THE SEEDS OF JUSTICE

2012 ANNUAL REPORT
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Author Og Mandino said to “always seek out the seed of triumph in every adversity.” At Legal Aid Society, our clients face a world of adversity. Amidst this hardship, you are seeds of triumph who can restore hope and provide reassurance. Often those we serve have lost faith that the justice system is available to them as it is to those who can afford counsel. Providing that access and the resource available through the justice system can be a life-changing event for those we serve and for us who value the protections our justice system affords its citizens.

These seeds of triumph are made possible through the support of both members of our legal community and those outside the legal community who share our belief that one measure of the greatness of our society is the access to justice afforded our citizens regardless of their economic standing.

To the staff, volunteers and donors who continue to sow these triumphant seeds of justice, I, on behalf of the Board of Directors, express my deepest gratitude for your help in fulfilling the mission of the Legal Aid Society.

Thank you for doing your part in furtherance of this noble mission.

Jim Weatherly
President, Legal Aid Society Board of Directors

Just as a farmer dedicates his life to planting, tending, watering and harvesting his crops, we dedicate our careers, with the same fervent passion for results as a farmer, to helping families and individuals who have nowhere else to turn for legal help.

As the Greek poet Aeschylus once said, “From a small seed a mighty trunk may grow.” Within the pages of this annual report you will learn how planting and reaping the seeds of justice benefit those we serve, as well as entire communities. You also will hear stories from donors and learn why they give time and money to the Legal Aid Society.

In 2012, more than 1,700 donors planted the seeds of justice with a financial contribution to the Legal Aid Society, allowing us to serve over 7,000 people seeking equal access to justice.

Our continued success is made possible by the donors, volunteers and staff highlighted throughout these pages. We are grateful for their tremendous contributions.

Many continued thanks,

Gary D. Housepian
Executive Director, Legal Aid Society
“From a small seed a mighty trunk may grow.”
— Aeschylus

**PLANTING THE SEEDS OF JUSTICE**

Each seed sown in the fields of justice grows to provide access to life’s most basic necessities — food, water, shelter and security — to low income individuals and families who have nowhere else to turn. Every seed planted harvests our talents and abilities to provide free legal justice to the most vulnerable among us. When you plant the seeds of justice, you invest in the lives of others.

You give us the ability to:

**PROVIDE A STRONG VOICE** to people who feel broken and defeated by the justice system before a staff or pro bono attorney stands beside them and fights for their rights and fairness in court.

**RESTORE HOPE** to a mother and her children who desperately sought a safe reprieve from domestic abuse before our victim advocate and staff attorney helped them gain independence from their abuser.

**GIVE COMFORT** to a family who can keep their home after a staff or pro bono attorney resolves foreclosure or mortgage issues.

**BESTOW THE POWER OF KNOWLEDGE** to individuals through our community education and outreach efforts.

**KEEP NECESSARY SERVICES** for a child with severe disabilities to remain at home with family, after our attorneys file suit to dismiss service changes … and more.

**GROWING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE FROM SEEDS OF EVERY SIZE**

$25 donation provides 100 “15 Warning Signs” wallet cards for high school students who might be in violent relationships but don’t know the warning signs.

$100 donation provides one victim advocate at a docket call, giving support to 10 to 15 victims of domestic violence.

$250 donation provides 1,800 “Free Legal Help” brochures to help potential clients learn about how we can help them overcome legal challenges.

$750 donation provides a holistic intake process and legal representation by an attorney so a family can keep their home.

$1,500 donation provides a walk-in clinic for 50 people in need of an attorney for help on a civil legal issue.
REAPING THE SEEDS OF JUSTICE

We believe that you reap what you sow. In 2012, our efforts in the fight for justice reaped over $20 million in free legal advice and representation for Tennesseans and their families.

