



Dear Friends & Supporters,



2025 brought new challenges, seemingly every day. Cuts to safety net programs affected our clients' ability to meet their basic needs. Attacks on due process and other fundamental rights called into question our nation's commitment to equal justice for all. At the same time, the fate of longstanding federal funding sources for legal services hung in the balance for much of the year.

Yet, in the face of this uncertainty and fear, CLA's staff and volunteers, together with the team at our affiliate, CWJC, worked harder than ever, getting life-changing results for clients in over 9,000 cases and educating thousands more of our neighbors across Central and Western Massachusetts through robust community education and outreach.

We were also inspired by the support of our community who met this moment with increased generosity that allowed us to continue to stand up for the rights of our vulnerable neighbors. Thanks to your support, our advocates were able to continue their creative and dynamic work defending the rights of people with disabilities, low-income tenants, elders, survivors of domestic violence, veterans, victims of discrimination, low-wage workers, and many others.

In 2026, we enter our 75th year of defending liberty and justice for all. We recognize that the year ahead will undoubtedly bring more challenges, and appreciate that our future success relies on our community of supporters, donors, funders, and volunteers. Knowing we have allies like you standing with us gives us strength. Together, we will continue to provide high-quality legal services and be a resource for those who need it most.

With deep appreciation,

JONATHAN MANNINA, ESQ.
Executive Director, Community Legal Aid, Inc.

2025 in Numbers



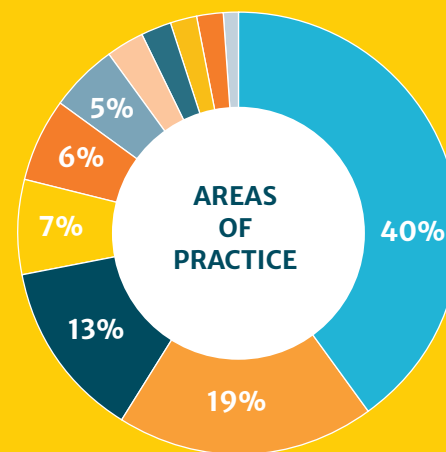
TOTAL CASES



TOTAL COMMUNITY LEGAL AID CASES



TOTAL CENTRAL WEST JUSTICE CENTER CASES*



- 40% Housing & preventing homelessness
- 19% Humanitarian-based immigration*
- 13% Keeping families safe from violence
- 7% Re-entry after incarceration
- 6% Maximizing income
- 5% Employment
- 3% Keeping kids in school
- 2% Health (Medicaid/Medicare)
- 2% Consumer help
- 2% Other
- 1% Family Stabilization

3% of the cases CLA handled in FY2025 were on behalf of Veteran clients.

POPULATION SERVED

INCOME

77%

Up to 125% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines†

18%

Between 125% and 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines‡

5%

Over 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines

AGE

18%

60 and older

73%

19-59 years

9%

Under 19 years

GENDER

65%

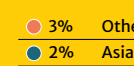
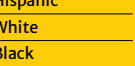
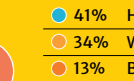
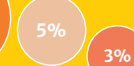
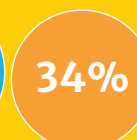
Female Identified

32%

Male Identified

3% Gender not identified

ETHNICITY



- 41% Hispanic
- 34% White
- 13% Black
- 5% Not Disclosed
- 3% Other
- 2% Asian
- 2% Bi/Multiracial

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FINANCIALS

Federal Poverty Guidelines (2025)

† 125%: Pre-tax annual income of \$19,563 for an individual or \$40,188 for a family of four

‡ 200%: Pre-tax annual income of \$31,300 for an individual or \$64,300 for a family of four

* CLA's wholly-owned subsidiary, the Central West Justice Center (CWJC), receives no funding from the Legal Services Corporation.

Fighting Discrimination in Housing

Despite being prohibited by state and federal fair housing laws, discrimination against people with disabilities remains pervasive.

That’s where CLA’s Fair Housing Project comes in, as a team of attorneys and other staff help tenants fight back against housing discrimination.

In 2023, CLA’s Fair Housing team began investigating a large affordable housing complex in Worcester, where several tenants with disabilities complained of being wrongly denied reasonable accommodations that would provide them with equal access to their housing.

After over two years of litigation, CLA reached a comprehensive settlement with the owners of, and management company for, Lincoln Village Apartments (“Lincoln Village”).

In the case, CLA represented six individuals, all of whom are low-income people with disabilities, who alleged the owners of Lincoln Village and its management company, Carabetta Companies, engaged in unlawful housing discrimination.

The complaint claimed that the defendants failed to properly recognize and protect the rights of tenants with disabilities. It also alleged that the defendants violated the tenants’ rights under state law by failing to provide reliable elevator access, which at times left the plaintiffs and others stranded on upper floors of the high-rise building, or stranded in the lobby and unable to return to their apartments.

As part of the court-approved settlement, Lincoln Village agreed to widespread changes that will impact all of its residents, including providing its employees with training on federal and state anti-discrimination laws. Lincoln Village will also review and update its existing reasonable accommodation policies. CLA’s attorneys will monitor Lincoln Village for two years to avoid potential further discrimination against other disabled and elderly residents.

Michelin C. Cahill, Senior Supervising Attorney for CLA’s Fair Housing Project, noted,

“In this case, our six plaintiffs bravely came forward to ensure their neighbors didn’t face the same discrimination that they had. Through this lawsuit they demanded safety and dignity in their housing and for their neighbors.”

— Michelin C. Cahill



Jacquie Ormo, a 74-year-old mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, waited months for Lincoln Village to install an electric door so that she could maneuver her mobility scooter in and out of her apartment without injuring herself.



