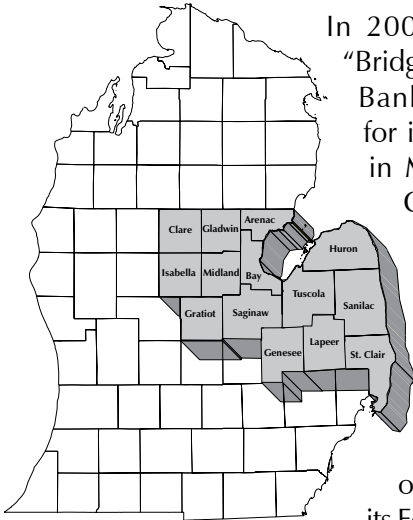


# CENTER FOR CIVIL JUSTICE

2006 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



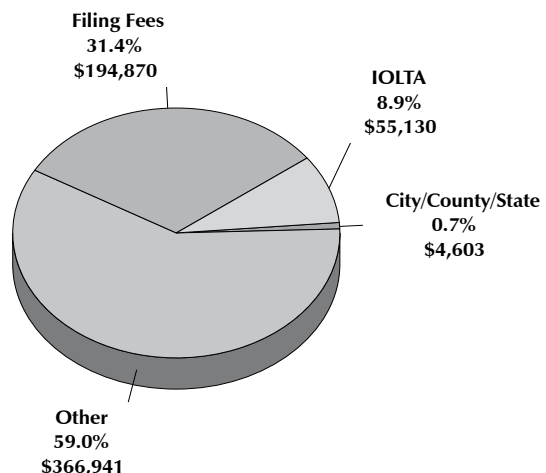
In 2006, CCJ was awarded a “Bridge Award” from the Food Bank Council of Michigan for its work to reduce hunger in Michigan. Also in 2006, CCJ leveraged additional federal funds to expand its Food and Nutrition Helpline and CCJ worked with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Michigan Department of Human Services to make its Food and Nutrition Program Helpline available to the public.

A destitute senior citizen did not have money to buy the food she needed. The food stamp agency provided only \$10 per month because they had not correctly taken into account all her shelter expenses in the application process. CCJ demonstrated how federal rules require these costs to be treated, resulting in the food stamp agency adjusting its policy statewide, helping this senior and many others receive an increase in food assistance so they will no longer go hungry.

Callers to USDA’s toll-free food stamp number are referred to CCJ’s Helpline. Additionally, Michigan State University extension offices across the state have required its state food and nutrition sites, as well as agencies in the Michigan Nutrition Network, to publicize CCJ’s Helpline. The increase in referrals to CCJ’s Helpline have reduced information calls to the central office of the Department of Human Services from low-income people seeking information about food stamps. Also in 2006, with support from Legal Services of Eastern Michigan (LSEM), CCJ prepared a resource guide on public benefits and other important legal information for over 2,000 prisoners to receive shortly before release to help them successfully re-enter society.

A woman with osteoarthritis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease needed immediate surgery. She was unable to work, had no income and was falling behind on her rent and utilities. CCJ obtained an expedited decision for disability-related medicaid and other assistance so that she could obtain medical assistance, disability benefits, food stamps and emergency relief, and the needed surgery.

**CCJ Sources of Funding for 2006: \$ 621,544**



# CENTER FOR CIVIL JUSTICE

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

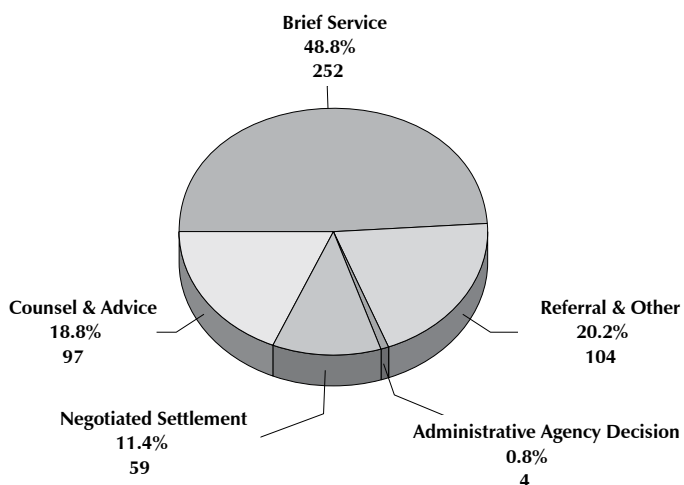
**Community Outreach and Collaboration.** CCJ's staff provides ongoing technical assistance to and/or serve in leadership positions on over 20 state and local community organizations or coalitions and are members of additional multi-agency groups. They participated in a variety of work groups convened by state agencies which worked to redesign Michigan's Medicaid, welfare-to-work, and prison re-entry programs. CCJ helps develop and review drafts of proposed policies and statewide forms to ensure they are lawful and address needs of low-income persons. CCJ helps the Food Bank Council of Michigan to staff monthly calls of the Michigan Alliance to Stop Hunger (MASH), a new statewide network of organizations concerned about food and nutrition programs and policies. With support from a Michigan State Bar Foundation grant, CCJ also worked with school districts and community partners to provide legal education and advocacy to homeless children under a federal law that helps them remain in the same school throughout the year.

Client Age	
18 & Under	22
19-59	446
60 & Over	48
Groups	0
Total	516

**Pro Bono Support.** In 2006, CCJ worked with Legal Aid of Western Michigan to present a seminar to over 50 criminal defense attorneys to help these attorneys articulate the collateral civil consequences of possible pleas, and to refer their clients to civil law providers and pro se resources. CCJ collaborates with private attorneys at the state and local level to improve state agency policies to help ex-offenders avoid recidivism once they re-enter the community. In addition, CCJ works with the Michigan Poverty Law Program to help law students at the University of Michigan Law School do Food Stamp eligibility screening and referrals. CCJ also continues to refer clients to and work cooperatively with Legal Services of Eastern Michigan which operates a pro bono program in the region.

Client Ethnicity	
White	285
Black	181
Hispanic	38
Native American	0
Asian	3
Other	9
Total	516

CCJ Types of Service in 2006



CCJ Cases Closed in 2006: 516

