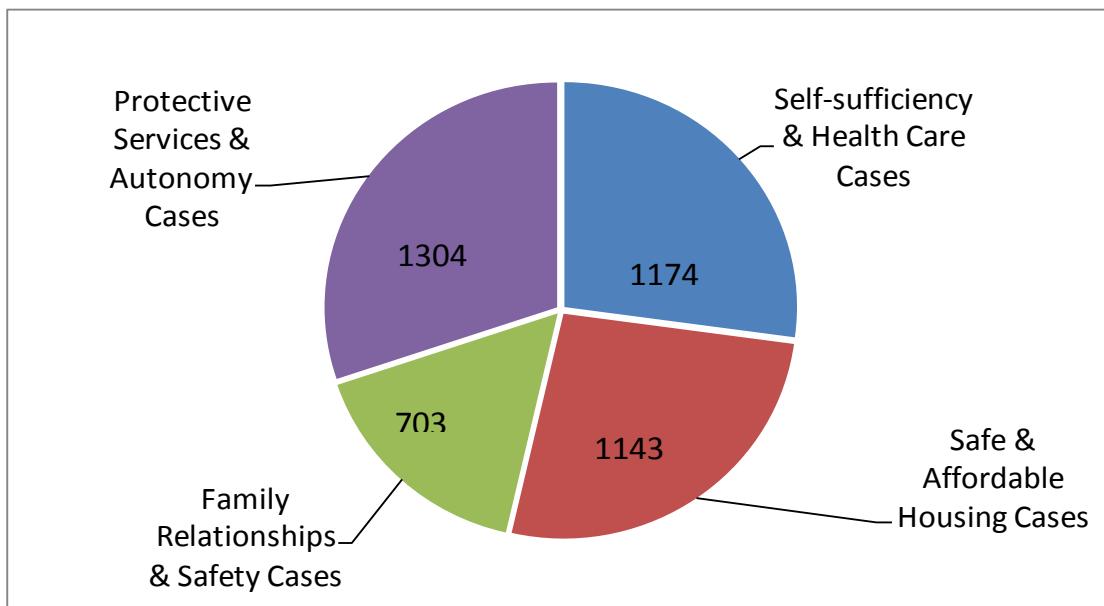


LEGAL SERVICES
OF
NORTHWEST JERSEY
2014 ANNUAL REPORT



**PROVIDING EQUAL JUSTICE FOR LOW-INCOME PEOPLE
RESIDING IN HUNTERDON, MORRIS, SOMERSET, SUSSEX,
AND WARREN COUNTIES**

In 2014, LSNWJ provided legal assistance in 4,324 cases affecting essential needs, including 969 cases opened in prior years for which work continued. LSNWJ's work in 2014 helped 8,076 low-income people, including 2,698 children.

