



MARYLAND
LEGAL AID

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

**BASIC
HUMAN
NEEDS** **=** **BASIC
HUMAN
RIGHTS**





Vision

To lead in providing high-quality legal services; to build on mutual respect for clients, staff, and others; to advocate for justice; and to add maximum positive value to all who request legal assistance.

Mission

To provide high-quality legal services to Maryland's poor through a mix of services and to bring about the changes poor people want in the systems that affect them.

Maryland Legal Aid provides legal advice and representation in the following areas:

Employment

- Obtains illegally denied unemployment benefits
- Recovers wages and back pay due
- Remedies employment discrimination
- Ensures that workers have a safe workplace and can express grievances about workplace conditions

Housing

- Preserves affordable housing
- Stops illegal evictions from public and subsidized housing and termination or denial of housing subsidies
- Prevents foreclosures or mitigates their effects
- Helps persons with disabilities obtain and preserve housing
- Advocates on behalf of tenant organizations, individuals, and families for improvement of substandard housing
- Prevents homelessness
- Remedies discrimination in obtaining and preserving housing
- Obtains return of security deposits and damages for illegal landlord practices

Income Maintenance

- Represents persons with disabilities to avoid institutionalization
- Helps to obtain, preserve, restore or increase subsistence income to meet basic human needs
- Challenges denial of emergency assistance, food stamps, Social Security and veterans benefits

Consumer

- Helps homeowners bilked by foreclosure rescue scams
- Assists with correcting erroneous credit reports
- Combats overly aggressive or illegal debt-collection activity
- Opposes bank account and wage garnishments of income and assets needed to meet basic subsistence needs
- Enforces sales contracts and warranties
- Remedies fraudulent sales practices and predatory contracts
- Avoids or delays utility terminations

Health

- Helps sick children, the disabled and the elderly get medical assistance
- Helps seniors get Medicaid assistance so they can live in their communities
- Assists people in preserving the long-term care placement of their choice
- Stops or obtains redress for harmful medical treatment
- Enforces terms of health or disability insurance contracts

Family and Children

- Assists custodial parents in maintaining custody and in obtaining, preserving or increasing child support
- Obtains protection from domestic violence and secures orders for custody, divorce and support for abuse survivors
- Helps parents obtain visitation rights, guardianships, or adoptions for dependent children
- Helps stop unwarranted termination of parental rights

- Obtains or preserves terms of foster care placement
- Represents abused and neglected children

Farmworkers

- Educates farmworkers regarding their employment rights, including wage collection, suitable housing and workplace safety, and represents them in legal cases in those areas
- Educates service providers, government officials and the public about farmworkers' rights and needs, such as language translation, access to social services, and job training
- Provides assistance to address wage non-payment, occupational safety violations, and substandard migrant camp conditions

Education

- Helps children get special education services to which they are entitled and avoid illegal or unfair school suspensions and expulsions

Maryland Legal Aid also represents children in CINA (Child in Need of Assistance) proceedings in 12 Maryland jurisdictions. Other vulnerable populations, such as homeowners facing foreclosure, migrant and seasonal farm workers, nursing home and assisted living residents, and veterans also receive representation through special projects.

The focus on human rights

and unmet human needs is often limited to places and situations abroad; however, for many people right here in Maryland, the issue of unmet, basic human needs is all too familiar and real. Recognition of basic human rights has strong American roots. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, in his 1941 State of the Union address, presented "The Four Freedoms"—freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear—which he proposed should be recognized as fundamental to everyone in the world.

Perhaps the most central of these principles is the freedom from want since it impacts every basic human need, including safe and adequate housing, affordable health care, and livable wages. Ensuring that everyone in the world enjoys freedom from want requires society to assess its investment in civil matters—particularly civil law—to promote dignity, fairness and opportunity for everyone. This investment is especially critical for the vulnerable and marginalized populations we serve, including people living in poverty, abused and neglected children, individuals with disabilities, older adults, and veterans.

A major contributing factor to Maryland Legal Aid's adoption of a human rights framework to our practice of law was the imperative to provide services and civil legal representation for clients that addressed their basic human needs and human rights. Recent census data* for the state of Maryland indicates that between 2009 and 2013, 9.8 percent of Maryland residents lived below the poverty level. In Baltimore City, where Maryland Legal Aid is headquartered, 25 percent of the City's residents live below the poverty level.

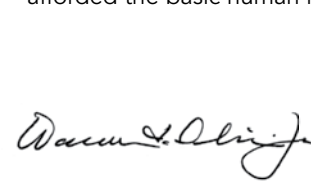
A simplified, clear-cut assertion of the complex issues related to freedom from want is that **Basic Human Needs = Basic Human Rights**. This fundamental principle compels Maryland Legal Aid to focus on sustaining and strengthening each eligible client's right to thrive.

Maryland Legal Aid's core work focuses on clients' unmet basic human needs and upholds and preserves the basic human rights that address these needs. We provide clients with a mix of services that includes high-quality legal representation in civil matters and, where appropriate,

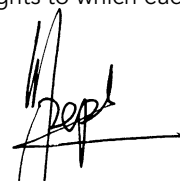
social worker assistance to address barriers—such as mental illness—that could interfere with the success of our legal representation. The stories in this report draw attention to our clients' most pressing needs, while also highlighting their victories and illustrating the fundamental connection between basic human needs and basic human rights.

