

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Advocating with Passion and Purpose



INDIANAPOLIS LEGAL AID SOCIETY

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LETTER FROM OUR CEO & GENERAL COUNSEL

Dear Friends,

I would like to thank all of our generous supporters - - individual donors, foundations, corporate sponsors, volunteers, board members, and last, but not least, our outstanding and dedicated staff - - for helping Legal Aid effectively serve more low-income individuals and families in 2018.

Legal Aid's ongoing goal is to keep overhead low while increasing services in Central Indiana. This goal was achieved in 2018. Six full-time staff attorneys advising and/or representing 5,000 clients exceeded more than 12,000 hours. Volunteer attorney hours logged in at approximately 2,000 hours.

Every day we meet with individuals who are in despair, broken, with nowhere else to turn. Our attorneys listen to our clients and provide resolution for a myriad of legal issues. We take a holistic approach - - solutions-based, client-centered, one-stop shop - - with our clients. Our legal team is uniquely qualified to spot a client's ancillary issues. While clients have legal issues to resolve, they may have additional needs that require addressing. We work with these clients to help find solutions to their non-legal problems.

We look forward to continuing and expanding Legal Aid's services, giving voice to the voiceless, solving problems for our clients, and strengthening our communities.

With gratitude,

John Floreancig

General Counsel & CEO

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Many thanks to our dedicated and magnanimous board of directors for their tireless efforts in focusing on the needs of our clients.

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SERVICES

The Indianapolis Legal Aid Society has been giving Central Indiana residents of modest means a voice in their own legal matters with knowledgeable, highlyqualified attorneys.

Civil legal aid is a combination of services and resources enabling the poor and disadvantaged to effectively navigate the complicated legal system to protect their livelihoods, their health, and their families.

Legal Aid attorneys provide critically needed direct counsel and representation on issues including:

- ADOPTION
- SUPPORT
- PATERNITY
- CUSTODY
- VISITATION
- DIVORCE
- GUARDIANSHIP HOUSING

The Legal Aid Society provides services to individuals and families with incomes of less than 125 percent of the federal poverty guideline levels.

Mission Statement

Since 1941, the Indianapolis Legal Aid Society (Legal Aid) has relentlessly provided our most vulnerable Hoosiers with direct and immediate access to comprehensive free legal assistance in civil matters. We restore hope as we work with our clients' side-by-side to resolve their legal issues. In doing so, we help to promote economic self-sufficiency, preserve dignity, and strengthen the community.

The majority of legal issues addressed by the Indianapolis Legal Aid Society involve:

Women | Children | The Elderly | Disabled

CONTACT US

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Indianapolis, IN 46204

GEOGRAPHIC SERVICE AREA: Boone,

Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks,

Johnson, Marion, Morgan, and Shelby

counties



2018 in Review

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Legal Aid Attorneys are in court more than **3** times per day

The cost of each case is an average of less than \$160.

More than \$.87 of every dollar donated is directly used to provide services to our clients.

Number of Clients Served

Family Law: 5,311

Orville H. Copsey Housing Initiative: 635

Children's Guardianship Initiative: 332

Expungement & Re-Entry: 168

Miscellaneous Cases (employment, wills, public benefits, etc.): 1,588

Total: 8,034



Legal Aid Events

Legal Aid's Continuing Legal Education:
The Sixth Annual Timeless Tips from the
Bench and Bar on April 27 was a huge
success. The format for this all-day event
featured approximately 18 amazing speakers
presenting in a fast-paced "TED Talk" format
of 20 minutes each. Speakers included the
Indiana Attorney General, eight judges, eight
attorneys and cartoonist, Gary Varvel.

Annual Ignite the Night:

The Celebrity Roast of Mitch Daniels held on September 27 was not only an outstanding event, but it helped us raise \$100,000 to provide legal services to the underserved in the greater Indianapolis area. Featured roasters included Governor Eric Holcomb, Mickey Maurer, Deborah Daniels, Mike McDaniel, Jim Shella, and Norm Tabler.

CLIENT SUCCESS STORIES

Donor Dollars at Work!

