

## 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Since 1958  
**LEGAL AID CENTER**  
of Southern Nevada



"After going through physical, mental and verbal abuse, no woman should stay married under those circumstances. Having this divorce also means a better life for my children; they are everything to me. Thank you for providing this service so that people like me can get help. You have given me peace and joy and restored my faith in the future. God bless you all."

~ Hannah, age 31  
Divorce and Child Custody Client  
Domestic Violence Project

Photos and names of clients are representative to protect privacy.



# ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends,

By every measure, 2009 was an incredibly difficult year for our state and a year of unimaginable hardship for thousands of families. What this means to us at Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada is that our calling has never been stronger, our services never needed more.

As Nevada's largest nonprofit law firm, we believe that no one should be denied justice because they cannot afford an attorney. We represent the last best hope for thousands of low-income and unemployed residents who face a range of legal challenges. And yet, it is our clients who inspire us every day for the strength they show under such difficult circumstances ... homeowners struggling against foreclosure, foster children searching for loving homes, victims of domestic violence fighting back against their abusers, consumers seeking justice against outrageous fraud.

*The Wall Street Journal* reported that Nevada's population grew by more than 30 percent in the past decade, to 2.6 million in 2008. It is also estimated that 11.2 percent of Southern Nevadans are living at or below federal poverty income guidelines, a figure that will surely increase once 2009 figures are in. The unemployment rate was nearly 13 percent last year and housing prices dropped another 25 percent in the third quarter - already down 26 percent overall from 2008. In December, the federal government announced that Nevada again led the nation in home foreclosures.

The heartening news in this crisis is that Legal Aid Center has never been more ready to respond. In 2009, we hired 10 additional staff, stepped up our efforts to serve even more clients through our menu of services, and added several new programs, including the Foreclosure Protection Program, the District Court Civil Self Help Center and the Foster Care Early Intervention Program. We also worked closely with the local media to help educate the public on the many programs that we offer. Thanks to this redoubled effort, we were able to serve more than 18,000 or one-third more clients than last year. You will find more detail on these efforts outlined in these pages.

Most importantly, and critical to our growth, we made enormous progress on our Capital Campaign, which you will also read more about in this report. Shortly after we launched the campaign in 2008, the economy took a turn for the worse. Though we never gave up hope, we never imagined that within a year, and under these circumstances, we would be so close to our goal of a comprehensive legal aid campus housing all of our programs within one central, cost-effective location. We want to express our deepest gratitude to members of the Southern Nevada legal and philanthropic communities for their generous monetary donations, brilliant ideas and helpful insight.

Martin Luther King once said, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." This truth is never far from our minds as we push forward. Thank you for helping us to ensure that all Southern Nevadans have a voice within our legal system.

Sincerely,



Dean A. Hardy  
President



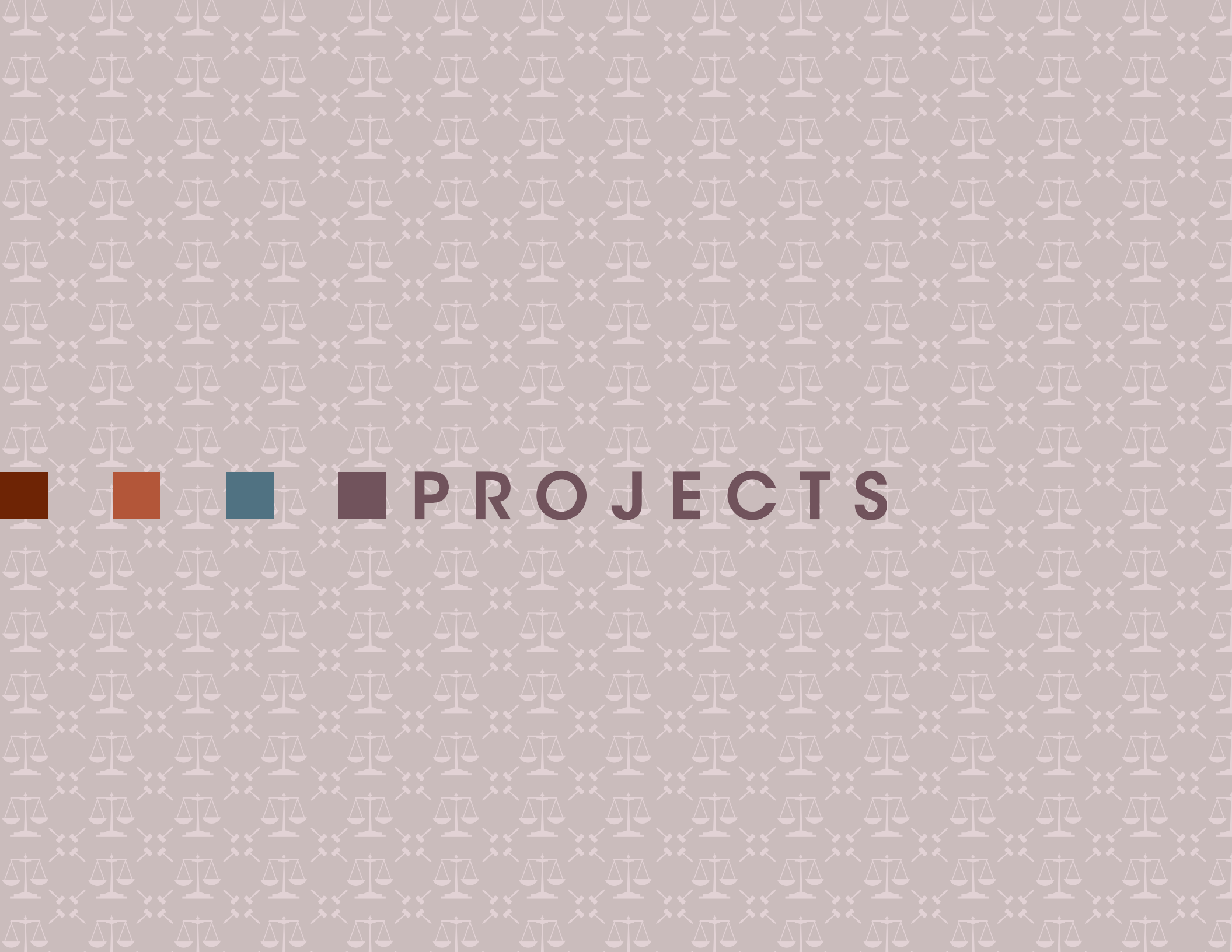
Barbara E. Buckley  
Executive Director





"You helped me extremely. I can move on with my life now. I couldn't have done this without your help ...  
God Bless you for your work and help."

~ Annalyse, age 19  
Former Foster Care Resident for 10 Years  
Children's Attorneys Project



# PROJECTS

## CHILDREN'S ATTORNEYS PROJECT

### **Celebrating a Decade of Service to Southern Nevada's Most Vulnerable**

Every day in Southern Nevada, children enter the foster care system for protection from abusive and neglectful home environments. While it is critically important to intervene on behalf of these children, they are entering a government-run system that is overwhelmed and can be tone-deaf to their individual needs.

In 1999, a group of concerned citizens partnered with the courts to establish the Children's Attorneys Project (CAP) at Legal Aid Center. The goal was to provide children in foster care with one person, an attorney, who was solely dedicated to giving the child a voice in court, representing their hopes for the present and most importantly, their dreams for the future. What started with a single grant and one attorney has grown into 16 full-time staff members in just 10 years.

As we celebrated the 10th anniversary of CAP in 2009, we paused to reflect on the thousands of children we have served over the last decade. Thanks to this program, children who were languishing in the child welfare system achieved placement in loving homes. Children who were waiting for years for their final adoption papers finally cleared this last legal hurdle. Children who were locked up in psychiatric facilities, overmedicated and unable to escape this vicious cycle, were properly diagnosed and placed back into foster care and public school.

But there are so many more who desperately need our help.

It is well-documented that early representation brings better outcomes to children in foster care and increases the number of children who, with services and support, can be reunited with their families. As we enter our second decade, we are focused more than ever on assigning an attorney to every child in the foster care system. From this singular goal, a new program was born.

### **Early Intervention Program**

With initial funding from the Court Improvement Project, which was established by the Nevada Supreme Court to improve court efficiencies, Legal Aid Center embarked on a new way to represent foster care children in Nevada.

The resulting effort could best be described as "front loading" the court process, where urgent cases involving children are pushed to the front of the line. Without this priority status, children languish in the system and grow more distrustful and insecure with every passing day.