In 2014, the generosity, financial support and other contributions of numerous individuals and entities enabled Maryland Legal Aid to successfully expand and improve its client services to address a number of basic human needs of Maryland citizens. We are fortunate to have persevered in the face of daunting uncertainties, including reductions of financial support from various long-established local and national government sources. In the coming years, such broad-based support will be even more essential in helping Maryland Legal Aid to strengthen its capacity and expand its services and programs to enhance the basic human rights and fulfill the basic human needs of our low-income clients.

We owe an abundance of gratitude and credit to the dedicated staff, committed Board members, loyal members of the Equal Justice Council, the supportive legislature, and a wide circle of funders and friends, most particularly the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, for their contributions to the collective success we have achieved in navigating these challenges to ensure that low-income Marylanders are afforded the basic human rights to which each are entitled.


Warren S. Oliveri, Jr., Esq.




Wilhelm H. Joseph, Jr., Esq.



CHILDREN MUST BE RESPECTED AND THEIR VOICES HEARD.

When Primary Caregivers Cannot Meet Children's Needs,
Society's Safety Nets Can Save Lives.

Child in Need of Assistance (CINA)

Maryland Legal Aid represents children in abuse and neglect cases ("CINA" cases) in Circuit Courts in twelve jurisdictions in Maryland. Over 71% of new CINA petitions in Maryland are filed in Baltimore City, and Baltimore, Montgomery and Prince George's counties. Maryland Legal Aid represents children in all four of those jurisdictions. These cases begin when the State of Maryland, through local county Departments of Social Services, removes an alleged abused or neglected child from his/her home and places that child in shelter or foster care for protection.



Maryland Legal Aid served

4,739

CHILDREN

throughout Maryland in 2014.

30%

of those children were **6 years of age or younger.**



The Rights of the Child

Staff Attorney **Elise Snyder**,
Midwestern Maryland Office

When Mrs. W.'s 14-year old son lost his life in a drowning accident in 2006, the loss was immeasurable for her and her family.

Mrs. W. and her husband found solace and kept their son's memory close by relishing every minute spent with their two daughters and the many friends who were always visiting their expansive, rural property in Frederick County. "Throughout our married lives, there were always at least 10 kids playing soccer in our yard, running around, laughing and just having a great time," said Mrs. W. Several years later, when one of her daughters followed her deceased brother's long-held dream of joining the military and the other prepared to head to college, Mrs. W. and her husband found themselves faltering slightly.

"We definitely had empty nest syndrome. Going from having kids running around our home at least five days a week to so much silence.... well, it was a shock for us," Mrs. W. stated. "And I can't for the life of me tell you how it happened, but my husband and I decided that we wanted to take foster care classes." From late 2009 until 2014, Mr. and Mrs. W. provided a safe and loving environment for 12 foster care children. The last three who entered their lives (in the winter of 2012) were biological

siblings. They, along with their two other young siblings, had been placed in foster care, in different homes in Frederick County. Maryland Legal Aid Staff Attorney Elise Snyder met the three siblings who were placed with Mr. and Mrs. W. within 24 hours after Child Protective Services (CPS) was called to come to the aid of a three year-old boy who was alone and riding his bicycle along busy Highway 15. An investigation of the birth parents' home followed quickly, resulting in a decision

by CPS to immediately remove all five children from the home.

"Our goal is always reunification with the birth parents," said Attorney Snyder. "However, every child has a **human right** to security and safety. When a child is at risk of being abused or neglected, or if there are clear signs of ongoing drug abuse by the parents that result in neglect and unsafe living situations, then reunification may not be in the child's best interest."

As Mrs. W. recalls the first days and weeks of welcoming the children to her home, she still sounds startled when talking about the basic human interactions of which they seemed to have no history. "They had absolutely no social cues. If you spoke to them, they would just stand there like deer in headlights. They didn't know the difference between dirty and clean. They weren't used to people who *didn't* do bad things, so they thought that was normal and acceptable," she said. "But what they needed most was love and affection, and a home where they knew they were safe."

When it became clear that the birth parents were unable to reunify with their children, adoption of all five siblings by one family became a top priority. Under the direction of Child Protective Services, Mrs. W. and the foster mother who cared for the other two siblings developed a plan to reunite all of the siblings slowly, but methodically, under the W.'s roof. Shortly before July 2014, Mr. and Mrs. W. legally adopted all five children.

The W.'s two oldest daughters readily welcomed the children into a loving family. The children's journey—and storybook-type transition—is not lost on Mr. and Mrs. W. "We are one family," she said with a smile, before quietly adding, "We changed their focus, changed their paths. We turned the soil and found beautiful flowers." ■



Mr. and Mrs. W. 2015

**"We are one family. We changed their focus, changed their paths.
We turned the soil and found beautiful flowers."—Mrs. W.**

THE RIGHT TO SAFE AND ADEQUATE HOUSING

Staff Attorney **Curt Campbell**,
Foreclosure Legal Assistance Project

The human right to housing should not be interpreted strictly as a right to have a roof over one's head. Rather, it should be seen as the right to live somewhere in security with peace and dignity. The right to housing is critical; without it, the attainment of many other human rights is compromised.



Established in 2008, Maryland Legal Aid's Foreclosure Legal Assistance Project (FLAP) represents low-income homeowners throughout Maryland at all stages of the foreclosure process, including mediations, motions to stay and dismiss sales, bankruptcies, exceptions to sales, motions for orders of possession and evictions. Advice and referrals are provided to those whom Maryland Legal Aid is not able to represent.