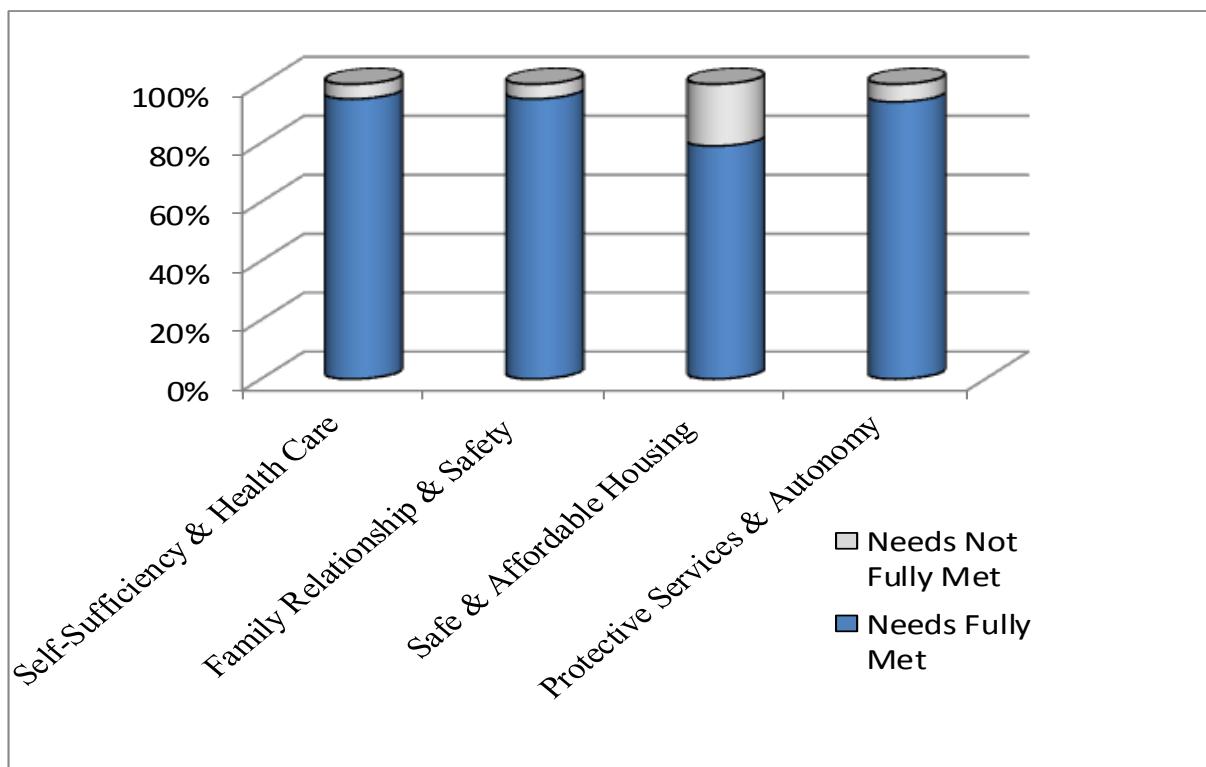


www.lsnj.org/lsnwj



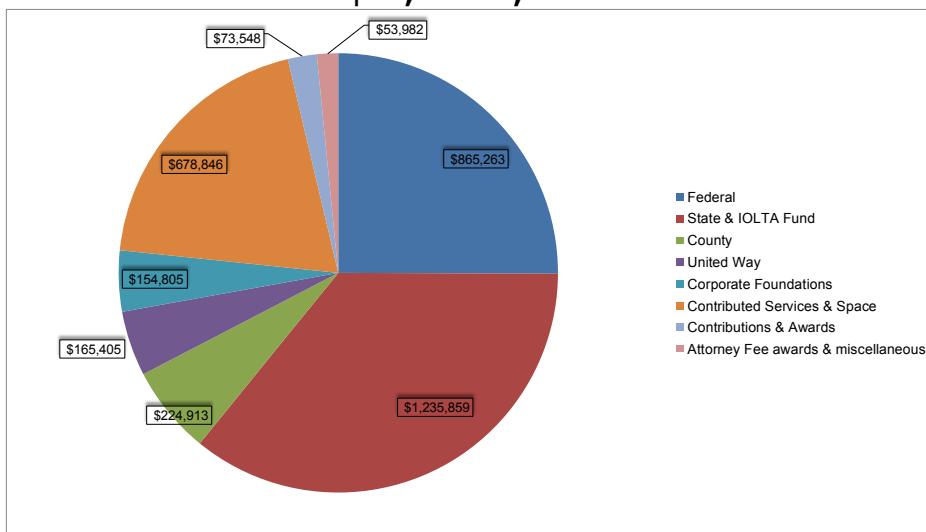
Legal Services of Northwest Jersey is a nonprofit law firm serving low-income people residing in Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Sussex and Warren Counties. The work of LSNWJ is vital to the efforts of low-income individuals to maintain safe and affordable housing, gain sustainable income to escape the ravages of poverty, access quality health care, secure family stability and personal safety, and live with dignity in the community. In 2014, 98% of clients provided with legal representation by LSNWJ were empowered to pursue their legal remedies and 87% of those clients were successful in meeting their essential needs.

Essential Needs



LSNWJ Revenue: 2014

\$3,452,621



The decline in government resources dedicated to equal justice continued in 2013. Government funding decreased substantially between 2008 and 2013, most notably funding from the State of New Jersey (56% loss) and the IOLTA Fund (96% loss). Federal and County government support, on the other hand, held steady or increased slightly during this period.

LSNWJ has met the challenge through thoughtful strategic planning, fostering of partnerships, and maintaining our steadfast focus on doing the work that makes a difference in the lives of low-income people.

