

ANNUAL REPORT

2015 - 2016

MAKING JUSTICE

REAL

When we make justice real, we change lives.

LASP Legal Aid
of Southeastern PA

Dear Friends of Legal Aid,

What does it mean to make justice real? For the clients we serve in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties, real justice means the ability to secure adequate housing, to access life-saving medical benefits, and to create a life free from abuse. It means recovering critical benefits that were improperly denied, and obtaining a job despite a past criminal record.

Last year, more than 17,000 people directly benefited from LASP's services. Through our telephone Helpline, free community programs, clinics, outreach, and direct representation by our staff and pro bono attorneys, people received high quality, life-changing legal help that translated into real acts of justice.



Making justice real for our clients also means going to where our clients live and work to provide our services. Last year we added convenient outreach locations in Coatesville, Phoenixville, and Kennett Square, and opened an additional office in Media. And with the funding we will receive from the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), in the coming year we anticipate hiring three additional attorneys and one paralegal to expand legal services for victims of domestic violence.

The need for our services continues to outstrip our capacity, which is why we continue to need your support and advocacy. No one should have to face a critical legal issue alone. By supporting LASP, you ensure that the poorest and most vulnerable among us have someone in their corner, and you support the fairness of our justice system.

With your help, we can make justice real for those that need it the most. Thank you for being champions of Legal Aid.



Elizabeth W. Fritsch, Esq. | Executive Director

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Our Mission

The mission of LASP is to provide quality legal representation to low-income and vulnerable people from Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties, to empower them to solve problems without legal representation through legal education and increased access to the courts, and to change community practices and systems that aggravate poverty.

SAFE HOUSING > *This is Ms. G.'s Story.*

Ms. G*'s furnace was broken and her roof was leaking. By January, there was no heat in her rented home, and her bedroom had become uninhabitable from the water damage. ***Her landlord had repeatedly failed to make the necessary repairs.***

At the coldest point of the winter, Ms. G came to LASP for help. Her experienced attorney explained her legal rights as a tenant to a safe and decent home, and that her landlord must make the repairs needed to keep the home in a livable condition. He crafted a letter to the landlord, giving notice that Ms. G would escrow her rent until the necessary repairs were completed. A few days later the heat was fixed. And by the end of the month, the roof had been repaired. Ms. G's home was warm and dry again.



Your support of access to justice helps people stay safe and secure in their homes.

**Name has been changed but the story is real.*

PRO BONO > *Aetna Volunteers Help Families Find Peace*



Aetna attorneys Alan K. Maesaka and Justin V. Czubaroff received 2016 PBA Pro Bono Awards for their work with LASP at the October 24th Pro Bono Week celebration and expungement CLE at the Montgomery County Bar Association.

L to R: David K. Trevaskis, PA Bar Association Pro Bono Coordinator; Alan K. Maesaka, Esq., Aetna; Justin V. Czubaroff, Esq., Aetna; Michael E. Kelley, LASP Montgomery County Staff Attorney and Pro Bono Coordinator.

LASP is fortunate to work with talented pro bono attorneys who give their time and expertise to represent those in our community who face serious civil legal problems and cannot afford legal services. Aetna attorneys **Justin V. Czubaroff** and **Alan K. Maesaka** are two of these generous supporters of Legal Aid.

Mr. Czubaroff has volunteered with LASP for 2 years at our Willow Grove outreach location.

"I am most touched when clients come to Legal Aid with custody issues involving young children since I have 3- and 5- year-old daughters," Mr. Czubaroff says. "It is hard to fathom the pain they are going through when faced with situations of abuse or neglect from a parent. My hope is that their situation is resolved quickly and that the legal system can help them find peace for their family quickly."