One of the clients in the complaint against Lincoln Village, Jacquie Ormo (center) flanked by two CLA attorneys who worked on the case, Taylor Largmann (left) and Michelin Cahill (right).

Community Education

An essential part of CLA’s work is providing information to our partners and client communities about their legal rights. In 2025, our staff held over 150 community training sessions, sharing crucial legal education with over 3,000 people.

CLA is Helping Tenants Seal Eligible Eviction Records Under New Law

An eviction filing, even one from years ago, can mean the difference between being approved for or rejected from future housing.

Under a new law that took effect in May 2025, Massachusetts tenants can remove certain types of evictions from their court record, eliminating what can be a significant barrier to finding rental housing.

The new sealing law allows tenants to petition the Housing Court to seal certain eviction records. Sealing does not erase the case but removes it from public view — shielding tenants from screening agencies and landlords, including subsidized housing providers, who often treat any court filing as a red flag.

Low-income tenants in particular may benefit from the new sealing law. A record of a past eviction filing, particularly one for nonpayment of rent, can stand in the way of eligibility for subsidized housing. As many low-income tenants are seeking subsidized housing due to an inability to pay market rates, these past eviction filings can be one more barrier to stability for tenants who need it most.

To help tenants assess their eligibility and petition to seal their eviction records, CLA held eviction sealing clinics and Know-Your-Rights information sessions in Worcester, Hampden, Franklin, and Berkshire counties.

The clinics provided crucial support for people seeking to enforce their rights under the new law. Since the law went into effect, CLA has helped many tenants. In one case, a CLA attorney helped “Julie,” a disabled single mother, seal a past eviction case. Even though Julie had won that case, the record of it could affect her future housing prospects. By sealing her case, CLA cleared a path forward for Julie to seek housing with as few barriers as possible.



Housing Unit Coordinating Attorney David Brown and Senior Supervising Attorney Blair Komar-Bates.

[MORE DETAILS ON THE EVICTION SEALING LAW, MASS. GEN. LAWS CH. 239 S. 16, CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT SEALMYEVICTION.ORG](https://sealmyeviction.org)

Preserving Housing and Providing Stability



Housing is CLA’s largest practice area. In FY2025, CLA handled more than 3,700 housing cases, accounting for 40% of the organization’s total cases.

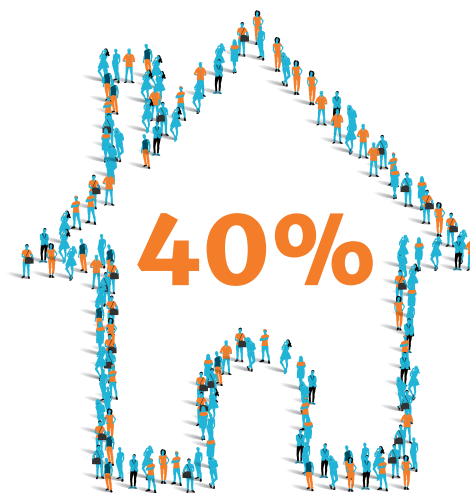
In the past year, CLA increased its focus on eviction defense cases, as preserving housing is critical to a family’s stability. CLA was grateful to receive grants from the MetroWest Health Foundation (MWHF) and the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation (MLAC) to expand its eviction

defense services. With this support, CLA has been able to dedicate significantly more resources to assisting tenants.

A multiyear grant from MWHF launched the MetroWest Housing Stability Project to provide legal assistance to low-income tenants in Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Northborough, Southborough, and Westborough who are facing eviction and homelessness; enduring poor living conditions; or trying to obtain affordable housing.

Funds from MLAC’s Access to Counsel Project are allowing CLA to provide full legal representation to low-income tenants in eviction proceedings brought by large landlords and housing authorities.

Amanda Winalski, a Senior Supervising Attorney for CLA’s Housing Unit, explained the importance of this funding: “Access to Counsel funding is helping stabilize our client communities. Our incredibly talented and skilled housing advocates are appearing in court to fight against evictions from subsidized housing, working with landlords to design reasonable accommodations to preserve tenancies for folks with disabilities, and representing low-income families who rely on their rental subsidies in Section 8 termination hearings.”



IN 2025, 40% OF ALL CASES HANDLED RELATED TO HOUSING

Restoring Dignity by Restoring Identity

CLA’s Elder Law Unit provides legal services for persons who are at least 60 years old. Its staff handles a wide variety of cases that help older adults maintain independence, health, and dignity in their homes and communities. Advocates in the Elder Unit also assist clients through CLA’s Disability Benefits and Medicare Advocacy Projects.

Many cases handled by the Elder Unit involve agencies and systems with complex rules and requirements, making it difficult for people to navigate them successfully without a lawyer. In one case, CLA’s Elder Unit helped a client obtain the documentation he needed to receive his disability benefits.

“Walter” was born in Puerto Rico. He has lived in Massachusetts for over three decades.

When he was approved for Social Security Disability Insurance, Walter found himself unable to access the bank account where his benefits were being deposited. This was because Walter needed a current ID card, and he had only an expired state ID and an old copy of his birth certificate.

To get a new state ID, Walter needed a valid copy of his Puerto Rican birth certificate. Puerto Rico had invalidated all birth certificates issued before July 1, 2010, in response to concerns about passport fraud and identity theft, and planned to replace the old birth certificates with more secure, digitized versions.

Walter was stuck: without a valid birth certificate, he could not obtain a new state ID with a valid photo. And without valid photo identification, he could not obtain a new birth certificate.

Fortunately, representation by one of CLA’s attorneys provided Walter with a

critical pathway. Attorneys can submit birth certificate requests on behalf of clients born in Puerto Rico if they meet certain requirements.

With help from an attorney in CLA’s Elder Unit, Walter was ultimately able to obtain his new birth certificate and new state ID. And then he was finally able to access his monthly disability benefits.

