

Application: MPLP- 2026

Michigan Statewide Advocacy Services
Legal Services Annual Grant

Summary

ID: LS2026-0000000178

Last submitted: Oct 10 2025 04:10 PM (EDT)

Grant Application Narrative

Completed - Oct 9 2025

Organization Information

Have you reviewed the Organization Information Task?

Yes

Have you updated any information in the Organization Information Task?

No

If you selected "Yes", please indicate below the sections in which you have made significant changes.

(No response)

Description of Services

1- Briefly list the purposes and use for your IOLTA grant and/or Filing Fees contract:

IOLTA and Filing Fees allows MPLP to provide full support services to legal aid programs in Michigan and to other statewide advocacy groups. MPLP's work includes supporting the advocacy of civil legal aid programs (including assisting with technology training and managing statewide technology projects); coordinating advocacy for low income individuals and families in Michigan; assuring that a full range of advocacy continues on behalf of the poor; and leading policy and systemic advocacy efforts in Michigan on behalf of low income families and vulnerable populations. This work is focused on housing, consumer, family, public benefits, and racial justice issues. This funding also helps to support additional state support services through the other Michigan Statewide Advocacy Service (MSAS) programs including MEJI, MLH, and CVLAP. Because the majority of the support goes to MPLP state support, this application will focus on that work.

2- Describe how the funds leverage your ability to obtain specific funding from other sources.

The funding from MSBF allowed us to create the structure of MPLP and MSAS, as a whole. Without the core program support of MPLP, we would not have been able to launch many of the other MSAS projects, which now get funding from a range of different sources for MLH, MEJI, and CVLAP.

3- Explain any plans or activities and a timeline for developing new or expanding current services.

MPLP plans to expand its heirs' property work with support from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis. The Racial Justice Attorney will be taking the lead, coordinating an email listserv and quarterly meetings with legal aid organizations. A recent survey of legal aids showed strong interest in this work and the need for additional support from MPLP.

MPLP also plans to focus on land contracts work with support from Rocket Community Foundation, developing and advancing legislative reforms, educating community organizations, legal aid attorneys, and housing counselors, and working with UM Poverty Solutions on research and evaluation.

Sugar Law Center's UIA Policy Coordinator will work closely with the MPLP Public Benefits Attorney on issues around UIA overpayment. MPLP also anticipates significant education and advocacy in the next year around new Medicaid and SNAP work requirements.

The Family Law Attorney will work with CVLAP to develop a "Family Law 101" training series that will provide webinars, handouts, and sample documents on family law topics suggested through the listserv such as service of process, subpoenas, property division, and child support.

MPLP is exploring ways to update its website and online resources to make them more accessible to the legal aid community.

4- Describe the unmet client and/or community needs addressed with help of this funding.

MPLP is the only program providing a full service state support program for legal services offices throughout Michigan. The client and community needs met with the help of this funding are: advocate training including stand-alone trainings, publications, regular legal updates via subject-matter listservs, and statewide websites (client and advocate sites); litigation support including technical assistance, co-counseling, administration of a pro bono program, and statewide impact litigation; taking a leadership role in legislative/administrative advocacy throughout the state, and technological support and consultation for all legal aid programs in the state. Post-COVID, the needs around housing, public benefits, unemployment, and debt collection are enormous, and MPLP continues to work to provide statewide, systemic solutions.

Like so many legal aid organizations and nonprofits, MPLP is facing a challenging federal environment for funding, as well as a difficult state environment for advancing legislation.

5- Indicate what region and target population you are proposing to serve with IOLTA and/or Filing Fees funds.

Target Population

Responses Selected:

State support or other program not primarily engaged in direct delivery services to the poor

Region

Responses Selected:

Statewide

The estimated number of people eligible for services in the geographic areas indicated above are as follows (based on the 2022 ACS 5-year estimate at 125% poverty level with a 2020 midpoint):

Eastern - 256,473 (15.3308%)

Metro - 682,661 (40.8063%)

Northern - 136,705 (8.1716%)

Southeast - 267,748 (16.0047%)

Western - 329,343 (19.6866%)

Statewide Programs: the estimated number of people eligible for your service area

1,698,612

Source of the estimate:

*based on the 2021 ACS 5-year estimate at 125% poverty level

Description of Services (cont.)

6- Describe your program's recent community impact and accomplishments.

MPLP's Housing Attorney played a significant role in passing legislation to protect Michiganders from housing discrimination based on source of income and worked closely on bill packages introduced in both houses this session. He wrote two amicus briefs, one with CCJ in a case involving mobile home issues, and another in a Section 8 voucher termination LSSCM appeal.

MPLP's Family Law Attorney played a significant role in passing the Assisted Reproduction and Surrogacy Parentage Act, which provides more accessible tools to establish parentage, especially for LGBTQ+ families. She is lead counsel in *Blackman v. Millward*, a custody case awaiting oral argument before the MSC that involves a survivor who was sexually abused and impregnated by her high school teacher while she was a student. She provided support to two CVLAP attorneys before the COA, resulting in wins and opinions that clarified DV survivor protections.

