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LEGAL NEEDS OF THE POOR IN MINNESOTA AN ASSESSMENT OF THE UNMET NEED



 EQUAL JUSTICE

Minnesota Legal Services Coalition
October, 1984

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report submitted by the Mn
ie Court pursuant to 1984
ch 489, sec 7....see letter
e for explanation.

1984 Laws, ch 489, section 7



THE SUPREME COURT OF MINNESOTA
230 STATE CAPITOL
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155

CHAMBERS OF
DOUGLAS K. AMDAHL
CHIEF JUSTICE

16121 296-5037

February 21, 1985

TO: SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF MINNESOTA

FROM: DOUGLAS K. AMDAHL, CHIEF JUSTICE *DKA*

SUBJECT: CHAPTER 489, LAWS OF MINNESOTA,
SECTION 7

The Minnesota Supreme Court was required by Chapter 489, Laws of Minnesota 1984, Section 7 to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report analyzing the effectiveness of the filing fee surcharge as a means of funding legal services in civil matters to persons unable to afford private counsel and making recommendations regarding the funding of services.

The Supreme Court has worked with the Legal Services Advisory Committee for the past three years in supervising the administration of the filing fee surcharge funding. This program has generated \$875,300 in FY83 and \$1,000,300 in FY84. FY85 revenue is anticipated to be again in excess of one million dollars.

This funding has been used to replace partially the funding cut from the Legal Services Coalition programs in 1981. When inflation is taken into account, the surcharge funding has not replaced the lost federal funds. That legal services for the poor are still needed has been documented by the attached booklet entitled "Legal Needs of the Poor in Minnesota: An Assessment of the Unmet Need."

Several other states have attempted to address these needs with state funding. In three states a direct appropriation has been used to fund legal services for the poor. Those states are Virginia, Alabama and Hawaii. In Maryland \$500,000 from the escheat fund has been dedicated for legal services to the poor. In Georgia, Nevada, Oregon and Florida a surcharge which is optional by county has been implemented. In Massachusetts a statewide mandatory surcharge is imposed.

Senate and House of Representatives

February 21, 1985

In Minnesota the six programs comprising the Legal Services Coalition provide statewide coverage to address the legal needs of the poor. The surcharge is collected statewide in Minnesota to support those six programs and others as determined by the Legal Services Advisory Committee. The surcharge has generated a substantial amount of revenue during a recessionary period, demonstrating its effectiveness as a funding mechanism.

The administrative tasks connected with the program in its present form have been minimal. The benefit for eligible clients has been great. The cooperation of the Legal Services Programs has been notable.

The Minnesota Supreme Court recommends continuation of the filing fee surcharge program in its present form.

DKA/jw
Att.

3/25
Zona -
7 Copies delivered
2/21/85 - Bal of
3 attached.
Gloria Madaski
Supreme Court

LEGAL NEEDS OF THE POOR IN MINNESOTA:
AN ASSESSMENT OF THE UNMET NEED

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I. Introduction and Background

A. A Brief History of Legal Services in Minnesota.

Organized legal services for the poor in Minnesota began with the creation of legal aid societies in Minneapolis in 1913, St. Paul in 1947, and Duluth in 1952. These programs provided services to metropolitan residents through one- or two- attorney offices, with local, charitable funding and some pro-bono assistance.

The first federal funding was provided through the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) beginning in 1966. These funds, while a significant increase over previous funding, were directed primarily to existing urban programs (Hennepin and Ramsey counties). In 1967, the Leech Lake Reservation Legal Services Project was established with special OEO funds.

In 1973, federal funds under Title XX of the Social Security Act became available to support legal services. Four counties-- St. Louis, Washington, Dakota and Olmsted--provided funds for single-county legal aid offices.

On July 25, 1974, in response to concerns about improper political interference with representation of clients under the OEO program, President Nixon signed into law the Legal Services Corporation Act. The Act established a private, non-profit corporation "for the purpose of providing financial support for legal assistance in non-criminal proceedings or matters to persons financially unable to afford legal assistance."^{1/}

When the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) assumed responsibility for the existing OEO programs in Minnesota in October, 1975, the programs had survived five years of frozen budgets, political attack and administrative uncertainty. Early

^{1/} Legal Services Corporation Act, P.L. 93-355, 88 Stat. 378 (1974); as amended P.L. 95-222, 91 Stat. 1619 (1977); 42 U.S.C. §2996 et seq.

efforts were thus concentrated on rebuilding and strengthening the existing programs.

In the late 1970s, LSC implemented a plan of expansion in order to provide poor people in the Midwest and the South, and the rural poor throughout the country, with at least some access to legal assistance. The goal, known as "minimum access", was to provide the equivalent of two attorneys for every 10,000 poor persons.^{2/}

After holding public hearings and consulting with legislators, local bar associations, community groups and legal services programs, LSC awarded expansion funds to three existing local programs--the Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis (LASM), Legal Assistance of Ramsey County (LARC) and the Legal Aid Service of Duluth (LASD)--which had demonstrated a capacity to deliver legal services effectively to poor persons.

LARC expanded to become Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS) in 1977, covering 33 counties in southern Minnesota. Central Minnesota Legal Services (CMLS) was also formed in 1977, when LASM joined with newly created programs in rural areas to serve 20 counties in central Minnesota.^{3/}

The Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota (LASNEM) received funds to serve eleven counties in the sparsely populated Arrowhead region. The Leech Lake Reservation Project also

2/ "Minimum access" is a funding concept which provides the basis for geographic distribution of legal services funds throughout the country. The measure is roughly the ratio of attorneys to poor persons which existed in the programs which received the highest OEO funding in 1974. It provides, at best, nominal access to legal assistance for poor persons. In Minnesota, for example, there are nearly 32 lawyers for every 10,000 persons in the general population.

3/ In 1981, responding to changing needs, the local service providers which had comprised CMLS recombined to form Mid-Minnesota Legal Assistance (MMLA), which is now the primary service provider in central Minnesota. CMLS remains the LSC grantee, providing services through a reimbursement contract with MMLA.

expanded to include the White Earth and Red Lake Reservations, reincorporating as Anishinabe Legal Services.

Northwestern Minnesota, largely rural, sparsely populated and without an existing legal services program, formed a judicare program, Northwest Minnesota Legal Services (NMLS), in 1977.^{4/} Judicare of Anoka County was also formed during this time, largely through the efforts of the local bar association. By late 1979, the poor in every county in Minnesota had at least nominal access to legal services.

During this period of expansion, the LSC provided support and technical assistance, in order to "insure the maintenance of the highest quality of service and professional standards", and the "most economical and effective delivery of legal assistance".^{5/} Assistance included (1) the development of training, support and resource materials in the field of poverty law; (2) research on the use of office technology to improve efficiency; (3) the development of management and administration techniques; (4) the encouragement of a full range of representation including community education and outreach, complex litigation, legislative representation, and other means of resolving the legal problems of clients; and (5) research on different methods of delivering legal services.

In 1978, CMLS, SMRLS and LASNEM jointly received an LSC "special needs" grant for the Legal Services Advocacy Project to provide legislative and administrative representation to eligible clients on matters directly affecting their legal rights.

