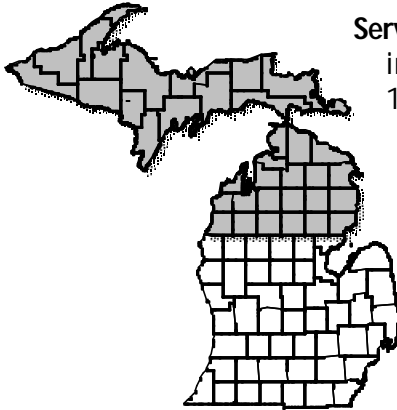


## LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN, INC.

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

**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:** 144,736 individuals living at or below 125% of the poverty level

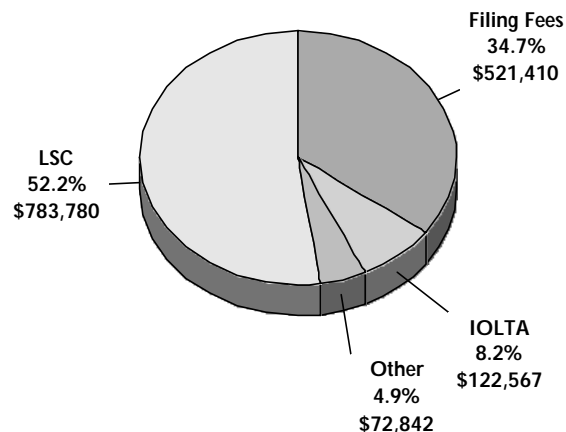
In 1999, LSNM hired a new executive director and a new deputy director for the Lower Peninsula. In fact, LSNM was able to fill all staff vacancies for the first time in several years. LSNM also enhanced its

computer technology by adding a server to enable use of new case management software and to increase the program's Internet presence. New Internet legal research capabilities were made accessible to staff attorneys. Because LSNM is far from most live training opportunities, video playback equipment was placed in each office to improve training. Outreach efforts to senior citizens increased in 1999, particularly in the northeastern Lower Peninsula.

LSNM represented a woman with cerebral palsy who needed a power operated vehicle (POV) to get around. Her doctor ruled out all manually operated wheelchairs because of insufficient upper body strength. An application for assistance to obtain the POV was denied. LSNM filed a hearing request pointing out that the client's condition met all the Medicaid policy requirements for a POV. The administrative law judge agreed and approved the purchase.

After a marriage of 25 years, a husband demanded that his wife leave their rented home and denied her access to the property and her personal possessions. She had not worked outside the home, had no income or assets, and had endured years of emotional abuse from her husband. An LSNM pro bono attorney negotiated an agreement to allow the wife access to her property and obtained a divorce for her. The Third Level Crisis Intervention Center assisted her with housing, job training, and counseling to help her live independently.

**LSNM Sources of Funding for 1999: \$ 1,500,599**



# LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN, INC.

Contact: Roland C. Fancher, Executive Director ! (517) 705-1067

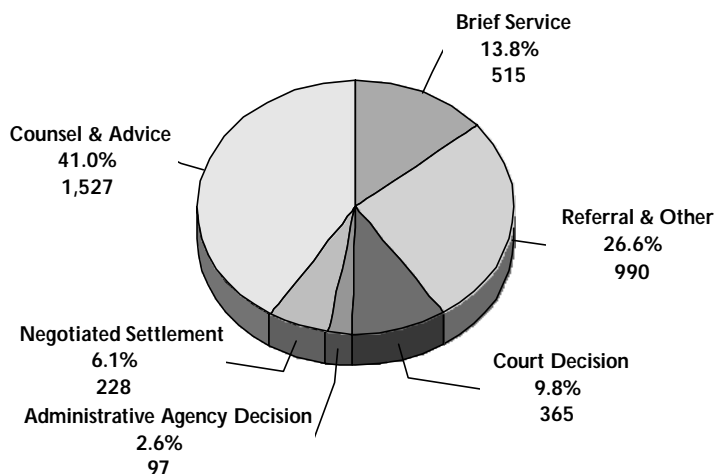
**Community Outreach and Collaboration:** In 1999, LSNM presented a seminar on interpreting insurance policies and submitting claims that was offered in Comins following a tornado that crippled the town. LSNM also continued to offer various community legal education programs. For example, attorneys made a number of presentations to senior citizen groups. In addition, LSNM provided materials for social services and court personnel. Social service agency personnel, previous clients, other attorneys, and the courts were the largest source of client referrals. Relationships with and referrals from community action agencies and social services agencies continued to be strong throughout LSNM's service area. Because of the challenges this rural service region presents, LSNM continued to contract with private attorneys to provide legal services to indigent people in some counties.

18 & Under	51
19-59	3,184
60 & Over	487
Groups	0
Total	3,722

**Pro Bono Support:** In 1999, LSNM's pro bono program closed 475 cases. The Traverse City pro bono program continued to be the largest in the LSNM service area, including local attorneys operating a pro bono clinic one night per week with LSNM providing the clerical and reporting services. The clinic provided one-on-one advice and counsel and referred suitable cases, mostly in family law, to a panel for representation. In Cadillac, LSNM attorneys and a circuit court judge organized members of the Wexford/Missaukee Bar Association to accept client referrals. LSNM staff provided income screening. These efforts assisted hundreds of people who would not otherwise have received legal assistance.

White	3,498
Black	26
Hispanic	33
Native American	162
Asian	3
Other	0
Total	3,722

LSNM Types of Service in 1999



LSNM Cases Closed in 1999: 3,722