The Consumer Law Attorney submitted an amicus brief on behalf of MPLP, LSAM, the SPB, and the NCLC in *AG v. Eli Lilly*, awaiting oral argument before the MSC. The brief urges the Court to overturn previous decisions that gutted Michigan's Consumer Protection Act. She supported the passage of legislation that expanded garnishment protections though implementation has been stalled.

The Public Benefits and Racial Justice Attorneys collaborated with MEJI to explore potential strategies to reform Michigan's Medicaid Estate Recovery Program, arguing that state law requires a fairer "home of modest value" exception. With MEJI, they submitted an amicus brief in a Court of Appeals case brought by LSSCM.

The PB Attorney and UIA Policy Coordinator at Sugar Law are preparing to handle issues related to overpayment notices from the UIA starting in fall. The PB Attorney is also monitoring and updating advocates on the implementation of new Medicaid and SNAP work requirements and preparing for advocacy.

7- What are your program's goals in increasing private attorney involvement for the upcoming year.

Given the scope of its work, MPLP expects that PAI will continue at the same rate next year. MPLP is planning to explore ways to leverage PAI for the aforementioned heirs' property work.

8- Describe any new recent innovations or collaboration in your program's service delivery area.

The Consumer Law Attorney is exploring a partnership with Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan to work on issues related to land contracts. She is also exploring a partnership with legal aid organizations across the state on heirs' property issues. This year she partnered with the Community Economic Development Association of Michigan to prevent the introduction of legislation to legalize earned wage advance loans.

The Family Law Attorney recently partnered with Miller Johnson to film a studio seminar with ICLE focused on the Assisted Reproduction and Surrogacy Parentage Act, which is intended to secure parentage for intended parents of children conceived through assisted reproduction not involving surrogacy.

The Racial Justice Attorney partnered with CVLAP and DeWaun Robinson of the Flint Juneteenth Collaborative to lead a community training on the importance of advance planning.

9- Describe the measures with which you will evaluate your organization's progress in meeting the needs to be addressed.

MPLP responds to the MPLP Advisory Board (which advises both on substantive advocacy priorities and on training). The board gives the program both direction and feedback. The direction and feedback for much of MPLP's substantive work comes from the five substantive law task forces which are open to all advocates and involve a diverse group of legal services providers. MPLP solicits individual input into training needs and individual evaluations of all training events, and tracks a number of outputs-- an overall summary of support activities; a summary of training and task force activities; the utilization of MPLP services across programs; etc. MPLP had a peer evaluation in 2021 and continues to work to implement the suggestions made during that process.

Administrative Capacity

1- If you have had a peer review or funder review in the past 3 years, list the major recommendations or suggestions from your recent peer review team and specify the actions your program has begun or completed in response to each. Include estimated time frames for any steps not yet under way or those which are in process.

MPLP went through a peer review process with the Michigan State Bar Foundation in the spring of 2021, culminating in a report issued June 28, 2021. The major recommendations from the report included growing MPLP's staff, supporting more training, increasing impact litigation and systemic work, expanding its substantive areas of work, engaging in racial justice work and taking work off the plates of MPLP leadership. MPLP has responded to many of these recommendations: a Racial Justice Attorney was brought on and our focus on racial justice issues deepened, a Program Director was hired to run the program, new relationships with funders are being built to help secure funding to expand its work, and it is currently exploring creating new resources for advocates. While this review was more than three years ago, it is important to address how MPLP has been able to address the recommendation over the past four years.

2- List training or professional development opportunities you anticipate providing to staff, including administrative staff, in the upcoming year.

Staff will attend several national and state trainings such as the National Consumer Rights Litigation Conference, the National Housing Justice Conference, NLADA, ICLE, MIE, Equal Justice Conference, Drupal Cons and trainings, LSC 's Innovations in Technology Conference, Shriver trainings, and the Heirs' Property Practitioner Network Convening.

Administrative Capacity (cont.)

3a- Check boxes (1) through (4) below to indicate activities that are performed by your organization:

Responses Selected:

4 - Representing individuals whose income is greater than 200 percent of the federal poverty standard

Indicate below the safeguards that are used to ensure that the IOLTA funds are not being used for specifically prohibited purposes. Specify record-keeping and accounting procedures used to verify that IOLTA funds are being spent only for eligible clients/cases.

MSAS programs receive other funding allowing for representation of individuals whose income is greater than 200 percent of the federal poverty standard. Our case tracking and timekeeping systems are sophisticated enough to allow us to track the funding source for all cases and activities.

3b- Check boxes (1) through (7) below to indicate activities that are performed by your organization:

Responses Selected:

2 - Lawsuits against the State of Michigan not the subject of a prior administrative hearing.

3 - Cases that are not permissible under the LSC Act or regulations.

