

MAP | MICHIGAN ADVOCACY PROGRAM

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



Formerly Legal Services of South Central Michigan



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All of these firms met the State Bar of Michigan's Voluntary Pro Bono Standard because on average each lawyer within these firms donated at least \$300 or provided 30 hours of free representation for low income persons. The Firm Leadership level is determined on an aggregate firm basis using a 30 hour or \$500 donation standard.

MICHIGAN ADVOCACY PROGRAM THANKS THE MEMBERS OF FUNDRAISING LEADERSHIP COMMITTEES

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DEAR **FRIENDS** AND **SUPPORTERS**,

Thank you for supporting MAP and for joining us in celebrating our **50th Anniversary** in 2015. While our anniversary celebration was definitely a highlight of the year, MAP also continued to achieve **tremendous results** for the vulnerable populations that we serve throughout Michigan. Whether you have served on the board, provided pro bono help to us or our clients, donated, funded, partnered with us, or supported us in other ways.....your support has been instrumental to **ensuring justice** to many who would otherwise go without.

Our staff and board are **truly grateful** to all those that participated in our 50th Anniversary celebration and all those that made it possible for MAP to celebrate 50 years. It was so meaningful to celebrate this **important milestone** with so many who support our work. A consistent theme of the anniversary celebration, one we are cognizant of every day, is that MAP attorneys are leaders in a community of practice that works to resolve our clients' individual legal problems while also looking critically at the larger systems that impact our clients' lives and communities. One of MAP's advocates said it best, "For me, this balance is critical to **staying resilient** as we walk alongside clients experiencing tremendous injustice."

Thank you to all of our **donors, funders, volunteer attorneys** and **partner organizations**. Your commitment to justice allows MAP to strike this balance and to help more families and communities. Through innovations for self-represented litigants, expanded resources to provide full representation and meaningful partnerships with community organizations, MAP continues to **challenge injustices** and **provide hope** to low income families.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R Gillett".

Robert Gillett
Executive Director



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Delphia Simpson".

Delphia Simpson
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We would like to thank our sponsors
for making the celebration possible...

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50th Anniversary Celebration



CLIENT SUCCESS STORIES

SAVING HOMES

In 1998, Tom & Gwenda bought a house and spent the next decade making it a home for themselves and their children. After they were both laid off from work, they faced foreclosure. With medical bills piling up due to Tom's ongoing health issues that required multiple surgeries, they were running out of options to save their family home. After the foreclosure sale, Tom and Gwenda were desperate and fell victim to a foreclosure rescue scam. When they contacted LSSCM, they were at risk of losing their home and buried in taxes and fees. LSSCM's Ann Arbor office filed a law suit on behalf of Tom and Gwenda and were able to save their home and get them reimbursed for illegal fees.

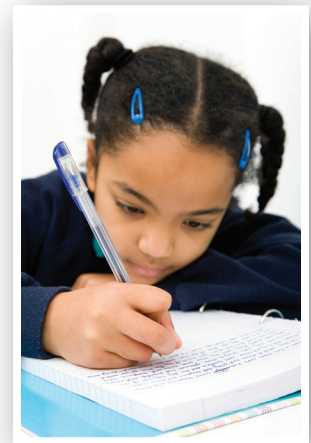


IMMIGRATION ASSISTANCE

Aristeo de la Garza was born in Mexico. His mother was a U.S. Citizen so he was likely a citizen at birth, but he never had any way to prove it -- he was not registered in either the U.S. or Mexico and didn't have a birth certificate. About sixty years later when he walked through the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center's doors, he was a U.S. Army Veteran who had no way to prove that he had any legal status. MIRC took on the complicated legal task of proving his citizenship. Last month, Mr. de la Garza was sworn in as a U.S. Citizen.

PREVENTING UNFAIR EVICTIONS

Lisa is a single mother with one child who lives in subsidized housing with affordable rent. After Lisa's relationship with the child's father ended, he began stalking her and physically abusing her. She obtained a Personal Protection Order to stop the abuse, but he continued to stalk her and broke into her home. He was eventually arrested for PPO violations. Lisa's landlord filed an eviction action because of the abuse. Lisa knew if she lost her subsidized housing, she would be homeless with her child. Lisa asked LSSCM for help. When the landlord refused to stop the eviction, the LSSCM attorney filed a motion to stop the eviction because Lisa was not at fault and subject to protection under the Violence Against Women Act. Ultimately, the judge agreed and dismissed the eviction action against Melissa and her child.