The stakes for clients like Walter have grown over the last year. New federal requirements now mandate REAL IDs to



IN 2025, 18% OF CLA’S CLIENTS WERE 60 AND OLDER



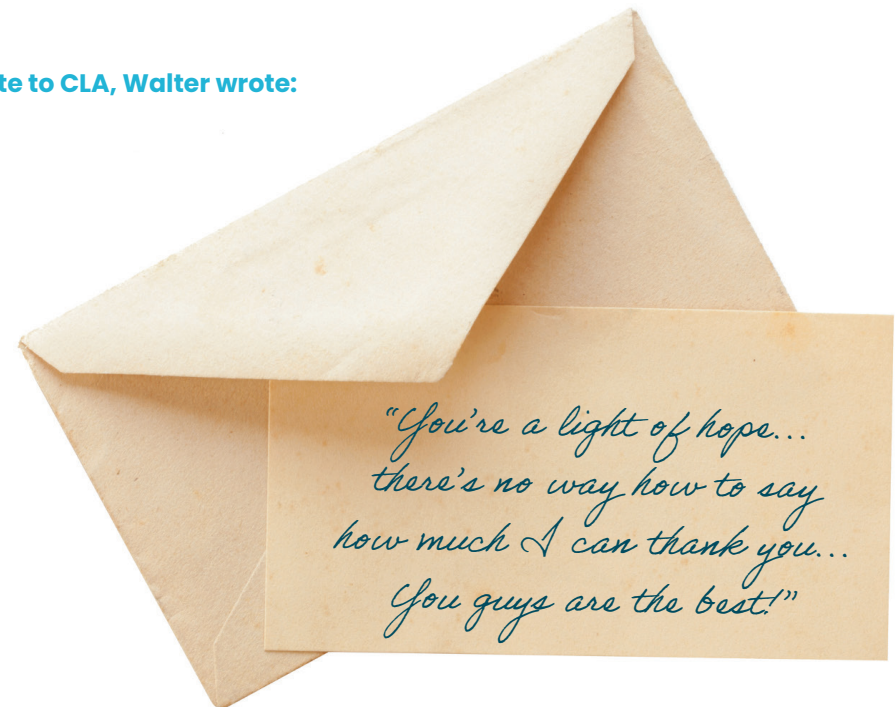
Members of CLA’s Elder Unit

board domestic flights and enter certain federal facilities. A valid birth certificate is essential to obtaining a REAL ID.

In response to this problem, CLA’s Elder Unit has been taking on clients such as Walter. The Unit has held two clinics in

Hampden County, serving dozens of clients from across our service area who were facing similar challenges. With secure birth certificates in hand, these individuals now have access to housing, benefits, travel, and other essential opportunities.

In a note to CLA, Walter wrote:



Cy Pres Awards Help in the Fight for the Rights of Low-income Workers

In the past year, CLA has received several cy pres awards that provide critically needed support for our work enforcing the rights of low-income workers. Cy pres awards allow unclaimed settlement funds from class action lawsuits to be distributed to organizations that will benefit or pursue the interests of the class.

The awards result from the settlement of class action employment law cases with ties to Hampden County. CLA will utilize the funds to support our Employment Unit, which represents workers with claims related to wage theft, employment discrimination, and family and medical leave issues arising under state and federal laws. The Unit is also the only local provider of free legal assistance for workers fighting for unemployment benefits with cases before the Department of Unemployment Assistance. The cy pres awards are allowing CLA to bolster our team of attorneys and paralegals helping low-income workers with employment-related legal assistance.

Attorney **Raymond Dinsmore**, of the **Springfield law firm Hayber, McKenna & Dinsmore, LLC**, served as the Plaintiffs' counsel for the class action cases that yielded these cy pres awards.

Attorney Dinsmore said, "As an attorney representing workers in nearly all categories of employment litigation, I know how frequently employers use their power to take advantage of those with fewer resources. Unfortunately, this happens all too often in the workplace. I am thrilled to be able to support the work of Community Legal Aid to vindicate the rights of low-income workers."

Members of CLA's Employment Law Unit pictured with Attorney Dinsmore



Keeping Families Intact Through Advocacy, Supports, and Services

In 2025, CLA received a contract from the Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS) to expand the Family Preservation Project (FPP) statewide.

CLA launched its first FPP in Hampden County in 2021 and expanded the project to Worcester County in 2024. The project provides legal advocacy, supports, and services to families who are involved with the Department of Children & Families (DCF). The project's goal is to prevent a child's unnecessary removal from the home. The FPP team, which includes an Attorney, Case Manager, and Parent Advocate, works collaboratively with DCF to refine and reduce the scope of DCF's concerns while helping families overcome poverty-induced problems such as housing instability and financial insecurity.

The contract with CPCS allows CLA and other regional legal aid programs in the state to offer FPP services all across Massachusetts. CLA is administering the expanded project and has subcontracted with four other legal services organizations to provide services statewide.

Kayla Baillargeon, Parent Advocate in CLA's Worcester office, explains her role and personal experiences:

"As a Parent Advocate, my role is to engage in ongoing communications with DCF, empower parents, and develop a trusting relationship with families. My passion for this work was born out of my own challenging experience with DCF.

"My story began in 2016, when DCF removed my three young children from



Kayla Baillargeon, Parent Advocate

my home. That began a five-year journey to reunite my family. Through the long, complicated, and invasive process of proving myself to be a worthy parent, there were people who provided me with support, guidance, and advocacy, and helped me learn to successfully advocate for myself and my children.

"Now, I want to be that person for others, and that is why I am a Parent Advocate in the Family Preservation Project."

“MY PASSION FOR THIS WORK WAS BORN OUT OF MY OWN CHALLENGING EXPERIENCE WITH DCF.”

