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**\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\***

## ***Legal Aid Continues Mobile Justice Bus Tour in Brooklyn to Meet New Yorkers in their Communities to Provide Free Legal Resources***

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society’s Community Justice Unit (CJU) today announced the next stops in its Mobile Justice Bus Tour, visiting two New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) complexes in Brooklyn tomorrow, Thursday, June 27, 2024.

The CJU team will visit the Tompkins Houses on Tompkins Avenue between Park Avenue and Myrtle Avenue from 1:15 - 3:15 PM. The team will then visit the Marcy Houses on Park Avenue between Marcy Avenue and Nostrand Avenue from 3:30 - 5:30 PM to meet New Yorkers where they are and provide free legal resources.

The Mobile Justice tour will travel throughout the summer across New York City, stopping at 31 NYCHA locations, to help communities impacted most by poverty, racism, over-policing, food scarcity, and a lack of housing.

The Justice tour builds on CJU’s aims of defending, educating, and organizing community members and connecting those members, in collaboration with the Crisis Management System (CMS), with the rich resources of the Legal Aid’s three cross-functional law practices – the Criminal Defense Practice, Civil Practice, and Juvenile Rights Practice. Housing attorneys from Legal Aid’s Public Housing Unit will be on-site to assist CJU Team.

Originally launched during the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, the CJU Mobile Justice Bus was created to bring critical legal services to disaster-impacted communities most affected by the storm. The Mobile Justice Bus was designed to bring legal resources directly to people experiencing crisis so they could receive support and resources.

“Restoring and healing communities begins with meeting people where they are and recognizing the underlying systemic trauma they’re faced with and providing the tools to overcome it,” said **Takeasha Newton, Lead Community Organizer of the Community Justice Unit at The Legal Aid Society**. “By bringing services and legal advice directly to community members that experience the most harm, CJU is doing its part, together with our Cure Violence Partners, to achieve a ‘safe summer’ and prevent gun violence in all of the City’s boroughs.”

CJU is the exclusive wrap-around legal services provider to the New York City Crisis Management System (CMS), which implements the community-oriented violence prevention model to treat gun violence in their communities. CJU defends CMS sites across the city and educates Community Partners on their rights, how to

navigate legal systems, and how to access vital services that respond to their legal and social service needs. CJU organizes to harness community power and help neighbors mobilize against social injustices and disparities.

CJU's efforts center communities impacted by gun violence to develop proactive strategies to reduce gun and gang violence by providing holistic legal representation to underserved communities throughout the five boroughs of New York City. In addition to legal counsel, CJU conducts extensive community outreach, including providing legal clinics and Know Your Rights trainings at over 30 Cure Violence/Crisis Management partner locations and the catchment areas they serve.

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*The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For over 145 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. [www.legalaidnyc.org](http://www.legalaidnyc.org)*