Additionally, representation by their own dedicated attorney gives these children someone to talk to and someone to speak out for them. It also offers the best chance of achieving a permanent solution, and hopefully, a forever family. (See, for example, *Achieving Timely Permanency in Child Protection Courts: The Importance of Front Loading the Court Process*, by The Honorable Leonard P. Edwards, California Administrative Office of the Courts, *Juvenile and Family Court Journal* Spring 2007, Vol. 58, No. 2.)

Because of our track record in protecting the rights of Southern Nevada's most vulnerable residents, Legal Aid Center was honored by the Nevada Women's Philanthropy with a generous grant of \$325,000. The grant will be distributed over three years to fund a new attorney and support staff for the CAP Foster Care Early Intervention Program.



### Adoption Completion Program

One of the great accomplishments of the Children's Attorneys Project in 2009 was the effort to increase the number of foster care children being adopted. Working together with the District Court and the Department of Family Services (DFS), and with initial seed money from the MGM MIRAGE™ Voice Foundation, this goal was met with resounding success with 425 adoptions in Clark County in 2009, a new record after a previous record was set in 2008. Given that this is twice the number of children who found secure, permanent homes in 2007, it demonstrates the impact that we can have on these young lives. However, as long as any child waits for a loving family, our work is not done. DFS has set a goal of 600 adoptions in 2010 and we have committed to helping them meet or surpass this figure.

### Special Education Program

By federal law, all public schools must provide disabled children with the physical support and materials that they need to succeed academically. This is especially important for disabled children in the foster care program given the hardships they have already faced. Our Special Education Program steps in on behalf of children who are struggling and need specialized tutoring or other federally required accommodations.

### Surrogate Parent Initiative

The non-attorney volunteer program recruits people who are willing to advocate for foster children with academic, social, emotional or behavioral problems toward the goal of making school a positive experience for them. Compounding the challenges facing these children is that many live in group homes, where they are raised by staff rather than foster parents who might be more likely to champion their causes.

### 2009 Results

- 1,203 children were represented by Legal Aid Center staff
- 82 surrogate volunteers worked on behalf of children
- 94 additional families assisted

### SUCCESS STORY

One of our recent cases involved Stevie, an active 3-year-old boy who had lived with the same foster mother, Helen, all of his life. Helen was the only mother he had ever known and she wanted very much to adopt him as she had already successfully adopted his 10-year-old brother two years earlier. The DFS caseworker assigned to the case and the DFS supervisor both supported the adoption but the administration at DFS refused to approve the adoption because of an allegedly negative home study.

Stevie was assigned to a CAP attorney, who advocated for the adoption in multiple court hearings. The attorney arranged for a therapist to meet with Stevie, and this therapist later testified that separating the children and blocking the adoption would be devastating to him. The court found that Stevie should remain with Helen while the case was being reviewed. After two more years of litigation, Stevie was now 5 years old and DFS management still refused to change its position. The CAP attorney finally obtained a "lack of reasonable effort finding" and the court ordered that the child not be removed from Helen's care. DFS finally changed its position on the status of the home and Stevie was adopted by Helen. He continues to live happily in his forever home with his brother.



## CONSUMER RIGHTS PROJECT

Our Consumer Rights Project staff answers thousands of phone calls, assists people who come to our office for help and advice, and represents victims of consumer fraud, unlawful wage garnishments, bad car deals and the never-ending cycle of payday loans.

### 2009 Results

- 1,732 people were assisted with consumer problems through legal advice, helping them fill out forms and representing them in court
- 3,885 people sought assistance through our Consumer Hotline

### Bankruptcy Facilitator Program

A critical part of our Consumer Rights Project, the Bankruptcy Facilitator Program instructs citizens how to self-represent, provides the necessary forms to submit, and explains basic rights and protections under bankruptcy law. Often the facilitator will step in and negotiate with debtors on behalf of our clients. Created in cooperation with our local Bankruptcy Court judges – with funding through the U.S. District Court and Legal Aid Center – the program has already demonstrated its necessity and effectiveness at this critical time in our economy.

### 2009 Results

- 110 court calendars covered
- 214 people assisted
- 415 clients were assisted with bankruptcy matters

### Foreclosure Protection Program

We received funding from the Institute of Foreclosure Legal Assistance, Consumer Credit Counseling Services, and the Nevada Fair Housing Center to launch our new Foreclosure Protection Program. The goal is to help homeowners with loan modifications or through the legal process of foreclosure at no cost to them. In its first year of operation, the program staff assisted clients with loan modifications, foreclosure mediation, and even initiated litigation when needed.

- 533 clients were helped with foreclosure-related matters





## SUCCESS STORY

George, age 46, was a successful sous-chef at the Bellagio Resort & Casino. He made a good living and owned a home in Las Vegas with his wife Sharon. Tragedy struck when he was hit by a drunk driver and severely injured. After two years and five operations, the doctors could not save his leg, in part due to George's ongoing struggle with diabetes. To save his life, the leg had to be amputated.

Still hopeful that he could return to work, George entered rehabilitation, but the diabetes continued to cause complications and slowed his recovery. Without realizing the ramifications to George's case, his doctor called the rehabilitation center and stopped the treatment, in hopes that additional healing time would create a better result. However, George needed to be participating in rehabilitation in order to go back to retain his position at work. Stopping his treatment essentially left him unemployed.

George and his wife were forced to sell their house but were able to downsize to a mobile home in Sandy Valley with the proceeds of the sale. Although he diligently looked for work, once potential employers learned of his disability they wouldn't return his follow-up calls. Sharon continued to work, though, so they were able to afford their mobile home payment on her salary alone.

Tragically, Sharon was killed in a car accident, leaving George bereft and unable to find a job or afford the mortgage payments. He eventually defaulted, his lender foreclosed on the property and began eviction proceedings. Just as he was about to be evicted, George came to Legal Aid Center for help. Since Nevada is a non-judicial foreclosure state – which permits the lender to repossess the home – his home had already been sold. However, upon reviewing the paperwork we found that the lender had failed to follow proper procedures as outlined in the Nevada statute. We were able to reverse the sale and convince the lender to negotiate with George to enable him to stay in his home. A loan modification was ruled out at first because he couldn't find work and his disability payments were small. Though the foreclosure process began again, we had gained him additional time to jump-start his job hunting process, and he landed a part-time job. Based on this new income, combined with his disability payments, we secured a loan modification on his behalf. His monthly payment was reduced from \$954 to \$368 for the first five years and will re-amortize to \$515 for the balance of the loan. After years of living with uncertainty and loss, George is rebuilding his life and living securely in his mobile home.



## SUCCESS STORY

Predatory lending was becoming rampant in Southern Nevada, with payday loan stores popping up all over town, particularly in low-income neighborhoods. There are consumer protection laws in place that restrict loan amounts based on the borrower's ability to repay the loan, prohibit late fees and allow the borrower an opportunity to enter into a repayment plan before being sued.

However, two of the most notorious offenders, Handy Cash Loan Centers and Lucky Cash 4U, flouted the law and charged astronomical compound interest rates on simple loans, making it impossible for consumers to pay them off, which, of course, was the intent.

One example of how the scheme worked involved a client who took out a \$250 loan from Handy Cash and was sued in Small Claims Court for \$756, which was three times the loan amount. The contract used by Handy Cash in the initial loan was so contrary to the law in that it wouldn't accept partial payments by the borrower and charged a fee for canceling a loan the next business day.

During the investigation, Legal Aid Center lawyers discovered that Handy Cash was attempting to fly below the radar by suing consumers for these unlawful amounts in Small Claims Court, gambling that the suits would not be noticed. This strategy worked for them as there are multiple judges presiding in Small Claims Court, so the pattern of abuse would not be easily noticed.

After the District Court certified a class action and entered a preliminary injunction against Handy Cash to halt its unlawful conduct, the company filed for bankruptcy. Legal Aid Center continues to pursue the case in Bankruptcy Court as a Handy Cash creditor.

Another class action suit was filed against Lucky Cash 4U on behalf of clients who were sued by the company for as much as 10 times the amount of the original payday loan. Lucky Cash was operating under a business model that claimed to be a line of credit and assumed that the client would default, charging between \$7.95 to \$68.95 a day for late fees plus an over-the-credit-limit fee. To avoid application of the payday loan law, they charged just under 40 percent interest that would trigger Nevada law, which would prevent such practices.

