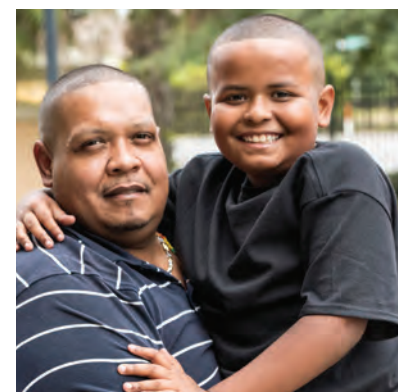
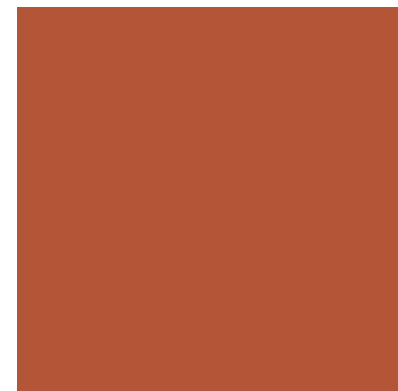




2014
ANNUAL
REPORT

*Righting
Wrongs,
Changing
Lives*



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





Greetings friends and supporters

Sometimes people ask me if our work is depressing. They ask how we can stand to see a child get abused by their parents. They ask how we can stand to see an elderly client get taken advantage of by their own child. While it is true that we see those things, and it is hard to see those things, we also see the faces of our clients when we help them through the toughest time in their lives. One of those clients was Mary. When she came to our office, she was still visibly shaken, bearing a scar on her face from the abuse she endured merely weeks before. She had a restraining order against the perpetrator, the father of her two children. The TPO allowed for visitation of the children which the perpetrator violated. He would use the exchange time as an excuse to continue to harass Mary, telling her she cannot find anyone better than him. We filed a Complaint for Custody to solidify her primary physical custody as well as a Motion for an Order to Show Cause for violation of the restraining order.

At the evidentiary hearing for the TPO violation, the Court found the perpetrator had violated the TPO multiple times. When the Court asked Mary if she wanted him to be sent to jail, she said she just wanted him to leave her alone and understand their relationship is over. The Court ordered him to pay her \$2,000 for violating the TPO and revoked his visitation rights. Finally, he stopped following and harassing her. At the custody hearing, he agreed to everything Mary wanted. At the end of the case, Mary told us that she felt that without our help, she might have died. There is no better feeling in the world than to help clients like Mary.

Last year, we helped more clients than ever before in our history, over 100,000 people, through free classes, two Self-Help Centers, various Ask-A-Lawyer programs, and direct representation by our staff and pro bono lawyers. I am so incredibly proud and grateful to everyone who made this happen. I want to acknowledge our staff: they are an amazing group of human beings who have decided to give their time and talents to represent abused children, victims of domestic violence, victims of fraud, and all those facing legal matters in civil court and have no one to help them. I also want to thank our donors, pro bono lawyers and partners for making 2014 our most successful year to date; and with your ongoing support, 2015 will be even better!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Barbara Buckley'.

Barbara Buckley
Executive Director

An overview of what we do

CHILDREN'S ATTORNEYS PROJECT

- Gives children in foster care a voice in court.
- Enforces a child's right and desire to have visitation with siblings.
- Assists low-income parents who are struggling with the school district to protect their children's special education rights.
- Recruits and trains volunteers who are willing to become educational surrogate parents for children with disabilities, ensuring schools are meeting their disability-related needs.

FAMILY JUSTICE PROJECT

- Represents domestic violence victims and helps them obtain protective orders, divorce decrees and custody of their children.
- Helps victims who are living in domestic violence shelters by teaching them about their legal rights to live a life free of violence.
- Helps elderly grandparents with guardianship of their grandchildren.
- Represents those unable to navigate the family court process with divorce and custody issues.
- Assists battered immigrants who are victims of crimes under the Violence Against Women Act and the criminal witness U-visa Program to obtain work authorizations and status adjustments.
- Assists children with Special Immigrant Juvenile visas and deferred action for childhood arrivals, ensuring parents are not separated from their children.
- Assists parents of US Citizens with deferred action applications.

