

Women's Resource Center Mid-Year Report

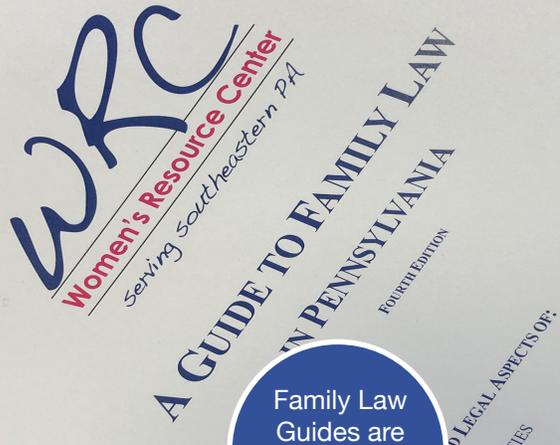
Fiscal Year 2019 - 2020

Information & Referral Helpline

The Helpline (610-687-6391) is a lifeline to many women who call the WRC. Many of their questions have to do with family law including divorce and custody, as well as related problems such as housing and career advice. Many are older women; the average age of a Helpline caller is 56. They have limited income, with 69% reporting their income as less than \$25,000 per year. WRC goes beyond a simple transactional approach to giving resource information by providing a compassionate and empathetic ear to the caller, showing them they care. The Helpline Volunteers also help the caller structure their needs for resources and provide timely retrieval of resources to give to the caller. Thus far this fiscal year, WRC volunteers and staff have responded to 731 Helpline calls. The Helpline is also one way callers are referred to other services WRC provides, such as the Family Law Program, or Resource Coordination Counseling.



Family Law



Family Law Guides are an affordable resource.

One of our oldest services since WRC was founded, our low-cost Legal Consultations are a crucial pillar of support to women in a community. Where else can a woman obtain 30 minutes of Family Law consultation from a lawyer for \$10? Most cases discussed deal with divorce or custody issues. Through this program women discover more about their rights in these circumstances. Kim Dudick, Esq., a family law attorney for the WRC Family Law program, remarked, "Even a half hour of time gives a starting point to women." Most of the women who attend Legal Consultations have limited income. WRC has provided more than 150 Legal Consultations since July 1. Currently Legal Consultations are available in Wayne, Media, West Chester, Blue Bell and in Radnor by phone. In related news, our plain language Guide to Family Law in Pennsylvania has been thoroughly revised to reflect legal changes up to 2020. Purchase is available by calling WRC or by going through the WRC website at <https://womensresourcecenter.net/get-help/family-law/>.