At the time of this publication, we are proud to report that a settlement agreement was reached with Lucky Cash 4U, but had not yet been finalized by the court.



## SOCIAL SECURITY PROJECT

The Social Security Administration was formed to provide a safety net for disabled workers, among others, who have paid into the system. Clients contact our Social Security Project when they have been wrongfully denied disability benefits by the federal government. Without these benefits, these citizens have no other means of financial support and typically end up on state or county assistance.

### 2009 Results

- 79 hearings were held on behalf of clients

### SUCCESS STORY

Marcus, age 52, was suffering from end-stage HIV/AIDS and a range of accompanying health problems including chronic renal failure, shortness of breath, chronic back pain and severe depression. His request for early social security benefits had been denied previously and though he had appealed the denial of his claim, there was no guarantee that his declining health would change the decision at his hearing.

Marcus continued to deteriorate and was admitted to UMC Hospital. The staff there contacted Legal Aid Center to assist him in obtaining a positive decision from the judge on his disability claim. His caseworker informed us that due to his condition, he could no longer care for himself and they were hoping to place him in a nursing facility. However, due to his lack of consistent income, it would be impossible to find him a suitable facility without a guarantee that his benefits would be forthcoming.

We contacted the administrative law judge who was handling the case and submitted a brief detailing Marcus' illnesses and medical treatment, his lack of financial support, and his inability to live independently.

Shortly after submitting the brief, the judge contacted our office and agreed to grant his disability claim, and forego the hearing entirely. This enabled UMC Hospital staff to expedite the treatment process and quickly resolve the matter. Marcus' Legal Aid Center attorney notified his caseworker and he was immediately placed in a nursing facility, where he continues to receive care.



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT

Our Domestic Violence Project provides a critical lifeline to help victims obtain protection orders, litigate divorce actions, and secure custody and support orders, all of which enables them to reclaim a life free from violence. In keeping with our mission to provide equal justice for all, we believe that no one should be victimized twice because of their inability to afford an attorney to protect their rights. Due to the high volume of clients, the project added an additional bilingual paralegal in 2009 to assist with client intake.

Lawyers in the Domestic Violence Project also extend their time and skills to help the greatest number of residents possible. They participate in the weekly Family Law Self-Help Center's Ask-A-Lawyer program and, in conjunction with the William S. Boyd School of Law, they teach free classes on guardianship, divorce, custody and a separate family law class in Spanish. The staff attorneys go to the local domestic violence shelters regularly to meet with victims and advise them on how best to resolve the legal problems they face. The lawyers also meet with advocates from the shelters to continually collaborate with them on domestic violence issues.

### Immigrant Protection Program

Similarly, our Immigrant Protection Program provides legal counsel for immigrants who are victims of domestic violence and violent crimes. Under federal law, these victims are permitted to petition the U.S. government for permission to lawfully remain in this country and eventually become citizens.

### 2009 Results

- Represented 605 clients in litigation
- Assisted an additional 470 clients

### SUCCESS STORY

Leyna, age 22, was a young immigrant mother who was referred to Legal Aid Center by Safe House, the women's shelter where she was taken with her young child after a horrific assault by her husband. Even prior to their marriage, Leyna had suffered extreme domestic violence, resulting in a miscarriage of her first child when she was five months' pregnant. Her husband had also been arrested previously for biting her on the neck and cheeks.

On Christmas Eve 2008, however, he attacked Leyna again, biting her lip with such force that he practically removed her lower lip, causing severe disfigurement. She has since undergone reconstructive surgery and will require another, both of which have been donated by a nonprofit medical organization. In spite of this, she continues to suffer from post-traumatic stress.

We were able to prove extreme abuse in Leyna's immigration case. We obtained a divorce for her in which she was awarded sole legal and physical custody of her child. We have also obtained her green card so that she can be self-supporting. The husband was convicted of battery with substantial bodily harm, battery that constitutes domestic violence, and mayhem, and sentenced to five years in prison. Upon his release, as a condition of his parole, he will be ordered to have no contact with Leyna.





## PRO BONO PROJECT

Community service is a critical aspect of law practice and we are fortunate to have strong partnerships with many Southern Nevada lawyers. Volunteer attorneys who work with our Pro Bono Project take on cases that we would have to turn away due to sheer volume or because we don't handle a particular area of law. More than 15,000 hours were donated this year. At \$250/hour, this translates to more than \$3.75 million donated to the cause of equal justice for all.

### 2009 Results

- 559 new clients placed with 342 attorneys
- 729 additional clients received ongoing representation
- 1,285 clients assisted by pro bono attorneys through clinics

### PRO BONO CLINICS

We continually strive to develop new and innovative ways to help people who don't have the means to hire a lawyer and therefore have limited access to the legal system. This year we introduced two new clinics: the Nevada Microenterprise Initiative and the Homeless Assistance Project. These are in addition to the ever-popular Ask-A-Lawyer program, which is held at the Family Law Self-Help Center. For residents who are endeavoring to handle their own legal matters, these question-and-answer clinics offer a lifeline that empowers them to know their rights and pursue satisfactory outcomes. In the event that a client meets our income guidelines, these clinics also serve as a referral for new Legal Aid Center cases.

### 2009 Results Included:

#### Ask-A-Lawyer Program

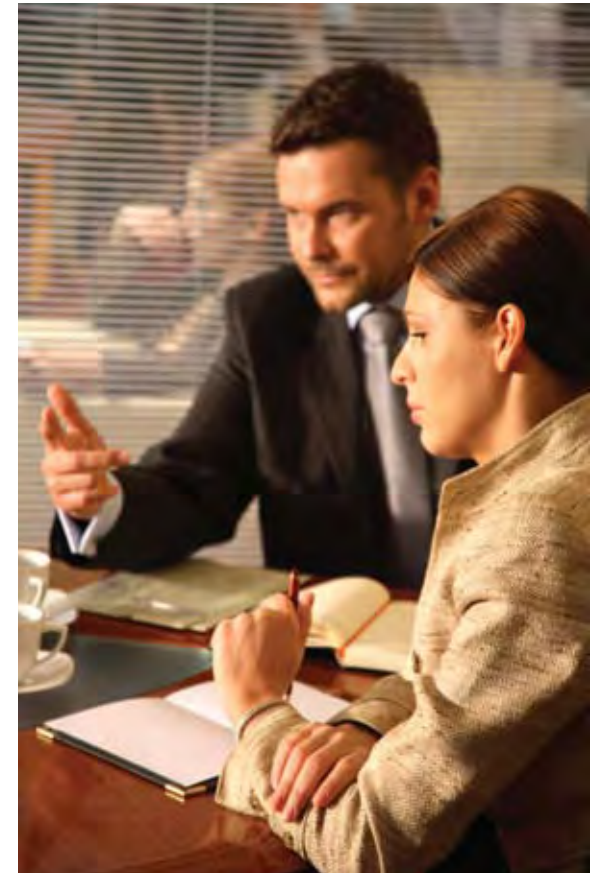
- Offered one afternoon per week
- Solely focused on family law questions
- 1,422 people served
- 327 shifts covered by 64 attorneys donating 1,149 hours of time

#### Nevada Microenterprise Initiative

- Sponsored three events
- 16 volunteers provided 72 hours of service
- Approximately 75 small-business owners gained helpful information pertaining to their industries and legal needs

#### Homeless Assistance Program

- Partnered with the nonprofit Friends in the Desert in Henderson
- Sponsored four events with six attorneys and three law students
- 45 homeless Southern Nevadans obtained free legal advice

