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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear colleagues and supporters:

Legal Aid Society has always been, and continues to be, a deeply committed advocate for those most needing fairness in our justice system. The work of our staff and volunteers is as rewarding as it is imperative, but it is never complete.

Even the most far-reaching and ambitious organization cannot support all of a community’s needs. As such, referrals are one of the most important tools of partnerships aimed to provide holistic wellness. Having a strong network to turn to, an organization can offer direction and alternative solutions when answers cannot be found within its own walls.

Every partnership we have cultivated with another organization helps us better seek out and address the most pressing issues in each community we serve, so that we can make the greatest impact possible through the law. Together, organizations, leaders and communities can band together for a stronger Tennessee and find lasting ways to improve our communities.

In these pages, you will find stories of the organizations and people who walk beside Legal Aid Society as partners in our mission. Some are new to helping us serve those in need. Some have been a trusted ally for years. Each one represents a piece of our foundation – and a partner in justice.

With continued thanks,

Gary D. Housepian
Executive Director, Legal Aid Society

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Dear friends:

For thousands of people in our communities, justice is viewed as a luxury only afforded to those who can pay for it. Every day, Legal Aid Society works to chip away at that perception and, for many, that reality, by providing free civil legal assistance to those who would otherwise not have full and equal access to our justice system.

This work could not be accomplished without the generous gifts of time and money from businesses and foundations, lawyers and community leaders, and individuals who simply have a passion for equal justice for all. Each and every gift bestowed to Legal Aid Society is used to support access to free legal resources to those in need, and thereby tangibly fulfills this passion shared by so many of us.

It is essential that this work endures, lest we promote a culture in which only those who can afford justice are those who can obtain it.

Thank you for each donation, each hour of assistance you have offered pro bono and every step you’ve taken with us along this journey. No act of generosity goes unnoticed.

Sincerely,

John T. Blankenship
President, Legal Aid Society Board of Directors
BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR JUSTICE

Legal Aid Society is charged with a mission to advance, defend and enforce the rights of people who are at risk of losing the basic necessities of life – food, shelter, health and safety. By building a strong alliance with community partners across Middle Tennessee and the Cumberland Plateau, we are able to reach out to those in need, providing them a source of help and hope.

In 2014, we established or continued partnerships with more than 100 community organizations across our service area. Each collaboration helps us:

UNDERSTAND NEEDS
We have eight offices to cover a service area that encompasses more than 20,000 square miles. Working with local organizations allows us to get an accurate pulse on the problems most prevalent in the different communities we serve. Our partners are our eyes and ears.

ADVANCE ACCESS TO JUSTICE
Our partners not only provide insights into where we are most needed, but they also play a powerful role in expanding access to justice to people within their communities by sharing our legal self-help materials or providing a referral to one of our offices.

WORK EFFICIENTLY
As a non-profit organization committed to making the largest impact possible, we must be good stewards of our resources. Working with community partners allows us to utilize our time and money efficiently. Whether it is multiple organizations pooling resources to meet a common need - like legal training - or working together on a funded project, our partners widen our footprint.

We are grateful to the organizations listed below, which are only a sampling of the many that offer their time, resources and leadership as trusted partners in advocating justice for all:

- Aid to Distressed Families of Appalachian Counties
- Alliance for Community Outreach
- Avalon Center
- Bridge Refugee Knoxville
- Bridges Domestic Violence Center
- Cannon County S.A.V.E.
- Cannon County Senior Center
- Cease, Inc.
- Center for Family Development
- Center of Hope
- Centerstone
- Circuit Court Clerk Offices throughout our service area
- City of Knoxville Community Development
- Clarksville Police Department
- Columbia State Community College
- Community Health of East Tennessee
- Community Helpers of Rutherford County
- Davidson County Sheriff’s Office
- Domestic Violence Program, Inc.
- Families in Crisis, Inc.
- Family Advocacy at Ft. Campbell
- Fayetteville Care and Rehab
- Fayetteville Housing Authority
- Ft. Campbell Family Resource Center
- Gallatin C.A.R.E.S.
- Genesis House
- Good Neighbor Mission
- Goodwill Career Solutions
- Greeneville Ministries
- Grundy County Health Council
- The Haven of Hope, Inc.
- Hendersonville Senior Citizens Center
- Higher Ground Worship Center
- HomeSafe, Inc.
- Knox County Health Department
- Kymari House, Inc.
- La Vergne Senior Citizens Center
- Manchester Housing Authority
- Mary Parrish Center
- Metro Action Commission
- Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency
- Morning Star Sanctuary
- Mt. Pleasant Senior Center
- Murfreesboro Housing Authority
- Nashville Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Nashville Conflict Resolution Center
- Nashville Rescue Mission
- Neighborhood Health
- Oak Ridge Library
- Oak Ridge Medical Center
- Operation Stand Down Tennessee
- Primary Care and Hope Clinic
- Rutherford County Correctional Work Center
- SafeHouse
- Scott County Women’s Shelter
- Shade Tree Clinic
- The Shelter, Inc.
- Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition
- Warren County Senior Center
- Women Are Safe, Inc.
- YWCA of Nashville and Middle Tennessee

