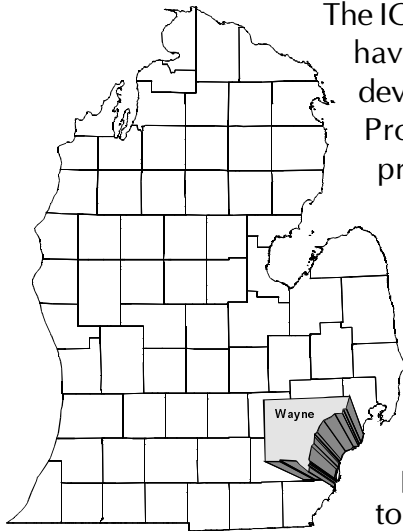


LEGAL AID AND DEFENDER ASSOCIATION OF DETROIT

LADA Office Locations: Detroit

LADA Service Area: Wayne County

Service Population: 502,340 individuals living at or below 125% of the poverty level



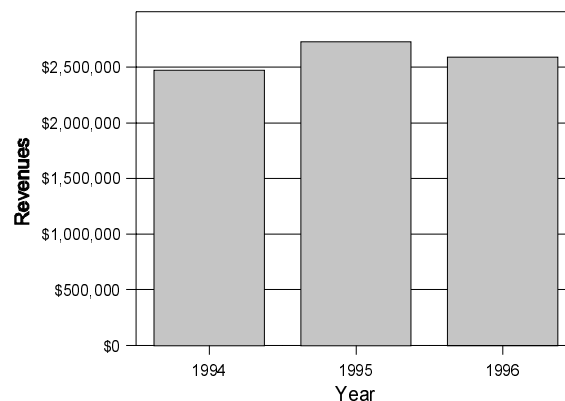
The IOLTA and Filing Fees grants have allowed LADA staff to develop The Family Advocacy Project which emphasizes providing legal services to children and their families. In 1996, LADA expanded the Teen Mother Empowerment Project to the two remaining Detroit Public Schools that target teen parents; it provided access to on-site legal services and information about legal rights

and responsibilities to 850 students. There has been an increase in requests to represent children who face legal issues regarding special education. LADA also continues to work with the community and area schools on the educational needs of homeless children and is a member of a multi-agency collaborative to provide supportive services to homeless families.

An elderly woman's Master Card was stolen from her dresser drawer while she was in the hospital. The thief ran the balance from \$432 to \$14,000 for this senior who receives only \$9,000 a year from social security. When her credit status was negatively affected, she could not get her roof, badly in need of repair, fixed. After LADA intervened and contacted the bank's legal department, the debt record was corrected, the senior's credit report cleared, and the roof repair was accomplished.

A young woman had been a ward of the court. She was being transferred to a group home across the state by a school social worker who had incorrect information. LADA researched her file and found that this placement would have made it impossible for her to graduate from high school. LADA established that the court had previously released her from being a ward of the state and she could make her own educational decisions. With LADA's help, she was able to stay in her current home and receive her diploma.

LADA Funding



LEGAL AID AND DEFENDER ASSOCIATION OF DETROIT

Contact: Joan Glanton Howard, Chief Counsel, Civil Division • (313) 964-4111 ext. 224

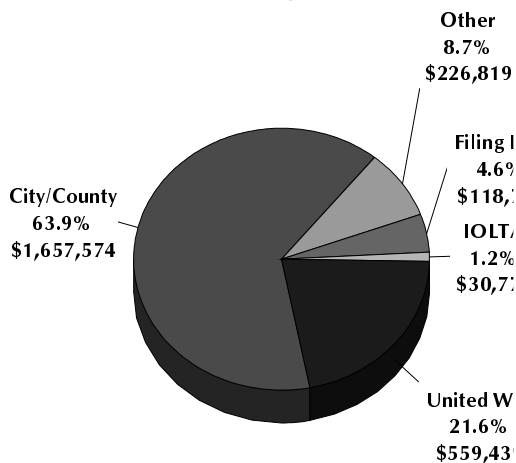
Community Outreach and Collaboration. LADA regularly conducted workshops on legal rights and responsibilities for community groups and others during the year, including forums on family law, landlord-tenant rights and responsibilities and consumer law, particularly to assist single homeless adults to reintegrate back into society. LADA worked cooperatively with the Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness and also presented a workshop for state coordinators of educational services for homeless students on issues affecting homeless students. LADA distributes flyers to parents and to the surrounding community regarding legal services and other activities. To increase access for clients, LADA conducts intake at various community sites to increase awareness and assistance.

Client Age	
18 & Under	972
19-59	2,966
60 & Over	1,798
Groups	0
Total	5,736

Pro Bono Support. With the development in 1996 of the Volunteer Civil Law Project (VCLP) through the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association (DMBA), LADA attorneys have benefited from advice and counsel from voluntary lawyers on complex cases and federal court practice. To recruit attorneys, LADA staff conducted a training for DMBA members on the drafting and preparation of wills, powers of attorney, patient advocate for health care purposes and other probate proceedings. Participants were asked to take a pro bono case at the conclusion of the workshop. Over 100 attorneys signed up to be part of the VCLP. Pro bono attorneys at Ford Motor Company have also expanded services for LADA from handling senior-only cases to accepting all types of cases, resulting in a significant increase in the number of referrals.

Client Ethnicity	
White	1,120
Black	3,570
Hispanic	28
Native American	3
Asian	9
Other	1,006
Total	5,736

LADA Sources of Funding for 1996: \$ 2,593,



LADA Cases Closed in 1996: 5,736

