

Annual Report 2008-09

Northwestern
Legal Services

***Celebrating 40 Years
of Service***

1969-2009



**From the
Director
Celebrating
40 Years of
Service**



Robert A. Oakley, Esq.
Executive Director

Over the years, Northwestern Legal Services, now serving 10 counties, helped countless low-income people with their civil legal problems.

This NWLS 2008 - 2009 annual report is really a celebration of the past, present and future. While it is important to honor those individuals whose foresight and commitment to equal justice under law made legal aid a reality in northwestern Pennsylvania, it is also essential to understand the way our mission responds to current needs. As I write this essay, America is still confronting an economic recession that weighs most heavily on low-income individuals and families.

Although legal aid in northwestern Pennsylvania was created forty years ago, people need our services now more than ever. This annual report demonstrates our response to this need during the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year. It also expresses our commitment to the future needs of the low-income community we serve.

As we acknowledge the 38 attorneys who signed our incorporation papers and per-

In the late 1960's, 38 attorneys in Erie County believed in the notion of equal justice under law. To make this notion a reality, they organized and incorporated the Erie County Legal Services Association, now known as Northwestern Legal Services (NWLS). Access to justice was not only their dream but was, and still is, a reality.

Forty years ago, many of us were doing other things. For instance, I was still in high school. Some of the staff members at Northwestern Legal Services delight at reminding me that they were yet to be born. I am humbled by the commitment and dream of these 38 attorneys, who we recognize on this, our 40th anniversary.

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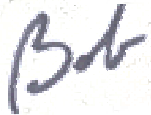
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1876 – German Legal Society of New York becomes first agency in U.S. to offer civil legal assistance to poor.

formed pro bono services, we must also recognize the staff that kept the dream alive over these 40 years.

Our volunteer board has also contributed greatly to our mission and helped us achieve our goals. I would also like to recognize the attorneys that give their time pro bono to help low-income clients, along with the wonderful support we receive from the Erie County Bar Association, and the other county bar associations that partner with us in our mission.

Very truly yours,



Robert A. Oakley, Esq.

NWLS Executive Director

P.S. As you make your way through this annual report, you will see on each page an important event from our historical time line. These events are part of our story that has taken shape over the past forty years.



Economic Impact

Since 1969, our mission has centered on the civil legal needs of low-income people in northwestern Pennsylvania, and improving their quality of life. While our 40th anniversary is an opportunity to look back on the people and events that created legal aid in northwestern Pennsylvania, it is also important to recognize the current ways in which we serve the needs of the low-income community. One way to gauge the effectiveness of these efforts is to measure its economic impact in the lives of people who look to us for help.

During the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, NWLS was able to generate more than \$2.5 million for low-income clients in back awards and settlements. Our efforts on behalf of clients seeking Supplemental Security Income (SSI) are examples of these types of awards. We were also able to get, on average, \$164,000 in monthly benefits for the client community we serve, totaling nearly \$2 million for a 12-month period. Monthly child support payments and disability payments are examples of these types of benefits.

When added together, our efforts yielded about \$4.5 million in economic awards to poverty-level clients during the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year. The original incorporators of legal aid in northwestern Pennsylvania probably did not imagine the enormous impact their efforts would have on people in our community.

1950s – Legal Aid Office of the Family and Child Service Agency provides legal assistance to indigent families in Erie. Dana Sherwood Jones is staff attorney for agency funded by the Community Chest.

Client Stories

Family Case

A soldier in the U.S. Army scheduled for deployment to Iraq tried to arrange visitation with his nine-month-old son while home on leave for a month. The mother of the child was very uncooperative with his requests, telling the soldier he could only see the toddler for a couple of hours during his entire leave. NWLS represented the soldier in a court hearing that enabled the father to get extensive visitation rights with his son prior to his deployment. After his leave ended, the paternal grandmother sent the NWLS attorney handling the case some pictures of the father and son during their time together that the soldier was able to take with him to Iraq as a reminder of his child.

Public Benefits Case

A family that emigrated to the U.S. from Somalia came to NWLS after they noticed a decrease in their TANF benefits, even though no one in the household was working at the time. A caseworker at a county assistance office told them the decrease was caused by an overpayment of benefits that DPW wanted repaid. It seems that when the husband had a temporary job and the employer reported his income to the assistance office, the office failed to adjust the family's benefits accordingly, and was now seeking repayment of those benefits. Although the time frame to appeal

this decision has long since passed, the NWLS law worker ascertained that the husband and wife had limited English proficiency, and were never informed of the decision in a way that they understood. After successfully advocating for legal standing in the case, the law worker was able to represent the family in an appeal and get the overpayment dismissed.

Employment Case

NWLS represented a 13-year-old client who had been accused of molesting two young boys that he babysat on a prior occasion. Six months after he babysat for these youths, the client's mother received a notice in the mail from the Office of Children and Youth (OCY) that there was an "indicated" report against him, even though our client was never interviewed by a staff member from OCY prior to the report. The NWLS staff attorney appealed the report, and after extensive preparation, was able to get the report expunged from his record after a hearing concerning this allegation. If the report had remained on the client's record, he would have been precluded from any type of work with children as an adult, including any employment requiring Act 33/34 clearances. Also, he would not have been permitted to be a volunteer in his own children's classrooms in the future had the report remained on his record.

Housing Case

A woman came to NWLS after being denied subsidized housing in an apartment complex. Seven

1960s – Erie County Legal Aid Society provides free legal assistance to persons on government assistance. Attorneys Charles Moffatt and Roger Fischer are retained by the organization.

