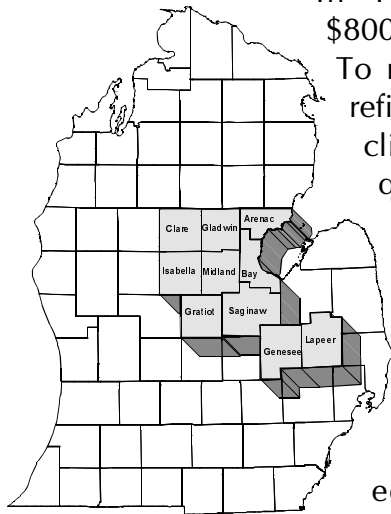


LEGAL SERVICES OF EASTERN MICHIGAN

LSEM Office Locations: Flint, Midland, and Saginaw

LSEM Service Area: Arenac, Bay, Clare, Genesee, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Lapeer, Midland, and Saginaw Counties

Service Population: 209,288 individuals living at or below 125% of the poverty level

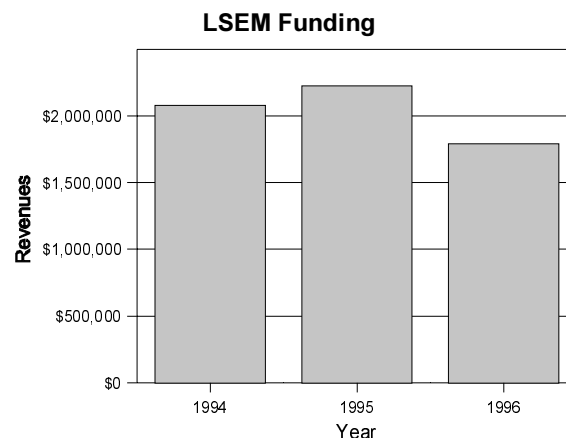


In 1996 LSEM suffered an \$800,000 cut in federal funding. To respond, LSEM worked to refine methods to serve more clients without sacrificing the quality of service provided. LSEM expanded its pro bono program due to the increased need for services. LSEM also continued to offer clinics on Personal Protection Orders (PPO) and community legal education programming, including pro se kits. LSEM

An elderly couple hired a contractor to put a new roof on their house. A lien was filed against their home even though they had paid for the work and had documentation to show that they had paid. The contractor was indebted to a third party who had filed the lien. LSEM was successful in securing a Release of Lien, freeing the couple from any financial obligation to the third party and allowing them to retain their home.

assisted over 350 victims of abuse and helped establish a PPO protocol committee of judges, prosecutors, law-enforcement and others. The Center for Civil Justice (CCJ) also provided important significant legal services through a contract with LSEM. CCJ conducted legal and policy advocacy and educated providers and clients on legal issues not handled by LSEM. CCJ also continued a project earlier spearheaded by LSEM to address the problem of lead paint poisoning. As a result, testing for lead poisoning in children under 7, identifying lead hazards, education, lead abatement and enforcement of non-compliance are now in place and two of the ten urban counties which were targeted to receive a \$5,000 grant are in this service area.

In an on-going custody case, a father fled to another state with a child. LSEM obtained local orders granting the temporary custody to the mother. When the father was notified of the proceedings, he ran with the child once again. After LSEM obtained a permanent Michigan custody order, a complaint for parental kidnaping and interstate flight was made with the police who apprehended the father. The child was reunited with his mother.



LEGAL SERVICES OF EASTERN MICHIGAN

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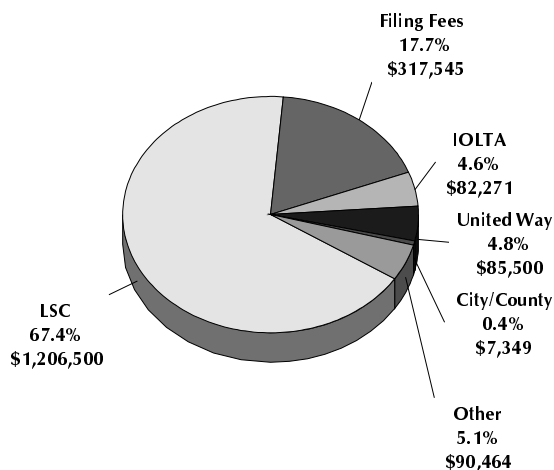
Community Outreach and Collaboration. Over 700 persons viewed a LSEM designed small claims video. The video is shown at local courts monthly and supplemented for low income persons with a pro se kit. LSEM and CCJ distributed pamphlets and made presentations to provide education on legal issues. LSEM conducted two workshops for law enforcement agencies, court personnel, shelter workers, and others who assist victims of domestic violence to explain the legalities of personal protection orders and the ways these agencies could work cooperatively. LSEM staff also worked on a project to use video and computer workbooks to provide legal services staff attorneys with self-instruction in litigation planning. In efforts to work closely with local bar associations and community organizations, staff members serve on numerous committees and boards of service organizations who serve a similar client population.

Client Age	
18 & Under	4,625
19-59	8,886
60 & Over	728
Groups	0
Total	14,239

Pro Bono Support. LSEM, in conjunction with local bar associations, offered seminars which also recruited pro bono attorneys and raised money for the associations' respective pro bono committees. Pro bono attorneys who are unable to accept cases due to job requirements are recruited to operate clinics where they interview, screen and refer meritorious cases to other pro bono attorneys. LSEM acknowledges the work of pro bono attorneys by honoring a "pro bono attorney of the month" with a free dinner donated by local restaurants. Also, in each major county, a pro bono attorney of the year award is given. To increase attorney participation in the program, surveys are sent to attorneys who either did not participate or volunteered less than 10 hours. This follow-up effort resulted in renewal of many attorneys' commitment to the needs of low-income persons.

Client Ethnicity	
White	9,135
Black	4,478
Hispanic	549
Native American	6
Asian	28
Other	43
Total	14,239

LSEM Sources of Funding for 1996: \$ 1,789,629



LSEM Cases Closed in 1996: 14,239

