NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL, COMMITTED CITIZENS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD; INDEED, IT’S THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS.” – MARGARET MEAD
Margaret Mead summed up the power of partnerships: “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

In 2017, The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland staff, board and volunteers, in partnership with our supporters, embodied this lofty idea.

Together, we impacted more than 18,000 people — including veterans facing eviction, victims of elder abuse, toddlers poisoned by lead in their homes, and single mothers fighting for the health and safety of their families. Legal Aid serves a diverse client community, but each client shares in common the burden of living in poverty. Each client we served faced a situation that, without our free legal assistance, could escalate into a devastating emergency.

Legal Aid aims to be where and when our clients need us most. We have the ingredients, the foundation to achieve our audacious goals: Our incredible staff and volunteers, our partnerships, our community. Together, we achieve impressive outcomes for our clients: Evictions prevented; safety secured; barriers to education and employment removed. Through this work, lives are stabilized.

But these aren’t just individual outcomes, they are community outcomes. Families that were once wholly consumed with getting by from day to day are able to fully engage in their neighborhoods, with their children’s school, with training to get a better job. Democracy thrives because of your support.

We thank you for extending Legal Aid’s reach to more families living in poverty. Your support has created a ripple effect that impacts more families through partnerships, removes barriers to opportunity and elevates Legal Aid as a catalyst for community change.

We are proud of our work to create lasting change in our community in 2017. You should be as well; you are part of Legal Aid, and Legal Aid is part of you.

Colleen M. Cotter, Esq.
Executive Director
The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland
The mission of The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland is to secure justice and resolve fundamental problems for those who are low income and vulnerable by providing high quality legal services and working for systemic solutions.

2017 Legal Aid Donors

Individual Gifts: $10,000+
- Karin Goffin *
- Kerin Kaminski *
- S. Lee Kohrman *
- Richard and Patricia Pogue *

Individual Gifts: $2,500 - $9,999.99
- Anonymous
- Brett and Ann Ballard
- Katharine Burke and William Gaikill *
- Colleen Coster *
- Frank and Wendy DeSantis +
- William Doll and Carolyn Butler *
- Mark Doyle and Maureen Caffery
- Philip and Dana Fastenberg *
- Judge Nancy Fiorentini and John Burke *
- Steven and Gail Goldfarb *
- Calvin Goffit *
- Patrick and Ruth Haggerty *
- Laura Hong
- Deni Kobric *
- John Lewis *
- Risa and Charles Mainshour *
- Ed and Kim Moore *
- Kenneth Moore and Cynthia Holland *
- Stephen and Bonnie O'Bryan *
- Thomas Pirzado and Barbara McWilliams
- Beni Ruder and David Watson *
- Juan Ramirez
- George and Barbara von Mehren *

Individual Gifts: $1,000 - $2,499.99
- Anonymous (2)
- Charles and Maureen Adler *
- David and Phyllis Allden *
- Jason and Shuchi Atting *
- Keith and Marie Ashburn *
- Doug and Carolyn Barr *
- Ann Bregg *
- Jeffrey Bomberger and Elaine Thaller *
- Julie and Ben Brouhard *
- Sherrod Brown and Connie Schultz
- Annette Gamer Butler *
- Peter and Rita Carlstuga *
- Christopher and Kelly Carly *
- Thomas Cesarella
- Jill and Paul Clark *
- Judge Dan Polster *
- Deborah Coleman *
- Timothy Connors *
- Michael and Kim Cullers *

Individual Gifts: $500 - $999.99
- Antonia Del vacchio *
- John and Mary Delvacchio *
- Hugh and Sue McKay *
- Gale and Gerald Messerman *
- James Miller *
- Lydia and David Miraldi *
- Howard and Jane Morlicant
- Peter and Kristen Morrison *
- Matthew Nakon *
- Jared and Jillian Oakes *
- Rich and Jacqueline Pannow *
- Christian Parrot *
- Richard and Alice Perrault *
- Stacey Picard and Mark Maurice *
- Robert Ranallo*
- Anne Reeser
- Joseph Rodgers
- Joyce and David Snow *
- Stephen and Therese Squirt *
- Judge Melody Stewart *
- Jennifer Sullivan *
- Dennis Tereza and Nancy Conrado *
- Chris and Anne Thorman *
- P. Kelby Tompkins
- Brian Toshery and Lisa Monahan *
- Roy and Deborah Tumiel *
- Neil Vakkarika and Michael Mantford *
- Nancy Virale
- Michael Wager and Peggy Gitts Wager
- Douglas and Holly Wang *
- David Weima *
- Dennis Wilson *
- Shelley Kassen-Wilton *
- Christopher Williams and

2017 Legal Aid Finances

2017
2016

REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT

Legal Services Corporation (LSC)
$2,352,644
$2,290,097

Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation (OLAF)
$2,852,996
$2,311,520