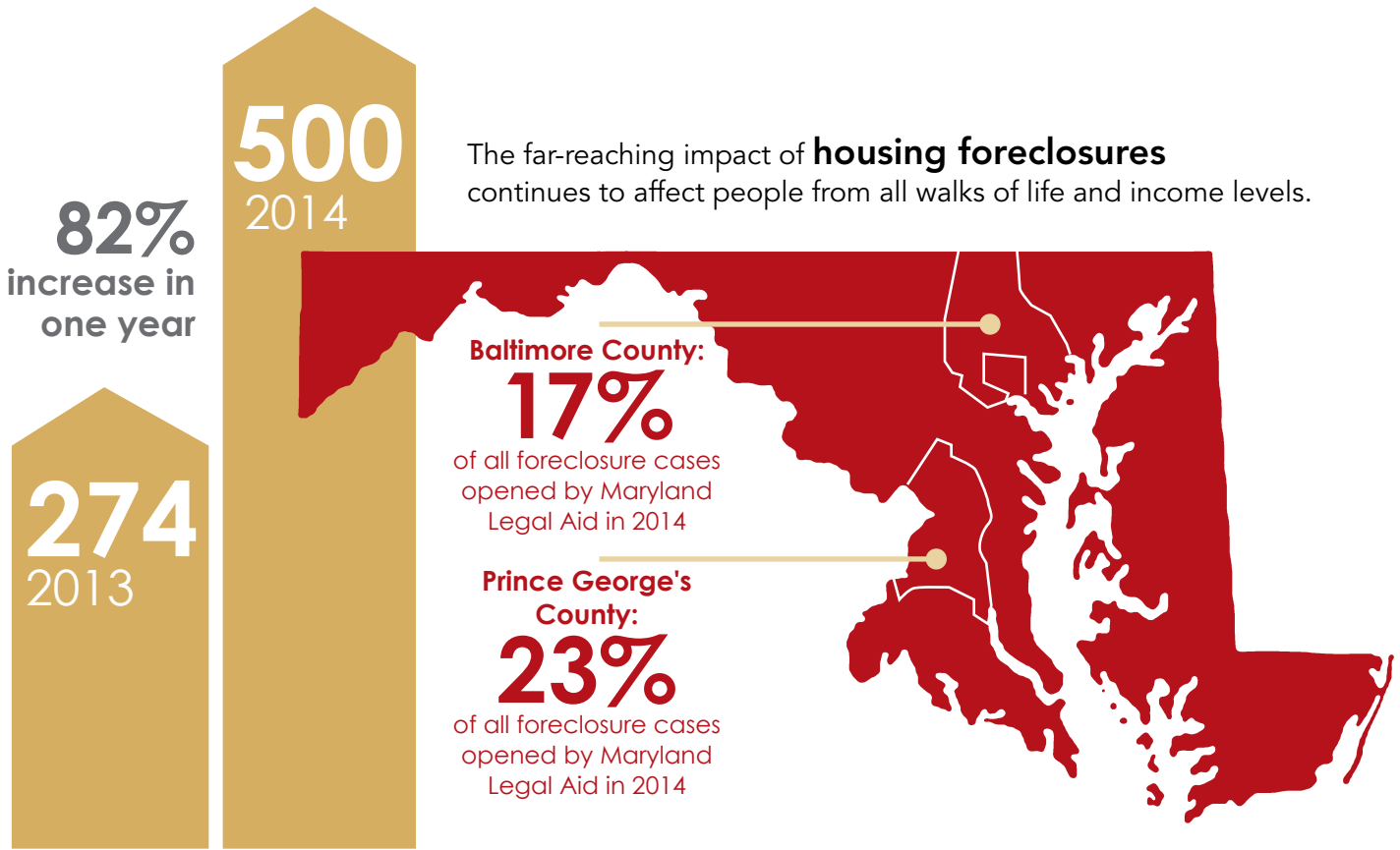
A member of Maryland Legal Aid's Statewide Advocacy Support (SAS) Unit, Staff Attorney Curt Campbell focuses on foreclosure cases. A recent case is, unfortunately, all too typical of foreclosure rescue scams that prey on well-intentioned, but financially struggling homeowners.

By 2006, several years after purchasing their home in Prince George's County, Mr. and Mrs. S. were experiencing financial difficulties and were in default on their mortgage. They were contacted by an individual who assured them that his company could help them refinance—and keep—their home. Desperate to keep their home, Mr. and Mrs. S. met with the company and signed papers they didn't fully understand. These

papers actually gave the scam company title to the couple's home and set up a system whereby monthly payments from the couple—payments that Mr. and Mrs. S. thought were paying down their mortgage—were paid to the scammers. In fact, the company (which soon dissolved), made few, if any, mortgage payments on behalf of the couple, resulting in their home going into foreclosure.

By the time Mr. and Mrs. S. contacted Maryland Legal Aid in 2013, they were several years behind in mortgage payments and had lost title to their home. Recognizing the right to housing and the right to fair treatment not only as basic human needs, but also as basic **human rights**, Attorney Campbell utilized a wide range of legal tactics and tools in his representation of the couple, including directing them to their original banking institution to discuss potentially affordable refinance options. More importantly, the actions of Campbell and his FLAP associates ultimately restored the home's title (and legal ownership) to Mr. and Mrs. S. ■

The number of statewide foreclosure cases opened by Maryland Legal Aid:



The Right to Be Heard... and Understood

Staff Attorney **Virginia Rosa**, Anne Arundel County Office
Paralegal **Veronique Felix**, Lower Eastern Shore Office



Imagine being stopped by a police officer and not being able to understand what the officer is saying. Imagine being hearing impaired and participating in a court proceeding, but being unable to understand the court-appointed sign language interpreter because the interpreter is signing a non-traditional sign language with which you are not familiar. Maryland Legal Aid is adamant that clients have a right to hear and understand what is being said to them in a legal matter and clients have a right to respond in a meaningful way.