6 - Representing individuals whose income is greater than 125 percent of the federal poverty standard.

Indicate below the safeguards that are used to ensure that the Filing Fees funds were not being used for specifically prohibited purposes. Specify record-keeping and accounting procedures used to verify that Filing Fees funds are being spent only for eligible clients/cases.

MSAS programs receive other funding allowing for representation of individuals whose income is greater than 125 percent of the federal poverty standard, to file cases not permissible under the LSC act or regulations, and to file lawsuits against the State of Michigan. Our case tracking and timekeeping systems are sophisticated enough to allow us to track the funding source for all cases and activities.

4- List training or professional development opportunities that accounting and financial staff has had in last 24 months.

In the past two years (Fall 2023 - Fall 2025), MAP financial staff have attended a number of funder-specific training (i.e. Ageways, Immigrant Justice Corps, VAWA, MDHHS, VA). We have also attended a number of bank system trainings due to changes in our banking portal. We instituted a new credit card system, which required all staff to go through training on that (Ramp). We continue to gain knowledge on that and our accounting software, Intacct, specifically learning about the budget module. We attend training as well as train each other. As a program, MAP offers and requires IT and HR training. Staff have attended cyber security, anti-harassment, and time management training sessions. MAP Central Administration also puts on "Anchor Days" where speakers from the program are invited to speak on client services. This gives the Central Administrative staff training on what the various parts of our program do and client impacts.

More recently (2025), Alex Binkley took a self-paced course on Excel and Python. These skills have been very helpful to making various tasks within the fiscal group much more efficient. We also brought on a new member to the finance group, including Julie Meier, who has been learning all things payroll. Both she and Emly Brown will begin to transition to a third party payroll provided in the fall of 2025. Senior Financial Manager, Emily Brown, attended MIE's "Shortfalls in Funding" seminar. MAP's CFO, Christine Robison, attended LSC's CFO Bootcamp training in September 2025.

5- Has your program experienced fraud, misappropriation of funds, embezzlement, or theft within the last twenty-four months?

No

6- Describe any changes made to your program's accounting manual or procedures in last 24 months.

No.

7- If there is additional information or explanation you would like to provide, please enter it below.

In addition to the changes last reported, the following areas are being updated:

- Removal of all language of the old accounting system's structure.
- Add additional reasons why manual entries are made to our General Ledger.
- Updated petty cash levels.
- Added a section regarding staff reimbursements now being made by direct deposit.
- Updated electronic banking to reflect our regularly paying utility and other bills by EFT rather than check.
- Added the Ramp credit card to our list of credit cards and how that works

Case Projections

Completed - Oct 10 2025

Cases

Do you expect to meet your case projections for the current year. If you do not, explain why:

Yes

Do you expect PAI cases to meet your projections for the current year. If you do not, explain why:

Yes

Grant Application Year

Indicate the estimated number of cases in which clients will be provided with direct legal services during the grant application year, assuming the total you budgeted for is available. Please include cases closed by CALL for your service area in the figures below.

Indicate in the last column the number of total projected cases that will be provided legal services through CALL and the case will be closed by CALL.

Grant Application Year Staff Cases

| Type of Legal Problem | Cases Closed after Limited Service | Cases Closed after Extended Service | Total Projected Case Services | Number of These Cases Completed on Hotline |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Consumer/Finance | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Education | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Employment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Family | 53 | 21 | 74 | 0 |
| Juvenile | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Health | 30 | 12 | 42 | 0 |
| Housing | 4 | 2 | 6 | 0 |
| Income Maintenance | 4 | 2 | 6 | 0 |
| Individual Rights | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous | 4 | 2 | 6 | 0 |
| Total Cases | 96.0 | 40.0 | 136.0 | 0.0 |

Grant Application Year PAI Cases

| Type of Legal Problem | Cases Closed after Limited Service | Cases Closed after Extended Service | Total Projected Case Services |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Consumer/Finance | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Education | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Employment | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Family | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Juvenile | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Health | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Housing | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Income Maintenance | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Individual Rights | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total PAI Cases | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Pro Bono Attorneys

How many pro bono attorneys do you anticipate will assist in handling cases during the grant year?

0

Staffing

Completed - Oct 10 2025

Staffing

Has your program had any significant staff increases or reductions during the current calendar year?

No

Please explain any significant staff changes.

(No response)

Civil Legal Services Staffing

Indicate the total number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) paid and volunteer staff persons who were directly involved in the activities covered by the total expenditures.

