

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



MARYLAND LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

FISCAL YEAR 2008 ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2007 TO JUNE 30, 2008

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INTEREST ON LAWYER TRUST ACCOUNTS

MLSC ANNUAL REPORT IOLTA



ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We are pleased to present the Annual Report of the Maryland Legal Services Corporation (MLSC) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008. Since the creation of MLSC and the Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA) program in 1982, we have made grants of more than \$123 million to help provide civil legal assistance to low-income Marylanders in more than 1.6 million legal matters.

FY 2008 has been a good year for legal services delivery in our state. Revenue from court filing fee surcharges, coupled with IOLTA revenue that remained robust through most of the fiscal year, enabled MLSC to award more than \$13.6 million in grants, its highest grant level since its inception. MLSC was able to increase operating grants an average of 23%, as well as add four new grantees, fund infrastructure improvements, and add a Judicare pilot project to increase representation to low-income litigants in contested family law matters. This increase in funding translated into a concomitant increase in service. MLSC grantees reported serving an unprecedented number of clients during this period, handling 126,500 cases on behalf of low-income Marylanders needing legal assistance with housing, family, employment, disability, special education and other important matters.

Another important accomplishment this year for Maryland's legal services community was the adoption of an IOLTA "Comparability" Rule by the Maryland Court of Appeals in December 2007, with an effective date of April 1, 2008. Such rules, which currently have been enacted in 23 jurisdictions, require banks to treat IOLTA deposits fairly by offering interest rates on IOLTA that are at least comparable to rates paid to other non-IOLTA customers with similarly-situated banking needs. The significant increases in IOLTA revenue that were originally anticipated as a result of the Rule unfortunately have not yet been realized due to the sudden, rapid decline in interest rates and dramatic downturn in the economy. This development serves to remind us that IOLTA, by its very nature, is a volatile funding source. Court filing fee surcharges and other sources of revenue are even more important now to ensure some stability for the state's system of delivering civil legal services to its most vulnerable citizens.

As we look to the year ahead, MLSC anticipates challenges as we strive to meet the need of the ever-increasing number of Marylanders who will be seeking legal assistance in what is sure to be tough economic times. Through the continued excellent working relationships we have enjoyed over the past twenty-six years with members of Maryland's legal services community, as well as members of the bench, bar, General Assembly, Office of the Governor, Administrative Office of the Courts, financial institutions, law schools and many others, we remain confident that working together, we will further our mission of ensuring access to justice for all low-income Marylanders.

Sincerely,

F. Vernon Boozer
Chair

Susan M. Erlichman
Executive Director

ABOUT MLSC

The Maryland Legal Services Corporation (MLSC) was established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1982 to raise funds and make grants to nonprofit organizations for the provision of civil legal assistance to low-income persons in Maryland (Maryland Code Human Services, Title 11). MLSC is governed by a nine-person Board of Directors appointed by the Governor of Maryland and confirmed by the Maryland Senate. One of MLSC's principal funding sources is the Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA) program, also established by state legislation in 1982 (Maryland Code Business Occupations, §10-303). Other major funding is from surcharges on court filing fees, first enacted by the Maryland General Assembly in 1998 and increased in 2004, as well as the Maryland Abandoned Property Fund. The accounts of the Corporation are required to be audited annually; in addition, MLSC is subject to audits by Maryland's Office of Legislative Audits. MLSC is also required to publish an annual report describing its activities.

ABOUT IOLTA

Attorneys routinely receive client funds to be held in trust for future use. In the case of amounts that are small or to be held for a short time, attorneys must place these nominal and short-term funds into Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA). The income generated is used by the Maryland Legal Services Corporation for grants to programs which provide civil legal services to the poor.

IOLTA HONOR ROLL

We wish to acknowledge with special appreciation financial institutions of Maryland's IOLTA Honor Roll for going above and beyond the requirements of the new IOLTA comparability rule to foster the IOLTA program in its mission to ensure that low-income Marylanders have access to critically needed legal aid. This initiative of the Maryland State Bar Association and MLSC recognizes financial institutions paying a net yield of 65 percent or more of the federal funds target rate on IOLTA deposits. Attorneys are encouraged to consider these "IOLTA friendly" institutions for their banking needs.