In 1980 the six LSC-funded programs obtained another LSC "special needs" grant to establish a state support project, the Minnesota Legal Services Coalition, to enhance cooperation and

4/ Under a judicare system, clients are represented by attorneys in private practice who participate on a panel and who are reimbursed by the legal services program at about one-half the usual rate for attorney services.

5/ Legal Services Corporation Act, 42 USC §2996f(a).

coordination between the programs in training and the development of staff expertise, and other matters of state-wide concern.

By 1981 the LSC-funded programs had evolved into sophisticated and cost-effective providers of legal services for the poor throughout Minnesota, although even at their "high-water" mark, they were unable to meet more than a fraction of the need.

In 1982, however, the legal services programs suffered substantial cuts in federal funding. In 1981, while double-digit inflation was pushing costs up over 10%, Congress cut the LSC budget by 25% for fiscal year 1982. Other federal sources of legal services funding were reduced or terminated. In Minnesota, these reductions resulted in a loss of more than \$1,300,000, at a time when demand for legal assistance was growing as a result of the severe recession and cutbacks in government aid programs.

Thus, the past several years have required reassessment and reexamination as the legal services programs have struggled to continue to provide high quality legal assistance to as many low-income persons as possible.

B. Purpose. The purpose of this study is to analyze quantitative information on the need for legal services for low-income people in Minnesota, to identify the resources available to meet that need, and to determine the level of unmet need, thus providing a basis for future planning.

Analysis of data on project funding, staffing, and caseloads confirms the conclusion that most poor persons do not have effective access to legal assistance. For many of the programs, given the size of the area covered, the number and location of offices, and the size of the poverty population served, it is unlikely that all of the legal needs of the poor can in fact be met in the foreseeable future.

Programs must allocate resources in light of the fact that funding is inadequate to meet fully the legitimate needs of the poor. Efforts to expand these resources depend to a large extent on the availability of reliable data on both the legal services

programs and unmet need. What follows is an attempt to provide some of that information.

The data collected and analyzed for this study came from four main sources:

- (1) Existing literature on legal services for, and the legal problems of, poor persons;
- (2) Program statistics and records;
- (3) The 1980 Census and other population counts; and
- (4) Questionnaires to each of the programs.

This study quantifies the need for legal services for low income persons by estimating the number of poor persons in Minnesota (Section II) and the number of legal problems per poor person (Section III), and by multiplying the number of poor by the number of legal problems experienced per capita by poor people.

The current resources available to provide legal assistance to the poor are then described (Section IV). Finally, some projections of additional resources needed to meet the legal needs of poor persons are made (Section V).

II. Estimate of the Number of Poor Persons

The term "poor persons" as used in this study means those persons whose gross income is below 125% of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Official Poverty Threshold.^{6/} Table 2:1 (p. 13). A count of the number of

^{6/} There is no universally accepted definition of poverty. See W.P.O'Hare, "Measuring Poverty", Clearinghouse Review, Vol. 15, No. 8, p. 648 (December 1981). The HHS Official Poverty Threshold, while conservative, is the most widely used. 125% of the HHS poverty threshold is also the definition used by LSC to establish income eligibility guidelines for legal services.

persons below 125% of the poverty level is provided by the 1980 decennial Census.^{7/} Table 2:2 (p. 14).

Several adjustments have been made to the 1980 Census figures.

(a) Separate counts have been used for Native American and migrant populations served by Anishinabe Legal Services and the Migrant program (SMRLS), as Census poverty population counts are generally acknowledged to be incomplete for these populations.

The Native American count is taken from the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Labor Force Reports for the Leech Lake, White Earth and Red Lake Indian Reservations.^{8/} The 1980 Census count was used for non-Indians on the reservations, assuming the same percentage of poverty as for the counties in which the reservation is located. Table 2:2 (p. 14).

7/ Although the Census is believed by many to undercount the poor, it attempts an actual count of persons and income, rather than just a survey, and is therefore the most accurate and reliable information available. It also provides a count of poverty by county, thus making possible a breakdown by program. In addition, distribution of LSC, state filing fee surcharge and IOLTA funds is currently based upon the number of poor persons within each program's service area as determined by an adjusted Census count.

8/ The Census undercount for Native Americans -- based upon the difference between the Census and BIA counts -- is about 35%. Further, Census data does not include Indians "adjacent to or near" reservations who are potential and actual clients of the legal services program. Using BIA numbers of those unemployed, underemployed and not in the labor force, we calculated that 75% to 90% of reservation Indians are below 125% of poverty. For consistency, we adopted the LSC "rule of thumb" that 80% of the reservation Indian population falls below 125% of poverty.

The count of migrant farmworkers is taken from the Lillesand study commissioned by the LSC in 1977.^{9/} The count is adjusted for family size and is weighted to reflect the length of the growing season. Although slightly out-of-date, it remains the best count of migrant farmworkers which is available at this time. Table 2:2 (p. 14).

(b) The recession, high unemployment and cuts in aid programs resulted in a steady increase in the poverty rate beginning in 1980. Since the 1980 Census is based on 1979 ("pre-recession") income, the poverty count has been updated by using data from the March, 1984, Current Population Survey (CPS) of the U.S. Census Bureau. The CPS reflects a 25.5% increase in the number of persons below 125% of the poverty level from 1979 to 1983 (the most recent year reflected in the CPS); thus an estimate of the number of persons below 125% of poverty was reached by multiplying the 1980 poverty count by a factor of 1.2558.^{10/}

By this estimate, 701,686 Minnesotans are below 125% of the poverty level; that is approximately 17% of the total population of the state.

9/ Lillesand, Kravitz and McClelland, An Estimate of the Number of Migrant Farmworkers in the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (May, 1977). The count was developed from a variety of data sources including DOL In-Season Farm Labor Reports, HEW Migrant Health Estimates, the Office of Education Migrant Student Record Transfer System, and Health Services Administration Migrant Health Program Population Estimates.

10/ Bureau of the Census: Current Population Reports, "Money Income and Poverty Status of Families and Persons in the U.S.: 1983", Series P-60, No.145, August, 1984. The CPS is based upon a national sample survey; thus, although the updated count is more realistic in size, it may be less exact than the 1980 Census figures. It should also be noted that this adjustment assumes a uniform rate of increase in the poverty rate throughout the state. In fact, certain regions have been more adversely affected than others. The estimates, therefore, are probably low for the Northeastern region and for other counties which have been hardest hit by the recession and high unemployment.

III. Estimated Number of Legal Problems of Poor Persons

The next step in determining need is to identify the number of legal problems per poor person. A number of surveys of the poor population quantify the level of need for legal services.^{11/} The most conservative estimate concludes there are at least 2.3 problems for every 10 poor persons per year, while more recent legal services surveys indicate that every poor person may encounter more than three legal problems each year. Table 3:1 (p. 15).

A three step adjustment was needed to make it possible to compare the surveys and the Census and to compute the estimates. Using the most conservative survey estimate--the Denver Law School survey--the adjustments made in translating the survey data are shown in Table 3:2 (p. 16).

Taking the most conservative estimate from the adjusted surveys, at a minimum, 23% of poor persons will experience a legal problem each year. Multiplying this estimate by the number of poor persons in Minnesota, there are a minimum of 161,388 legal problems per year for which poor persons need legal assistance in Minnesota.