CONSUMER RIGHTS PROJECT

- Works against fraudulent sales practices.
- Fights against abusive debt collection activities.
- Helps payday loan borrowers trapped on a debt treadmill.
- Assists debtors in bankruptcy court seeking a fresh start.
- Represents homeowners going through foreclosure.
- Represents people with disabilities who have been denied social security benefits.

CIVIL LAW SELF-HELP CENTER

- Provides self-help information to those representing themselves in civil matters, including forms, instructions and in-person assistance.
- Functions as a legal emergency room for people struggling to navigate through the court system and trying to obtain accurate legal information.

FAMILY LAW SELF-HELP CENTER

- Provides self-help information to those representing themselves in family court matters, including forms, instructions and in-person assistance.
- Hosts a weekly Ask-a-Lawyer program for those needing to speak with an attorney about divorce, custody, guardianship, adoption or child support matters.

PRO BONO PROJECT

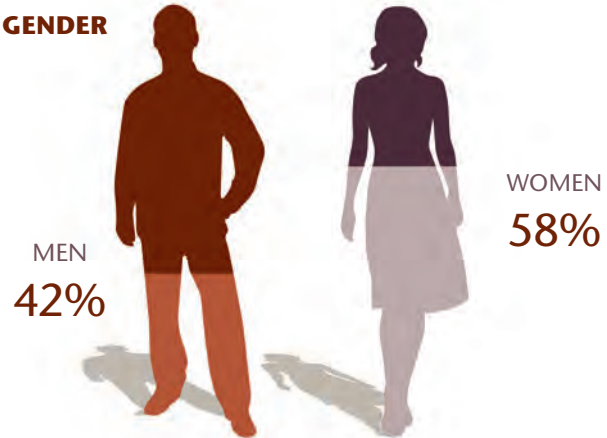
- Recruits private attorneys to represent clients in the areas of consumer fraud, domestic violence, child abuse, bankruptcy, family law and foreclosure.
- Trains volunteer attorneys in specialties of law outside their practice areas.
- Mentors volunteer attorneys who need assistance in areas of law outside of their usual practices.
- Manages Ask-a-Lawyer programs where unrepresented litigants can get expert legal advice from a practicing attorney on:
 - Family Law
 - Landlord/Tenant
 - Foreclosure
 - Small Claims
 - Veterans
 - Federal Court
 - Small Business Project
 - Homeless Assistance

COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION PROJECT

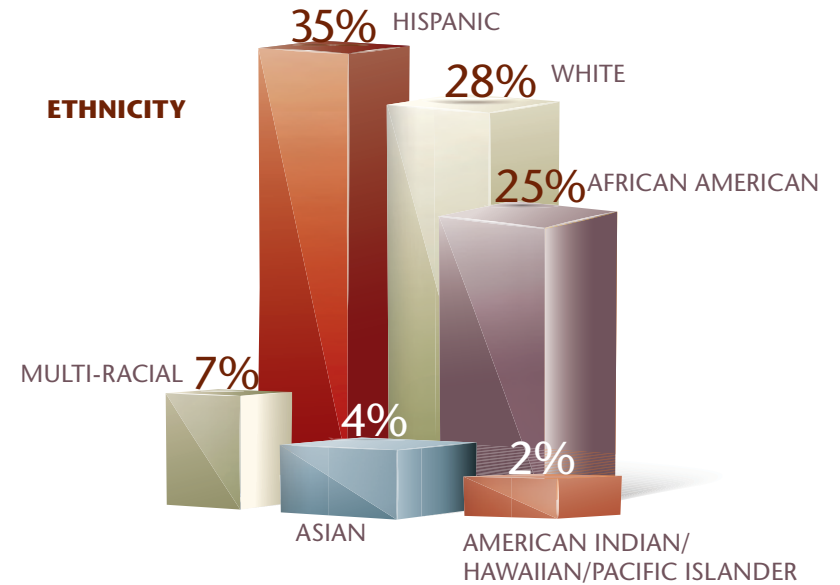
- Offers free weekly classes to members of the community in partnership with the UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law in the following areas:
 - Divorce
 - Custody
 - Guardianship
 - Small Claims
 - Bankruptcy
 - Foreclosure
 - Collection Proof
 - Record Sealing
- Spanish classes available in Family Law, Small Claims and Bankruptcy

