



# Legal Services

of NORTH FLORIDA

HOPE. JUSTICE. FOR ALL.



## 2010 Annual Report

### Hope. Justice. For All.

I know each of you know what challenges have been and are facing our community: you see it in the faces of your neighbors and families, you see it in the newspapers and on the news, you see it in your pocketbooks and at the grocery store, you hear about co-workers and friends losing their jobs, and you read about other non-profits cutting back staff and services. While those challenges have been just as real here at Legal Services of North Florida, I have to say how remarkable the staff, board, and volunteers have been.

I have never been so proud to be part of an organization. While they would never tell you how hard they all work, I have the privilege to do just that. If you ever have driven by the LSNF offices before the sun comes up, after the sun has gone down, or on a Saturday morning or holiday, you will see the lights on and cars in the parking lot. Our LSNF staff puts in countless hours during the time they should be spending with family and friends to make sure we can serve as many people as possible.



The legal staff's case load is tremendous and would be unmatched in law firms where lawyers are paid much more money. Attorneys and staff also spend weekends and evenings at community events sharing the work of LSNF and giving advice where they can.

Our board has spent countless hours helping staff prioritize services, asking others for help through United Way presentations, and media interviews, and making sure LSNF staff is at the table when support is available. Board members have encouraged new volunteers through the ONE program and have worked hard to make LSNF's fundraising efforts successful.

I could not be prouder of my fellow attorneys who have stepped forward to help increase the capacity of the Hotline, enabling clients to get quick help with simple legal matters while freeing up staff to take the more complicated legal cases. Other volunteers have taken on a myriad of cases through varied pro bono programs coordinated by LSNF staff. We congratulate Tim Warner, winner of the 2010 Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award, which was awarded at the Supreme Court in a moving ceremony in January. Then at the Law Day Celebration in May, Judge Jill Conlon Walker received the Joy Aukema Taps Children's Advocate Award and Judge William A. Van Nortwick, Jr., was the recipient of the Parks & Crump Thurgood Marshall Judicial Excellence Award. (Wendy Loquasto continued page two)



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**Tallahassee Office**

**Counties Served**

Franklin  
Jefferson  
Leon  
Wakulla

**Quincy Office**

Calhoun  
Gadsden  
Jackson  
Liberty

**Panama City Office**

Bay  
Gulf  
Holmes  
Washington

**Ft. Walton Beach Office**

Okaloosa  
Walton

**Pensacola Office**

Escambia  
Santa Rosa





Wendy Loquasto, Esq. - President

## LSNF Leadership

Legal Services of North Florida, Inc. is guided by a 21 member Board of Directors. Seven board members represent low-income client groups or are low-income clients themselves. The other members are volunteer attorneys recommended by local bar associations and the Dean of the FSU law school.

### 2010 LSNF Board of Directors

#### OFFICERS

Wendy Loquasto, Esq. - President  
Joanne Battle - Vice-President  
Joan Anderson, Esq. - Secretary/  
Treasurer

#### BOARD MEMBERS

Mark A. Bednar, Esq.  
Nathan Boyles, Esq.  
Ben Crump, Esq.  
Carolyn Cummings, Esq.  
Martin R. Dix, Esq.  
Michael Guttman, Esq.  
Sally Gertz, Esq.  
Barry Gray  
Oliver Hill, Sr.  
Monique Hrabak  
Angelique DeJesus Knox, Esq.  
M. Catherine Lannon, Esq.  
Theodore Mack, Esq.  
Joel Margules, Esq.  
Michelle Scheuermann  
Derek Sims  
Phil Smith, Esq.  
Stella Ward

## Our Mission

**Legal Services of North Florida is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3) agency providing civil legal assistance. Our core mission is:**

*To provide An Opportunity for Justice for eligible residents through representation conducted efficiently and comparable in quality to that of the private bar, and through other forms of legal assistance designed to provide a full range of civil legal services to those in need.*

LSNF provides free civil legal services to persons whose income falls below 125% of the federal poverty level, and to specified vulnerable populations who experience problems, in the following priority areas:

- Preservation of the home and promotion of home ownership
- Support for families and children
- Promotion of employment, economic security and health
- Promotion of safety and stability

