

2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas

2006 Annual Report



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ACCOUNTABILITY

Statements of Financial Position December 31, 2005 and 2006

ASSETS	2005	2006
Cash	\$2,975,152	\$2,999,672
Cash in Escrow - Client Deposits	\$6,463	\$4,157
Accounts Receivable	\$3,202	\$51,417
Due from Agencies	\$501,780	\$564,958
<u>Prepaid Expenses</u>	<u>\$113,492</u>	<u>\$194,002</u>
Total Current Assets	\$3,600,089	\$3,814,206
Property and Equipment		
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	\$1,332,031	\$1,311,084
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(\$1,230,404)</u>	<u>(\$1,094,570)</u>
Net Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	\$101,627	\$216,514
Buildings, Improvements, and Land	\$2,515,566	\$2,723,971
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(\$1,138,055)</u>	<u>(\$1,219,347)</u>
Net Buildings, Improvements, and Land	\$1,377,511	\$1,504,624
Law Library	\$335,695	\$302,801
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(\$179,653)</u>	<u>(\$179,638)</u>
Net Law Library	\$156,042	\$123,163
Construction in progress	\$28,642	- 0 -
Total property	<u>\$1,872,943</u>	<u>\$1,635,180</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$5,235,269	\$5,687,149
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$294,433	\$170,432
Accrued Expenses	\$348,515	\$357,607
Client Trust Deposits	\$6,463	\$6,999
Due to Agencies	\$1,103,644	\$25,664
Note Payable - Current	\$0	\$56,099
Notes Payable - Long Term	\$0	\$166,037
NET ASSETS	\$3,482,214	\$2,273,369
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$5,235,269	\$3,056,207

ACCOUNTABILITY

Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 2005 & 2006

REVENUES & OTHER SUPPORT	2005	2006
Grants & Contracts	\$11,664,080	\$13,111,325
Interest	\$72,291	\$161,539
Pro Bono Donated Services	\$4,588,866	\$4,243,341
Restricted and Unrestricted Contributions	\$435,609	\$301,651
Loss on Disposal of Equipment	\$0	\$12,570
Total Revenues & Other Support	\$16,760,846	\$17,595,985
EXPENSES		
Program Services	\$13,716,112	\$14,537,375
Management and General	\$1,647,614	\$1,717,707
Fund-Raising	\$188,275	\$189,641
Total Expenses	\$15,552,001	\$12,451,875
NET ASSETS		
Beginning of Year	\$2,273,369	\$3,482,214
Change in Net Assets	\$1,208,845	\$1,151,262
NET ASSETS		
End of Year	\$3,482,214	\$4,633,476

VOLUNTEERS

Who Are Equal Justice Volunteers and What Do They Do

- **Judges** volunteer in our evening legal clinic programs by proving-up pro se and agreed divorce cases, serve on CLE seminar planning teams, are presenters at substantive law training events, and serve on local pro bono advisory boards.
- **Private Attorneys** staff our legal clinics, accept pro bono civil law cases, act as mentors, are presenters at CLE training events, serve on speaker's panels, provide assistance to pro se litigants, act as mediators, co-counselors, and serve on our pro bono advisory boards.
- **Paralegals, Legal Assistants, and Legal Secretaries** conduct intake eligibility screening at our community legal clinics, draft pleadings under the volunteer attorney's supervision, conduct legal research and perform administrative functions.
- **Court Clerks** file Original Petitions and Waiver of Citations, conform and certify Final Divorce Decrees at our monthly Agreed Divorce Legal Clinic and prove-up hearings.
- **Court Reporters** donate court-reporting services for depositions on pro bono cases, render services at night court and law firm prove-up hearings.
- **Librarians** assist with keeping our law libraries updated, dispose of outdated materials, and organize legal documents for easy access by our volunteer lawyers.
- **Law and Paralegal Students, Community Advocates and other professionals** provide support services to attorneys that handle pro bono cases, perform intake screening at legal clinics, conduct legal research, and perform case management administrative tasks.