Client Stories, Continued

years prior to her application, she got into an altercation with her aunt and was found guilty of simple assault. Although she paid a small fine, she did not do jail time nor was she placed on probation, and this was the only criminal offense on the woman's record. The NWLS staff attorney assigned to the case talked with the property manager about this situation but was told there was nothing she could do about the decision. The attorney then talked with the regional supervisor, who again denied any accommodation for the client. The staff attorney finally discussed the case with the vice president of the management company that supervised the apartment complex, and this individual decided to approve the client's request for subsidized housing.

Other example

NWLS was contacted by a low-income client when her funds in a local credit union had been frozen after she was sued by a collection agency. The woman was receiving Social Security benefits that were directly deposited into the credit union, and according to federal regulations these benefits cannot be frozen as a result of a lawsuit from a collection agency. The NWLS attorney assigned to the case was able to negotiate with legal counsel from both the credit union and the collection agency and send them copies of the applicable federal law governing this case. As a

result the credit union account was unfrozen and the client had access to her Social Security benefits.

Other example

NWLS represented a woman in an abuse divorce and the client was granted possession of the marital property as a result of this action. Our client's name was not listed on the mortgage for the property, and the defendant in the divorce proceeding and the lending institution that held the mortgage both refused to divulge any information about the home that would enable the woman to make a mortgage payment. The NWLS staff attorney handling the case filed a motion in court and the presiding judge ordered the lending institution to supply the information to our client and her attorney. The woman was able to make payments on her home and avoid any foreclosure on the property.



1964 – Economic Opportunity Act launches War on Poverty, making federal funds available for civil legal aid.

Legal Aid Volunteer Attorney (LAVA) Program

In 1981, as Legal Services for Northwestern Pennsylvania changed its name to Northwestern Legal Services, federal funds for legal aid were drastically cut under the Reagan Administration. These federal cutbacks led to reductions in legal aid staff in northwestern Pennsylvania and across the nation.

In order to confront the challenges that resulted from staff reductions, a cooperative effort was launched between the Erie County Bar Association and NWLS. The Legal Aid Volunteer Attorney Program, or "LAVA," enables NWLS to refer eligible, low-income clients to private attorneys in Erie County who represent these clients free-of-charge. LAVA attorneys also staff a pro se divorce clinic in the county, and help NWLS in certain cases when a conflict-of-interest arises. Since its inception in 1982, LAVA has provided free legal assistance in civil cases to approximately 10,000 low-income clients.

During 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, over 625 hours of free legal representation and counsel were provided to NWLS clients by LAVA attorneys. Given an average rate of \$150 per hour for this pro bono service, this amounts to over \$93,000 in free legal aid to low-income individuals and families in Erie County.

Colleen Stumpf Honored as Pro Bono Attorney of the Year

NWLS and the Erie County Bar Association (ECBA) selected Attorney Colleen Stumpf as the 2009 Pro Bono Attorney of the Year. She was honored at the Law Day festivities held May 8 at the Bayfront Convention Center.

During 2008, Colleen devoted over 80 hours of pro bono representation and counsel to low-income clients in Erie County. She closed three cases during the year; one case involved a guardianship, and the other two cases involved wills and estate issues for low-income clients.

In addition to her pro bono casework in 2008, Colleen provided legal counsel on business law issues to the four neighborhood centers in Erie County: the Martin Luther King Center, the Booker T. Washington Center, the John F. Kennedy Center and the Hispanic-American Counsel of Erie.

She also presented a workshop on wills, trusts and probate to senior citizens in Harborcreek, as part of the "Older & Wiser" series – a partnership between Northwestern Legal Services, LAVA, and state representatives in northwestern Pennsylvania.

Attorney Stumpf is a graduate of the Dickinson School of Law, and is currently an attorney with the Quinn Firm where she concentrates in the areas of business law, estate planning, elder law and transactional issues.

1966 – Erie County Bar Association (ECBA) President Stephen E. Jones creates pilot project to assess civil legal needs of poor in Erie. ECBA attorneys offer free legal aid at Central City NATO, 232 East 21st Street, Erie.

NWLS 40th Anniversary Celebration

In 1969, 38 attorneys from the Erie County Bar Association came together with a vision of providing free legal help in civil cases for low-income people in our community. Northwestern Legal Services (NWLS), and access to justice, is their legacy.

A reception honoring the incorporators of legal aid and celebrating the 40th anniversary of NWLS took place on Thursday, May 7 at the U.S. Federal Courthouse in downtown Erie from 5:30 to 7 p.m. More than 200 attendees from the private bar, judiciary, social service agencies, state and local government, and the business community gathered to commemorate the attorneys who created legal aid in northwestern Pennsylvania, and the legal aid staff and board members who have sustained the mission for over four decades.

The event on May 7 included the premiere of a 23- minute video highlighting the creation of legal aid in northwestern Pennsylvania, and comments from the guest-of-honor for the occasion, Harvard Law School Professor Charles J. Ogletree, Jr.

“As part of the 40th anniversary of our mission, it was important that we recognized the attorneys who signed our original articles of incorporation and created the organization that continues to serve the civil legal needs .

of low-income people in our community. The event was an opportunity to honor these attorneys, including the memory of those who have passed away,” explained attorney Robert A. Oakley, NWLS executive director.



1969 – 38 attorneys from the ECBA sign original articles of incorporation creating Erie County Legal Services Association (ECLSA). Attorney Stephen E. Jones is board president and Attorney J. Leonard Ostrow is executive director.

