



2023 ANNUAL REPORT Working with our community to achieve justice for all





Table of Contents

- 01 Who We Are
- 02 Letter to Our Supporters
- 03 Where We Work
- 04 Who You Helped
- 06 Keeping Veterans Housed
- 07 Keeping Survivors Safe
- 08 Stopping Unjust Evictions

- 09 Our Funders
- 10 2023 Closed Cases
- 12 Our Pro Bono Program
- 14 Our Supporters
- **16** Financial Overview
- 17 Our People

Who We Are



Land of Lincoln Legal Aid, Inc. is an Illinois not-for-profit corporation. We provide free civil legal services to low-income individuals and senior citizens in 65 counties in central and southern Illinois. We believe all people of central and southern Illinois should have access to justice, income security, adequate housing, quality education, healthcare, safety from violence and exploitation, and the opportunity to improve their own lives.

Our mission is to provide low income and senior residents throughout Illinois with high quality legal services in order to obtain and maintain their basic human needs. Through advice, representation, advocacy, education and collaboration, we seek:

- To achieve justice for those whose voices might otherwise not be heard;
- To empower individuals to advocate for themselves; and,
- To make positive changes in the communities we serve.



Letter to Our Supporters

Dear Friends and Supporters:

After our 50th anniversary in 2022, Land of Lincoln Legal Aid (LOLLA) did not rest on our laurels. Indeed, 2023 was a year of program expansion to better serve the residents of our communities. With funding from Quanada, a domestic violence service provider, we opened our fourth satellite office in Quincy, Illinois, a community that is more than 2+ hours from our closest regional office. We established the Quincy Legal Partnership with Quanada and Ascend Justice, a Chicago-based legal aid organization, to serve the legal needs of domestic violence survivors in a 5-county region. The partnership aims to remedy the legal desert for survivors in and around Quincy, and provide legal and supportive services.

With funding from R3 and an LSC Pro Bono Innovation Fund grant, LOLLA launched a Justice in Schools Project in collaboration with East St. Louis School District 189. The project aims to address the civil legal problems of families in the District. We have worked with the District's Family and Community Engagement Center, which provides wraparound services, to help its social workers and other staff to identify legal problems facing students' families. We have regular office hours at schools, host clinics, and have trained many pro bono volunteers to handle cases, in addition to our staff. The project has led to an increase in East St. Louis residents seeking our help.

And finally, we have been collaborating with the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts and the First Judicial Circuit on a joint remote appearance project. Through the project, LOLLA staff are able to appear remotely in routine matters in the 9 counties that make up the First Circuit, some of which are more than 3 hours from our nearest office. Over the 2 years of the project, we appeared remotely 467 times, saving 633.5 hours of time, driving 18,432 fewer miles, and saving LOLLA \$11,626.83 in travel expenses. As a result of this time savings, Land of Lincoln gained the capacity to provide full legal representation in orders of protection hearings to 50 more domestic violence survivors.

We did all this, and still handled nearly 14,000 cases for our friends, neighbors, and residents in our 65 counties. We could not begin to do it without your continued support for our work. An 89-year-old woman recently wrote her LARC attorney, "Thank you for your help and your kindness...! am grateful to you all." We couldn't have said it better. We are grateful for you!

