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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

In 2010, the Tennessee Supreme Court pledged its commitment to ensuring access to justice for all people of this state. To this end, the Legal Aid Society has continued to serve more clients, address more legal issues, improve civil legal services and remove barriers to equal justice.

We continue to strive to provide justice to the most underserved and vulnerable members of our community: the elderly, children, working poor, people with physical or mental disabilities, non-English speaking people and survivors of domestic violence.

This work is collaborative. In support of the Supreme Court’s initiative, the Legal Aid Society has worked hand-in-hand with the Access to Justice Commission, bar and community leaders. But this collaboration extends further—to the whole community. And I am proud and overwhelmed to be a member of a community that has shown an extraordinary dedication to access to justice for all, as evidenced by the more than 1,400 individuals, firms and foundations that are listed as donors in this report.

Collaboration also involves work. I want to thank the community volunteers, attorneys who have represented clients in pro bono matters and Legal Aid Society staff for all they have done. Together we can make Tennessee a model for equal access to rights and protections under the law.

Sincerely,

Susan L. Kay, President
Legal Aid Society Board of Directors

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends of the Legal Aid Society and the Nashville Pro Bono Program:

As we all felt the weight of the economic recession, those living in and on the fringe of poverty carried the largest load. These individuals dealt with unemployment, uninsured medical bills, eviction and tenant issues, predatory loans and increased occurrences of domestic violence.

More than 70 percent of low-income Tennesseans needed assistance with a civil legal problem at least once during 2010 — that is over 280,000 legal problems that required some guidance. We continue to strive to bridge this gap and help as many people as possible make access to justice a reality.

Within the pages of this report you will read their stories. You will also hear how staff and volunteer attorneys were able to help lessen the load through direct representation, pro bono work and community education. Their efforts, like a compass providing guidance and direction, have helped Tennesseans move from a place of simply surviving to living.

The support of our donors makes this work possible. Thank you. I hope you enjoy reading the success stories throughout this report that your donations helped make possible.

Warmest Regards,

Gary Housepian, Executive Director
Legal Aid Society
“DON’T PUT TO SEA WITHOUT A COMPASS” —ENGLISH PROVERB
For 41 years, the Legal Aid Society has been a place for low-income individuals and families to find a helping hand with legal issues involving money, housing, health, family, employment and domestic violence. We help Tennesseans through direct representation, community education and pro bono work.

Donations of both dollars and time make it possible for the Legal Aid Society to provide assistance in 48 counties through eight offices located in Clarksville, Cookeville, Columbia, Gallatin, Murfreesboro, Nashville, Oak Ridge and Tullahoma.

In 2010, Legal Aid Society staff helped individuals and their families in 5,671 cases. Volunteer attorneys, working through the Nashville Pro Bono Program and other local pro bono programs, worked on an additional 2,477 cases, plus 555 cases for families affected by the May flood. The total of 8,703 cases represents a four percent increase over 2009.

Through its Tennessee Taxpayer Project, the Legal Aid Society obtained $2,495,072 in federal income tax benefits for 392 low-income families.

The free legal advice and representation clients received from staff during 2010 had a market value of $127,235,678. The pro bono volunteers provided an additional $1,577,000 in free legal help.

Advisory Council Members, New Staff & Promotions
Joining the Legal Aid Society’s Community Advisory Council were: Sumita Banerjee, policy advocate, Tennessee Commission on Children & Youth; Julie Boehm, community volunteer; Mahalia Howard, executive director, Grace M. Eaton Childcare Center; Sylvia Rapoport, executive director, The Conservancy for the Parthenon & Centennial Park; and Mary Ruth Shell, community volunteer.

Joining the Legal Aid Society as staff this year were Teri Bess [paralegal, Nashville], Ashley Graham [attorney, Clarksville], Salmun Kazerounian [attorney, Tullahoma], Lea Mullins [attorney, Nashville], Anna Odom [receptionist/intake work, Murfreesboro], Margarita Petrova [outreach worker, Oak Ridge] and Katie Tolliver [attorney, Oak Ridge].

Nikylan Knapper, attorney, moved from the Tullahoma office to Nashville.