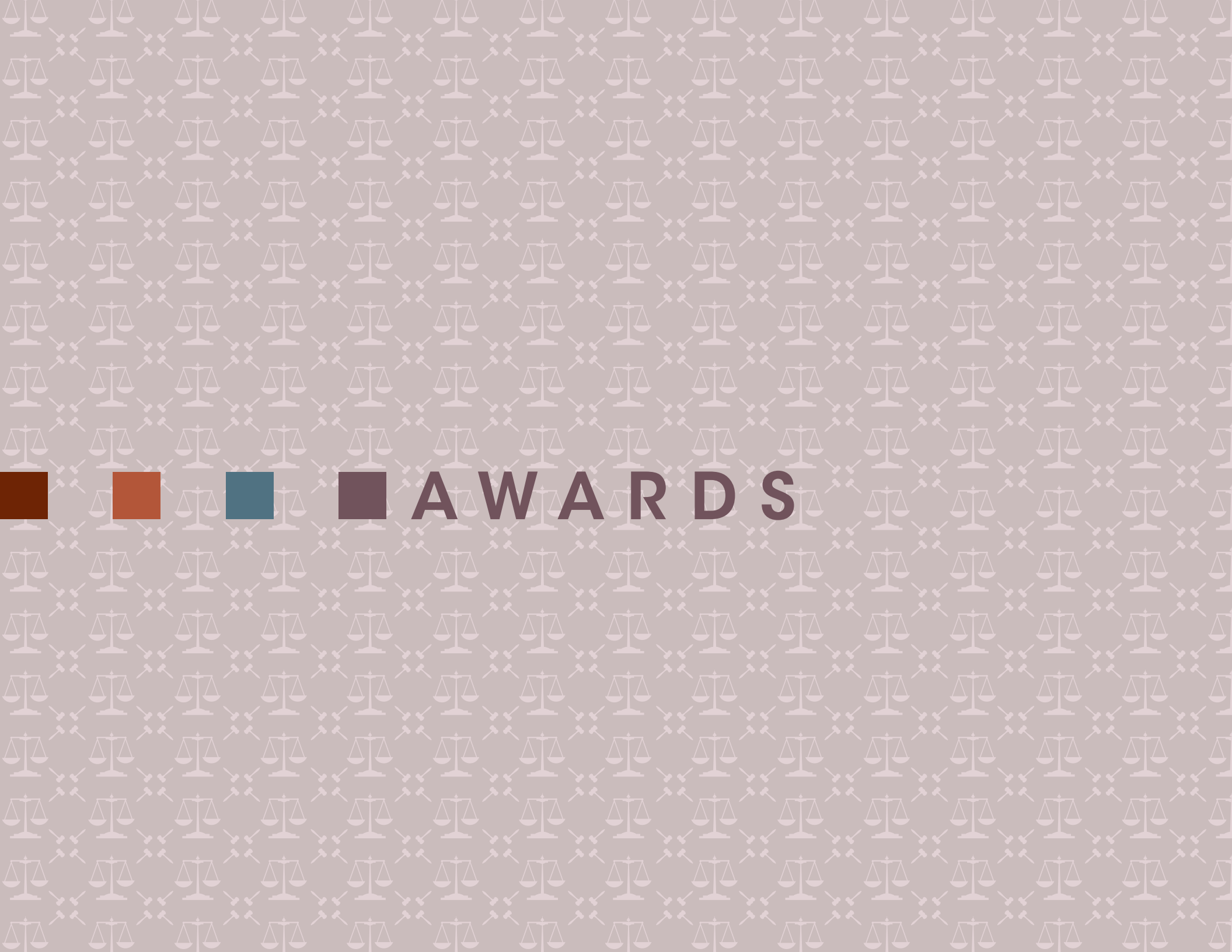




"I had to go up against impossible odds, but I found out about the Pro Bono Project, stuck with it and got the most awesome attorney. I constantly praise this office and will be forever grateful to them for showing me I had rights and following through and believing in me.

"The outcome of my case could have made or broken me completely. If it hadn't turned out as it did, I'd be back to homelessness. Now I can continue to take care of my children and keep a roof over my head."

~ Lawrence, age 38  
Consumer Fraud Client  
Pro Bono Project



# AWARDS



# AWARDS

## **Kate Lowenhar-Fisher wins Bank of America Local Hero Award**

A partner with the law firm Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, Kate is a tireless volunteer with the Pro Bono Project at Legal Aid Center and a champion of children who have suffered abuse and neglect. For the 700+ pro bono hours she has donated since 2004 and the life-changing difference she has made in the lives of young victims, Legal Aid Center was proud to nominate her for this award.

Her perseverance and commitment to children are best illustrated through examples of her casework. For three years she represented Jillian and Julie, teenaged sisters who had lived in five different foster homes in seven years. As they were about to age out of the foster care system, Kate worked to secure transition services that enabled them to live with their adult brother and remain as a family.

For the last five years, Kate has also been representing Maya, who is 14 years old and HIV positive. Maya was taken into foster care due to her mother's gross neglect – including medical neglect – and eventual abandonment. She was placed with her younger sister Laila, whom Kate also represented, in a stable foster home and the girls stayed in touch with Sofia, their loving grandmother. Upon Sofia's passing, however, the girls' mother reentered the picture and demanded that they be returned to her custody. Neither Maya nor Laila had any desire to reunite with their mother and requested that they stay in foster care. Kate advocated on their behalf and the girls remain in their secure foster home. Both are doing well and Kate continues to monitor their progress.



In 2008, she accepted yet another case on behalf of Antonio, a 4-year-old who had endured severe abuse and neglect. As an infant, he was found to have suffered fractures from physical abuse and a lack of proper medical care to tend to his injuries. Kate won him placement in a loving foster home and is working on his adoption with this family.

In 2009, she successfully represented Helene, a 75-year-old Holocaust survivor who was eligible to apply for reparations from the German government for the anguish she experienced as a child. At the tender age of 9, she was torn from her family and confined to a German-controlled ghetto in Yugoslavia. Kate continues to pursue justice on Helene's behalf.

These are only a few of the many clients who benefit from Kate's legal expertise, dedication and support. In recognition of the thousands of hours that she has donated to our Pro Bono Project, Kate received the Local Hero Award from Bank of America Charitable Foundation. She donated the entire \$5,000 award to Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada.

Kate Lowenhar-Fisher with George Smith, Nevada President, Bank of America.

Photo courtesy of mgstudios.com





# AWARDS

## City of Henderson



In acknowledgment of our work on behalf of Henderson residents in all our areas of practice, the Henderson City Council generously donated \$2,500 toward the Lied Challenge Grant as part of our capital campaign. Legal Aid Center Development Director Lynn Etkins (center) accepts the donation from city council members (L to R) Steven Kirk, Kathleen Boutin, Mayor Andy Hafen, Gerri Schroder and Debra March.

# AWARDS

## 2009 Pro Bono Award Winners

At our annual Pro Bono Awards fundraising luncheon in December, we honored our Pro Bono Project volunteers. The following award winners deserve a collective thank-you for striving to make Southern Nevada a more just community for all of its residents.

## AWARDS

The Lied Awards are given in honor of the Lied Foundation, which helped us to retire our building's mortgage in 2003 through a challenge grant. The grant was based on the number of pro bono hours lawyers donated on a yearly basis to clients of Legal Aid Center. We salute the attorneys who have helped in this effort and in our ongoing commitment to providing equal access to justice for all.

**Lied Award for Most Hours for Law Firm:**

Lewis & Roca

**Lied Award for Most Cases for Law Firm:**

Lewis & Roca

**Lied Award for Most Hours for Attorney:**

Elizabeth S. Ashley

**Lied Award for Most Cases for Attorney:**

Shelley D. Krohn

**Justice Nancy Becker Pro Bono Award of Judicial Excellence:**

Judge Linda B. Riegler

Judge Bruce A. Markell

Judge Mike K. Nakagawa

**Judge Sally Loehrer Pro Bono Service Award:**

D. Chris Albright

**Louis Wiener Service Award:**

Veronica T. Thronson

**Myrna Williams Children's Pro Bono Award:**

Kate C. Lowenhar-Fisher

**Public Interest Law Student of Distinction:**

Brian Ramsey

**Pro Bono Support Award:**

Penny Ranan

**Pro Bono Award of Excellence:**

William S. Boyd School of Law

**Ask-A-Lawyer Community Commitment Award:**

David L. Mann

**Outstanding Sole Practitioner Award:**

Kelly H. Swanson

**Law Firm Rising Star Award:**

Holland & Hart

**Dedicated Pro Bono Law Firm Award:**

Gordon Silver



Thomas H. Fell with Gordon Silver accepts the **Dedicated ProBono Law Firm Award** from Justice Kristina Pickering.



Dan R. Waite, with Lewis & Roca, accepts the **Pro Bono Attorney of the Year Award** from Justice Cherry, Justice Pickering, Justice Douglas, Justice Hardesty, Justice Parraguirre and Justice Gibbons.



# AWARDS



D. Chris Albright with Albright, Stoddard, Warnick & Albright accepts the **Judge Sally Loehrer Pro Bono Service Award** from Justice Michael Cherry.



Veronica T. Thronson with Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada accepts the **Louis Wiener Service Award** from Senator Valerie Wiener.



Kate C. Lowenhar-Fisher with Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber & Schreck accepts the **Myrna Williams Children's Pro Bono Award** from Justice Nancy Saitta.