Adams National Bank
American Bank
Baltimore County Savings Bank
Bay National Bank
Bradford Bank
Business Bank
Capital Bank
Carrollton Bank
Chevy Chase Bank
Citibank
Colombo Bank
First Shore Federal

Harbor Bank of Maryland
Howard Bank
K Bank
MainStreet Bank
Midstate Federal Savings & Loan
NBRS Financial Bank
Provident State Bank
Revere Bank
Sandy Spring Bank
Susquehanna Bank
Vigilant Federal Savings Bank

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2008

Grant Awards: In FY 2008, MLSC awarded grants totaling \$13.6 million, the highest grant level in the organization's history. Grants were made to 38 legal services providers for operating funds, special projects, challenge grants and one-time funds. Four programs received first-time MLSC funding: Baltimore Bar Foundation Legal Services for the Elderly, Citizens Assisting & Sheltering the Abused (CASA, Inc.) of Hagerstown, Family Crisis Center of Baltimore County and Sexual Abuse/Spouse Abuse Resource Center (SARC) of Harford County.

Revenue: IOLTA income remained strong through most of FY 2008, generating more than \$6.7 million, and income from filing fee surcharge revenue generated almost \$7.5 million, an 8.5% increase from the previous year. Total MLSC income was approximately \$16.6 million for the fiscal year enabling the corporation to provide a 23% average increase in operating grants, as well as provide funding for infrastructure improvements and add the Judicare pilot project. Additionally, MLSC was able to provide modest increases in the next grant cycle.

IOLTA Comparability: On April 1, 2008, an IOLTA "Comparability" Rule adopted by the Maryland Court of Appeals went into effect. The new rule requires banks to pay interest rates on IOLTA accounts that are at least comparable to those paid to other similarly-situated non-IOLTA bank customers. MLSC and Maryland State Bar Association relaunched its IOLTA Financial Institution Honor Roll Program to recognize banks that go above and beyond the Rule's requirements, signing up 23 banks as Honor Roll members. A current list of Honor Roll members is available at www.mlsc.org.

Judicare Pilot Project: MLSC and the Administrative Office of the Courts jointly funded a two-year pilot project to reinstate a family law "Judicare," which uses grant funds to pay private lawyers reduced fees to serve low-income persons who could not otherwise afford civil legal services. The pilot project focuses on contested family law cases in Allegany, Caroline, Dorchester, Harford, Kent, Montgomery, Prince George's, Queen Anne's, Talbot and Washington Counties and Baltimore City.

Maryland Access to Justice Commission: MLSC became a member of Maryland's new Access to Justice Commission, which has broad representation including members from the Maryland judiciary, legislature, Governor's office, private bar and legal services community. The Commission is charged with the task of developing, coordinating and implementing policy initiatives to expand access to justice for persons who encounter barriers in gaining access to the state's civil justice system.

MLSC Milestone: MLSC celebrated its 25th anniversary at an awards event in December 2008 attended by 250 guests and premiered a short video of its history and vision for the future of access to justice for all in Maryland. The video and souvenir program are available at www.mlsc.org.

Delivery Statistics: Services to clients in FY 2008 increased 19% from the prior year, with MLSC grantees opening 126,340 new cases. Approximately 188,000 individuals and families directly benefited from this legal assistance, 12% more than in FY 2007.

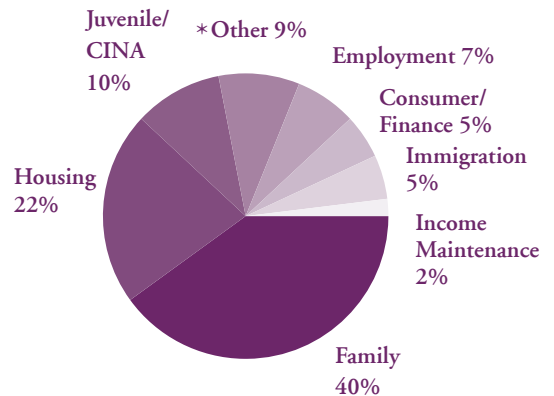
DELIVERY STATISTICS – FY08

Between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008, MLSC-funded legal services programs provided legal assistance to low-income clients in every jurisdiction in Maryland.