VOLUNTEERS

Some of What Our Equal Justice Volunteer Program Did In 2006

- Held 624 Monthly and Quarterly Neighborhood Legal Clinics;
- Conducted 108 Pro Se Legal Clinics (which includes the initial intake, classes and prove-ups);
- Recruited 706 new attorneys who accepted pro bono cases and staffed our legal clinics;
- Recruited 367 new lay professionals who volunteered at our legal clinics and in our offices;
- Conducted 80 SBOT MCLE Video showings that were utilized as a tool to recruit private attorneys to volunteer;
- Conducted Disaster Relief Seminars in Dallas and Fort Worth to recruit private attorneys to accept Katrina and Rita evacuees cases pro bono and to staff the Disaster Relief Legal Clinics;
- Conducted a “Will and Estate” project in conjunction with law students from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas;
- Conducted an Employment Law Workshop in collaboration with the Texas Tech University School of Law Clinical Program in Lubbock;
- Conducted Low Income Taxpayer Legal Clinics in West Texas with assistance from the Internal Revenue Service Taxpayer Advocate from Dallas;
- Implemented a student public interest initiative clinic in conjunction with Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas;
- Conducted a “Nuts & Bolts” Discrimination Workshop designed to recruit private attorneys to staff the Fort Worth NAACP Justice Project community legal clinics;
- Implemented a Wills & Probate Seminar that was co-sponsored by the Texoma Council of Governments in McKinney;
- Implemented a Family Law Seminar designed to recruit pro bono attorneys for family law cases in collaboration with Safe Place Women’s Shelter in Midland and Angel House Women’s Shelter in Odessa;
- Conducted community legal education and outreach activities throughout our 114-County Service Area;
- Conducted an immigration clinic in Amarillo, Dumas, and Borger, Texas.



TO INCREASE SERVICES

One way for Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas to increase services to clients is to increase the number of attorneys available to help those in need. The government grantors listed below have all joined us to increase services by funding salaries, benefits, and other support so we can increase the number of Legal Aid attorneys helping our clients. On average, each attorney can help 100 to 150 client families each year to address their legal problems before they spiral out of control in the depths of despair.

<u>Grantor</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>& 2006 Funding</u>
Governor's Criminal Justice Division - Victims of Crime Act	\$353,903	\$394,225
U.S. Dept. of Justice - Legal Assistance for Victims Grants	\$224,604	\$296,455
Texas Attorney General - Other Victim Assistance Grants	\$50,000	\$51,500
Cedar Hills Police Department	\$22,622	\$29,156
City of Plano	\$9,000	\$8,766
City of McKinney	\$5,000	\$8,050
Dallas District Attorney's Office	\$76,685	\$31,922
Emergency Shelter Grants		
Texas Dept. of Housing & Community Affairs	\$67,001	\$30,827
City of Dallas	\$46,562	\$76,579
U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development		
Dallas Homeless Supportive Housing Grants	\$135,676	\$120,000
Fort Worth Homeless Supportive Housing Grants	\$35,890	\$27,280
Amarillo Homeless Supportive Housing Grants	\$28,600	\$60,000
Texas Attorney General's Office		
Access & Visitation - Statewide Parent Hotline	\$133,345	\$135,000
Access & Visitation - The Place - Wichita Falls	\$27,990	\$22,882
Access & Visitation - Dallas	\$38,488	\$32,102
IRS - Low Income Taxpayer Clinic	84,299	\$97,393
State Bar of Texas (Katrina)		\$25,000
Total	\$1,339,665	\$1,438,087



TO INCREASE SERVICES

In an effort to address some chronic legal issues affecting the low-income communities we serve, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas successfully won grant awards targeted at specific subpopulations in 2004 and 2005.