Staff Function - Current Year

| Type of Work Performed | Lawyers | Paralegals | Others | Total |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Legal Case Work | 13 | | | 13 |
| Supervision of Legal Case Work | 2.0 | | | 2 |
| Secretarial Clerical Work | | | | |
| Management and Administration | 2 | | 0 | 2.0 |
| PAI Coordination or Pro Bono Management | .5 | | | .5 |
| Other 1 (specify below) | 11.1 | | 7.0 | 18.1 |
| Other 2 (specify below) | 1.8 | | 13 | 14.8 |
| Total | 30.4 | 0 | 20.0 | 50.4 |

| | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| Other 1 | State Support/Website |
| Other 2 | Ombudsman/MEJI |

Vacant Positions - Current Year

| | Lawyers | Paralegals | Others |
|-------------------------------------|---------|------------|--------|
| Vacant Positions included in budget | | | 1 |

Staff Function - Grant Application Year

| Type of Work Performed | Lawyers | Paralegals | Others | Total |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Legal Case Work | 15 | | | 15 |
| Supervision of Legal Case Work | 2 | | | 2 |
| Secretarial Clerical Work | | | | |
| Management and Administration | 2 | | | 2 |
| PAI Coordination or Pro Bono Management | .5 | | | .5 |
| Other 1(specify below) | 11.1 | | 7 | 18.1 |
| Other 2 (specify below) | 1.8 | | 14 | 15.8 |
| Total | 32.4 | 0 | 21.0 | 53.4 |

| | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| Other 1 | State Support/Website |
| Other 2 | Ombudsman/MEJI |

Vacant Positions - Grant Application Year

| | Lawyers | Paralegals | Others |
|-------------------------------------|---------|------------|--------|
| Vacant Positions included in budget | | | |

Current Year Financials

Completed - Oct 10 2025

Current Year Financials

REVENUES, EXPENSES and FUND BALANCES

Provide a breakdown of projected **Revenues, Expenses and Fund Balances** for the **Current Calendar Year**. If your organization's fiscal year is different, please pro-rate expenditures to cover the current calendar year.

Enter whole numbers, without punctuation (e.g., 10000 not 10,000.00).

Starting Current Year Funding Balance (Carryover from prior year)

Please indicate below the fund balances your program will carry over from the prior year.

| | Current Year |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Beginning IOLTA Fund Balance | 84893 |
| Beginning Filing Fees Fund Balance | 3204 |
| Beginning Other Fund Balance | 2015949 |
| Total Beginning Fund Balances | 2104046.0 |

Current Year Revenues

| Source of Funding | Current Year |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| a- IOLTA - Civil Legal Services Grant | 591264 |
| b- Filing Fees (1) General Civil Legal Services Grant | |
| b- Filing Fees (2) Statewide Grant | 229482 |
| c- Legal Services Corporation 1) Basic Field Grant | |
| c- Legal Services Corporation 2) Other Grants & Revenue | |
| d- Foundations (other than IOLTA or Filing Fee program funds) | 260000 |
| e- United Way | |
| f- 1) State Grants | 2637042 |
| f- 2) Local Grants | 47100 |
| f- 3) Community Development Block Grants | |
| g- 1) Title III - Administration on Aging | |
| g- 2) Title XX - Health & Human Services | 1741449 |
| g- 3) Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) | 134610 |
| g- 4) HUD Grants | |
| g- 5) Other Federal Programs | 43000 |
| h- Faith-based funding | |
| i- Law Schools | 22150 |
| j- Attorney Fee Awards or Client Services Fees | 159979 |
| k- 1) Access to Justice Fund | 168931 |
| k- 2) Other Private Bar Fundraising | |
| k- 3) Cy pres Awards | 165485 |
| k- 4) Other donations/Fundraising | 78947 |
| l- Income from publications, training, videotapes & other products | |

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| m- Miscellaneous | 398705 |
| Total | 6678144.0 |

Changes in Non-IOLTA Funding

If your program lost or gained significant amounts of non-IOLTA/non-Filing Fees funding, please explain (list sources, amounts, and reason for change).

Both MLH and MPLP received Cy Pres awards in 2025.

U of M MPLP funding has been reduced by about \$50,000.

CVLAP State of Michigan funding is assumed at status quo, but may be reduced for 2025-2026. Notification is pending.

MEJI received prior year foundation awards that they will continue to draw down from (SEIU and Cares). These total about \$300,000.

MLH also received word they will be receiving a contract for Tech services from MAP. MAP should be receiving a SEA (Sustainability, Enhancement, and Adoption) TIG that will pass significant funding for the Document Assembly project over to MLH. This information has not been fully confirmed and not yet built into MAP's or MLH's budgets.

Current Year Projections - Civil Legal Services

Personnel Costs

| | Current Year Projections |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Lawyers | 2600357 |
| 2. Paralegals | |
| 3. Others | 1230628 |
| 4. Employee Benefits | 819922 |
| Total Personnel Costs | 4650907.0 |

Current Year Projections - Civil Legal Services

Non-Personnel Costs

| | Current Year |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Space | 78813 |
| 2. Equipment Rental | 1976 |
| 3. Supplies | 118114 |
| 4. Telephone | 22955 |
| 5. Travel | 41371 |
| 6. Training | 76614 |
| 7. Library | 35579 |
| 8. Insurance | 58031 |
| 9. Dues & Fees | 23893 |
| 10. Audit | 0 |
| 11. Litigation | 11645 |
| 12. *Property Acquisition | 0 |
| 13. Purchase Payments | 0 |
| 14. *Contract Services to Clients | 236720 |
| 15. *Contract Services to Program | 1119750 |
| 16. *Other | 2290 |
| Total NonPersonnel Costs | 1827751.0 |

