Life-Changing 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.

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.

EMPOWERING CITIZENS TO OVERCOME BARRIERS

HOUSING
HEALTHCARE
CHILD CUSTODY
EMPLOYMENT

MLA after COVID-19: A Look Ahead
While this report covers 2019, Maryland Legal Aid (MLA) has adjusted to the unique and complex circumstances presented during the COVID-19 public health crisis, which overshadowed the first half of 2020. During the past few months, while under the Governor’s Executive Order to shelter in place to limit the spread of COVID-19, MLA, designated an essential business, remained operational and fully committed to serving clients and those in need of civil legal assistance. MLA’s 12 statewide office locations continue to advocate on behalf of clients in order to protect their basic human rights to safe and affordable housing, access to medical care, freedom from domestic violence, rightfully earned wages, and more.

The devastating consequences of this crisis will especially impact Maryland’s most vulnerable residents. As businesses and other entities close or significantly decrease their services and jobs are lost, the need for free legal help continues to rise dramatically. MLA is working hard to shore up its resources to ensure that it is able to meet this need in both the near and long term. The continued support from MLA’s volunteers, pro bono attorneys, donors, and funders in the months ahead will be critical and truly appreciated.
106,846—the total number of Marylanders who received civil legal assistance from Maryland Legal Aid in 2019.

In Maryland’s 23 counties and in Baltimore City, MLA provides essential legal help to individuals and families with the mission to protect and advance their human rights to basic needs such as safe and affordable housing, access to medical care and food security, and protection from abusive relationships.

For vulnerable and marginalized Marylanders, obtaining equal access to the justice system can be extremely challenging. For the past 109 years, MLA has been committed to educating Marylanders about their rights in a variety of civil legal matters and providing free, civil legal services that lead to positive and oftentimes life-changing outcomes for clients.

This report features just a few examples of individuals who received life-changing legal assistance from MLA in 2019. Clients have been able to break cycles of poverty and abuse, remove barriers to finding employment, complete educations, and maintain stable homes for themselves and their children. None of these transformative outcomes would be possible without the multi-faceted contributions of time, talent, and treasure from MLA’s many supporters.

Your donations also help MLA’s Community Lawyering Initiative (CLI) expand its cutting-edge programming to provide critical civil legal services to clients in the neighborhoods in which they live and work. CLI now serves as a model for other legal aid programs around the country that are looking to replicate the program’s positive client outcomes and successful and varied community partnerships.

With the help of pro bono attorneys and other volunteers, CLI provides legal help to underserved communities in unconventional locations such as libraries, community centers, and places of worship, and empowers residents to overcome barriers to employment, housing, health care, child custody and more.

2020 will mark five years since CLI began with MLA’s signature Lawyer in the Library program. The program has grown from a single weekly clinic in a West Baltimore library to more than 300 clinics per year in a variety of settings that reach residents in every county in the state.

In 2019, the six Self-Help Resource Centers operated by The Maryland Center for Legal Assistance (MCLA)—MLA’s wholly-owned subsidiary—served more than 100,000 self-represented litigants, which is a record for MCLA since its establishment in 2017. MCLA’s success is made possible, in large part, by the Maryland Judiciary’s dedication to enhancing access to justice for all Marylanders and its significant funding for MCLA to manage and operate the Maryland Courts Self-Help Centers and District Courts Self-Help Resource Centers.

MLA is grateful for its passionate staff advocates, pro bono attorneys, donors, Board members, members of the Equal Justice Council and Equal Justice Associates, volunteers, and foundations and governmental funders—most notably the Maryland Legal Services Corporation and the federal Legal Services Corporation—and all of our community partners, for making it possible for 106,846 Marylanders to achieve equal access to justice in 2019.

Thank you for your continued and invaluable support.

Board President  Executive Director
MLA’s Community Lawyering Initiative was featured in the Legal Services Corporation’s Best Practices Corner newsletter and in Medium.com.

MLA’s Lawyer in the Library program expanded to Talbot County.

MLA provided brief civil legal advice and criminal record expungements during the “Naptown Anti-Dope Event” in Annapolis.

Paralegal Veronique Felix appeared on the Good 2 Know news show.

Senior Staff Attorney Louise Carwell received the Daily Record’s Leadership in Law Award.