To focus attention on that effort, Maryland Legal Aid's Language Access Task Force develops advocacy projects that raise awareness about language access issues, particularly for individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Maryland Legal Aid uses the civil legal system to work toward elimination of discrimination on the basis of language or national origin; to provide equal access to the law and equal recognition before the law; to provide for freedom of expression and opinion, and to enable access to information for every human being.

THE RIGHT TO SECURITY

Senior Attorney **Margaret Maupin**,
Southern Maryland Office

Perhaps no scenario can more graphically depict the critical need for every individual to have his or her basic human right to security met as when we see a loved one, especially a young loved one, in harm’s way.

Mrs. D., mother of Z. and grandmother of his son T., still wells up in tears as she remembers the phone calls she received in the middle of the night from her young grandson. “Please grandma, come get me!” he would shout into the phone. “They are fighting again, they’re using drugs, please come and get me now—right now!”

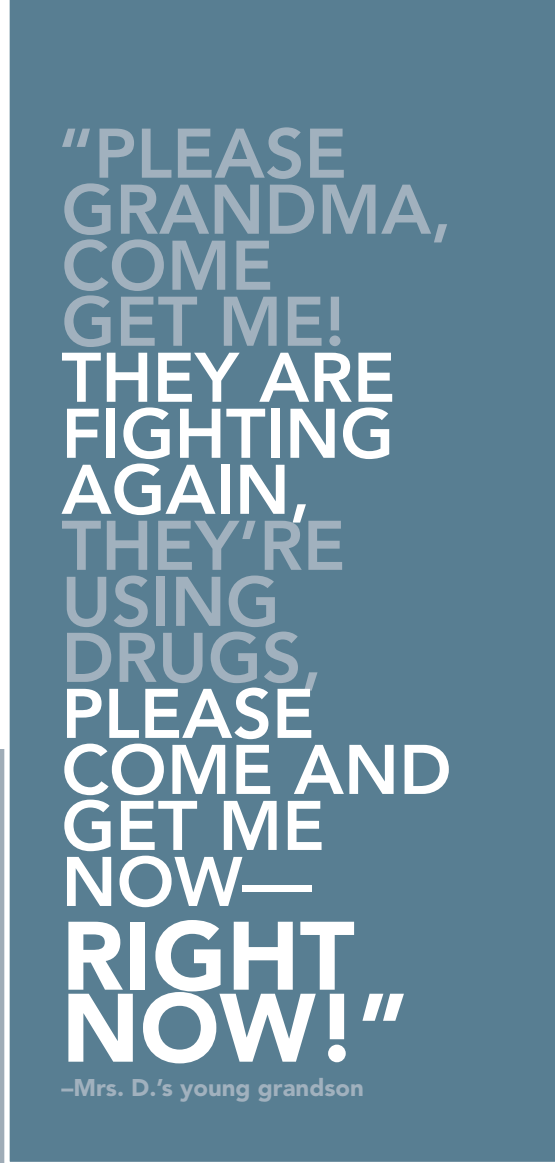
Because of Z.’s and his wife’s drug addiction, neither of them were able to care for themselves or T. From the time T. was born, it was Mrs. D. who ensured that his basic human needs for food, clothing and medical care were met to the extent that she could while living several miles away. Mrs. D.’s best and consistent efforts to convince Z. and his wife to do whatever was required to break their drug dependencies—for their own good and for the sake of their son—were typically met with apathy, refusal to allow her to see her grandson, and even threats on her life.

Mrs. D. first tried to gain legal custody of T. after he lived with her for a year at the

request of his parents. A private attorney told her she “didn’t have a case” to gain legal custody, and Mrs. D. was forced to allow T. to return to his parents when they insisted that he live with them again. In the following years, Mrs. D. repeatedly “rescued” her grandson from situations no child should have to endure.

“T. was in great danger most of his life,” Mrs. D. said. “After spending \$8,000 I didn’t really have for a lawyer who turned down my pleas for help, I didn’t know where to turn.”

Finally, on a summer day in 2013, Mrs. D.’s son Z. experienced a manic and delusional episode, which included exposing himself to his neighbor and her young daughter while they were gardening in the adjoining yard. Fortunately, the police arrived soon after Z. collapsed, and they removed T. from the home. It wasn’t long before Mrs. D., more determined than ever to “save” her grandson from his living nightmare, filed a petition for custody without any



legal assistance. The threatening texts and phone calls from her son and his wife resumed almost immediately, and they were more horrific and graphic than ever.

Fearing not only for the safety of her grandson, but also for her own life, Mrs. D. turned to Maryland Legal Aid’s Southern Maryland office for help. Upon hearing the details of the situation, including Mrs. D.’s attempts to gain legal custody of T. since he was an infant, Maryland Legal Aid Senior Attorney Margaret Maupin assured Mrs. D. that although the organization does not typically handle third-party grandparent custody cases, this situation also presented compelling evidence of **human rights** abuses of a vulnerable child. She also provided immediate comfort to Mrs. D., advising her that Maryland Legal Aid would do everything possible to help her gain legal custody of her beloved



grandson, and end the threats on her life, as well.