### During 2010 LSNF substantially expanded services available to its clients by:

- Addressing the loss of affordable housing in the Florida Panhandle by: (a) increasing foreclosure defense efforts in conjunction with alternative strategies on behalf of homeowners in coordination with the North Florida Center for Equal Justice (NFCFEJ); and (b) continuing collaborative efforts between LSNF's Revitalize Our Communities project, LSNF delivery staff and NFCFEJ to ensure all strategies more complimentary and effectively used;
- Improving/expanding services to victims of abuse by: (a) coordinating efforts of entities serving sexual violence victims and continuing coordinated efforts on behalf of domestic violence victims; and (b) seeking funding to offer expanded and continued services to domestic violence victims in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties; and,
- Increasing pro bono efforts by participating in the statewide Florida Bar Foundation One Campaign through implementing recommended campaign strategies and distributing recruitment materials throughout LSNF's service area in an effort to strengthen the existing volunteer attorney base and increase and maintain the number of new volunteers available to assist on available pro bono projects. Participation in the One Campaign: (a) Increased the opportunity for low-income residents to access program services; and (b) Increased the opportunity for attorneys in LSNF's 16 county service area to volunteer in pro bono projects.

*"As this nation has allowed a great separation in the economic fortunes of its citizens, I realize that, without access to legal services, there is very real risk that more people will slip into poverty."*

- Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte, President Emeritus, Florida State University

## Wendy Loquasto (continued)

My thanks only touches the tip of the iceberg of support for LSNF. From Don Hinkle opening his home for our annual Founders of Justice event to the entertainers at Jazz for Justice, it takes us all to continue our mission of hope and justice for all. I know I haven't mentioned you all, but know that our hearts are full knowing you support LSNF and your efforts make a huge difference in the lives of so many.

LSNF Board President



## Our Executive Director - Kris Knab

2010 saw the beginnings of the newest challenges facing clients of Legal Services of North Florida. As our region's economic climate continued to impact our clients, the BP Oil Spill changed many people's lives and culture forever. As the national and statewide effects of the larger economic crisis trickled down to state workers and small business people, those already on the edge were pushed over into economic and personal disasters. Clients were losing their homes and their jobs and families were stretched to the breaking point. And the challenges for LSNF did not stop there. Funding did not keep up with the increase in demand, and individuals

who had previously been personal supporters of LSNF found themselves eligible for our services.

LSNF staff and the board took a hard look at essential services and expenditures and made adjustments to meet the ever increasing and more complicated emergency needs of applicants, focusing particularly on helping people at risk of losing their homes and at risk of increased incidences of domestic violence. LSNF also thankfully received word that funding for oil spill victims would be made available in early 2011 and geared up to integrate those new services.

In terms of resources for the longer range, we have received some helpful cy pres awards and most donors have continued their endowment pledges, even during these challenging days. It continues to be clearer every day that our community has done a remarkable job in insuring that future programs of Legal Services of North Florida will be available to those in need far into the future through the establishment of the LSNF Endowment Fund. As governmental and foundation funds shrink or are eliminated, private donors are the future of LSNF. And an endowment that can bridge the gaps and continue vibrant and necessary programs will ensure that LSNF will be here to provide an access to justice wherever we can.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who made Jazz for Justice 2010 such a success and congratulate the 2010 awardees at Law Day. I would also like to thank the staff of LSNF for its dedication to the work of providing hope and justice through challenges both personal and professional. Without these dedicated advocates families would go homeless, victims would have no voice and we would be a poorer community in spirit and justice. I am so proud to call them colleagues and friends.

*Kristine E. Knab*

## Community Leaders

In celebration of 30 years of service to the community LSNF established the 30th Anniversary Council, the members of which were asked to participate because of their long-standing support of LSNF and their commitment to raising \$2 million dollars for the 30th Anniversary Endowment Campaign.

### 30th Anniversary Council

#### CHAIRMEN

Benjamin Crump  
Talbot 'Sandy' D'Alemberte

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Nina Ashenafi  
C. DuBose 'Duby' Ausley  
Mark Bednar  
Alan Bookman  
Craig J. Brown  
Scott Carruthers  
David Fonvielle  
Justice Major Harding  
Justice Joseph Hatchett  
M. Catherine Lannon  
Anneli Magee  
Jack L. McLean, Jr.  
Liza Park  
John Radey  
Glenda Thornton  
Steven J. Uhlfelder  
Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda  
Frank Williams  
Elizabeth "Bib" Willis  
Gary Yordon

For up-to-date information about the campaign go to:  
[www.hopejusticeforall.org](http://www.hopejusticeforall.org)

To leave a lasting legacy, place LSNF in your will. For more information on planned giving, contact Mary Dekle at 850-701-3313 or by email at [mary@lsnf.org](mailto:mary@lsnf.org).