Donations and Private Grants
$1,964,047
$1,687,665

Donated Services
$1,157,144
$857,541

Other Government Grants
$2,978,809
$2,290,097

Support Services
$7,596,425
$6,690,504

Other Income
$498,013
$270,060

TOTAL REVENUE
$10,097,541
$8,553,681

EXPENSES

Program Services
$7,604,973
$6,767,597

Support Services
$1,586,647
$1,370,136

TOTAL EXPENSES
$9,191,620
$8,137,733

Excess of Revenue over Expenditures
$905,921
$415,949

Beginning Net Assets
$6,690,504
$6,274,555

NET ASSETS as of year end
$7,596,425
$6,690,504

BREAKDOWN OF NET ASSETS

2017
2016

Unrestricted

$7,596,425
$6,690,504

Temporaryly Restricted
$429,407
$289,085

Permanently Restricted
$165,375
$115,125

NET ASSETS
$7,596,425
$6,690,504

BARRISTER SOCIETY

Individual Gifts: $10,000+
- Richard Dean
- Anthony and Stacey Del Zoppo
- Matthew and Megan Dooley
- Timothy Downing and Kim Press
- Michael and Gretchen Farrell
- Stephen and Jennifer Fairris
- Christian Fedor
- Robert Fedor, Jr.
- Robert and Laura Fogarty
- Judge Stuart Friedman and
- Arthur Kane *
- Terean Gilbert *
- David Goodman and Barbara Howert *
- James Grove *
- Richard and Jessica Gubiet *
- Harry Haber *
- John Hirschfeld *
- Kevin and Liam Hinkel
- Judge Michael Jackson
- Veneta Jamison
- Helen Jarem and Tara Symagula *
- Casey Jarvis and Brett Farmery *
- Candace Jones *
- Marvin and Leslie Karp *
- Amy Kelling *
- Matthew and Linda Klabin *
- Kathleen Kordelski *
- David and Martha Kunik *
- Dennis and Kim Landowen *

BYLAWS AND POLICIES

We are grateful to members of our fifteen-year giving society (noted with a “•”),
We welcome our first-time givers (noted with a “#”) to the Legal Aid Family.
These donors and their consistent support deserve special recognition.

54
An estate attorney told Nicole her new home had a clear and clear title, but a creditor threatened foreclosure with a demand for damages. Legal Aid showed Julianne was not at fault, and the judge dismissed the landlord’s claim.
Individual Gifts: $250 - $499.99 (continued)
Sandra Zagalski #
Richard and Marier Zeigert #
Patricia and Greg Zilka #
Joanne Zimmer #

PATRONS OF JUSTICE
Individual Gifts: $100 - $249.99
Anonymous (24)
Rafael Abus-Rahel
Jennifer and Daniel Adams #
Jonathan Adler #
Roberts and Barbara Albon #
Kelly Allan #
Jessica Allen #
Eric Amery
Robert Andrea #
Robert Anderson #
Geoffrey and Cynthia Andrews
Marlene Anisetti #
Havert Applegate #
James Annoff #
David Adhuhurst
Darleen Balser #
Robert and Susan Bamberg
Blair Burnham-Hinkle and
William Hinkle #
Heather and Mark Barski
Cathleen and Lee Baxey
Fred Bauer
Margaret and William Baughman
and Mayfan Baughman #
Virginia Beckman #
Richard Beckman #
Judge Maureen Clancy #
Retired Judge Joseph and
Beverly Cigrang #
Judge Kurt Cramm #
Randy and Darya Klammer #
Sarah and Alan Melamed #
Daniel McMullen #
Brian McMahon +
George McGaughey, Jr.
Kevin McDermott +
Daniel McClain #
John McBratney and Elizabeth Cline
Alicia Graves #
Loretta Gray
Mark Greenfield and
Diane Smilack #
Matthew and Stacey Greenwell +
Abigail Green #
Daniel and Roni Grover #
Brian Grande #
Todd and Julie Gorcy #
Edward Hack #
Eleanor Hague
John and Hal Hallock +
Jeanne and
Matthew Hammerson
Brett Hammond
Peter and
Carolyn Handin-Levine #
Thomas Hannon #
Seth and Lilli Harris #
Laura Hauser
Thomas Hannon #
Rebecca and Joseph Havenswick #
John Hawkins #
R. Scott Headley
Beth and Tom Hendricks
Justin Hendin and
Elizabeth Halpern
Ralph and Christine Higgins #
Christopher Hillier
Shelly Hilpert
Christian Himmelstein #
Daniel Hinkel #
Joel and Marla Havry
Aykos Hobbs
Amy Howevar
Perez Hochberg and
Maxine Singer
Scott and Sharon Holbrook
debras Hollar #
Karrin Howard and
Valera Turner Howard #
William and Sally Howlett
George Hrbek #
Smith and Geri Hrub #
Mary and Carl LoPresti
Seth Marks
Samuel Marrilotta #
John Marver #
Paul Mason
Jack Mathews #
Claire Roehm #
Lyndie and Charlie Mayer *
Alicia Mazi #
John McInerney and Elizabeth Clene
Daniel McCann
Luke and Mary Beth McConvile
Kevin McDevon #
George Mcoughney, Jr.
Ashlee McLoughlin
Brian McMahon #
Sam McWilliam-Goldstein #
Jenelle Marcus
Alan and Mary Lasser #
Linden and Allen Lasser #
Erin Luke
Lawrence and Bonnie Lindberg
David Lindley #
Sarah and Michael Linzuck
John Knapp
Adrienne Krauer #
Christopher and Margaret Kohler
Anthony Koteley #
Mary Kulick and Jeanne Cunningham
John Knapp

