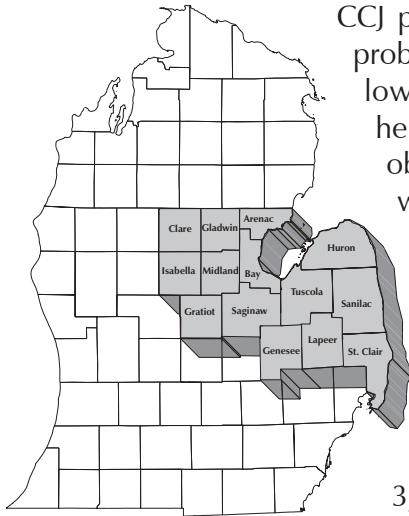


CENTER FOR CIVIL JUSTICE

2003 CCJ Office Locations: Saginaw and Flint

CCJ Service Area: Arenac, Bay, Clare, Genesee, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Lapeer, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac, St. Clair and Tuscola Counties; Statewide on anti-hunger advocacy

Service Population: 213,110 individuals living at or below 125% of the poverty level



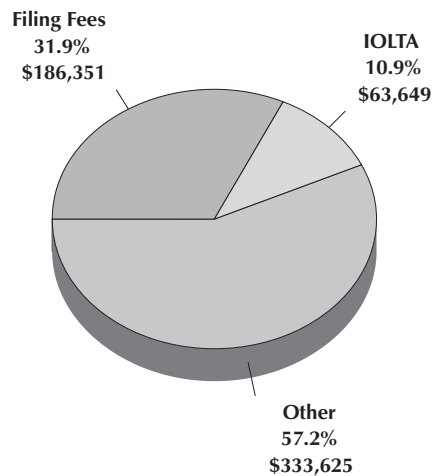
CCJ provides assistance for legal problems that often affect many low-income persons, such as help for those facing barriers to obtaining food assistance. CCJ worked with anti-hunger agencies around the state to educate agency staff and help reduce hunger for Michigan's low-income residents, many of whom are children. CCJ's Food Stamp Helpline advised some 3,032 callers in 2003. CCJ also worked with county officials to as-

A young mother had obtained part-time work but became unable to keep her job due to severe illness. Her employer did not provide health insurance, so she was unable to afford to have the surgery that she required. CCJ helped this worker get assistance for the medical care she needed through the local county hospitalization program. As a result, she was able to have her operation, return to work, and maintain a job.

sure that a law requiring county hospitalization programs for very low-income persons was implemented in an effective and consistent manner. In 2003, CCJ started a two-year Health Eligibility Law Project to address legal barriers to health insurance. In partnership with Legal Services of Eastern Michigan, local health providers, human service agencies and the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, the program trains health and human services providers and offers information and help to individuals. A special helpline provides advice and brief services to people with questions about their eligibility or problems using governmental health insurance. In the program's first four months, approximately 306 individuals were served, 40 of whom were able to prevent the loss of their health insurance.

With technical assistance from the Michigan Poverty Law Program, CCJ developed a self-help food stamp calculator and made it available on the Internet. This tool streamlined the process for helping needy persons eligible for federal food support. CCJ also worked with the Food Bank Council of Michigan to distribute information about its Food Stamp Helpline in flyers and electronic newsletters that reach agency personnel and a large number of needy individuals.

CCJ Sources of Funding for 2003: \$ 583,625



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Contact: Terri L. Stangl, Executive Director • (989) 755-3120

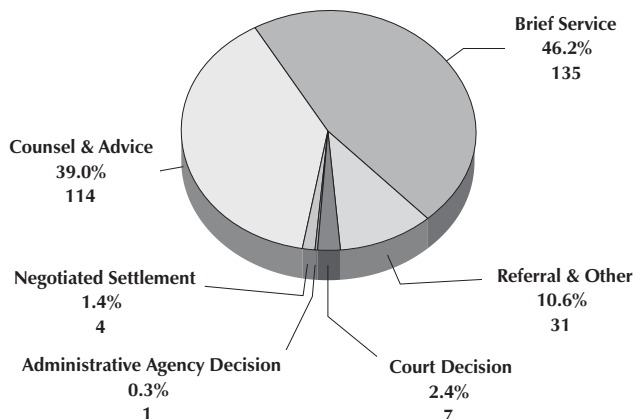
Community Outreach and Collaboration. In 2003, CCJ's advocates provided information or training for non-profit entities and associations at over 40 events or meetings. CCJ also participates actively in workgroups at the state and local level developing education and advocacy tools related to hunger, health care, and legal issues faced by kinship caregivers, and low-income working parents who wish additional education and training. As part of its new Health Eligibility Law Project, CCJ provided training on Medicaid law to 82 human services and health care staff members at a day-long event in Genesee County. In addition, CCJ sponsored a quarterly health care information forum in partnership with the local Red Cross. CCJ met with various groups to provide legal information and assistance to kinship caregivers who are providing primary care for children to whom they are related. CCJ also made its manual, "Grandparents Caring for Grandchildren: Common Legal Issues," available to other providers.

Client Age	
18 & Under	2
19-59	261
60 & Over	29
Groups	0
Total	292

Pro Bono Support. CCJ trained a group of law students at the University of Michigan Law school to undertake Food Stamp eligibility screening and referrals at local emergency food providers located in Washtenaw County, enabling many clients to sustain food assistance for their families. CCJ also works with the Saginaw County Pro Bono Committee on such projects as small claims court videos and the development of resources to help prisoners make timely requests related to child support. CCJ also refers individual clients to pro bono panels and clinics operated by Legal Services of Eastern Michigan and utilizes the Michigan Litigation Assistance Partnership Program (MI-LAPP) as needed for complex cases or those for which in-house resources are not available.

Client Ethnicity	
White	172
Black	90
Hispanic	20
Native American	4
Asian	0
Other	6
Total	292

CCJ Types of Service in 2003



CCJ Cases Closed in 2003: 292