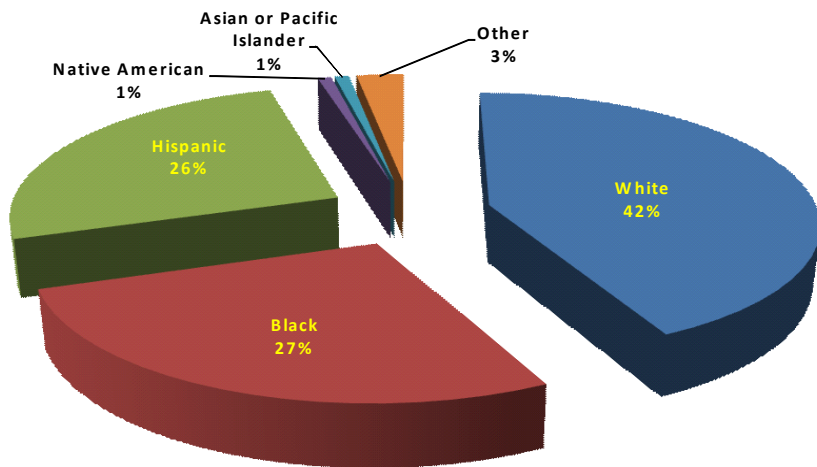
Advocacy to Address the Homeless: In 2005 and 2006, Legal Aid was able to secure funding for attorney positions in Amarillo, Fort Worth, and Dallas to help homeless people put the threads of their lives back together by helping with everything from access to benefits to removal of legal obstacles preventing their access to housing and employment. The homeless residents of the 4 counties served by these grants now have a voice to help them solve these problems. Funding was secured from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Amarillo, Tarrant County, and Dallas County HUD Community Continuum of Care process.

Taxpayer Advocacy Clinic Program: Our IRS Low Income Taxpayer Clinic now includes much of the rural area of West Texas. Two attorneys work out of the Dallas Office to provide outreach, case services, and to help support pro bono attorneys who help low-income clients in rural areas.

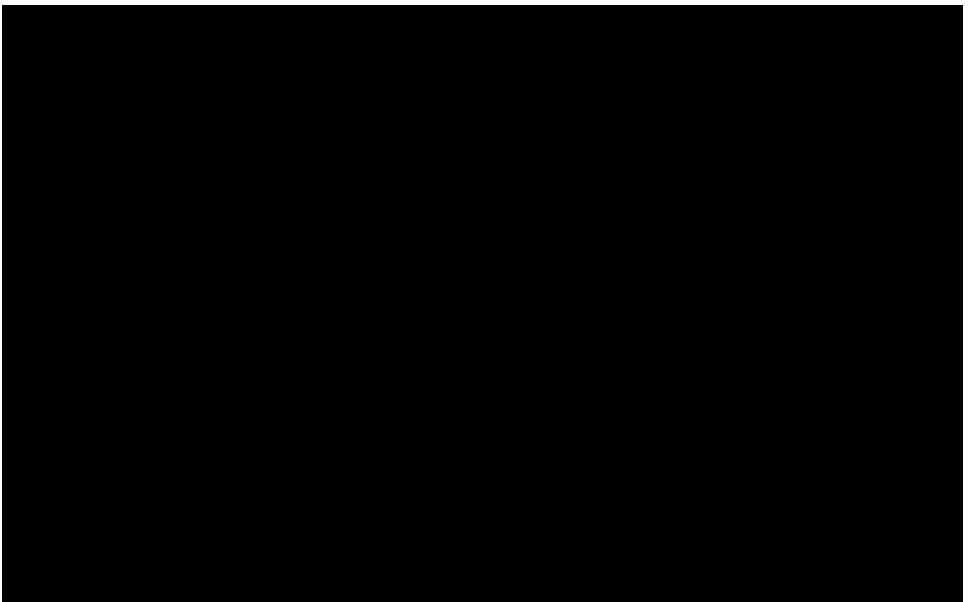
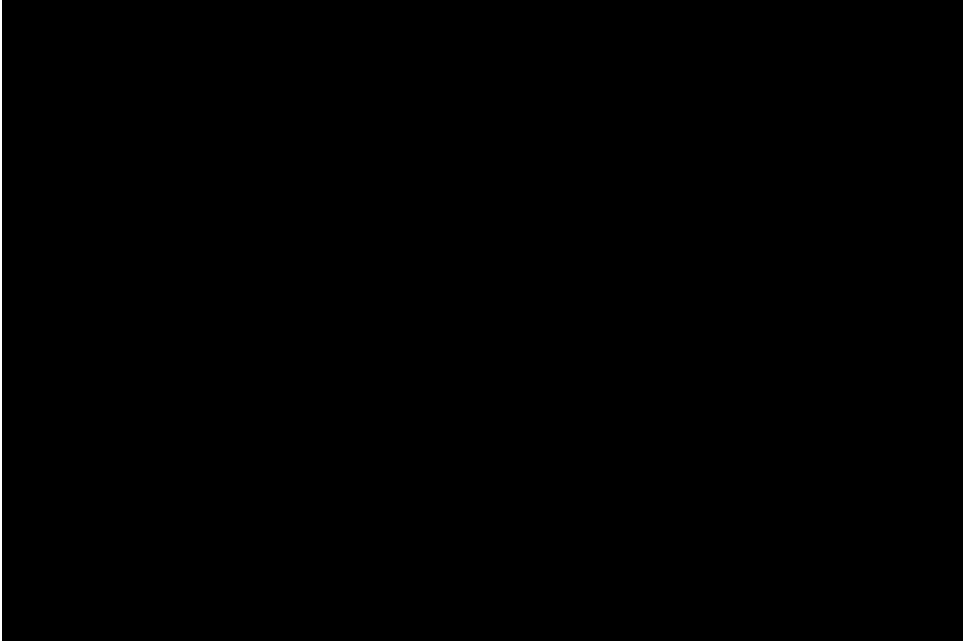
Victims Intervention: Legal Aid now has full-time attorney positions from the U.S. Department of Justice, Governor's Criminal Justice Division, Texas Attorney General's Office, and the Dallas County District Attorney's Office. These staff attorneys are spread over all of Legal Aid's 14 branch offices. These attorneys provide varying degrees of legal aid from protective orders and temporary restraining orders for some to divorce, custody, and child support for others. The one certainty is that approximately 1,560 client households are now able to receive at least limited legal aid because of the support of these grantors. In all, residents of all of Legal Aid's 114-county service area have been positively affected.