Client Residence

Anne Arundel County	11,051
Baltimore City	33,001
Baltimore County	10,245
Central Maryland	7,140
Eastern Shore	5,791
Montgomery County	10,610
Prince George's County	17,243
Southern Maryland	5,248
Western Maryland	8,368
Other	7,842
Total (closed cases)	116,539

Types of Cases Closed



* Education, Health, Individual Rights, Wills and Trusts and Miscellaneous issues.

Types of Service

Brief advice, information or referral	66%
Counseling	17%
Negotiation	1%
Administrative Proceedings	2%
Judicial Litigation	10%
Other	4%

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
JUNE 30, 2008

FINANCIALS

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$2,638,281
Investments	7,218,693
IOLTA Receipts Receivable	564,274
Capital Assets - Net of Accumulated Depreciation	12,491
Other Assets	15,365
Total Assets	10,449,104

Liabilities

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	58,819
Due to State of Maryland	604,896
Total Liabilities	663,715

Net Assets

Invested in Capital Assets	12,491
Unrestricted	9,772,898
Total Net Assets	\$9,785,389

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

Program Expenses - Legal Assistance	\$14,616,672
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General Revenues

State of Maryland Appropriations - Legal Assistance	15,500,000
Investment Loss	(324,887)
Other	156,575
Total General Revenues	15,331,688

Increase in Net Assets	715,016
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	9,070,373
Net Assets - End of Year*	\$9,785,389

This report is a summary of the financial statements incorporated in the annual audit report issued by Councilor, Buchanan & Mitchell, P.C. for the year ended June 30, 2008. The complete financial statements and notes are available upon request from MLSC.

* See page 8 for grant commitments made at the close of FY 2008.

ANNUAL AWARDS

Each year, the Corporation solicits nominations and presents awards to persons who have contributed significantly to the provision of legal services to the poor. MLSC held the Annual Awards Reception at the Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore Hotel on December 8, 2008.



Seated, L-R: Mary Joel Davis; Ileana Luciani; Bedelia Commodore; Kathleen Murphy, Maryland Bankers Association. Standing, L-R: F. Vernon Boozer, MLSC Board Chair; George A. Nilson; Louis W. Dorsey, Jr.; Winifred C. Borden; Beverly Mondin-VanderHaar; Daniel L. Hatcher; Chief Judge Robert M. Bell.

The Arthur W. Machen, Jr. Award was presented to George A. Nilson, who throughout his career, as a former partner in DLA Piper, a former Deputy Attorney General of Maryland and now Baltimore City Solicitor, has demonstrated an extensive commitment to public service and improving the delivery of legal services in Maryland.

The Benjamin L. Cardin Distinguished Service Award was presented to Daniel L. Hatcher, an assistant professor of law in the Civil Advocacy Clinic at the University of Baltimore and formerly with the Legal Aid Bureau and Children's Defense Fund, for his outstanding work as a public interest lawyer providing civil legal services to the poor.

The William L. Marbury Outstanding Advocate Award was presented to Louis W. Dorsey, Jr., paralegal with the Legal Aid Bureau of the Upper Eastern Shore, and Ileana Luciani, paralegal with the Maryland Disability Law Center, for their outstanding advocacy in Maryland on behalf of low-income persons.

The Herbert S. Garten Public Citizen Award was given to the Maryland Bankers Association, which worked cooperatively with MLSC toward the adoption of the IOLTA Comparability Rule by the Maryland Court of Appeals in December 2007.

MLSC presented *Awards of Special Recognition* to Winifred C. Borden, Mary Joel Davis and Beverly Mondin-VanderHaar, who are retiring as executive directors of Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, Alternative Directions and Montgomery County Bar Foundation, respectively, after a long-time commitment to the legal services to the poor. Outgoing Board member Bedelia Commodore was honored for her outstanding service to MLSC from 2001 to 2008.