“In February, we went to the Coffee County Senior Citizens Center to meet with people and answer medical legal questions. We distributed brochures and discussed the new Medicare law, legal problems for seriously ill people and advanced health care plans and agents.”

—Norm Feaster, Managing Attorney, Tullahoma
THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY AND ITS PRO BONO PRIVATE ATTORNEY PARTNERS GAINED $564,436 in unemployment insurance benefits for workers and their families.

DaKenya Waller was promoted to managing attorney of the Nashville office. Sarah White began volunteering full-time as a pro bono attorney in the Tullahoma office.

Honoring Good Work

Neil McBride [general counsel and managing attorney, Oak Ridge] was named the 2010 Ashley T. Wiltshire Public Service Attorney of the Year by the Tennessee Bay Association. Neil received the award for providing dedicated and outstanding service and legal representation to the poor.

The Nashville Pro Bono Program was awarded the 2010 Frist Foundation Team Building Award of Achievement at the Center for Nonprofit Management’s Salute to Excellence.

Nashville attorneys Katie Evans and David Tarpley won the Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services New Advocate of the Year and Riney Green awards, respectively.

Tonya Grindon, Chair of the Nashville Pro Bono Program Board, was named a Rising Star and one of 10 corporate attorneys under 40-years-old in the United States to watch by Law 360. She was the only attorney in the Southeast named to the list.

Davidson County General Sessions Court Judge Angelita Blackshear Dalton, Judges Campaign Division Co-Chair, was named a Woman of Legend and Merit by Tennessee State University.

Andrée S. Blumstein, Nashville Pro Bono Program Board Member, was named one of The Best Lawyers in America.

Activities and Outreach

David Tarpley [attorney, Nashville] celebrated 40 years of dedication and service to low-income clients with the Legal Aid Society.

Neil McBride [general counsel and managing attorney, Oak Ridge] was confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve on the Tennessee Valley Authority board of directors. Neil will serve on the TVA Board until 2013.

Lenny Croce [attorney, Oak Ridge] participated in the Women’s Interfaith Dialogue Health Care Reform Forum. Lenny provided information on Medicare, Medicaid and TennCare.

Rachel Moses [attorney, Cookeville] founded the Upper Cumberland Young Lawyers Division, which became an official affiliate of the Tennessee Association for Legal Services.

Top: “Wills for Heroes” volunteers prepare for the October 30 event. Bottom: Attorneys and firefighters join forces for the “Wills for Heroes” program. From left: Assistant Public Defender Allison Rasbury; Cookeville firefighter Cody Mitchell; Assistant District Attorney and president of the Upper Cumberland Young Lawyers Association Phil Hatch; Chief Kendrick; attorney Jason Hicks, vice president of the Putnam Bar Association; Lt. Terry Priest; Legal Aid Society attorney Rachel Moses; engineer Paul Parrish; and firefighter Travis Lee.
Hiyam Abdulrazzaq, a native of Kurdistan, came to the United States with her family as a refugee from Iraq 10 years ago. Her struggles to assimilate to her new life were compounded by an abusive husband who wouldn’t allow her to learn English or make new friends. She sought the help of the Legal Aid Society to get a divorce and become a U.S. citizen.

The Legal Aid Society helped Hiyam separate from her husband in 2006. Since then, she learned to speak English and, with the help of the Legal Aid Society, applied to become a naturalized U.S. citizen. Her citizenship was granted in 2010.

“When she came to us, Hiyam couldn’t speak English and was completely dependant on her abusive husband,” said Jean Crowe, an attorney who worked on the case. “We helped her find the confidence and strength to end her abusive marriage.”

In October 2010, the Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic Violence awarded Hiyam an Outstanding Survivor Award at the “Meet Us at the Bridge” event, which honored victims of domestic violence.

“David Kozlowski was up front with me about all possible outcomes of my case. I believe I received the best representation possible. The people in your organization truly care that the poor have access to legal representation regardless of their income.”

—Melissa Smith, Columbia, Legal Aid Society client

Bar Associate Young Lawyers Division. Rachel also participated in the “Wills for Heroes” program, during which lawyers drafted wills and provided free estate planning services for firefighters, police officers, paramedics and EMT’s, and their spouses.