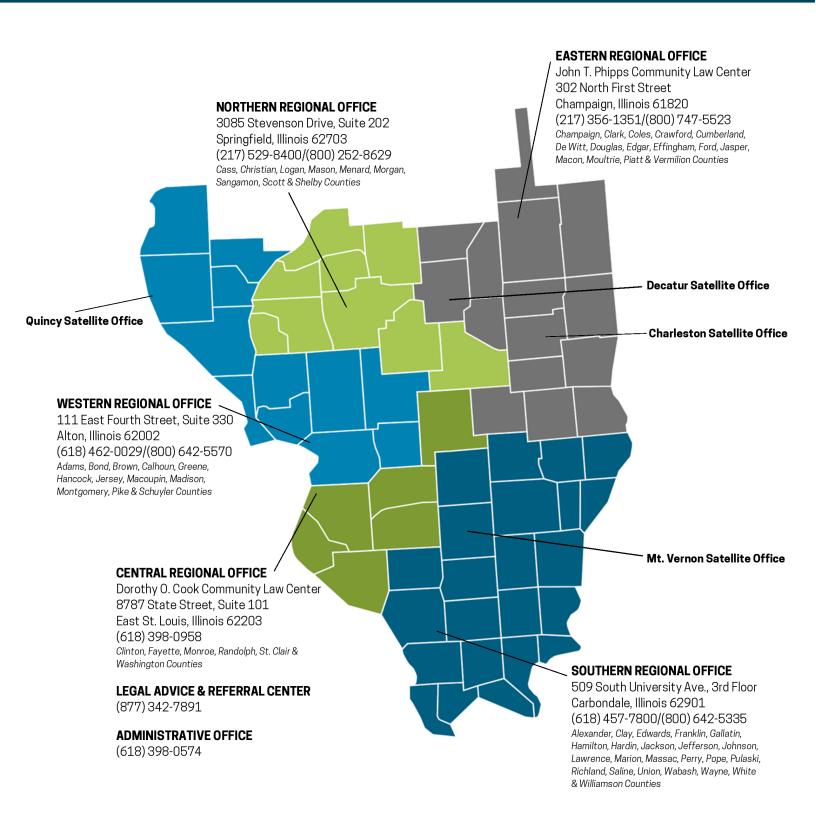
Yours truly,

Clarissa Gaff

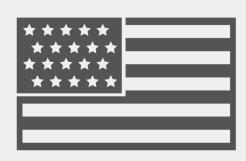
Executive Director



Where We Work

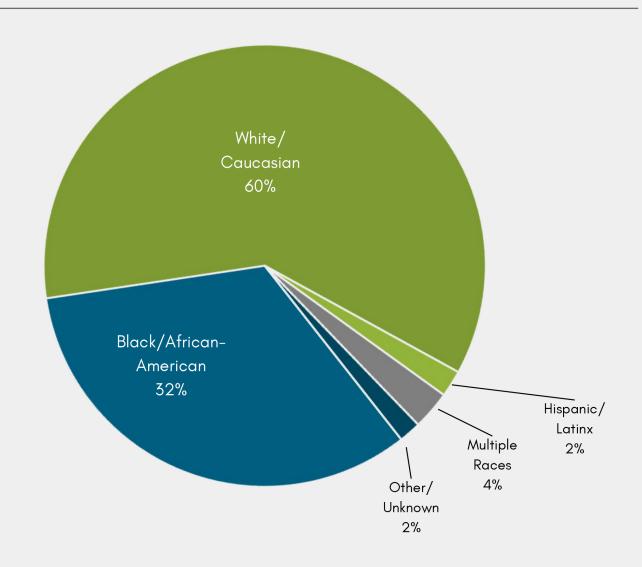


Who You Helped in 2023



770 Active Military, Veterans & Their Families









2,247 Survivors of Domestic Violence



Seniors

72% FEMALE

27%MALF

1% NON-BINARY/ OTHER



Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, Land of Lincoln was able to help nearly 11,100 clients with almost 14,000 cases throughout our 65-county service area.

Keeping Veterans Housed



Greg, a 67-year-old veteran, was referred to Land of Lincoln by the Veterans Administration (VA), because he was at risk of homelessness. Greg had received a notice that he must vacate the apartment he had been renting for the past 5 years due to upcoming construction and repairs on the unit. The landlord had informed all tenants that they must be out by the end of the year and instructed them not to pay rent for the last month.

Greg received a HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) voucher and was current on rent. Due to his medical conditions, he was at high risk for COVID and did not want to be forced into communal or shelter housing.

Ultimately, Greg did not want to move and really wanted to stay in his home. A Land of Lincoln attorney negotiated with the landlord to let Greg stay in the unit during the remodeling. Greg was extremely happy because he loved the location of his home and did not want the burden of moving.

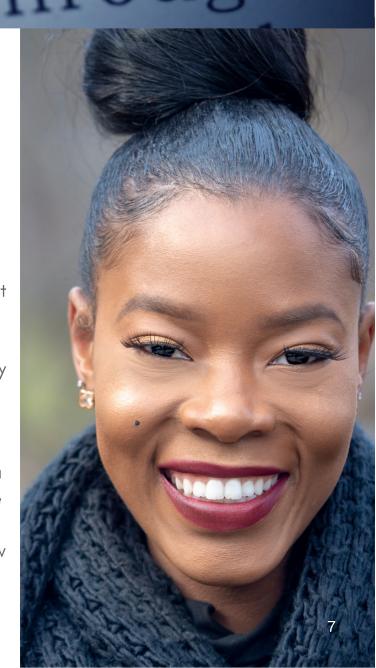
Keeping Survivors Safe



Shelly, a 20-year-old woman, requested help in obtaining an order of protection against her exboyfriend who was harassing her using social media and threatening to rape and kill her. He had created nearly 20 different online accounts to stalk, harass, and threaten her.