^{11/} American Bar Foundation, The Legal Needs of the Public (1978); Boston Bar Association, Action Plan for Legal Services, Report on the Legal Problems of the Poor in Boston, Part I; Civil Legal Needs (1977); Comptroller General of the U.S., Free Legal Services for the Poor -- Delivery Can Be Improved Through Increased Coordination, Community Legal Education and Outreach, Appendix III., Results of GAO's Potential Client Interviews (1978); Goodman, A Report on the Jacksonville Legal Needs Survey (1980); Sykes, "Legal Needs of the Poor in the City of Denver," H.E.W. Grant #OEG-4-7--061236-0093, OEO (1968); Vincent, A Report on the Western Kentucky Legal Services Needs Assessment Survey (1980). See also LSC, The Legal Services Corporation and the Activities of Its Grantees: A Fact Book, Spring, 1979. Despite their differences and limitations, these surveys represent the most useful information currently available for measuring legal need. The resources required to do a statewide survey of legal need in Minnesota are beyond the capacity of the Coalition at the present time.

IV. Current Resources

This section briefly describes the programs, number of case service staff (attorneys and paralegals), and funds available in Minnesota for providing civil legal assistance to the poor, as well as the number of clients represented by the programs in the past year.^{12/}

1. LSC-Funded Programs. There are six federally-funded civil legal services programs in Minnesota. Appendix A. The programs operate through 25 offices serving all 87 counties in Minnesota, as well as residents of the Leech Lake, White Earth and Red Lake Reservations and migrant farmworkers throughout Minnesota. These offices are staffed by the equivalent of 131.42 full-time staff and judicare attorneys, and paralegals who directly represent clients.^{13/} Table 5:1 (p. 17). The total dollars spent by the programs for legal assistance to low-income persons in 1984 are \$7,124,427.^{14/} Of that amount, \$3,437,392 is annualized funding from the Legal Services Corporation and \$3,687,035 is from other public and private sources. Table 5:2 (p. 18). The six LSC-funded programs provided

^{12/} The University of Minnesota, William Mitchell College of Law and Hamline University Law School also conduct clinical programs for students which result in some services to low-income persons. Approximately 450 cases involving assistance to low-income persons were handled in 1984.

^{13/} Judicare "equivalents" for staff attorneys (for comparative purposes) were calculated by dividing the total number of cases handled by the NMLS, Anoka, and LASNEM judicare panels by the average annual case-load of a full-time staff attorney (247).

^{14/} The total dollars shown reflect only funds which are available to serve low-income persons. \$389,287 (5%), which is expended for above-poverty persons through the Title III (seniors) programs, the Hearing Impaired Project, the Legal Advocacy for Developmentally Disabled Persons, and the Minnesota Mental Health Law Project, is not included in this figure. Federal funding sources for the Title III and Developmental Disabilities projects prohibit the use of a means test.

assistance to 28,601 low-income clients in 1984. Table 5:3 (p. 19).

2. Non-LSC Legal Assistance Programs. There are three non-LSC legal assistance programs in Minnesota. Appendix D. These programs serve single-county areas and are staffed by the equivalent of 5.25 full-time attorneys providing assistance to low-income persons. The major source of funding for these programs is Title XX reimbursement contracts with local County Social Service agencies. The total budget of the programs was \$226,850 for fiscal year 1984. The programs closed approximately 825 cases in 1984.

3. Volunteer Attorney Programs. All but two of the legal services and legal assistance programs have a private bar component.^{15/} There are also two independent non-profit volunteer attorney programs in Minnesota, the Legal Advice Clinic (LAC) in Minneapolis and Arrowhead Lawyers Care (ALC) in Duluth. Appendix E. 1800 private attorneys participated in volunteer programs in 1984, handling an average of 2.5 cases per attorney. A total of \$457,256 will be expended for volunteer programs in 1984.^{16/} Although many of the volunteer components are just completing their first year of operation, approximately 4,667 volunteer cases were closed in 1984.

In sum, there is currently the equivalent of 136.67 case service staff providing full-time legal assistance to low-income people in Minnesota. Additionally, there are 1800 volunteer

^{15/} Anishinabe and the Migrant unit do not have formal private bar components. The programs do, however, have informal referral systems and provide support and training to private practitioners in areas in which they have special expertise.

^{16/} The LAC has a budget of \$92,000, and the ALC a budget of \$41,000. In addition, the six LSC-funded programs spent \$272,247 to support volunteer programs in 1984. The three non-LSC programs spent \$52,009 (with SMRLS match) for their private bar components. These amounts are included in the total budgets shown for the programs (including \$12,000 contributed by LASNEM to the ALC and \$11,400 contributed by CMLS to the LAC).

attorneys for an equivalent of approximately 18 case service staff (11.6% of the total attorney/paralegal resources.) The total funding available in 1984 for the provision of legal assistance is \$7,484,277, with which the Minnesota programs (LSC, non-LSC and volunteer) provided legal assistance and representation to 34,093 low-income people in the past year.

In contrast, assuming the most conservative estimate of legal need (23%) there are a minimum of 161,388 legal problems faced by poor persons in Minnesota each year. Thus the legal services programs and volunteers met only 21.1% of the need in 1984.

Statewide, including staff, judicare and volunteer efforts, there is the equivalent of one attorney for every 4,537 poor persons in Minnesota. In comparison, there is approximately one attorney for every 317 persons in the general population. There are, therefore, nearly 14 times as many poor persons per legal services attorney as there are persons per lawyer in the general population.^{17/}

V. Additional Resources Needed

This final section provides two projections of additional resources needed to meet the unmet need. These projections are not precise cost estimates; they are simply estimates of the funding required to meet several increased levels of service.

1. A General Accounting Office (GAO) study prepared for the LSC appropriations process in 1978 estimated that 4.7 attorneys per 10,000 poor persons is required for "effective" access. In order to meet this goal, an additional \$10,204,936 would be

^{17/} The legal services ratio was reached by dividing the estimated number of poor persons (701,686) by the number of legal services staff, including volunteer and judicare attorney "equivalents" (154.67). The ratio of attorneys to the general population was reached by dividing the number of persons in Minnesota as established by the 1980 Census (4,075,790), by the number of attorneys in Minnesota (13,104), less the number of judges (250).

needed over the current funding level.^{18/} Even though this is an extremely limited goal (considering that there are approximately 32 attorneys per 10,000 persons in the general population), it nevertheless would require more than doubling the current total income of the legal services programs.

2. If the goal were to meet all of the unmet need, nearly \$30,000,000 would be needed. Using the conservative estimate of 161,388 legal problems per poor person, and assuming that ongoing efforts to increase efficiency produced an annual caseload of 300 cases per attorney, it would take the equivalent of 538 full-time attorneys to meet the need. The average cost per case service staff is \$52,066.^{19/} Thus, the cost of providing actual access would be \$28,011,508, or an additional \$20,527,231, more than two and one-half times the total dollars currently spent for legal services to the poor in Minnesota.

18/ The number of attorneys needed to provide 4.7 attorneys per 10,000 is approximately 350. The current number of attorneys and paralegals (154) was then subtracted for a total of 196 additional attorneys needed. This number was then multiplied by the average total cost per case service staff (\$52,066) to reach a total of \$10,204,936 additional funds needed.