A Glance at Our Work in 2012:

- **$17,437,581** = the market value of advice and representation from staff.
- **20,739** requests received for assistance.
- **Over 7,000** people served.
- **65,922** legal self-help brochures distributed.
- **103** pro bono clinics held throughout our service area.
- **1,479** clients assisted at pro bono clinics.
- **166** community education presentations given on civil legal issues.
- **5,545** people attended community education presentations.
- **793** domestic violence cases handled.
- **Over 1,000** individuals obtained affordable housing or received help with keeping their homes.
- More than **$325,171.13** in unemployment insurance benefits obtained in **263** closed cases.
- **More than $800,000** in social security/disability benefits were garnered for clients in **510** cases.

**TN Taxpayer Project**

- Gained confirmed benefits for taxpayers of **$2,422,455.25**.
- Worked on **345** cases and assisted **470** taxpayers involving **$2,720,520.79** anticipated benefits.
- Prepared **286** original tax returns for non-filers, first-time filers and ESL taxpayers ancillary to outreach.
- Conducted **125** general outreach events that reached **1,275** service providers from public and private social service agencies and **12,707** other taxpayers.
- Conducted **244** educational events which reached **1,802** lawyers, CPAs and other volunteers and **15,955** other taxpayers.

**TYPES OF LEGAL ISSUES ADDRESSED IN 2012**

- **6%** employment
- **6%** health
- **27%** family
- **14%** housing
- **15%** income maintenance
- **16%** consumer
- **9%** miscellaneous (education, juvenile, legal assistance to nonprofits, licenses, municipal needs, other miscellaneous)
- **7%** wills/estates, advance directives/powers of attorney

**Types of legal issues addressed in 2012**

- Employment
- Health
- Family
- Housing
- Income maintenance
- Consumer
- Miscellaneous (education, juvenile, legal assistance to nonprofits, licenses, municipal needs, other miscellaneous)
- Wills/estates, advance directives/powers of attorney
The Legal Aid Society added Cara Alexander, Iris Buhl and Joseph Woodson to its COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL, which is composed of 22 members who serve as community and business ambassadors for the Legal Aid Society.

The Upper Cumberland Young Lawyers Association sponsored the first JOG & JAM FOR JUSTICE, a 5K run/walk which raised $1,000 for the Legal Aid Society.

The third annual LEGAL AID SOCIETY MUSIC ROW BREAKFAST served as a memorial to the late Bob Sullivan, a member of the Legal Aid Society board and driving force in raising awareness within Nashville’s music industry of the Legal Aid Society and the services it provides. Richard Green, VP for EMI Christian Music Group and Nashville Pro Bono Program Board member, received the first Bob Sullivan Service Award.

The Legal Aid Society and Nashville Community Education Commission offered 9 free legal classes to 71 attendees through the PEOPLE’S LAW SCHOOL program at Cohn Learning Center.

The Nashville Pro Bono Program collaborated with several law firms to provide free monthly legal assistance at OPERATION STAND DOWN NASHVILLE.

Funded by a nationwide settlement between the state attorneys general and major banks engaged in questionable mortgage practices, the Legal Aid Society launched a new initiative to HELP TENNESSEE HOMEOWNERS FACING FORECLOSURE and mortgage rescue scams.

THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS awarded the Tullahoma office four grants totaling $18,118 to provide assistance in divorce proceedings and parenting plan modifications to low-income domestic violence and sexual assault victims with minor children in four judicial districts.

THE HCA FOUNDATION provided funding to support the Middle Tennessee Legal Partnership as well as to aid the annual campaign. HCA employees stuffed envelopes for the annual campaign for HCAs Community Day.
LABORING IN THE FIELD OF JUSTICE: 2012 STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

BAPTIST HEALING TRUST provided $40,388 to continue supporting the Middle Tennessee Medical Legal Partnership, which includes the United Neighborhood Health Services clinics and Vanderbilt University’s medical student-run Shade Tree Clinic.

