

LEGAL AID OF CENTRAL MICHIGAN

Contact: Carol L. Munday, Former Executive Director of merged program • (517) 394-3121

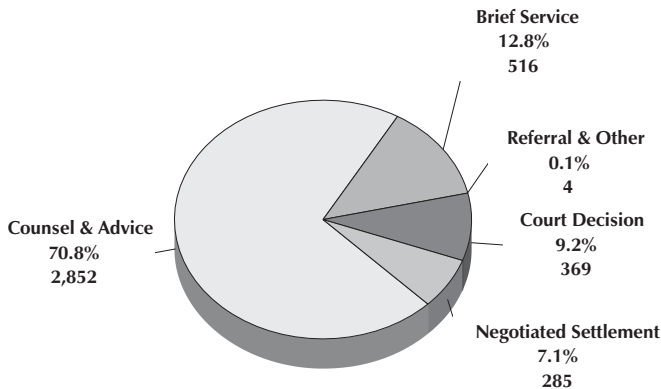
Community Outreach and Collaboration. LACM’s community involvement focuses on legal needs in the community and new or innovative ways to address those needs within limited resources. LACM’s work with housing/homelessness providers involved training about tenant rights and responsibilities, options for low-income families to become home owners and the development of new subsidized housing in the area. LACM’s expanded work regarding domestic violence has strengthened partnerships with shelters and others to achieve a client-oriented, “seamless” domestic violence system. Efforts in Shiawassee County established a rapport and mutual respect between LACM and the courts, further advancing the interests of low-income families in that county. During 2001, LACM worked with Ingham County Courts and others to obtain funding and design the new court-based Access to Justice Center which will be staffed by legal aid personnel to help clients with pro se forms and referrals.

Client Age	
18 & Under	38
19-59	3,870
60 & Over	118
Groups	0
Total	4,026

Pro Bono Support. LACM maintains a panel of 315 active pro bono attorneys ranging from novice attorneys to seasoned practitioners who mentor new pro bono attorneys. One of LACM’s most effective strategies to recruit pro bono attorneys was to offer pro bono training sessions. Some 200 cases were closed by volunteer lawyers in 2001 with another 123 open cases at year end. These attorneys handled cases including family law, consumer law, housing law, probate, employment, tort defense, and bankruptcy. The pro bono panel contributed 1,493 hours of service, which is valued at \$223,963, with an additional \$56,000 in volunteer law student time.

Client Ethnicity	
White	2,854
Black	731
Hispanic	207
Native American	38
Asian	42
Other	154
Total	4,026

LACM Types of Service in 2001



LACM Cases Closed in 2001: 4,026

