

MORE THAN JUST A NUMBER

LEGAL AID OF WESTERN MISSOURI IN 2021



**2021 was a lot. We started
off so hopeful. And once
again, COVID-19 made it a
very difficult year.**

**But despite all of the
challenges, THANKS TO
YOUR SUPPORT, we were
able to show up for those
who needed us most.**

**Our 63 attorneys, 35
paralegals, 10 legal
secretaries, and 20 admin
staff provided free civil
legal services to 12,297
children and adults in
our community.**

(THAT'S JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG!)



**In 2021, we helped 1,275
survivors of domestic
violence escape abusive
partners or situations.**

**We assisted another
1,580 with housing issues,
385 with consumer cases,
and a couple hundred more
with health care cases.**

**No one should
lose their home,
their health care,
or their safety
because they can't
pay for a lawyer.**

**32% of our clients were
Black, 53% were White,
7% were Latino, and 41%
were elderly and/or living
with a disability.**

**100% were in crisis or
experiencing poverty.**

(THIS IS ONLY PART OF THE STORY.)



**Statistics and demographic
information quantify need.
And they justify funding.**

(THEY ARE PRETTY USEFUL.)

But behind each of those numbers is one of your neighbors — a neighbor with a story of hardship, a will to persevere, and a Legal Aid advocate who helped them get justice.

**Just because
you can't afford
an attorney
doesn't mean
you shouldn't
have one.**

www.lawmo.org

**JUSTICE
HAS TO COME
FROM SOMEWHERE
STAND FOR
SOMETHING
AND HAVE A
STORY TO TELL**





LEGAL AID OF WESTERN MISSOURI 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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LEGAL AID OF WESTERN MISSOURI has improved the lives of those in need through quality legal assistance since 1964. Legal Aid provides free civil (non-criminal) legal assistance to people who need it most and can afford it least. With offices in Kansas City, Joplin, St. Joseph, and Warrensburg, Legal Aid serves a 40-county area where more than 300,000 people live in poverty.

Throughout our report we use pseudonyms and stock photos to protect client confidentiality.

LAWMO.ORG





Justice for Helene

We all have that one friend who is ready and willing to lend a helping hand. That's Helene. Helene is 79 years old and cares for her adult disabled son.

Helene contacted Legal Aid because the Family Support Division (FSD) rejected her food stamp application due to a finding that her available resources exceeded the maximum.

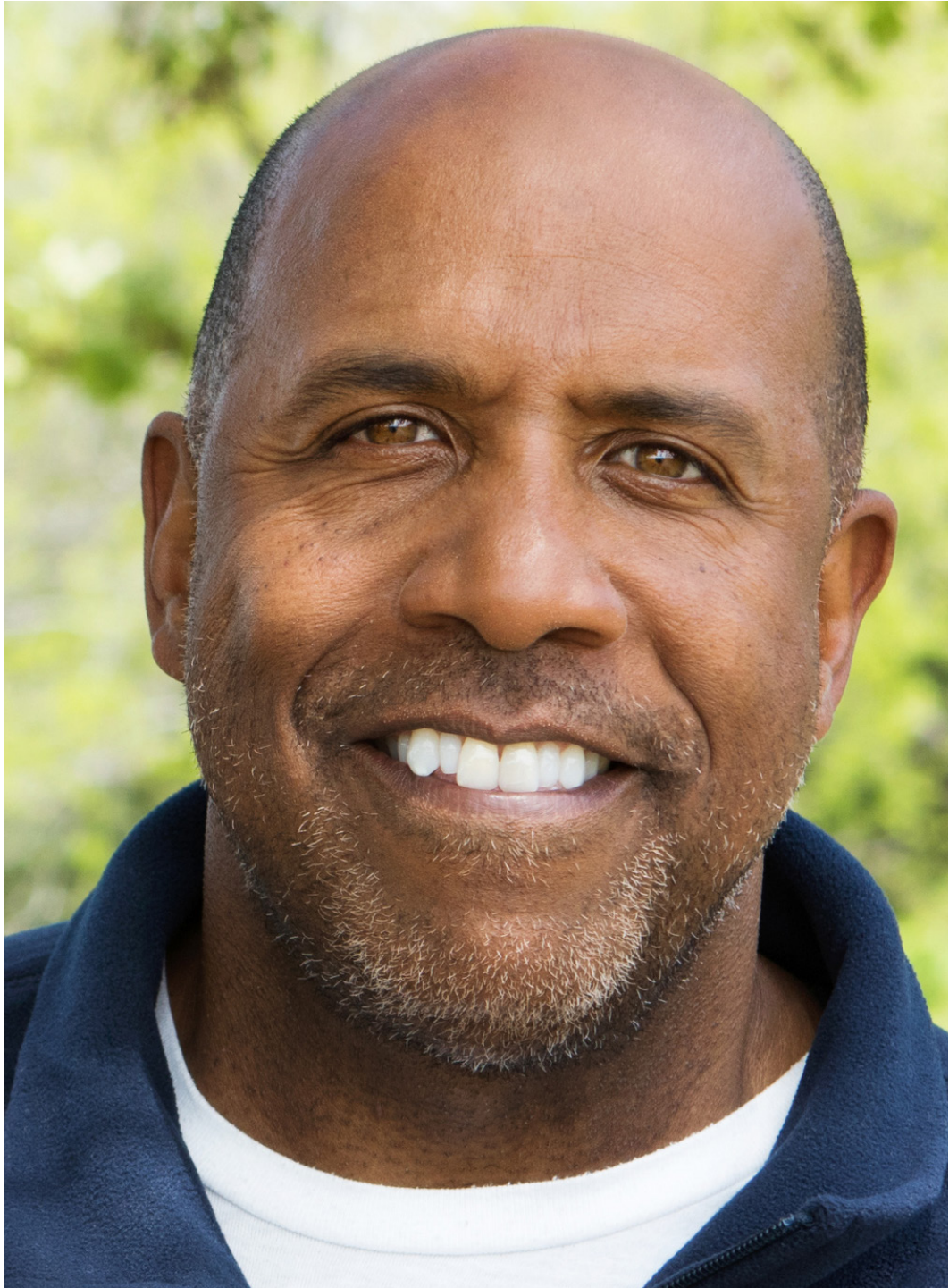
Helene owns a home, but while she was out of town caring for a relative, the pipes burst and flooded most of her house. The family couldn't afford the repairs, so Helene and her son moved in with Helene's daughter.

