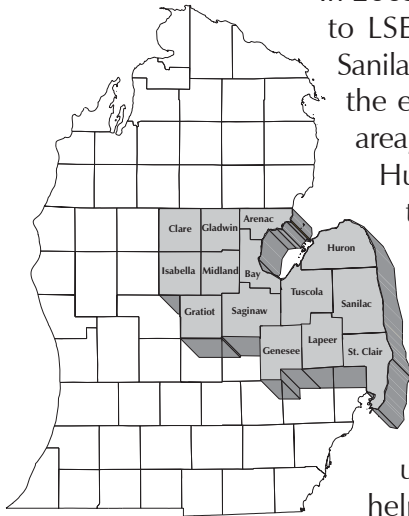


LEGAL SERVICES OF EASTERN MICHIGAN

2003 LSEM Office Locations: Flint, Midland, Port Huron and Saginaw

LSEM Service Area: Arenac, Bay, Clare, Genesee, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Lapeer, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac, St. Clair and Tuscola Counties; also, senior services in Shiawassee County

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



In 2003, four counties were added to LSEM's service area: Huron, Sanilac, St. Clair, and Tuscola. With the expanded 14-county service area, LSEM added an office in Port Huron and maintained client interview sites in areas without permanent offices. Specially-designed pro se divorce kits for those with and without children are in use in the four new counties. LSEM's Fair Housing Center continued to provide information to help prevent and solve discrimination issues, including training for

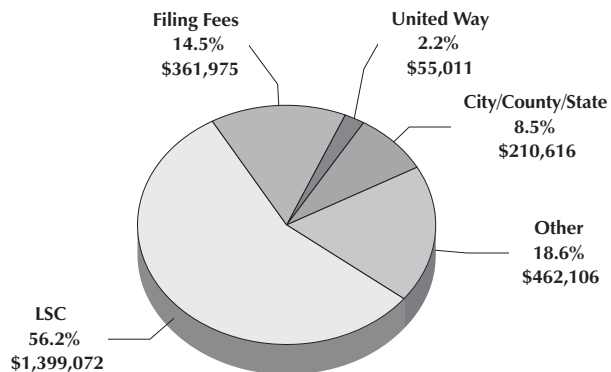
those seeking to improve their practices. As part of the Genesee County tax reversion program, LSEM delivered

1,800 packets of legal information to homeowners informing them about procedures to secure a postponement and obtain hardship assistance regarding a foreclosure for delinquent taxes, saving all but four from foreclosure. Work is underway with the Sanilac County Treasurer to implement a similar project. When some low-income persons were not receiving fee waivers, LSEM worked with others to bring the situation to the attention of the court, resulting in fee waivers being approved for all indigent persons. With community partners, LSEM produced an Elder Exploitation Training Manual and developed elder abuse protocols in Genesee, Lapeer and Shiawassee Counties.

A young woman with multiple disabilities was living independently and working full time in a low-paying job to meet her expenses. The landlord took away her handicapped-accessible parking spot near her apartment without notice, jeopardizing the woman's safety as she went to and from her apartment. The landlord wrongfully refused to reinstate the parking spot without an additional charge on top of her regular rent. After LSEM met with the landlord and provided education about the woman's rights under the law, the woman's handicapped-accessible parking spot was restored at no additional cost.

A man who could not read or write inherited his mother's modest house. His brother deceived the man into signing over the deed to the house by claiming the documents were insurance papers. The brother then tried to evict him. An LSEM advocate got the eviction stopped and the brother's deed overturned. Forms were also filed to have the man's sister appointed as his legal guardian. With LSEM's help, the man's home was saved, and a trustworthy guardian is in place to protect him in the future.

LSEM Sources of Funding for 2003: \$ 2,488,780



LEGAL SERVICES OF EASTERN MICHIGAN

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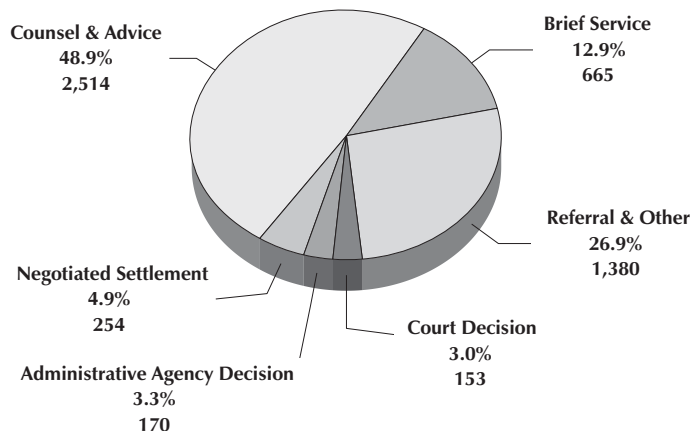
Community Outreach and Collaboration. LSEM continues to be very active in community projects addressing the needs of low-income clients. In 2003, LSEM provided legal education on immigrant employment issues via a one-year, Department of Justice funded program. Staff of agencies serving minorities received training, and a video is available for future use. LSEM distributed information (in English and Spanish) about tax credits for IRS-sponsored Low-Income Tax Clinics that are geared to non-English-speaking people. LSEM staff are also members of planning committees for the implementation of two Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) working to link data collection for all homeless service providers in each county that receives either Michigan State Housing Development Authority and/or U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grants.

Client Age	
18 & Under	82
19-59	4,766
60 & Over	284
Groups	4
Total	5,136

Pro Bono Support. LSEM maintains a pro bono program which recruits and trains volunteer lawyers for individual cases, pro se clinics and other efforts. In 2003, the Saginaw County Bar Pro Bono Committee completed and distributed a four part video series on Small Claims Court filing that has been distributed through the County Library Cooperative and to local universities. LSEM helped develop the videos which are also used at clinics occurring every other month at the Courthouse and staffed by LSEM pro bono attorneys. One of LSEM's most innovative pro bono efforts is the ongoing community legal education effort at public schools which allows pro bono attorneys and local lawyers to instruct teens in legal issues such as zero tolerance, family law, landlord/tenant issues, etc. This effort has been so successful that now parent and community groups associated with the schools are requesting these presentations.

Client Ethnicity	
White	3,054
Black	1,656
Hispanic	206
Native American	7
Asian	7
Other	206
Total	5,136

LSEM Types of Service in 2003



LSEM Cases Closed in 2003: 5,136