The Incorporators of Northwestern Legal Services - June, 1969

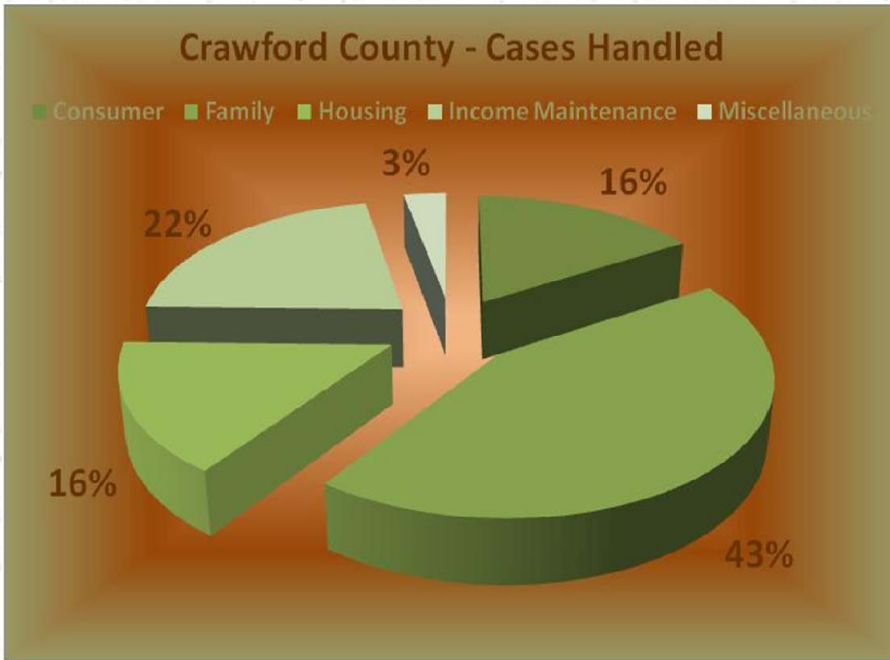
Charles Agresti
James E. Beveridge
Warren W. Bentz
John E. Britton
John E. Dwyer
Edward W. Goebel
Robert D. Hain
Frederick F. Jones
T. Warren Jones
Wallace Knox
James E. Marsh
Joseph F. MacKrell
Fred P. Anthony
Gabriel A. Bifulco, Jr.
Richard F. Brabender
James R. Dailey
Roger M. Fischer
M. Fletcher Gornall, Jr.
Gary J. Shapira

Herbert J. Johnson, Jr.
Stephen E. Jones
R. Gordon Kennedy
George Levin
Edwin McKean
Joseph T. Messina
Daniel L.R. Miller
Irving Olds Murphy
Conrad Pearson
John M. Quinn
Norman H. Stark
Joseph M. Walsh, Jr.
Charles K. Moffatt
J. Leonard Ostrow
Bernard F. Quinn
Robert N. Spaeder
James F. Toohey
Vedder J. White
Peter G. Schaaf

In 1969, 38 attorneys from the Erie County Bar Association came together with a vision of providing free legal help in civil cases to people who could not afford to hire an attorney. Northwestern Legal Services, and Access to Justice is their Legacy.

1970– ECLSA opens temporary office in Central City NATO, 232 East 21 Street. 1971 - Attorney R. Knickebocker Smith is first staff attorney.

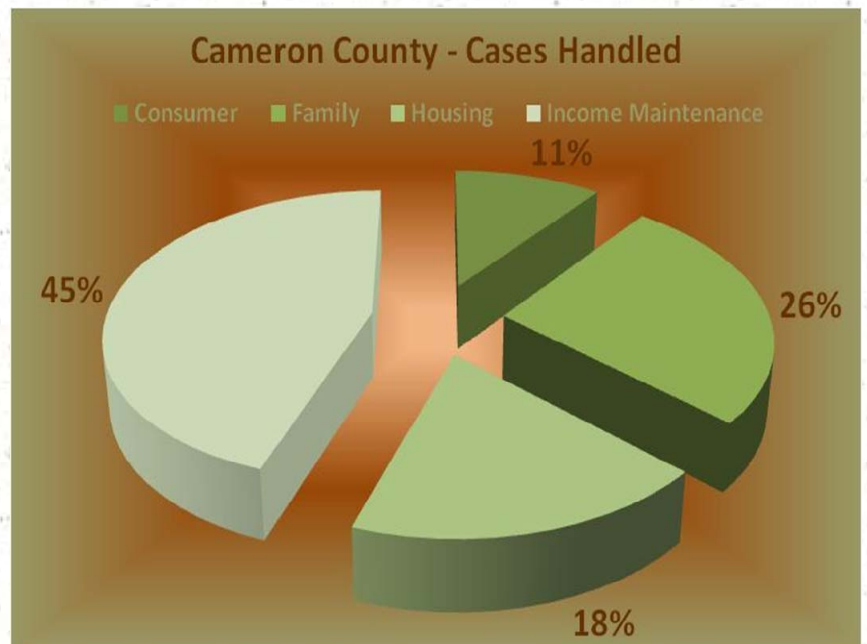
Crawford County



Crawford County has a population of 90,366 (2000 Census), and ranks third in population size in the NWLS program region. More than 15,450 low-income individuals are eligible for legal services (125% of federal poverty guidelines), a poverty population representing about 14 percent of the NWLS region as a whole. During the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, NWLS handled 908 cases for Crawford County residents, 12.8 percent of our entire caseload.