19/ This cost is slightly lower than the cost per attorney, as the figure includes paralegals in the average cost per "case service staff." The cost includes overhead, a percentage of administrative and support staff costs, and average salary and fringes. It should be noted that salaries for legal services staff are significantly lower than those for comparable positions. The average starting salary for legal services attorneys, for example, is \$16,000. In contrast, the average starting salary for a University of Minnesota Law School graduate in 1983 was \$25,000. The average experience of legal services attorneys is, however, increasing (5.1 years in 1984); thus, in order to retain experienced attorneys, programs' must spend more on staff salaries.

TABLES

TABLE 2:1. LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION
LOW-INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES - 125%
OF POVERTY

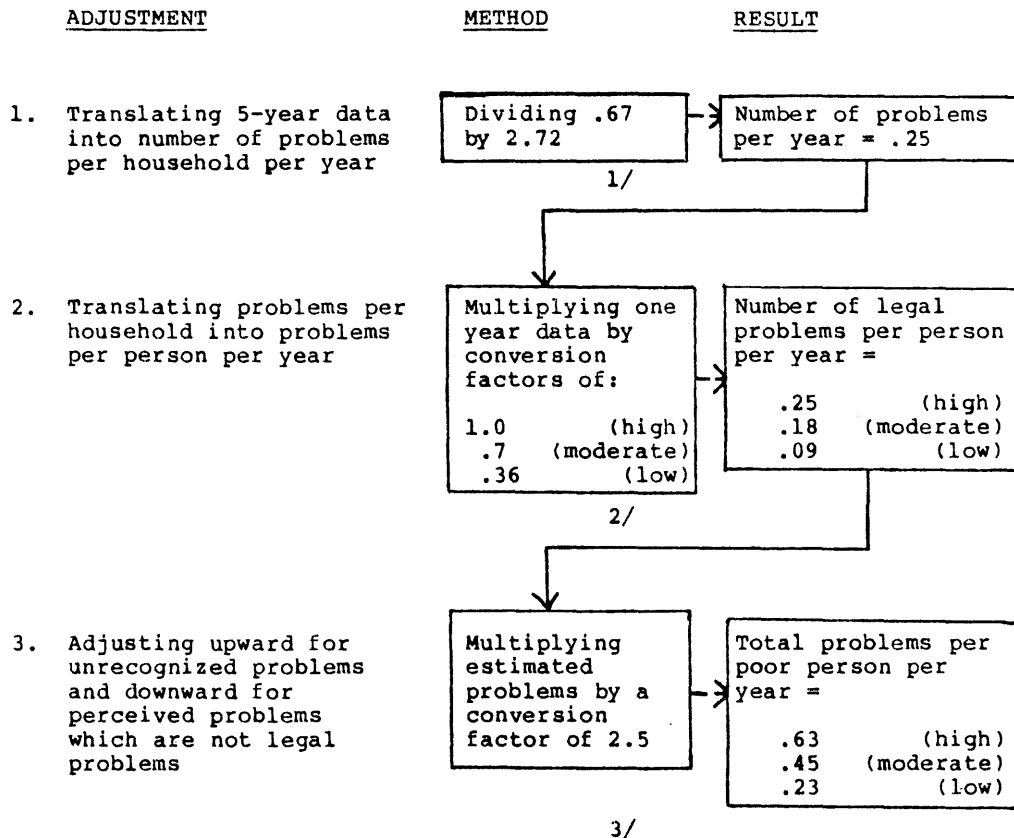
APPENDIX A OF PART 1611 - LEGAL SERVICES
CORPORATION POVERTY GUIDELINES

Size of family unit	Annual Maximum Income*	Monthly Maximum Income*
1	\$6,225	\$518.75
2	8,400	700.00
3	10,575	881.25
4	12,750	1062.30
5	14,925	1243.75
6	17,100	1425.00
7	19,275	1606.25
8	21,450	1787.50

For family units with more than 8 members, add
\$2175 annually (\$181 monthly) for each additional
family member.

*Refers to gross income before taxes. Annual Re-
vision of Poverty Income Guidelines, HHS, 49 FR
7151 (2/27/84).

TABLE 3.2. STEPS IN ESTIMATING NUMBER OF LEGAL PROBLEMS PER POOR PERSON PER YEAR FOR UNIVERSITY OF DENVER LAW SCHOOL NEEDS SURVEY (1968)



1/ The ABF Study calculated that the number of problems during a five year period is 2.72 times the number of problems during one year. The three year figure was adjusted accordingly ($3/5 \times 2.72 = 1.63$).

2/ All of the surveys except the ABF Study measure the number of problems by household. For use with Census data the estimates need to be converted into number of problems per person. According to the 1980 Census there is an average of 2.74 persons per household. As the household member surveyed may have reported the total number of problems per household (.36), the number of problems experienced only by him or herself (.1), or something in between (.7), we adjusted the estimates to account for these possibilities. The .36 factor was reached by dividing 1 by 2.74; the .7 factor was reached by dividing 1 by 1.4 (or $\frac{1}{2}$ of 2.74).

3/ The Denver and the Boston Bar surveys estimate the number of unrecognized problems and the number of problems which turn out not to be legal problems. We averaged the number of unrecognized problems estimated by the studies (3.3) and subtracted the estimated number of non-legal problems (.8) to reach a factor of 2.5.

TABLE 5:1. LSC FUNDED PROGRAMS: STAFF BY POSITION, PERCENT OF WORKFORCE AND EXPERIENCE.

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>% OF WORKFORCE</u>	<u>EXPERIENCE</u>
<u>Executive Director (6)</u> MMLA/SMRLS/LASNEM Anoka/Anishinabe/NMLS	2%	14 (Range 13-14) 6.8 (Range 4-8)
Average		10.4
<u>Litigation Support (3)</u> SMRLS (1.5) MMLA (1.5)	1%	10.4 (Range 8-14)
<u>Managing Attorneys (19)</u> SMRLS (6) MMLA (8) LASNEM (4) Support (1)	7%	8.3 (Range 4-14)
<u>Supervising Attorneys (10)</u> SMRLS (6) MMLA (3) Support (1)	3.5%	5.9 (Range 2-9)
<u>Staff Attorneys (72)</u> SMRLS (24) MMLA (36) LASNEM (8) Anishinabe (2) Support (2)	27.5%	3.5 (Range .5-10)
<u>Judicare Attorneys (14)</u> LASNEM (.5) NMLS (11) Anoka (2.5)	5.5%	N/A
<u>Paralegals (54.5)</u> SMRLS (17) MMLA (22) LASNEM (9) NMLS (2) Anishinabe (3) Anoka (.5) Support (1)	21%	4.5 (Range .5-12)
<u>Administrative Staff (12.5)**</u> SMRLS (3) MMLA (3) LASNEM (2) NMLS (3) Anishinabe (.5) Anoka (1)	5%	
<u>Clerical Staff (69)</u> SMRLS (23) MMLA (30) LASNEM (11) NMLS (2) Anishinabe (1.5) Anoka (1.5)	27%	

* Includes DDA specialists, media specialists, legislative assistant, community advocates, and nursing home ombudsmen.

** Includes Deputy Director, Community Advocacy Coordinator, Legal Research/Education Coordinator, Client/Attorney Coordinator, Administrators, Administrative Assistants, Comptrollers, Bookkeepers, and Accounting Technician.