4 The Power of Partnerships | 2014 Annual Report
The work of our staff, volunteers and community partners is an ongoing testament to the capabilities of Legal Aid Society. In 2014, we provided more than **$20.2 million** in advice and representation to people who could not afford an attorney.

### A GLANCE AT OUR WORK IN 2014:

- Legal Aid Society received **15,575** requests for assistance.
- Legal Aid Society handled **7,466** cases for low-income individuals.
- **188,337** community education materials were downloaded from our website.
- **244,721** hits on our website.
- Legal Aid Society staff gave **284** presentations.
- **5,858** people attended community education presentations.
- **45,502** legal self-help brochures were distributed.
- Print media mentioned Legal Aid Society **299** times.
- **322** community events were held as part of the Tennessee Taxpayer Project.
- **$3,379,347** obtained in federal income tax benefits for low-income families through the Tennessee Taxpayer Project.

### TYPES OF LEGAL ISSUES ADDRESSED IN 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consumer</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment (including taxes)</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family (includes education, juvenile)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income Maintenance</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Rights</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*Janet Mynatt [Managing Attorney] gave me good legal advice and is a very nice lady, and I appreciate and enjoyed meeting her. She is very understanding about my situation, and I’m very thankful.*

– Oak Ridge client
The Power of Partnerships | 2014 Annual Report

Legal Aid Society and the Nashville Community Education Commission offered 31 free legal classes to 262 attendees through the People’s Law School program.

The American Bar Association’s Section of Litigation Legal Services Access to Justice Committee awarded Legal Aid Society a $5,000 Justice Assistance Fund Grant to expand and deepen relationships with rural attorneys, private law firms, government agencies and private businesses for Legal Aid Society’s Volunteer Lawyers Program, as well as to expand its Campaign for Equal Justice.

Baptist Healing Trust provided $55,000 to support Legal Aid Society’s Middle Tennessee Medical-Legal Partnership, which provides free, direct legal services to low-income patients through partnerships with United Neighborhood Health Services and Vanderbilt University’s student-run Shade Tree Clinic.

NALSA...the association for legal professionals, Nashville Chapter raised $2,700 for Legal Aid Society during its second annual NALS After Hours Silent Auction event.

Legal Aid Society was one of three Tennessee organizations to receive a $50,000 AmeriCorps planning grant administered by Volunteer Tennessee.

Legal Services Corporation awarded Legal Aid Society a $78,862 Technology Initiative Grant to support videoconferencing technology.

MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger awarded Legal Aid Society $13,000 in funding to support anti-hunger efforts.

Legal Aid Society’s Murfreesboro office expanded its community outreach by beginning monthly civil legal classes at the Rutherford County Correctional Work Center as part of TN-0 Family Resources and Information’s Journey of Life Academy, Mind, Body and Soul program.

Legal Aid Society’s Tullahoma office was able to continue preserving and fostering the relationships between children of divorce and their parents with grants totaling $12,000 from the Supreme Court of Tennessee, Administrative Office of the Courts.

The Tennessee Bar Foundation continued to champion Legal Aid Society’s cause through the IOLTA program with a grant of $122,153.

Legal Aid Society continued its partnership with Operation Stand Down Tennessee by providing a monthly walk-in legal clinic at OSDTN for veterans and their families, as well as giving direct legal services to those in this population who are homeless or at risk of being homeless.