— Kayla Baillargeon

Bart Gordon Fellow Helping to Break Language Barriers to Provide Families with Access to Justice

In 2025 CLA welcomed Sarahdyne Moise, a recent graduate of Western New England University School of Law, as a Bart Gordon Fellow.

The Bart Gordon Fellowship is a two-year position funded by the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation. As a Fellow, Moise will help expand CLA’s family law services to newly arrived Haitians. Our family law team has recognized that many new arrivals lack an understanding of the federal and state laws that protect them from abuse. These neighbors also face cultural and language barriers to finding assistance.

Moise explained the importance of her fellowship:

“Much of my work involves helping clients who are dealing with domestic violence, separation, and custody issues.

“Language barriers make it difficult to communicate with courts and agencies. Because I speak Creole, I am able to ensure that Haitian Creole clients are fully heard and understood.

“By communicating in their own language, I have been able to build trust with Haitian clients and help them feel



Sarahdyne Moise, Bart Gordon Fellow

more comfortable asking questions and engaging in their cases.

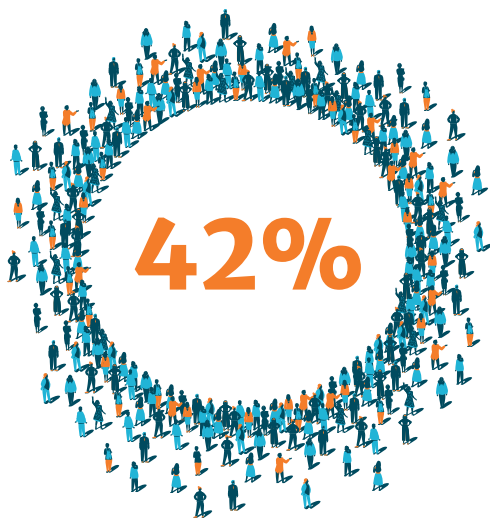
“I am proud that my work supports the goal of improving access to justice to the Haitian Creole community in Springfield.”

One client Moise’s advocacy has helped is “Leann.”

Leann was referred to our office for family law issues. Her case involved the father of her 10-year-old child. Despite the fact that the father had been absent for several years and had not provided any financial support, he filed a complaint in Probate & Family Court asking to be adjudicated as the father and seeking parenting time with the child. This raised concerns for Leann, especially given his long absence.

During the court proceedings, it became clear that the father had not seen the child in several years. He also failed to offer any specific plans for his parenting time with the child. CLA sought dismissal of his complaint based on his extended absence and lack of consistent involvement.

Throughout the case, Leann expressed appreciation to Moise for helping her to understand the legal process and her rights.



42% OF CLA STAFF SPEAK A 2ND LANGUAGE

Partnering with Private Attorneys

Every year, more people need legal assistance than Community Legal Aid can provide. To meet this increasing need, CLA Pro Bono continues to expand its pro bono (volunteer) network. In 2025, members of this pro bono network assisted CLA’s clients with eviction record sealing, family law matters, basic estate planning, consumer debt cases, and bankruptcy matters.



2025 PRO BONO HONOR ROLL

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Akosua Agyepong | Chelsea Contrada | Jonathan Goldsmith |
| Lisa Alberto | Katherine Coyne | John Green Jr. |
| Robert Antonioni | Tracy Craig | James Gregory |
| Ryan Avery | Mark Cress | Elizabeth Halloran |
| Tristan Axelrod | Ann Dargie Gladd | Patricia Hasper |
| Rhonda Bachrach | Hyman Darling | Haley Hills |
| James Baker | Peter Delano | Maegan Hurley |
| Avery Baratz | Lauren De Oliveira | Cristina Ianello |
| Hon. Laurel Barraco | Christine Devine | Marie Jablonski |
| David Bartley | Thomas Donahue Jr. | Kathleen Jackson |
| Carol Barton | David DuPont | Alexis Kenney |
| Michelle Begley | Joshua Egler | Kelly Koch |
| Peter Benjamin | Krista Ellis | Eric Kornblum |
| Neil Berman | Charles Eusey | Robert Kovacs |
| Pavel Bepalko | Allen Falke | Darren Lee |
| Shannon Billington | Michelle Feinstein | Hon. Keith Long (Ret.) |
| Jeremy Block | Joel Feldman | Christian Lund |
| Erin Bradbury | Dan Felten | Beth Lux |
| Laurel Bretta | Brian Fitzgerald | Dawn MacKinnon |
| Simon Brighenti | Stephanie Fitzgerald | Sarah Maple |
| Edward Bryant Jr. | Terry Ford | Tammi Marois |
| Jeffrey Burstein | Kathryn Foster | Courtney Mayo |
| Linda Cammuso | Michael Frazee | Xai McDonald |
| Victoria Carbone | Kate Gannon | Cherie McKenna |
| Paul Carey | Jennifer Gavaletz | John McNally |
| Sean Casey | Robert George | Wendy Mead |
| Timothy Ciaffoni | Melissa R. Gillis | Myriam Mentor |
| Joanna Cobleigh | Matthew Gilman | Jonathan Molleur |
| Bernard Cohen | Robert Girvan | Mark Morisi |

IN 2025

140
Pro Bono Attorneys

520
Cases handled

1,200
Hours donated

\$348,544
Worth of in-kind donations

Thank you to all who accepted a referred case from CLA Pro Bono this past year.

