake Advocate will discuss how the survivor wants to connect with an attorney and post basic and agreed-upon information on the survivor's behalf.
- The Intake Advocate will monitor the app for any response from the attorneys.

4. ATTORNEY RESPONDS TO REQUEST

- If an attorney responds indicating interest to assist, the Intake Advocate will call and/or email the survivor with the attorney's contact information and share tips about reaching out to the attorney.
- The attorney may need additional information from the survivor to determine whether the attorney can help, and if there are additional legal needs involved. If there are additional legal needs, the survivor can request that the Intake Advocate post them separately.
- If the survivor wants to work with the attorney, and the attorney has the expertise and time, they can form an agreement outlining the scope of the attorney's representation of the survivor.
- If multiple attorneys respond, the survivor can choose the attorney to work with on the legal need.