CLIENTS

2006 Race / Ethnicity of Clients



CLIENTS



PARTNERS

Once again, a diverse confederation of public and private entities enabled Legal Aid to sustain and enhance services. Thanks to each of the following agencies, bar associations, individuals, law firms, companies, and foundations for your powerful endorsement of equal access for all:

Abell-Hanger Foundation	Texas Attorney General's Office
Carl B. and Florence E. King Foundation	Access & Visitation Program
Cedar Hills Police Department	Other Victim Assistance Grants
City of Dallas	Texas Bar Foundation
Emergency Shelter Grant Program	Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs
City of McKinney	Emergency Shelter Grant
City of Plano	Texas Access to Justice Foundation
Dallas Bar Association Community Service Fund	Basic Civil Legal Services Program
Dallas Bar Foundation	Crime Victims Civil Legal Services
Dallas County District Attorney's Office	Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts
The Dallas Foundation	The Family Place
David D & Nona S Payne Foundation Inc	The Place- Wichita Falls
Governor's Criminal Justice Division	U. S. Internal Revenue Service
Victim of Crime Act Program	Low Income Taxpayers Clinic
STOP – VAWA Program	U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
Helen Greathouse Charitable Trust	Supportive Housing Program
Housing Crisis Center	U.S. Department of Justice
Hutchinson County United Way	Violence Against Women Act - Legal Assistance to Victims Program
Legal Services Corporation	United Way of Abilene
General Field Grant	United Way of Collin County
Technology Innovations Program	United Way of Hunt County
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State Bar of Texas Labor & Employment Law Section	
Tarrant County Bar Association	
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Tarrant County Debtors Bar Association
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Wichita County Bar Association



EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE 2006

These generous donors gave to our Amarillo, Tarrant County, McKinney, Midland, and Odessa Equal Access to Justice Campaigns, Hurricane Emergency, and our Women's Advocacy Awards during 2006.

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EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE - DALLAS - 2005-2006

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EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE - DALLAS - 2005-2006

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