Our Oak Ridge office partnered with LEGAL AID OF EAST TENNESSEE to provide supportive housing services to the homeless through a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Legal Aid Society and 19 victim services providers received a 3-year $500,000 domestic violence grant from the U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

The Legal Aid Society and DAYSpring Family Health Centers in Jellico, Campbell County, Tenn. formed a new Medical-Legal Partnership to address certain legal issues which interfere with medical treatment.

The INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE provided $100,000 in grant funds to the Tennessee Taxpayer Project.

MARIA ARVIZU, Nashville office victim advocate, was named Advocate of the Year by the Nashville Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

LINDSEY BARNES joined the Columbia office as the receptionist.

JANICE CAMPBELL joined the Oak Ridge office as a secretary.

ALLISON COOLEY joined the Nashville office as a staff attorney after being a contract attorney for several months.

LINDSEY COX was named grant administrator for the Legal Aid Society.

ANDRAE CRISMON, managing attorney of our Murfreesboro office, was chosen for the 2012-2013 Class of Leadership Middle Tennessee, an organization of community leaders working together to form long-term solutions that promote economic growth in Middle Tennessee communities.

KRISTIE CROW joined the Clarksville office as a victim advocate.

CINDY DURHAM, director of development, received the Jim Pryor Child Advocate of the Year Award from the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth.

KATIE EVANS, attorney in our Nashville office, was invited by the White House and the Department of Health & Human Services to a discussion at the White House about the Affordable Care Act.

ALYSSE GREGORY joined the Nashville Pro Bono Program as project coordinator.

CHERRELLE HOOPER joined the Gallatin office as a staff attorney after volunteering in the Murfreesboro office for several months.

DAVID KOZLOWSKI, assistant general counsel and Columbia managing attorney, was elected president of the Maury County Bar Association.

RACHEL MOSES, Clarksville office attorney, received Best Community Service Project and Outstanding Board Member Award from the Tennessee Bar Association Young Lawyer’s Division. In addition, she was elected president of the Putnam County Bar Association.

ANDREA REED joined the Legal Aid Society as the grant writer/development associate.

RAE ANNE SEAY, staff attorney, transferred from our Columbia office to our Tullahoma office.

VICTORIA WEBB, pro bono clinic coordinator, received the Liberty Bell Award at the Nashville Bar Association’s annual Law Day lunch.
CASE STUDY: JUSTICE FOR HENRIETTA

“Henrietta” was a 65-year-old woman battling illness. She had given her son and daughter-in-law Powers of Attorney, but they were abusing their powers. Henrietta learned that her son and daughter-in-law had not paid the mortgage on her home for the past two months and were instead using her money for their own personal needs. They were not on her bank account, but were able to get money from the account by showing their Powers of Attorney.

Henrietta contacted the Legal Aid Society to get help to stop them from spending her money in the future. The Legal Aid Society did a revocation of the Powers of Attorney and sent a letter to the bank, along with a copy of the revocation. The bank will no longer allow Henrietta’s son and daughter-in-law to withdraw from her account. Henrietta said that if the Legal Aid Society had not drawn up the revocation for her, her son and daughter-in-law may have caused her to lose her home.

“\n\n“I gave to the Legal Aid Society this year when they were listed on our Dollars for Denim recipients at work. I was happy to help an organization that helped me years ago. I was about 20 years old when the Legal Aid Society helped me because I had been wrongfully sued for a car wreck I wasn’t involved in. I remember leaving the Legal Aid office and really believing it when I was told everything would be all right. And it was. I give to Legal Aid Society because I know how desperately people in our community need their services.”

CAROLYN HILL

$25 with $50 match from her employer
GROWING THE SEEDS OF JUSTICE: THE 2012 CAMPAIGN FOR EQUAL JUSTICE

Thanks to the generosity of many in our 48-county service area and the hard work of many volunteers, the 2012 Campaign for Equal Justice was the most successful ever. We exceeded our goal of $720,000 by more than $46,000 – collecting $766,826 from 1,691 donors.