Current Year Estimated Ending Fund Balance (which is also Grant Year Beginning Fund Balance)

| | |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|
| Total Beginning Fund Balance | 2104046 |
| Current Year Projected Revenues | 6678144 |
| Current Year Projected Expenses | 6478658 |
| Total Ending Fund Balance | 2303532.0 |

Breakout of Current Year Ending Fund Balance

The total below should equal the current year Ending Fund Balance of \$2303532.0.

| | Current Year |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Ending Fund Balance in cash, investments & grants | 2184842 |
| Ending Fund Balance in property and fixed assets | 118690 |
| Total | 2303532.0 |

Donated Services and Property during Current Year

| | Current Year |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Services, including value of contributed attorney services | 277701 |
| Donated property, including space | |
| Total | 277701.0 |

Grant Year Financials

Completed - Oct 10 2025

Grant Year Financials

REVENUES, EXPENSES and FUND BALANCES

Provide a breakdown of your organization's total Revenue, Expenses and Fund Balance for the grant year. If your organization's fiscal year is different, please pro-rate expenditures to cover the grant year indicated.

Enter whole numbers, without punctuation (e.g., 10000 not 10,000.00).

Beginning Grant Year Fund Balance

The total below should equal the current year Ending Fund Balance of \$2303532

| | Grant Year |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Ending Fund Balance in cash, investments & grants | 2184842 |
| Ending Fund Balance in property and fixed assets | 118690 |
| Total | 2303532.0 |

Grant Year Revenues

| Source of Funding | Grant Year |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| a- IOLTA - General Civil Legal Services Grant | 739080 |
| b- Filing Fees (1) General Civil Legal Services Grant | |
| b- Filing Fees (2) Statewide Grant | 229482 |
| c- Legal Services Corporation 1) Basic Field Grant | |
| c- Legal Services Corporation 2) Other Grants & Revenue | |
| d- *Foundations (other than IOLTA or Filing Fee program funds) | 311321 |
| e- United Way | |
| f- *1) State Grants | 3570380 |
| f- *2) Local Grants | 47100 |
| f- *3) Community Development Block Grants | |
| g- *1) Title III - Administration on Aging | |
| g- *2) Title XX - Health & Human Services | 1180948 |
| g- *3) Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) | 234610 |
| g- *4) HUD Grants | |
| g- *5) Other Federal Programs | |
| h- Faith-based funding | |
| i- Law Schools | 35000 |
| j- Attorney Fee Awards or Client Services Fees | |
| k- *1) Access to Justice Fund | 108786 |
| k- *2) Other Private Bar Fundraising | |
| k- *3) Cy pres Awards | |
| k- *4) Other donations/Fundraising | 53593 |
| l- Income from publications, training, videotapes & other products | |

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| m- *Miscellaneous | 314760 |
| Total | 6825060.0 |

Provide a Breakdown of d - Foundations (list names, amounts and description)

MSBF Bridge for MLH platform - \$80,000 - MLH
Michigan Health Endowment Foundation-Guardianship Diversion- \$231,321- MEJI

Provide a Breakdown of f - State and Local Grants (list names, amounts and description)

State of Michigan-Adult Protective Services - \$14,760 - MEJI
MDHHS-Home and Community Based Services Ombudsman - \$807,000 - MEJI
ATJ Self Help & Community Justice - \$325,000 - MLH
SCAO - \$1,000,000 - MLH
Ingham County-Tri-County Ombudsman Millage - \$47,100 - MEJI
Victims of Crime Act - \$1,004,581 - CVLAP
Victims of Crime Act Supplemental - \$419,039 - CVLAP

Provide a Breakdown of g - Federal Grants (list names, amounts and description)

Tri-County Office on Aging - \$83,890 - MEJI
WellWise AAA2 - \$110,214 - MEJI
VAWA-Tribal Survivors Project - \$234,610 - CVLAP
Michigan State Long Term Care Ombudsman - \$986,844 - MEJI

Provide a Breakdown of k - Fundraising (explain any fundraising outside the ATJ Fund)

Community Donors - \$53,593

Provide a Breakdown of m - Miscellaneous (list names, amounts and description)

Interest Income - \$114,760
MIRC contribution to MSAS administration -\$200,000

Changes in Non-IOLTA Funding

If your program anticipates losing or gaining significant amounts of non-IOLTA/non-Filing Fees funding, please explain (list sources, amounts, and reason for change).