Pete Frierson [office manager and paralegal, Columbia] and Bill Mielke [VOCA paralegal, Tullahoma] were elected as members-at-large to the executive committee of the Adult Abuse Coalition of South Central Tennessee.

The Legal Aid Society developed a new website that is easier to navigate and contains more information about Legal Aid Society services. Visit the new site at www.las.org.

The Legal Aid Society reached out to Music Row in its first annual Music Row Breakfast. Eighty community and civic leaders from Music Row attended the event, co-sponsored by Loeb &
Loeb and Burr & Forman. The event provided an overview of the Legal Aid Society’s mission and services to Music Row leaders.

The Baptist Healing Trust awarded the Legal Aid Society a $40,200 grant to fund the Adams Kirshner Medical Legal Partnership for Children (MLPC). The MLPC is a collaboration between the Legal Aid Society and the Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt that provides free legal aid to patients and families who have legal problems that affect the success of medical treatment. The MLPC also received a $15,000 grant from Boston Medical Center.

The U.S. Internal Revenue Services awarded the Tennessee Taxpayer Project $94,494 to continue the Low Income Taxpayer Clinic. The clinic is widely recognized as one of the most effective in the nation. Tennessee Taxpayer Project staff routinely provides support for other clinics across the country. Robert Nadler [attorney, Nashville] wrote and produced a handbook for cases involving innocent spouse relief. The IRS regularly invites Mary Michelle Gillum [attorney, Oak Ridge] to present training to IRS agents on new programs that affect low-wage families.

The federal Office of Violence Against Women, U. S. Dept. of Justice, gave the Tennessee Partnership for Victim Safety and Justice a two-year $500,000 grant. The partnership between the Legal Aid Society and 13 other organizations provides more than 1,200 low-income domestic violence victims with free, comprehensive and high-quality legal representation.

Free for Life Ministries, Inc. provided the Legal Aid Society with a $20,000 grant to educate the public on human trafficking.

The Legal Aid Society received $40,000 from The Memorial Foundation to provide legal services to underserved minority groups and low-income senior citizens in Cheatham, Davidson, Robertson and Sumner counties.

Nashville Metro Council awarded the Legal Aid Society $180,000 as part of the Community Enhancement Fund. The funds provide free legal services to domestic violence victims plagued with long-term safety, stability and independence issues.

The Nashville Pro Bono Program held a slate of activities and events for Celebrate Pro Bono Month in October. These included a series of free legal advice clinics and a breakfast for pro bono attorneys.

The Tullahoma office received funding totaling $13,500 from the Administrative Office of the Courts to provide services to low-income domestic violence and sexual assault victims who have minor children by assisting them in divorce proceedings and establishing, modifying or enforcing parenting plans.

Legal Aid Society staff created an informational pamphlet that outlined tenants’ rights when dealing with bed bugs.

Nashville Legal Aid Society staff lawyers provided legal counsel for 46 individuals at Homeless Connect, a Metro Homeless Commission annual event that provides people experiencing homelessness with access to a broad range of services.

Thanks to a generous donation from Mrs. Lou McHugh, in 2010, 44 volunteer lawyers and 37 paralegals and law students provided help to 428 clients at the monthly William T. McHugh Walk-In Clinic.
Thanks to the generosity of many in our 48-county service area and the hard work of many volunteers, the Campaign for Equal Justice was a success. For the 2010 campaign, we received $709,895 from over 1,400 donors.

We appreciate the time and dedication of the 2010 Campaign Committee who spent 16 months raising money for the Legal Aid Society and Nashville Pro Bono Program.

2010 Campaign Chair
Charles W. Bone – Bone McAllester Norton

Community Chair
Chris Ferrell – SouthComm Communications

Large Firm Co-Chairs
Tonya Mitchem Grindon – Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz
James M. Weaver – Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis

Small Firm Co-Chairs
Nancy Krider Corley – Corley Henard Lyle Levy & Langford
Allen N. Woods – The Law Office of Woods & Woods

Judges Co-Chairs
The Hon. Angelita Blackshears Dalton – Davidson County General Sessions Court
The Hon. Carol L. McCoy – 20th Judicial District, Pt. 2