AWARDS

MLSC 2008 CONTRIBUTORS

The Corporation is pleased to acknowledge with special appreciation the support of the following individuals and organizations for their generous contributions:

CONTRIBUTORS

PATRON

Alternative Directions, Inc.
DLA Piper Foundation
Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos
Montgomery County Maryland Bar Foundation
Ober, Kaler, Grimes & Shriver
Saul Ewing LLP

DONOR

American Bank
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Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chartered
University of Baltimore School of Law

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Iliff & Meredith, P.C.
Linowes and Blocher LLP
Arthur W. Machen, Jr.
Maryland State Bar Association
Network Business Solutions, Inc.
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Salsbury, Clements, Bekman, Marden & Adkins, LLC
Southern Management
James L. Thompson
University of Maryland School of Law

MEDIA PARTNER

THE DAILY RECORD

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2008 GRANTS AND GRANTEE PROFILES

The Maryland Legal Services Corporation annually awards grants to nonprofit organizations that provide civil legal services to eligible persons. MLSC funding supplements other federal, state and private sources for civil legal assistance. In May 2008, MLSC approved for the coming year \$14,627,157 in unconditional grant awards to be disbursed monthly during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 and \$281,000 in “challenge grants” to certain organizations, which are required to raise funds equal to the challenge amount. The grants to 38 legal services providers include operating funds, the reduced-fee child custody representation project, the Judicare family law pilot project and one-time funding for infrastructure improvements. More information about the grant process and application deadline is available at www.mlsc.org.

GRANTEES

Allegany Law Foundation, Inc.

\$50,000 operating, \$36,000 reduced-fee, \$36,000 Judicare, \$3,000 one-time. Marcia Conrad, Executive Director. The Foundation serves low-income clients through the efforts of a small in-house staff and a panel of attorneys handling cases on a pro bono or reduced-fee basis.

Alternative Directions, Inc.

\$288,330 operating, \$5,150 one-time. Mary Joel Davis, Executive Director. Alternative Directions provides free legal assistance, primarily family and domestic legal issues, to persons in prison or recently released from incarceration, and provides monthly workshops to prisoners on legal rights and responsibilities.

Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center

\$47,250 operating. Myron Quon, Executive Director. The Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center addresses the legal needs of low-income, limited English proficient Asian Americans and uses MLSC funds to represent low-wage workers and victims of domestic violence in Maryland.

Associated Catholic Charities, Baltimore

\$116,025 operating. Cindy Fickes, Director. Associated Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services Project provides client screening, counseling and legal representation for low-income persons with immigration problems in the Baltimore metropolitan area in a wide array of immigration matters.

Baltimore Bar Foundation Legal Services to the Elderly Program

\$50,000 operating. Katherine Sanzone, Executive Director. The Baltimore Bar Foundation's Legal Services to the Elderly Program provides free legal representation and advice to Baltimore City residents 60 years and older.

Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc. (BNI)

\$117,000 operating, \$2,500 one-time. Richard Doran, Executive Director. MLSC's grant supports BNI's operation of its statewide landlord/tenant counseling hotline.

CASA of Maryland, Inc.

\$105,000 operating, \$25,000 challenge, \$34,578 one-time. Gustavo Torres, Executive Director. CASA receives MLSC funding for its Employment Rights Project, which assists Latin Americans and other day laborers in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties and Baltimore City with employment-related legal issues.

Citizens Assisting & Sheltering the Abused (CASA, Inc.)

\$35,000 operating, \$2,510 one-time. Vicki A. Sadehvandi, Executive Director. MLSC funding supports the CASA Legal Services Program, which provides legal assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Washington County.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington

\$134,000 operating. Ed Orzechowski, Executive Director. Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington Immigration Legal Services uses MLSC funds to provide legal assistance and representation to low-income persons with immigration problems to clients residing primarily in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties.

Community Law Center, Inc.

