

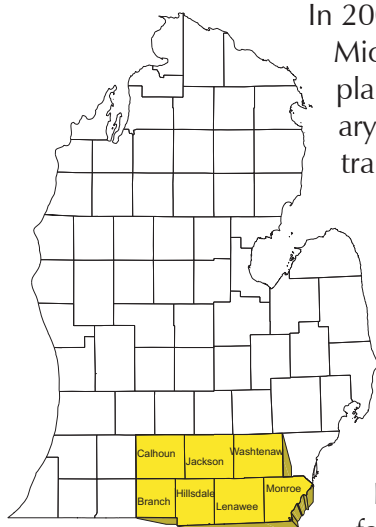
LEGAL SERVICES OF SOUTHERN MICHIGAN

LSSM Office Locations: Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Berrien Springs, Jackson, Grand Rapids, and Monroe

LSSM Service Area: Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Monroe, and Washtenaw Counties

Farmworker Legal Services—Statewide
Michigan Poverty Law Program—Statewide

Service Population: 129,812 individuals living at or below 125% of the poverty level



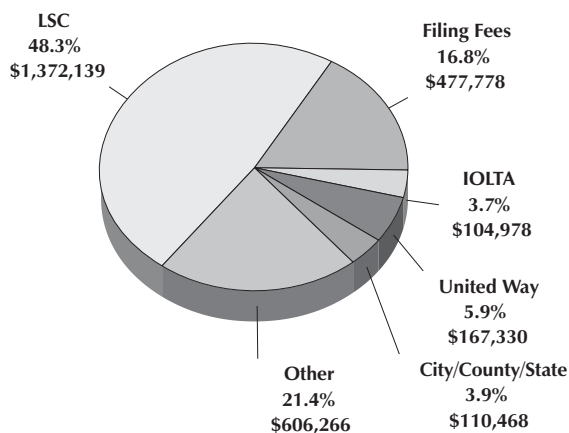
In 2001, Legal Services of Southern Michigan devoted much time to planning a merger, effective January 1, 2002, with Legal Aid of Central Michigan. The name of the new organization is Legal Services of South Central Michigan. The program is now a twelve county program, in addition to two statewide programs—the Michigan Poverty Law Program and Farmworker Legal Services. LSSM targets the prevention of

Due to a nerve disorder, a man was severely disabled. He was denied Medicaid and income assistance after a process in which he did not have a lawyer. LSSM obtained a remand from the court so this destitute man could be represented at a new hearing. This time an LSSM paralegal presented proper evidence and the man was quickly determined to be eligible for the medical and income assistance he so desperately needed.

family violence, the prevention of homelessness, preservation of families, access to medical and basic income assistance, and the prevention of consumer abuses as its main priorities. With additional funding from the federal VAWA program, LSSM has implemented (with the University of Michigan Law School and four domestic violence shelters) a collaborative, holistic approach to legal and social services for domestic violence survivors. LSSM was also awarded a National Association of Public Interest Law Fellow to expand domestic violence services and education to farmworkers throughout the state.

After a landlord failed to correct severe pest infestation and other problems, a tenant's home was condemned. The tenant lawfully withheld his rent to apply to relocation expenses, but the landlord sued for nonpayment of rent. LSSM assisted the tenant in obtaining a judgment for rent abatement and the actual damages he incurred as a result of the condition of the premises. He was able to use the funds to relocate to a habitable dwelling.

LSSM Sources of Funding for 2001: \$ 2,838,959



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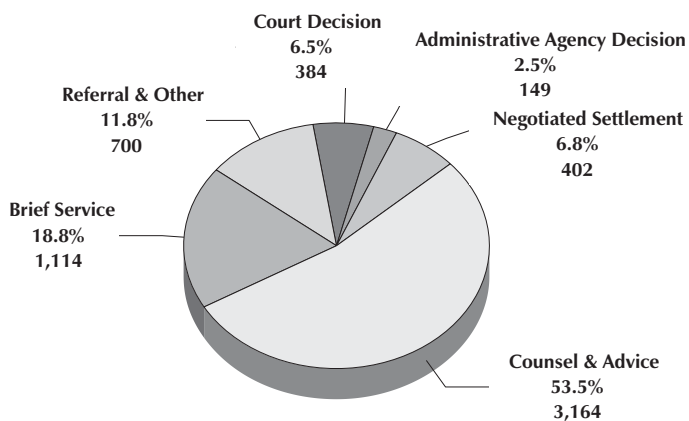
Community Outreach and Collaboration. LSSM has a strong local presence in each county served, including off-site locations to serve clients distant from LSSM offices. LSSM works with many community partners—local courts, the private bar, housing providers, homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, local government, and human services agencies—to ensure that low-income people receive the help that they need. LSSM also trains agency personnel on legal issues affecting clients. LSSM closed 5,913 cases in 2001, provided services in 136 program support or community impact matters, planned and presented more than 25 training events, and made over 100 community legal education presentations reaching over 2,000 individuals. Some of these presentations were made at senior centers through LSSM’s senior grants. LSSM also does extensive outreach and community education throughout the state on issues facing migrant workers.

Client Age	
18 & Under	41
19-59	4,616
60 & Over	1,255
Groups	1
Total	5,913

Pro Bono Support. In 2001, LSSM’s pro bono program involved 410 attorneys and 139 law students. These volunteers handled about 300 cases and provided many other types of services. The value of the pro bono services was more than \$1.4 million, and cash donations were more than \$50,000. The program included the Family Law Project, which uses more than 50 volunteer law students to handle domestic assault cases; referral programs with University of Michigan Law School clinics; a pro bono court reporting service; administration of the statewide Michigan Litigation Assistance Partnership Program; and an active general panel of volunteer attorneys handling both routine and more complex cases.

Client Ethnicity	
White	3,627
Black	1,000
Hispanic	843
Native American	43
Asian	31
Other	369
Total	5,913

LSSM Types of Service in 2001



LSSM Cases Closed in 2001: 5,913