We are extremely grateful for the time and dedication given by the 2012 campaign committee who spent 18 months raising money for the Legal Aid Society and Nashville Pro Bono Program.

2012 CAMPAIGN CHAIR
James A. DeLanis
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz

COMMUNITY CHAIR
William P. Purcell III
Former Mayor of Metropolitan Nashville and attorney with Jones Hawkins Farmer

LARGE FIRM CO-CHAIRS
Andrée Blumstein
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J. Reginald Hill
Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis

SMALL FIRM CO-CHAIRS
Karla C. Hewitt
Karla C. Hewitt & Associates

Phillip H. Miller
Phillip Miller & Associates

Edgar M. Rothschild
Rothschild & Ausbrooks

GOVERNMENT CHAIR
William E. Young
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JUDGES CO-CHAIRS
Chancellor Carol L. McCoy
20th Judicial District, Pt. 2

Judge Dan Eisenstein
General Sessions Court, Div. 2

CORPORATE CHAIR
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Community Health Systems

WILLIAMSON COUNTY CO-CHAIRS
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CLARKSVILLE CHAIR
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Robert A. Croy
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J. Mark Stewart
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FRANKLIN AND GRUNDY COUNTIES

Randall E. Self
LINCOLN COUNTY

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Galligan & Newman
WARREN COUNTY

The 2012 Campaign for Equal Justice Leadership Cabinet.

Gary Housepian (Executive Director), Susan Kay, Charles Grant and Jim Delanis (2012 Campaign Chair) at the Campaign for Equal Justice kickoff luncheon.
SPREADING THE SEEDS OF JUSTICE: VOLUNTEER WORK

As the need for free legal assistance continually grows, volunteer support from our offices and the Nashville Pro Bono Program increases our ability to provide meaningful service to as many people as possible.

We extend gratitude to those who dedicated their passion and professionalism to help those less fortunate find hope and relief in their darkest hour of need.

In 2012, a total of 928 pro bono attorneys throughout the 48-county service area donated 9,468 hours of service, handled 2,688 cases and provided free legal help worth $2,758,042.

BREAKDOWN OF VOLUNTEER WORK BY OFFICE

CLARKSVILLE: 38 volunteer attorneys
COLUMBIA: 8 volunteer attorneys
COOKEVILLE: 9 volunteer attorneys
GALLATIN: 14 volunteer attorneys
MURFREESBoro: 17 volunteer attorneys
OAK RIDGE: 19 volunteer attorneys
TULLAHOMA: 15 volunteer attorneys

43 WALK-IN CLINICS WERE HELD OUTSIDE NASHVILLE, SERVING OVER 200 CLIENTS.

NASHVILLE

IN 2012, THE NASHVILLE PRO BONO PROGRAM HAD A RECORD-BREAKING 815 VOLUNTEER ATTORNEYS HANDLE 2,421 CASES.

The program added 157 new attorneys and had 115 attorneys come back to the program after more than two years of absence.

The Nashville office coordinated 60 pro bono clinics attended by 1,272 people.

All in all, Nashville pro bono attorneys logged 8,871.76 hours of billable time, equating to roughly $1,774,352 in free legal help.
“Jennifer” was a young, pregnant mother from Murfreesboro whose unborn child was battling PKU, a rare condition that prevents the body from breaking down an amino acid. Left untreated, PKU can cause severe mental retardation, brain damage and seizures in an unborn child. TennCare provided Jennifer a low-protein formula to help with her unborn child’s development and to help Jennifer maintain a healthy pregnancy weight. When Jennifer came to the Legal Aid Society, she was 124 pounds and seven months into her pregnancy. Her doctor and dietician had strongly recommended Jennifer gain at least 35 additional pounds for this pregnancy.