The Daily Record ranked MLA Maryland’s 3rd Largest Law Firm

Pro Bono Program Director Julianne Tarver traveled to Washington, D.C. to present before the Department of Commerce.

Administrative Assistants Shareice Simpson and Vicki Johnson, along with Senior Paralegal Debbie Lewis Smith and Paralegal Shelly Smith, attended the 2019 Springfest Community Outreach event in West Baltimore.

Director of Advocacy for Family Law Bobbie Steyer (left), Women’s Law Center Executive Director Michelle Siri and Executive Director and former MLA director Denise McCain from the Prince George’s County Family Justice Center presented at the Partners for Justice Conference.

MLA welcomed its 2019 Summer Law Clerks

MLA welcomed SiriusXM talk show host Laura Coates, host of the Laura Coates Show, to broadcast live from MLA’s Baltimore City office.

Meaghan McDermott (center), Supervising Attorney and Project Director for MLA’s Community Lawyering Initiative, and Area Manager of Prince George’s County Memorial Library Melanie Townsend Diggs were guests on the Take it to the Streets radio show with host Bobby Galesy.
JUNE
MLA welcomed the 2019 Law Links students as summer interns.

MLA’s Equal Justice Council hosted its 22nd Annual EJC Breakfast in Baltimore City.

MLA was awarded $100,000 from the Abell Foundation to support its Lawyer in the Library program and partnership with Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Chief Attorney Joan Little from MLA’s Baltimore City Child Advocacy Unit prevailed in a Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) proceeding, which determined that judges must look beyond the parent-child bond in termination rulings.

Paralegal Jumel Howard received the Civic Advocate of the Year Award from The People’s Voice and the Howard County Citizens Association.

The Montgomery County government awarded a $40,000 grant to MLA to enhance access to legal services for low-income families through a medical-legal partnership with Cornerstone behavioral health services.

AUGUST
Staff Attorney Jamie Milliman and Chief Attorney Nancy McCaig showed their support for Opioid Awareness Month with Wicomico Goes Purple.

MLA’s Lawyer Do Good Work poster was selected for display in BWI Airport as part of BWI’s Community Partners program.

SEPTEMBER
MLA celebrated the grand opening of its relocated Southern Maryland office in Hughesville.

MLA’s Montgomery County office celebrated a few pro bono attorneys with a potluck meal and certificates of appreciation.

MLA clients presented their experiences working with civil legal advocates at MLA’s “Through Our Clients Eyes” training.

OCTOBER
MLA staff participated in the 2019 Baltimore Running Festival as the “Justice Joggers.”

NOVEMBER
MLA staff presented about MLA’s Community Lawyering Initiative at the National Legal Aid & Defender Association’s annual conference in Detroit.

DECEMBER
Chief Attorney Nina Shore was presented with the Maryland Legal Services Corporation’s Benjamin L. Cardin Distinguished Service Award.

Executive Director Wilhelm Joseph, Jr. played Santa Claus at the Bar Association for Baltimore City Holiday Party for Children Living in Shelters.
Ms. V. | Child Custody and Child Support

For years, Ms. V. endured physical abuse from her husband. She separated from him, but when he became violent toward their children, Ms. V. sought full custody and a divorce.

Before doing so, Ms. V. had previously filed for and received a protective order to protect herself and her children from her husband, which he violated. Even after he served time in jail for violating the order, Ms. V.’s husband continued to threaten Ms. V. and be abusive toward their children during visitation.

By the time Ms. V. came to Maryland Legal Aid’s Montgomery County office for help, Staff Attorneys Javaneh Pourkarim and Kim Lauer learned that the discovery period was closed and incomplete, and that Ms. V.’s trial was less than two months away.

The two MLA attorneys quickly began preparing for trial by issuing key subpoenas, speaking with witnesses, and preparing Ms. V. for trial.

Ms. V. was granted a divorce, and after a two-day trial, the Judge awarded Ms. V. full legal and physical custody of her children. In addition, Ms. V.’s former husband was ordered to undergo a full mental evaluation prior to having any visitation with their children. Attorneys Pourkarim and Lauer were also able to increase child support for Ms. V. and her children by $600 per month.