When Agney’s surgery led to several months at a nursing home, she was shocked to learn Social Security would not pay the $50,000 bill. Legal Aid helped secure her coverage so she could move back home.
After years of homelessness, Aurelia found an apartment close to her new job. When the landlord gave her conflicting information about what she owed, Legal Aid prevented her eviction and provided social work services so Aurelia could maintain housing stability.

Young Jeremied had frequent seizures, but Medicaid terminated his home care coverage.

With Legal Aid’s support and advice, Jeremied’s mom successfully regained the care at a state hearing.
When 9th-grade Andrew, who had autism, was denied educational supports his first year in high school, Legal Aid requested the school evaluate him for special education, and help get back on track.
Celestine was fired from her job because her safety glasses slid off her face for a moment. Legal Aid represented her and helped her win unemployment compensation for termination without cause.

U.S. Veteran David kept a tidy unit and paid rent on time, but when the complex became infested by bed bugs, the landlord demanded hefty treatment costs. Legal Aid fought the unfair policy and ended the excessive fees.
Legal Aid Offices

Cleveland & Administrative Offices
1223 West 6th St.
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Elyria
1530 West River Rd., Suite 301
Elyria, Ohio 44035

Jefferson
121 East Walnut St.
Jefferson, Ohio 44047

Painesville
8 North State St., Suite 300
Painesville, Ohio 44077

New Clients Call
Toll-Free 888.817.3777 P 216.687.1900

General Business Line
P 216.861.5500

2017 Board Of Directors

2017 Board Officers
Vanetta Jamison President
Matthew Nakon, Esq. Vice President
Betsy Rader, Esq. Vice President
Gladys Reed Vice President
Karen L. Giffen, Esq. Secretary/Treasurer

Leonard Castle
Community Representative
nominated by the Malachi Center

Jillian Charles, Esq.
Eaton Corporation

Steven Dettelbach, Esq.
Baker Hostetler

Andre Dowdy
Community Representative
nominated by Neighborhood Leadership Institute

Phillip Fastenau, Ph.D.
University Hospitals

Karen Giffen, Esq.
Giffen & Kaminski LLC

Delores Gray
Community Representative
nominated by Promise Neighborhood

Patrick Haggerty, Esq.
Franz Ward

Vanetta Jamison
Community Representative
nominated by Beech Brook

Ronald V. Johnson, Esq.
KeyBank

Marcia Leavy
Community Representative
nominated by Neighborhood Leadership Institute

Rita Maimbourg, Esq.
Tucker Ellis LLP

Edward McGhee
Community Representative
nominated by the May Dugan Center

Edward Moore, Esq.
RPM International Inc.

Matt Nakon, Esq.
Wickens, Herzer, Panza, Cook & Batista

Heather Nicastro
Community Representative
nominated by the Arc of Greater Cleveland

Aaron O’Brien, Esq.

Betsy Rader, Esq.
Betsy Rader Law LLC

Gladys B. Reed
Community Representative
nominated by Cleveland Tenants Organization

Barbara Roman, Esq.
Meyers, Roman, Friedberg & Lewis

David J. Tocco, Esq.
Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease LLP

Mary Jane Trapp, Esq.
Thrasher, Dinsmore & Dolan LPA

Michael N. Ungar, Esq.
Ulmer & Berne LLP

2017 Management Team

Colleen M. Cotter, Esq.
Executive Director

Tom Mlacak, Esq.
Deputy Director for Advocacy

Bettina Kaplan
Director of Finance and Administrative Operations

Melanie A. Shakarian, Esq.
Director of Development & Communications

Jennifer Teeter
Executive Assistant & Organizational Development Coordinator

2017 Managing Attorneys

Jessica Baggett, Esq.
Elyria Office

Abigail Staudt, Esq.
Housing Practice Group

Katie Feldman, Esq.
Health-Education-Work-Income-Immigration Practice Group

Tonya Whitsett, Esq.
Family Practice Group

Katherine Barr Hollingsworth, Esq.
Consumer Practice Group

Anne Sweeney, Esq.
Community Engagement Practice Group

Ann McGowan Porath, Esq.
Volunteer Lawyers Program and Intake Practice Group

Publication Staff
Alexandra De León, Emily Parrino, Melanie Shakarian, Amy Vavra

Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this listing as of December 31, 2017. If you have feedback or want to note a correction, please email melanie.shakarian@lasclen.org