



ECBA Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP) and Neighborhood Legal Services (NLS) are working together to provide a wide variety of free legal services to families and individuals living with HIV/AIDS.



We offer training for service providers and consumer groups on HIV Confidentiality Law, HIPAA, and Disclosure Issues.

Free Legal Services for Families and Individuals Living with HIV/AIDS

To speak to an attorney
call:

(716) 847-0662
Ext. 315 or 319



COMMON MYTHS: WILLS & HEALTH CARE PROXIES

Presented By:



**Legal Services for
Positive Families & Individuals**

"Speaking for those who are not heard"

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COMMON MYTHS ABOUT WILLS & HEALTH CARE PROXIES

MYTH 1:

I DON'T NEED A WILL BECAUSE MY FAMILY KNOWS MY WISHES

FACT:

- A will ensures your family knows your final wishes.
- A will gives your family the legal power to carry out your wishes.
- A will leaves you in charge and makes certain your wishes are clear.

MYTH 2:

I DON'T NEED A WILL BECAUSE I DO NOT OWN ANYTHING; WILLS ARE ONLY FOR RICH PEOPLE

FACT:

- A will is not just for expensive property like cars and homes.
- A will protects cherished property like journals, photos, and family heirlooms.
- A will gives you the power to decide whether you want to be buried, cremated, or if you have any other final wishes.

MYTH 3:

I DON'T NEED A HEALTH CARE PROXY; THE HOSPITAL KNOWS MY WISHES

FACT:

- A health care proxy gives you the power to choose who will make your health care decisions when you are unable to do so.
- A health care proxy prevents a hospital from giving you treatment that is against your wishes.
- A health care proxy makes sure the hospital respects your healthcare wishes.

MYTH 4:

I DON'T NEED A HEALTH CARE PROXY BECAUSE MY PARTNER KNOWS MY WISHES

FACT:

- A health care proxy gives your partner, or someone you trust, the legal right to make health care decisions for you when you are unable to do so.
- A health care proxy ensures that your partner, or trusted friend is not left in the dark about your medical treatment.

MYTH 5:

I DON'T NEED A HEALTH CARE PROXY; MY FAMILY KNOWS MY WISHES

FACT:

- A health care proxy ensures your family has the authority to carry out your health care wishes.
- A health care proxy ensures your family will know exactly what to do because your directions will be listed on your health care proxy.



We are here to help. Call us at:
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A will and health care proxy can be done in one meeting with an attorney.

If you have children, we can help with future care and custody planning.