Mr. P. | Veterans’ Assistance

Two brain aneurysms and a stroke left Mr. P., a disabled veteran, without the use of one of his arms and one of his legs. He was unable to work and was dependent on monthly alimony payments from his ex-wife who had been ordered to pay him alimony when they divorced more than 15 years ago. Six years ago, Mr. P.’s ex-wife stopped making monthly payments and refused to speak to him. He tried to file a Motion for Contempt twice on his own, but was unable to serve his ex-wife and his pleadings were eventually dismissed. “Before I got help, I was in bad shape,” shared Mr. P. “I tried to do it on my own by going to court and trying to fill out the papers, but I didn’t know what to do or how to do it. I really needed help.”

Through MLA’s Joining Forces Veterans’ Hotline, Mr. P. received extended representation from Staff Attorney Cheryl Chado, who filed a Petition for Contempt on behalf of Mr. P. The petition was granted, and the $7,000 arrears that Mr. P.’s ex-wife owed were entered as a judgment. The court also ordered that ongoing alimony be automatically garnished from the ex-wife’s paycheck. Attorney Chado then filed a wage garnishment request to collect on the judgment. The judgment was satisfied in May 2019. “Before your help, I was going to soup kitchens and food banks every week,” said Mr. P. “The money [from the judgment] helped me pay utility bills and buy groceries. Without you, I would have never made it this far.”
Ms. W. was facing termination of her housing assistance voucher by the Howard County Housing Authority. Ms. W. was a victim of domestic violence, and the Housing Authority alleged that they were terminating her voucher because her former abusive partner was living with her without authorization. Ms. W.’s abuser, as a means to control her, confirmed these allegations.

Ms. W. appealed the voucher termination and tried to represent herself at the administrative hearing, but was unsuccessful. Since her voucher was terminated and she could no longer afford to pay rent, Ms. W. found herself on the verge of being evicted.

Staff Attorney LeighAnn Rosenberg from MLA’s Metropolitan Maryland office filed an emergency motion to postpone, which gave MLA time to fight the improper eviction. MLA presented the Housing Authority with the possibility of MLA filing a lawsuit for violation of the Federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), which protects women like Ms. W. from eviction or termination of assistance based on being a victim of abuse by a domestic partner.

Attorney Rosenberg’s efforts led to the Housing Authority making retroactive rental payments to Ms. W.’s landlord and reissuing Ms. W.’s voucher.
The Court ruled against the landlord and canceled the eviction scheduled for the next day.

Ms. F. | Rent Court Extended Representation Project

Under the Rent Court Extended Representation Project funded by the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, Staff Attorney Douglas Nivens assisted Ms. F. when her landlord threatened to evict her for Failure to Pay Rent.

Prior to moving into her apartment, Ms. F. lived in a shelter. To help Ms. F. transition into a stable home, the shelter paid the first month’s rent and the security deposit to the landlord on Ms. F.’s behalf. The landlord believed that he could collect three months of rent for the security deposit, and so immediately after Ms. F. moved into her apartment, the landlord asked her for more rent. When Ms. F. paid the extra rent, instead of applying Ms. F.’s additional payments toward her monthly rent payments, the landlord inaccurately and unlawfully applied it toward the security deposit.

Alleging that he had not received July’s rent payment, the landlord filed a Failure to Pay rent case against Ms. F. The landlord received default judgments in July and August 2019 and filed a warrant of restitution for July’s judgment to have Ms. F. removed from her apartment. Ms. F. didn’t receive her notice of her impending eviction until the landlord handed her a copy of the warrant. The landlord subsequently filed Failure to Pay Rent cases in August and in September.

After an initial review of the case, Attorney Nivens determined that Ms. F. had overpaid her security deposit and the landlord filed the July warrant of restitution using the wrong apartment number. Douglas prepared a motion to vacate the judgment, quash the warrant, and cancel the eviction, arguing that Ms. F. paid her rent and the warrant was incorrectly addressed. During Ms. F.’s direct examination, Douglas presented an alternative ledger, which he formulated by using the landlord’s receipts, Ms. F.’s rent receipts, and Failure to Pay Rent complaints.