With her dietician’s help, Jennifer asked TennCare to provide her with low-protein foods to help gain the additional 35 pounds she needed for the pregnancy. TennCare denied this request because low protein foods were not covered under the program for a person over the age of 21. Jennifer and her dietician went to a hearing and fought to get the foods. After the hearing, Jennifer’s dietician then contacted the Legal Aid Society.

Ultimately, the Administrative Law Judge ruled in favor of Jennifer getting the low-protein foods. After working with her dietician and getting help from Legal Aid Society, Jennifer received the food she needed and her pregnancy weight rose to 182 pounds. She now has given birth to a healthy baby girl who is showing strong signs of living a life without PKU.
We thank them for their dedication and assistance. Please accept our apologies for any omissions.
“I knew of Legal Aid Society. I knew they provided legal assistance to people who couldn’t afford it, and I always thought that was important. I never knew how valuable their work would be to me personally until I needed help carrying out my dream of creating a free clinic in my hometown of Beersheba Springs. To get the clinic up and running, I needed help filling a 501(c)(3) and was pointed to Legal Aid Society attorney Neil McBride. Neil gave me free advice and the information I needed to complete the form. With his help, we opened Beersheba Springs Medical Clinic in 2010, and since then have provided free medical care to more than 1,000 people. I give to Legal Aid Society because it’s part of how we can all help each other achieve greater things for our communities.”

– Debby Boone
COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Over $5,000 plus 65-85 hours of time

Lawyers from the Community Health Systems Professional Services Corporation Legal Department contributed over $5,000 to the Legal Aid Society, matched by Community Health Systems Foundation. In addition, members of the Legal Department donate approximately 65 to 85 hours of free legal counsel annually through a clinic at the Williamson County Public Library. “As members of this community, we realize the importance of giving our time and abilities to serve our neighbors, and as lawyers, we all have an affinity for and an ability to contribute to the work of the Legal Aid Society. For us, this is an opportunity to use our legal skills to help individuals who might not otherwise be able to afford legal services.”

– Rachel A. Seifert, Executive Vice President & General Counsel
Forever scarred physically and emotionally by horrific events that took place, Lindsey Arp, with the help of Legal Aid Society, took a stand against domestic violence.

Lindsey's battle with domestic violence began early with verbal and physical abuse, threats, intimidation and control from her boyfriend. Concerned for her own safety as well as her children's, Lindsey endured the abuse for four-and-a-half years because she didn’t know how to safely escape the relationship.

After Lindsey finally gained the courage to end the relationship, she fell victim to one of the most heinous acts of domestic violence that the Legal Aid Society has ever encountered. In retaliation for ending the relationship, her abuser boiled a large stockpot of oil and doused Lindsey with it while she was asleep—instantly scalding and disfiguring most of her body. She spent the next four months fighting for her life in the intensive care and burn units.

Shortly after the attack, Lindsey’s sister contacted the Legal Aid Society for legal help and advice. The Legal Aid Society provided holistic legal services to Lindsey, with five attorneys assisting her in nine different cases involving various services like filing for, obtaining, and extending an Order of Protection; executing a will; durable power of attorney for financial matters and durable power of attorney for healthcare decisions; filing a victim’s compensation claim and more.

On the outside, she is scarred and burned front to back from her head to her thigh, has lost the use of one ear and one eye, and has significantly limited use of one hand and one arm. Due to the extensive third-degree burns, Lindsey had a heart attack and technically “died” three times in the hospital. She’s had 15 surgeries and five procedures so far, including many skin grafts, and more surgeries are in her future.

But on the inside, Lindsey is fighting an emotional battle everyday to regain her strength and hope for a normal life. Through the legal confidence gained from Legal Aid Society and the emotional support of her community and local organizations, Lindsey is living proof of how Legal Aid Society helps domestic violence victims gain independence from their abusers and live a life free of abuse.

The criminal case against Lindsey’s abuser concluded on July 20, 2012 in Marshall County Circuit Court. He was found guilty of attempted first-degree murder and other charges.

