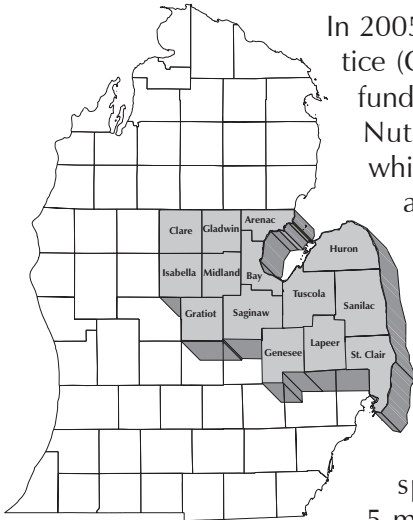


CENTER FOR CIVIL JUSTICE

2005 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



In 2005, the Center for Civil Justice (CCJ) received new federal funds to expand its Food and Nutrition Program Helpline which serves between 2,000 and 3,000 persons per year. The Food Stamp website that CCJ operates in collaboration with the Michigan Poverty Law Program received around 4,000 hits per month with visitors spending an average of

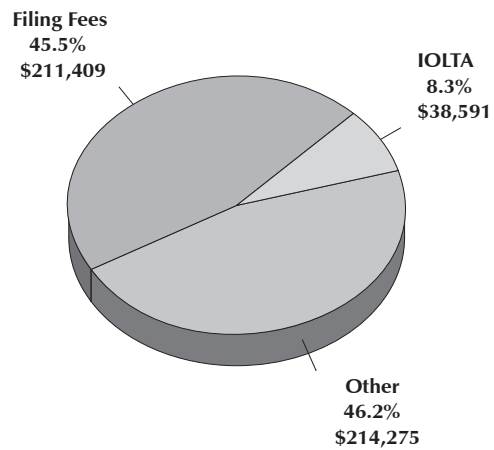
Working with the Michigan Poverty Law Program and Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service, CCJ negotiated an improved state policy for better, more complete notices to be sent to disabled or seriously ill persons faced with losing home help services. Thousands of vulnerable persons now receive the information they need to understand or appeal decisions affecting their home health care.

5 minutes on the site. CCJ also successfully worked with state agencies to change or improve policies which were incorrectly terminating benefits to low-

income clients, including correcting income eligibility calculations which caused improper termination of Medicaid benefits for disabled parents and caregivers or adopted children. Several of the problems were identified through the Healthcare Eligibility Law Project in Genesee County which CCJ operates in partnership with Legal Services of Eastern Michigan. CCJ also worked with the state to assure that homeless shelters were properly recognized as a valid address for identification cards when a shelter verified that the individual was residing there, which opened more opportunities for homeless persons to gain employment or needed benefits or services.

CCJ is working with school districts and community partners to provide legal education and advocacy to homeless children to help them remain in the same school throughout the year. In Genesee County, where many children move at least once a year, CCJ's efforts to educate families and schools about rights under federal law to transportation and other assistance has enabled many homeless children to remain in their original schools, stabilizing and improving their education.

CCJ Sources of Funding for 2005: \$ 464,275



CENTER FOR CIVIL JUSTICE

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

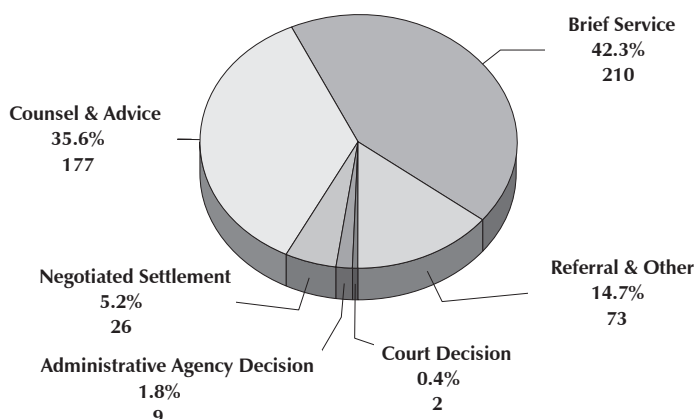
Community Outreach and Collaboration. In 2005, over 100 agencies and organizations were kept informed of legal and policy developments affecting low income clients through monthly inter-agency meetings coordinated by CCJ. CCJ prepared over 50 issue alerts and a variety of community education materials which were shared with lay and legal advocates through listservs, websites, task forces, and community networks. CCJ also provided information or training for nonprofit entities and associations at over 45 events or meetings at the state and local level. CCJ's outreach, education and training materials help many nonprofit advocates give better advice to their clients, recognize civil legal problems and provide referrals to legal advocates. For example, when CCJ discovered that a previously closed government health insurance program would be accepting new enrollees for 3 months, CCJ's outreach efforts helped many individuals learn how to apply for this program in each month of open enrollment.

Client Age	
18 & Under	8
19-59	443
60 & Over	46
Groups	0
Total	497

Pro Bono Support. CCJ works closely with Legal Services of Eastern Michigan to refer pro bono clients in the region. CCJ also has continued to work with the Michigan Poverty Law Program to help law students at the University of Michigan Law School undertake Food Stamp eligibility screening and make referrals to local emergency food providers. CCJ staff participates in the Saginaw County pro bono committee which sponsors legal clinics and educational materials. CCJ is also working with private attorneys to improve policies to help ex-offenders who re-enter the community receive civil legal assistance for outstanding problems to help reduce recidivism. Because of the complex nature of CCJ's work, CCJ also seeks volunteer lawyer assistance on a case by case basis from the Michigan Litigation Assistance Partnership Program.

Client Ethnicity	
White	292
Black	153
Hispanic	36
Native American	5
Asian	1
Other	10
Total	497

CCJ Types of Service in 2005



CCJ Cases Closed in 2005: 497