Client Statistics

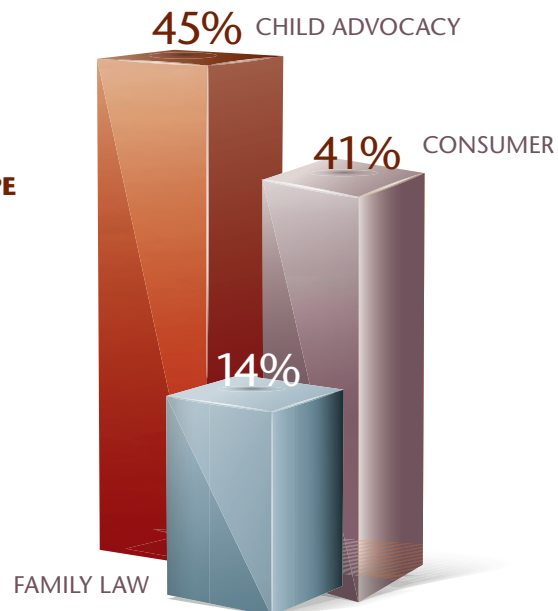
GENDER



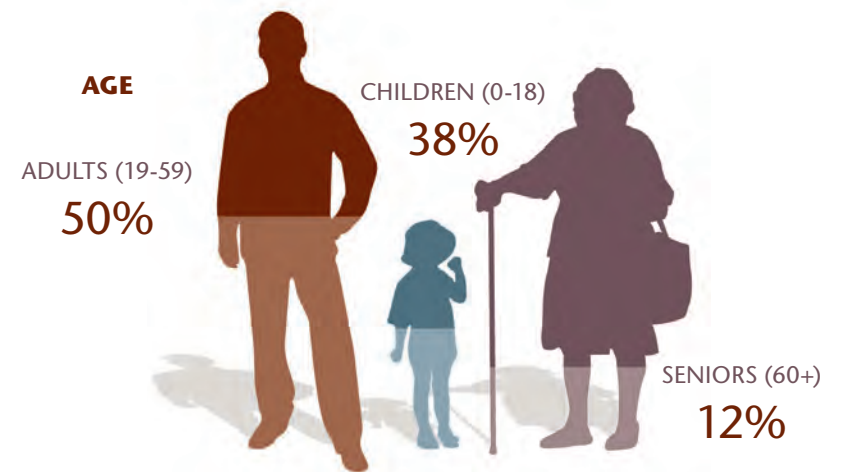
ETHNICITY



CASE TYPE

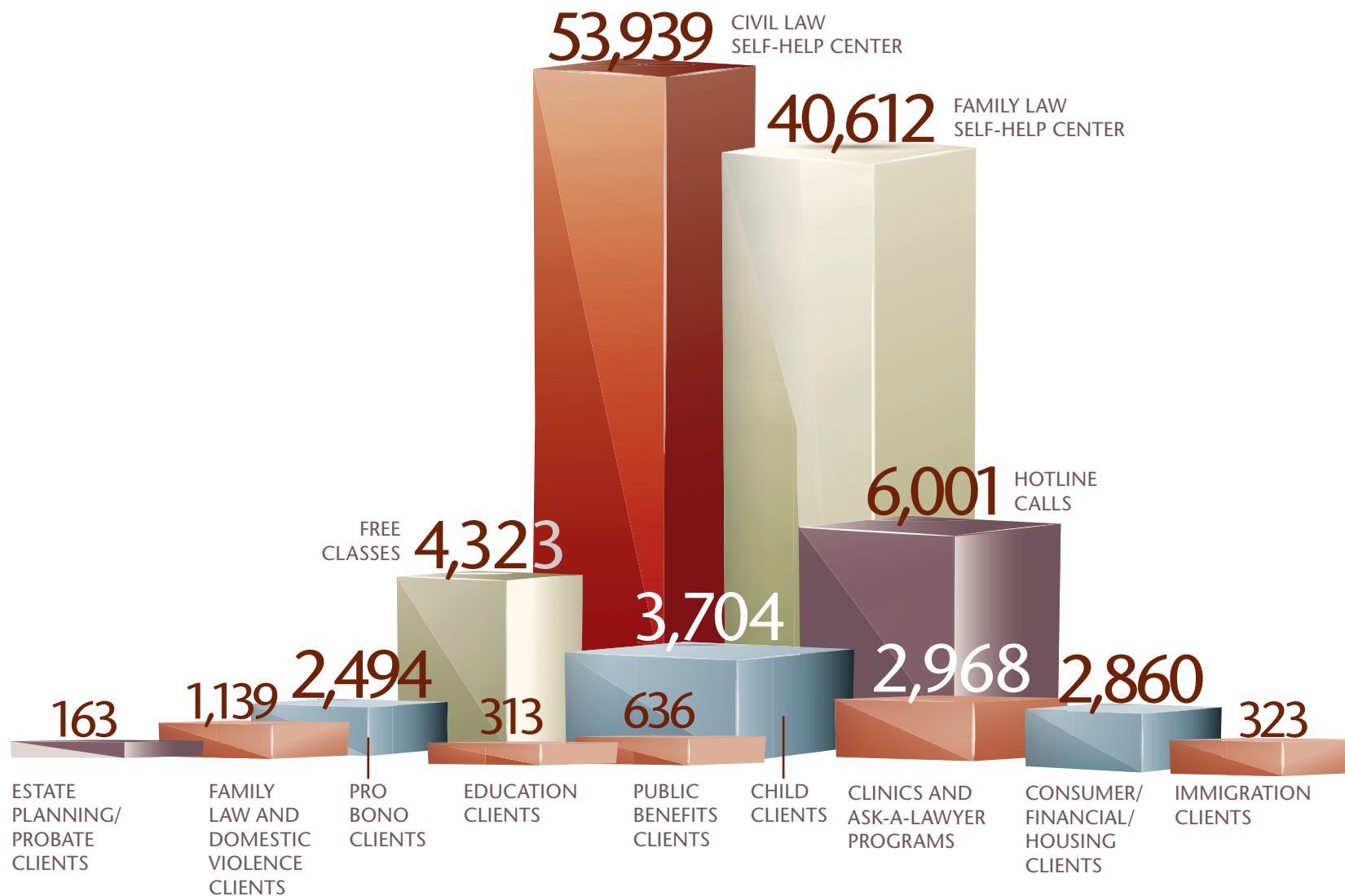


AGE



By the Numbers

OVER 100,000 INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED THROUGH ALL OF OUR PROGRAM AREAS.



14th Annual Pro Bono Awards Luncheon



Hundred Hours Club with Nevada Supreme Court Justices

PRO BONO ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR:

Doreen Spears Hartwell

LIED AWARD FOR MOST HOURS FOR LAW FIRM:

Lewis Roca Rothgerber

LIED AWARD FOR MOST CASES FOR LAW FIRM:

Gordon Silver

LIED AWARD FOR MOST HOURS FOR ATTORNEY:

Mark J. Connot

LIED AWARD FOR MOST CASES FOR ATTORNEY:

Ishi Kunin

LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR:

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

WILLIAM S. BOYD AWARD OF EXCELLENCE:

Bill Boyd

Left: Doreen Spears Hartwell, Esq. receives the Pro Bono Attorney of the Year award from Chief Justice Mark W. Gibbons.

Right: Kate C. Lowenhar-Fisher, Esq. (middle), Andrew D. Moore, Esq. (right), with Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP, receive the Law Firm of the Year award from Chief Justice Mark W. Gibbons (left).



Photos courtesy of TalbotSnow.com

JUSTICE NANCY BECKER PRO BONO AWARD
OF JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE:

Justice Kristina S. Pickering
Judge Rob Bare

VINCE A. CONSUL MEMORIAL PRO BONO AWARD:

Tracy A. DiFillippo

LOUIS WIENER SERVICE AWARD:

Josef M. Karacsonyi

MYRNA WILLIAMS CHILDREN'S PRO BONO AWARD:

Bill Curran

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE:

Bitu Khamsi
John J. Piro

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW STUDENT OF DISTINCTION:

Bailey Bortolin

ASK-A-LAWYER COMMUNITY COMMITMENT AWARD:

Laura Ghita

VOLUNTEER SURROGATE AWARD:

Richard Erlich



Bill Curran, Esq. with Ballard Spahr receives the Myrna Williams Children's Award from Myrna Williams.