Helene told the FSD that she could not live in her home because of the water damage. Instead of allowing Helene to prove the diminished value, the Division counted the total assessed value as the home's market value and used that to reject her food stamp application. Helene's paralegal submitted documentation about the water damage to the FSD and argued that the home had no market value. The agency agreed and did not pursue a hearing.

The FSD issued retroactive food stamp benefits to Helene for two months. Her monthly food stamp allotment started in December.



**A HARDWORKING LEGAL AID PARALEGAL HELPED
HELENE OBTAIN MUCH-NEEDED FOOD STAMPS.**



Justice for Steve

Steve, his wife, and their children lived in a rented house before the COVID-19 pandemic. When the pandemic hit, Steve and his wife both lost their jobs. Like so many families in this situation, they did their best to keep up. But with no income coming in, they got behind on their rent.

Their landlord eventually filed in court for an eviction, but the CDC moratorium prevented evictions based on non-payment of rent of qualifying tenants. Steve contacted Legal Aid for help in getting protected by the moratorium. The landlord filed a case based only on rent as both a rent and possession and an unlawful detainer case. The unlawful detainer could have proceeded during the moratorium.

Legal Aid successfully argued that this case was only based on rent and should be stalled by the moratorium, despite numerous attempts by the landlord to demand a trial be held during the moratorium. As the moratorium ended,

Legal Aid was able to partner with the United Way to settle the entirety of Steve's past due rent from September 2020 to August 2021. Steve and his family used this time to find a new place to live and stay safely housed through the pandemic.

 **STEVE AND HIS FAMILY AVOIDED EVICTION AND SAFELY REMAINED IN THEIR HOME THROUGHOUT THE PANDEMIC.**



Justice for Anita

Anita had worked retail and restaurant jobs her entire life. When she reached full retirement age, she began receiving her Social Security benefits. She could not live off of her retirement benefit alone, so she continued to work part-time at a local department store.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Anita's doctor told her she should not be working and interacting with the public because she was at high risk due to pre-existing health conditions. Anita applied for unemployment benefits. She was initially approved, but it was later determined Anita quit her job due to health concerns. Anita's unemployment benefits stopped, and she also had a significant overpayment.

Anita reached out to Legal Aid. An attorney suggested she apply for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) because she met the qualification of someone who "can't reach your place of employment because your health care provider advised you to self-quarantine due to COVID-19."

Anita's application for PUA was approved, and she began receiving unemployment benefits again. Anita's attorney then worked with DES to quickly resolve the overpayment by making sure her past benefits shifted to the PUA program.



**THANKS TO HELP FROM HER LEGAL AID ATTORNEY,
ANITA HAS THE INCOME SHE NEEDS TO SURVIVE.**

YOUR 2021 IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Last year, Legal Aid staff provided free civil legal services to 12,297 children and adults in our community. We fought for benefits to ensure that seniors, those with disabilities, and folks who lost their jobs got the income they needed to survive. We put domestic violence survivors on a path to safety and self-sufficiency. We removed legal barriers to health care access. We fought to maintain housing so families could stay in their communities and thrive. And we lifted the burden of debt for consumers defrauded by unscrupulous businesses and individuals. **Please keep in mind that these aren't just statistics. Behind each of these numbers is a friend, a neighbor, or a coworker who experienced severe, life-altering civil legal problems.**

2021 CLOSED CASES

 **1,580**
HOUSING/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CONSUMER/TAXES
 **385**

164 
IMMIGRATION/
HUMAN RIGHTS

228 
ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

PUBLIC BENEFITS/
INCOME MAINTENANCE
662

3,720* 
MUNICIPAL COURT CASES

2,148 
FAMILY LAW/DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

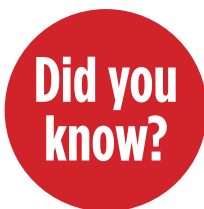
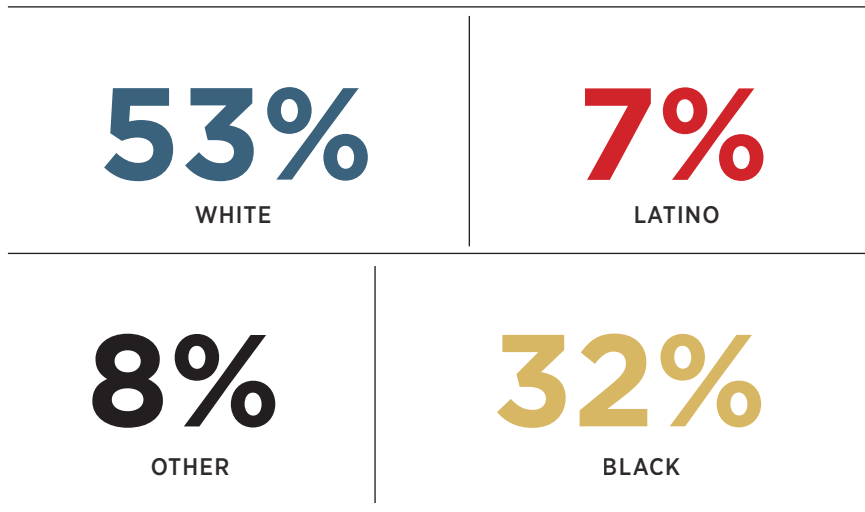
102
EDUCATION/MISC

*Municipal cases may have multiple charges.

2021 CIVIL CASES CLOSED BY OFFICE

JOPLIN	728
KANSAS CITY - CENTRAL OFFICE	3,665
KANSAS CITY - WEST OFFICE	137
ST. JOSEPH	264
WARRENSBURG	475
TOTAL CIVIL CASES CLOSED	5,269
TOTAL KCMO MUNICIPAL COURT CASES	3,720
TOTAL 2021 CLOSED CASES	8,989

2021 CLIENT DIVERSITY



Because of a lack of funding, we are forced to turn away more than half of the applicants who qualify for our free legal services. This is the hardest part of our job...not being able to assist everyone who needs our help.

A close-up photograph of a woman with dark hair and glasses, wearing a red jacket, smiling warmly while holding a baby. The baby has light hair and blue eyes, and is looking off to the side with its hand near its mouth. The background is filled with out-of-focus yellow autumn leaves.

“Leaving my abuser proved to be the hardest thing I’ve ever done. Without you, I would have given up and gone back.”

