LEAP is a national legal community effort to serve and protect people experiencing homelessness and those at risk of becoming homeless in the United States. LEAP members are the very core of support for the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty (the Law Center) to achieve our mission to use the power of the law to prevent and end homelessness.
Through membership in LEAP, the Law Center offers law firms, offices of corporate counsel, and individual practitioners opportunities to leverage pro bono legal services throughout each year, including:

- Participating in active high-impact and broad-spectrum litigation throughout the country to protect the rights of homeless individuals;
- Protecting the right of youth experiencing homelessness to a free public education by breaking down barriers to enrollment and training local advocates;
- Representing people experiencing homelessness that criminalized for violating public ordinances against life-sustaining activities such as eating or sleeping in public spaces; and
- Protecting survivors of domestic violence from eviction or loss of their housing due to the violence perpetrated against them.

Through membership in LEAP, the Law Center offers law firms, offices of corporate counsel, and individual practitioners opportunities to leverage pro bono legal services throughout each year, including:

- Participating in active high-impact and broad-spectrum litigation throughout the country to protect the rights of homeless individuals;
- Protecting the right of youth experiencing homelessness to a free public education by breaking down barriers to enrollment and training local advocates;
- Representing people experiencing homelessness that criminalized for violating public ordinances against life-sustaining activities such as eating or sleeping in public spaces; and
- Protecting survivors of domestic violence from eviction or loss of their housing due to the violence perpetrated against them.

Stories of IMPACT

Our 2019 report, Housing Not Handcuffs, analyzes laws in 187 cities on the criminalization of homeless individuals, which have been measured and monitored across the country since 2006. This national report was researched and prepared by the Law Center, Dechert LLP, Kirkland & Ellis LLP, and Sullivan & Cromwell LLP.

Although the McKinney-Vento Act gives students the legal right to stay in the same school when they become homeless, across the country, thousands of homeless children are denied access to education every day. In partnership with the Law Center, Kirkland & Ellis LLP contributed significant pro bono legal research on the relevant laws and policies that informed the 2019 State Index on Youth Homelessness.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

LEAP Champion - $20,000 and up
Tailored and customized membership level including:
• Recognition as a supporting LEAP Champion throughout the calendar year in the Law Center’s newsletters, website, events, e-news, and other relevant publications
• Opportunity to work on the Law Center’s signature pro bono projects, program pilots, and other national programs
• A full table (ten tickets) at the Law Center’s annual McKinney-Vento Awards and recognition as a McKinney-Vento Champion at the dinner
• Opportunity to co-brand reports and webinars with the Law Center

LEAP Partner - $10,000 to $19,999
• Recognition as a supporting LEAP Partner throughout the calendar year in the Law Center’s newsletters, website, events, e-news, and other relevant publications
• Priority selection of high-impact pro bono opportunities
• Six tickets to the Law Center’s annual McKinney-Vento Awards

LEAP Member - $7,500 to $9,999
• Recognition as a supporting LEAP Member throughout the calendar year in the Law Center’s newsletters, website, events, e-news, and other relevant publications
• Selection of pro bono opportunities through the Law Center’s Pro Bono Alerts listserv
• Invitations to attend LEAP networking events
• Four tickets to the Law Center’s annual McKinney-Vento Awards

OUR MISSION is to use the power of the law to address the immediate and long-term needs of those who are homeless or at risk. To achieve this, the Law Center pursues three main strategies: impact litigation, policy advocacy, and public education. And we have grown over our 30 years to now leverage more than $5 million in pro bono services to reach tens of thousands of homeless families each year.

You can make a difference in the fight to end homelessness. For more information, please visit www.nlchp.org/LEAP or contact Carlton Martin at cmartin@nlchp.org.

“The work I’ve done with the Law Center makes me proud of my profession, and reminds me why I became a lawyer.”

Ed McNicholas, Sidley Austin LLP

ELIGIBILITY

Local, national, and international law firms, firm partners, offices of corporate counsel, legal organizations and associations, and individual practitioners who wish to support the ongoing work of the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty.

LEAP Memberships are annual, pledge-based sponsorships that can include LEAP contributions, McKinney-Vento Awards sponsorships, and other philanthropic donations to the Law Center.