The alternative ledger showed the excessive security deposit and rent payments that Ms. F. made. The Court determined that the landlord’s calculations, ledger, and understanding of the law were incorrect and that Ms. F. paid her rent on time for July and August and overpaid the security deposit. The Court ruled against the landlord, and canceled the eviction scheduled for the next day. Ms. F. was grateful to have the matter resolved and to be able to remain in her home.
Ms. C. | Housing and Criminal Record Expungement

Ms. C. was determined to start a new chapter in her life and was preparing to enroll in a nursing program at a local community college. She came to MLA’s Midwestern Maryland office in June 2019 for help after she was denied housing by the Housing Authority of the City of Frederick because of her criminal background.

Although Ms. C. had three items on her criminal record that were eligible for expungement, two items remained ineligible. Staff Attorney Seana Reichold, who worked under a grant to expunge clients’ criminal records, prepared petitions and motions, conducted research, and asked the court to give an Early Expungement, citing Ms. C.’s barrier to housing.

Attorney Reichold worked with Supervising Attorney Sunny Desai to represent Ms. C. at her hearing. The court granted Ms. C. an early expungement and the last two items on her criminal record were expunged early.

At Ms. C.’s hearing to appeal her denial by the Housing Authority, MLA provided papers from the court showing that each item on Ms. C.’s criminal record was in the process of being expunged. Attorney Reichold also testified that Ms. C. had turned her life around and was set to study nursing at a local community college. The Housing Authority granted Ms. C. housing, which created stability for her to continue down a successful path to a new career.

The Housing Authority granted Ms. C. housing, which created stability for her to continue down a successful path to a new career.
Ms. S. | Landlord-Tenant

When Ms. S.’s landlord presented her with an outstanding water bill that totaled more than $6,000, she was able to pay $2,100 of the bill, to which her landlord agreed. Unbeknownst to Ms. S., her landlord continued to pursue legal action for the remaining water bill balance. Ms. S. was given no notice that she was expected to attend a court hearing, because the landlord had told her that the issue had been resolved. When Ms. S. received notice of a court appearance, she came to MLA’s Baltimore City office for help, where Staff Attorney Theda Saffo guided her through the legal process. “Attorney Saffo stepped in and presented all the paperwork to the judge and showed him that my landlord was wrong,” shared Ms. S. “I knew she was in my corner.” With MLA’s assistance, Ms. S. avoided a default judgment.

“Attorney Saffo stepped in and presented all the paperwork to the judge and showed him that my landlord was wrong,” shared Ms. S. “I knew she was in my corner.”

Fighting Housing Discrimination and Poor Living Conditions

In May 2019, MLA entered its appearance as co-counsel with the Annapolis-based law firm of Wise & Donahue on a federal civil rights lawsuit against the City of Annapolis and the Housing Authority of the City of Annapolis (HACA). The lawsuit claims the City of Annapolis and HACA violated the civil rights of more than 1,600 residents of public housing in Annapolis, a majority of whom are African American. Supervising Attorney Lisa Sarro from MLA’s Anne Arundel County office shared, “We want historical wrongs to be put on the path to being corrected... This is not something that just happened over the last few years of the buildings becoming dilapidated. This is a result of, really, decades of neglect.”
2019 MCLA Update

The Maryland Center for Legal Assistance (MCLA) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of MLA. Through a contract with the Administrative Office of the Courts, MCLA operates the District Court Self-Help Resource Centers in Baltimore City, Catonsville, Glen Burnie, Salisbury, and Upper Marlboro, and the Maryland Courts Self-Help Centers in Frederick and Annapolis (call center). The District Court Self-Help Resource Centers are walk-in facilities that assist with civil matters, including landlord-tenant, small claims, debt collection, and protective orders. In addition, the Maryland Courts Self-Help Centers assist with a broad range of issues including custody, divorce, and expungement of criminal records via telephone, live chat, and the walk-in center in Frederick.

Venable Attorney and Loaned Associate
Stephen Salsbury

Venable's Loaned Associates Program

Since 2016, Venable LLP and MLA have engaged in a unique partnership through Venable’s Loaned Associates Program. Through this program, Venable associates work for six months at a time at MLA. This significant support means that MLA and its clients benefit from the work of experienced lawyers at no cost, as Venable covers their salaries. In turn, the associates have opportunities to enhance their litigation skills, manage their own cases, and take the lead with client interactions.

"I have learned a great deal about the current housing crisis as well as a number of other key housing and consumer issues that residents in Baltimore City face," shared Attorney Salsbury. "I've worked alongside MLA attorneys as they advocate for clients, particularly in Baltimore City's Rent Court, and I am incredibly grateful for their patience and wisdom in providing me an opportunity to learn from them and for their tireless commitment to their work."