A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As a new Executive Director, it has been a true pleasure to humbly step into this role knowing that Legal Aid of Western Missouri is a nonprofit law firm and organization of the highest caliber.

In a world that seems to be overcome with endless challenges and despair, I walk our halls and see attorneys, paralegals, and support staff who are warriors for hope, on the side of good. They treat our clients with respect and dignity; they stand up in the face of injustice and systemic racism; they are the voices that speak out for clients who are frequently treated by our society as invisible or even worthless.

And let's talk about our clients. These are some of the most resilient people that you will ever meet. In the face of trauma, of mental health challenges, of physical disability, they persevere. They refuse to give up. They are grateful for someone taking the time to listen to their voices and advocate on their behalf.

We live in a world that is full of pontificating, full of wringing hands, full of lament. That is not what our people do. Our people—and to clarify, our people are our advocates, support staff, clients, leaders, donors, board members, and volunteers—and they don't pontificate; instead, they act. Every day, they get out of bed and make the conscious decision to support something good. They support something that will make the difference in the life of someone who is treated as "less than" in our world. They support justice with the realization that the only way there can be justice is if every member of our society with a meritorious case is able to actually access justice.

Justice without access is simply a word. And that is not what we are doing here. We aren't just using words. We are working. We are advocating for our

clients in courts and administrative hearings. We are hoping and fighting for decisions, for results that show our clients that the justice system is working.

Thank you for taking action with us. Thank you for supporting us in this work. We are so appreciative.



Alicia M. Johnson

CORE PRACTICE AREAS

Consumer: Legal Aid advises and represents low-income clients, particularly seniors living on Social Security, in various consumer issues. These include personal property taxes, unfair and deceptive acts and practices, auto fraud, debt collection practices, and other consumer issues.

Legal Aid's **Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic** assists low-income taxpayers in controversies with the IRS and the Missouri Department of Revenue. This work includes getting taxpayers into filing compliance, settling balances, preventing collections, and litigating in Tax Court.

Legal Aid also deals directly with home loan servicers to pursue foreclosure prevention options. Additionally, through Chapter 13 bankruptcies and other litigation, Legal Aid can stop foreclosure sales and help homeowners catch up on their payments.

Economic Development: Legal Aid's Economic Development Unit represents nonprofit community organizations in neighborhood improvement activities, including creating and preserving low-income housing in Kansas City.

Attorneys provide legal assistance to neighborhood associations seeking to remedy vacant and blighted homes, to nonprofit social service providers helping low-income residents, to community development corporations seeking to rehabilitate and develop residential units in their neighborhoods, and to low-income individuals seeking to cure their homes' title issues.

Legal services include property acquisition, financing, title clearance, real estate closing and syndication, tax abatement, zoning, applications for tax exemption, nonprofit formation, and contracts with service providers.

Family Law/Domestic Violence Protection: For more than 30 years, Legal Aid's largest practice area has been domestic violence intervention. Legal Aid's experienced Family Law advocates help ensure lasting safety for survivors of domestic violence and their children. We provide legal representation to low-income survivors of abuse by securing orders of protection, establishing paternity, obtaining divorces, and establishing child custody and child support orders. Due to our limited resources, our Family Law attorneys can only accept family law cases that involve domestic violence, and priority is given to those in which children are at risk.

Effective legal representation, combined with our ability to refer clients to other community resources for assistance with non-legal matters, has proven to be one of the most effective means of enabling our clients and their children to escape abusive relationships. Domestic violence survivors can achieve physical safety and financial security with Legal Aid's assistance. As a result, survivors are more likely to permanently leave their abusers and have the personal and financial capacity to establish an independent life free from abuse.

Federal Benefits: Legal Aid assists clients with federal benefit claims. Staff represents clients in administrative hearings and in court to ensure they receive the public benefits to which they are entitled. Typical benefit claims involve Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, and Medicare.

Healthcare/State Benefits: Legal Aid represents people who experience problems with state-administered public assistance programs. These programs include MO HealthNet for the Aged, Blind and Disabled (Medicaid); Medicaid

Spend Down; Medicaid Expansion; Qualified Medicare Beneficiary; Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary; Temporary Assistance; SNAP (food stamps); childcare assistance; Blind Pension; Supplemental Aid to the Blind; home and community-based services; unemployment benefits; and others. We provide representation to individual clients at administrative hearings and in negotiations with state agencies. We offer advice and counsel to clients regarding eligibility requirements for public benefits programs. When appropriate, we appeal unfavorable decisions to the Missouri Circuit Court.

We also assist families, children, and pregnant women obtain and maintain Medicaid coverage. We perform outreach (virtual and in-person) to educate the community. Our work improves the quality of life through increased access to and understanding of healthcare, food assistance, and income support programs.

Rental Housing Assistance: Housing advocates assist those in public housing, federally subsidized housing, and private housing. We provide advice or representation to help clients avoid unlawful evictions, coordinate rental assistance, penalize illegal conduct by landlords, and recover wrongfully withheld security deposits. We help residents when there is a widespread problem in a housing development to correct the problem for all the tenants, not just one individual or family.

Public and federally subsidized housing are critical to families with extremely low incomes. Legal Aid is the attorney for the Public Housing Resident Council of the Housing Authority of Kansas City. We regularly provide advice or represent clients at administrative meetings and grievance hearings to ensure their rights

are protected if they are denied tenancy or threatened with a lease or voucher termination. We prioritize representing individuals with disabilities to ensure that they are not discriminated against in their pursuit to reside in inclusive housing. We request reasonable accommodations for our clients and file complaints if they are inappropriately denied or ignored.

Our **Justice in the Halls** project provides outreach at the Jackson County Courthouse in downtown Kansas City, the Clay County Courthouse, and the Platte County Courthouse to reach out to tenants who are being evicted. Staff is available to provide information and advice in the halls outside the courtrooms before, during, and after the Landlord/Tenant dockets to educate tenants about their rights and encourage them to apply for legal representation.

Human Rights Protection Team: The Team includes the **Immigration Project** and the **Migrant Farmworkers Project**. Staff provides high-quality, trauma-informed representation to refugees, asylees, lawful permanent residents, and indigent survivors of violent crimes, sex and labor trafficking, and domestic violence. The Immigration Project assists with naturalization, immigration document replacements and renewals, consular visa processing, adjustment of status, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) applications, Petitions for T Nonimmigrant Status, and Petitions for U Nonimmigrant Status. The Migrant Farmworkers Project addresses wage theft, labor trafficking, substandard housing, field sanitation, immigration, and occupational safety concerns of low-income migrant and seasonal farmworkers in all 114 counties of Missouri.