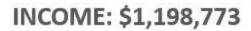
Sheila, a grandmother, came to the Indianapolis Legal Aid Society seeking guardianship of her daughter's two children by two separate, absentee fathers. Sadly, the children's mother had been diagnosed with terminal cancer with only weeks to live. The mother's dying wish was for the children to stay together in the care of their grandmother. Accomplishing the goal required a Legal Aid attorney to intervene in two separate guardianship cases. Legal Aid's attorney obtained guardianship for Sheila allowing the children to remain in their school, receive medical attention, and preserve the stability of the children's lives.

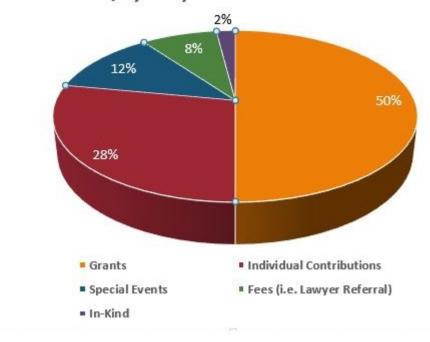




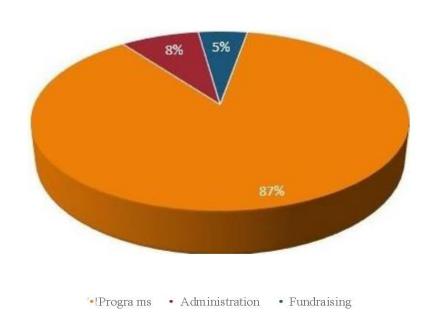
"Tom" came to our office seeking an expungement of his one conviction, a B felony, for burglary from the 80's when he was in his late teens. Tom began hanging around with some older guys, and they broke into someone's home. He stole golf clubs, but the others who were with him took some money and jewelry. Tom spent three years in prison. He has never been arrested again. Upon his release, Tom managed to get a job in a warehouse where he worked for 16 years. The company was acquired and conducted background checks on all employees. Tom lost his job because the acquiring company prohibited employing anyone convicted of a felony. After losing his job, Tom was unable to find any work due to his background. While our attorney was researching his criminal case, Tom interviewed for a job at a warehouse where the manager was a friend of his former supervisor. Based on Tom's years of experience and his former supervisor's glowing recommendation, Tom was hired. With the help of his Legal Aid attorney, the court granted Tom's expungement, and his supervisor promoted him to a management position.

FINANCIALS





EXPENSES: \$1,044,149



OUR SUPPORTERS

"We wish to extend our appreciation to our generous individual donors that total more than 400, along with funders and sponsors that supported us in 2018. Without their financial assistance, we would not be here to help the most vulnerable in our community. THANK YOU!"

Foundations and

Central Indiana Community Foundation

Civil Legal Aid Fund - Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

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Catholic Charities Child Advocates Children's Bureau Christamore House

CICOA

Concord Neighborhood Center

Connect2Help Early Learning Indiana Easter Seals Crossroads

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Forest Manor Center Glick Center Goodwill Industries Habitat for Humanity Hawthorne Center

Heartland Pro Bono Council Hendricks Senior Services Horizon House

HVAF of Indiana Indiana Bar Foundation Indiana Landmarks Indiana State Bar Association Indiana Supreme Court Indianapolis Bar Association

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Lutheran Child and Family Services Marion County Health Department Marion Superior Court Probate Division

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St. Mary's Child Center St. Vincent Hospice The Damien Center The Villages

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WellSpring

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Help Legal Aid change – and save – the lives of disadvantaged individuals and families in Indianapolis and surrounding counties.

Your Philanthropic Investment Will Help:

- · Families stay together
- · Children live in a safe and stable environment
- · Seniors and the mentally and physically disabled adults remain in their homes
- · Ex-offenders live productive and valuable lives
- · Strengthen communities throughout Central Indiana

Legal Aid has several ways to make a donation:

- · One-time
- · Monthly
- · Tribute Gifts
- · Major Gift Donation Legal Aid's Leadership Circle
- · Planned Giving Legal Aid's Legacy Fund

Learn more by visiting www.indylas.org/

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, (Tax ID Number: 35-1045153) you can make a donation online at http://www.indylas.org/donate/ or contacting Gina Woods, Development and Communications Director, at ginaw@indylas.org or her direct line 317.217.5347.

When you support Legal Aid, you empower individuals and families. You can make a profound impact in our communities by investing in Legal Aid.