Shelly obtained an emergency order of protection, but needed additional help presenting her case in court, and understanding her rights and safety. Shelly contacted Land of Lincoln to help her obtain a Plenary Order of Protection. Our attorney was able to help Shelly obtain a two-year order of protection.

While her ex-boyfriend stopped harassing Shelly for a short period of time, he started back up, violating the order of protection. Our attorney assisted Shelly in explaining her rights and connected her with local law enforcement to enforce the Order.



Stopping Unjust Evictions



One of our caseworkers stepped in to support a family in keeping their home. It all started when our client, Mrs. K, reached out to us in March 2023. She and her husband were going to lose their mobile home because they couldn't keep up with the payments. The trouble began when Mrs. K fell seriously ill and almost didn't make it. Her husband had to take time off work to take care of her, which made it tough to keep up financially.

Our caseworker helped them apply for assistance from Illinois Homeowner Assistance Fund (ILHAF). Even though it wasn't a typical foreclosure case, their lawyer and the caseworker convinced ILHAF that our client qualified for help. Luckily, they got the assistance they needed, and the repossession threat was taken off the table. But things were still tough financially because Mrs. K's health was still declining.

Our staff explored other ways to help. Their Land of Lincoln lawyer worked with the lender to obtain more time, and the caseworker reached out to a local agency for additional financial assistance.

Thanks to our hard working staff, this family is now back on track with their payments. Without our help, they would have lost the stable home they needed for Mrs. K to recover.

Our Funders

AgeLinc (Area Agency on Aging for Lincolnland) **AgeSmart Community Resources** Alton Woman's Home Association Carle Foundation Hospital Champaign County East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging **HOPE** of East Central Illinois Illinois Bar Foundation Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Illinois Department of Children & Family Services Illinois Equal Justice Foundation Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois **Legal Services Corporation** Midland Area Agency on Aging Oasis Women's Center Office of the Attorney General of Illinois **Public Interest Law Initiative**

Saint Clair County Health Department
Saint Clair County Intergovernmental Grants
Southern Illinois Healthcare

Quanada

Southern Illinois University School of Medicine - HIV Care Connect Southern Illinois University School of Medicine - Medical-Legal

Partnership

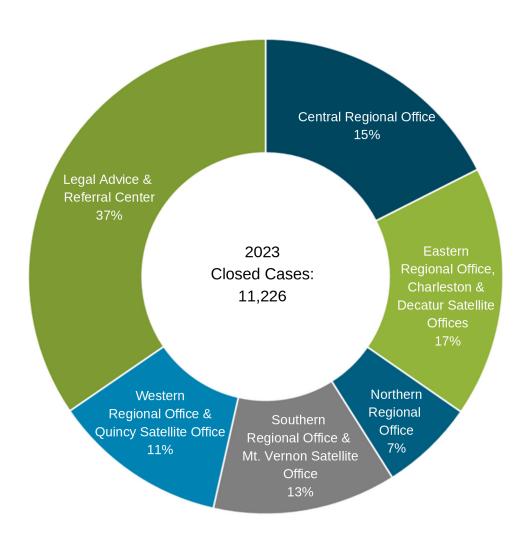
SWAN, Inc.

United Way of Champaign County
United Way of Greater St. Louis
Violence Prevention Center
Westside Justice Center - Access to Justice

2023 Closed Cases

Regional Offices

Our 5 regional offices and 4 satellite offices vary in size, but consistently provide a variety of legal services to their communities.