OFFICE LOCATIONS

Joplin: The Joplin office provides services to six counties along Missouri's southwest border. The staff consists of five attorneys, three paralegals and, one legal secretary. The cases handled by the Joplin office involve survivors of domestic abuse seeking orders of protection, marriage dissolution, paternity, custody, visitation, and child support orders. In addition, the staff handles cases involving consumer law, landlord/tenant law, guardianship cases, social security cases, and public benefits.

Many clients have problems beyond the immediate legal issues that brought them to a Legal Aid office. Staff members are active in various organizations that focus on specific issues affecting clients, including domestic violence, homelessness, and financial stability. Close partnerships with community agencies enable Legal Aid to help clients address these issues.

Kansas City - Central Office: The staff includes 45 attorneys, 20 paralegals, 16 administrative staff, two intake specialists, five legal secretaries, and four Volunteer Attorney Project staff members. The Central office houses the administrative offices, including the executive office, fiscal, human resources, development, and marketing.

Our **Municipal Court Defense Unit** is funded by a contract with the City of Kansas City Missouri. Attorneys represent clients charged with jailable offenses in the City's municipal courts.

Kansas City - West Office: The West Office provides counsel and representation on issues ranging from housing to economic and community development to over 40 of Kansas City's historic neighborhoods. These services are provided by Legal Aid's bilingual staff located in the office on Southwest Boulevard. The staff includes four attorneys, four paralegals, and several volunteers. This dedicated team has provided these unique services for 44 years.

St. Joseph: St. Joseph's staff includes four attorneys and three paralegals serving an 18-county area in northwest Missouri. The office represents a mix of both rural and urban clients. Many of the cases involve family law, including marriage dissolution, custody, guardianships, and orders of protection.

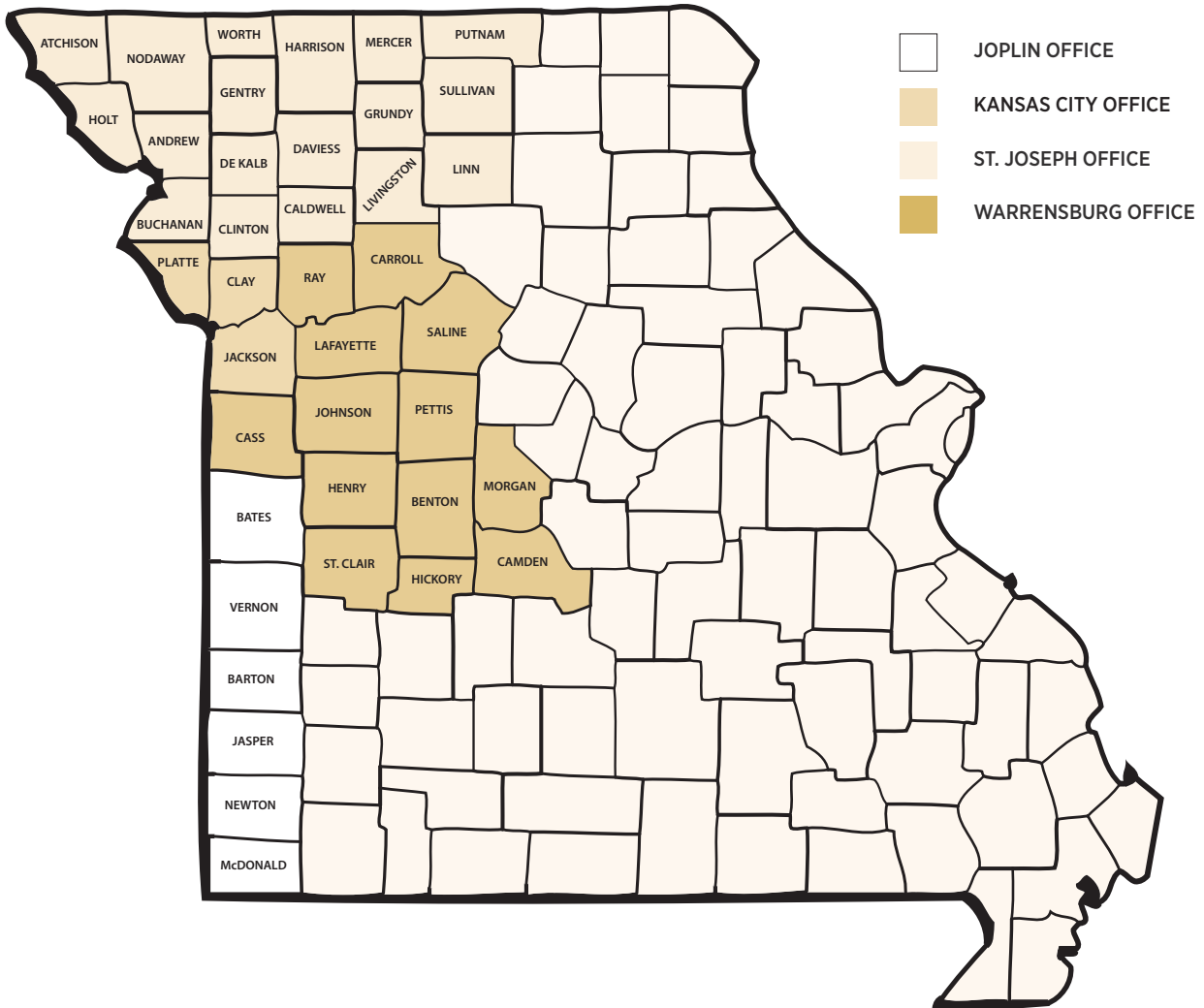
In addition, staff handle cases involving consumer issues, landlord/tenant law, social security cases, unemployment benefits denials, utility shut-offs, and other civil matters.

Warrensburg: This office serves thirteen rural counties in west-central Missouri. The staff consists of six attorneys, four paralegals, and one secretary. The Warrensburg staff handle cases involving consumer law, housing, domestic violence, landlord/tenant matters, and public benefits issues. The staff maintains a strong presence in the community and works directly with local agencies in several counties.



We serve 40 counties in Missouri where more than 300,000 people live in poverty — most of whom you will never meet. But they are your neighbors. They live in the communities you call home.