Community Lawyering Staff Attorney
Charlotte Ahearn

MLA’s Community Lawyering Initiative

MLA’s Community Lawyering Initiative brings life-changing legal assistance directly to underserved neighborhoods. The concept for the Initiative began in 2015 when MLA launched a weekly Lawyer in the Library program at the Enoch Pratt Free Library’s Pennsylvania Avenue Branch following the civil unrest in Baltimore. As awareness of the program increased and the need for civil legal services and criminal record expungements became more apparent, MLA answered the demand for services by designating staff and recruiting pro bono attorneys, paralegals, and law students to help serve clients through the Initiative.

MLA’s Community Lawyering Initiative includes a number of weekly and monthly legal and expungement clinics coordinated and hosted in partnership with community organizations from around the state, as well as an expansion of the Lawyer in the Library program to other library locations throughout Maryland. In 2019, the Initiative opened approximately 2,000 new cases statewide.
MLA’s Pro Bono Program

MLA’s Pro Bono Program provides attorneys with opportunities to learn new areas of law through trainings, legal clinics, participation in MLA’s task forces on substantive areas of law, and mentorship. Attorneys who participate in MLA’s Pro Bono Program are covered under MLA’s malpractice insurance when handling MLA cases.

Coats and Clinics

In December 2019, MLA partnered with Soles4Souls, Macy’s and local community organizations to distribute 2,300 new coats to adults and children in need. At “Coats and Clinics” events in Annapolis (Anne Arundel County), Baltimore City, Clifton (Charles County), and Hagerstown (Washington County), financially eligible adults also received free help to resolve their civil legal issues and expunge their criminal records.
MLA’s Equal Justice Council (EJC) actively promotes equal access to justice for Maryland’s most economically disadvantaged and vulnerable residents by increasing and diversifying MLA’s resources, financial and otherwise, and serving as ambassadors on behalf of MLA. The EJC is composed of managing attorneys from Maryland’s top law firms and other prominent members of the Maryland Bar and corporate community.

EJC 22nd Annual Equal Justice Awards Breakfast

The EJC held its 22nd Annual Equal Justice Awards Breakfast at Camden Yards on June 4, 2019 and heard keynote remarks from House Speaker Adrienne A. Jones from the Maryland House of Delegates.

Community Partners for Justice Awards
- Chrysalis House
- EMPLOY Prince George’s
- Gallagher Evelius & Jones LLP
- Men and Families Center

Champion of Justice Award
- Robert Manekin, JLL

Executive Director’s Award
- Jessica A. duHoffmann, Esq.
Equal Justice Associates (Continued)

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Inna Loring
Cristine Lovetro
Yong Lu
David Luby
Devin Luqman
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Richard Lyon
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Flavie Williams
Scott Williams
Alicia Wilson
Wynde Winston
Sarah Witri
Wendy Woloack
Caylin Young
Matthew Zernheit
Jennifer Zohorsky

Left to right: Darryl Tarver, Esq., DLA Piper and Chair of the Equal Justice Associates; Ashley Cheatham, Director of Marketing & Communications, Maryland Legal Aid; Julianne Tarver, Esq., Pro Bono Director, Maryland Legal Aid; Megan Burnett, Esq., Miles & Stockbridge P.C. and Equal Justice Associates member

Equal Justice Associates
MLA’s Equal Justice Associates (EJA) is a group of attorneys under the age of 40 that support MLA’s mission of providing equal access to civil legal assistance for low-income Marylanders through pro bono service and fundraising. In addition to organizing pro bono service opportunities, fundraising activities, and social networking events, EJA members also receive high-quality training and mentoring from MLA attorneys in a variety of practice areas.

EJA 2019 Campaign Kickoff Reception
The EJA held its 2019 Campaign Kickoff Reception on September 26 at the Center Club in Baltimore City. The EJA sold more than 100 tickets to the event, which raised nearly $11,000 for MLA. Former MLA client and Board member Shalita O’Neale and retired Chief Judge Robert M. Bell were the keynote speakers.