Areas of Law



Housing Rental, Homeownership	3,534
Family Safety & Stability Orders of Protection, Divorce, Custody, Guardianship, Education	3,755
Elder Law Elder Abuse, Financial Exploitation, Advanced Directives and Wills	1,463
Expungement & Sealing	1,333
Consumer Protection Consumer Fraud, Debt Collection, Bankruptcy	723
Health & Income Security	316
Miscellaneous	98

Our Pro Bono Program

Central Regional Office

Mackenzie Arnold Tiffany Baldwin Jennifer Behme Luke Behme Maurche Belk Nic Biersbach Curtis Blood Natalie Bower Raina Brooks Richard Brown T.R. Bynum **Jack Chassaing** Don Collins Bruce R. Cook Jeffrey Coverdell Heather Dabler Tabitha Davisson Erica Dolan Cory Easton Van-Lear Eckert

M. Caitlin Embrich Richard Erdmann Paul Evans Alan Farris Cheryl Fisher Kathy Fleshren Brian Flynn Anthony Garavalia Michael Garavalia Kelly Garrett Hicks Megan Gilbreth **Daniel Grueninger** Adam Hanna **Dustin Hudson** Francine Johnston Laura Jones Julie Katz Daniel Katzman Chet Kelly Jill Laux Schubert

John Lee Jayni Lintvedt Felix Losco Gary Mack Jamie Mitchell Dedra Moore Ashlin Mosby William Mueller Kimberley Nelson Kimberley Newell Megan Nolan Sanja Ord John Pawloski Kevin Peek Paul Petruska John Rahoy Joshua Rakoff Jeanna Raney Jacqueline Redmond Andrew Remeselnik

Laura Reppert Phillip Rice Stephen Rice Linda Rothnagel Mike Rousseau Heinz Rudolf Nick Scholz **David Simmons Gregory Skinner Christopher Smith** Amy Spector Julia Stark Christina Sugden Geric Tipsword Tanya Torgoley Micaylee Uhls Kelly Wambold Sarah Ward Stan Weller Misty Wuebbels

Eastern Regional Office

Catherine Barbercheck

Jay Barr Joseph Basola Denise Bates Ellen Beattie

Andrew Bequette Carter Billingsley

Ellyn Bullock Marie Casteel Diane Couri

Kenneth Crossman Adam Crutchley

William Culp

Richard Dahlenburg Barbara Delanois Scott Dempsey Kyle Emkes
Eric Eves
John Foltz
Gary Geisler
Tara Grabarczyk
Helen Grandone
James Green
Nathan Handegan
Mia Hernandez

Forrest Heyman Brent Holmes

Kaylan Huber

Liya Hussmann Rogers Robert Jacobson

Kaylan Huber

Liya Hussmann Rogers

Timothy Jefferson Fred Johnson Arthur Kapella

Bryce Lynch Cristina Manuel

Cristina Manuel
Anne Martinkus

Valerie McWilliams Stephen Miller

Matthew Miner Cynthia Morgan Andrew Mudd

James Mulvaney

Traci Nally

Stephen O'Byrne

Darrel Parish Nrupa Patel

Andrew Petty

Jilmala Rogers John Roska

Gregory Ryan Brian Schurter

Kenneth Sensenbrenner

Joseph Souligne Tim Sullivan Daniel Thies David Thies

Heath Uppencamp Angelica Wawrzynek

Jay Znaniecki

Northern Regional Office

Michelle Blackburn Robert Bonjean III Bradford Bucklin Ryan Byers Denise Church Roland Cross Carl Draper Maureen Faller William Farr Thomas Funk

Kelli Gordon Grady Holley Stephen Iden Carely Kulenkamp Dustin Probst Erica Riplinger Hugh Rowden Roberta Shallenberger Cynthia Smith Dan Way

Southern Regional Office

Lindsey Arnold
Dale Aschemann
Rebecca Blakeslee
John Brewster
Jonathan Cantrell
Edward Eytalis
Alan Farris
Andrew Flynn
Matt Foster

Joseph Ghibaudy Maria Hafford Jessica Hudspeth Eugenia Hunter D. Keith Kessler Taylor McCann Andrea McNeill Alice Noble-Allgire David Piercy Julie Quinn
Benjamin Reed
Robert Roth
Paul Schafer
Patrick Sharpe
Stephen Stone
Paige Strawn
Sarah Taylor
Jennifer Thompson

Timothy Ting
Jonathan Turpin
Kathleen Westrate
Wenona Whitfield
Letitia Wiggins
Andrew Wilson
Aaron Wise