OUR 40-COUNTY SERVICE AREA



KANSAS CITY CENTRAL OFFICE

4001 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BLVD.
SUITE 300
KANSAS CITY, MO 64130
816-474-6750

KANSAS CITY WEST OFFICE

920 SOUTHWEST BLVD.
KANSAS CITY, MO 64108
816-474-9868

JOPLIN

1027 S. MAIN
SUITE LL7
JOPLIN, MO 64801
417-782-1650/800-492-7095

ST. JOSEPH

706 FELIX STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MO 64501
816-364-2325/800-892-2101

WARRENSBURG

305 NORTH HOLDEN
WARRENSBURG, MO 64093
660-747-7101/800-892-2943

SPECIAL PROJECTS

ADVOCATES FOR FAMILY HEALTH

GUARDIANSHIPS FOR MINORS AND INCAPACITATED ADULTS

JUSTICE IN THE HALLS (TENANT LEGAL HELP CLINIC)

JUSTICE IN THE SCHOOLS (KCPS, CENTER, GUADALUPE CENTERS CHARTER SCHOOLS,
AND HICKMAN MILLS)

LEGAL AID IN THE LIBRARY

LOW INCOME TAXPAYER CLINIC

MEDICAL LEGAL PARTNERSHIP WITH KANSAS CITY CARE CLINIC

MEDICAL LEGAL PARTNERSHIP WITH MOSAIC LIFE CARE - ST. JOSEPH

MENTAL HEALTHCARE ACCESS PROJECT

MIGRANT FARMWORKERS PROJECT

PROTECTING IMMIGRANT FAMILIES PROJECT (PROTECTIVE ORDERS)

VETERANS RELIEF PROJECT

VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY PROJECT SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

- ADOPT-A-NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT
- EDUCATION PROJECT
- PRO BONO PROGRAM FOR BANKRUPTCY LITIGATION
- PRO SE DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE CLINICS
- SECOND SEASON AT LAW
- TRANSACTIONAL LAW PROJECT
- UMKC-LEGAL AID OF WESTERN MISSOURI SELF-HELP LAW CLINIC
- WARRANT RELIEF PROJECT

SPECIALTY COURT PROGRAMS WITH KANSAS CITY MUNICIPAL COURT:

- DRUG COURT
- MENTAL HEALTH COURT
- REINSTATEMENT COURT
- VETERANS' TREATMENT COURT



**Did you
know?**

Our neighbors with low incomes experience 1-3 civil legal problems each year. And these problems create huge barriers to life's necessities — necessities like housing, health care, food, and freedom from violence.

Justice for Ericka

ERICKA AND HER DAUGHTER FINALLY FEEL SAFE — THANKS TO A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT AND A COMMON GOAL.

One night, Ericka's husband brutally attacked her with a crowbar. The police connected her with a domestic violence advocate who referred her to Legal Aid for help with an order of protection. Ericka wanted to ensure that she and her daughter were included on the order. Her daughter witnessed the attack and was afraid her father would get out of jail and hurt them again.

Erika also wanted a divorce, so her attorney connected her with Legal Aid's Volunteer Attorney Project. The volunteer attorney helped Ericka get a divorce, custody of her daughter, and possession of the marital home.

Unfortunately for Ericka, her husband had destroyed the home shortly before attacking her. Her yard was full of debris, including bullets, and her husband had torn out the kitchen cabinets and showers during fits of rage.

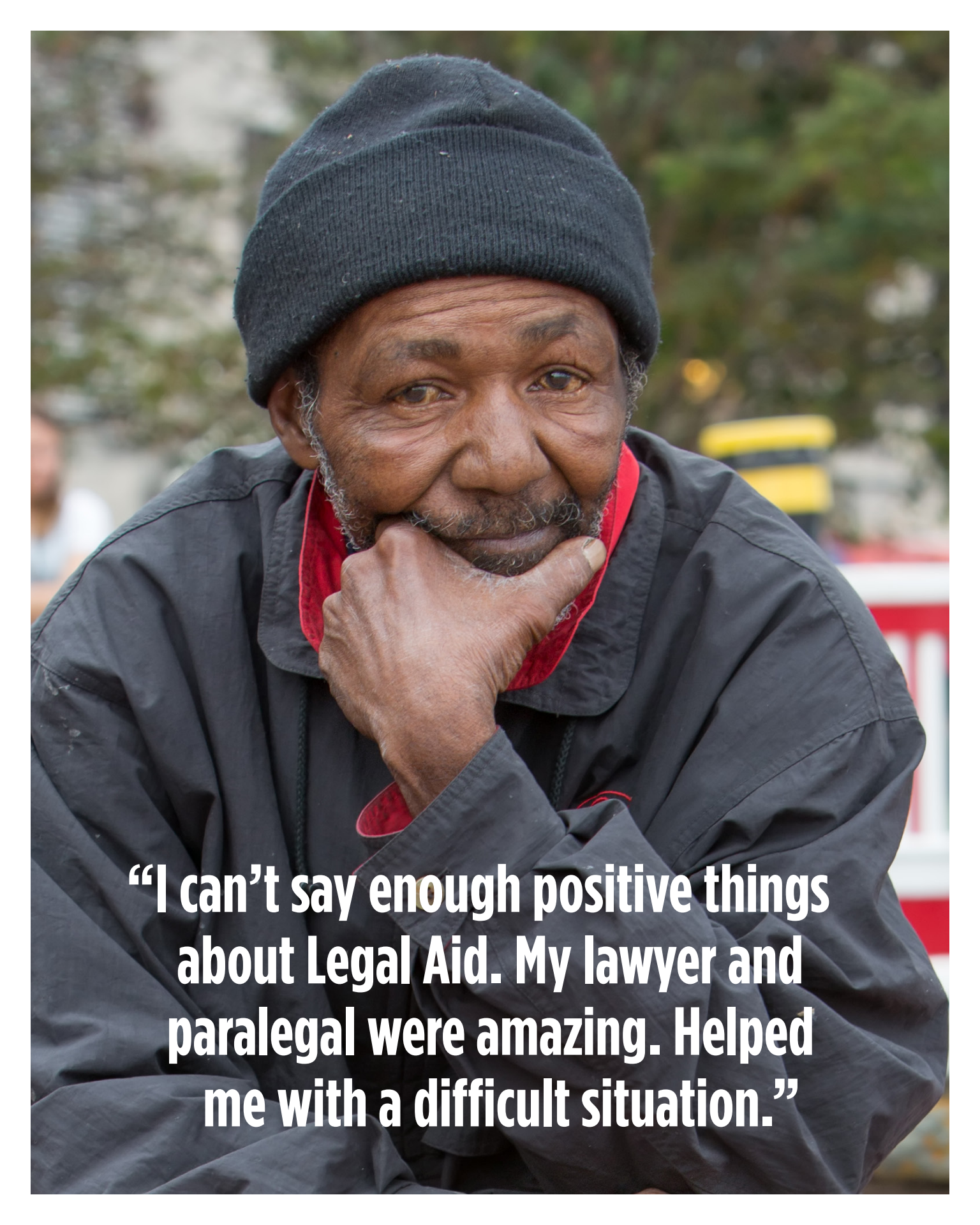
Ericka contacted various service organizations for help but got nowhere. Eventually, she reconnected with the domestic violence shelter. The shelter contacted Legal Aid to see if anyone in their network could help. Ericka's original Legal Aid attorney reached out to local Boy Scout troops, and one gladly volunteered to help.

