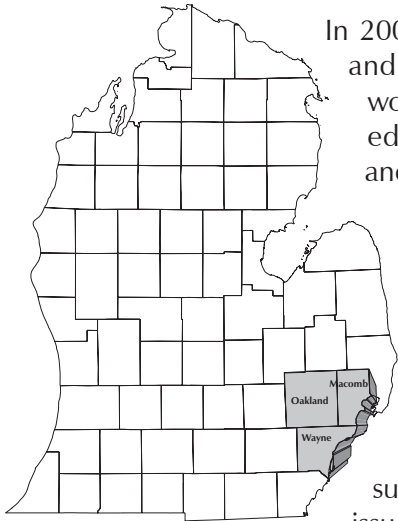


# LEGAL AID AND DEFENDER ASSOCIATION

2007 LAD Office Locations: Detroit, Pontiac and Clinton Township

**LAD Service Area:** Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties

**Service Population:** 569,314 individuals living at or below 125% of the poverty level



In 2007, LAD conducted outreach and training for personnel who work with ex-offenders to provide education about legal rights and responsibilities to improve chances of success for those on the reentry track. LAD provides legal presentations to assist soon-to-be-released prisoners with clearing up civil legal problems that could prevent them from

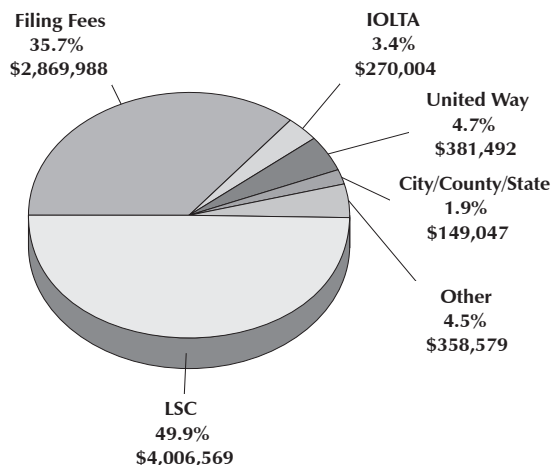
A man discovered that his meagar bank account was being garnished. A judgment had been entered against him for a debt he did not owe. LAD helped the man demonstrate that he was a victim of identity theft and persuaded the Court to require that all garnished funds be returned to the man.

being successful citizens upon release. Case areas include divorce, child support modifications, income maintenance and public benefits, and housing issues. Also, LAD's Second Chance through Expungement Program (STEP) assists with expungements of past convictions to help remove barriers to employment and self-sufficiency.

In addition, LAD continued to help families threatened with losing their homes because of foreclosure rescue scams in which "investors" induce the homeowner into transferring ownership to "save" the home and then steal the home equity. LAD also operates a Fair Housing Center which monitors housing discrimination and assists in filing complaints through the HUD and state processes. LAD continued its Legal Aid for Children (LAC) office at the Children's Hospital of Michigan to assist sick children and their families with legal issues. The program educates medical professionals to recognize and refer civil legal problems that may create barriers to improving children's health.

A disabled, Spanish speaking woman who had been recently divorced was threatened with foreclosure. She discovered that her former husband had stopped making the mortgage payments without informing her. LAD's Spanish speaking staff was able to assess the problem and work with her and the mortgage company to restructure the mortgage, save her house and avoid foreclosure.

**LAD Sources of Funding for 2007: \$ 8,035,679**



# LEGAL AID AND DEFENDER ASSOCIATION

Contact: Joan Glanton Howard, Chief Counsel, Civil Law Group • (313) 967-5657

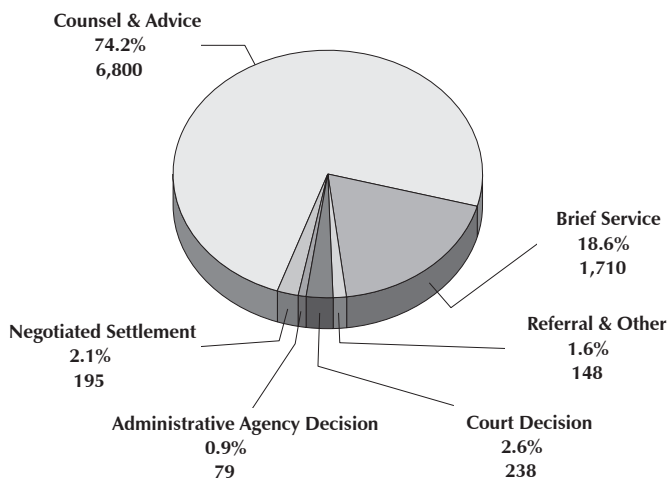
**Community Outreach and Collaboration.** In 2007, LAD opened two neighborhood law clinics where youth learn about the law and peaceful conflict resolution. LAD also educates pregnant teens about their rights and responsibilities. LAD presents legal information at many community events, schools, human service organizations, informational fairs, veteran's centers and homeless centers. Topics include home and automobile insurance, education cases, consumer issues, public benefits, housing, guardianship and obtaining birth certificates and other forms of identification. LAD is a member of the Macomb Homeless Coalition and the Oakland Taskforce on Homelessness and LAD staff regularly attend Community Connection Days for the homeless to provide legal assistance. LAD also provides bilingual outreach at ACCESS (a human services organization that serves the Middle East community) and at various community centers in collaboration with the Oakland Coalition of Hispanic Services and Macomb Hispanic Coalition.

Client Age	
18 & Under	207
19-59	8,701
60 & Over	262
Groups	0
Total	9,170

**Pro Bono Support.** LAD has partnered with a major corporation and a large law firm that provide pro bono lawyers to assist clients at LAD's pro se divorce clinics for clients with children. LAD's STEP program also recruits pro bono lawyers to help ex-offenders with civil legal matters. LAD also continues to refer cases to the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association's Detroit Legal Services Clinic and continues its work with the Oakland County HELP Task force on a coordinated pro bono effort with other local providers as well as with the Macomb County Bar Association to coordinate county-wide pro bono efforts in Macomb County. LAD receives pro bono financial donations through the Access to Justice Fund.

Client Ethnicity	
White	2,506
Black	6,306
Hispanic	214
Native American	26
Asian	18
Other	100
Total	9,170

LAD Types of Service in 2007



LAD Cases Closed in 2007: 9,170

