

LAKESHORE LEGAL AID

2008 LLA Office Locations: Auburn Hills, Caro, Clinton Township, Detroit, Port Huron and Southfield

LLA Service Area: Arenac, Bay, Clare, Genesee, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Lapeer, Macomb, Midland, Saginaw, St. Clair, Sanilac and Tuscola Counties; also senior services in Oakland County

Service Population: 213,110 individuals living at or below 125% of the poverty level



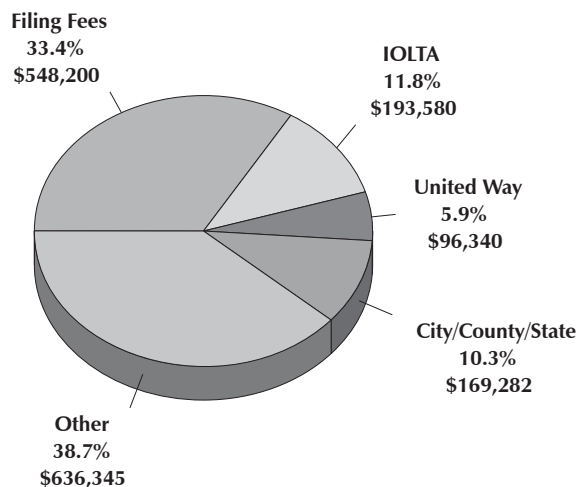
In 2008 LLA resolved 5,300 client cases through its five field offices and its Counsel and Advocacy Law Line (CALL) hotline. Over 4,800 clients were known to be indigent; many were seniors that were often frail and vulnerable. LLA also works holistically; for example, CALL connects battered or homeless clients with shelters, hungry clients with food sources, mentally ill or fragile clients with counselors. LLA convened a group of community organizations

A mother would not say why she refused to consent to a proposed joint custody order. In the hearing it became clear that the child's father was controlling and dangerous; he had prevented her from leaving him and was violent, having to be restrained by the court bailiff. The judge ordered mental health treatment before allowing him any parenting time, gave the mother sole custody and entered a personal protection order to keep the mother and child safe.

to address gaps in legal services for survivors of domestic violence. In rural areas, LLA worked with judges, prosecutors, law enforcement personnel, social workers, and medical professionals in Coordinated Community Councils to support First Response Teams to help communities effectively respond to domestic violence. LLA helped develop statewide protocols for Family to Family Team Decision Making panels, allowing attorney representation and facilitating distribution of a form to educate people about their choices in child protective proceedings in which the caregiver suffered domestic violence. These protocols were adopted for use throughout the state of Michigan.

A homeless man's sole source of income was Supplemental Security Income. It had been reduced from \$600 to \$300 per month via garnishment for child support. LLA ended the garnishment showing that the man's ex-wife was dead and his children were all adults and assisted the man in obtaining community services for the elderly. The senior is no longer homeless and now lives in safe and supportive senior housing.

LLA Sources of Funding for 2008: \$ 1,643,747



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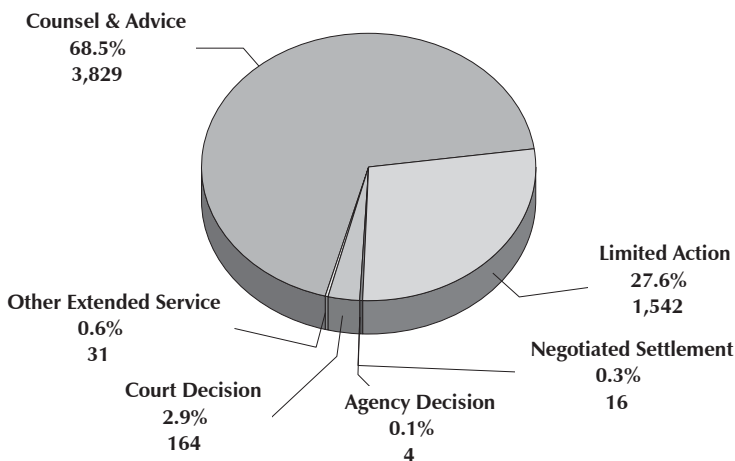
Community Outreach and Collaboration. LLA staff attorneys continue to serve on community boards such as emergency shelter coalitions, domestic violence councils, area food programs, community action groups, and coalitions serving seniors. LLA also maintains an electronic referral information system to quickly and accurately refer clients to other community services they may need. To keep its Community Referral Reference Manual current, LLA contacts dozens of local agencies serving low income people for a mutual exchange of information about CALL and the agencies. Lakeshore meets clients at senior centers throughout the service area. Often, informational presentations on legal issues of interest are presented to the groups before individual matters are discussed with clients. LLA also provided various trainings to local DHS, court, police and other agency personnel throughout the year, including trainings on the dynamics of domestic violence. LLA attorneys presented community education events to over 350 people on elder abuse, same sex partner abuse, and other domestic violence issues.

Client Age	
18 & Under	17
19-59	3,488
60 & Over	2,080
Groups	1
Total	5,586

Pro Bono Support. LLA facilitated the closing of 609 client cases by pro bono attorneys in 2008. LLA focuses its pro bono efforts mainly in the area of family law, domestic violence, senior exploitation and other senior legal assistance. By partnering with domestic violence shelters and senior service agencies, LLA has increased its panels of attorneys that specialize in these areas of the law. LLA also works with several local bar associations to expand the list of local attorneys providing pro bono services. LLA receives attorney financial pro bono donations through the Access to Justice Fund.

Client Ethnicity	
White	4,297
Black	885
Hispanic	199
Native American	43
Asian	36
Other	126
Total	5,586

LLA Types of Service in 2008



LLA Cases Closed in 2008: 5,586