**2025 PRO BONO HONOR ROLL
(CONTINUED)**

Tonya Murphy
Lily Muzzarelli
Lynne Myhre
Donna Nardi
Kate Nicholson
Philip O’Connell
Andrea O’Connor
William O’Neil
Kathleen A. O’Malley
Kathleen O’Sullivan
Dan Ordorica
David Ostrander
Stephen Pagnotta
Mark Papirio
Pritesh Patel
Julie Dick Palmer
Jeffrey Pollock
Gina Pusateri

Justin Raphaelson
Kara Rescia
Caroline Robillard
Louis Robin
Benjamin Rudolf
Janet Ruggieri
Susan Sachs
Hon. David Sacks (Ret.)
Mary Samberg
Ralph Sargent
Richard Serkey
Christopher Sharry
John Shoro
Alison Silber
Sierra Smarra
David Southcotte
Mark Stepakoff
Andrew Strehle

Peter Sturgeon
Stanley Szlachetka
Gillian Szlachetka Dubay
Janelle Tanenbaum
Jennifer Tarka
Karl Topor
Elena Tsizer
Christina Turgeon
Paige Vaillancourt
Tom Vukmirovits
Brian Waller
Danielle Wehrli
Gary Weiner
Susan Williams
Thomas Wilson
James Wulffleff
Lanny Zuckerman

Expanding Training

In 2025, CLA Pro Bono helped our volunteer attorneys hone their skills by offering five training opportunities across several areas of law, including: Legal Name Changes, Basic Estate Planning, Eviction Record Sealing, and a two-part Bankruptcy training series.

CLA Pro Bono’s Bankruptcy Training was generously funded with a grant from the American College of Bankruptcy Foundation. Thanks to this funding, attorneys who accept bankruptcy pro bono cases will receive access to case filing software at no charge.

CLA Pro Bono also runs both virtual and in-person projects. To see upcoming opportunities and trainings, check out Community Legal Aid’s Pro Bono Programs Calendar at communitylegal.org/events/category/pro-bono.



Recognizing Extraordinary Volunteers

CLA Pro Bono named **Attorney Tobey Wilson**, **Attorney Stanley Szlachetka**, and **Attorney Gillian Szlachetka Dubay** as the 2025 Senior Partners for Justice MVP Award Recipients. Senior Partners for Justice is a joint program with the Volunteer Lawyers Project.

At CLA’s Hampden County Access to Justice celebration in October, **Attorney Jonathan Goldsmith**, **Attorney Eric Kornblum**, **Attorney David Ostrander**, and **Attorney Gary Weiner** were presented with the 2025 Pro Bono Volunteer Appreciation Award. In addition to consistently accepting referrals from CLA, these volunteers worked with our team to provide bankruptcy training courses for new volunteer attorneys and mentor newer attorneys. They bring extensive knowledge, experience, and compassion to their work, and our clients have been better served because of them.



Attorneys David Ostrander (Ostrander Law Office), Gary Weiner (Weiner Law Firm), and Jonathan Goldsmith (Goldsmith, Katz, & Argenio), with members of CLA’s Pro Bono Team in November 2025.

Pro Bono Spotlight: Attorney Laurel Bretta

Pro Bono Attorney Laurel Bretta represented “Margaret,” an 81-year-old widow. Margaret came to CLA for help discharging significant debt she had accrued from a failed business that she and her late husband tried to start. With her limited Social Security income, she was unable to afford a payment plan to pay back the debt.

Attorney Bretta assisted Margaret by filing a Chapter 7 bankruptcy case, enabling Margaret to discharge over \$50,000.

Writing to CLA after her case was complete, Margaret said:

“Thanks to Laurel’s guidance and extraordinary skills, my case was resolved exactly as she had explained it would be. Laurel turned one of the hardest times of my life into a manageable, even hopeful, process. I shall never forget the wonderful experience of working with Laurel Bretta.” —Margaret



CLA Pro Bono welcomes new and experienced attorneys!
To learn more about becoming a volunteer, visit:
communitylegal.org/pro-bono/volunteer



Thank you for supporting Community Legal Aid.

As we reflect on 2025, we want to express our deep gratitude for all you have done to lift up the people and communities served by Community Legal Aid (CLA).

CLA directly assists thousands of individuals across Central and Western Massachusetts—neighbors who face challenges finding stability, safety, and belonging. Whether your support helps strengthen families, care for older adults, or support youth, your generosity becomes a source of hope for those who need it when it matters most.

This past year, as budgets tightened and our communities' needs grew, CLA advocates and staff stretched every resource they had to reach more people than ever. We are extremely proud of their dedication and resilience. We are equally grateful for the individuals, businesses, funders, and volunteers whose support makes this work possible.

We want to say an enthusiastic THANK YOU. You prove every day that generosity, compassion, and decency are alive and thriving.

With warm regards,

Hon. Luis G. Perez (Ret.)
CLA Board of Directors President

Attorney Michele Kunitz
CLA Board of Directors Vice President

THANK YOU

Access to Justice Campaign

Every year, CLA relies on the help of attorneys and community members throughout Central and Western Massachusetts as they ask their colleagues, law firms, peers, and friends to support our work. Our fiscal year 2025 Access to Justice Campaign, which began on October 1, 2024 and ran through the spring of 2025, raised over \$180,000 from over 600 individuals, law firms, and other businesses.

We are incredibly grateful to our committee chairs and committee members, whose work on these campaigns is essential to their success. To show our heartfelt appreciation to the committee members, they are recognized with a heart-symbol next to their name in the donor list. Thank you to all our campaign volunteers!

Gathering Together to Celebrate Access to Justice

Last fall, the Franklin County Access to Justice Committee held its annual luncheon at CLA's new office space in Greenfield. Committee member Buz Eisenberg, a former Board member and longtime volunteer, spoke about the value that CLA brings to the community, saying:

“CLA is protecting people's basic needs

... livelihoods, housing, employment, healthcare, protection from abuse—we are talking about the basic needs of being a human being in our society...

“And it isn't only [their] clients who benefit from the work that our CLA heroes do; we all benefit. Providing civil legal services is a sound investment that yields significant economic return. Studies consistently show that for every dollar invested in civil legal aid there is an average of \$7 in economic benefits and taxpayer savings.”