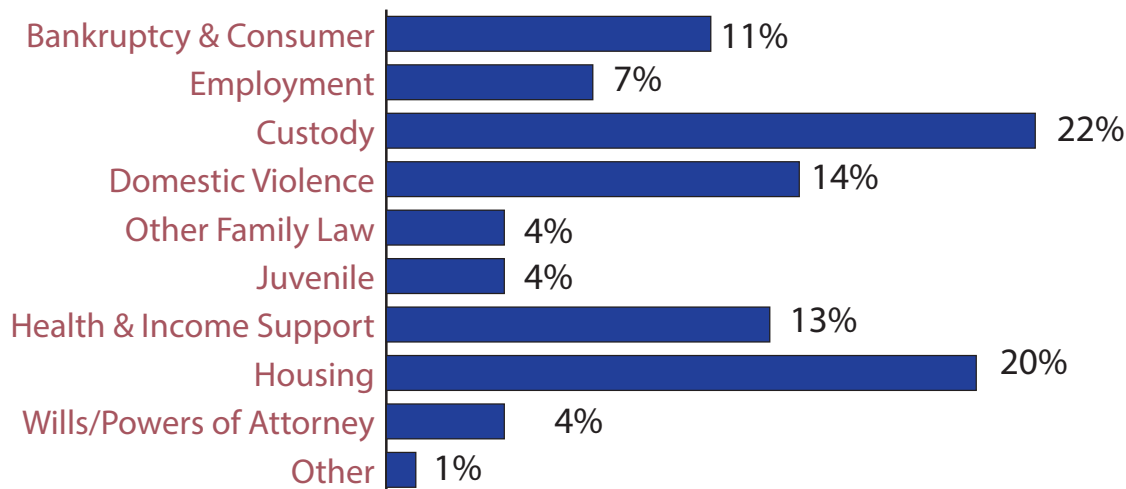
"While it is difficult to hear the hardships that some of the individuals who seek services from Legal Aid have gone through," he adds, "it is satisfying when I am able to provide practical guidance about their legal issue."

Last year, pro bono attorneys provided 4,217 hours — valued at over \$632,000 — to help represent those in our community who cannot afford legal services, and help ensure fairness in the justice system.

2015 - 2016 AT A GLANCE

8,100 Cases
Benefiting
17,634 people

21 % of clients had no regular income



21% of clients were 60 and older

43% of clients were members of racial or ethnic minority groups

74% of clients were women

State of Financial Position: July 2015 to June 2016*

REVENUE

Government Funding	\$3,470,422
Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA)	\$176,637
Foundations & Corporations	\$331,112
Annual Donor Appeals	\$202,245
Bar Associations & Foundations	\$117,020
United Ways	\$64,048
Other Funding Sources	\$129,734

Total Funding \$4,491,218

EXPENSES

Salaries	\$2,854,064
Employee Benefits	\$744,493
Consultants & Contract Services	\$46,568
Travel	\$20,607
Space Costs	\$235,408
Consumables	\$40,975
Equipment Rental & Maintenance	\$45,677
Other Expenses	\$191,481

Total Expenses \$4,179,273

Change in Net Assets: \$311,945

In-Kind Resources: \$800,609

- Donated Attorney Services (4,217 hours @ \$150/hour): \$632,535
- Other Donated Services (2,041 hours @ \$60/hour): \$122,474
- Donated Office Space: \$45,600

* Figures based on audited financial statement for FY 2016

2015-16 DONORS Honor Roll

Individuals and law firms offer steadfast support to LASP. These contributions made it possible to serve more than 8,000 people in need of help. This year, our Honor Roll highlights individuals and law firms whose contributions to LASP were more than \$1,000 during FY2015-16. To see a list of all our generous donors and volunteers, go to <http://lasp.org/annual-report.html>.

Bucks County

Individuals

Anonymous
William Antheil
Paul R. Weber
Jane Williams

Law Firms

Begley Carlin & Mandio, LLP
Eastburn & Gray, PC

Chester County

Individuals

Jeffrey P. Lewis
Michael Gerald Louis
James E. McErlane

John McKenna
Janet Satterthwaite
Catherine H. Voit

Law Firms

Fox Rothschild LLP
Gavin Law LLC
Gawthrop Greenwood, PC
Lamb McErlane, PC
MacElree Harvey Ltd.
Steven L. Sugarman & Associates
Unruh, Turner, Burke & Frees, PC

Delaware County

Individuals

Robert R. Delong, Jr.
Lyn Schoenfeld

Montgomery County

Individuals

The Honorable Carolyn T. Carluccio
The Honorable S. Gerald Corso
Stewart Greenleaf, Jr.
The Honorable William T. Nicholas
Paul C. Troy

Law Firms

Cozen & O'Connor
Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin,
Maxwell & Lupin, PC
High Swartz, LLP

Howland, Hess, Guinan, Torpey,
Cassidy & O'Connell, LLP
Kaplin, Stewart, Meloff, Reiter &
Stein, PC
Schultz Law, LLC
Timoney Knox, LLP

Special Recognition

In 2016, LASP received over \$100,000 in cy pres funds through **Cary L. Flitter of Flitter, Milz, PC**. We are grateful to be the recipient of such extraordinary generosity.