Government Attorneys
Robert E. Cooper, Jr. – Tennessee Attorney General

Corporate Attorneys/
Williamson County Attorneys

Clarksville Chair
M. Joel Wallace

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Caroline E. Knight

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Debrah K. Frizzell & Terry S. Frizzell

Murfreesboro Chair
Paul T. DeHoff

Oak Ridge Chair
G. Wilson Horde

Tullahoma Co-Chairs
Ralph McBride, Jr. – Bedford County
Robert A. McCray – Coffee County
J. Mark Stewart – Franklin County
Christina Flury Sitz – Grundy County
Randall E. Self – Lincoln County
John P. Partin – Warren County

“Judy Oxford is nothing short of incredible! She was always accessible and guided me every step of the way. The services were an answer to prayer.” —Cecilia Sherrer, Williamson County, Nashville Pro Bono Program client

Representatives of the 32 law firms that comprise the Leadership Cabinet of the Legal Aid Society annual campaign.
The 1,000-year flood that struck Middle Tennessee in May 2010 devastated the lives of hundreds of people. The Legal Aid Society was in place to help Tennesseans build new lives. Below is a sampling of this work:

The Legal Aid Society and Nashville Pro Bono Program participated in multiple flood clinics that touched on relevant legal topics that flood-affected individuals faced during the recovery and rebuilding process, such as landlord tenant/housing issues, insurance claims and replacing lost documents.

In the wake of the flood, more than 200 lawyers volunteered to work on cases generated from a free legal assistance hotline. Because of a partnership between the Legal Aid Society and the Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services, calls to the hotline could be translated into multiple languages. The hotline fielded more than 345 calls from Davidson County; 57 calls from Giles; and 42 calls from Shelby.
Robert Nadler [attorney, Nashville] wrote a widely distributed and highly acclaimed “Tax Guide for Flood Victims.” He was selected by Mayor Karl Dean’s Flood Recovery Team to be the principal speaker at community meetings throughout Nashville. During these seminars, local tax experts met with over 300 residents who had questions about amending 2009 and filing 2010 tax returns.

The Legal Aid Society prepared pamphlets with tax advice for residents of the 46 federal disaster counties in Tennessee. PrintNet donated the printing of the first edition.

The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee awarded an initial $10,000 grant and then an additional $75,000 grant to the Legal Aid Society to provide direct legal assistance to flood survivors.

Lucinda Smith [director of the Nashville Pro Bono Program, Nashville] recorded a podcast on flood relief programs. She was also a member of the Davidson County Long Term Recovery Committee.
## Statement of Financial Position

**Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee**  
**And the Cumberlands**  
**December 31, 2010 and 2009**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$786,122</td>
<td>$413,171</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
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<td>2,961,595</td>
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<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>22,977</td>
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<td>Federal, State, and Local Grants Receivable</td>
<td>269,875</td>
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<td>Contributions Receivable</td>
<td>474,894</td>
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<td>Prepaid Expenses</td>
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<td>Property and Equipment, Net</td>
<td>319,859</td>
<td>362,328</td>
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<tr>
<td>Client Escrow Funds</td>
<td>6,951</td>
<td>9,744</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,099,108</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,652,815</strong></td>
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<th>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</th>
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<td><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$55,761</td>
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<td>Accrued Expenses and Other</td>
<td>541,556</td>
<td>520,583</td>
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<td>Client Escrow Deposits</td>
<td>6,951</td>
<td>9,744</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$604,268</strong></td>
<td><strong>$545,859</strong></td>
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<th>NET ASSETS</th>
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<td>Unrestricted:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undesignated</td>
<td>1,987,456</td>
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<tr>
<td>Designated for property and equipment</td>
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<td>362,328</td>
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<td>Total Unrestricted</td>
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<td>1,875,932</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>2,187,525</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,494,840</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,106,956</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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The financial statements of the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands for the years ended December 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009 were audited by KraftCPAs, PLLC. The audit was completed on April 21, 2011 and in the opinion of the auditors, these financial statements represent fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands. Copies of the complete sets of financial statements, including all footnotes, may be obtained from the Nashville office of the Legal Aid Society.
2010 Pro Bono Attorneys and Other Volunteers

The following people have donated their time and talents to further the mission of the Legal Aid Society. We thank them for their dedication and assistance. Please accept our apologies for any omissions.