\$95,000 operating, \$24,757 one-time. Kristine Dunkerton, Executive Director. Community Law Center (CLC) provides legal counsel and representation to nonprofit organizations that represent issues of low-income people and are unable to afford private counsel. MLSC's grant supports CLC's pro bono project.

Community Legal Services of Prince George's County

\$250,000 operating, \$68,700 reduced-fee, \$128,800 Judicare. Neal Conway, Executive Director. Community Legal Services provides civil legal assistance to low-income persons of Prince George's County through a panel of pro bono and reduced-fee attorneys.

*"Thank you to thank you for caring for us
and for the people, thank you for being our voice."*

Homeless Persons Representation Project

Domestic Violence Center of Howard County

\$45,600 operating, \$6,500 one-time. Jodi Finkelstein, Executive Director. The Domestic Violence Center of Howard County receives funding from MLSC to support its legal services project, which serves the County's low-income victims of domestic violence.

Family Crisis Center of Baltimore County

\$42,000 operating. Douglas C. Murphy, Executive Director. The Family Crisis Center of Baltimore County provides comprehensive services to domestic violence victims in Eastern Baltimore County. MLSC funding enables the center to provide legal assistance to its clients.

"My children and I are living in a stress free environment thanks to your help with my divorce."

— client of Montgomery County Bar Foundation

Harford County Bar Foundation

\$54,600 operating, \$145,550 Judicare. Cynthia A. Lewis, Executive Director. The Harford County Bar Foundation operates a pro bono and reduced-fee legal services program, providing intake and referral services to low-income persons with civil legal problems.

Health Education Resource Organization (HERO)

\$73,082 operating. Lenora Davis, Acting Executive Director. HERO is a Baltimore-based nonprofit agency that provides assistance to persons with HIV infection and AIDS. MLSC funding is used to provide legal services to HERO's clients.

Heartly House, Inc.

\$67,500 operating. Barbara Martin, Executive Director. Heartly House is a private nonprofit agency serving victims of domestic violence, rape and sexual assault in Frederick County. MLSC funds are used to provide legal services to low-income victims of domestic violence.

Homeless Persons Representation Project

\$237,500 operating. Antonia K. Fasanelli, Executive Director. Homeless Persons Representation Project provides staff and pro bono assistance in a range of housing and other legal matters to clients at risk for homelessness as well as to those in homeless shelters in Maryland.

House of Ruth

\$381,550 operating, \$13,949 one-time. Carole Alexander, Executive Director. House of Ruth's Domestic Violence Legal Clinic provides legal assistance to low-income victims of domestic violence from offices in Baltimore City and Prince George's and Montgomery Counties. The clinic also provides technical assistance and training to spouse abuse centers and interested community organizations statewide.

Legal Aid Bureau, Inc.

\$8,258,600 operating, \$250,000 challenge, \$308,000 one-time. Wilhelm H. Joseph, Jr., Executive Director. Established in 1911, the Legal Aid Bureau is Maryland's primary provider of civil legal services to low-income persons. The MLSC grant is used to fund attorneys and paralegals providing general civil legal assistance to low-income persons throughout Maryland.

Maryland Civil Liberties Union Foundation

\$46,206 operating. Susan Goering, Executive Director. Maryland Civil Liberties Union Foundation receives MLSC funding to provide legal representation to low-income persons statewide in matters involving racial discrimination, police abuse, and jail conditions.

Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education

\$56,000 operating. Selene Almazan and Carol Quirk, Co-Directors. The Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education provides representation to disabled children throughout Maryland seeking to be educated in the least restrictive environment.

Maryland Crime Victims Resource Center, Inc.

\$117,400 operating. Russell Butler, Executive Director. The Maryland Crime Victims Resource Center is a statewide victims' rights organization that receives MLSC funding to disseminate information on victims' rights to all Marylanders and provide specialized legal services to indigent crime victims.

Maryland Disability Law Center

\$692,651 operating, \$37,500 one-time. Virginia Knowlton, Executive Director. The Maryland Disability Law Center provides free representation for disabled children and adults statewide with legal problems related to their disabilities.