“The flurry of threatening text messages from her son and his wife, threatening to hire people to kidnap, physically harm and kill Mrs. D. were the worst I’ve ever seen,” said Attorney Maupin. She took additional action that resulted in full and legal custody being awarded to Mrs. D. within four months of their first meeting.

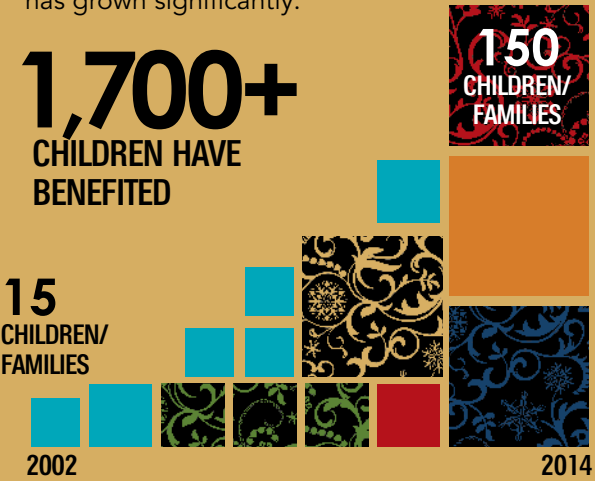
Now T. and his grandmother are enjoying lives free of fear and intimidation. “My grandson is a remarkable human being and he just had an awesome birthday!” Mrs. D. told us. “That 12th birthday was replete with a party, balloons, pizza, cake and paint ball—just like other kids have! We can breathe easy now. My grandson has a future.” ■

Giving Program Makes the Holidays Brighter for Vulnerable Children

Chief Attorney **Joan Little** and
Paralegal **Sandra Harrison**,
Baltimore City Child Advocacy Unit

Fifteen years ago, the staff in Maryland Legal Aid’s Baltimore City Child Advocacy Unit noticed that many of the abused and neglected children they served often felt especially overlooked at holiday time. This prompted the Child Advocacy staff to start a program to make sure that some of these children could experience the joy that comes with unwrapping a gift intended just for them.

Since 2000,
**the HOLIDAY
GIVING PROGRAM**
has grown significantly:



Since inception, more than 1,700 children have benefited from Maryland Legal Aid’s Holiday Giving Program, thanks to the generosity and support of countless individuals and several area companies including:

- Stanley Black & Decker
- Hord Coplan Macht
- Thunderbolt
- Floors Etc.

This program is managed by Paralegal Sandra Harrison, under the direction of Child Advocacy Chief Attorney Joan Little in the Baltimore City office. Sandra said, “Gift donors frequently report how much happier *their* holiday season is because they know that they have made a positive difference in the life of a very important (and often overlooked) child.”

“Unless there are exceptional circumstances, if a parent is fit and able to provide care for his or her child, then family reunification is always our goal.”

Supervising Attorney **Janine Scott**,
Baltimore City Domestic Law Unit



THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD/The Right to Family Reunification

Ms. Y., a single mother of seven, shatters stereotypes. Ms. Y.’s two oldest children are enrolled in college and the younger ones are doing well in school. She is close to completing a Welfare to Work program and has already secured and started a job, all geared to becoming a self-sustaining parent and role model for her children.

However, when Ms. Y. contacted Maryland Legal Aid in May 2014, she was desperate to reunify her family. By the time her youngest child was born in December 2012, it was apparent that her home needed major repairs in order for it to be safe for her children. The landlord agreed to fix the leaking roof and remediate the mold problems, and Ms. Y. and her older children temporarily moved in with her mother. Due to internal family conflicts, she

hesitantly agreed to allow her infant daughter to live with the child’s paternal grandmother for the brief period of time needed for home repairs. After a few months, the home was ready for the family to return. However, at the paternal grandmother’s urging, Ms. Y. agreed to let her baby stay with the grandmother a bit longer, so she could continue her part-time clerical work, secure her GED and complete her Welfare to Work program.

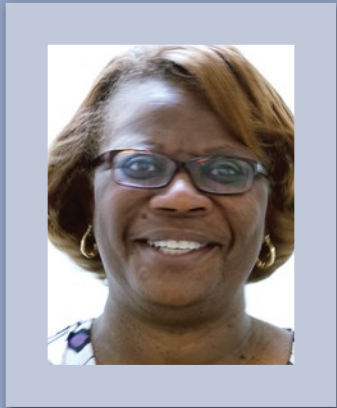
Ms. Y. was determined to acquire the job readiness skills needed to compete in today’s business environment and find a steady job. She knew realizing these goals would allow her to become self-sufficient and have all of her children back at home together as a cohesive family.

“Unless there are exceptional circumstances, if a parent is fit and able to provide care for his or her child, then family reunification is always our goal,” advises Janine Scott, Supervising Attorney in Maryland Legal Aid’s Baltimore City Domestic Law Unit. “The paternal grandmother had bonded with the baby and it was increasingly difficult for Ms. Y. to gain access to her,” she added. In fact, the grandmother was so determined to keep her granddaughter that she filed a restraining order against Ms. Y., which prohibited her from seeing her child.

Since there was no basis for the order, all of the facts in the case pointed clearly and favorably to Ms. Y. regaining custody of her baby. Just two days after Scott represented her in court, Ms. Y. regained sole custody of her daughter, thereby reunifying her children and moving on with life as a close-knit and loving family.