CLA staff and supporters gathered in the organization's Greenfield office in November 2025 to share a meal and discuss the organization's work in Franklin County.

Law Firm Leaders

We are grateful for the many law firms and members of the legal community who support our work and we want to recognize those firms who made gifts to the Access to Justice Campaign at or above the Justice Defenders level of support.

JUSTICE ADVOCATES (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

BOWDITCH
ATTORNEYS

MIRICK

JUSTICE LEADERS (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Bulkley Richardson & Gelinias, LLP
Doherty Wallace Pillsbury & Murphy, PC
Greenfield Savings Bank
Monarch Enterprises
Pellegrini, Seeley, Ryan, & Blakesley

Seder & Chandler, LLP
Weiner Law Firm, PC

JUSTICE DEFENDERS (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Alekman DiTusa, LLC
Berkshire County Bar Association
Brown Rudnick, LLP
Cain, Hibbard & Myers, PC
Donovan O'Connor & Dodig, LLP
Greenfield Cooperative Bank
Lesser Newman Aleo & Nasser, LLP
Libbos Law, PC
Reeves Lavallee, PC



Thank you to the following foundations, corporations, and community organizations for recognizing the importance of ensuring a fair and just civil legal process by providing grants in support of Community Legal Aid. Your generosity and partnership are essential to our vision of justice for all.

Access Care Partners
 Albert W. Rice Charitable Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
 All One Credit Union
 American College of Bankruptcy Foundation
 Avidia Bank
 Barr Foundation
 Baystate Health
 The Beveridge Family Foundation, Inc.
 Boston University School of Law
 Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice and Community Service at the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts
 Center for Public Representation
 Central Berkshire Fund (Berkshire-Taconic Community Foundation)
 Charles H. Farnsworth Trust, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
 Charles H. Hall Foundation
 City of Fitchburg
 City of Greenfield
 City of Northampton
 City of Pittsfield
 City of Worcester
 Clowes Fund
 Committee for Public Counsel Services
 Commonwealth Care Alliance
 Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts
 Cornerstone Bank
 Country Bank for Savings
 DCU for Kids

Elder Services of Berkshire County
 Franklin Regional Council of Governments
 Fund for Williamstown (Berkshire-Taconic Community Foundation)
 Gardiner Howland Shaw Foundation
 George Wells Foundation
 Greater Springfield Senior Services, Inc.
 Greater Worcester Community Foundation
 The Hanover Insurance Group Foundation
 Hardman Fund for North Adams (Berkshire-Taconic Community Foundation)
 Harry H. Dow Memorial Legal Assistance Fund
 Health New England
 Highland Valley Elder Services
 Hyams Foundation
 Immigrant Justice Corps
 Jane & Jack Fitzpatrick Trust
 Jewish Women's Foundation of the Berkshires
 Legal Services Corporation
 LifePath, Inc.
 M&T Charitable Foundation
 Main Street Bank Foundation
 Massachusetts Attorney General's Office
 Massachusetts Bar Foundation
 Massachusetts Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition
 Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities

Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
 Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
 Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation
 Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance
 New England Justice for Our Neighbors
 Northern Berkshire United Way
 Reliant Foundation
 RIZE Foundation
 Massachusetts Safe Passage
 Skadden Fellowship Foundation
 Schwartz Charitable Foundation
 Senior Connection
 United States Department of Housing & Urban Development
 United States Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women
 UMass Memorial Health Care
 United Way of Central Massachusetts
 United Way of the Franklin and Hampshire Region
 United Way of South Central Massachusetts
 United States Department of Veterans Affairs
 Webster Five Foundation
 Williamstown Community Chest
 Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts



Thank you to all of our fiscal year 2025 donors. The below list recognizes gifts of \$100 or more received between October 1, 2024 and September 30, 2025.

(*) indicates members of our Loyalty to Justice Circle, which celebrates donors who have made five or more gifts in support of our work.
 (♥) indicates members of the Access to Justice Campaign Committee.
 (†) indicates deceased supporters of our work.

JUSTICE CHAMPIONS \$10,000+

Hayber, McKenna, & Dinsmore, LLC*
 Highland Street Foundation*
 Strehorn Ryan & Hoose*

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Sustaining Justice Circle Spotlight: Attorney Marissa Elkins

Marissa Elkins is a deeply experienced criminal defense attorney. She began her career as a public defender, and is now a partner at Sharp, Heyman, Dolven & Elkins, LLP in Northampton. She is a long time donor to CLA and a member and co-chair of the Hampshire County Access to Justice Campaign Committee. **Attorney Elkins is a part of CLA's Sustaining Justice Circle, which recognizes individuals who make regular monthly gifts to support our work.**



“One of the reasons I support Community Legal Aid is because it stands beside our neighbors. We never know the quiet struggles people are dealing with, and I have come to understand that CLA’s clients are among the families whose children attend school with ours. They are the people working every day who make our community thrive, and are vital members of our community who, when faced with critical legal challenges, would have to navigate those hardships alone if not for CLA.

“Community Legal Aid is an invaluable resource. I, as a lawyer, can’t help everyone

who reaches out to me, and I am deeply grateful that CLA is there when I cannot be. When I refer someone to CLA, I do so with complete confidence. Their attorneys are among the most skilled and dedicated in our legal community, and I know the individuals I send their way will receive exceptional representation and compassionate support.

“As lawyers, we have a professional obligation to advance access to justice for all. Supporting Community Legal Aid is one meaningful way I fulfill that responsibility.”