Judge Linda Riegle accepts the **Justice Nancy Becker Pro Bono Award of Judicial Excellence** from Justice Nancy Becker.



Shelley D. Krohn, with Goldsmith & Guymon, accepts the **Lied Award for Most Cases for an Attorney** from Justice Michael Douglas.



John V. White, Dean of the William S. Boyd School of Law, accepts the **Pro Bono Award of Excellence** from Justice Ron Parraguirre on behalf of the law school.



David L. Mann accepts the **Ask-A-Lawyer Community Commitment Award** from Justice Mark Gibbons.



Thomas G. Ryan and Kenneth Van Winkle, Jr. accept the **Lied Awards for Most Cases and Hours for a Law Firm** from Justices Ron Parraguirre and Nancy Saitta on behalf of Lewis & Roca.



Philip J. Dabney accepts the **Law Firm Rising Star Award** from Justice Kristina Pickering on behalf of Holland & Hart.

# AWARDS

## Thank You to Our Table Sponsors:

Agassi Graf Holdings  
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Ashleman II, Ltd./NV Healthcare  
AT&T  
Bailey Kennedy  
Ballard Spahr  
Bank of America  
Bank of Nevada  
Barrick Gold Mining Company  
Benson Bertoldo Baker & Carter  
Boies, Schiller & Flexner  
Boyd Gaming Corporation  
Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck  
Canepa Riedy & Rubino  
Century Link  
Cobeaga Law Firm  
Clark County Public  
Defender's Office

Commercial Solar Services  
Crockett & Myers (2 tables)  
Dickerson Law Group  
Edward M. Bernstein & Associates  
Feinberg, Grant, Mayfield, Caneda  
and Litt (2 tables)  
Fennemore Craig  
Laura FitzSimmons, P.C.  
Fox Rothschild  
Frias Management  
Goldsmith & Guymon  
Gordon Silver  
Greenberg Traurig  
Griffin Crowley Group  
Harrah's Entertainment  
Holland & Hart  
Honorable Melanie Andress-Tobiasson  
HSBC  
Hutchinson & Steffan  
IGT

John Ocegueda/Debbie Smith  
Jones Vargas  
Kaempfer Crowell Renshaw  
Gronauer & Fiorentino  
Kemp Jones & Coulthard  
Koeller, Nebeker, Carlson & Haluck  
Kolesar & Leatham  
Las Vegas Senior Citizens  
Law Project  
Lee, Hernandez, Brooks,  
Garofalo & Blake  
Lewis & Roca (2 tables)  
Lionel Sawyer & Collins  
Maddox and Associates  
Mainor Eglet Cottle  
Marquis & Aurbach  
McDonald Carano Wilson  
Moran & Associates  
Morris Peterson  
Nevada Legal Services

Nevadans for Equal Access  
NV Energy  
Power Efficiency  
Pyatt, Silvestri & Hanlon  
Santoro, Driggs, Walch, Kearny,  
Holley & Thompson  
Sklar Williams  
Southwest Gas  
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Station Casinos  
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Thorndal Armstrong Delk  
Balkenbush & Eisinger  
Vista Management Inc.  
Wells Fargo  
William S. Boyd School of Law  
Willick Law Group  
Wynn Resorts

## Honor Roll

These attorneys took a case or participated in the following programs in 2009: Ask-A-Lawyer, Bankruptcy Facilitator, Nevada Microenterprise Initiative, Homeless Assistance Project and/or Senior Legal Institute.

Kimberly Mucha Abbott	Michelle L. Anderton	Joice B. Bass	Deanna C. Brinkerhoff	Jasen E. Cassady
Enrique R. Acuña	Giovanni L. Andrade	Sarah J. Bean	Shemilly A. Briscoe	John E. Cereso
Malik W. Ahmad	Robert M. Apple	Kevin E. Beck	Erik A. Bromson	Radha Chanderraj
Jeremy R. Alberts	Paola M. Armeni	Neil J. Beller	Sarai L. Brown	Yvette Chevalier
Betsy Allen	Alejandro Arroyo	Peter J. Bellon	Ernest A. Buche, Jr.	Benjamin B. Childs
W. West Allen	Starr H. Arvay	James E. Berchtold	Adam K. Bult	Jarien L. Cho
Nancy L. Allf	Martha J. Ashcraft	Kristine I. Bergstrom	Christopher D. Burke	Shawn Christopher
Caesar V. Almase	Elizabeth S. Ashley	Brian E. Blackham	Thomas M. Burns	Rob D. Chung
Heidi E. Almase	Don W. Ashworth,	Robert E. Blau	Karla R. Burton	Sean K. Claggett
Sean M. Ambrose	Ogonna M. Atamoh	Craig G. Bourke	Rebecca L. Burton	Brian P. Clark
David C. Amesbury	Maria A. Perez Avilez	John E. Bragonje	Lauren D. Calvert	Emily Gubler Clark
Alda A. Anderson	Boris A. Avramski	Adam J. Breeden	Chelsie C. Campbell	Daniel C. Coe
Peter M. Anderson	Denise S. Balboni	Darren T. Brenner	Christopher D. Carr	Lesley E. Cohen
Telia U. Anderson	Carol M. Barnes	Kristine Brewer	Matthew S. Carter	Gary L. Compton
Heather B. Anderson-Fintak	Jeffrey F. Barr	Elizabeth Brickfield	Stephen M. Caruso	Lynn Conant





# AWARDS

Kimberly J. Cooper  
Charles R. Cordova  
David W. Cousin  
Amanda J. Cowley  
Patricia J. Coyne  
Brice J. Crafton  
Richard L. Crane  
Lucien A. Cravens, Jr.  
Randy M. Creighton  
Chaka T. Crome  
Louis V. Csoka  
William P. Curran  
Philip J. Dabney  
Abigayle F. Dang  
Laurel E. Davis  
Leigh C. Davis  
Scott R. Davis  
Shan D. Davis  
William C. Devine II  
Robert P. Dickerson  
Courtney L. Dolan  
Angela H. Dows  
David E. Doxey  
Brian R. Dziminski  
Bryce K. Earl  
Robert N. Eaton  
Stefanie J. Ebbens  
John M. Eccles  
Tracy A. Egle  
Natalie E. El-Kouz  
Merielle R. Enriquez  
Diana S. Erb  
Cristina Evans

Michael N. Feder  
Thomas H. Fell  
Mario P. Fenu  
Sarah P. Fernow  
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Rhonda K. Forsberg  
Jonathan W. Fountain  
Heather E. Fraley  
David J. Freeman  
Joseph R. Ganley  
Paul M. Gaudet  
Michael J. Gayan  
Michael T. Gebhart  
Douglas D. Gerrard  
Rhea L. Gertken  
Nedda Ghandi  
Alex B. Ghibaudo  
R. Nathan Gibbs  
Jacqueline A. Gilbert  
Dara J. Goldsmith  
Shawn M. Goldstein  
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Paula K. Gregory  
Mary P. Groesbeck  
Robert A. Groesbeck  
Arun Gupta

John H. Gutke  
Marjorie A. Guymon  
Karen L. Hanks  
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Kent L. Ivey  
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Gavin C. Jangard  
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Gabrielle D. Jones  
Justin C. Jones  
J. Randall Jones  
J. Christopher Jorgensen  
Andrea L. Jundt  
Edward Kania  
Kirk D. Kaplan  
Shiv K. Kapoor  
Wendy A. Kazel  
Ty E. Kehoe  
William Kelly  
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Alisa J. Koot  
Matthew J. Kreutzer  
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John L. Krieger  
Shelley D. Krohn  
Dana B. Krulewitz

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Jeanne F. Lambertsen  
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Glenn J. Light  
m'Ryan A. Littleton  
Morag A. Logan  
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Miguel A. Lopez  
Bryce C. Loveland  
Danny J. Lovell  
Shelley Lubritz  
Robert W. Lueck  
Michael F. Lynch  
Bradley S. Mainor  
Maricar Magaña  
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Diane J. Markert  
Kerri A. Martinez  
A. Maria Maskall  
Augusta A. Massey  
Amy M. Mastin  
Catherine M. Mazzeo  
Matthew J. McAlonis  
Rena M. McDonald

