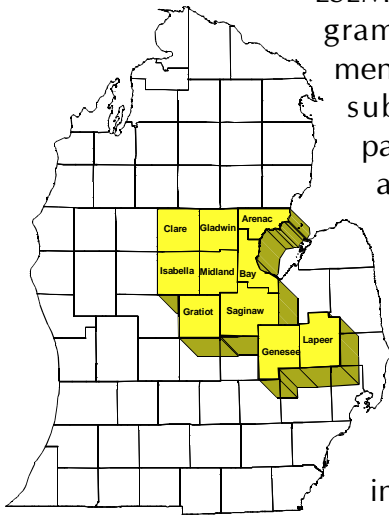


LEGAL SERVICES OF EASTERN MICHIGAN

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



LSEM has an extensive pro se program. In 1997, LSEM implemented pro se clinics in many substantive areas and expanded the role of pro bono attorneys. One firm began hosting pro bono clinics in their own offices. Dow Corning Corporation has made significant commitments to assist LSEM in fundraising and pro bono involvement. Following an initiative from a client board member, LSEM's board decided

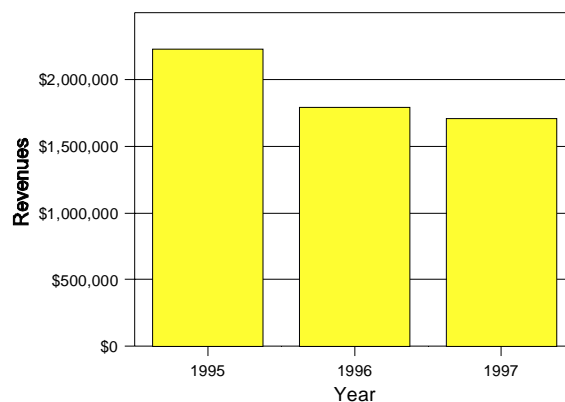
to expand into three new legal specialties: education, economic development, and employment. Impact work remained an important program focus.

A client and her five children lived at the same residence for eight years during which she paid more than \$32,000 in rent. When the property was about to be sold for delinquent property tax payment, LSEM intervened. The landlord signed the deed over to the client, and LSEM drafted a plan to pay off the taxes. The client now makes her rental payments into a trust account at LSEM, and LSEM pays the property taxes. When the taxes are paid off, the client will have free and clear title and enjoy home ownership for the first time in her life.

A disabled grandmother with cancer sought adoption of her six-year-old granddaughter, who had been with her since birth. The child's mother had died when the child was born, and the father was deported soon after. The child referred to the grandmother as "mamma," as she was the only mother figure the child had known. An LSEM pro bono attorney represented the grandmother in the adoption procedure. The adoption was granted, enabling the child to receive benefits under the grandmother's Social Security disability benefits plus any other benefits granted to legal heirs. This case took 20 hours for the attorney.

LSEM continued to work cooperatively with the Center for Civil Justice to ensure a full range of legal services throughout the 10-county area served by both programs.

LSEM Funding



LEGAL SERVICES OF EASTERN MICHIGAN

Contact: Edward J. Hoort, Executive Director • (810) 234-2621

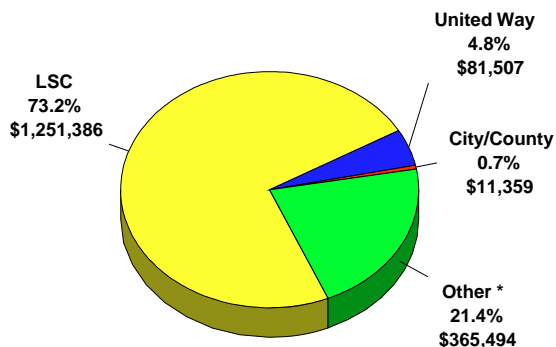
Community Outreach and Collaboration. More than 700 people viewed an LSEM-designed small claims court video. It was shown monthly at local courts and was supplemented for low-income people with a pro se kit. The American Bar Association recognized the video's high quality with an award. LSEM and the Center for Civil Justice 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 the elderly to explain elder abuse and orchestrate a coordinated response to it. LSEM staff reported elder abuse issues to the State of Michigan Office of Services to Aging. Staff members served on numerous committees and boards of organizations that serve a similar client population.

Client Age	
18 & Under	5,126
19-59	10,264
60 & Over	888
Groups	0
Total	16,278

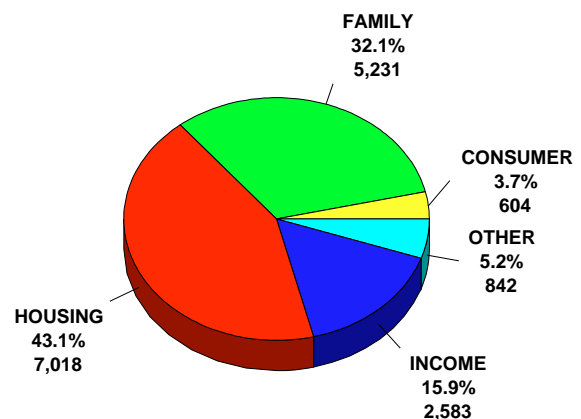
Pro Bono Support. LSEM, in conjunction with local bar associations, offered seminars that recruited pro bono attorneys and raised money for the associations' respective pro bono committees. Pro bono attorneys who are unable to accept cases due to job requirements were recruited to operate clinics where they interviewed, screened, and referred meritorious cases to other pro bono attorneys. LSEM acknowledged 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, LSEM presented a pro bono attorney of the year award. To increase attorney participation in the program, LSEM sent surveys to attorneys who either did not participate in pro bono activities or volunteered less than 10 hours. This followup effort renewed many attorneys' commitment to the needs of low-income people.

Client Ethnicity	
White	10,236
Black	5,083
Hispanic	928
Native American	8
Asian	23
Other	0
Total	16,278

LSEM Sources of Funding for 1997: \$ 1,709,746



LSEM Cases Closed in 1997: 16,278



*"Other" includes filing fee funds received as a subrecipient of the Center for Civil Justice.