A child’s right to be with her parent—is if the parent is capable of caring for her safely—is a basic **human right**. It is one of many such rights that Maryland Legal Aid is committed to upholding. ■

Maryland Legal Aid Senior Paralegal Barbara Coleman



On December 8, 2014, Maryland Legal Aid Senior Paralegal Barbara Coleman was awarded **The William L. Marbury Outstanding Advocate Award**. Presented by the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, the award is given to “a non-attorney who has demonstrated outstanding service in Maryland representing the rights and legal needs of low-income persons.” Longtime colleague (and supervisor) Blake Fetrow, Chief Attorney of Maryland Legal Aid’s Metropolitan Maryland office, shares his thoughts about Barbara:

“Over her distinguished 37-year career with Maryland Legal Aid, Barbara Coleman has been a tireless advocate for low-income people and seniors in need in both Baltimore City and Howard County. She has helped literally thousands of people in need during her years with the organization.

“Barbara is definitely the go-to person for legal assistance in Howard County. Her partnerships outside the organization—where she continues to work tirelessly for equal access to justice for everyone—are truly exceptional. In 2011, the Association of Community Services recognized

“Although many of us, myself included, have been assigned as her “supervisor,” the truth is that Barbara is the one who drives us to do more in Howard County, both through her example and through her urging us to increase our work and to help more people in new and creative ways.”

Chief Attorney **Blake Fetrow**,
Metropolitan Maryland Office

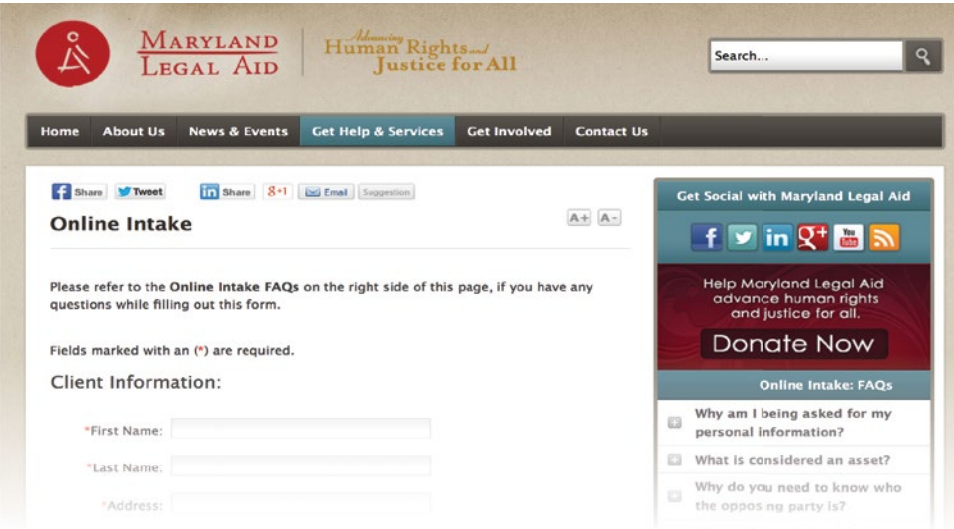
Barbara’s career achievements by presenting her with the Audrey Robbins Humanitarian Award, presented annually to those who represent the very best of the human services community in Howard County.

“Barbara Coleman has been the face of Maryland Legal Aid in Howard County for many years. A person who recognizes a problem and comes up with a solution, Barbara not only addresses our clients’ legal problems, but also their life situations. Although many of us, myself included, have been assigned as her “supervisor,” the truth is that Barbara is the one who drives us to do more in Howard County, both through her example and through her urging us to increase our work and to help more people in new and creative ways.”

ONLINE INTAKE SYSTEM Streamlines & Expedites Service

Chief Attorney **Bobbie Steyer**, Intake Services
Web Developer **Russ Bloomquist**

Maryland Legal Aid’s online intake process was established to address the need expressed by many individuals for an opportunity to have a preliminary consultation about their legal concerns without having to leave their homes, coordinate transportation, or take time from work to visit one of Maryland Legal Aid’s 12 full-service offices during designated walk-in intake hours. Easy to access and use, the online intake system is available for Marylanders 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



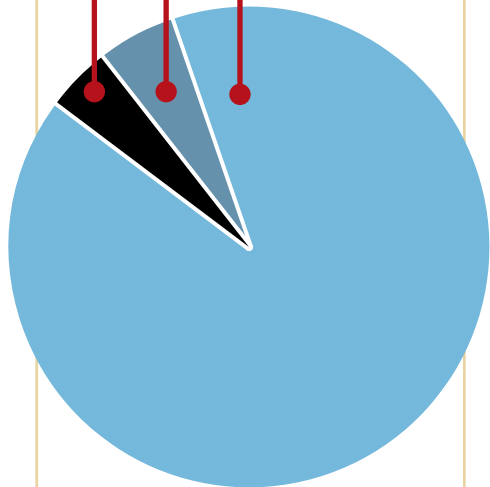
Maryland Legal Aid Online Intake Application: www.mdlab.org/intake

Applicants who come to Maryland Legal Aid’s Baltimore City office at 500 E. Lexington Street can apply for services at intake kiosks in the office lobby. Applicants can complete an online intake application and can receive a response within 48 hours.

The online intake system is a convenient option that expedites the intake process for individuals who apply for services. In 2014, the online intake system processed 3,688 applications. Added to the 4,702 in-person and 77,928 telephone intakes, the organization was able to serve 86,318 clients via the intake process in 2014.