## CLIENT STATISTICS

Legal Services of North Florida, Inc. is grateful to the many individuals and organizations that enabled us to provide representation to 7,537 clients during 2010.

Area of Law	Clients Served
Consumer	920
Education	19
Employment	343
Family	3,404
Juvenile	489
Health	28
Housing	1,376
Income	
Maintenance	303
Individual Rights	66
Miscellaneous	589
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,537</b>

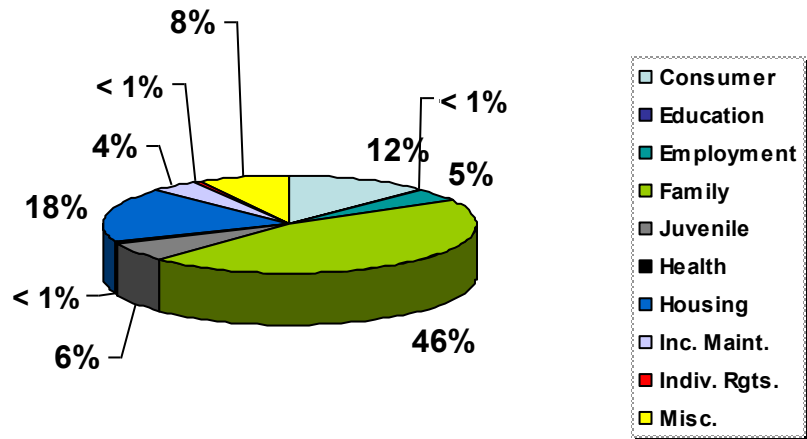
## Poverty Statistics:

**15.1%** of the population was in poverty in 2010.  
That's **46.2** million people below the poverty line during 2010.  
up from **43.6** million people below the poverty line during 2009.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau report, "Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage: 2010."

## Giving Hope Through Services

Clients receiving services are 72 percent female, 28 percent male, 51 percent white, 41 percent African-American, and 4% percent Hispanic. Below are the types of cases handled by LSNF.



## Financial Benefits for LSNF Clients and Service Area

Benefits	Back Awards	Monthly	Annual Monthly Benefits	Total Annual
Social Security:	\$280,700	\$14,380	\$172,560	\$453,260
Child Support:	\$20,672	\$21,221	\$254,652	\$275,324
Alimony:	\$112,081	\$760.00	\$9,120	\$121,201
Reduced Tax Liability:			\$57,869	\$57,869
Tax Awards:			\$57,239	\$57,239
Other Benefits:	\$23,111			\$23,111
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$436,564</b>	<b>\$36,361</b>	<b>\$551,440</b>	<b>\$988,004</b>

## Director of Litigation - Scott Manion

Our clients come to us with a variety of problems both large and small. They not only seek immediate resolution of their legal trouble, but hope for a better future. Whether we are saving their homes or rebuilding broken families, each client's case is as important as the next. A look at some of our work sheds light on what we are all about and pays tribute to our talented and dedicated legal staff and volunteers. In 2010 LSNF served 7,537 people – these are a few of their stories:

## HOPE - Preventing Homelessness

**DISABLED/EVICTION:** Late one afternoon the LSNF office in Fort Walton Beach received a call from Ms. Samuels. She had just gotten an eviction order for the next day. Ms. Samuels is a paraplegic and could not even fathom traveling, much less moving from her home of ten years on such short notice. Apparently, her landlord had failed to pay his mortgage, allowing the court to eventually enter a judgment in favor of the bank that held the mortgage. The problem was that Ms. Samuels still lived there, and had faithfully paid her rent to her landlord, oblivious to the lurking threat to her housing. With LSNF's assistance, an ex-parte emergency order was obtained from a Judge, to cancel the writ. This order was then served upon the bank's representatives – who were gathering a moving crew in a nearby parking lot, preparing to move Ms. Samuels. The order gave her 90 days in which to move, allowing her the time to find a new home in a safe and dignified manner.

