

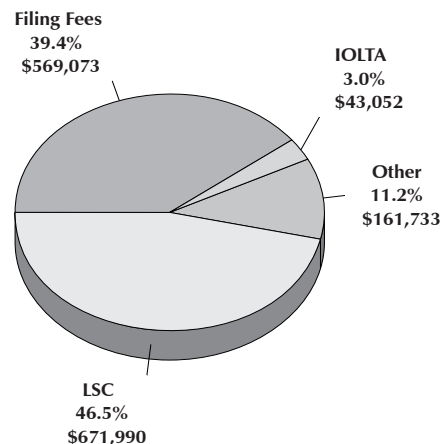
Legal Services of Northern Michigan's (LSNM) service area is vast and rural, covering 36 of Michigan's 83 counties and extending nearly 500 miles from one end to the other. LSNM attorneys regularly travel to outlying areas to meet with clients. In 2005, LSNM began planning for the delivery of civil legal advice using pro bono attorneys and a custom web site developed by LSNM.

Also LSNM has enhanced access to legal help through a partnership with the Counsel and Advocacy Law Line (CALL). CALL provides advice and brief services over the phone while returning priority cases to LSNM for direct representation or extended services. Together, CALL and LSNM have increased the number of clients receiving counsel and advice in the widely dispersed client population by approximately 2,000. Additionally, the partnership has increased the number of clients receiving extended litigation services at LSNM. In 2005, LSNM also continued its public guardianship project for incapacitated people who have no suitable relative or acquaintance to act as a guardian or conservator; LSNM currently helps 18 individuals who have nowhere else to turn.

After emergency open heart surgery, a veteran was receiving very large hospital bills because his Veterans Administration (VA) insurance did not cover the treatment he received at a non-VA facility. LSNM negotiated on behalf of the veteran and persuaded the hospital to pursue payment through the Veterans Administration. After LSNM helped with the application process for Medicaid, both the veteran and his wife were found eligible for Medicaid. They now both have important insurance they can use at any hospital.

A divorced father discovered that the mother's live-in boyfriend was being investigated (and was later convicted) of criminal sexual conduct. The father asked LSNM to help him obtain a change in custody. At the hearing, LSNM successfully demonstrated that the living environment was not in the child's best interests, and a change of custody was granted. The father is now able to provide a safe environment for the child.

LSNM Sources of Funding for 2005: \$ 1,445,848



LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN

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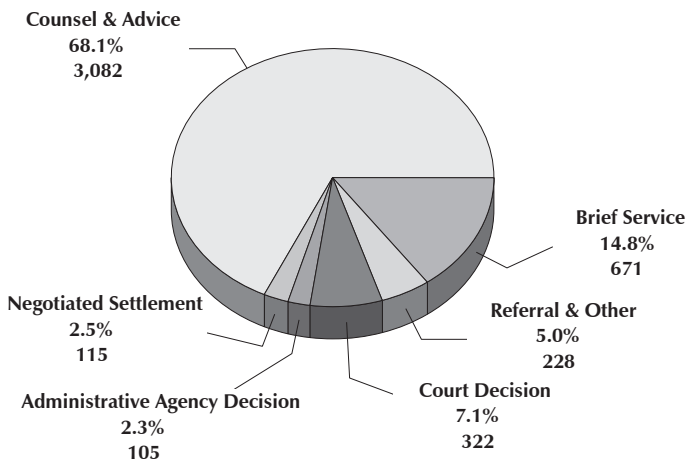
Community Outreach and Collaboration. In 2005, LSNM community education and outreach efforts reached many people. One of LSNM's most successful outreach efforts has been its activities with several local domestic violence task forces. LSNM attorneys have acted as founders, leaders, and participants in these groups which have altered the way northern Michigan communities respond to domestic violence. In 2005, ten of the thirteen shelters in the LSNM service area across northern Michigan participated in the third Northern Michigan Domestic Violence Conference. LSNM organized and led the conference where agencies came together to discuss recurring domestic violence issues, seek regional solutions, and share best practices. LSNM also continues to be active in senior educational outreach, particularly concerning consumer issues, and makes numerous community presentations and has created an e-mail newsletter.

Client Age	
18 & Under	51
19-59	3,702
60 & Over	770
Groups	0
Total	4,523

Pro Bono Support. LSNM refers clients to pro bono panels in several counties. LSNM partners with the Women's Resource Center, Grand Traverse Leelanau Atrim Bar Association, and Third Level Crisis Center to assist clients attending pro bono clinics once a month. LSNM's Deputy Director assists the program which uses pro bono attorneys to provide free legal advice and pro se assistance mainly in family law matters. The pro bono clinic and referral program used the volunteer services of over 120 local attorneys in 2005 and assisted approximately 502 people. LSNM also financially and administratively supports the legal aid clinic and referral service at Third Level Crisis Intervention Center in Traverse City.

Client Ethnicity	
White	4,263
Black	35
Hispanic	37
Native American	148
Asian	15
Other	25
Total	4,523

LSNM Types of Service in 2005



LSNM Cases Closed in 2005: 4,523