MLH & MPLP received Cy Pres awards in 2025 totaling about \$320,000 that are not expected in 2026.
MEJI is hoping to have SEUI and Cares foundation funding renewed. These total about \$300,000 and are not in our 2026 figures.
MLH has received word they will be getting a contract with MAP for Sustainability, Evaluation and Adoption (SEA) funding from MAP for Document Assembly. This has not been finalized and is not reflected in our 2026 budget.
MLH received additional SCAO funding of \$400,000 for 2026.
MPLP lost the CERA/EDP funding.

Grant Year Budgeted Expenditures - Civil Legal Services

Personnel Cost

| | IOLTA/Filing | Other | Total |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Lawyers | 505826 | 2398419 | 2904245 |
| 2. Paralegals | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3. Others | 107306 | 1205333 | 1312639 |
| 4. Employee Benefits | 147155 | 895725 | 1042880 |
| Total-Personnel | 760287.0 | 4499477.0 | 5259764.0 |

Grant Year Budgeted Expenditures - Civil Legal Services

Non-Personnel Costs

| | IOLTA/Filing | Other | Total |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Space | 18968 | 59197 | 78165 |
| 2. Equipment Rental | 775 | 3167 | 3942 |
| 3. Supplies | 4779 | 85411 | 90190 |
| 4. Telephone | 3868 | 19806 | 23674 |
| 5. Travel | 2611 | 42699 | 45310 |
| 6. Training | 27076 | 74302 | 101378 |
| 7. Library | 8609 | 25842 | 34451 |
| 8. Insurance | 2289 | 49658 | 51947 |
| 9. Dues & Fees | 2679 | 25255 | 27934 |
| 10. Audit | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11. Litigation | 0 | 11645 | 11645 |
| 12. *Property Acquisition | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 13. Purchase Payments | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 14. *Contract Services to Clients | 0 | 136720 | 136720 |
| 15. *Contract Services to Program | 192813 | 727565 | 920378 |
| 16. *Other | 484 | 2494 | 2978 |
| Total NonPersonnel Costs | 264951.0 | 1263761.0 | 1528712.0 |

Property Acquisitions, including real property (line 12).

Provide below detail/amounts. Total items should equal totals above.

No property purchases planned for 2026.

Contract Services to Clients (line 14)

Provide below detail/amounts. Total items should equal total above.

MEJI uses CALL hotline services - \$136,720

Contract Services to Program (line 15)

Provide below detail/amounts. Total items should equal total above.

\$101,360 contribution of MSAS to MAP for administrative services (2026)
Total administrative services for program - \$559,422
MLH Contracts (website and document assembly) - \$153,304
MPLP Contracts & Sugar Law passthrough - \$106,293

Other (line 16)

Provide a breakdown of (other) expenses showing detail/amounts. Total items should equal total above.

Misc. expenses (recruitment & other unexpected costs) = \$2,978

Grant Year Estimated Ending Fund Balance

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Total Beginning Fund Balance | 2303532 |
| Grant Year Projected Revenues | 6825060 |
| Grant Year Projected Expenses | 6788476 |
| Total Ending Fund Balance for the Grant Year | 2340116.0 |

Projected Donated Services and Property during Grant Year

| | Grant Year |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Services, including value of contributed attorney services | 277701 |
| Donated property, including space | |
| Total | 277701.0 |

Does your program's board have a plan for increasing or decreasing your fund balance? Please explain below.

Ending Fund Balance as a Percentage of Revenue:

Grant Year: 34%

The board has a carryover plan so that when funds fall below 15% we will begin building that back up. If funds are over 30% we will begin to free up spending to spend any excess funds. MSAS does track carryover by office and does carry some general funds administratively to support any unexpected funding gaps in any of the specific offices. The board appreciates this model and looks at both specific office percentages as well as the MSAS percent as a whole.

Subgrants, Contracts or Agreements

Completed - Oct 9 2025

Subgrants, Contracts or Agreements

Please list any subgrants, contracts, or agreements that your program has with others or organizations who provide legal services to indigents permitted under the IOLTA grant or Filing Fees Contract. Please include the name, the duration of the contract and geographical area covered by this contract.

| | Name | Duration of the Contract | Geographical Area |
|----|-------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | CALL - MEJI | 1 year | State of Michigan |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | | | |
| 6 | | | |
| 7 | | | |
| 8 | | | |
| 9 | | | |
| 10 | | | |

Subgrant 1 Listed Above (upload here)

[MHLO CALL Contract signed.pdf](#)

Filename: MHLO CALL Contract signed.pdf **Size:** 407.6 kB

CONTRACT FOR SERVICES

Recipient Name: Michigan Advocacy Program (MAP)
Federal ID 38-1845444; Duns Number: 073988081
d.b.a Michigan Elder Justice Initiative (MEJI, “Recipient”)
Contractor Name: Counsel & Advocacy Law Line (CALL, “Contractor”)
Federal ID XX-XXXXXXX; Duns Number: XXXXXXXXX
Federal CFDA #: 93.628 (Contracted through MDHHS)
For: Subcontract for Hotline Services
Term of Agreement: October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2023
Contract Type: Flat Fee; not to exceed \$140,000/year

Parties: The Michigan Advocacy Project (MAP), through its Michigan PLP, LLC (LLC) division and its Michigan Elder Justice Initiative (MEJI) office; and Lakeshore Legal Aid (LLA) through its Counsel & Advocacy Law Line (CALL) program. Collectively, these entities shall be referred to as “the parties”; the MAP program entities will be referred to as “MEJI”; the LLA program entities shall be referred to as “CALL”.