One Sunday morning volunteers from the Scout troop, the shelter, and Legal Aid cleaned up Ericka's yard so that her daughter could play outside. They also got her connected to local organizations that are in the process of restoring her home so that it is habitable.

Ericka and her daughter can now start the next chapter of their lives.



Ericka and her daughter are free from their abuser — they had a Legal Aid attorney on their side.



“I can’t say enough positive things about Legal Aid. My lawyer and paralegal were amazing. Helped me with a difficult situation.”

VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY PROJECT

The Volunteer Attorney Project (VAP) places eligible clients with private attorneys who agree to provide free legal representation to those who otherwise could not afford it. The private attorneys who volunteer their time through VAP believe in the principle of equal access to the legal system, of making “justice for all” more than just a promise. They donate their time and considerable talents to make that ideal a reality.

In 2021, VAP attorneys closed 776 cases representing approximately 6,743 hours of legal representation and \$1,348,600 worth of donated legal services. The following attorneys accepted new VAP cases in 2021.

KANSAS CITY

ROBERT ABERNATHY
KRISTIN JACOBS ALEXANDER
KATHRYN ALSOBROOK
GONNERMAN ALYSSA
JASON AMERINE
CONRAD AMIROF
TERESA ANDERSON
JOSEPH M. BACKER
ANNE BAGGOTT
ERIN BAJACKSON
DAVID R. BARLOW
JOVANNA BEARDEN
BRYCE BELL
JORDAN BERGSTEN
JUDITH BERRY
GEORGE BLACKWOOD
JANET BLAUVELT
DANIEL BOATRIGHT
SHERMAN BOTTS
JAMES BOYCE
JOHNDA BOYCE
CLARISSA BRADY
JAMES BRECKENRIDGE
CATHERYN BROOKS
ROBERT BUCKLEY
BRETT BURMEISTER
JOHN BURNETT
ROBIN CARLSON
ELIZABETH CHATHAM
CARL CHINNERY
MATT COOK
CASEY CRAWFORD
JAMES CRUMP
KEITH CUTLER
JOSEPH DANDURAND
DONALD DAVIS
GARDINER DAVIS
PAUL DAVIS
DAVID DEAN

MARGARET DEAN
SHERRY DEJANES
ROSS DELONG
JON DILLY
VANESSA DITTMAN
BRIAN DOHERTY
ERICA DRISKELL
PRESTON DROBECK
STEVEN EFFERTZ
JAMES ENSZ
PAULINA ESCOBAR
ROCHELLE FALK
ARTHUR FEDERMAN
ANDREW FELKER
NICOLE FISHER
RACHEL FOLEY
KYLE FOOTE
ERIN FOX
SHEENA FOYE
RUSSELL FRACASSA
BRENDAN FRANZONI
JAMES FREEMAN
MARSHA FRIEDMAN
SARA WEILERT GILETTE
CLAYTON GILLETTE
SARAH GINTHER
PAUL JEFFREY GLASER
BARBARA GLESNER FINES
CHRISTINA GONDRING
ROBERT GORDON
HUNTER GOULD
S. OWEN GRIFFIN
ANGELA HABEEBULLAH
JENNIFER HAGGERTY
DANIEL HALL
WILLIAM HANNA
KRISTI HARTMANN
JOHN P. HASTINGS
MOLLY HASTINGS
KIM HATCH

JANET HENDRICKSON
CHELSEA HERRING
DOUGLAS HILL
CLAIRE HILLMAN
RONALD HOLLIGER
JUSTIN HUNT
DALE IRWIN
ALICE JACKS
KRISTIN JACOBS ALEXANDER
STACEY JANSSEN
ROYER JEFFREY
JANELLE JENNINGS-DRUMMOND
SUSAN KEPHART
KURT KING
D. BRYANT KING III
PATRICIA KONOPKA
ERLENE KRIGEL
ABRAHAM KUHLMAN
SEAN LAJAUNIE
LAURI LAUGHLAND
TIMOTHY LAYCOCK
JACK LEWIS
ALEC LOCASIO
HEATHER LOTTMANN
MELISA LUDEMAN
LISA MACHICAO
KAY MADDEN
MIGUEL MADRIGAL
JEAN MANEKE
ANTHONY MARTINEZ
LINDSAY MATTHEWS
ELENA MCFARLAND
MAXWELL C. MCGRAW
MATTHEW MCLAUGHLIN
PATRICK MCMONIGLE
SHANE MECHAM
TONY MILLER
JAYNE MOLT
CHARLES MONROE
CLARE MURPHY SHAW

MOLLY NAIL
JOSEPH NASTASI
DEWANNA NEWMAN
LEXI NGUYEN
STEPHEN E. NICHOLS
MATTHEW R. O'CONNOR
JOSEPH F. O'HARA
NANCY OLIVARES
MARK OLTHOFF
DANA OUTLAW
IAN PAGE
RYAN PATTON
JIM PETRIE
JESSICA PIEDRA
JOHN PINK
JOHN MICHAEL PIPES
STACI PRATT
WILLIAM PRUGH
ROBIN RANDOLPH
ROBERT RICHARDS
TRACY L. ROBINSON
MEGAN ROSE
THOMAS ROSZAK
MEGAN ROTH
TODD RUSKAMP
JOHN RYAN JR.
SAMANTHA SADER
IVELISSE SAINT-CLAIR
G. MARK SAPPINGTON
MARK SCHMITZ
JENNIFER SCHORGL
ALYSSA SEDIQZAD
SCOTT SEITTER
BOBBI SELL
DARREN SHARP
CHRISTEN SHEPHERD
RYAN SHERNAMAN
GREGORIO SILVA
MALIKA SIMMONS
BURTON SMOLIAR

VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY PROJECT (CONTINUED)

GARRETT SOLOMON
RIA SORRELL
ANDREW SPEICHER
ANGELA SPITALERI
TRACY BARNES SPRADLIN
NADER STANFORD
WILLIAM STILLEY
JOSEPH STOKELY
DANA STRUEBY
GAYLE STUTZMAN EVANS
ELIZABETH TOBIN
ANTHONY TOTTA
CHRISTOPHER TROPPITO
D. PAUL TYSON
DARIN VAN THOURNOUT
BENJAMIN VARENHORST
CASSIE WAIT
COURTNEY WAITS
LINDSEY A. WAITS
ANNETTE WALLACE
DAVID WATKINS
VICTOR WEBER
BERNARD WEINAND
THOMAS WEST
DANIEL WHEELER
GILLIAN WILCOX
JOHN WILCOX
EDWARD A. WILLIAMS
JANE WILLIAMS
JOHN L. WILLIAMS
LESLIE WILLIAMS

VICKI WIND
BRENT WINTERBERG
STEVEN WOLCOTT
KIMBERLY WRIGHT
LOUIE WRIGHT
STACEY WULLSCHLEGER
BERNARDO ZITO PORTO

ADOPT-A-NEIGHBORHOOD

JOHN AISENBREY
BRAD ANDERSON
NICOLETTE ARMSTRONG
BRIAN BAGGOTT
SAM BARFOOT
BRITTANY BARRIENTOS
JEB BAYER
JOHN BEDNARZ
MARINA BELL
ANNA BERMAN
NICK BERTRON
MEGAN CARROLL
AMANDA COCHRAN
TIM CONGROVE
JOHN CONSTANCE
RICH COOK
DAN CRANSHAW
ASHLEY CRUSAFILLI
MCKINLEY DUKE
MARK ELLISON
ANDREW ELSBERRY
LOGAN FANCHER

KYLE FERDEN
PAUL FLUCKE
DYLAN FOTIADIS
BEN GAMBLE
KAREN GARRETT
DANIEL GRAVES
RACHEL GROVES
ROBERT HAMMEKE
ANNE HANNAH
WILL HENDERSON
JACKSON HOBBS
TEDRICK HOUSH
NIKKI HUTSON
JORDAN IFLAND
BREANNA JENSEN
CHARLEY JENSEN
ERIC JOHNSON
RON JOHNSON
BETSEY LASISTER
LISA MARTIN
MICHAEL MCGEE
BECKY MCMAHON
LUCI MCMURRAY
CALEB MICKEY
NEIL MILLER
R.B. MILLER
MOLLIE MOYLAN
KRISTEN PAGE
REILEY PANKRATZ
RACHEL PETERSON
WESLEY PLUVIOSE-PHILIP

REX REDLINGSHAFFER
MARTY RICE
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776

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\$1,348,600

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2021 VAP CASE SNAPSHOT

 6% PROBATE	CONSUMER  14%	 5% IMMIGRATION	HOUSING  20%
13% BANKRUPTCY	11% MINOR GUARDIANSHIP	25% CUSTODY/DIVORCE	6% OTHER

IN-HOUSE VAP ATTORNEYS

Second Season at Law Project (SSAL) is Legal Aid's emeritus pro bono panel of attorneys. We created for legal professionals who retire from the bench or law practice but choose to continue using their legal talents for pro bono service.

Among our SSAL members are **Judge Arthur Federman**, **Burt Smoliar**, and **Jim Ens**, who are also considered "in-house" volunteers. The three occasionally work at Legal Aid's Central office. In addition to providing direct representation to eligible clients, Judge Federman, Burt, and Jim assist staff by sharing their legal experience, including helping to identify legal remedies. In 2021, this esteemed group collectively donated hundreds of hours of invaluable pro bono services.


While participating in the SSAL project, the Missouri Bar waives dues for those who agree to provide only pro bono services through VAP.



SELF-HELP LAW CLINIC

The University of Missouri-Kansas City–Legal Aid of Western Missouri Self-Help Law Clinic, created in 2019 and housed at the law school, provides limited scope representation to individuals seeking legal assistance on how to represent themselves in court, on what documents to file, and on other issues related to a wide variety of legal topics including family law matters, landlord/tenant matters, vehicle title issues, probate matters, and contracts.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the clinic operates in a virtual capacity. Clients complete an online intake form and meet with an attorney and law student via a video-conferencing application. Clinic clients get rapid, tailored, free advice, law students gain real-world experience, and volunteer attorneys have meaningful, impactful client meetings requiring little follow-up.



“The representation provided was more than helpful. It was life-sustaining! We are extremely grateful to those working at Legal Aid.”

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The inaugural Generous Associates Drive exceeded expectations and raised almost \$9,000. The Generous Associates Drive is a month-long competition run by associates to see which firm can raise the most money to benefit Legal Aid. We hope to involve more firms in our 2022 Drive. To learn how your firm can get involved, contact Martin at mccram@lawmo.org.

2021 PARTICIPATING FIRMS:

- HUSCH BLACKWELL LLP: \$3,577.70 (Includes \$1,000 firm gift)
- POLSINELLI, PC: \$2,154.30 (Includes \$1,000 firm gift)
- LATHROP GPM: \$1,259
- STINSON: \$875.40
- SPENCER FANE: \$872.70



