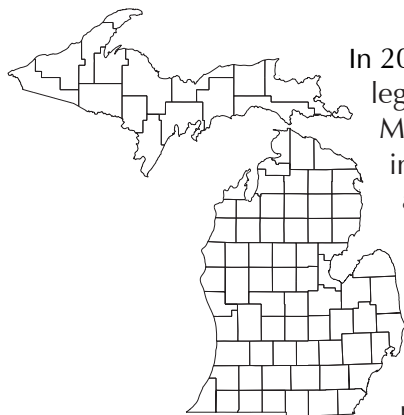


MICHIGAN POVERTY LAW PROGRAM

2004 MPLP Office Location: Ann Arbor, Lansing

Service Area: Statewide

Service Population: Legal services programs in Michigan



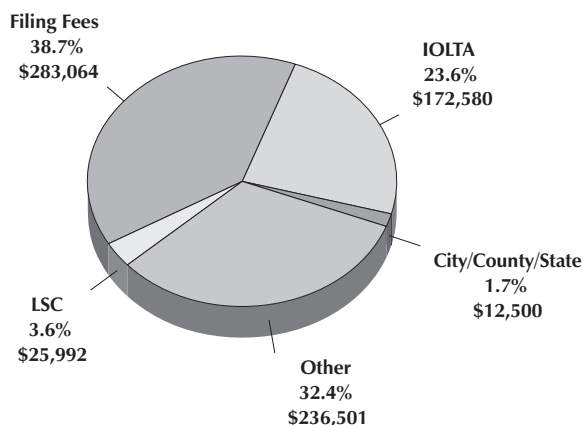
In 2004, MPLP gave support to legal services providers in Michigan in a variety of areas including technology, advocacy assistance and coordination, and substantive law and skills training. In 2004, a negotiated settlement in a case resulted in disabled persons receiving essential services at home instead of in a

MPLP presents training and information to assist other advocates helping the poor. Examples are training on the obligations of recipients of federal housing funding to persons of Limited English Proficiency, education about new regulations for nursing home care and a presentation on resources available to those parenting grandchildren.

nursing home, such as the 30-year-old quadriplegic who now can live in his home and pursue an education or the elderly couple who was reunited when the MI Choice program supplemented the husband's efforts to care for his wife of 50 years at home. Information will now be provided to all long-term care applicants about home and community based options, and the Governor's Task Force on Long Term Care was formed to determine how to provide more cost-effective services and higher quality care. MPLP also worked with the Michigan Advocacy Project on a new law which allows indigent applicants to receive one free copy of their medical records to assist them in seeking medical care or public benefits.

An elderly wife who was gravely ill was not permitted to return to the nursing home room she shared with her husband after a hospital stay. The nursing home improperly moved the wife to another wing of the nursing home. An MPLP attorney obtained immediate permission for the woman to return to her old room, enabling the wife to spend her last days with her husband. After additional discussions with the Department of Community Health, policies were changed to conform to federal law, giving residents the right to keep their original room and enabling many residents to return to the only home they know.

MPLP\ Sources of Funding for 2004: \$ 730,637



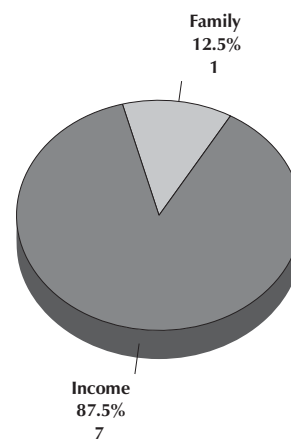
MICHIGAN POVERTY LAW PROGRAM

Contact: Robert F. Gillett, Director • (734) 665-6181

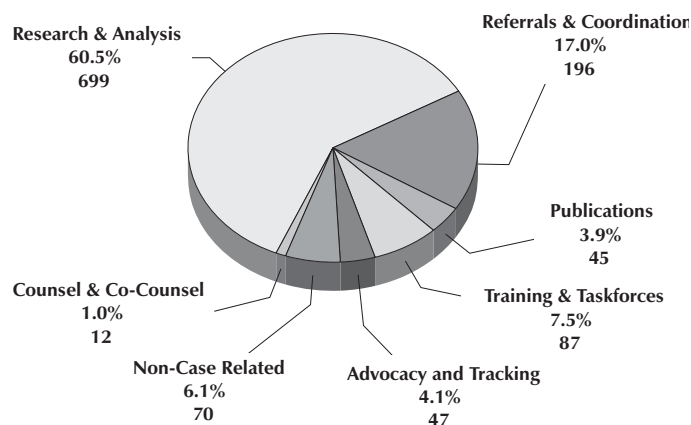
Community Outreach and Collaboration. In 2004, MPLP received 1156 requests for service from field legal aid programs increasing demand for services by more than 200 requests from last year. MPLP also provided 33 days of training (including 17 mini-seminars) for 982 attendees and convened 20 task force meetings in legal practice areas that attracted 283 persons. MPLP continues to provide outreach, trainings, and presentations to field legal service programs and other non-profit agencies in such areas as elder law and public benefits. MPLP continued its work on systemic advocacy issues with the Michigan Advocacy Project (MAP). MAP made significant progress on issues affecting the elderly, payday lending, credit scoring, medical records copying costs, housing and family law in 2004. MPLP continues to play a significant role in the state's technology initiatives, partnering with LAWM and the Kent County Legal Assistance Center to complete on-line automated pro se materials.

Pro Bono Support. In 2004, the Michigan Litigation Assistance Partnership Program (MI-LAPP) published a new statewide pro bono resources brochure and worked with the State Bar to develop the "pro bono menu," a document which summarizes all pro bono options (Access to Justice Campaign donations; statewide and specialized pro bono programs; local pro bono programs). MPLP continues to work with the State Bar of Michigan to support the Michigan Litigation Assistance Partnership Program which links the resources of large law firms and corporate law departments with complex cases that legal aid programs do not have the resources to take. MPLP also assists in the representation of community organizations through another MPLP/MI-LAPP partner, Community Legal Resources, which recruits law firms to help nonprofit agencies with transactional and corporate needs.

MPLP Cases Closed in 2004: 8



MPLP Types of Activity in 2004



MPLP Completed Activities in 2004: 1,156