Institutional, Government and Business Supporters

Government Grants and Contracts

Americorps/Equal Justice Works
Bucks County Area Agency on Aging
Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency
Bucks County Commissioners
Bucks County Dept. of Community and Business Development
Chester County Dept. of Aging Services
Chester County Dept. of Community Development
Delaware County Office of Housing and Community Development
Delaware County Office of Services to the Aging
Legal Services Corporation (LSC)
Montgomery County Office of Aging and Adult Services
Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth
Montgomery County Dept. of Housing and Community Development
Pennsylvania Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA)
Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network (PLAN)

Charitable Foundations and Trusts

1675 Foundation
Bucks County Foundation
Chester County Fund for Women and Girls
The Claneil Foundation
Cozen O'Connor Foundation
Dolfinger McMahon Foundation
First Hospital Foundation
The Genuardi Family Foundation
Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation
Independence Foundation
Merck Company Foundation
Montgomery County Foundation
The Pew Charitable Trusts
Phoenixville Community Health Foundation
TD Bank Foundation
Quaker Chemical Foundation
Patricia Kind Family Foundation

Collaborative Grants

Bucks Co. STOP Grant
(Collaboration with NOVA and A Woman's Place)

Pottstown Health and Wellness Foundation
(Partnership with VNA Community Services)

Business, Corporate, Service Groups, Congregations and Others

Bottomline Technologies
Chester County Paralegal Association
Citadel Federal Credit Union
Eastern District of Pennsylvania Bankruptcy Conference
First Federal of Bucks County
First Presbyterian Church of West Chester
Just Legal, Inc.
Les Trois Petits Cochons
QVC Partners in Giving
Siemens Caring Hands Giving Campaign
Susquehanna Bank
Thomas Reuters West Corporation
United Way of Bucks County
United Way of Chester County
United Way of Southern Chester County
Univest
USI Affinity
WSFS

Bar Associations, Foundations and Bar-related Organizations

Bucks County Bar Association
Charitable Foundation of the Bucks County Bar Association
Chester County Bar Association
Chester County Bar Foundation
Delaware County Bar Association
Delaware County Bar Association – Family Law Section
Delaware County Bar Foundation
Doris J. Freed American Inn of Court
Eastern District of Pennsylvania Bankruptcy Conference
Montgomery Bar Association
Montgomery Bar Foundation

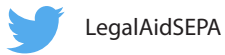
To support LASP and help neighbors in need: lasp.org/how-you-can-help. Join the Legal Aid supporters who make a difference in their community. Go online to make a financial contribution: <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/LASP>. For information about donating your time, contact Christine Zaccarelli, Esq., Pro Bono Director, at czaccarelli@lasp.org or 610-436-4510 x 207.

Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania is very grateful for all contributions supporting our work.

ANNUAL REPORT

Making Justice Real

Connect with LASP



SAFETY NET BENEFITS >

This is Ms. M's story.

Ms. M*, a senior citizen, lost her Medicaid due to a paperwork misunderstanding when she moved from one county to another.

The result was disastrous — she could no longer afford life-sustaining medication.

After trying unsuccessfully to work with the Medical Assistance office, she called LASP for help. Her advocate contacted the county office and was able to correct the Assistance Office records. Her Medicaid was approved, and access to her important medication was restored.

Your support of LASP enables us to help people access the benefits that they are entitled to.

**Name has been changed but the story is real.*

FREE LEGAL HELP

Legal Aid of Southeastern PA provides free civil legal services for low-income residents of Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties.

For free help, call:

LASP Helpline
1-877-429-5994

Mon-Fri, 9 am-1pm
TOLL-FREE

Se habla español.
www.lasp.org