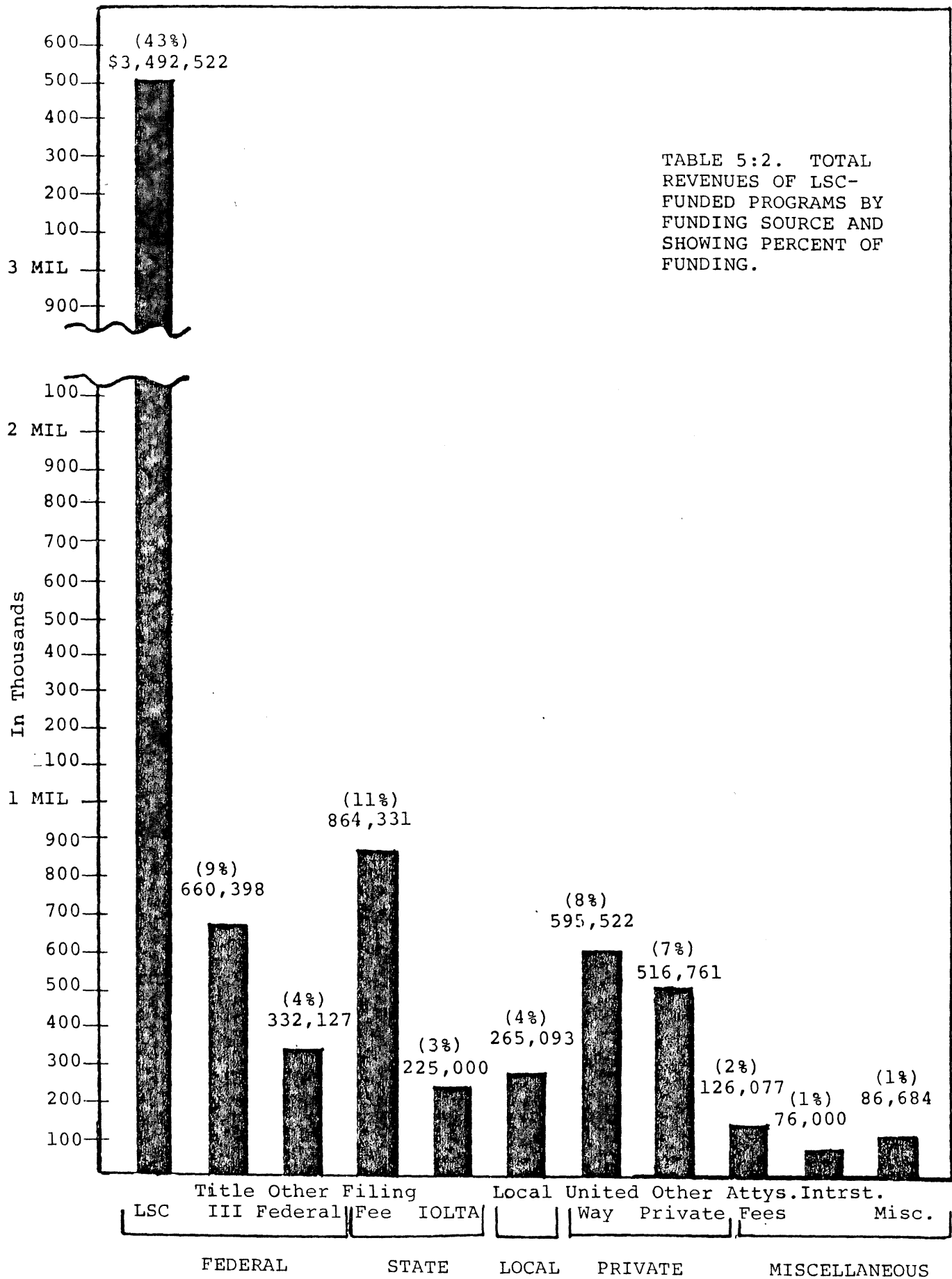


TABLE 5:3. CASES CLOSED BY LSC-FUNDED PROGRAMS IN 1984

Annual Cases Closed -- MINNESOTA LEGAL SERVICES COALITION

Type of Closing Legal Problem	Ad-vice Only	Brief Serv	Priv Bar Ref	In-suff Merit	Clt With drew	Neg w/o Lit	Neg /w Lit	Adm Agcy Dec	Ct Dec	Chg in Elig	Othr	Total	Per Cent of Total
V	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	Total	Total
Bankruptcy	146	22	43	6	36	4	3	6	60	1	2	329	
Collection	974	282	72	26	79	98	39	5	19	2	7	1603	
Contracts/Warran	449	122	40	16	31	28	21	1	12	1	5	726	
Credit Access	20	5	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	29	
EnergyNotPubUt	28	17	1	1	8	4	0	1	0	0	1	61	
LoansNotCollecti	93	34	7	1	12	19	19	0	4	1	1	191	
Public Utilities	243	138	4	7	33	73	5	5	2	2	3	515	
UnfairSalesPract	30	18	1	1	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	56	
OtherCons/Financ	633	240	31	10	45	36	11	0	5	1	4	1016	
TOTAL CONSUMER/FI	2616	878	199	68	249	264	98	19	104	8	23	4526	15%
TOTAL EDUCATION	93	22	8	5	11	61	17	17	12	0	1	247	1%
Job Discrimin.	44	8	15	7	7	6	1	5	6	0	1	100	
Wage Claims	215	86	32	9	23	26	0	2	5	1	7	406	
Other Employment	209	79	18	24	38	25	5	34	1	2	7	442	
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	468	173	65	40	68	57	6	41	12	3	15	948	3%
Adoption	35	5	2	1	5	3	0	1	27	0	1	80	
Custody/Visit	730	109	112	27	160	48	65	2	203	15	18	1489	
Div/Sep/Annul	1019	66	139	29	552	95	258	76	979	39	73	3325	
Guard/Conservato	145	42	17	11	9	4	5	0	28	2	3	266	
Name Change	44	16	11	0	2	0	0	0	5	0	2	80	
ParentRtsTerm	31	6	3	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	45	
Paternity	73	18	15	2	5	4	1	2	8	0	1	129	
Spouse Abuse	270	47	14	8	51	11	18	1	133	5	2	560	
Support	266	61	75	12	43	19	16	0	122	10	6	630	
Other Family	283	50	15	8	37	5	12	1	18	1	1	431	
TOTAL FAMILY	2896	420	403	99	865	189	375	83	1525	72	108	7035	23%
Delinquency	20	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	4	0	0	29	
Neglect/Abuse	65	8	7	4	9	4	3	0	18	0	0	118	
Other Juvenile	70	17	4	4	10	10	0	4	4	0	0	123	
TOTAL JUVENILE	155	26	13	8	20	15	3	4	26	0	0	270	1%
Medicaid	529	229	15	22	42	72	7	67	3	0	7	993	
Medicare	116	41	2	4	9	12	2	9	0	0	0	195	
Other Health	420	287	13	15	38	73	11	8	4	3	7	879	
TOTAL HEALTH	1065	557	30	41	89	157	20	84	7	3	14	2067	7%
FedSubsidyRights	193	62	4	14	28	36	20	12	10	1	4	384	
Homeownership	430	128	81	11	71	60	13	9	24	9	10	846	
Tenant/Landlord	2290	479	81	30	157	150	86	10	118	7	13	3421	
Other PubHousing	151	54	5	9	30	51	14	16	4	0	2	336	
Other Housing	309	77	19	9	15	30	7	0	7	0	6	479	
TOTAL HOUSING	3373	800	190	73	301	327	140	47	163	17	35	5466	18%
AFDC/OtherWelfar	1153	592	43	90	181	327	149	253	49	6	21	2864	
BlackLung	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
FoodStamps/Commo	246	199	2	13	47	69	15	45	4	3	1	644	
Social Security	252	129	30	28	55	29	3	279	8	6	6	825	
SSI	214	107	16	20	59	45	1	234	11	12	15	734	
Unemployment	184	41	12	39	60	10	3	272	11	8	4	644	
VABenefits	41	16	5	8	5	5	1	12	0	1	2	96	
Workers Comp	33	9	15	1	4	2	1	5	2	0	0	72	
Other IncomeMaint	145	68	13	10	16	21	4	20	4	3	2	306	
TOTAL INCOMEMAINT	2268	1161	136	209	427	508	177	1120	89	39	51	6185	20%
Immigration/nat	35	25	14	2	13	2	0	6	0	3	7	107	
Mental Health	116	41	15	6	5	7	1	1	2	3	4	201	
Prisoner's Right	15	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	18	
PhysicalDisabler	49	3	0	5	12	23	4	7	1	0	0	104	
Other Rights	134	36	11	14	16	19	0	4	5	2	2	243	
TOTAL INDIV RTS	349	106	41	27	46	51	5	19	8	8	13	673	2%
Incorp/Dissoluti	9	6	5	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	27	
Indian/TribalLaw	8	4	1	1	2	1	0	0	2	0	2	21	
License(Auto&Oth	78	50	7	5	7	6	0	3	3	0	1	160	
Torts	261	26	57	3	9	14	15	1	7	3	7	403	
Wills/Estates	826	481	69	7	39	7	4	1	8	3	10	1455	
Other Misc	960	184	64	12	59	28	6	13	21	1	10	1358	
TOTAL MISC.	2142	751	203	29	118	57	26	19	41	7	31	3424	11%
TOTAL CASES	15425	4894	1288	599	2194	1686	867	1453	1987	157	291	30841	100%
PER CENT BY CLOSE	50%	16%	4%	2%	7%	5%	3%	5%	6%	1%	1%	100%	