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Giving Locally for Greater Impact: Joel Greene and Ann Lisi

Joel Greene and Ann Lisi focus much of their giving in Worcester, where they have both enjoyed satisfying careers and feel a special allegiance. Joel is a Worcester attorney in practice for over fifty years and an experienced community volunteer for local education, human services, and arts organizations. Ann served as President/CEO of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation, a local philanthropy, from 1992 to 2019. They are dedicated donors to Community Legal Aid.

“Community Legal Aid has earned an outstanding reputation over the years,” says Joel. “As a legal professional, I have an obligation to do pro bono work. Since CLA’s practice areas are not my expertise, I find that donating money is the best way that I can do my part to help vulnerable people facing problems of housing, family law, and other matters that can devastate lives and well-being.”

Ann and Joel feel that they can have the greatest impact by giving locally, and that these times call for even more donors to step up.

“Community Legal Aid is a major part of the social safety net, helping to alleviate the burdens of poverty and inequality,” says Ann. “Now, in a time of grave threats to basic civil rights and due process, and the elimination of even the most cost-effective benefits like nutrition assistance, it is more important than ever to give thoughtfully. CLA is a place to have a voice while helping our neighbors in need.”

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Contributing Time, Talent, and Resources: Attorney Tracy Craig



Tracy A. Craig is a partner at Seder and Chandler and Chair of the firm's Trusts and Estates Practice Group. She focuses her practice on estate planning, estate administration, prenuptial agreements, guardianships, elder law, and charitable giving.

In addition to her generosity as a donor, Tracy has served on CLA's Board of Directors since 2023 and has been a pro bono volunteer in our estate planning clinics.

When asked why she dedicates her time, talent, and treasure to CLA, Tracy shared:

"Since my days as a law student, I have believed deeply in the responsibility to give back and help ensure access to justice. Hiring a lawyer is expensive, and for many of our neighbors, it is simply out of reach. As attorneys, we have a moral obligation to help ensure that individuals facing civil legal challenges have access to representation, regardless of their ability to pay. Supporting Community Legal Aid is one meaningful way to meet that obligation, and it truly makes a difference in our communities.

"I have also found volunteering at estate planning clinics to be incredibly rewarding. As the spouse of a Veteran, I was especially proud to volunteer at the Veterans Estate Planning Clinic. Many Veterans cannot afford legal services, and it is an honor to assist those who have sacrificed for our country.

"In light of the significant challenges facing CLA's clients today, I remain continually impressed by the dedication and impact of CLA's advocates. I am proud to support this vital work in every way I can."

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We are grateful when our supporters make a gift to Community Legal Aid as a tribute to their family, friend, or colleague.

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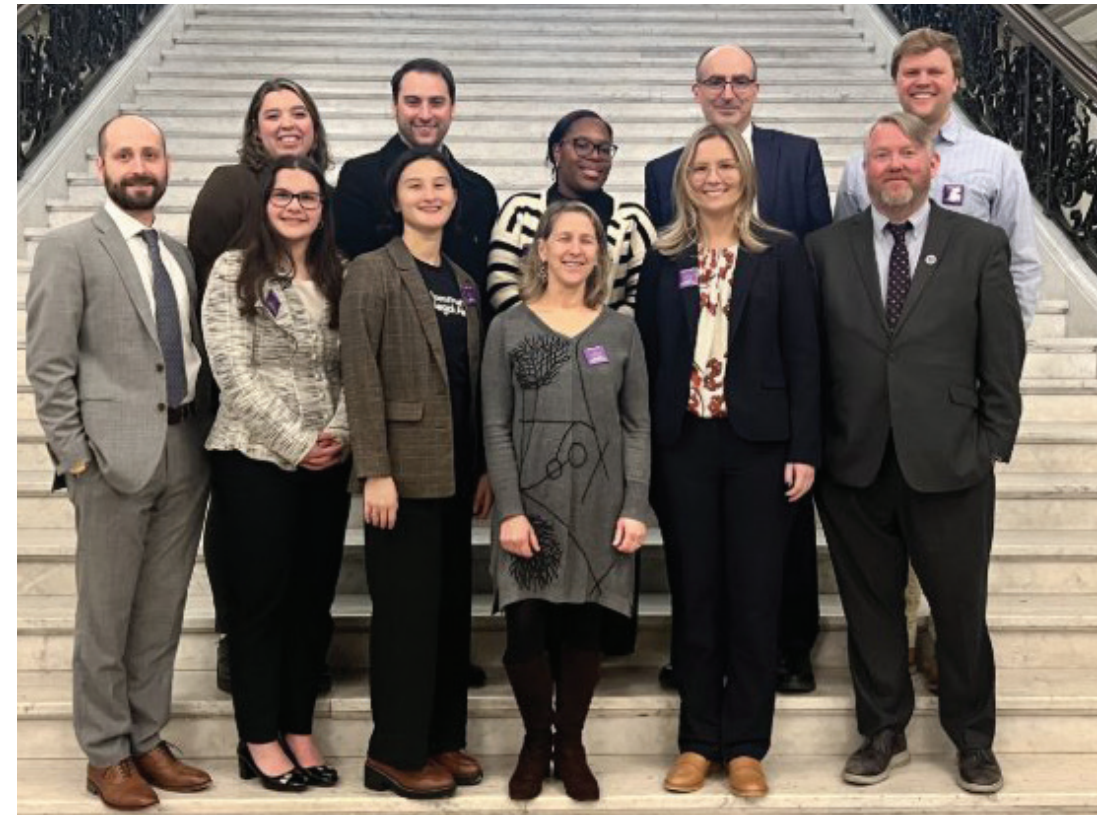
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MLAC Bart Gordon Fellow:
 Sarahdyne Moise

Welcoming New Leadership



Congratulations to Kristen Williams (left) who was promoted to Chief Operating Officer and Marina Abraham (right) who was promoted to Managing Attorney of the Worcester Office over the last year.