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 Richard McKnight  
 Ann Marie McLoughlin  
 Jeanette E. McPherson  
 Martin I. Melendrez  
 Shell L. Mercer  
 Rebecca H. Miller  
 Rebecca L. Miltenberger  
 David Mincin  
 Rosemary Missisian  
 Kari T. Molnar  
 Nancy Momcilovic  
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 Caroline C. Morales  
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 Jennifer E. Mullen  
 Patrick J. Murch  
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 Kevin C. Murphy  
 Bryan Murray  
 Rhonda L. Mushkin  
 Bradley J. Myers  
 Susan L. Myers  
 Jason Naimi  
 Sharon L. Nelson  
 Victoria L. Nelson  
 Tara D. Newberry

Richard H. Newman  
 William M. Noall  
 Susan C. Noyce,  
 Guinness I. Ohazuruike  
 Eric R. Olsen  
 James M. O'Reilly  
 Clara A. Padilla-Silver  
 Mari D. Parlade  
 Christopher M. Pastore  
 Andrew H. Pastwick  
 Ingrid M. Patin  
 Stephen J. Paul  
 Cary Colt Payne  
 J. Stephen Peek  
 Mary D. Perry  
 Justin E. Pingel  
 Andrew B. Platt  
 David C. Polley  
 Daniel F. Polsenberg  
 Corinne M. Price  
 Katherine L. Provost  
 Jeffrey E. Quijano  
 Vivienne Rakowsky  
 Manita Rawat  
 John M. Rawicz  
 Michael D. Rawlins  
 R. Christopher Reade  
 Josh M. Reid  
 Jonathan T. Rimmel  
 Bradley J. Richardson  
 Amanda M. Roberts  
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 M. Nelson Segel  
 Richard Segerblom  
 Cher L. Shaine  
 Jeffrey I. Shaner  
 Brian D. Shapiro  
 Lynn R. Shoen



# AWARDS

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Quinton R. Singleton  
Adam D. Smith  
Natalie M. Smoot  
Rosa Solis-Rainey  
Richard G. Sorenson  
Doreen M. Spears Hartwell  
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David A. Tanner  
Timothy P. Thomas  
Dawn R. Throne  
Sean D. Thueson

Caryn S. Tijsseling  
D. Neal Tomlinson  
Helen P. Towleron  
Jennifer HW Tsai  
Lucas J. Tucker  
Erika Pike Turner  
Elyse M. Tyrell  
Patricia L. Vaccarino  
Eric J. Van  
Edward E. Vargas

Dan R. Waite  
Christina H. Wang  
Amanda B. Watson  
David J. Wedemeyer  
Angela M. White  
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Karen T. Wilson  
Shannon R. Wilson  
Joseph J. Wirth  
Janice Wolf

Kristin F. Wood  
Ryan J. Works  
M. Magali Wysong  
Aaron C. Yen  
Richard D. Young  
Lisa J. Zastrow  
Christian Zinn

**100 Hours Club** – These lawyers donated 100 hours or more on behalf of their pro bono clients in 2009.

We thank them for their incredible generosity that went above and beyond the call of duty.

Elizabeth S. Ashley  
Soonhee A. Bailey  
Joice B. Bass  
James E. Berchtold  
Brian E. Blackham  
Deanna C. Brinkerhoff  
Alexis Brown  
Lauren D. Calvert  
Laurel E. Davis  
Laura A. Deeter  
Erin Flynn  
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James E. Harper  
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Scott M. Holper

William M. Kapalka  
Kelly R. Kichline  
Glenn J. Light  
David L. Mann  
Kerri A. Martinez  
A. Maria Maskall  
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Rebecca L. Miltenberger  
Mari D. Parlade  
R. Christopher Reade  
Amanda M. Roberts  
Michelle L. Roberts  
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Quinton R. Singleton  
Jason P. Stoffel  
Dan R. Waite



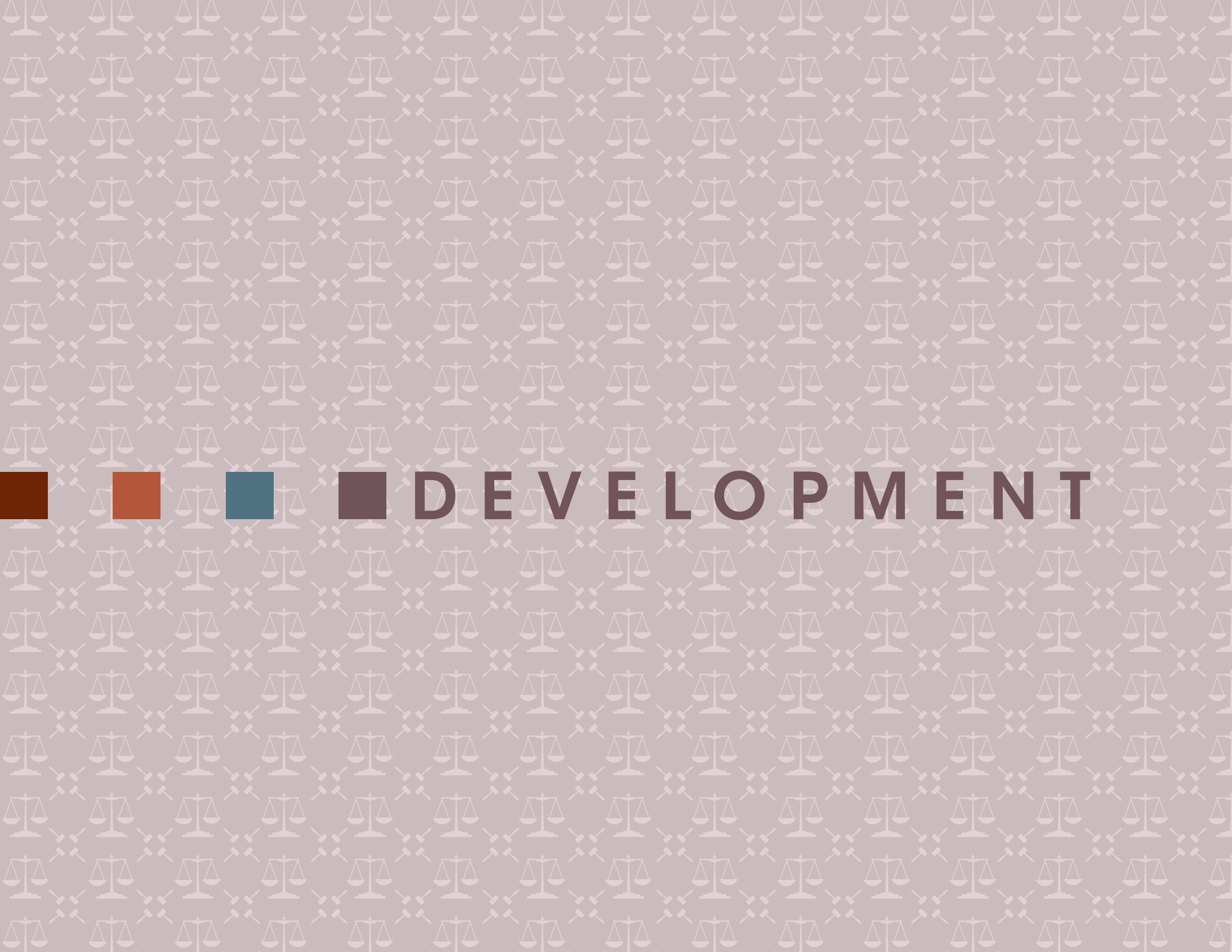




"This case has been a priority in my life for almost 30 years. It affected my family so negatively. With the help and expertise from your office, accomplishing this has brought justice to our lives. I received the utmost in courtesy, respect and professionalism. My experience surpassed the quality of service from most private offices. My family and I are so grateful."

~ Herbert, age 76  
Disabled Veteran  
Social Security Project





**DEVELOPMENT**

Dear Supporters,

Few communities have been hit as severely by the nation's economic downturn as Southern Nevada. Thousands of families have been thrown into financial and emotional crises and our services have never been more in demand. In response, Legal Aid Center has applied for new grants, hired additional lawyers and stretched our staff as far as humanly possible. Yet, we are still unable to help every family facing foreclosure, every foster child needing a voice in court, every domestic violence victim fighting for child custody, and every consumer who has been conned.

Growth is the natural progression of any organization whose services are so critical to so many. However, for Legal Aid Center, growth has had to happen without the infrastructure to support it. Our headquarters on Eighth Street has overflowed into rental space in the downtown area and still we need more ... more lawyers, more paralegals, more support staff, more classrooms and conference rooms. We also need a small playroom so that the children of domestic violence victims won't have to overhear the details of their mothers' abuse.