Western Regional Office

Bruce Alford
Bradley Allen
Latasha Barnes
Leonard Berg
Michele Berkel
Bridget Buckley
Ryan Byers
Dustin Clark
Tanja Cook
Kurt Dittmer

Christopher Donohoo

Bryan Dooling
Tony Dos Santos
Alicia Downs
Ellar Duff
Clifford Emons
Walker Filbert
Janel Freeman
Michael Glenn
Craig Grummel
Dustin Hudson
Paul Lauber

Sarah Lucey
Saleem B. Mamdani
Jamie Mitchell
Keisha Morris
Sean Murley
Jennifer Paulson
Eric Pistorius
Donna Polinske
Lauren Reed
Nicholas Rober

Casey Schnack
Ryan Schnack
Christopher Scholz
Andrea Schrader
David Shaw
Ashley Shula
Randall Steele
Kristen Strieker
Edward Szewczyk
Michael Wesley

Land of Lincoln Legal Aid is grateful for the help of the private bar in meeting the legal needs of low-income residents of southern and central Illinois. Private attorneys partner with Land of Lincoln to provide pro bono legal services to our clients and are critical to ensuring access to justice to all, not just those who can afford it. In 2023, pro bono attorneys handled 513 cases referred by Land of Lincoln. The attorneys listed provided assistance in 2023 and are currently active in our Pro Bono Attorney Program.

Our Supporters

\$25,000+

Bruce Cook
M. Ann Hatch
KCC Class Action Services
Novak v Southshore
Enterprises, Inc.
Russell Scott

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Callender v Quality
Packaging Specialists
International, LLC
Gianaris Trial Lawyers
Nester Family Charitable
Foundation
Greg Shevlin
Simmons Hanly Conroy

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Heyl Royster Husch Blackwell LLP Rita B. Keefe Charitable Foundation, Inc.

\$1,000 - \$4,999

George Bell Ann Callis Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln **Roland Cross Decatur Bar Association** Jeremy DeLaCerda Stephen Evans Michael & Susan Fiello Mary Ann Flanagan Rusty Freeland Clarissa Gaff & Steven Miller Goldenberg Heller & Antognoli, P.C. Helen Grandone Carol Harrison Kaylan Huber Illinois Bar Foundation Rob Litz Stephanie Lyons Claire Manning Nicole Massey Mathis Marifian & Richter Foundation Mattea Hermanson Law, LLC Melvin D Wing Charitable Trust Morgan Stanley Brendan Nester Alice Noble-Allgire

Terrence O'Leary

Gerry Reed
Dennis Ruth
William Schuwerk
Diane Thompson
Don Tracy
UB Greensfelder LLP
Andrew & Amy Weaver
David Weder
Lois Wood & James Hunsley
Wykoff Law Office, L.L.C.

\$500 - \$999

Jill Adams Erin Beavers Andrew Bequette Robert Bonjean Walter Brandon Stacy Campbell Paul Cole Committee to Elect Andrew J. Gleeson Sean Cronin Megan Crowe Dalpoas Family Charitable Fund Kathrine Dixon Dykema Gossett PLLC Jennifer Flack Richard Goldenhersh Hanagan & McGovern PC Richard Harden Jane Hays Thomas Klein Andy Kutner Madison County Bar Assoc. Julia Matoesian Jeff Naville David Nelson James Palmer James Potter John Ryan Samuels, Miller, Schroeder, Jackson & Sly, LLP Stephen Szewczyk Jacqueline Tate Lott Thomas Richard Tognarelli Mark Warnsing Donald Weihl Stephen Williams Lisa Wood May Yeh Linda Zazove

Under \$500

Mildred Adams Cynthia Adams Philip Alfeld Robert Allen AmazonSmile Jason Anselment Brooke Armstrong Dale Aschemann Perry Baird Byron Balbach John Baricevic J. Steven Beckett Leonard Berg David Bergschneider Sarah Beuning Betty Bier Lester Blankenship Forrest Booth Kevin Boyne Patricia Braddock Courtney Brady Gary Brazelton Talmadge Brenner Benjamin Brown Laurie Brown Patricia Buchanan Mary Buettner Patrick Burke Stephen Buser Scott & Linda Butler Ryan Cadagin Raymond Callery Lenora Campbell Martin Carrow Karoline Carstens Margaret Carter Nicholas Carter Melissa Chapman David & Jo Ellen Cherry Malinda Christ-Rapp Anita Clark Leonard Cleary Holly Clemons Pamela Collebrusco Tanja Cook Robert Crump Will Culp Wesley Curtis Laura Davis Michele Davis Claire de Chzal William Degner Daniel Donohoo Richard Doyle William Drennan James Eder Ann Einhorn Michael Ellenhorn Thomas Eovaldi