Equal Justice Associates Leadership
Chair: Darryl L. Tarver, Esq.
Vice Chair: Ernie Dominguez, Esq.
Secretary: Aaron DeGraffenreidt, Esq.
Treasurer: Alicia Shelton, Esq.
Pro Bono Chair: Joanna Diamond, Esq.
Member-At-Large: Megan E. Davis, Esq.
Ways you can help make a difference

Your tax-deductible donation ensures access to justice for Marylanders in crisis who would otherwise have nowhere to turn.

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Visit www.mdlab.org to make a one-time gift online.

MONTHLY GIVING
Monthly donations make it easy to support access to justice.
Visit www.mdlab.org to set up monthly donations.

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Join a community of generous supporters who invest in equal access to justice by donating $1,000 or more each year.

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Development Unit
500 E. Lexington Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

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• DTC #: 0164
• Account #: 78352614

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Double your gift’s impact! Check with your employer to see if it matches charitable contributions.

WORKPLACE GIVING CAMPAIGNS
Use the following campaign designation numbers:
• United Way: 54
• Maryland Charity Campaign: 520591621
• Combined Federal Campaign: 15735

PLANNED GIFTS/BEQUESTS
Leave a Legacy for Justice by including Maryland Legal Aid in your will or estate plan. All it takes is a quick call to your lawyer to add a charitable gift to your will.

EQUAL JUSTICE COUNCIL CAMPAIGN
Each year, EJC members raise funds from lawyers and law firms across Maryland. Organize a campaign in your law firm or company this year.

EQUAL JUSTICE ASSOCIATES
The EJA is a dynamic group of young attorneys who raise funds and awareness to support Maryland Legal Aid’s mission. Visit www.mdlab.org/ways-to-give/equal-justice-associates for more info.

If you plan to make a bequest, gift of stock, or have any other questions about supporting Maryland Legal Aid, please contact Director of Development Graham Cowger at (410) 951-7706 or gcowger@mdlab.org.
Thanks to our donors and pro bono attorneys for making the following outcomes possible in 2019:

- 14,465 criminal record expungements were performed
- 1,563 People avoided eviction or foreclosure
- 106,846 people benefitted from MLA’s services in 2019
- 144 People obtained critical medical benefits
- 7,442 Abused and neglected children were represented
- 2,300 Coats were distributed to families in need at “Coats and Clinics” events
- 175 Pro bono attorneys provided legal assistance to clients

Ms. V., a mother of three, was awarded full legal and physical custody with increased child support.

Mr. P. a disabled veteran, began receiving court-ordered, automatically garnished, alimony from his ex-wife.

Staff Attorney Theda Saffo helped Ms. W. when her landlord tried to force her to pay an outstanding water bill that equaled more than $6,000.

Staff Attorney LeighAnn Rosenberg successfully litigated to have a Howard County client’s housing voucher reinstated.
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*Law firms of Distinction contributed a minimum of $300 per attorney.*

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- Brian P. Hochheimer & Madison Wax
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Maryland Legal Aid (MLA) is a private, non-profit law firm that provides free, civil legal services to low-income individuals in Baltimore City and Maryland’s 23 counties from 12 offices. The firm provides life-changing legal help to clients by handling cases that involve a wide range of issues, including family, housing, government benefits, healthcare, employment, and consumer law. MLA also represents children in CINA (Child in Need of Assistance) proceedings in 14 jurisdictions. Other vulnerable populations, such as homeowners facing foreclosure, migrant and seasonal farm workers, people with developmental and mental health disabilities, nursing home and assisted living residents, people with expungeable criminal records and veterans seeking benefits and assistance with related legal issues, also receive representation through special projects.

MLA provides free civil legal assistance for clients for a variety of issues, such as:

- **Family 40%**
  - Maintaining custody of children and obtaining, preserving, or increasing child support
  - Obtaining protection against domestic violence
  - Acquiring critical health care

- **Child in Need of Assistance (CINA) 20%**
  - Representing abused and neglected children
  - Securing educational services

- **Housing 14%**
  - Fighting unlawful evictions
  - Advocating for improvement of substandard housing
  - Preventing foreclosures or mitigating their effects

- **Employment 10%**
  - Recovering unpaid wages
  - Obtaining unemployment benefits
  - Expunging criminal records to remove barriers to obtaining housing, employment, child custody, and a driver’s license