Tracy A. DiFillippo, Esq., with Armstrong Teasdale receives the Vince Consul Memorial Pro Bono Award from Judge Cam Ferenbach.

5

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COULTHARD

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Nevada Legal News
UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law
AT&T (3 tables)
Kunin & Carman
McDonald Carano Wilson
Bailey Kennedy
Lewis Roca Rothgerber (2 tables)
Kainen Law Group
Morris Law Group
Koeller Nebeker Carlson & Haluck
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Josef M. Karacsonyi, Esq. with The Dickerson Law Group receives the Louis Wiener Service Award from Chief Justice Mark W. Gibbons.



Laura Ghita, Esq. receives the Ask-a-Lawyer Community Commitment Award from Justice Ron D. Parraguirre.



Bailey Bortolin receives the Public Interest Law Student of Distinction Award from Justice Ron D. Parraguirre.



John J. Piro, Esq. (left), Bita Khamsi, Esq. (middle), with the Clark County Public Defenders Office receive the Award of Excellence from Justice Michael A. Cherry.

Pro Bono Volunteers



Ishi Kunin, Esq. with Kunin & Carman (right) receives the Lied Award for Most Cases for Attorney from Justice Michael L. Douglas.



Richard Erlich (left) receives the Volunteer Surrogate Award from Justice Kristina S. Pickering.



Justice Kristina S. Pickering (right), accepts the Justice Nancy Becker Pro Bono Award of Judicial Excellence from Nancy Becker.



Judge Rob Bare (right) accepts the Justice Nancy Becker Pro Bono Award of Judicial Excellence from Nancy Becker.



Mark J. Connot, Esq. with Fox Rothschild (right) receives the Lied Award for Most Hours for Attorney from Justice Michael L. Douglas.



Thomas H. Fell, Esq. (right) receives the Lied Awards for Most Pro Bono Cases for a Law Firm from Justice Michael L. Douglas.



Bill Boyd (right) receives the William S. Boyd Award of Excellence from Justice Michael A. Cherry (left).



Dan R. Waite, Esq. (right) with Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP accepts the Lied Award for Most Pro Bono Hours by a Law Firm from Justice Michael L. Douglas.

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 Enrique R. Acuna
 Malik W. Ahmad
 Constance L. Akridge
 Michelle D. Alarie
 Jeffrey R. Albregts
 Peter M. Aldous
 Cynthia L. Alexander
 W. West Allen
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 Ketan D. Bhirud
 Fredrick J. Biedermann
 Brian E. Blackham
 I. Scott Bogatz

This case was very scary to me. I had just been through a foreclosure and now my HOA was trying to sue me. Thanks to Legal Aid Center my anxieties were put to rest and as I thought, I didn't even owe the money.

~ Consumer Rights Project Client



My attorney truly made me feel comfortable and listened to me as a person, not a victim. I appreciated her willingness to listen and make this experience as smooth as possible. I feel I had a relationship with her and will miss her dearly.

~ Child Client





You made my life comfortable and problem free. I was facing a payment of \$56,000 on my late husband's medical bill and your office gladly helped me extinguish the lien.

~ Consumer Rights Project Client



She is an excellent, patient, good-hearted attorney. Thank you so very much for not giving up on our case. Now I am complete. Thank you and God Bless.

~ Child Client

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2014

Court Filing Revenue	\$3,592,867
Grants & Contracts	\$2,269,720
Private Foundations	\$475,000
IOLTA	\$920,000
Donations	\$463,990
Interest Income / Other	\$199,602
Income Before Donated Services	\$7,921,180
 (25,918 hrs at \$250/hr) Donated Services	 \$6,479,500
Total Income & Donated Services	\$14,400,680