**VETERAN/FORECLOSURE:** Mr. Brown was a Tallahassee veteran who came to LSNF because he was about to lose his mobile home. He could not work and had no income. LSNF contacted the Veteran's Administration and with the help from a local congressional representative was able to get the man's disability evaluated at no cost and his case reevaluated by the VA. As a result the man was awarded 100 percent disability. He was able to save his land and purchase a newer more affordable mobile home in which to live.

**DISABLED/FORECLOSURE:** Jennifer and Steven Palmer were business owners in Leon County. Both became disabled. Mr. Palmer lost one kidney. Both were diagnosed with cancer. They had eight grandchildren living with them. They got behind on their mortgage payments. Their lender foreclosed on their home. LSNF was able to stop the foreclosure and later got the foreclosure dismissed. LSNF was able to negotiate the sale of the home back to them at a market value of \$20,000, \$80,000 less than the original mortgage. LSNF also saved the family's truck used to take Mr. Palmer to the doctor for dialysis treatments.

## JUSTICE - Protecting Consumers

**DISABLED/IRS:** When Mr. Johnson came into our office with an IRS collection notice seeking to collect \$18,725.21 in past due income taxes, penalties, and interest, he was in danger of losing his home and at the end of his rope. Mr. Johnson and his wife had both worked and made a comfortable living. But Mr. Johnson became disabled by spinal stenosis and Mrs. Johnson was in a car accident around the same time. Neither of them was able to work. Mr. Johnson had cashed in his retirement pay, resulting in taxes on his additional income and a 10% early-withdrawal penalty. LSNF reviewed the Johnson's returns in hope of salvaging their situation. It became clear that there was a special rule for retirement distributions made the year of Hurricane Katrina that the Johnson's tax preparer had not realized. Taxpayers who took advantage of the special rule could waive the 10% early-withdrawal penalty and spread their tax liability on the income over a three-year period. Because Mr. Johnson had not earned any income in 2007 or 2008, spreading his tax liability over three years drastically decreased his tax rate for

2006. After amending his returns, the Johnsons were also able to take advantage of the 2008 Economic Stimulus Payment. The Johnsons went from owing the IRS more than \$18,000 to receiving more than \$9,000. Recently, Mr. Johnson was also approved for and started receiving social security disability benefits. He expects an award for back disability pay to arrive soon. And while the Johnsons still have some creditors, Florida Homestead laws protect the home they worked for all their lives.

**JOBLESS/EMPLOYER:** Jannice Jones was terminated from her job and the employer promised not to fight any unemployment compensation claim she made. The employer decided to challenge the claim anyway. At the same time the woman's car was repossessed. LSNF won the unemployment appeal for the woman and with funds from the unemployment benefits she was able to get her car returned. The return of her car was important because she obtained a new job that required her to drive out of town.



*Justice is conscience, not a personal conscience but the conscience of the whole of humanity. Those who clearly recognize the voice of their own conscience usually recognize also the voice of justice.*

- Alexander Solzhenitsyn



## BRANCH OFFICES



Fort Walton Beach Office



Panama City Office



Pensacola Office



Quincy Office

## FOR ALL - Protecting Families

**DISABLED/DIVORCE:** Ms. Manning came to her local LSNF office for help in obtaining a divorce. Normally LSNF does not have the resources to provide counsel in simple divorces, but it was soon evident that Ms. Manning was mentally challenged with no ability to obtain a divorce on her own. LSNF's attorney, Natausha Samuels, took Ms. Manning under her wing and they have created a bond of support and guidance. Ms. Manning is incredibly thankful for the help and feels hopeful that she has put a painful past behind her with LSNF's help.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM/INJUNCTION:** Being in the middle of a domestic violence situation is frightening for anyone, especially if you are trying to protect your children. Sadly it happens to many women, the elderly and men as well. Steven is 49 with custody of Steven, Jr. (13) and Ashley, (6). Six years into his marriage his wife became abusive due to mental and emotional issues, which led to prescription drug and alcohol abuses. They endured periods of separation and trying to make it work, but she consistently resorted to violence against Steven in front of their children. At one point she attempted suicide. That was the last straw and Steven divorced her four years ago. Since that time she has followed him to two different cities, phoning and texting him up to 75 times per day, begging him to come back to

her. On occasion she would attack Steven by throwing an object at him, or slapping him. Recently, Steven was at the apartment pool with his children when she showed up with no notice and attacked him physically, knocking him into the ground and beating him. She was arrested and the Department of Children and Families suggested that he needed an injunction against her. LSNF obtained a permanent injunction for Steven and his children. Their mother will only be allowed supervised visitation unless and until she demonstrates that she is capable of visiting with them unsupervised. And Ashley and Steven Jr. are finally able to sleep in their own rooms without being afraid. This will not be an easy road for the family but Steven knows that with the help of LSNF he and his children are safer.