Cameron County

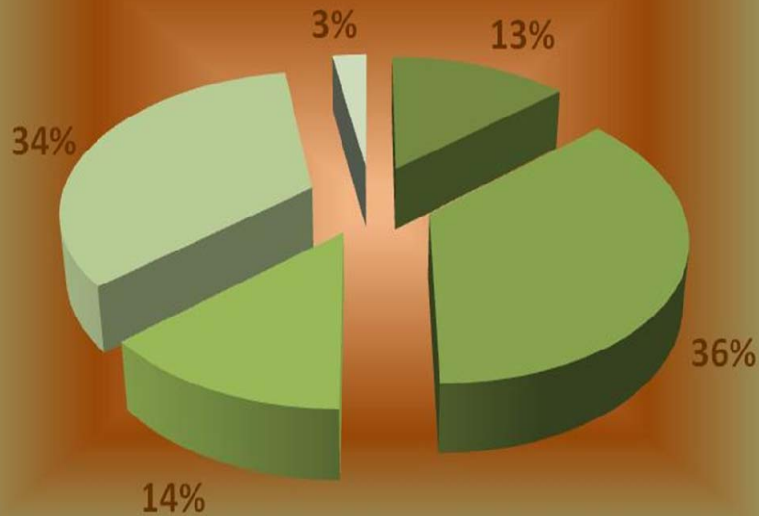
Cameron County has a population of 5,974 (2000 Census), and ranks ninth in population size in the NWLS program region. More than 900 low-income residents are eligible for legal services (125% of federal poverty guidelines), a poverty population representing .8 percent of the NWLS region as a whole. In the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, NWLS handled 38 cases for Cameron County residents, about 0.5 percent of our entire caseload.



1970 – Attorney Dennis Sterrett joins staff, along with part-time attorneys Hobart Williams, Chester Vendetti, Robert Hain, Daniel Kuhn and Richard Barron.

Elk County - Cases Handled

Consumer Family Housing Income Maintenance Miscellaneous



Elk County

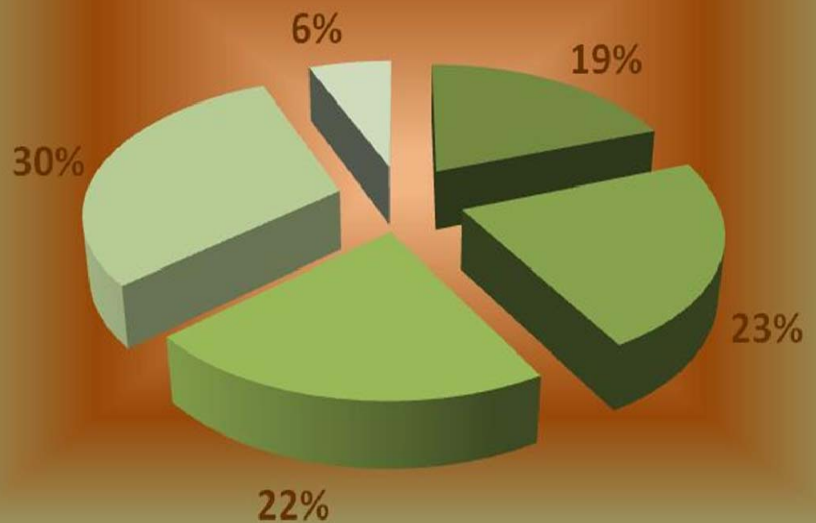
Elk County has a population of 35,112 (2000 Census), and ranks seventh in population size in the NWLS program region. More than 3,600 low-income residents are eligible for legal services (125% of federal poverty guidelines), a poverty population representing 3.3 percent of the NWLS region as a whole. In the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, NWLS handled 192 cases for Elk County residents, about 2.7 percent of our entire caseload.

Erie County

Erie County has a population of 280,843 (2000 Census), the largest of any county in the NWLS program region. More than 44,500 low-income individuals in the county are eligible for legal services (125% of federal poverty guidelines), a poverty population representing about 40 percent of the NWLS region as a whole. During the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, NWLS handled 3,025 cases for Erie County residents, 42.7 percent of our entire caseload.

Erie County - Cases Handled

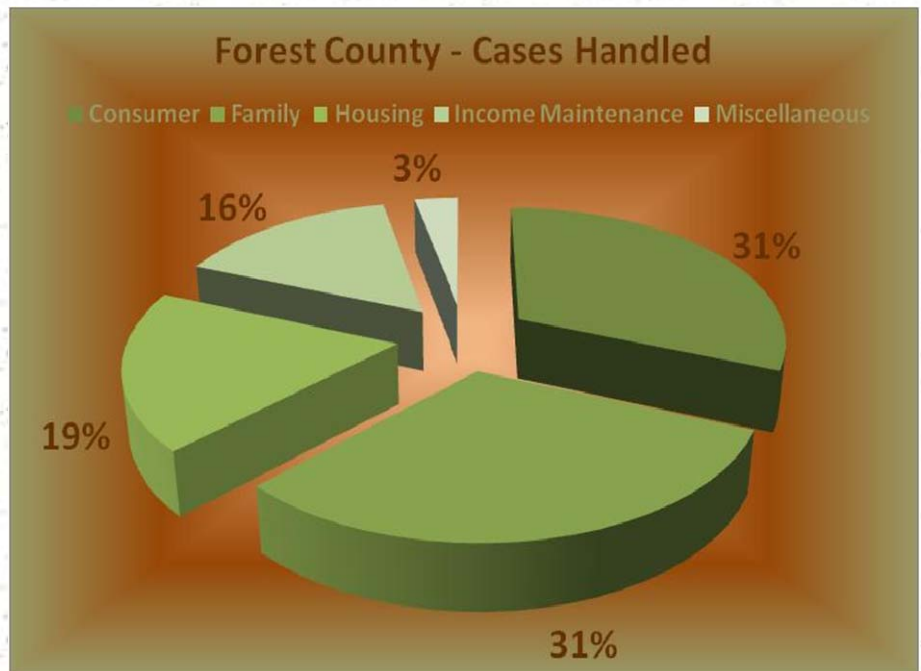
Consumer Family Housing Income Maintenance Miscellaneous



1970 - ECLSA relocates to 322 Commerce Building, Erie, PA.