APPENDICES

Appendix A

THE MINNESOTA LEGAL SERVICES COALITION PROGRAMS

Six programs -- Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services, Mid-Minnesota Legal Assistance, Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota, Northwest Minnesota Legal Services, Anishinabe Legal Services, and Judicare of Anoka County -- provide legal assistance in civil matters to low-income, elderly and disabled persons in Minnesota with funding derived in part from the national Legal Services Corporation (LSC). The programs provide services to low-income persons in all eighty-seven (87) counties in Minnesota, as well as on the Leech Lake, White Earth and Red Lake Reservations, and migrant farmworkers throughout Minnesota.

Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services

Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services, Inc. (SMRLS) provides legal advice and representation to low-income residents of 33 counties in southern Minnesota, and to migrant farmworkers throughout Minnesota, through offices in St. Paul, Carver, Mankato, Winona, Albert Lea, Worthington, Fargo and the Administrative/Program Support Office in St. Paul. Each office also has a senior citizens project. Outreach offices are located in the Hispanic Westside and the American Indian Center in St. Paul. SMRLS also uses a number of circuit-riding and "growing season" offices throughout Minnesota.

Two statewide legal services projects, the Minnesota Legal Services Coalition and the Legal Services Advocacy Project, are housed in the SMRLS offices in St. Paul.

SMRLS closes about 10,400 cases annually. Approximately 70% of SMRLS clients are women, 20% are minority group members, and 20% are senior citizens.

SMRLS presently employs 38 attorneys, 17 paralegals, and 26 administrative and support staff.

SMRLS has strong working relationships with local bar associations and client groups, and has enlisted approximately 675 private practitioners in its volunteer attorney programs administered locally out of each SMRLS branch office. SMRLS has also worked with the 3M Corporation in the development of Minnesota's first corporate pro-bono program.

Mid-Minnesota Legal Assistance

Mid-Minnesota Legal Assistance (MMLA) provides legal advice and representation to low-income clients in twenty counties in central Minnesota, through offices in Minneapolis (3), St. Cloud, Little Falls, Cambridge, Willmar, Appleton and Marshall. Efforts to increase access for especially disadvantaged clients have been made by securing funding for senior citizens projects, the Community Legal Education project, the Legal Advocacy Project for Hearing Impaired Persons, the Mental Health Advocacy Project, and Legal Advocacy for Developmentally Disabled Persons. MMLA delivers services for Central Minnesota Legal Services (CMLS), the LSC grantee, on a reimbursement contract basis.

MMLA closes about 11,600 cases annually. Approximately 70% of MMLA clients are women, 15% are minority group members and 27% are senior citizens.

MMLA currently employs 50 attorneys and 22 paralegals as well as 33 administrative and support staff.

MMLA enjoys strong support from local bar associations, law firms and client groups. The Legal Advice Clinics, Inc., a 500-lawyer volunteer program in Hennepin County, has had a referral relationship with the Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis for over 15 years. In addition, more than 210 attorneys participate in the MMLA volunteer attorney programs administered by its local offices outside Hennepin County.

Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota

The Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota (LASNEM) provides legal services in civil cases to low-income residents in eleven counties in northeastern Minnesota, through offices in

Duluth, Brainerd and Virginia, as well as a Judicare panel serving Koochiching County (the most distant of the counties served), and part-time outreach offices in Grand Rapids and Pine City.

LASNEM currently employs 13 attorneys and 9 paralegals, as well as 13 support and administrative staff. Twelve attorneys participate on the Koochiching County Judicare panel. LASNEM closes about 4,500 cases per year.

In 1981, LASNEM and the 11th District Bar Association jointly organized a now separately incorporated volunteer attorney program. That program won the National Legal Aid and Defender Association's Harrison Tweed award in 1982.

Northwest Minnesota Legal Services

Northwest Minnesota Legal Services (NMLS) serves twenty-two counties in the northwest quadrant of Minnesota. Its Administrative Office is located in Moorhead.

The program provides legal services to low-income people and senior citizens through a judicare system. Clients are represented by private attorneys on the NMLS panel who are reimbursed by NMLS at a rate about one-half the usual rate for attorney services (\$30 per hour with maximum fees set for certain types of cases).

NMLS has two staff attorneys, two paralegals and two full-time and one part-time administrative support staff. The staff provides all administrative support, including client intake, eligibility screening and referral. The two attorneys provide training on poverty issues, co-counsel in individual cases if needed, and support and research to panel attorneys. NMLS also provides community legal education through its staff and judicare attorneys.

Approximately 250 attorneys in the NMLS service area (nearly 80% of the local lawyers) participated in the NMLS program in 1984, averaging nearly 12 cases per attorney per year. NMLS closes approximately 3,000 cases per year.

Anishinabe Legal Services

Anishinabe Legal Services (ALS) provides legal assistance in civil cases to low-income persons on or near the Leech Lake, Red Lake and White Earth Reservations in northern Minnesota. The program serves all eligible clients in its service area, Indian and non-Indian; however, 80% of those receiving services in 1984 were of Indian descent.

