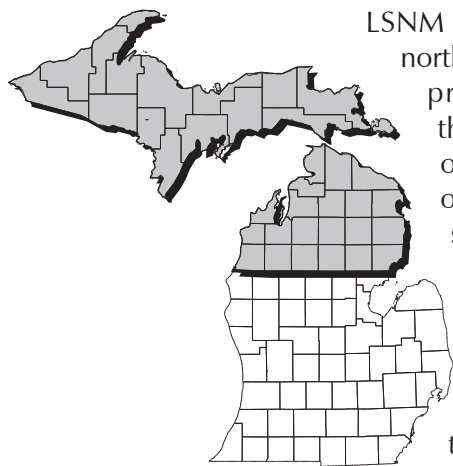


# LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN

2008 LSNM Office Locations: Alpena, Escanaba, Gaylord, Houghton, Marquette, Sault Ste. Marie, and Traverse City

**LSNM Service Area:** Alcona, Alger, Alpena, Antrim, Baraga, Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Chippewa, Crawford, Delta, Dickinson, Emmet, Gogebic, Grand Traverse, Houghton, Iosco, Iron, Kalkaska, Keweenaw, Leelanau, Luce, Mackinac, Manistee, Marquette, Menominee, Missaukee, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Ontonagon, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon, Schoolcraft, and Wexford Counties

**Service Population:** 118,872 individuals living at or below 125% of the poverty level



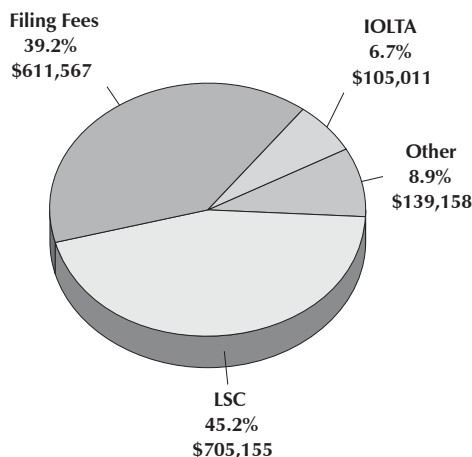
LSNM provides core services to northern Michigan clients facing problems that jeopardize their housing, their benefits or income, their education or threaten their physical safety. LSNM's service area covers 36 of Michigan's 83 counties. To serve the large geographic area, LSNM attorneys regularly travel to outlying areas to meet with clients and deliver legal aid and advice via

An elderly gentleman's bank account, which represented his only savings, was garnished after he was sued by a credit card company. LSNM discovered that the man had been a victim of identity theft by his own son and was able to get the judgment set aside. LSNM also prepared the proper identity theft documentation for the senior's credit card company, which dismissed the lawsuit against him, preserving his life savings.

Internet technology through the Internet Representation Project (IRP) which allows eligible clients to post a question and schedule a real-time chat session with a pro bono attorney or receive an answer via a private answer page. The IRP continues to exceed expectations and has provided online advice to 707 low income individuals via the internet. LSNM also continues to partner with the Counsel and Advocacy Law Line hotline to provide LSNM clients with legal advice, counsel and brief services over the phone with priority cases returned to LSNM for direct representation or extended services. LSNM also contracts with private attorneys to provide legal services to poor people residing in Ogemaw, Oscoda, Iosco, Gogebic and Ontonagon counties.

A victim of extensive physical and emotional abuse told LSNM her husband had begun abusing her children whom he had adopted. LSNM worked with the Prosecutor's office and the Department of Human Services to have the abusive man's parental rights terminated so that he could have no further involvement with the children. LSNM also obtained a divorce for the mother who could then start a new phase of her life in safety with her children.

**LSNM Sources of Funding for 2008: \$ 1,560,891**



# LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN

Contact: Kenneth Penokie, Executive Director • (989) 705-1067

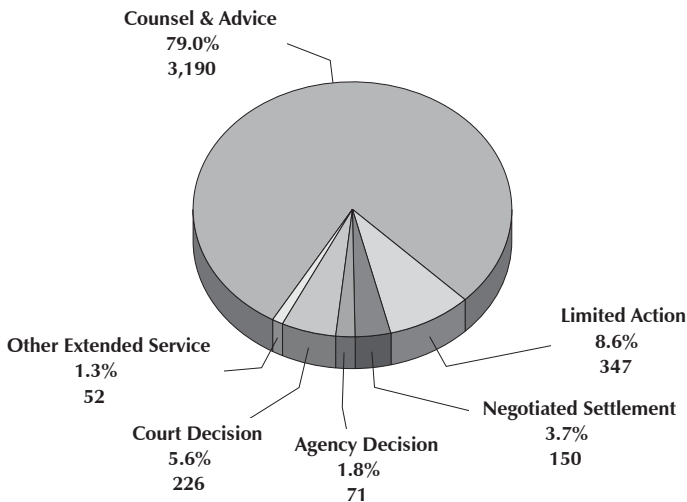
**Community Outreach and Collaboration.** In 2008, LSNM continued community education and outreach opportunities reaching large segments of several communities. Collaboration and involvement with local domestic violence task forces has been one of LSNM’s most successful efforts. LSNM attorneys have acted as founders, leaders, and participants in these groups which have altered the way northern communities respond to domestic violence. LSNM also provided periodic training visits to staff of the Counsel and Advocacy Law Line on various substantive issues; made presentations at Senior Expo event seminars on consumer fraud, and provided legal education at school presentations and senior center visits. LSNM also continues to have mutual referral agreements with many agencies, including community action centers, community mental health organizations, and domestic violence shelters.

Client Age	
18 & Under	20
19-59	3,673
60 & Over	343
Groups	0
Total	4,036

**Pro Bono Support.** As noted above, the IRP project has significantly expanded pro bono services, with volunteer lawyers currently advising more than 70 persons per month. LSNM also refers clients to pro bono panels in Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Antrim, Wexford and Missaukee counties. LSNM co-founded, underwrites and works with the Third Level Crisis Intervention Center pro bono clinic and referral program in Traverse City assisting clients with divorce forms and filing and completing a non-contested divorce. LSNM partnered with the bench and local bar to initiate a pro bono divorce clinic in Otsego County. LSNM continues efforts to strengthen ties between domestic violence centers and pro bono groups. LSNM receives attorney financial donations through the Access to Justice Fund.

Client Ethnicity	
White	3,782
Black	37
Hispanic	44
Native American	140
Asian	7
Other	26
Total	4,036

LSNM Types of Service in 2008



LSNM Cases Closed in 2008: 4,036