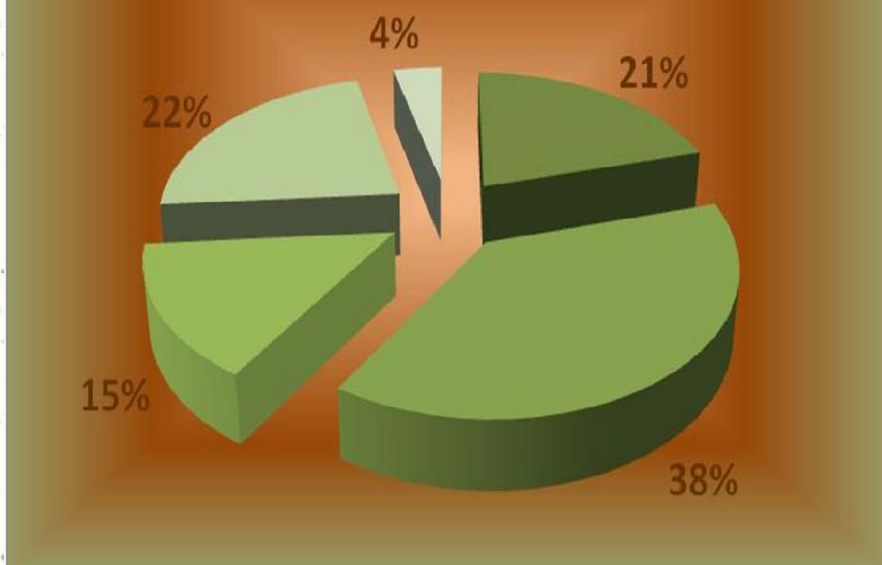
Forest County

Forest County has a population of 4,946 (2000 Census), the smallest of any county in the NWLS program region. More than 1,100 low-income individuals are eligible for legal services (125% of federal poverty guidelines), a poverty population representing 1 percent of the NWLS region as a whole. In the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, NWLS handled 32 cases for Forest County residents, about 0.4 percent of our entire caseload.



McKean County - Cases Handled

Consumer Family Housing Income Maintenance Miscellaneous



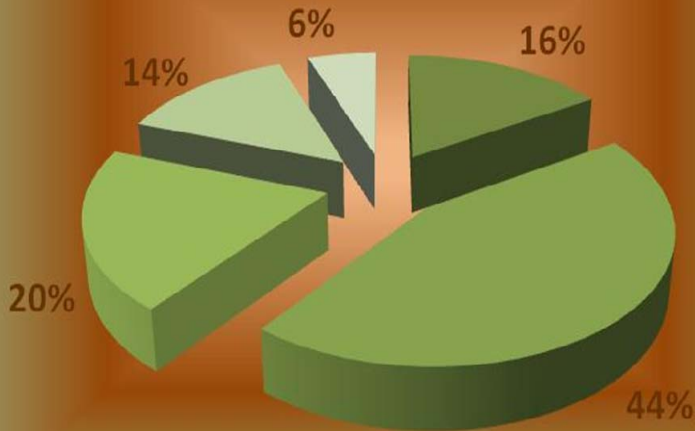
McKean County

McKean County has a population of 45,936 (2000 Census), and ranks fifth in population size in the NWLS program region. More than 7,600 low-income individuals are eligible for legal services (125% of federal poverty guidelines), a poverty population representing about 7 percent of the NWLS region as a whole. In the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, NWLS handled 552 cases for McKean County residents, 7.3 percent of our entire caseload.

1972 – Attorney Norman Watkins appointed executive director.

Mercer County - Cases Handled

■ Consumer ■ Family ■ Housing ■ Income Maintenance ■ Miscellaneous



Mercer County

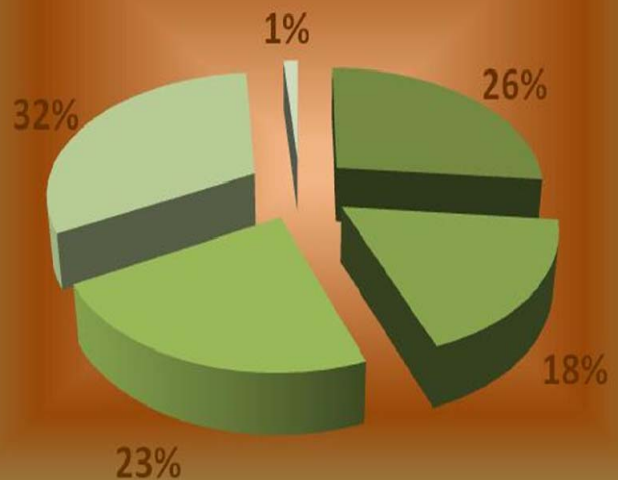
Mercer County has a population of 120,293 (2000 Census), and ranks second in population size in the NWLS program region. More than 17,900 low-income individuals in the county are eligible for legal services (125% of federal poverty guidelines), a poverty population representing about 16 percent of the NWLS region as a whole. In the 2008-2009 fiscal year, NWLS handled 1,062 cases for Mercer County residents, 15 percent of our entire caseload.

