

“Custody cases involve some of the most important decisions a judge will ever make. What the judge decides will determine the future of the families who are involved. Custody litigation is often contentious and unfortunately the children are often caught in the middle. Experienced attorneys are needed so that the children can be protected. The Safe At Home Campaign is a significant step in helping to fill this need, and we commend the community supporters who care and thus make this campaign a success.”

The Hon. Joseph C. Madenspacher,
President Judge
Lancaster County Court of Common Pleas

A Safe and Steady Home Life Means Everything

Child custody disputes disrupt many aspects of family life. Today, many homes are single parent households. When mom & dad cannot agree on where their children should live, family problems escalate quickly. Children need supervision and structure. They need to know where to call home.

A child custody attorney can help these troubled families by getting an orderly resolution through court. This campaign aims to raise funds to hire a child custody attorney at the Lancaster office of MidPenn Legal Services for five years.

MidPenn Legal Services is the “emergency room” of the legal profession. It provides free legal aid in critical civil matters to the very poor. MidPenn does not handle criminal cases.

Everyone in the community benefits when these matters are settled in a professional manner. Children stay in school and parents retain their jobs without disruption when an orderly process resolves their disputes. The Lancaster Bar Association Foundation has raised funds for this position for the last six years and hundreds of local families have benefited. Please help us to keep this great program going.

Lancaster Bar Association Foundation
28 East Orange Street
Lancaster, PA 17602

Lancaster Bar Association Foundation & MidPenn Legal Services



Safe At Home Keeping Kids Safe – Through Conflict Resolution



Safe At Home

Keeping Kids Safe – Through Conflict Resolution

Custody disputes are devastating to children, families and our community. The Lancaster MidPenn office spent over 50% of available resources on family law in 2009.

Our Campaign Goal:

\$410,000 will provide a full-time custody attorney for 5 years in the Lancaster office. [The Lancaster Bar Association has committed \\$150,000 as a leadership gift.](#)

Custody Attorney is a Proven Concept

- Successful campaigns in York County and Dauphin County and prior campaigns in Lancaster County have resulted in an additional attorney in each local office to handle custody cases.
- Business leaders as partners include
 - DENTSPLY International
 - Glatfelter Insurance Group
 - Citizens Bank
 - Bon Ton Foundation
 - The High Companies
 - Susquehanna Pfaltzgraff Foundation
 - The Stewart Companies
 - Commonwealth Supply
 - M&T Bank
 - The Stewart Companies
 - Metro Bank
 - Capital Blue Cross
 - The Hershey Company
- The Dauphin campaign is anticipated to be successfully completed in 2010 and secure a custody attorney position for five years.
- In 2007, the York campaign raised funds for a custody attorney for five years.
- In 2004, and again in 2007, Lancaster campaigns raised funds for a three year position.

This campaign will ensure this position in our Lancaster office for an additional five years.

Tammy's Story

When one parent snatches a child, only a lawyer can help get the child back to the primary home. Tammy was recently divorced from her husband. Dad moved to Florida and took Alicia with him. "I was beside myself," says Tammy. "I called the police but there was nothing they could do to stop him." MidPenn filed a custody complaint and obtained a hearing date. Alicia was returned to Tammy as ordered by the court.

"MidPenn was there for me when I needed them. We're doing great now," says Tammy. Alicia sees her father, but because of the court order, her life is stable and she knows she will return to her primary caregiver.

Luis's Story

Luis watched his children walk out the door with their mother. They were supposed to be going to the park for an hour, but never returned. Luis's wife called eight days later and told Luis that he would never see his children again. The attorney filed papers that brought the children back to his home within a few days. At a later court conference, the mother obtained a visitation schedule and agreed that the children would remain in their home with their father.

How to Support

To support our effort to promote stable families and lives for children, please send your tax deductible contribution to:

Lancaster Bar Association Foundation
Safe At Home Campaign
28 East Orange Street
Lancaster, PA 17602

Thank You for Your Gift

The Lancaster Bar Association Foundation is a tax-exempt corporation under the Internal Revenue Service Code 501(c). The official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