Maryland Public Interest Law Project

\$60,000 internships. Robin Jacobs and Tiffany Joly, Co-Presidents. The Maryland Public Interest Law Project, located at the University of Maryland Law School, encourages law students to enter public interest law practice and offers law students from the University of Maryland and the University of Baltimore paid summer internships at public interest organizations of their choice.

"My son was able to get his life back, get his medicine... I felt helpless until MDLC got on the case."

— client of Maryland Disability Law Center

Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service

\$365,000 operating, \$111,000 reduced-fee, \$297,000 Judicare, \$17,004 one-time. Bonnie Sullivan, Executive Director. The Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service is a statewide program that serves low-income persons with a variety of civil legal problems through a referral program which places clients with volunteer or reduced-fee attorneys.

Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence, Inc.

\$74,300 operating, \$68,800 reduced-fee, \$2,800 one-time. Jeanne Yeager, Executive Director. The Mid-Shore Council receives MLSC funding for its reduced-fee legal services program for low-income victims of domestic violence in Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties.

Mid-Shore Pro Bono, Inc.

\$70,000 operating, \$48,000 Judicare, \$3,000 one-time. Sandra Broun, Executive Director. Mid-Shore Pro Bono, Inc. receives funding to provide pro bono and reduced-fee services in Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties.

Montgomery County Bar Foundation

\$212,000 operating, \$135,500 reduced-fee, \$45,250 Judicare. Julie Peterson, Executive Director. The Montgomery County Bar Foundation operates pro bono and reduced-fee programs in which attorneys are recruited to take cases in their area of expertise. The Foundation also conducts community outreach to Montgomery County's growing immigrant population.

Pro Bono Resource Center

\$208,000 operating, \$6,000 challenge, \$9,900 one-time, \$10,000 Litigation Expense Fund. Sharon Goldsmith, Executive Director. The Pro Bono Resource Center (PBRC) is a statewide pro bono support center that coordinates pro bono training and activities, maximizes volunteer attorney services to low-income Maryland residents and provides support for pro bono programs throughout the state. PBRC also administers a litigation expense fund for other pro bono and reduced-fee programs throughout Maryland.

Public Justice Center, Inc.

\$238,000 operating, \$10,000 one-time. John Nethercut, Executive Director. The Public Justice Center provides legal representation to the underrepresented, particularly children, the mentally ill, and victims of discrimination through the services of both in-house staff and pro bono attorneys. The Center also operates the Tenant Advocacy Project.

Sexual Assault/Sexual Abuse Resource Center (SARC)

\$26,500 operating, \$5,590 one-time. Luisa Caiazzo-Nutter, Executive Director. MLSC funding supports the SARC Legal Services Program, which provides legal services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Harford County.

St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center, Inc.

\$185,500 operating. Vincent Quayle, Executive Director. St. Ambrose Legal Services Program, a project of St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center, Inc., provides free legal assistance to low-income homeowners who are in danger of losing their homes.

Sexual Assault Legal Institute

\$52,500 operating, \$2,500 one-time. Jennifer Pollitt Hill, Executive Director. The Sexual Assault Legal Institute is part of the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault and provides comprehensive legal assistance to victims of sexual assault throughout the state.

Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy

\$60,750 operating. Laura Joyce, Executive Director. The Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy provides legal services to low-income clients of St. Mary's, Calvert and Charles Counties, primarily in the area of domestic violence.

University of Maryland School of Law – HIV Project

\$63,475 operating. Brenda Blom, Clinical Director. The MLSC grant to the University of Maryland Clinical Law Office helps fund its HIV Legal Representation Project, in which law students provide legal services to persons with AIDS and HIV infection at the University of Maryland Hospital.

Whitman-Walker Clinic

\$53,000 operating. Don Blanchon, Executive Director. The Whitman-Walker Clinic's Legal Services Program provides pro bono legal assistance to persons living with HIV/AIDS. MLSC funding supports services to residents of Montgomery, Prince George's, Frederick, Charles and Calvert Counties.

Women's Law Center, Inc.

