



## John D'Onofrio's story is helping families of special needs children

A question frequently asked by parents of a special needs child is "what is going to happen to my child when I become incapacitated or die?" As founder of the Good Shepherd Legal Foundation, John D'Onofrio provides free legal services to these families or directly to special needs individuals themselves. He guides them through the legal hurdles of special needs trusts and estate planning to ensure their child will receive financial support throughout their lives. John's services have given peace of mind to countless families – at no charge.

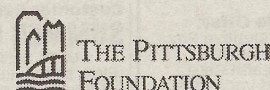
John has faced adversity of his own. Growing up in a housing project as one of nine kids, he struggled with a speech impediment on the way to realizing his lifelong dream of becoming an attorney. He now runs his own law practice, in addition to donating nearly 25 hours per week to serve those with special needs through the foundation. He is a member of the Academy of Special Needs Planners, Pennsylvania Bar Association and Christian Legal Society. John is a tireless, generous man whose impact on our special needs community cannot be overstated.

Visit [goodshepherdlegalfoundation.org](http://goodshepherdlegalfoundation.org) or call 412-893-2552 for more information about the Good Shepherd Legal Foundation.



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John D'Onofrio is a 2009 Jefferson Award recipient. To nominate a volunteer for this award, visit [post-gazette.com/jefferson](http://post-gazette.com/jefferson) or call 412-263-3534.