In September of 2007, Executive Director Barbara Buckley outlined for the board of directors her goal of a legal aid campus, where all of Legal Aid Center's services could be available at one convenient location. Such a facility would allow for central file maintenance, expanded computer servers and adequate, expandable work spaces that would promote improved communication and information storage, reduced overhead costs, better privacy for our clients and larger capacity for public education classes. Inspired by Barbara's vision of how much more we could accomplish, the Legal Aid Center Capital Campaign was launched and we proudly agreed to serve as its co-chairs.

Over the past year, we have met with many philanthropic groups and individuals to educate them on the important role that Legal Aid Center plays within our community. Dick and Barbara met with local developer Mike Saltman, who generously donated his services last year to help us reduce construction costs. He joined with our architect JMA and our contractor Martin-Harris and together, they are designing a less expensive building. These savings, in addition to a discount on labor costs, have reduced our original estimate from 2008 by 26 percent. The current estimate stands at approximately \$13 million for the completed facility and the plot of land adjacent to our existing building.

In the next few pages, we want to share with you how the generous gift and challenge from Christina Hixson at the Lied Foundation Trust ignited the Legal Aid Center Capital Campaign. We are sincerely grateful to Ms. Hixson, the Engelstad Family Foundation, and members of the legal community who stepped forward in this effort.

While we still have much to accomplish, we look forward to sharing with you in next year's annual report the great progress that we anticipate with Legal Aid Center's Capital Campaign. Until then, we thank you for your continued recognition of the life-saving work that Legal Aid Center does on behalf of families and individuals in crisis.

Sincerely,



Bill Boyd  
Chairman, Boyd Gaming  
Co-Chair, Capital Campaign



Dick Morgan  
Dean Emeritus, William S. Boyd School of Law  
Co-Chair, Capital Campaign



## LIED FOUNDATION MATCHING GRANT

In early December, the Lied Foundation issued us an exciting challenge designed to expand the Legal Aid Center Capital Campaign donor base. The Lied Foundation through Christina Hixson, trustee, donated \$500,000 and offered to give us an additional \$500,000 if we could raise \$500,000 from other donors by December 31, 2009. If we could meet that goal, Lied offered the same challenge to be met by June 2010. With only three weeks to raise those funds, one of our longtime board members, Randall Jones, came to the rescue with initial seed money of \$125,000 in honor of his late father Herb Jones. He then called on his law partners and friends to join him in this cause.

Board members, staff and friends of Legal Aid Center all worked the phones and reconnected with many of the groups we had met with over the last year. Once people learned of this exciting opportunity to jump-start our building fund, the response was tremendous. The work we had done over the past year, sharing Legal Aid Center's story with the local media and meeting with Southern Nevada business and philanthropic leaders, paid great dividends.

Also as part of our year-end push, we met with the Engelstad Family Foundation about assisting with the second challenge grant. We were humbled and so grateful that they agreed to match the entire \$500,000 for 2010.

In just 30 days, Legal Aid Center went from a five-year fundraising plan to a 12-month timeline for breaking ground on this much-needed new facility. With this additional \$2.5 million in the bank, we hope to be able to break ground in 2010 on the land we were fortunate to purchase in 2007, located adjacent to our existing building.

Even in the most difficult of times, Southern Nevadans' commitment to building a strong community is unwavering.



# DEVELOPMENT

**This list of donors includes those who helped us reach our Lied Foundation challenge.**

## **\$1.5 million**

Lied Foundation Trust

## **\$500,000**

Engelstad Family Foundation \*\*

## **\$125,000**

Kathleen and Randall Jones\*

## **\$50,000**

E. L. Cord Foundation  
Laura FitzSimmons  
NV Energy

## **\$25,000**

Barrick Gold Corporation  
William Kemp\*  
Southwest Gas

## **\$10,000**

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck  
Frias Management  
Harrah's Foundation\*\*  
Kim Sinatra\*\*  
Wells Fargo Foundation\*\*  
Wynn Resorts

## **\$5,000**

Bernie Anderson  
Nancy Becker  
Barbara Buckley  
William Coulthard & Carla Kok  
Laurel Davis  
Jennifer Dorsey  
Gordon Silver  
Koeller, Nebeker, Carlson & Haluck  
Joyce Mack\*  
Steve Morris & Kris Pickering\*\*  
Nevadans for Equal Access  
John Ocegüera  
E. Parry Thomas\*

## **\$2,500 – \$4,999**

Ballard Spahr  
Bank of Nevada\*\*

City of Henderson\*\*  
Phillip and Morgan Dabney  
Goldsmith & Guymon  
Dick and Tina Morgan  
John Valery White

## **\$1,000 – \$2,499**

Candace Barr and Rick Carter  
Cobeaga Law Firm  
Dickerson Law Group  
Cam Ferenbach and  
Mary McCarthy  
Elizabeth Gonzalez  
Hardy & Hardy  
William Horne  
Michael and Moonee Lee Joe  
Law Offices of Christopher P. Burke  
Lee, Hernandez, Brooks,  
Garofalo & Blake  
Sheila Leslie  
Robert Maddox  
Marquis & Aurbach  
Harry Mortenson  
Kris Pickering and Steve Morris  
Mariteresa Rivera-Rogers  
Tick Segerblom  
Miriam Shearing\*\*  
Debbie Smith  
Steven Strasser  
David and Veronica Thronson  
Jessie Walsh

## **\$1 – \$999**

Stephanie Abbott  
Deanna Ackerman  
Scott Bogatz\*\*  
Georganne Bradley  
Terry and Kathy Bratton  
Sheri Cane and Marc M. Vogel  
Emilia K. Cargill and  
John M. Naylor  
Vincent and Taryn Cass\*\*  
Paul Connaghan  
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Diana Erb  
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Global Gaming Group  
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Greg Kamer  
Douglas and Christine Kurdziel  
Thomas Larmore  
Brent A. and Carla Larsen  
Laura Leavitt  
Peter Leone  
Akke Levin  
M. Nelson Segel, Chtd.  
Christine and Chad Miller  
Leslie A. Nielsen  
Oshins & Associates

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Brian Ramsey  
Republic Services  
Esther Rodriguez  
Russell Rowe  
Beverly Salhanick  
Jon Sasser  
Susan Scann  
Christina Schwab  
Christine Smith  
Erin A. Smith  
Alexander and Alan Solomon  
Michael Stoberski  
Kelly Swanson

*\* In honor of Herb Jones*

*\*\* Donation made toward  
2010 challenge*





# DEVELOPMENT

**This list of donors includes year-round general donations to our capital campaign, operations and pro bono luncheon.**

Andre Agassi Foundation  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Sari G. Aizley  
Thomas S. Alch  
Cary Alderucci  
Nancy Allf  
Stavros Anthony  
Armstrong Teasdale  
Don W. Ashworth  
Bailey Kennedy  
Ballard Spahr  
Bank of America  
Bank of Nevada  
Barrick Gold Corporation  
Linda Bell  
Benson, Bertoldo, Baker & Carter  
Beverly Salhanick  
Jack B. Binion  
James M. Bixler  
Danielle L. Blackham  
Marilyn J. Boatwright  
Boies, Schiller & Flexner  
Boyd Gaming Corporation  
Boyd Foundation  
Kristine Brewer  
Douglas Brooks  
Keith Brown  
Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber, Schreck  
Canepa, Reidy & Rubino  
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County Public Defender  
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Tom Collins  
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Bette Cook  
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Gronauer & Fiorentino  
William M. Kapalka  
Edwin Keller  
Kemp, Jones & Coulthard  
Koeller, Nebeker, Carlson & Haluck  
Kolesar & Leatham  
Zachariah Larson  
Las Vegas Senior Citizens  
Law Project  
Lee Hernandez Brooks  
Garofalo & Blake  
Legal Services of Eastern Michigan  
Leonard Levin  
Lewis & Roca  
Lionel Foundation  
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McDonald Carano Wilson  
Jenna and Michael Morton  
Donald M. Mosley  
Richard W. Myers  
Dennis Naish  
Melissa A. Neuman  
Nevada Legal Services  
Nevadans for Equal Access  
NV Energy  
John Ocegueda  
Mari D. Parlade  
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of Las Vegas  
Vista Management Inc.  
Wells Fargo Bank  
John Valery White  
William S. Boyd School of Law  
Willick Law Group  
Susan Wood  
Wynn Resorts



"My son's attorney made such a difference in both our lives. She showed him there was someone he could count on while I was doing my program ... and she supported me to stay with it and work hard in rehab so I could get him back. That day he came home finally was like giving birth to my little boy all over again. It was the happiest day in my life. I'm doing good now and we are a family."