AWARDS



Angela Tripp was recognized as Michigan Lawyer's Weekly 2015 Leaders in the Law for her leadership with the Michigan Legal Help Program to expand access to justice.



The Michigan Legal Help Program was awarded the **Innovations in Technology Award** from the National Legal Aid and Defender Association and the American Bar Association for MLH's creativity and innovation in the delivery of legal services to low income individuals.



Lorry Brown was presented with the **National Consumer Law Center Vern Countryman Consumer Law Award** for her work to protect the legal rights of low income consumers and homeowners.

MICHIGAN ADVOCACY PROGRAM ANNUAL STAFF AWARDS were given to Benefo Ofosu-Benefo (no photo), Amanda Eicher, Shannon Lucas, Nick Gable and Amanda Revels



Amanda Eicher and Shannon Lucas



Nick Gable



Amanda Revels

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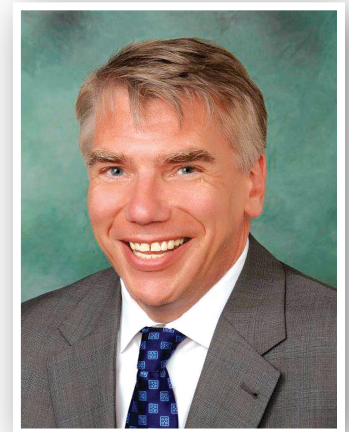
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CALHOUN COUNTY
Kent Bieberich

In **2015**, pro bono attorneys
and law students completed
almost **400 cases**, providing
over **30,000 hours**
of free legal help



JACKSON COUNTY
Robert Gaecke



INGHAM COUNTY
Kimberly Savage with **Kellie Maki-Foster**
and **Elizabeth Rios**

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THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!

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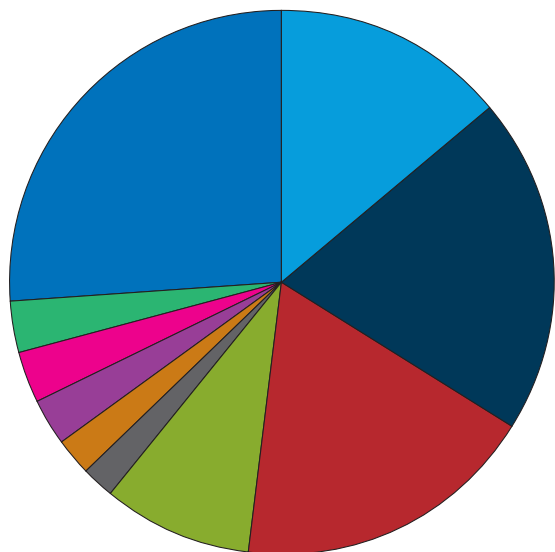
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2015 SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL INFORMATION



REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT

● Michigan State Bar Foundation.....	\$1,616,512	(14%)
● Legal Services Corporation*	\$2,271,667	(20%)
● Other Governmental Funding.....	\$1,968,486	(18%)
● Foundations	\$1,000,979	(9%)
● Local United Ways	\$268,000	(2%)
● Local Area Agencies on Aging.....	\$188,070	(2%)
● Other Grants	\$306,000	(3%)
● Miscellaneous Income and Interest.....	\$356,137	(3%)
● Contributions.....	\$338,060	(3%)
● Donated Goods and Services.....	\$2,868,077	(26%)

TOTAL REVENUE.....\$11,181,988

More than **94%** of the Michigan Advocacy Program Budget goes **directly to programs** that **help low income** individuals.

EXPENSES

● Program Services	\$9,489,592	(94%)
● Administration and Fundraising.....	\$609,494	(6%)

TOTAL EXPENSES.....\$10,099,086

This reflects a consolidated statement of activity for Michigan Advocacy Program and Michigan, PLP, LLC.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR 2015 FUNDERS:

- Area Agency on Aging – Regions IB, II, IIIB, IIIC, Tri-County
- Asian Americans Advancing Justice – New American’s Collaborative
- Capital Regional Community Foundation
- City Funding
 - East Lansing (CDBG Funds)
 - Lansing (General Funds)
 - Monroe (CDBG Funds)
- Comerica Charitable Trust – Samuel Higby & Margaret H. Camp Charitable Fund
- Community Action Agency – subgrant of Supportive Services for Veteran Families
- Community Catalyst
- Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan
- County Funding
 - Calhoun County Senior Millage
 - Ingham County
 - Ingham County Register of Deeds
 - Ingham County Treasurer
 - Jackson County Treasurer
- Community Health and Social Services Center – La Vida Partnership
- Corporation for National and Community Services – justice AmeriCorps
- Department of Justice
- Office for Victims of Crime - Training and Technical Assistance
- Office on Violence Against Women – Legal Assistance for Victims
- Office on Violence Against Women – Elder Abuse
- Equal Justice America
- Ford Foundation
- Grand Rapids Community Foundation
- Ingham County Bar Foundation
- Jackson Community Foundation
- Kalamazoo Community Foundation
- The Kresge Foundation
- Legal Services Corporation*
- Lenawee Community Foundation
- Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
 - Aging and Adult Services Agency
 - Medical Services Administration
- Michigan Disability Rights Coalition
- Michigan State Bar Foundation
- Michigan State Housing Development Authority
- Michigan State University College of Law
- Michigan United Subgrants:
 - Open Society Foundations
 - United Way for Southeastern Michigan
 - National Ombudsman Resource Center
 - State Bar of Michigan
 - The Miller Foundation
 - United Ways
 - Branch County United Way
 - Capital Area United Way
 - Lenawee United Way
 - Livingston County United Way
 - Marshall United Way
 - United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region
 - United Way of Jackson County
 - United Way of Monroe County
 - United Way of Washtenaw County
 - University of Michigan Law School
 - U.S. Department of Education
 - Federal Work Study
 - U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 - Continuum of Care - Washtenaw County
 - Emergency Solutions Grant – City of Lansing
 - SOS Community Services – Family Support Network
- Volunteers of America Michigan – subgrant of Supportive Services for Veteran Families
- Washtenaw Coordinated Funders, a collaboration of the Office of Community Development (representing the City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, and Washtenaw Urban County), the United Way of Washtenaw County, and the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation
- The Weatherwax Foundation
- W.K. Kellogg Foundation
- Welcoming America

**Legal Services Corporation supports only the activities of Legal Services of South Central Michigan and Farmworker Legal Services. Please be advised that any contributions to LSSCM or FLS may not be used in any manner inconsistent with the Legal Services Act and Regulations.*

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Susan Reed – Managing Attorney
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Ana Devereaux – Attorney
Anna Hill – Attorney
Darren Miller – Attorney
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Christine Sauve – Welcoming Michigan Senior Program Coordinator

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James Schaafsma – Housing Attorney
Rebecca Shiemke – Family Law Attorney
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Dan Wojciak – Attorney
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Karrie Jordan – Ombudsman
Susan Steinke – Outreach Coordinator

Thanks to Frank Weir at the Detroit Legal News for the majority of the photos in this report.

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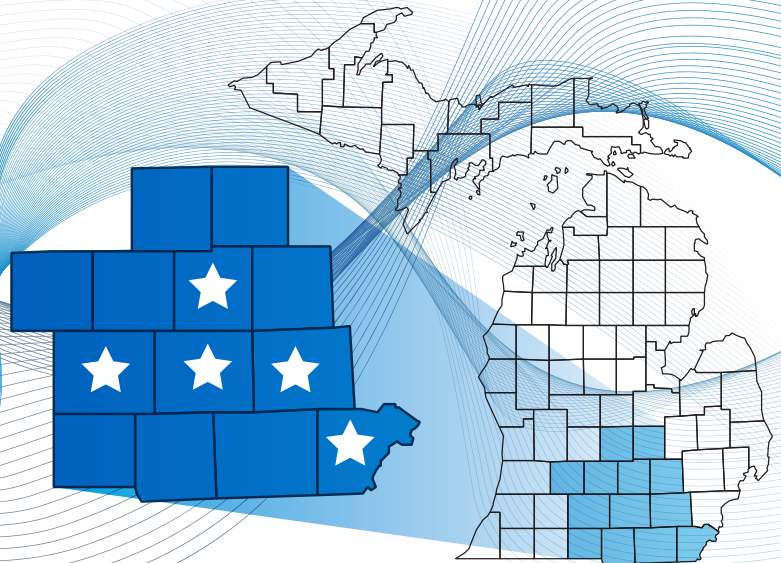
Office in Ann Arbor
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michiganlegalhelp.org

MICHIGAN POVERTY LAW PROGRAM

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TOGETHER,
THIS YEAR WE
HANDLED **10,859** CASES
AND HELPED MORE
THAN **26,052** PEOPLE
IN MICHIGAN.

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Legal Services of South Central Michigan

Serves 13 counties and has offices in Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Jackson, Lansing and Monroe

Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Clinton, Eaton, Hillsdale, Ingham, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Monroe, Washtenaw and Shiawassee counties