Stuart Farmer Joel Fletcher Edward Flynn Terry Foster Michael Frantz Derald Gab Amy Gabriel

Rebecca & Douglas Gaff

Linda Gaffney **Grace Garin**

Steven & Cheryl Garst

Brian Gibbons

Diane & Jeffrey Goffinet

Linne Gray Lura Green Eric Grenzebach Federic Grosser Timty Gutknecht

Guy Hall Pamela Hart Mark Hassakis Lavina Hendricks Patricia Hendricks Kristen Henke David Herndon Austin Hill Edna Hill Linda Holder Linda Holland Carol Holley **Grady Holley Brent Holmes** Frank Houdek Chelsea Hubbard Willa Hubele David Hughes

Calvin & Angie Hwang

Amanda Hugett

Brett Irving Emily Jackson Francis Jahn Lennie Jahn Ashleigh Johnson Callie Johnson Larry Jones **Betty Justice** Robert Kane John Kauerauf August Kempa Vance & Betty Kepley

Michael Kiley Julie King Megan Kinney Debra Kionka Edward Kionka Bonnie Klausing Diana Klene Nancy Koester Kevin Krummel Ashlie Kuehn Daniel Kuehnert Heidi Ladd John Lafond Deborah Lamb Robert Lash

Paul Lauber Law Office of Roytek, Ltd.

Bridget Lawler Raymond Lawler

Lawler Lawler Injury Law Christopher Layloff Thomas Levenhagen Mark & Elizabeth Levy

Twanna Lewis Sonja Ligon Penni Livingston Kathy Lookabaugh Mary Lopinot

Mahoney Law Firm, LLC

Tracy Martin Mary Massa Elaine Massimino Vito Mastrangelo Christopher Matteson Sharon McGraw

Andrea McNeill Jon Meador James Mendillo Lucas Mette MeTwo

Michael Meyer Mary A. Midden Laurie Mikva

Patricia Montgomery Ameca Morgan James Morphew Wayne Morris Patricia Mugica William Murphy Nancy Napp Michael Neill Faruq Nelson Carrie Nevils **Kevin Newton**

Dwight O'Keefe **Brett Olmstead**

Brandon Niepoetter

Jean Orr

Alexis Otis-Lewis **Bradley Paisley** Thomas Paprocki Parish & Castleman **Delorise Parrent** Gary Payne Phyllis Peques Steven Perbix

Amy Perry

Montie Persinger Leslie Peters David Plunk Dennis Pollman Mary Powell John Powers Alan Pretnar Tracy Prosser

Christopher Perrin

Randolph County Bar Assoc.

James Rapp **Doris Reed** Jeana Reinbold Daniel Rhoads Sarah Rich Victoria Rich Sarah Richards Nanette Riendeau Eric Robertson Aimee Roby Alicia Rodriguez Nicholas Romans Donna Ross Robert Roth Larry Ruemmler Michael Ryan James Salmons James Sanders

Christopher & Monica Scholz

Neil Schonert Khama Sharp **Delbert Shelton** David Sholem G. Shoots Elisa Sillery Susan Simone John Simpson Mary Skifton Dan Skinner David Slater Cynthia Smith Douglas Spells

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Karen Wall Ryan Wallis Frank Walsh Kyle Warner Judy Wattles