Potter County

Potter County has a population of 18,080 (2000 Census), and ranks eighth in population size in the NWLS program region. More than 3,200 low-income individuals are eligible for legal services (125% of federal poverty guidelines), a poverty population representing about 3 percent of the NWLS region as a whole. In the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, NWLS handled 79 cases for Potter County residents, slightly over 1 percent of our entire caseload.

Potter County - Cases Handled

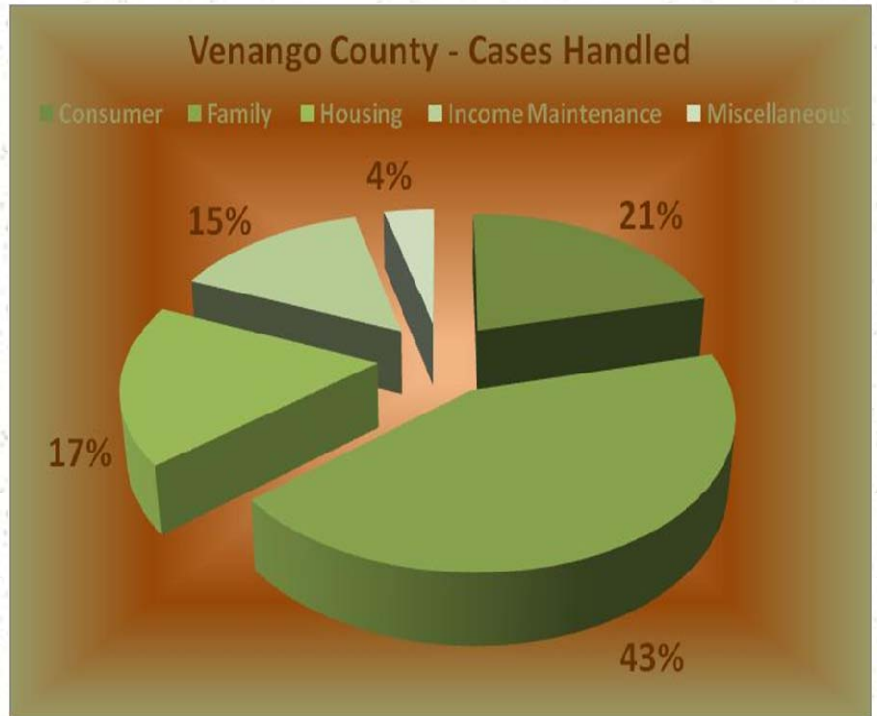
■ Consumer ■ Family ■ Housing ■ Income Maintenance ■ Miscellaneous



1973 – Attorney Francis Conte appointed executive director.

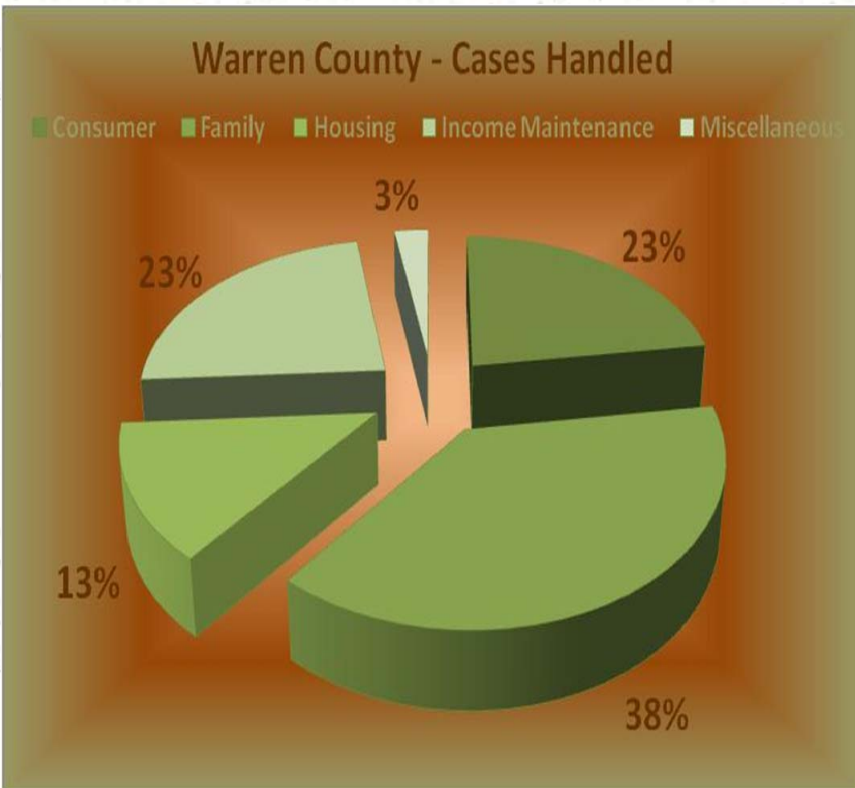
Venango County

Venango County has a population of 57,565 (2000 Census), and ranks fourth in population size in the NWLS program region. More than 10,450 low-income individuals in the county are eligible for legal services (125% of federal poverty guidelines), a poverty population representing 9.4 percent of the NWLS region as a whole. In the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, NWLS handled 681 cases for Venango County residents, about 9.6 percent of our entire caseload.