*Every day, I am fighting to get my life back and it’s my hope that other women who hear my story will fight for their independence as well. Legal Aid Society can help you start the process of regaining your life before it’s too late.*

— Lindsey Arp
TOM FIELDER
1,100 volunteer hours completed since December 2011, and donated six Southwest vouchers

“In every adversity there lies the seed of an equivalent advantage” – Robert Collier

“My first work with the Legal Aid Society was in August 2011, completing 50 volunteer hours for a law school class credit. After my first day at the Legal Aid Society, I was hooked. Right away, they gave me a tremendous amount of responsibility, appreciated me and valued my contribution to their organization. I quickly realized the huge impact that the Legal Aid Society was making in the lives of others. The work we do gives people the resources they need to put justice back in their favor. I give my time and resources to Legal Aid Society because I love making it a fair fight for those who are at a disadvantage.”

VOLUNTEERS

Phillip Welty
Rachel Welty
Michael Wennerlund
William West
Mark Westlake
Joseph Wheeler
Robert Wheeler
Anita White
R. Kreis White
Thomas White
John Whitesell
Gary Wicks
Gerald Wigger
Kristi Wilcox
John Williams
Scott Williams
Michael Williamson
Christopher Wilson
Patrick Witherington
DouglasWolford
Bradley Wood
Aaron Woodard
James Woodard
Heather Wright
Jeff Yarbrough
Tyler Yarbrough
Lin Ye
Kimika Young
Kyle Young
Elaine Youngblood
Mathew Zenner
Emily Zibart
MaryRoseZingale
KatieMathewsZipper
LeslieZmugg

Volunteers for Nashville Pro Bono Program
Alan Antes
Lara Ansaaf
R. Chris Babagbou
Amanda Baily
Danielle Barav
Ikela Bass
ShetimaBaugh
Lori Bervoets
Katori Brown
Jordan Carson
Carlos Chavez-Brin
John Church
Chase Cunningham
Allison DeVore-Williams
EljayElia
John Elrod
ElizabethEstes
Wayne Fink
Mary Fleming
Stephen Fowler
Joy Gallagher
ReneeGarrett
Lori Gonzalez
Dilia Gonzalez-Mann
Veronica Gordon
Charles(Chad)Graves
MaraHampton
Martia Hayden
Elizabeth Hernandez
Michael Jonghi
BethanyKesler
MaryFletcherKing
Amber King
Pam Knodlin
Lori Leonard
Tiffany Lipscomb
Rebecca Loegering
JonLong
LauraMalament
RedmondMcGrath
Rachel Militana
Lawrence Moore
MorganMorrison
MishaeNevis
RolandNims
MelissaOutten
Teresa Parker
Andrea Patton
VanessaPaff
Susan Pinn
Jeanne Prest°n
Geoff Pyle
Megan Pyle
Ann Radford
Holly Reha
David Ricci
David Roberts
Jean Rodby
Jeff Rosman
Patricia Santiago
Josephine Savage
Alexandra Spartz
Rachel Stone
Elizabeth Swenson
Ashley Timley
Kelley Towne
Donna Trone
Kurt Vincent
Dan Williams
ScottWilliams
Elizabeth Wise
Maralee Wite
Clay Bass Wood

Phonathon volunteers
Mary Beth Ausbrooks
Ashley Nation Basset
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Anne Marie Kempf
Kim Harvey Looney
Janae Magee
W. Kenneth Marlow
Carrie Wilshire
McCutcheon
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Jacob R. Nemer
Teressa Webb Oglesby
Gregory J. Pease
Joseph Rosson “Ross” Pepper, Jr.
Henry S. Quener, III
Colby B. Reagan
Nicholas A. Rew
John G. (Gabe) Roberts

Scott Williams
Elizabeth Wise
Maralee Wite
Clay Bass Wood

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Please accept our apologies for any omissions.