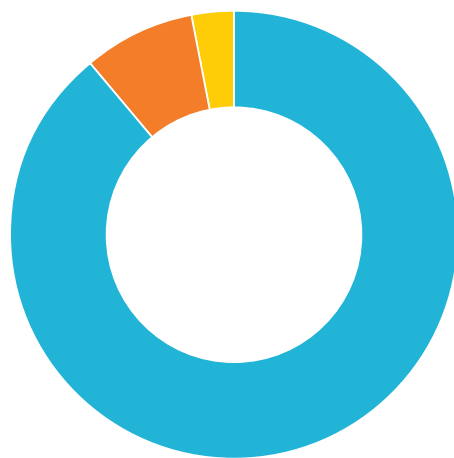
Community Legal Aid employees are bright, passionate people with diverse backgrounds, coming together to help low-income and elderly individuals and families obtain equal access to justice. communitylegal.org/work-with-us

Financials

Community Legal Aid and Affiliate statement of activities for the twelve months ending September 30, 2025.

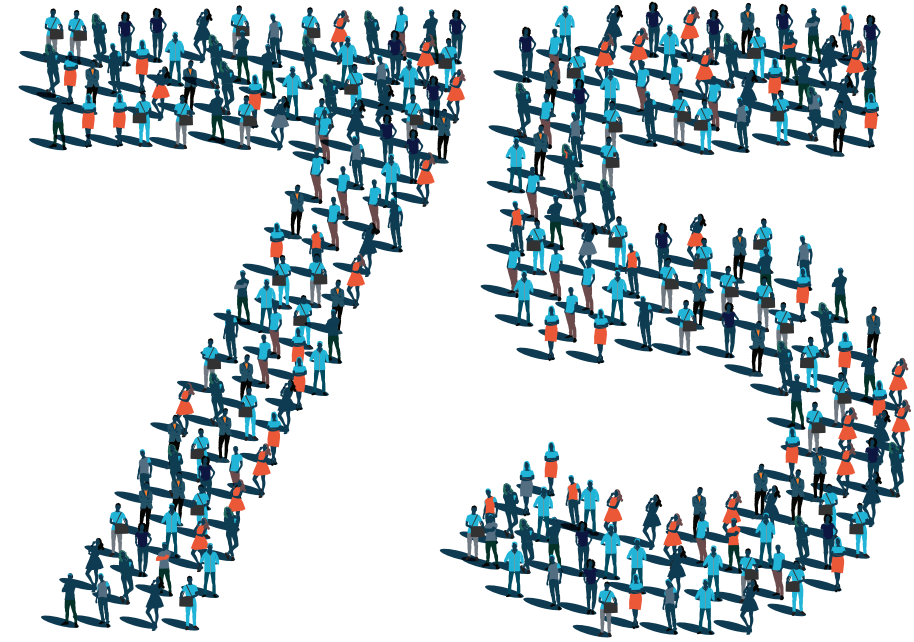
State and Local	\$20,491,003
Federal Government Grants	\$4,638,874
Foundation Grants	\$1,361,739
Private Fundraising	\$286,420
United Way Grants	\$144,660
Attorney's Fees	\$166,666
Cy Pres	\$153,941
Other Income	\$933,688
Revenue before donated services	\$28,176,992
Donated Services – Attorneys	\$348,544

Total Revenue after donated services \$28,525,536



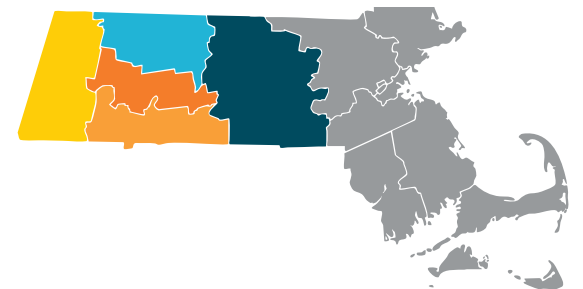
ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES

- 89% PROGRAM
- 8% MANAGEMENT & GENERAL
- 3% FUNDRAISING



Throughout the next year, Community Legal Aid will be celebrating 75 years of defending liberty and justice for all. Look for special events and communications to help us commemorate this milestone.

Community Legal Aid and its affiliate, Central West Justice Center, are proud to serve the five counties of Central and Western Massachusetts.



MAIN OFFICES

- Fitchburg**
625 Main Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420
- Greenfield**
14 Hope Street
Greenfield, MA 01301
- Northampton**
20 Hampton Avenue
Northampton, MA 01060

Pittsfield

152 North Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Springfield

One Monarch Place
Springfield, MA 01144

Worcester

370 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608

SATELLITE OFFICES

- Holyoke**
Holyoke Health Center
230 Maple Street
Holyoke, MA 01040
- North Adams**
33 Main Street
North Adams, MA 01247



Community Legal Aid
370 Main Street, Suite 300
Worcester, MA 01608

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Community Legal Aid works to improve the lives of low-income and elderly people through legal assistance that protects fundamental rights, secures access to basic needs, and challenges policies and practices that harm our clients. We work to assure fairness for all in the justice system, protecting homes, livelihoods, health, and families.

MAKE A GIFT TO COMMUNITY LEGAL AID!



Local organizations and individuals like you make Community Legal Aid's work possible. Help CLA continue to thrive by making a tax-deductible gift today at communitylegal.org/donate

JOIN COMMUNITY LEGAL AID'S PRO BONO PROGRAM!



CLA's volunteers greatly enhance our ability to make justice real for our clients. We refer hundreds of cases a year to attorneys with all levels of experience. Learn more or sign up to volunteer at communitylegal.org/pro-bono

TTY/TDD 508-755-3260 | (855) CLA-LEGAL | 855-252-5342 | www.communitylegal.org

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