Warren County - Cases Handled

Consumer Family Housing Income Maintenance Miscellaneous



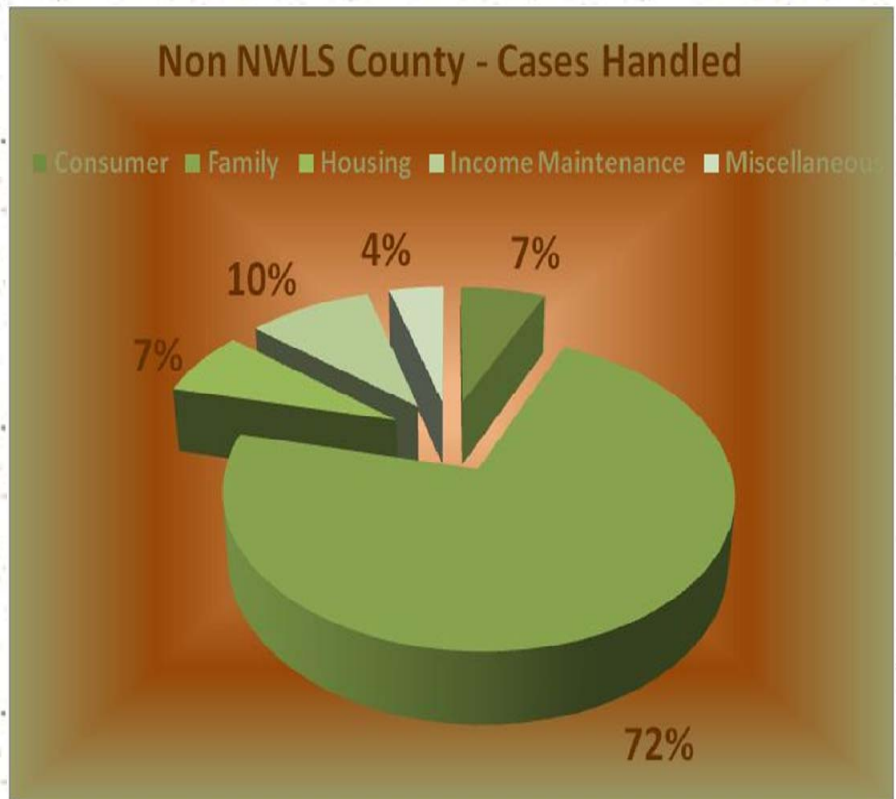
Warren County

Warren County has a population of 43,863 (2000 Census), and ranks sixth in population size in the NWLS program region. More than 6,100 low-income individuals are eligible for legal services (125% of federal poverty guidelines), a poverty population representing 5.5 percent of the NWLS region as a whole. During the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, NWLS handled 343 cases for Warren County residents, around 4.8 percent of our entire caseload.

1974 - ECLSA changes name to Legal Services for Northwestern Pennsylvania (LSNP) as it begins expansion into other counties in the region.

Non NWLS County Cases Handled

In addition to the direct representation and counsel we provide to low-income residents throughout the 10 counties in our region, we also provide legal aid to clients who reside outside our region but who have a civil legal action that is handled in northwestern Pennsylvania. During the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year, NWLS handled 165 cases for these individuals, about 2.3 percent of our entire caseload.



Dollar Awards for Clients

	Lump Sum Recovered	Monthly Recovery	Lump Sum Avoided	Monthly Avoidance
Consumer	\$5,420.59		\$957,254.13	\$80.00
Family	\$1,965.48	\$366.00	\$975.00	
Housing	\$1,000.00	\$43.00	\$5,995.82	
Income Maintenance	\$2,539,466.65	\$166,980.04	\$111,935.30	\$1,473.70
Miscellaneous	\$17,814.00	\$756.00	\$12,000.00	
Grand Total	\$2,565,666.72	\$168,145.04	\$1,088,160.25	\$1,553.70

1974 – Legal Services Corporation Act enacted by Congress.

NWLS Elder Law Project

America is aging, and Pennsylvania has one of the highest concentrations of senior citizens in the nation. As baby boomers continue to reach retirement age they bring with them a specific array of civil legal concerns -- issues that especially affect low-income seniors on fixed incomes.

During the 2008 – 2009 fiscal year, NWLS received the final year's funding for a three-year special project grants from Pennsylvania Interest on Lawyers Trust Account (IOLTA) to create an Elder Law Project designed to provide free legal aid to low-income seniors 60 years of age or older. The grant included funding for a NWLS staff attorney assigned to the project, and it combined both direct representation and counsel of clients with civil legal issues, as well as community outreach and community legal education focused on matters that confront older individuals, their family members and/or caretakers.

The specific legal problems referred to the Elder Law Project included a broad range of civil legal issues: government benefits (SSI, Food Stamps), housing (federally subsidized housing, mortgage foreclosure), family law (custody and visitation), economic security (debt collection and garnishment), and miscellaneous cases such as name change and education issues. There are also cases involving the alleged incompetence of seniors in Erie County.

1975 LSNP moves offices from North Park Row in downtown Erie into Rothrock Building, 121 West Tenth Street, Erie.

Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling

Throughout the years, NWLS has represented low-income clients in a broad range of civil legal issues including cases pertaining to housing. As part of the economic recession that has gripped our country during the past year, home foreclosures reached historic proportions and the real estate market was severely affected as a result.

NWLS partnered with other community agencies to respond to the challenges created for many homeowners in our region.

The National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Program was signed into law by President Bush in July 2008. The program, administered by NeighborWorks America, makes federal funds available for homeowners facing foreclosure and in need of legal counsel. The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) joined with the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network (PLAN) in a statewide proposal that makes nearly \$2 million dollars available to help residents of the Commonwealth facing uncertainty with respect to their mortgage. NWLS and other legal aid programs can provide certain types of free legal counsel for these households, regardless of the income of the homeowners.