**Cookville Office**
**Volunteer Attorneys**

Jeanne Schmitter

**Other Volunteer**

Vickie Andrews
Josh Bohannon
Dean Boles
James Bush
Sarah Bush
Hilary Levine
Page Martin
Jean Mayberry
Kara Maynard

**Gallatin Office**
**Volunteer Attorneys**

Richard Baranyi
Blair Dunigan
Brian Dunigan
Debrah Frizzell
Patti Gardner
Jean Ann Hall
James Hawkins
Nikki Himelbaugh
David Holmes
Nick Holton
Robert Lee
Randy Lucas
Susa Kelley
C. Tracey Parks
Ken Phillips
Jennifer Porth
Charles Racin

**Other Volunteers**

Will Hooper
Seth Kelley
Tyrrell Lumakin
Lauren Schmitt-Matzen
Nathan Shults

**Murfreeboro Office**
**Volunteer Attorneys**

John Baker
Jay Barger
Gary Beasley
Michelle Blaylock-Houser
Christine Bratton
Bill Burton
Kirk Catron

Clark & Washington
Mary Beth Hagan
Brad Hornsby
Jay Jackson
Kerry Knox
Sharelle Lacey
Chris Norris
Galen Pierce
Jerry Scott
Ewing Sellers
Mitch Shannon
Sandy Smith
Daryl South

Cynthia Barnett
Kathryn Barnett
Robin Barry
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Elaine Beeler
Jeffrey Beemer
Margaret Behm
Russell Belk
Rachel Bell
Shaneak Behvitt
C. Dewees Berry
Robert Biegelow
Susan Bilbro
Erin Bishop
Gary Blackburn
Keith Blair
Robert Blanchfield
Michael B. Blair
André Blumstein
Ben Bodzy
Charles Bone
Marcy Bove
James Bowden
Douglas Brace
Craig Brent
David Briley
Todd Bricker
Rebecca Brinkle
James Bristol
David Broemel
Jeremy Brook
Katherine Brown
Martin Brown
Kenneth Bryant
Alexander Buchanan
Charles Buckholts
Gregory Buppert
Derrek Burks
Sammy Burks
L. G. Buddy Burnett
John Burns
Julie Burnstein
Timothy Burrow
Catherine Butcher
Jack Butler
Jean Byasse
Kenneth Byrd
Rebecca Byrd
Karen Cain
Yvette Cain
Kelly Caisse
Mark Calandrillo
Rodney Caldwell
T. William Caldwell
Kathryn Calhoon
James Cameron
L. Webb Campbell
Patricia Campbell
Stuart Campbell
Grayson Cannon
Stace Caravage
Scott Corey
Colin Carnahan
Crystal Caro
Brigid Carpenter
Davise Carr
Brett Carter
Robert Carter
Brian Casper
Michael Castellarin
Diane Castle
Susan C. Castle
Charles Caudill
Vivekanand Chandra
David Changas
Cynthia Chappell
Will Cheek
Jeremy Cherry
Nathaniel Cherry
Lianne Childress
Kyong Choi
D. Kay Church
Glenn Civitts
John Claybrook
Terry Clayton
Chris Coates
Steve Cobb
Kant Cochran
Nathaniel Colburn
Crystal Cole
Jonathan Cole
Christopher Coleman
David Coleman
Rachel Coleman
Josh Coles
Joy Collier
Caldwell Collins
Matthew Colvard
R. Steven Connor
Charles Cook
Lauren Cooney
David Cooper
Dixie Cooper
George Coppie
Elena Coradini
Warren Lee Corbett
Nancy Corley
Helen Cornell
Roxana Correa
Geoffrey Coston
Wade Cowan
Steve Cox
Joseph Crace
Philip Cramer
Randi Crawford
Gina Crawley
Marcus Crider
Albert Wayne Crim
C. Diane Crosier
Charles Cross
Joseph Crump
Teresa Culber
J. Greer Cummings
Matthew Curley
Leslie Curry
Sherron Bailey
Fred Dance
Christina Bodewig
Dawidov
Joseph Dawidov
Daphne Davidson
Nico Davidson
Paul Phillip Davidson
R.E. Lee Davis
Daphne Davis
James Davis-Smith
John Dawson
Joy Day
George Dean
James DeLanis
Dawson
Troy Day
Bradley Frakes
Mark Fraley
George D. Freeman
David E. French
Debrah Frizzell
Patrick Froge
John Fuller
Craig Gabbert
Lauren Gaffney
Joel Galanter
Michael Gardner
Laurie Dudeney
Philip Duer
Kelly Duggan
Joseph K. Duchman
Charles Duke
H. Anthony Duncan
Jad Duncan
Catherine Dungan
Brian Dunigan
Chris Dunn
Larry Eastwood
Jennifer Eberle
Joel Eckert
Meredith Edwards
Sherri Edwards
Melissa Egan
April Enarson
Scott Eisen
Steven J. Eisen
Stephen Elliott
Martha Emerson
David Espuel
Mary Anne Evans
Lisa Ewing
Michael R. Ewing
Kenneth Pete Ezell
D. Alexander Fardon
John Farringer
J. Todd Faulkner
Kristin Feitoe
Carla Fenswick
Tara Ferguson
Victoria Ferraro
Lisa Fehweg
Pamela Finch
Daniel Flourney
Tom Forrester
Matthew Foster
Mary Foust
Susan Foxman
Bradley Frakes
Joy Day
Mark Fraley
Mark T. Freeman
Davidson French
Debrah Frizzell
Patrick Froge
John Fuller
Craig Gabbert
Lauren Gaffney
Joel Galanter
Michael Gardner
Scott Gardner
Robert Garfinkle
Rebecca Garland
Erica Garrison
James Michael George
Jennifer Graham
Andrew Gibson
Jeffrey Gibson
Michele Gibson, Jr.
Jessica Gichner
Harris Gilbert
John Gillmor
M. Bradley Gillmore
Paul Gunstuck
Joe Goodman
Robert Goodrich
Joanna Gordon
Paul Gottarek
Meg Gossett
Frank Grace
Stephen Wayne Grace
Stanley Graham
Charles Grant
B. Riney Green
Donna Green
Richard Green
John Griffin
Charles Griffith
J. Leigh Griffith
David Grimmett
Tonya Grindon
Alison King Griggo
J. Mitchell Grissim
Anna Grizzle
Gregory D. Groning
Sheryl D. Guinn
Alisha Guertin
Mary Beth Hagan
Larry Hager
M. Jason Hale
Peter Halverstadt
Amy Hampton
Perry Happell
William Harbison
Hal D. Hardin
Matthew Hardin
Drew Harpoot
W. Jay Harrfles
Penny Harrington
Fannie Harris
Matthew Harris
IN CASES CLOSED ON BEHALF OF TENNESSEANS SEEKING SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS

IN 2010, THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY AND THEIR PRO BONO PARTNERS GAINED $1,780,084 IN CASH ASSISTANCE AND MEDICAL INSURANCE.
2010 Annual Report – Donors

The list below is for the 2010 Campaign for Equal Justice. Those giving for specific purposes and through United Way campaigns are listed separately in sections that follow. Thank you to each of those listed for their generosity. Please accept our apologies for any omissions.

Carroll, Robert, Chairman
Kinnard, Clay, President
2010 Leadership Cabinet
Adams and Reese LLP
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkovitz, PC
Barrett, Johnston & Parsley
Bass, Berry & Sims PLC
Bone McAllester Norton PLLC
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP
Buffalo & Associates, PLC
Burr & Forman LLP
Cummins & Collins, LLP
Dickinson Wright PLLC
Cornelius & Collins, LLP
Dodd, Parker, Behm & Capparella, PC
Harwell Howard Hyne
Gullett, Sanford, Frost Brown Todd LLC
Frost Brown Todd LLC
Garinkle, McLeomore & Young, PLC
Gullett, Sanford, Robinson & Martin, PLLC
Harwell Howard Hyne, PLLC
Holt, Tanaka, Simon
Harwell Howard Hyne
Holt, Tanaka, Simon

Salas Law Group PLLC
Starr, O’Toole, PLLC
Stites & Harbison, PLLC
Terry & Gore
Thalikill Harris Wood & Boswell, PLLC
Trauger & Tuke
Tune, Entrenick & White, P.C.
Walker Lansden Dorch & Davis LLP
Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP

$5,000-$9,999
Silver Gavel
Harris A. Gilbert
Neil & Harwell, PLC
Jeannie & Steve Thomas

$2,500-$4,999
Guardians of Justice
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur H. Buhl III, The Buhl Family Advised Fund of The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
Michael & Janet Dagley
Karl Dean & Anne Davis
The Jane & Richard & Family Foundation
Drew & Carolyn Goddard

$1,000-$2,499
Pinnacle Financial Partners
Anonymous and Reese LLP
The Atticus Trust
Baultch Family Foundation
Frank & Melissa Bloch
Charles W. Bone
Chancellor Claudia Bonnyman & Gordon Bonnyman
Margaret C. Mazzone
Jennings, PLLC
Branstetter, Strachan &
Brewer, Krause, Brooks, Chastain & Burrow, PLLC
Kitty Calhoun & David Ettinger
James H. Cheek, III
Chase Cole
John R. Colvin
Chuck & Jackie Cowden
Jim DeRouin
Wallace W. Dietz
Jocelyn B. Dixon
Daniel Eisenstein
Dan Elrod
Norm Feaster
The Dorothy Cate & Thomas F. Frist Foundation
Craig Gabbert & Kay
Sandra Cobbe & John
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Pro Bono

Betty Webster, a 60-year-old substitute teacher supporting herself and a minor child, was sued for $15,000 over a car accident for which fault was unclear. At the time of the accident, Ms. Webster was uninsured and faced losing her driver’s license. Since she needed her license to drive to work, she feared the loss of her income and modest home.

The Nashville Pro Bono Program referred her to Alexander Buchanan of Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis. Mr. Buchanan negotiated a reasonable settlement for her, and helped her keep her job and a roof over her family’s heads.

“(Mr. Buchanan was] fast, respectful, kind, considerate and 100 percent efficient. A good public service for those in need and can’t afford legal help,” Ms. Webster said. “Continue as is, being there for those that need it when there is no other to turn to.”

“I could not have succeeded without Bill Hubbard’s help. And it’s a wonderful thing that a professional would volunteer his time and service to help out the needy.”

—Steve Eaton, Nashville, Nashville Pro Bono Program client
gave 144 issues that were Community Education 5,102 people, Common Civil legal presentations on increase over 2009. a two percent

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY GAVE 144 COMMUNITY EDUCATION PRESENTATIONS ON COMMON CIVIL ISSUES THAT WERE ATTENDED BY 5,102 PEOPLE, A TWO PERCENT INCREASE OVER 2009.
I was very pleased with the help and kindness that was given to me, and not to mention the patience. Andrae Crism is an awesome attorney."
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Clinic-In-A-Box

Adinah Robertson, Legal Aid Society community education coordinator, was appointed to chair a subcommittee of the Tennessee Supreme Court’s Access to Justice Commission to implement a “legal advice clinic-in-a-box” for the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) website. With the help of Bev Adcock, Legal Aid Society community educator, Adinah put together the box.

The purpose of the digital clinic-in-a-box is to provide forms, tools and recommended procedures that can be downloaded from the AOC website by any attorney or organization interested in starting a legal advice clinic. “With this virtual box, no one has to reinvent the wheel to start such a clinic,” Adinah said.

Materials in the clinic-in-a-box distill the experience of “walk-in legal clinics” (no appointment required) that give legal advice and counsel across Tennessee. The goal is to insure that materials for use by clients, such as intake forms, limited representation retainers and client satisfaction surveys, can be understood by clients with reading skills as low as fifth grade.

“We don’t want to confuse or embarrass the clients who seek help from a pro bono advice clinic,” Adinah said.

In August, we realized that clerks were still unaware of an amendment to the law that took effect July 1 increasing the personal property exemption from $4,000 to $10,000. As a result, litigants were not being informed of this increase as required by law, and warrants and summonses had not been updated. We reached out to all court clerks in the 10-county Cookeville service area and gave them new forms and materials on the subject. This information was also shared with the other seven Legal Aid Society offices and with the TALS Consumer and Housing Task Force.”

—Marla Williams, Managing Attorney, Cookeville
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