LSNWJ is grateful to the foundations, organizations and individuals who supported our work in 2014:

Platinum Supporters: (\$100,000+)

Merck Foundation
United Way of Northern New Jersey

Gold Supporter (\$50,000-\$99,999)

United Way of Hunterdon County

Silver Supporters (\$10,000-\$49,999)

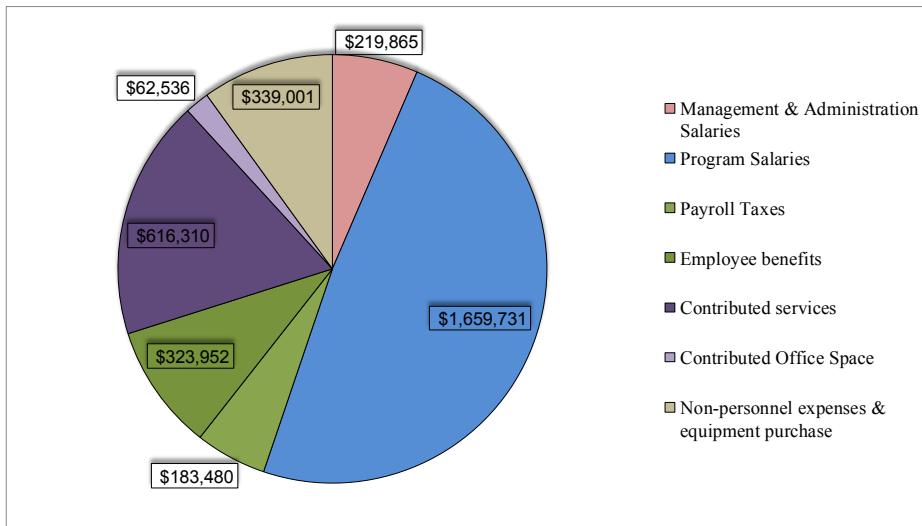
DLA Piper Foundation
Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies
Morris County Bar Foundation

Bronze Supporters (\$1,000-\$9,999)

Jodi Lee Alper, Esq.
Campaign for Justice
ERS Charitable Fund
ExxonMobil Foundation
Equal Justice Club
Hunterdon County Bar Association
Hurricane Sandy NJ Relief Fund
Mary Ellen Koscs-Fleming & Michael Fleming
Large Foundation
Lowenstein Sandler, LLP
Diane S. Margolin & Family
Hon. Lorraine C. Parker, JAD (ret.)
Somerset County Bar Association

LSNWJ Expenses: 2014

\$3,404,875



More than 89% of LSNWJ resources are used support program work.

Management, administration and fundraising, although a small portion of the overall budget, are critical to maintaining focus on mission, assuring quality, meeting grant requirements, and securing new funding.

Contributed services and office space expand our capacity to serve those in need. In 2014, volunteer attorneys provided free legal assistance in 235 cases, donating 2200 hours of their time to the cause of equal justice. The following law firms, corporations and individuals each provided more than 100 hours of legal assistance in 2014:

- ◊ Chubb Group
- ◊ DLA Piper
- ◊ Mary Ellen Koscs-Fleming, Esq.
- ◊ Lowenstein Sandler, LLP
- ◊ Marianne McConnell, Esq
- ◊ Robert McLellan, Esq.
- ◊ Merck, Sharp & Dohme Corp.
- ◊ Reed Smith, LLP
- ◊ Saiber, LLC

For more than 40 years, in addition to providing financial support, the County of Morris has provided free office space in county facilities.



Our dear friend, Tom Welchman, passed away in November 2014. Tom started out as a legal aid lawyer with Somerset Sussex Legal Services almost 40 years ago. Although he went on to private practice a few years later, he never really left legal services. Tom served on the Board of SSLS and later LSNWJ for more than 30 years, many of those years as President. He was the face of legal services in Somerset County and never strayed from his commitment to equal justice and helping people in need in our community.

Tom didn't speak of his "cases" like many attorneys do. "I have this case" is how many conversations start with attorneys. Tom always spoke of the client instead. "My client needs this." "How can I help my client do that?" It is not just a difference in words. It reflects a difference in philosophy and perspective.

Tom didn't limit his work for those in need to his work on the legal services board. He was always juggling at least one pro bono case for us and many times several at once. He also was a regular at the ACLU Legal Clinic and that of the Resource Center of Somerset. His pro bono efforts were so well known in the community that Tom's wife, Linda, remembers the office door opening, followed often with the question, "Is this where the free lawyer is?" If Tom was the one to get to the door first, it invariably was.

Tom received one of the first Pro Bono Awards from the NJ State Bar Association. Only one other solo has received that award. Tom was recognized by the Somerset County Bar as its Professional Lawyer of the Year, was honored with a NJ Legal Services Equal Justice Award for his service on the Board and one of the honorees at LSNWJ's Equal Justice Celebration last year.

Legal services and the cause of equal justice have lost a great ally. Tom set a high standard for the pursuit of justice. We will strive to meet that bar and make equal justice a reality for all.

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