Under the terms of the grant, free legal counsel is available to homeowners facing foreclosure, up until a foreclosure action has been officially filed in the courts. Once a foreclosure action by a lender is begun, NWLS can no longer offer counsel under the program. If the homeowner meets legal aid eligibility requirements, though, legal assistance may be available as part of NWLS' normal case acceptance policies.

NWLS staff attorneys assigned to the foreclosure mitigation grant can provide a range of services to clients facing the threat of foreclosure. These types of legal counsel include: interpreting loan documents; providing advice on foreclosure rights and options; negotiating with lenders; nullifying rescue scams; assistance with the Home Emergency Mortgage Assistance program (HEMAP), and assessment of bankruptcy options.

1979 – A 28-foot trailer dubbed the “Mobile Law Office” brings legal aid to rural communities. The law office on wheels is staffed with an attorney and secretary.

“Access to Justice” Videos

In May 2001, NWLS launched a television series on Erie Community Access TV that would bring important information on civil legal topics to the low-income community. Now entering its eighth season, “Access to Justice” continues to explore a wide range of issues such as utility law, landlord/tenant relations, earned income tax credits, and consumer scams directed toward the elderly. The series airs on Erie Cablevision Channel 2, and is broadcast to over 35,000 households in the city of Erie.

Hosted by NWLS executive director Robert A. Oakley, the series is produced, directed and edited in its entirety by NWLS staff in the Erie office. The main production studio of Erie Community Access Television serves as the backdrop for the shows, and guests from the legal services community, private bar, the judiciary and other social service agencies provide the information to the viewers. More than 100 shows have been created as part of the series.

During the 2008 – 2009 fiscal year, the series was proud to have as one of its guests Harvard Law Professor Charles J. Ogletree, Jr. He provided a historical overview of the Tulsa Race Riots of 1921, as well as the legal process that brought an end to school segregation in our land. Other guests on the show have included Pennsylvania Attorney General Tom Corbett and U.S. Bankruptcy Judge (retired) Warren Bentz.



1981 – NWLS moves into second floor of United Way Building, 110 West Tenth Street.

NORTHWESTERN LEGAL SERVICES**STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2009 AND 2008

	2009	2008
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Change in net assets	\$ (72,349)	\$ 14,935
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash and cash equivalents provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	7,569	8,316
(Increase) decrease in:		
Client escrow funds	767	3
Accounts receivable	(85,576)	22,418
Prepaid expenses	6,525	(9,340)
Increase (decrease) in:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(4,107)	(3,491)
Accrued compensated absences	(6,352)	9,825
Payroll taxes and withholdings	1,802	5,837
Client trust deposits	(767)	(3)
Refundable advance	(64,052)	70,226
Net cash and cash equivalents provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>(216,540)</u>	<u>118,726</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Purchases of equipment	-	(4,395)
Net cash and cash equivalents used in investing activities	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,395)</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(216,540)	114,331
Cash and Cash Equivalents:		
Beginning of year	1,059,476	945,145
End of year	<u>\$ 842,936</u>	<u>\$ 1,059,476</u>

1981 – Federal funds for legal aid are drastically cut under Reagan Administration, leading to reductions in legal aid staff.

NORTHWESTERN LEGAL SERVICES**STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

JUNE 30, 2009 AND 2008

<u>Assets</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 842,936	\$ 1,059,476
Client escrow funds	1,214	1,981
Accounts receivable:		
PLAN	119,367	36,593
Other	6,215	3,414
Prepaid expenses	24,867	31,392
Property and equipment, net	13,397	20,965
Total Assets	\$ 1,007,996	\$ 1,153,821
 <u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 19,119	\$ 23,226
Accrued compensated absences	55,258	61,610
Payroll taxes and withholdings	11,979	10,177
Client trust deposits	1,214	1,981
Refundable advance:		
LSC - fiscal year carryover	-	69,939
LSC - other	64,457	58,570
Total Liabilities	152,027	225,503
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	848,108	782,669
Temporarily restricted	7,861	145,649
Total net assets	855,969	928,318
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 1,007,996	\$ 1,153,821

1981 – LSNP changes name to Northwestern Legal Services (NWLS).

NORTHWESTERN LEGAL SERVICES

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total 2009
Revenues and other support:			
Contracts and grants	\$ 1,973,822	\$ 7,861	\$ 1,981,683
Contributions:			
In-kind	94,703	-	94,703
Other	20,227	-	20,227
DAP equitable payments	57,256	-	57,256
Interest income	8,472	-	8,472
Other	11,620	-	11,620
Net assets released from restrictions	145,649	(145,649)	-
Total revenues and other support	<u>2,311,749</u>	<u>(137,788)</u>	<u>2,173,961</u>
Expenses:			
Program services	1,881,544	-	1,881,544
Management and general	354,818	-	354,818
Fundraising	9,948	-	9,948
Total expenses	<u>2,246,310</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,246,310</u>
Change in net assets	65,439	(137,788)	(72,349)
Net assets:			
Beginning of year	782,669	145,649	928,318
End of year	<u>\$ 848,108</u>	<u>\$ 7,861</u>	<u>\$ 855,969</u>

1982 – ECBA and NWLS create the Legal Aid Volunteer Attorney (LAVA) program. Private attorneys in Erie County accept pro bono cases for low-income clients in a project administered by NWLS.

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Kathy Landis, Administrative Assistant

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1985 – NWLS moves offices into the Baldwin Building, now called the Renaissance Center, at East Tenth and State Streets.

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**We would like to acknowledge the following individuals who
contributed to NWLS during the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year**

Thank You!

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And to Everyone Who Purchased Tickets to the Event on May 7!