2014 INTAKE
86,318

ONLINE
3,688
IN-PERSON
4,702
TELEPHONE
77,928



THE EQUAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

The Equal Justice Council (EJC) is composed of managing attorneys from Maryland’s top law firms and other prominent members of the Maryland Bar and corporate community. Since 1997, members of the EJC have raised critically needed funds for Maryland Legal Aid in order to promote equal access to justice, while also serving as dedicated advocates who raise awareness of the organization’s important work.

Equal Justice Council Leadership

Co-Chairpersons:

Andrew Jay Graham, Esq.
Benjamin Rosenberg, Esq.

Chair Emeritus:

Decatur H. Miller, Esq.

Law Firm Campaign Co-Chairpersons:

Martin S. Himeles, Jr., Esq.
Paul M. Nussbaum, Esq.
Lee H. Ogburn, Esq.



Clockwise from top left: Keynote speaker Honorable Jess H. Dickinson, Presiding Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court and Honorable Irma S. Raker (ret.), Maryland Court of Appeals and Chair of the Maryland Access to Justice Commission; Honorable Mary Ellen Barbera, Chief Judge, Maryland Court of Appeals; Lorenzo M. Bellamy, Esquire, Scott A. Livingston, Esquire and Maryland Legal Aid Executive Director Wilhelm H. Joseph, Jr.

EJC Recognition Breakfast

More than 200 supporters gathered at Camden Yards on May 22, 2014 for the 17th Annual Equal Justice Council Recognition Breakfast. The event honored **Champions of Justice** Martin S. Himeles, Jr., Esquire and Pamela C. Ortiz, Esquire; **Pacesetters** Ballard Spahr, LLP and Miles & Stockbridge PC; and **Trailblazers** DLA Piper LLP, Venable LLP and Whiteford Taylor & Preston LLP. The **Executive Director’s Award** went to Lorenzo M. Bellamy, Esquire and Scott A. Livingston, Esquire.

THANK YOU!

The EJC sincerely appreciates all who support Maryland Legal Aid and wishes to particularly thank those Partners for Justice who contribute \$1,000 or more toward ensuring equal access to justice for all. (See page 12 for listings.) We also thank our outstanding Law Firms of Distinction* for contributing at least \$300 per attorney:

- BaldwinLaw LLC
- Ballard Spahr LLP
- Brown Goldstein & Levy, LLP
- DLA Piper LLP (US)
- Gordon, Wolf & Carney, Chartered
- Gorman & Williams
- Hylton & Gonzales
- Illiff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, PC
- Kramon & Graham, PA
- The Law Offices of Julie Ellen Landau
- Law Office of Stephen J. Nolan
- Meiselman & Helfant, LLC
- Nathans & Biddle, LLP
- Rosenberg Martin Greenberg, LLP
- Saiontz & Kirk PA
- Saul Ewing LLP
- Whiteford Taylor & Preston LLP
- Zuckerman Spaeder LLP

We greatly appreciate the assistance of Gordon, Wolf & Carney, Chtd; Robbins, Geller, Rudman & Dowd LLP; and Cory L. Zajdel in the awarding of cy pres settlements to Maryland Legal Aid.

For more information regarding the Equal Justice Council or to make a contribution, contact Graham Cowger, Director of Development, at 410-951-7706 or gcowger@mdl原因.org. To donate online, please visit www.mdlab.org.

THANK YOU!

The list that follows reflects the generosity of donors in calendar year 2014.
*Law Firms of Distinction contributed a minimum of \$300 per attorney.

Premier Partner
\$50,000 to \$99,999
DLA Piper LLP (US)*
The Leonard and Helen R. Stulman Charitable Foundation

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The David & Barbara B. Hirschhorn Foundation, Inc.
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The Community Foundation of Frederick County
The Children and Family Legacy Fund, Community Foundation for the National Capital Region
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The Laverna Hahn Charitable Trust
Sayra & Neil Meyerhoff
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The George L. Shields Foundation, Inc.
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Shawe & Rosenthal, LLP
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Silverman, Thompson, Slutkin & White LLC
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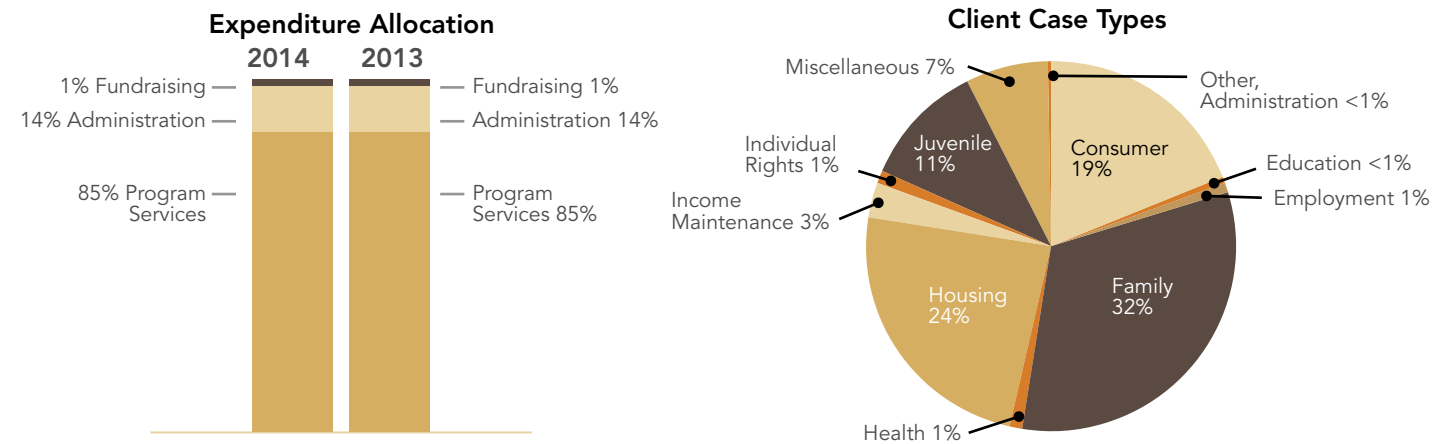