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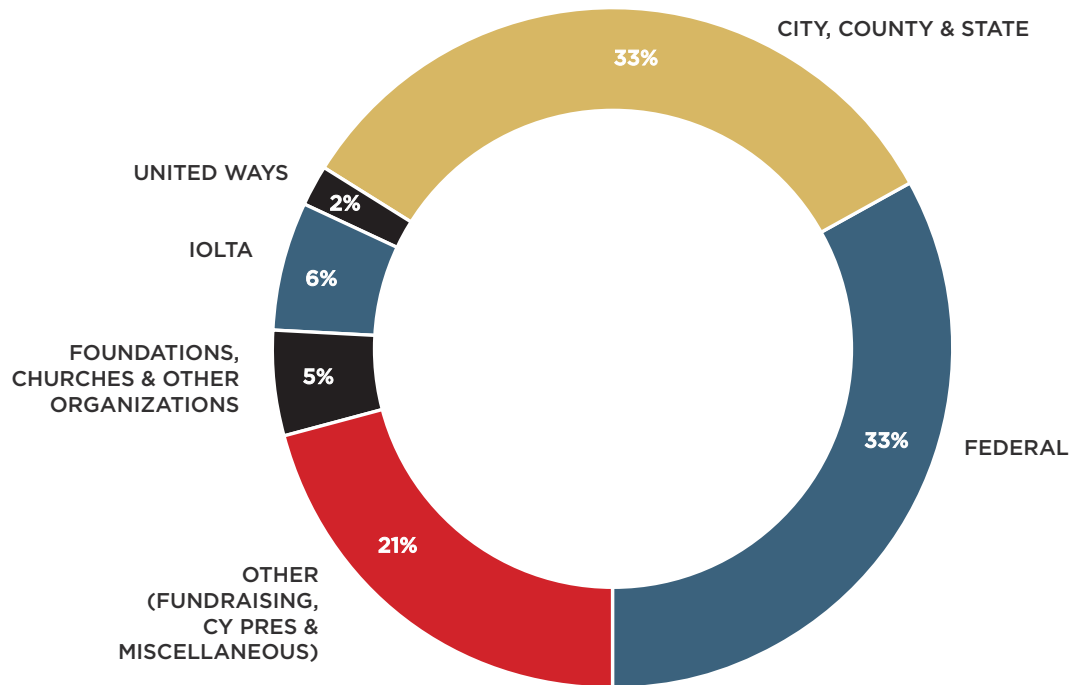
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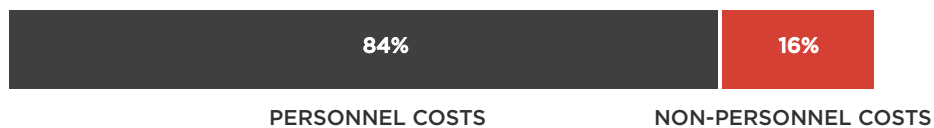
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2021 REVENUE



2021 TOTAL REVENUE = \$11,498,720

2021 EXPENSES

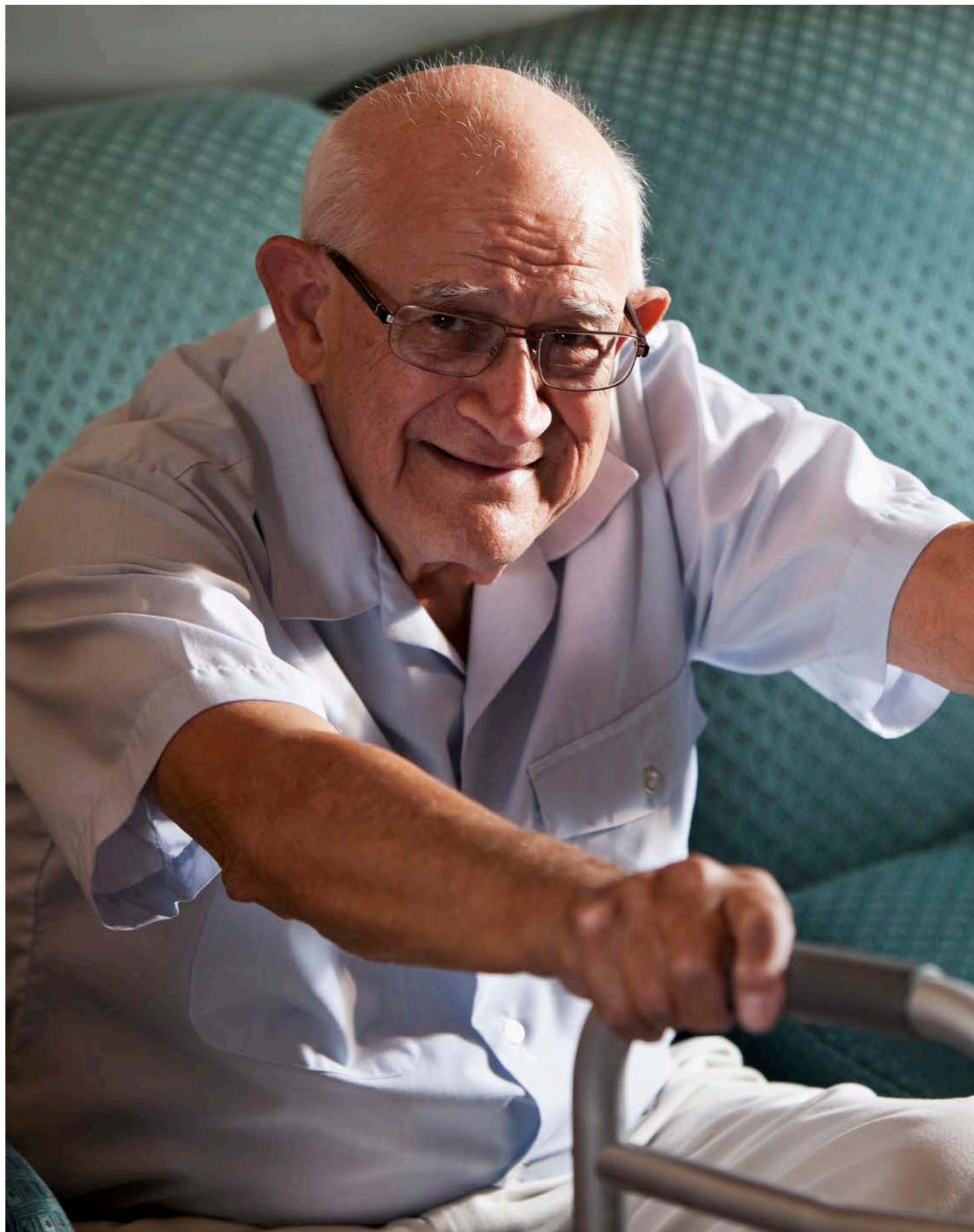


2021 TOTAL PERSONNEL COSTS = \$8,513,619

2021 TOTAL NON-PERSONNEL COSTS = \$1,595,511

2021 TOTAL EXPENSES = \$10,109,130





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HAS TO COME
FROM SOMEWHERE
STAND FOR
SOMETHING
AND HAVE A
STORY TO TELL**