ALS presently employs 3 attorneys, 3 paralegals and 2 administrative/support staff. ALS closes approximately 1,000 cases annually.

Although ALS does not have a formal volunteer attorney program (primarily because of the nature of the program and its service area), the program does make its extensive library available to local practitioners and provides staff consultation on poverty law and Indian issues, and also participates in the provision of training to local private attorneys on such issues.

Judicare of Anoka County

Judicare of Anoka County provides legal services to low-income residents of Anoka County. Anoka Judicare is a combined staff and judicare program. The staff is composed of an Executive Director/Attorney, a paralegal and a secretary/bookkeeper. The staff's responsibilities are to administer the program (including client intake, eligibility screening and referral) and to provide legal advice and representation to clients in more traditional poverty law cases. The staff handled approximately 480 cases in 1984.

A panel of private practitioners are referred cases in which they have expertise and are paid \$30 per hour (about one-half the usual rate). Judicare of Anoka County presently has approximately 88 attorneys on its panel, handling about 4 cases per year per attorney.

The program has enjoyed strong support from the local Bar Association, which has asked that each member contribute five hours of pro bono (uncompensated) time, or \$150.00 to Anoka Judicare to provide low-income legal services.

MINNESOTA LEGAL SERVICES COALITION PROGRAMS

Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services

Administrative Office: 700 Minnesota Building
46 East Fourth Street
St. Paul, MN 55101
612/228-9823
Bruce A. Beneke, Executive Director

300 Minnesota Building St. Paul, MN 55101 612/222-5863 (Serves Dakota, Goodhue, Ramsey, and Washington counties)	5th and Oak Streets Carver, MN 55315 612/448-4880 (Serves Carver, Scott, and Rice counties)
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506 Kenny Road St. Paul, MN 55101 612/776-8592 (Native American outreach office)	179 E. Robie Street St. Paul, MN 55107 612/291-0110 (Hispanic outreach office)
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301 Medical Arts Building Albert Lea, MN 56007 507/377-2831 (Serves Freeborn, Mower and Steele counties)	400 Exchange Building Winona, MN 55987 507/454-6660 (Serves Dodge, Fillmore, Houston, Olmsted, Wabasha and Winona counties)
--	--

529 South Fifth Street Mankato, MN 56001 507/387-5588 (Serves Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Martin, McLeod, Nicollet, LeSueur, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan counties)	424 South Tenth Street Worthington, MN 56187 507/372-7368 (Serves Redwood, Cottonwood, Jackson, Nobles, Rock, Pipestone and Murray counties)
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700 Minnesota Building St. Paul, MN 55101 612/291-2837 (Provides services to migrants statewide)	15 South 21st Street Fargo, ND 58103 701/232-8872 (provides services to migrants statewide)
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Mid-Minnesota Legal Assistance

Administrative Office: 222 Grain Exchange Building
323 South Fourth Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55415
612/332-1441
Jeremy Lane, Executive Director

222 Grain Exchange Building
Minneapolis, MN 55415
612/332-1441
(Serves Hennepin County)

2929 Fourth Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408
612/827-3774
(Serves South Minneapolis)

21 Court House Square
St. Cloud, MN 56301
612/253-0121
(Serves Benton, Stearns,
Sherburne and Wright counties)

Box 122
Appleton, MN 56208
612/289-2613
(Serves Big Stone, Swift,
Chippewa and Lac Qui Parle
counties)

407 West Litchfield
Willmar, MN 56201
612/235-9600
(Serves Big Stone, Chippewa,
Kandiyohi, Meeker, Renville
and Swift counties)

2507 Fremont Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55411
612/522-6636
(Serves North Minneapolis)

Route 5, Box 21
East Side Plaza
Cambridge, MN 55008
612/689-2849
(Serves Chisago and Isanti
counties; also Pine, Kanabec and
Mille Lacs for senior citizens)

125½ East Broadway
Little Falls, MN 56345
612/632-5431
(Serves Todd, Morrison and Mille
Lacs counties)

244 West Main Street
Marshall, MN 56258
507/537-1588
(Serves Lincoln, Lyon, Yellow
Medicine and Lac Qui Parle
counties)

Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota

Administrative Office: 302 Ordean Building
424 West Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55802
218/726-4800
Michael Connolly, Executive Director

302 Ordean Building
424 W. Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55802
218/726-4800
(Serves South St. Louis,
Carlton, Cook, Lake, Pine
and Kanabec counties)

235 South Sixth Street
Pine City, MN 55063
612/629-7166
(Satellite office of Duluth)

204½ Chestnut Street
Virginia, MN 55792
218/749-3270
(Serves North St. Louis, Itasca
and Koochiching counties)

2027 South Sixth Street
Brainerd, MN 56401
218/829-1701
(Serves Cass, Crow Wing and Aitkin
counties)

5 Northeast Fifth Street
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
(218) 326-6290
(Satellite office of Virginia)

Northwest Minnesota Legal Services

Eighth Street and Fourth Avenue South
P.O. Box 714
Moorhead, MN 56560
218/233-8585
Larry Nordick, Executive Director

(Serves Becker, Beltrami, Clay, Clearwater,
Douglas, Grant, Hubbard, Kittson, Lake of
the Woods, Mahnommen, Marshall, Norman, Otter
Tail, Pennington, Polk, Pope, Red Lake, Roseau,
Stevens, Traverse, Wadena and Wilkin counties)

Anishinabe Legal Services

Box 157
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218/335-2223
Dave Rasmussen, Executive Director

(Serves Indian and non-Indian residents of
Leech Lake, White Earth and Red Lake Reservations)

Judicare of Anoka County

403 Jackson Street
Anoka, MN 55303
612/421-4760, extension 1380
Floyd Pnewski, Executive Director

(Serves Anoka county)

Appendix B

THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

The national Legal Services Corporation is a private, nonprofit corporation, established by the Legal Services Corporation Act^{1/}, for the purpose of providing "financial support for legal assistance in non-criminal proceedings or matters to persons financially unable to afford legal assistance".^{2/}

The Corporation is governed by an eleven member Board of Directors, appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. A majority of the Board must be members of the bar of the highest court, and at least two must be eligible clients.

The Corporation is not a department or agency of the Federal Government, but was intended to be an independent entity in order to insulate legal services from partisan politics.

The LSC receives an annual appropriation from Congress^{3/} and is authorized to provide financial assistance to qualified programs for the purpose of providing legal assistance to eligible clients.

The Act defines an eligible client as "any person financially unable to afford legal assistance".^{4/} The Corporation has established guidelines, setting maximum income eligibility at 125% of the official U.S. Department of Health and Human Services poverty level.

1/ P.L. 93-355 (1974), as amended P.L. 95-222 (1977); 42 U.S.C. §2996 et seq.

2/ 42 U.S.C. 2996b(2).

3/ The LSC submits its own annual budget request to Congress. The Office of Management and Budget may review and submit comments on the request.

4/ 42 U.S.C. 2996a(3).

Legal services are delivered by locally controlled programs. Each local legal services program is governed by a board of directors made up of residents of the community they serve. Sixty percent of the membership of each local board must be attorneys; one-third must be eligible clients. This local control produces a wide variety of delivery systems, allowing each program to determine how best to meet the needs of its clients and the local community.