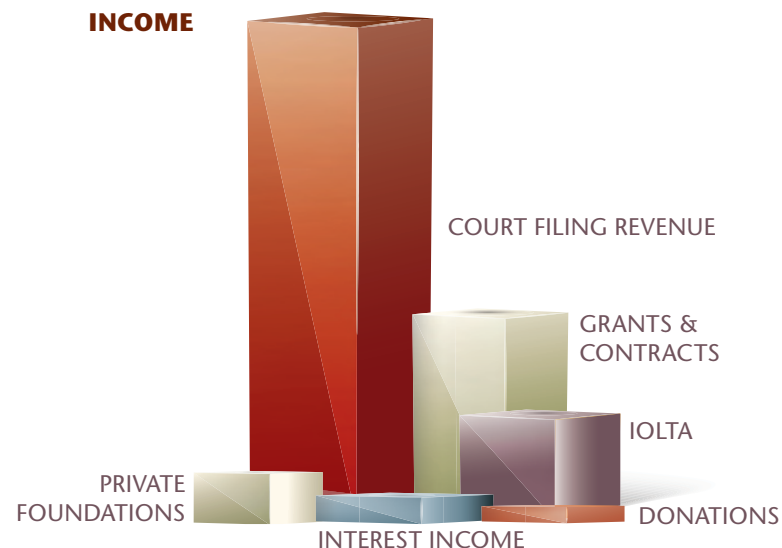
EXPENSES

Personnel	
Salaries	\$5,754,613
Benefits	\$1,222,645
Personnel Subtotal	\$6,977,258

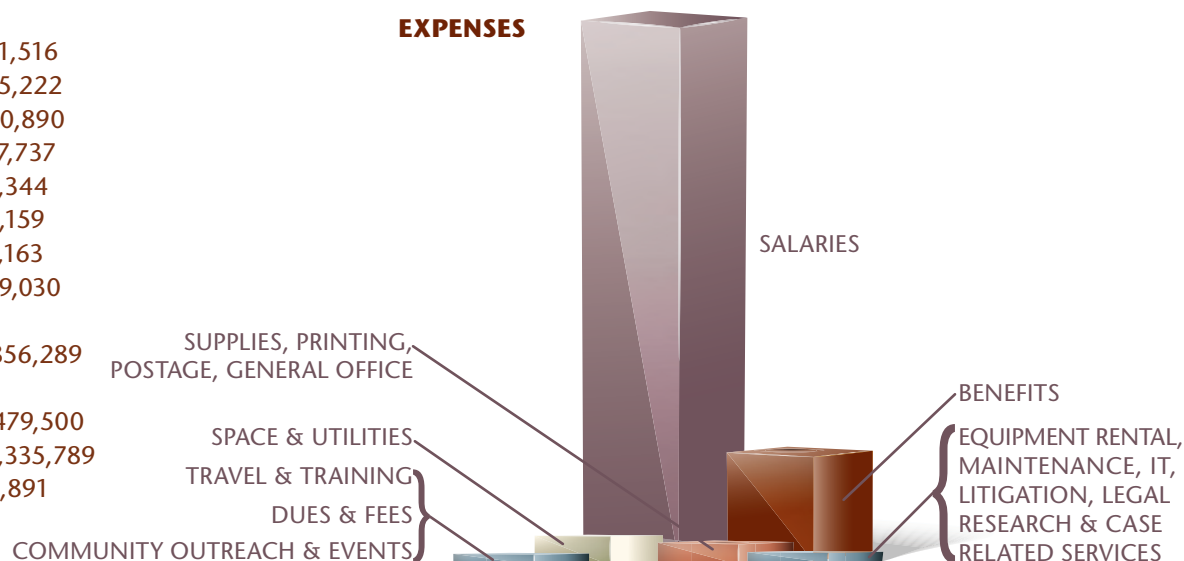
Non Personnel	
Space & Utilities	\$101,516
Equipment Rental, Maintenance, IT	\$125,222
Supplies, Printing, Postage, General Office Related	\$300,890
Travel & Training	\$137,737
Dues & Fees	\$69,344
Litigation, Legal Research & Case Related Services	\$83,159
Community Outreach & Events	\$61,163
Non-Personnel Subtotal	\$879,030

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$7,856,289
Expenses Before Donated Services	
Donated Services	\$6,479,500
Total Expenses & Donated Services	\$14,335,789
NET OPERATIONS	\$64,891

INCOME



EXPENSES



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~ Domestic Violence Victim



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