- **Income Maintenance 4%**
  - Obtaining disability and other income assistance

- **Consumer/Finance 7%**
  - Remedyng fraudulent sales practices and predatory contracts
  - Restoring utilities
  - Dealing with debts and debt collectors

- **Individual Rights 1%**
- **Health 1%**
- **Misc 2%**

- **Education**
- **Juvenile**
- **Wills/Powers of Attorney/Trusts**

Each less than 1%
2019 Financial Report

INCOME $30,200,027 $29,779,083
EXPENSES $27,360,136 $29,165,576
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR $25,557,849 $22,717,958

Unrestricted funds: $15,329,636. Restricted funds: $7,388,322

SELECTED FUNDING RECEIVED

Federal:
Legal Services Corporation $4,959,359 $4,320,860
Legal Services Corporation – Pro Bono Innovation Fund $53,656 —
Baltimore City Community Development Block Grant $75,000 —
Legal Assistance to Victims Grant (OVW) $193,851 $203,293
Montgomery County Community Development Block Grant $1,728 —
Prince George’s County - Community Development Block Grant $48,510 $53,431
Prince George’s County - Family Justice Center (VAWA) $18,000 $17,425
Prince George’s County - Family Justice Center (VOCA) $120,000 $132,625
Ryan White / HIV / AIDS Legal Assistance $113,488 $137,461
Tahirih Justice Center – Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV) $23,670 $14,967

State:
Violence Against Women’s Act (VAWA) $23,670 $14,967
Violence Against Women’s Act (VAWA)-Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) $361,570 $335,280

Title III-B/Elderly Assistance: Prince George’s County – Family Justice Center $120,000 $132,625
Violence Against Women’s Act (VAWA) $45,000 —
Ryan White / HIV / AIDS Legal Assistance $113,488 $137,461

County:
Anne Arundel $336,808 $298,896

Private Donations:
Contributions $901,039 $437,355
Foundations $307,000 $212,300

Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization that provides free civil legal services to low-income people in every Maryland county. A copy of our current financial statement is available upon request by calling our Office of the Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401, for the cost of copying and mailing.

This report contains a summary of 2019 financial information and selected funding sources. Complete audited financial statements are available from MLA upon request.
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1 Anne Arundel County
229 Hanover Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 972-2700
(800) 666-8330

2 Baltimore City
500 E. Lexington Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
Telephone Intake:
(410) 951-7750
866-635-2948
Business Line:
(410) 951-7777
(800) 999-8904

3 Baltimore County
215 Washington Avenue
Suite 305
Towson, MD 21204
(410) 427-1800
(877) 878-5920

4 Lower Eastern Shore
Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester
201 E. Main Street
Salisbury, MD 21801
(410) 546-5511
(800) 444-4099

5 Metropolitan Maryland
Howard, Prince George’s
8401 Corporate Drive
Suite 200
Landover, MD 20785
(301) 562-2100
(888) 215-5316

6 Howard County
3451 Court House Drive
2nd Floor
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410) 480-1057

7 Midwestern Maryland
Carroll, Frederick, Washington
22 S. Market Street
Suite 11
Frederick, MD 21701
(301) 694-7414
(800) 679-9813

8 Montgomery County
600 Jefferson Plaza
Suite 430
Rockville, MD 20852
(240) 314-0373
(855) 880-9487

9 Northeastern Maryland
Cecil, Harford
103 S. Hickory Avenue
Bel Air, MD 21014
(410) 856-8202
(800) 444-9529

10 Southern Maryland
Calvert, Charles, St. Mary’s
15045 Burnt Store Road
P.O. Box 249
Hughesville, MD 20637
(301) 932-6661
(877) 310-1810

11 Upper Eastern Shore
Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne’s, Talbot
106 Washington Street
Suite 101
Easton, MD 21601
(410) 763-9676
(800) 477-2543

12 Western Maryland
 Allegany, Garrett
110 Greene Street
Cumberland, MD 21502
(301) 777-7474
(866) 389-5243

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Community Lawyer Success Initiative
(443) 451-2805
Farmworker Program
(800) 444-4099
Foreclosure Legal Assistance Project
(888) 213-3320
Long-Term Care Assistance Project
(866) 635-2948
Maryland Senior Legal Helpline
(866) 635-2948
Veterans’ Hotline
(443) 863-4040
TTY Users: Call Maryland Relay, Dial 7-1-1