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“THE HELP I RECEIVED FROM LEGAL AID WAS WONDERFUL. THERE AREN’T WORDS TO DESCRIBE THIS ORGANIZATION — ONLY PRAISE, ADORATION AND EXCELLENCE. LEGAL AID/JANET MYNATT [ATTORNEY, OAK RIDGE] SAVED MY HOME, SAVED MY LIFE. I’LL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL FOR THE HELP I RECEIVED.”

— OAK RIDGE CLIENT

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from being poor, and their human basic rights. There are all protecting struggling individuals and defend what Legal Aid Society does—they Facebook page and Skypes with one of them. Now, this student can read at a basic that the school pay ETTAC to work with the school and got the courts to require gonna learn.” They had him removed from Legal Aid Society filed suit against his in independent life. I’ve seen the difference and master skills needed to maintain an disabilities learn how to use technology have the opportunity to help people with Technology Access Center (ETTAC), I service to those in need.

In my job at the East Tennessee Technology Access Center (ETTAC), I have the opportunity to help people with disabilities learn how to use technology and master skills needed to maintain an independent life. I’ve seen the difference that Legal Aid Society has made in the lives of many of our students. For one student who suffers from cerebral palsy, Legal Aid Society filed suit against his school after they told his mother, “It ain’t gonna learn.” They had him removed from the school and got the courts to require that the school pay ETTAC to work with him. Now, this student can read at a basic level, navigate the Internet, has his own Facebook page and Skypes with one of my coworkers sometimes. To me, that’s what Legal Aid Society does—they protect struggling individuals and defend their human basic rights. There are all types of frustrating circumstances derived from being poor, and I give to Legal Aid Society because they take care of the poor and provide a specialized support service to those in need.”
I am writing this for my mother. There are not enough wonderful things I can say about attorney David Tarpley [Lead Attorney-Consumer/Housing, Nashville] & Legal Aid of Middle Tennessee. Mr. Tarpley helped win a judgment for my 88-year-old mother. Mom & I call Attorney Tarpley & his staff our “Guardian Angel.” He saved what little my mom has left of her retirement money through fighting a $30,000 lawsuit. Neither Mom nor I could have afforded an attorney. If it were not for your wonderful agency I cannot let myself think of what that outcome would have been. All of your people are wonderful.”  

— Nashville client
"Rachel Moses [attorney, Cookeville] went beyond the call of duty to help me. Thanks to her I feel safe again. She worked around my schedule for our appointments and was always understanding. I was so blessed she was my lawyer."

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When I had an issue with my landlord a few years ago, I sought the advice of the Legal Aid Society. They helped me understand my rights as a tenant, and gave me the power to take action and resolve the problem. I give to Legal Aid Society because I believe in their mission and the tremendous work they do.”
I've been giving to Legal Aid Society for about 40 years. There is a constant need for the services that Legal Aid Society offers. As a lawyer, I feel it's my responsibility to fight for those who cannot fight for themselves and to these individuals Legal Aid Society is a place of hope. I give to Legal Aid Society because I'm convinced it fills a great need in the services it provides to our community.

Susan has given over $28,000 in the last 40 years.

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Susan has given over $28,000 in the last 40 years.

“I've been giving to Legal Aid Society for about 40 years. There is a constant need for the services that Legal Aid Society offers. As a lawyer, I feel it's my responsibility to fight for those who cannot fight for themselves and to these individuals Legal Aid Society is a place of hope. I give to Legal Aid Society because I'm convinced it fills a great need in the services it provides to our community.”
"Dear Tabitha Tackett [victim advocate, Clarksville], I was extremely scared. I was in ‘panic mode’. I was not thinking clearly. I did not understand what I needed to do to help myself. You explained the process (over & over) because I didn’t understand. You made my situation better, and I have some protection now. You were with me every step of the way. Thank you so much for assisting me. I didn’t know what to do, and I didn’t know where to go for help. You listened when others did not. I appreciate your time and patience with me."