## Hope Justice for All

**SENIORS/CHILD CUSTODY:** Ms. Temple is one of those angels that live among us. She came to LSNF because she was seeking assistance in gaining legal custody of her 15 year old twin grandchildren, Monique and Johnson. Sad to say, that isn't so unusual, but Ms. Temple's story is. Ms. Temple is in her early 70's, and has raised 50 grandchildren and great grandchildren, all the while struggling through losing both legs in an accident. The twins' mother was found dead by an older brother and they didn't know who their father was. Everyone in the community knew Ms. Temple was raising Monique and Johnson but she still needed legal custody to enroll them in school, obtain a driver's license for them, or be eligible for public assistance programs, such as the annual Salvation Army food/gift giveaway at Christmastime. LSNF filed a Petition for Custody by an Extended Family Member and the judge granted her request. Now the twins have a new 'forever home' and Ms. Temple has the resources and support to continue to raise another generation.

**CHILDREN/GUARDIANSHIP:** The Simpson twins were two children who were victims of fraud by their guardian when they came to LSNF. The home they lived in was sold because of failure to pay mortgage payments. LSNF filed an action to change guardianship, the children got the funds returned that were taken from them, and they were placed in the custody of relatives where the rest of their brothers and sisters lived.

**DISABLED/PUBLIC BENEFITS:** When the Sampson sisters came to LSNF one was in a wheelchair and the other was nearly legally blind. The two sisters came to LSNF because their deceased mother's social security benefits were being garnished. LSNF was able to file an emergency motion to stop the garnishment and get the funds returned to the sisters to help pay for their mother's funeral expenses.





Daryl Parks and LSNF board member Ben Crump, present the Thurgood Marshall Award to 1st DCA Judge, William A. VanNortwick, Jr.



Retiring Circuit Judge Janet Ferris, presents the Children's Advocate of the Year Award to Wakulla County Judge Jill C. Walker

## Successes (continued)

grandmother to take care of the infant, which satisfied the Department of Children and Families. DCF had been notified by hospital staff at the time of the baby's birth, but did not open a dependency case due to the ability of the grandmother to provide care for the baby.

A few weeks after giving birth, the mother was released from jail, but only a month later was arrested again for prostitution. This time she was sent to state prison for a year. It was not possible to obtain a voluntary surrender of parental rights prior to the release from prison, as she vacillated about whether she wanted to try to parent this child. Service of a private dependency petition was effectuated and during the telephone arraignment, the mother was appointed an attorney and was asked by the judge about the identity of the father. This information allowed for his rights to eventually be terminated, after a diligent search was completed and service was obtained by publication. The same process was used to terminate the mother's rights as attempts by her attorney to contact her were unsuccessful. Upon her release from prison, the mother was supposed to live in a halfway house, but she refused to do so and vanished after getting off the bus on her way from prison.

Ms. Crockett spent time with the grandmother and her husband gathering information needed to file the adoption petition. Seeing the bond between these two and their grandson confirmed to her that it was the right route to make this relationship legally recognized as a parent/child relationship. The adoption hearing (9 months after Ms. Crockett's initial interview with the grandparents) was a joyful affair with friends of the parents-to-be filling the courtroom 3H where Judge Caloca-Johnson happily finalized the adoption.

## Private Attorney Involvement—PAI

LSNF works closely with private attorneys throughout its sixteen county service area to provide legal assistance to low-income individuals. Through the Private Attorney Involvement (PAI) Program this cooperation takes several forms, coordinating volunteer attorney resources of time and/or financial support. Over 800 attorneys make up LSNF's support pool. Four hundred and sixty-nine of these lawyers (469) contributed nearly \$145,000. In addition, pro bono attorneys provided over 5,000 hours of service in 2010. This is the equivalent of \$1,002,290 worth of legal services.

