

CACLTN Legal Assistance Program Overview

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A CLT may find this program helpful when...

- *Incorporating and drafting bylaws*
- *Applying for 501c3 status*
- *Developing a ground lease*
- *Drafting a partnership agreement or facilitating a donation or retained life estate, plus full list below!*

The Program

It's an exciting time for the CLT movement in California. Many organizations or groups of neighbors are exploring the creation of a new CLT to serve their community. Many established CLTs are growing and taking on new projects. In all cases, legal help is almost always necessary.

CACLTN's Legal Assistance Program offers CLTs access to attorneys for up to 10 hours of consultations and follow-up. Potential issues that this program may be help with include:

- Incorporating a CLT
- CLT legal findings
- CLT ground leases
- CLT partnership agreements and MOUs
- Structuring cooperatives and condos on a CLT
- Tenant selection and community preference policies
- Facilitating a donation or retained life estate
- Suggesting language for a donor to add to their trust or will
- Preparing a conservation easement
- Co-op development

Who is Eligible?

The Program is available to current dues-paying member organizations of the California Community Land Trust Network for use on CLT-related issues and projects. If you are unsure

about whether your organization is current with its CACLTN membership, please reach out to Shirley Kawafuchi at shirley@cacltnetwork.org.

What does Legal Assistance look like?

All TA requests must come in through the TA form and be submitted by a staff, board member, or main representative of the CLT/organization.

After an organization submits the request form, CACLTN reviews the request and contacts the submitter with their approval status. If/when the request is approved, CACLTN will share the information with one of our attorneys. The attorney will then contact the organization by email within 5-7 business days.

Assistance provided through this program will consist of an introductory meeting, usually online or by phone with an attorney. The total of 10 hours of assistance may be rounded out by additional meetings or by time the attorney spends on drafting or reviewing documents.

All requests are valid for a 4 month period. After 4 months pass, requests must be re-submitted and re-approved via the TA form. CACLTN follows up with organizations whose requests are lapsing.

Who are the TA coaches and what are their areas of expertise?

[Christina Oatfield](#)

[Impact Matters Law](#)

[Public Counsel](#)

How do I request Legal Assistance (TA)? To access assistance through this program, please fill out our sign-up form at the following link: <https://forms.gle/SN4d32rKUbecVDrf6>

Questions? Please contact Shirley Kawafuchi, Program Manager at shirley@cacltnetwork.org.