~ Miriam, age 46

Son Nicholas, age 8, was taken from home due to parent's drug use.

Children's Attorneys Project -

Early Intervention Program



# PARTNERSHIPS

## CLARK COUNTY CIVIL SELF-HELP CENTER

After seven years of work and planning, the Regional Justice Center's Civil Self-Help Center (SHC) opened in December 2009. Clark County contracted with Legal Aid Center to run the SHC, which is conveniently located on the first floor of the Regional Justice Center.

The SHC provides common civil forms, education and legal information to those wishing to represent themselves in civil matters in the Clark County court system. All staffing for the center is provided by Legal Aid Center, including one lawyer and four paralegals, three of whom are bilingual. They remain neutral and do not provide legal advice, but they do offer free education and assistance to any Clark County resident in need of legal information on civil actions, landlord/tenant complaints and evictions, nondomestic protection orders, and small claims matters. A mediator is also available to offer litigants the option of using no-cost resolution programs to settle their issues outside of a courtroom.

### 2009 Results

- 2,133 people were served in the first three weeks of operation

## WILLIAM S. BOYD SCHOOL OF LAW

### Community Legal Education Project

We are very grateful for our 11-year partnership with the William S. Boyd School of Law, which gives students invaluable, real-world experience and provides Legal Aid Center with additional help in educating residents on various legal issues. Most first- and second-year law students volunteer at our office by teaching classes to the general public under the supervision of a staff attorney. With their help, we conduct classes in bankruptcy, small claims, divorce, guardianship, paternity/custody and the newly added foreclosure mediation program.

### 2009 Results

- 4,964 attendees, a 27 percent increase over 2008
- Total attendees since its inception in 1999: 31,457

### Partners in Pro Bono

Second- and third-year law students from the William S. Boyd School of Law are given the opportunity to work on a pro bono case with a private attorney through our Partners in Pro Bono Program. Participants are matched with volunteer attorneys in the community on cases involving family law, domestic violence and consumer fraud.

### 2009 Results

- 40 clients were represented by students and volunteer attorneys





## VEGAS PBS

Consumers who are considering bankruptcy now have access to free online classes on the subject thanks to an expanded partnership between Legal Aid Center, William S. Boyd School of Law and Vegas PBS. This new online class explains the bankruptcy process in understandable terms to help consumers determine if this is the right choice for their individual financial crisis or if there may be a less drastic alternative through credit counseling. Participants learn the difference between Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 filings and the benefits and risks of both.

An important addition to in-house classes we currently offer, this online option enables us to serve vastly greater numbers of consumers. Between job layoffs and the housing crisis, attendance in our bankruptcy classes has jumped by 30 percent from 2008. The Vegas PBS team has brought a new dimension to our public outreach efforts with their expertise in filming, editing and hosting this class on their Web site.

### 2009 Results

- 393 people viewed the class online during the first three weeks it was posted

## R&R PARTNERS FOUNDATION

In 2008, R&R Partners Foundation began working with Legal Aid Center to help us better understand our role within the community and communicate our services, both to potential clients who need our help and to the philanthropic community who we will be approaching as we embark on our capital campaign.

In this spirit of self-discovery, R&R conducted local research on us and we learned some important things. We found that our previous name, Clark County Legal Services, suggested that we were part of the county government. It also made it difficult for new clients to find us in the phone directory. Perhaps most surprising to us was that the Southern Nevada legal community didn't thoroughly understand our mission and how they could help us.

With R&R's guidance, we rebranded ourselves as the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada; redesigned our website, annual report and informational brochures; and conducted a series of editorial board meetings with the major print and broadcast media throughout the valley. They were surprised to learn of the many ways that we provide a voice for the voiceless, especially women and children in crisis. Thanks to this public information effort, our local media is now helping us reach ever-increasing numbers of residents who desperately need assistance.

R&R assisted us in other ways, too, like celebrating our 50th anniversary of service to the community and our 10th anniversary of the Children's Attorneys Project, launching the Legal Aid Center's capital campaign, providing strategic and technical support in our successful application for the prestigious Nevada Women's Philanthropy grant, and ongoing counseling in our branding and fundraising efforts.

We could not have come this far in just two years without the generous support, creative energy and steadfast commitment to our cause. R&R Foundation is dedicated to making Southern Nevada an equitable community for all residents and we thank their tremendous staff for their hard work on our behalf.

### 2009 Results

- 2008 annual report
- CAP's 10th anniversary invitation and video
- Presentation video for competitive grant
- Pro Bono luncheon presentation video

# PARTNERSHIPS

## LEGAL AID CENTER OF SOUTHERN NEVADA REFERRAL NETWORK

We receive thousands of walk-in requests for our services every year, but the majority of our clients come to us through a wide network of referral sources. The following is a list of the many groups we work with:

KNPR-Las Vegas/National Public Radio  
KLVX-Las Vegas Public Broadcasting System  
County Social Workers  
Parents  
School Staff  
Courts  
Private attorneys  
Shade Tree  
Safe Nest  
Safe House

Clark County Social Services  
Nevadans for Equal Access  
Nevada Legal Services  
Senior Citizens Law Project  
Constable's Office  
United Way  
Consumer Credit Counseling Services  
KLAS-Channel 8  
KVBC-Channel 3  
In Business Las Vegas  
Las Vegas City Life  
Center for Independent Living  
Henderson Allied Community Advocates (HACA)  
State of Nevada Mortgage Lending Division  
State of Nevada Consumer Affairs Division

Clark County Bar Association  
State Bar of Nevada  
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)  
Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department  
Nevada Fair Housing Center  
Social Security Administration  
Friends and Family



# PARTNERSHIPS

## LEGAL AID CENTER OF SOUTHERN NEVADA

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"I did not know I could run away. My husband beat me all time, never let me go out ... he lock me inside apartment. I live like this so long. I fear for my children. They so afraid. My lawyer helping me get divorce so I can have new life, work and not be afraid. She was my friend and showed me to know my rights. So lucky to have her help."

~ Mariella, 22  
Domestic Violence Client  
Domestic Violence Project





# FINANCIALS

## CLIENT INCOME GUIDELINES

Number of Persons in Household	Monthly Gross Income*	Yearly Gross Income*
1 Person	\$1,892.91	\$22,715.00
2 Persons	\$2,163.33	\$25,960.00
3 Persons	\$2,433.75	\$29,205.00
4 Persons	\$2,708.75	\$32,505.00
5 Persons	\$2,924.16	\$35,090.00
6 Persons	\$3,139.58	\$37,675.00
7 Persons	\$3,355.00	\$40,260.00
8+ Persons	\$3,570.41	\$42,845.00

\*Based on 55 percent of area median income.

Prospective clients should also not have more than \$5,000 in net assets other than a home, one motor vehicle and/or work-related equipment.



## INCOME AND EXPENSES

Income			2009
	Grants & Contracts		\$1,292,166
	Private Foundations		\$1,077,000
	Attorneys Fees		\$72,736
	Donations		\$120,565
	Court Filing revenue		\$2,682,567
	Income Before Donated Services		\$5,245,034
		Donated Services	\$3,750,000
	<b>Total Income &amp; Donated Services</b>		\$8,995,034
<b>Expenses</b>			
Personnel	Attorney		\$1,776,319
	Non-Attorney		\$1,277,931
	Benefits		\$408,104
		<b>Personnel Subtotal</b>	\$3,462,354
Operating			
	General Office & Related		\$341,224
	Space & Utilities		\$300,779
	Travel & Training		\$71,492
	Legal Library & Dues		\$85,372
	Litigation & Case Related Services		\$140,096
	Contract Services		\$48,000
	Community Outreach		\$12,817
	Capital Investments*		\$221,204
	Miscellaneous		\$3,043
		<b>Operating Subtotal</b>	\$1,224,027
	Expenses Before Donated Services		\$4,686,381
		<b>Donated Services</b>	\$3,750,000
	<b>Total Expenses &amp; Donated Services</b>		\$8,436,381
	<b>Allocated for FY 2010 Operating Expenses</b>		\$558,653

\* Allocated expense for new land/facility expansion





## **LEGAL AID CENTER OF SOUTHERN NEVADA**

**800 South Eighth Street**

**Las Vegas, NV 89101**

**702.386.1070**

**[www.lacsn.org](http://www.lacsn.org)**