\$165,400 operating, \$73,000 reduced-fee, \$8,500 one-time. L. Tracy Brown, Executive Director. The Women's Law Center was established in 1971 to meet the special legal needs of women. MLSC funds are used to operate its statewide Family Law Hotline and reduced-fee child custody representation project.

YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County

\$81,400 reduced-fee. Molly Knipe, Executive Director. The YWCA legal services program administers a reduced-fee child custody representation project, matching private attorneys with low-income individuals seeking representation in contested custody matters.

*"Kudos for going above and beyond
the call of duty in my child support case...
recovering money owed to me and doing a
tremendous job on my behalf
and my family's."*

– client of Legal Aid Bureau

MLSC BOARD 2008



Seated, L-R: MLSC Board members Judge Pamela J. White; Teri A. Heger; Bedelia Commodore; Treasurer Nancy A. Sachitano. Standing, L-R: Deputy Director Harriet Robinson; MLSC Board members Bernard L. Jennings; Nathaniel E. Jones, Jr.; Chairman F. Vernon Boozer; Douglas S. Snyder; Judge Robert B. Kershaw; Executive Director Susan M. Erlichman. Not shown: Derrick L. Richardson.

F. Vernon Boozer, Esq., Chair – Baltimore County – Principal, Covahey & Boozer, P.A.; Former Member, Maryland Legislature – House of Delegates and Senate; A.B., Duke University; J.D., University of Maryland School of Law.

* **Bedelia Commodore** – Queen Anne’s County – Chaplain, Eastern Pre-Release Unit; Pastor, Boardly’s Chapel A.M.E. Church; Bachelor of Christian Ministry, Chesapeake Bible College & Seminary; Master of Ministry, Chesapeake Bible Seminary.

* **Teri A. Heger, LCSW-C** – Frederick County – Psychotherapist, Associated Family Counseling; B.A., Hood College; M.S.W., University of Maryland School of Social Work.

Bernard L. Jennings – Howard County – Managing Principal, Capstone Consulting Group; B.S., Morgan State University; M.B.A., Columbia University.

Nathaniel E. Jones, Jr., Esq. – Baltimore – Member, Jones & Associates, PC; B.S., Cornell University; M.B.A. and J.D., Stanford University.

Hon. Robert B. Kershaw – Baltimore – Judge, 8th Judicial Circuit, Baltimore City; A.B., Princeton University; J.D., University of Maryland School of Law.

* **Derrick L. Richardson** – Prince George’s County – Senior Manager, Center for American Progress; B.A., Jacksonville State University.

Nancy A. Sachitano, Esq., Treasurer – Montgomery County – Managing Attorney and President, Strickler, Sachitano & Hatfield, P.A.; B.S., Lamar University; J.D., Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America.

Douglas S. Snyder, Ph.D. – Prince George’s County – Adjunct Professor of Sociology, Prince George’s Community College; Professor of Sociology (emeritus), Bowie State University; B.A., University of Iowa; M.S., Purdue University; Ph.D., University of Washington.

Hon. Pamela J. White – Baltimore – Judge, 8th Judicial Circuit, Baltimore City; B.A., University of Mary Washington; J.D., Washington and Lee University.

Susan M. Erlichman, Esq., Secretary (ex officio) – Executive Director, Maryland Legal Services Corporation; B.A., University of Vermont; J.D., Temple University School of Law.

MLSC STAFF

Susan M. Erlichman, Esq.
Executive Director

Susan S. Lentz
Finance Manager

Harriet Robinson
Deputy Director

Rebecca Parker
IOLTA Administrator

Tiffany Devonshire, Esq.
Program Manager

** Teri A. Heger was appointed to the MLSC Board in March 2008, and Derrick L. Richardson was appointed in September 2008. Bedelia Commodore served on the Board from March 30, 2001 to March 10, 2008. The Corporation wishes to thank Ms. Commodore for her dedicated service and outstanding contributions to MLSC.*

“There is a need to provide equal access to the system of justice for individuals who seek redress of grievances. There is a need to continue and expand legal assistance to those who would otherwise be unable to afford adequate legal counsel.”

- Preamble, Maryland Legal Services Corporation Act, 1982

MARYLAND LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

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