Weber, Heap, Ayres &

Greene, P.C. Robert Wells Wenona Whitfield

H. Wilkins

Patrick Windhorst Jacklyn Withoft Jacque Wolfe Susan Zielke

Financial Overview

REVENUE

 Grants
 \$15,680,001

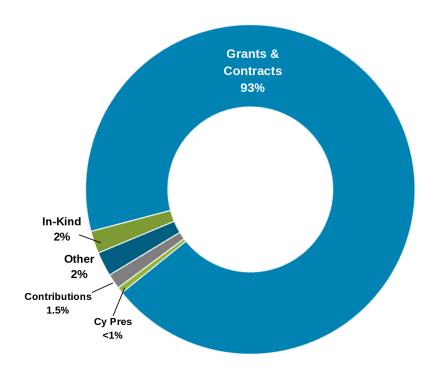
 Cy Pres Awards
 \$100,742

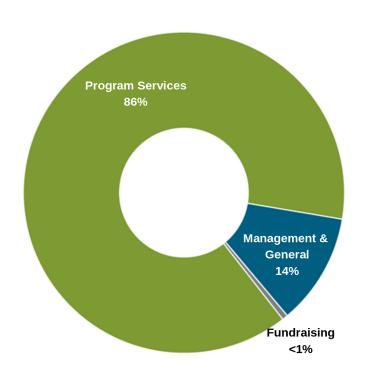
 Contributions
 \$249,986

 In-Kind Donations
 \$402,352

 Other
 \$369,956

2023 Total Revenue = \$16,803,037





EXPENSES

Program Services \$12,492,440 Management & General \$2,062,574 Fundraising \$46,245

2023 Total Expenses = \$14,601,259

Our People

LEGAL AID STAFF

Central Regional Office

Angela Bates-Smith Rosemary Berkemann Daniel Blair Elizabeth Buck Megan Compton Kendall Dodson Nathaniel Elwood Trevor Farniok Noah Halpern Cynthia Hendricks

Claire Hulett
Chelsea Jakob
Elliott Jensen
Keesha Kimbrow
Megan Kinney
Brian Lambert
Jayni Lintvedt
Patrick McGlasson
Logan Meneses

Judy Miller Shayla Moran Julie Poplstein Kate Scott Levora Taylor Angela Torblaa Natalia Trimble Emily Voyles May Yeh

Eastern Regional Office

Lou Baker Elizabeth Blickhan Angela Boley Patricia Coventry Jacob Ferguson Jenna Hall Danyelle Hovious Jessica Irace Caitlin Isbell Britta Johnson Abigail Kauerauf Brett Kepley Sally Kolb John Lafond Amanda Marie Nicole Massey

Aliza McTernan Chad Murray Emily Ochs Julie Rose Douglas Smothers Taemesha Tate Andersen Winston Susan Zielke

Legal Advice & Referral Center

Cassandra Cooper Michele Davis Stephanie Gardner Tanya Gilbert Stephanie Lyons Jeffrey McDonald Mary Nanos Jenni Schroll Bailey Thake Oveta Thomas Kyle Warner

Northern Regional Office

Benjamin Brown Sandra Brown Tyler Brown Maleigha Corley Melinda Hubele T. Michael Huston Kaitlyn Hutchison Audrey Laye Jo-An Lynn Lauren McGrady Trista Smith Rylie Sparks Bailey Strumpher

Southern Regional Office

Elizabeth Barnes Steven Burgess Lana Crawford Christina Dent Tina Ewbank Diane Goffinet Sandi Gordon Jason Grenman Susan Herbert Antonio Madrigal Paul Matalonis Allison Mileur Nicholas Miller Kirstie Newsom Madison Olsen Genevieve Peterson

Coral Serrano-Tondini Samantha Sharp Julian Watkins Kimberly Watkins Tanis Westbrook Benjamin Youther Traci Ziegler

Western Regional Office

Jordan Adler Erica Asbell Leasha Bennett Sandy Bohlen Debbie Bowermaster Oshuteiya Campbell Judy Edmonson Jamie Friye Kelly Haxton Pruitt Holcombe Chelsea Hubbard Daniel Kuehnert Cami Plough Jessica Rich Emily Riley Tanja Sedabres Kendall Sibala Katelyn Smith Stephen Taylor Mo Woodward Kathryn Woolsey Gregory Yep

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Nicholette Dolin Clarissa Gaff Lura Green Kim Harrington Calvin Hwang Fawn Pettet Dawn Ripperda Lisa Sharpe Susan Simone Jacqueline Tate Amanda Vivod Andrew Weaver Denise Wiegand

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As of December 31, 2023 17



8787 State Street Suite 201 East St. Louis, IL 62203

Land of Lincoln Legal Aid provides free legal assistance and representation on civil legal issues to residents throughout 65 counties in central and southern Illinois.

When facing life's problems, members of our communities turn to Land of Lincoln Legal Aid for the legal assistance and support they deserve. By empowering our neighbors, we help improve their lives and strengthen our communities.