This agreement is made between MEJI and CALL and is effective October 1, 2021.

RECITALS

A. WHEREAS, MEJI is an office in the LLC Division of MAP, a non-profit legal aid organization that has applied for and received funding from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to establish the MI Health Link Ombudsman (MLHO) program to provide services to dually eligible individuals in four pilot regions identified by MDHHS.

B. WHEREAS, the primary grant reporting responsibilities under this contract will be to MDHHS; a copy of the MDHHS – MEJI contract is attached and the terms of the MDHHS contract are incorporated by reference into this agreement;

C. WHEREAS, CALL is a multi-region legal services intake hotline providing counsel and advice and other legal services and is interested in receiving funding and providing services through this program;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants set forth herein, the Parties agree as follows:

1. SCOPE OF SERVICES:

a. MEJI is providing services to MDHHS as a vendor, see MEJI—MDHHS Contract at Section 2(G); CALL is providing services to MEJI as a vendor.

b. CALL will fully provide services as described in the MEJI application; the attached MAP—MDHHS contract; and the attached Contract Deliverables.

MEJI understands that one of the primary services provided by CALL is hotline services. With these funds, CALL agrees to make its services available to dually eligible persons and individuals calling on their behalf as defined in the MDHHS grant application and contract.

CALL understands that this is a pilot project and that the ultimate goal of the MDHHS program is to create an effective and ongoing system for responding to the health-care-related questions of eligible clients and individuals calling on their behalf. CALL understands this goal and will provide its services consistent with this goal.

The Parties understand that the bulk of the services provided under this grant will not be legal services—CALL will provide information to and non-legal advocacy for dually eligible individuals. However, for all clients—i.e., clients who receive legal or non-legal services—through this grant, the Parties agree: (a) to keep all information received from or about dually eligible individuals confidential; (b) to share client information between CALL and MEJI; and (c) for any client receiving legal assistance under this program, any client information shared under this agreement is subject to the attorney client privilege.

If MDHHS or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) or the federal Administration for Community Living (ACL) determines that CALL and MEJI are subject to HIPAA, the parties agree to develop policies to comply with HIPAA mandates.

The Parties will jointly develop reporting and evaluation systems to document the program’s activities under these grants. CALL agrees to participate fully in any reporting or evaluation systems developed by MEJI.

The Parties understand that this is a pilot program being developed with MDHHS and that details of the program may change over the course of the program. The Parties agree to discuss and jointly implement necessary changes.

c. MEJI acknowledges that individual bias as well as institutional and structural racism exist in all individuals and systems. MEJI is committed to anti-racism in all aspects of our work including in our advocacy, communications, workplace environment, vendor selection, hiring, promotion, and retention. MEJI adopts the values and goals articulated in the attached Michigan Advocacy Program Commitment to Anti-Racism Statement, and the Parties agree to integrate and advance those values and goals throughout all work over the course of the program.

2. TERM AND PAYMENTS TO CALL

This Agreement shall commence on October 1, 2021 and continue until September 30, 2023, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the Termination section of this Agreement.

MEJI's contract with MDHHS will renew each state fiscal year (October 1 – September 30) after September 30, 2023. This Agreement will also renew each state fiscal year after September 30, 2023 unless terminated in accordance with the Termination section of this Agreement.

MEJI will make a total payment to CALL of \$140,000. MEJI will make 8 quarterly payments of \$35,000 to CALL. The first quarterly payment will cover the period from October 1 through December 31, 2021. The final payment under this contract shall cover the period July 1 through September 30, 2023.

At the end of each quarter, CALL will provide all required reports to MDHHS and/or MEJI to MEJI according to a timeline to be developed by the parties. MEJI agrees to make a quarterly payment to CALL within 21 days of the date of receipt of all required reports and an invoice.

The Parties understand that the funds described in this Agreement are pass-through funds from a grant from MDHHS to MEJI. Per the award between MAP/MEJI and MDHHS provided to CALL, CALL agrees to all conditions set by MDHHS in the original award so the federal award is used in accordance with Federal statutes, regulations and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. In the event that this grant is terminated, this Agreement terminates as of that same date. Under no circumstances is MEJI obligated to make payments to the CALL exceeding the amount received by MEJI from the MDHHS grant.

3. FISCAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF LLA

1. CALL will provide invoices and programmatic reports on the forms and on the schedule developed by the Parties and MDHHS.
2. CALL warrants that it has adequate systems of accounting and internal controls, so that it can:
 - *Account for funds relating to this contract so that receipts and expenses can be tracked by budget category and line item;
 - *Track historical costs of this contract as required for budgetary and evaluation purposes;
 - *Provide cost and property control to ensure optimum use of funds;
 - *Assure that funds used conform to the contract's purposes, including any general or special condition that applies to the recipient;
 - *Meet periodic financial reporting requirements;
 - *Prepare a budget on which its award commitment will be based;
3. During the term of this contract, CALL agrees to:
 - *Maintain its non-profit status.
 - *Track historical costs of this contract, keeping records for a minimum of 7 years after the end of the agreement, for budgetary, reporting and evaluation purposes.
 - *Be independently audited annually on its funds; provide a copy of each annual audit to MEJI upon request.

4. CALL will make its financial information and program records relating to this contract available to MEJI as necessary to satisfy any grant reporting and audit requirements of MEJI or MDHHS.

5. CALL will maintain insurances (professional liability; management errors and omissions; general liability) in the amount of \$1 million/\$1 million to cover any claims made relating to its services under this contract. CALL will provide proof of insurance to MEJI upon request.

6. CALL is responsible for the purchase and maintenance of all computer hardware, computer software, phone systems, and other equipment required to perform under the contract.

4. TERMINATION

This Agreement may be terminated by CALL, with or without cause, on 60 days written notice.

This Agreement may be terminated by MEJI, with or without cause, on 60 days written notice.

This Agreement may be terminated by either party for cause for a breach of this agreement. In the event that either party seeks to terminate this agreement for cause, that party will provide the other party with written notice of the alleged breach. This agreement may not be terminated for cause unless the party alleging breach has provided 15 days written notice of the breach and the breach remains uncured after the expiration of this 15 day notice period.

The parties understand that this contract includes a subgrant of funds from MDHHS. In the event that MDHHS terminates the main grant, this Agreement shall be terminated automatically as of the date of the MDHHS termination.

In the event of termination, MEJI will reimburse CALL for its actual expenses incurred up to the limits in this contract up to the date of termination. The Parties agree to cooperate to complete the services to any individuals with open cases or service requests as of the date of termination. As a general rule, in the event of termination, CALL will complete all matters requiring ombudsman services and MEJI will complete all pending legal cases.

5. DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

In the event that there is a dispute or disagreement under this agreement, the Parties agree to attempt to resolve the dispute or disagreement through discussions mediated by a third party acceptable to both parties.

6. CONTRACTOR RELATIONSHIP

The Parties agree that the organizations are independent entities and that this Agreement creates an “independent contractor” relationship. MEJI shall be entirely liable for its own debts and obligations, and shall not hold itself or its employees or representatives out to be employees of CALL or LLA; CALL shall be entirely liable for its own debts and obligations, and shall not hold itself or its employees or representatives out to be employees or agents of MEJI or the LLC or MAP.

7. INDEMNIFICATION

CALL agrees to indemnify, defend and hold MEJI and its officers and employees harmless in the event of liability claims arising out of the activities undertaken by CALL in connection with this agreement. MEJI agrees to indemnify, defend and hold CALL and its officers and employees harmless in the event of liability claims arising out of the activities undertaken by MEJI in connection with this agreement.

8. VALIDITY

If any term of this Agreement is held invalid for any reason, such determination shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the Agreement. The remaining parts of this Agreement shall remain in effect as if the Agreement had been executed without the invalid term.

9. AMENDMENT OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement may be amended only through a writing signed by both parties.

10. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement of the parties and supersedes any prior or contemporaneous oral agreements.

11. CONTACT INFORMATION

The parties agree that communication relating to this contract can be exchanged by mail or e-mail.

The e-mail contact information for CALL is:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Ashley Lowe: | <alowe@lakeshorelegalaid.org> |
| Deborah McCormick (service reports): | <dmccormick@lakeshorelegalaid.org> |
| Teresa Fiehn (fiscal reports): | <tfiehn@lakeshorelegalaid.org> |

The contact information for MAP is:


| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Ann Routt: | <aroutt@lsscm.org> |
| Christine Robison (fiscal reports): | <robisonc@lsscm.org> |
| Alison Hirschel (case reports) : | <hirschel@meji.org> |

12. CHOICE OF LAW

In the event of any dispute arising out of this Agreement, Michigan Law shall govern. The proper venue for any dispute is the Circuit Court for the County of Washtenaw.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto acknowledge that they have read this Agreement, fully understand it, and freely and voluntarily agree to each of its provisions.

MICHIGAN AVOCACY PROGRAM on behalf of THE MICHIGAN ELDER JUSTICE INITIATIVE:

Dated: 5/25/2023 By: 
Ann Routt, Executive Director

LAKESHORE LEGAL AID on behalf of the COUNSEL AND ADVOCACY LAW LINE:


Dated: 5/24/23 By: 
Ashley Lowe, Executive Director

Exhibit A

MDHHS—MHLO Contract

Exhibit B

List of Contract Deliverables