A large part of client assistance came from volunteers at our telephone legal advice hotline. We are grateful to our partners at the Office of the Attorney General, Department of Community Affairs, Department of Environmental Protection and the City of Tallahassee Attorney's office for encouraging their attorneys to participate in this important program for so many years.

## Volunteer Recognition

The work of volunteers is a vital part of Legal Services' effort to succeed in its mission. Each year LSNF recognizes its volunteers by publishing in area newspapers all the names of lawyers who contributed time and other resources. Additionally, in the 1st and 2nd Judicial Circuits, LSNF holds a Pro Bono Week and Law Week Celebration reception each October and May in honor of all volunteer attorneys.

*Congressional appropriations for legal services have not kept pace with inflation. In real dollars, the current federal investment in Legal Services Corporation (LSC), which funds a major portion of LSNF's budget, is roughly half of the 1980 funding level.*

## Our Challenges

Our staff is one of Legal Services of North Florida's most valuable resources and each day it costs \$ 6,300 to provide an access to justice for the people of North Florida. To maintain consistently high quality client services, it is imperative to keep well-qualified and dedicated attorneys, paralegals and support staff that are committed to making a difference in people's lives. Another on-going challenge is to expand community support by helping the business and private community understand the role of legal services in the quality of life for all. We must continue to educate and inform our leaders, philanthropists, politicians, business people and residents of our community about how integral LSNF is to a safe and healthy community.

## Volunteer Attorney Successes

**ADOPTION:** Tallahassee attorney, Sonia Crockett was taking a turn on the LSNF telephone advice hotline, when she came across an application for services that read, "grandmother wants to adopt grandchild." The advice Ms. Crockett had for this grandmother was, "Get an attorney." Since Ms. Crockett spent seven years as an attorney for the Second Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program, she felt she had the skills to help the grandmother attain her goal and agreed to take the case as a pro bono attorney.

The grandmother and her husband had physical custody of their 17 month old grandson since picking him up at the hospital two days after his birth. The grandmother's daughter was incarcerated in county jail for the last few months of her pregnancy, a plus for the newborn, as two of his three other half siblings were born with cocaine in their bodies. The mother had lost her parental rights to those three older children, due to her extensive drug use and incarceration for prostitution and other crimes. The mother had executed a power of attorney to allow the

(continued in column to the right)

## LSNF FUNDING PARTNERS

Area Agency on Aging of North Florida  
 Bay County Commission  
 Calhoun County Commission  
 Catholic Charities  
 Cornerstone Residential Management  
 Department of Elder Affairs  
 Department of Juvenile Justice  
 Florida Attorney General's Office  
 Florida Bar Foundation  
 Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
 Florida Council Against Sexual Violence  
 Florida Guardian ad Litem  
 Franklin County Commission  
 Gadsden County Commission  
 Gulf County Commission  
 Holmes County Commission  
 Housing and Urban Development  
 Internal Revenue Service  
 Jackson County Commission  
 Jefferson County Commission  
 Judicial Administration Commission  
 Legal Services Corporation  
 Leon County Commission  
 Liberty County Commission  
 Okaloosa County Commission  
 The City of Quincy  
 The Community Foundation in Jacksonville  
 U. S. Department of Agriculture  
 United Way of the Big Bend  
 Wakulla County Commission  
 Walton County Commission  
 Washington County Commission

## Common Questions about Legal Services of North Florida

### Where does your money come from?

LSNF is funded from a variety of public and private sources. Our largest funder is the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) which is funded by Congress. Additionally we receive funds from the Florida Bar Foundation and its Interest on Trust Accounts funding. We also have a variety of governmental grants which help fund our domestic violence programs, low-income housing efforts and taxpayer clinics. We receive funds from 14 of our counties derived from ordinances in accord with a legislative mandate. The remainder of our funding comes from other governmental and private grants, the United Way, private contributions and fundraising events.

### Are you a state or governmental agency?

No, we are a private not-for-profit agency.

### How many lawyers do you have?

Over the 16 counties we serve, we have 20 staff and over 300 volunteer lawyers.

### What is the composition of your board?

Our board is comprised of representatives of the various attorney groups throughout our region and one third is comprised of client members, who represent various agencies serving the poverty community.