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	2014	2013
Operating Income	\$ 23,720,561	\$ 27,417,236
Operating Expenses	\$ 22,421,834	\$ 23,875,141
Net Assets, End of Year	\$18,549,501	\$18,445,820
The components of Net Assets at 12/31/2014 were: unrestricted \$12,911,858; temporarily restricted \$5,630,643; and permanently restricted \$7,000.		
Selected Sources of Funds	2014	2013
Federal; Federal/State/Local Partnerships		
Legal Services Corporation	\$3,774,704	3,725,631
Ryan White/HIV/AIDS Legal Assistance/Baltimore City	\$103,555	\$91,322
State		
Maryland Legal Services Corporation	\$10,707,049	10,497,107
Contract services regarding abused and neglected children, District Court Self-Help Center, domestic violence and child custody	\$6,148,418	9,276,446
Attorney General Foreclosure Settlement (administered by Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development)	\$1,119,214	1,373,400
Local	\$325,781	316,140
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Anne Arundel	\$22,000	22,000
Baltimore City	\$126,734	124,625
Baltimore	\$70,000	70,000
Harford	\$ 29,412	29,412
Howard	\$ 102,890	102,890
Prince George's	-	9,867
Circuit Court Pro Se Grants:		
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Cecil	\$ 25,000	25,000
Somerset	-	6,000
Private Donations:		
Contributions	\$ 529,414	769,806
Foundations	\$ 226,447	455,750
This report contains a summary of 2014 financial information. Complete audited financial statements are available from Maryland Legal Aid upon request.		

Served by County 2014

	Cases	Persons
Total	68,711	86,318
Allegany	715	1,238
Anne Arundel *	17,242	18,079
Baltimore City	15,416	21,267
Baltimore	5,480	6,722
Calvert	603	699
Caroline	345	669
Carroll	506	625
Cecil *	1,629	1,914
Charles	1,343	1,557
Dorchester	168	321
Frederick	1,685	2,368
Garrett	248	355
Harford	1,875	2,529
Howard	1,255	1,742
Kent	137	253
Montgomery	4,349	5,424
Prince George's	8,226	10,389
Queen Anne's	237	375
Somerset *	224	431
St. Mary's	851	993
Talbot	340	628
Washington	742	878
Wicomico	1,098	2,557
Worcester	273	526
Out-of-state	3,724	3,779

* Includes *pro se* litigants assisted through Maryland Legal Aid's courthouse *pro se* projects and the District Court Self-Help Resource Center in Anne Arundel County.



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500 East Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202



Advancing Human Rights & Justice For All: Maryland Legal Aid Office Locations

1 Anne Arundel County Office
229 Hanover St
Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 972-2700
(800) 666-8330
Anita Matyi Bailey,
Chief Attorney

2 Baltimore City Office
500 E. Lexington St
Baltimore, MD 21202
Telephone Intake Lines:
(410) 951-7750
(866) MD LAW 4U
(or 866-635-2948)
Business Line:
(410) 951-7777
(800) 999-8904
Cornelia Bright Gordon,
Chief Attorney,
Administrative Law
Joan Little,
Chief Attorney, Child Advocacy
Joseph V. Rohr,
Chief Attorney, Housing/Consumer
Bobbie G. Steyer,
Chief Attorney, Intake Services

3 Baltimore County Office
29 W. Susquehanna Ave
Ste 305
Towson, MD 21204
(410) 427-1800
(877) 878-5920
Ann M. Lembo, Chief Attorney

4 Lower Eastern Shore Office
Dorchester, Somerset,
Wicomico, Worcester
111 High St
Salisbury, MD 21801
(410) 546-5511
(800) 444-4099
Robert McCaig, Chief Attorney

5 Metropolitan Maryland Office
Howard, Prince George's
6811 Kenilworth Ave
Calvert Building, Ste 500
Riverdale, MD 20737
(301) 560-2100
(888) 215-5316
Blake Fetrow, Chief Attorney

6 Howard County Office
3451 Court House Dr
2nd Floor
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410) 480-1057
Blake Fetrow, Chief Attorney

7 Midwestern Maryland Office
Carroll, Frederick, Washington
22 S. Market St, Ste 11
Frederick, MD 21701
(301) 694-7414
(800) 679-8813
Nina Shore, Chief Attorney

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600 Jefferson Plaza
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Cecil, Harford
103 S. Hickory Ave
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15364 Prince Frederick Rd
P.O. Box 249
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Cynthia Fenimore, Chief Attorney

13 Glen Burnie
7500 Gov. Ritchie Highway
Room 206
Glen Burnie, MD 21061

14 Upper Marlboro
14735 Main St
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

**District Court Self-Help
Resource Centers**
(410) 260-1392
Sarah Coffey Frush, Chief Attorney
Annapolis (call center only)

Statewide Programs & Resources
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Legal Assistance Project**
(888) 213-3320
**Long-Term Care
Assistance Project**
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Maryland Senior Legal Helpline
(866) 635-2948
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(443) 863-4040
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