

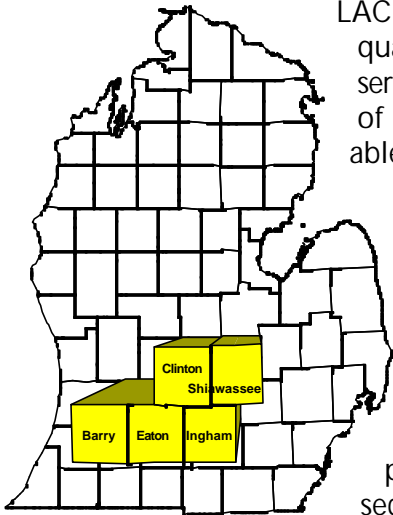
LEGAL AID OF CENTRAL MICHIGAN

LACM Office Locations: Lansing

LACM Service Area: Barry, Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, and Shiawassee Counties

Service Population: 83,046 individuals are living at or below 125% of the poverty level

LACM has strived to become a client-focused legal services organization. In 1998, LACM's goal was to provide high-quality, cost-effective legal services to the greatest number of clients possible. LACM was able to do this without a waiting list for services in part because of LACM's Hotline which provides many clients with immediate advice and brief service over the telephone. In order to further accommodate the working poor, the fastest growing segment of LACM's target

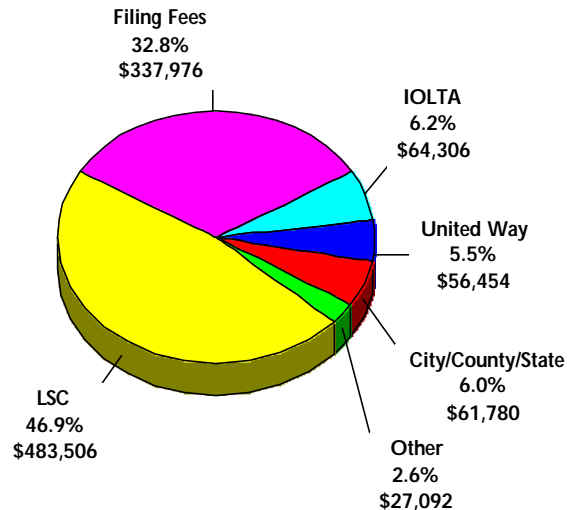


A couple signed a membership contract to buy merchandise at a "discount" house. In fact, they had unwittingly entered into an agreement for a significant amount of installment debt obligation under a "membership agreement." The couple received nothing in exchange except the right to buy overpriced merchandise at purportedly discount prices. LACM helped this couple void that debt obligation and wrote numerous articles for the press on this topic to alert the public to this misleading scheme.

population, the office was open Thursday evenings until 7 p.m., during which time LACM operated the Hotline, held client consultations, and taught self-help clinics for people who could pursue their legal problems on their own with some assistance.

A man was confined to a wheelchair after being severely injured in a car accident. He made an oral agreement to live in a home owned by his brother located two doors from his parents where they could help look after him. In turn he transferred the insurance proceeds to his brother to fix up the home and make it wheelchair accessible. After an argument, the brother-landlord started eviction proceedings. LACM represented the disabled man, counterclaimed for return of the contribution he made to the home, and collected a jury verdict against the landlord. The man's funds were returned allowing him to find other housing that he could convert for handicapper access.

LACM Sources of Funding for 1998: \$ 1,031,114



LEGAL AID OF CENTRAL MICHIGAN

Contact: Carol L. Munday, Executive Director ! 517 485 5418 ext 235

Community Outreach and Collaboration: In 1998, LACM evaluated 6,738 callers on the Hotline Intake System. LACM closed 4,826 cases ranging from advice or brief service to direct attorney representation through staff or pro bono attorneys. These 4,826 eligible clients had 6,625 children who indirectly also received legal assistance. LACM enrolled 759 clients in weekly self-help clinics. These clinics, taught by attorneys assisted by a paralegal and law students, are designed to teach the participants how to handle some of their own legal matters. LACM provided more than 5,000 copies of community legal education materials about legal rights and responsibilities, self-help booklets, and legal forms to Hotline callers, courts, social service agencies, businesses, and self-help clinic participants. This emphasis on prevention helped resolve issues before the need for more complex legal services developed. LACM presented 11 legal education seminars and training sessions to schools, churches, police departments, social service agencies, and other interested groups totaling 675 participants. In all, LACM reached out to more than 14,000 people in 1998.

Client Age

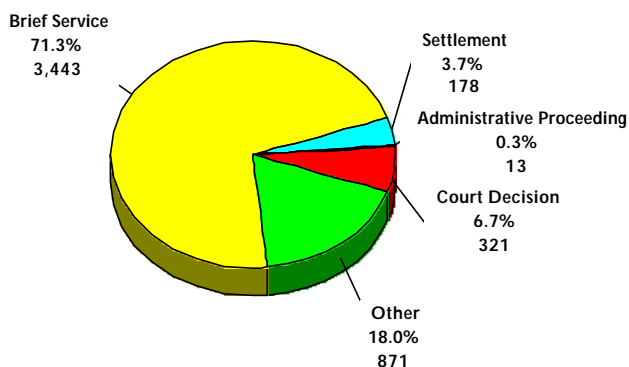
18 & Under	5
19-59	4,721
60 & Over	99
Total	4,826

Pro Bono Support: LACM has a panel of 300 active pro bono attorneys ranging from novice attorneys to seasoned practitioners who mentor new attorneys accepting pro bono cases. LACM referred 155 cases to pro bono attorneys in 1998 and closed 232 cases. The pro bono panel contributed 2,321 hours of service, which is valued at \$359,755. One of LACM's effective strategies to recruit pro bono attorneys was to offer pro bono training sessions, which covered family law, guardianship, and labor law issues. The training was cosponsored by the Ingham County Bar Association.

Client Ethnicity

White	3,413
Black	1,062
Hispanic	258
Native American	48
Asian	45
Other	0
Total	4,826

LACM Types of Service in 1998



LACM Cases Closed in 1998: 4,826