LSNF Tallahassee Office

### Summary of Financial Information

Total support and revenue, year 2010.....	\$5,374,941
Total expenses, year 2010.....	\$5,411,737

### How do individuals get services from LSNF?

A potential client is either referred by another agency or the courts, or comes to us on their own. They apply for services and within one week are notified if we will handle their case. The cases are assigned to LSNF attorneys, paralegals or volunteer attorneys.

### What is the criteria for accepting a client?

Our primary client base is restricted to an income of 125% of the federal poverty guidelines. Several of our grant sources have varying income requirements. The domestic violence grants do not have an income criteria because so many victims are situationally poor. All cases must be civil in nature and adhere to our priorities.

### What is the difference between you and Legal Aid and Northwest Florida Legal Services?



Legal Aid provides services through volunteer attorneys who are members of the Tallahassee Bar Association, almost exclusively in Leon County. Northwest Florida Legal Services provides services through staff attorneys primarily in the areas of health, social security, juvenile and family law, almost exclusively in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. Legal Services of North Florida provides services through staff and volunteer attorneys throughout 16 north Florida counties. In 2010 in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties, LSNF focused primarily on consumer, housing, domestic and sexual violence issues, tax controversies, and children's issues.

# HOPE. JUSTICE. FOR ALL.

## WHO BENEFITS FROM INVESTING IN LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTH FLORIDA?

- Vulnerable and exploited individuals, families, and veterans.
- Domestic and sexual violence victims and their children in long-term personal safety.
- Senior citizens with disabilities who have limited access to public transportation.
- Seniors who are targeted by home improvement/predatory lending scams.
- Families stabilized by maintaining affordable housing, transportation, and income.
- Individuals given assistance to secure employment and education.
- Community non-profit groups that work with special needs populations, affordable housing, job creation, and transportation.
- Rural and immigrant women who are victims of abuse.
- Non-profit community by providing free legal services.

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## Everyone Benefits

*....when we stop an illegal eviction, that is one less person homeless.*

*....when we force a fly-by-night contractor to redo “shoddy” work for an elderly couple, we are discouraging contractors from preying on other victims.*

*....when we save a home from foreclosure, residents do not need to seek shelter at the community’s expense or become homeless.*

*....when we stop a cycle of domestic violence, we are saving lives, enhancing employment stability and reducing healthcare costs.*

*....when we help non-profits with their legal issues, we are helping them to allocate more revenue for their client services.*

*....when LSNF helps clients provide for themselves, other community non-profit resources are not stretched as thin.*

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## FOUNDERS OF JUSTICE SOCIETY

(\$5,000 and above gifts)

Akerman Senterfitt  
Anonymous #2  
Anonymous #3  
Archibald Family Foundation  
Curtis and Nina Ashenafi Richardson  
Ausley & McMullen, P.A.  
C. DuBose 'Duby' Ausley  
Berger Singerman, P.A.  
Lisa and Sheldon Bernau  
Alan Bookman  
Law Office of Craig J. Brown  
Brown & Brown, Attorneys at Law  
Capital City Bank Group Foundation  
Scott Carruthers  
Bob Cox  
Talbot 'Sandy' D'Alemberte and Patsy Palmer  
Nancy Daniels  
Terry Dariotis  
Howell L. Ferguson  
Florida Developers, Inc.  
Florida Government Bar Association  
Florida Justice Association  
Fred H. Flowers  
David and Ana Frank  
Marc and Sally Gertz  
Renee' S. Gordon  
Dr. Patricia E. Gritta  
Edward J. and Kathy N. Grunewald  
Stephen F. Hanlon  
Major B. Harding  
Harke & Clasby, LLP  
Kenneth R. Hart  
Judge Judith W. Hawkins  
Suzanne and Timothy Hendrix  
Donald Hinkle  
Holland & Knight  
Paul and Helen Jess  
Kelly Overstreet Johnson  
Kristine E. Knab  
M. Catherine Lannon and Stephanie A. Clapp  
Levin Papantonio Thomas Mitchell Et Al  
Wendy Loquasto and Terry Hansen  
Jarian and Trinetta Lyons  
Theodore E. Mack  
Anneli Nystrand Magee  
The McConaughay Family Elder Law Fund  
James F. McKenzie  
Bernice and Jack McLean, Jr.  
Dorothy L. Miller  
Patty and Chuck Mitchell  
Mark Mustian  
Parks & Crump, Attorneys at Law  
RB Oppenheim & Associates  
John and Kathleen Radey  
Edward M. Ricci  
Mark and Lauren Schlakman  
Walter J. Smith Justice Fund  
Phelicia D. Stiehl  
Tallahassee Barristers Association  
Tallahassee Leon Federal Credit Union  
Tallahassee Women Lawyers  
Marc E. Taps  
Dan and Robin Thompson  
Glenda Thornton  
United Way of the Big Bend  
Mike and Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda  
Kathy Villacorta and Tommy Warren  
Karen and Mark E. Walker  
Gary Yordon