Because none of the programs have sufficient resources to meet the needs of all, or even most of those eligible for legal assistance, the Legal Services Corporation Act and regulations require each program to set local priorities for service based on an appraisal of client needs and available resources in the local community.

In 1984, with a budget of \$275 million, the LSC funded 326 legal services programs throughout the 50 States, the Virgin Islands, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Micronesia.

Approximately three percent of the total LSC appropriation is used for central administration; another two percent is used for field training. More than 95 percent of the LSC budget goes directly to the field programs.

Appendix C

NON-LSC LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Three non-LSC legal assistance programs also provide staff legal services to low-income people in Minnesota -- Legal Assistance of Washington County (LAWC), Legal Assistance of Dakota County (LADC), and Legal Assistance of Olmsted County (LAOC).

The major sources of funding for these programs (approximately 60 to 70% of total revenue) are reimbursement contracts with local County Social Service Agencies. Other sources include local United Way agencies, local bar association contributions, and state filing fee surcharge and IOLTA funds.

Legal Assistance of Washington County

Legal Assistance of Washington County (LAWC), established in 1973, provides legal assistance to low-income residents of Washington County through its office located in Lake Elmo.

The program staff includes an Executive Director/attorney, a staff attorney/volunteer coordinator and a legal secretary/paralegal.

The LAWC closed 168 cases in 1984. Services were primarily in the area of family law (70%), as well as administrative appeals (public benefits), consumer cases, landlord/tenant matters, and miscellaneous other cases.

The program received state filing fee surcharge funds beginning in 1983 to establish a volunteer attorney program. 33 private attorneys in the county participate in the program.

Legal Assistance of Dakota County

Legal Assistance of Dakota County (LADC), formed in 1973, provides legal assistance to low-income residents of Dakota County through its office located in West St. Paul.

The LADC is staffed by an Executive Director/attorney, a staff attorney, a paralegal/receptionist and a legal secretary.

The program closed an estimated 330 cases in 1984, most of which were family law matters (80%). The program also handles some public benefits, consumer, landlord/tenant and tort defense cases.

The LADC initiated a volunteer attorney program in 1983, with state surcharge filing fee funds. 59 private attorneys participate in the program.

Legal Assistance of Olmsted County

Legal Assistance of Olmsted county (LAOC), established in 1973, provides legal assistance to low-income residents of Olmsted County, through its office in Rochester.

Program staff includes an Executive Director/attorney, a staff attorney, and one and one-quarter time secretarial and clerical staff.

The program closed an estimated 325 cases in 1984, 82% of which were family law cases. Other areas included consumer, landlord/tenant, public benefits and and miscellaneous other cases.

The LAOC's volunteer attorney program, also established with surcharge funds in 1983, has achieved a nearly 30% participation rate.

MINNESOTA VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY PROGRAMS

Volunteer attorney programs have grown significantly over the past three years in Minnesota, due in part to the impetus of an LSC 12.5% private bar allocation requirement, and also due to the cooperation of the State and local bar associations in responding to the increased unmet need created by the LSC funding cuts.

About 1800 attorneys participated in volunteer programs in 1984, handling approximately 4,600 cases.

Ramsey Volunteer Program. Ramsey County is served by an established pro bono panel, the Ramsey Volunteer Attorney Program, a joint project of the Ramsey County Bar Association and Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS). Approximately 300 volunteer attorneys participate on the panel, closing 408 cases in the past year.

SMRLS provides intake and screening, referral, training and other back-up assistance to volunteer attorneys on the panel. A full-time coordinator is provided by the SMRLS St. Paul office. SMRLS also co-sponsors a volunteer program with 3M through which 3M corporate attorneys provide pro bono representation to low-income clients in Ramsey County.

Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services Volunteer Attorney Program. The SMRLS Volunteer Attorney Program, implemented in 1983, provides services in 32 of the 33 counties served by SMRLS through its local legal services offices in Albert Lea, Winona, Worthington, Carver and Mankato. Each local office has a staff volunteer coordinator and provides intake and screening, referral, training and follow-up assistance. About 375 attorneys participate in the SMRLS Volunteer Attorney Program, closing nearly 200 cases in the past year.

Legal Assistance of Washington County Volunteer Attorney Program. The Legal Assistance of Washington County (LAWC) Volunteer Attorney Program began in 1983, when LAWC received filing fees surcharge funding to develop a volunteer program. The program is administered by a part-time attorney coordinator. Approximately 33 attorneys participate in the LAWC Volunteer Attorney Program, closing 24 cases in 1984.

Legal Assistance of Dakota County Volunteer Attorney Program. The Legal Assistance of Dakota County (LADC) Volunteer Attorney Program also began in 1983 with the assistance of filing fee surcharge funds. A part-time attorney coordinator administers the program. About 25 cases were closed by the volunteer program in 1984. 59 attorneys have been recruited to participate in the program.

Legal Assistance of Olmsted County Volunteer Attorney Program. The Legal Assistance of Olmsted County (LAOC) Volunteer Program was also established in 1983 with filing fee surcharge funds. The program is administered by a part-time attorney coordinator, and closed approximately 15 cases in 1984. About 49 attorneys have been recruited by the program.

Legal Advice Clinics, Ltd. The Legal Advice Clinics (LAC) is an independent non-profit program providing legal advice through volunteer attorneys to low-income persons in Hennepin County. The program has been in existence for over fifteen years, operating in cooperation with the Hennepin County Bar Association. The program is administered by a full-time staff of 4.5 who handle intake and screening, and refer cases to panel attorneys. The LAC has over 500 attorneys on its panel, and handles about 3,000 cases each year. The LAC has a close working relationship with, and makes cross-referrals to, the local legal services office in Minneapolis.

Central Minnesota Legal Services Volunteer Attorney Program.

The Central Minnesota Legal Services (CMLS) Volunteer Attorney Program, implemented in 1983, provides volunteer attorney services to the remaining 21 of the 22 counties served by Mid-Minnesota Legal Assistance (MMLA) through local legal services offices in St. Cloud, Little Falls, Cambridge, and Marshall-Willmar. Each office has a staff volunteer coordinator and provides intake and screening, referral and follow-up assistance. There is, in addition, a full-time program-wide attorney coordinator. About 220 private attorneys participate in the CMLS Volunteer Attorney Program, handling 226 cases in 1984.

Arrowhead Lawyers Care Volunteer Attorney Program. The

Arrowhead Lawyers Care (ALC) Volunteer Attorney Program was initially organized in 1981, through the efforts of the Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota (LASNEM) and the Eleventh District Bar Association. In 1983, the program was separately incorporated and has expanded to serve eleven counties in the service area served by LASNEM. The programs continue to maintain a close working relationship. The program is administered by 1.75 staff who handle intake and screening and make referrals to panel attorneys. About 200 attorneys participate in the ALC Volunteer Attorney Program, closing approximately 320 cases in 1984.

Minnesota Volunteer Attorney Program. The Minnesota

Volunteer Attorney Program was established by the joint efforts of the Minnesota State Bar Association and the Minnesota Legal Services Coalition in 1982. The program, administered by one full-time staff, coordinates and provides support to the volunteer attorney programs throughout Minnesota.