— Clarksville client
From 2005 to 2009, a foreclosure scam artist persuaded many struggling homeowners that he could save them from foreclosure. He convinced clients to temporarily give him their property and title, essentially becoming their landlord, and entering into a lease-purchase deal.

For a period of time, he would take over their mortgage, and promised homeowners they would eventually be given the option of purchasing it back from him at a ‘bargain price’ if they could afford it. Unbeknownst to homeowners, he would obtain his own, much larger, mortgage on the property by using a fraudulent title company that did whatever he needed to make it appear legitimate to outside lenders. After the housing bubble burst in 2009, new business stopped coming in, and the scam artist couldn’t pay the new loans he had created for existing clients, which led to the foreclosure of all the homes he had in his name.

Many victims have filed suit against the scam artist, who has fled the state.

Legal Aid Society helped some of those victims seek judgments and non-dischargeable claims.

These clients know that collection of their judgment will probably not be possible, but they do have the satisfaction of knowing that at least they obtained large judgments.
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The Beacons of Justice Society—

The Beacons of Justice Society will continue to shine a light on the path to justice for all and help
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planning please notify Cindy Durham at 615-780-7125 or cdurham@las.org.

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Cannon Counties
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County
United Way of Wilson County
West Tennessee Legal Services

CHARLES WARFIELD

Legal Aid Society Board Member and first Campaign Chair

“When I was asked to chair the Legal Aid Society’s first campaign in 1987, I had long been aware of the need to provide free, comprehensive and high-quality legal representation for victims who cannot afford it. I’ve been dedicated to solving this issue ever since. We’ve been very blessed the last 25 years with supporters and dedicated staff who realize the importance of our efforts and donate both their time and money to the fight for justice. I give to the Legal Aid Society because I believe in its mission and its ability to continue producing outstanding results.”

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Smoky Mountain Region
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Administrative Office of the Courts
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Tennessee Bar Foundation
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Nashville
United Way of Rutherford and
Cannon Counties
United Way of Sumner County
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United Way of Wilson County
West Tennessee Legal Services

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**LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE AND THE CUMBERLANDS**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2012 AND 2011**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$841,054</td>
<td>$665,892</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>3,648,135</td>
<td>3,515,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>18,734</td>
<td>23,827</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants Receivable</td>
<td>112,504</td>
<td>222,915</td>
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<td>Contributions Receivable</td>
<td>495,692</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>80,504</td>
<td>74,243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and Equipment, Net</td>
<td>253,459</td>
<td>307,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client Escrow Funds</td>
<td>29,723</td>
<td>7,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,479,805</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,313,010</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$30,656</td>
<td>$53,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Expenses and Other</td>
<td>372,837</td>
<td>564,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client Escrow Deposits</td>
<td>29,723</td>
<td>7,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$433,216</strong></td>
<td><strong>$624,941</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undesignated</td>
<td>2,709,032</td>
<td>2,276,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated for Property and Equipment</td>
<td>253,459</td>
<td>307,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Unrestricted</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,962,491</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,584,369</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>2,084,098</td>
<td>2,103,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,046,589</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,688,069</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** | **$5,479,805** | **$5,313,010** |

The financial statements of the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands for the years ended December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 were audited by KraftCPAs, PPC. The audit was completed on April 22, 2013 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.
"Part of my job, as a professor of women’s studies, is to help students understand how to live strong, independent lives. Many women fall victim to domestic violence and lose hope for gaining a life of independence away from their abuser. That’s why I called on the Legal Aid Society to lecture my students on the struggles of domestic violence and how to fight it. If I can help one woman see the signs of danger or know how to help a friend or loved one escape the perils of domestic violence, we’ve done our part to developing strong citizens for our community. To show our support for the Legal Aid Society, every year, we donate a portion of proceeds from the spring production Vagina Monologues back to the organization. We give to Legal Aid Society because we support a woman’s path to justice.”
LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE
AND THE CUMBERLANDS
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United Way

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