## Celebrating over 30 Years of Service

Legal Services of North Florida is over 30 years old! As a way to memorialize this important milestone, the LSNF board and a committed group of volunteers banded together to seek donations for our 30th anniversary endowment. We established an account at the Community Foundation of North Florida to receive donations to the campaign where proceeds from the endowment continue to grow and sustain our services long into the future. We are proud that Sandy D'Alemberte and Benjamin Crump served as our campaign co-chairs. They recruited a wonderful group of volunteers from around our region that helped the campaign to ultimately succeed. With input from a feasibility study the 30th Anniversary

Council set and reached its \$2 million dollar goal through cash and planned gifts. The LSNF board, attorneys and client members alike, participated 100% in the campaign. A moving video made up of the stories of LSNF clients, staff, and the council co-chairs was used to help share LSNF's story. Naming opportunities at all five of our LSNF offices and challenge grants helped secure funding from the Government Bar Association, the Tallahassee Barristers Association and the Florida Justice Association. A campaign website was launched so all could keep up with campaign progress and learn more about the many ways to continue to support LSNF.

[www.hopejusticeforall.org](http://www.hopejusticeforall.org)

## Leaving a Legacy for Legal Services of North Florida

### What is the purpose of the endowment fund?

With over 50 different funding sources that can change or disappear, the endowment will provide a steady stream of income to assure the stability of the organization.

### Is there a minimum-sized gift that will be accepted for the endowment?

Cash gifts of \$100 or more are preferred, but any gifts for the future of LSNF are encouraged. Named endowments start at \$10,000 and naming opportunities start at \$5,000.

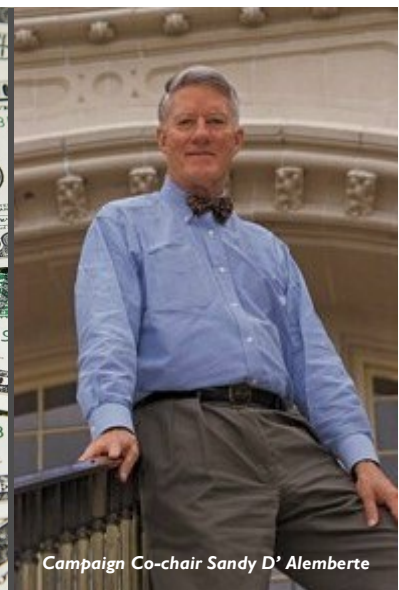
### Is an outright or planned gift preferred when directed to the endowment?

Outright gifts and planned gifts are both encouraged.

### How is a gift paid?

Gifts may be made in full or over a five year period through designated donations of appreciated securities or paid up insurance policies, appraised property, irrevocable bequests and/or sole designated insurance policies, as per the LSNF Donor Gift Policy. A signed pledge form must be made before formal acknowledgement is given.

Contributions to the campaign are intended to be new gifts to LSNF designated for the 30th Anniversary and can be for the Endowment Fund and/or Operating Expenses. They do not preclude Partners in Service or other annual contributions.



Campaign Co-chair Sandy D' Alemberte

# Endowment Fund

## Gift Levels

**Champions for Legal Services**  
((\$250,000 - \$1,000,000))

**Legacy Council**  
((\$100,000 - \$249,999))

**Hope Council**  
((\$50,000 - \$99,999))

**Justice Council**  
((\$25,000 - \$49,999))

**30th Anniversary Council**  
((\$10,000 - \$24,999))

**Founders of Justice Society**  
((\$5,000 and above gifts))

**Advocates**  
(gifts from \$1,000 to \$4,999)

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