The Nashville Bar Foundation granted Legal Aid Society $10,000 to expand legal assistance to immigrant and refugee communities throughout Nashville.

Legal Aid Society’s Volunteer Lawyers Program presented its 2014 Pro Bono Leadership Award to the Nashville Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division for its efforts to provide free legal assistance to Nashville’s immigrant and refugee communities.

The Nashville Bar Foundation awarded Legal Aid Society $13,000 in funding to support anti-hunger efforts.
At the fifth annual Legal Aid Society Bob Sullivan Memorial Breakfast, Grammy Award-winning country music producer Kyle Lehning received the Bob Sullivan Service Award, which honors those in the entertainment industry who have provided significant assistance to Legal Aid Society.

The Louis M. and Betty M. Phillips Foundation granted $2,500 to Legal Aid Society to increase services to Davidson County residents.

The Joe C. Davis Foundation provided $2,500 to Legal Aid Society to expand justice throughout the Nashville community.

With a grant of $8,300, West End Home Foundation funded the publication of several brochures for issues related to seniors.

United Ways serving Anderson, Bedford, Cannon, Campbell, Davidson, Franklin, Houston, Lincoln, Macon, Maury, Montgomery, Rutherford, Stewart, Sumner, Williamson and Wilson counties awarded Legal Aid Society grants totaling more than $157,000 for legal assistance to people in those communities.

Legal Aid Society’s Medical-Legal Partnership in Nashville was supported by a $5,000 grant from The HCA Foundation. The HCA Foundation also gave support for Legal Aid Society’s Community Day project.

The Volunteer State Community College Student Paralegal Association raised $100 for the Gallatin office of Legal Aid Society on Law Day, May 1, and also gave an additional gift of $200.

Employees from Nationwide Insurance in Franklin stuffed more than 5,600 envelopes to assist with Legal Aid Society’s annual campaign during the United Way of Williamson County’s Days of Caring.

Women in e-Discovery adopted Legal Aid Society as its philanthropy and continues to provide volunteers, e-discovery help and other assistance to Legal Aid Society.

Allegra-Nashville provided Legal Aid Society with a $750 grant for printing materials for the Campaign for Equal Justice.

Pro bono services through the Volunteer Lawyers Program were assisted with a $1,000 grant from The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.
Managing attorney Andrae Crismon and staff attorney Aimee Luna, both from our Murfreesboro office, were winners of the second annual Rutherford County Impact Awards given by the Nashville Business Journal.

Andrae Crismon was honored for his work chairing the Rutherford/Cannon County Bar Association’s Public Service Committee for the past two years.

Jean Crowe, a former Legal Aid Society attorney of 29 years, was honored by the Nashville Metro Council as the namesake of the city’s new domestic violence advocacy center, the Jean Crowe Advocacy Center.

Pete Frierson, paralegal/office manager of Legal Aid Society’s Columbia office, was recognized by Columbia State Community College as an Outstanding Civil Rights Leader and Community Advocate.

Oak Ridge staff attorney and director of the Tennessee Taxpayer Project Mary Gillum was selected as an Equal Justice Works Fellow Alumna for its Alumni Hall of Fame.

Murfreesboro staff attorney Aimee Luna received the Tennessee Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division’s 2014 President’s Award.

Cookeville office attorney Rachel Moses was appointed president of the Tennessee Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division.

Russell Overby, lead attorney in Nashville’s Health and Benefits Section, celebrated 40 years of service at Legal Aid Society and the Tennessee Justice Center.

Gallatin paralegal Krista Scruggs was named to the Sumner County Adult Education Advisory Council.

Rae Anne Seay, a Tullahoma staff attorney, presented a comprehensive rewrite of the Tennessee Rules of Juvenile Procedure at the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges’ Conference in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Seay and David Kozlowski, Legal Aid Society Assistant General Counsel and Columbia Managing Attorney, served as two of the five co-chairs of the rewrite.

Staff attorney Audrey Seamon was named the attorney for Legal Aid Society’s Middle Tennessee Medical-Legal Partnership. Seamon had previously been a family law attorney in the Nashville office.

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Tiffany Bryant joined Legal Aid Society’s Clarksville office as a victim advocate.

Michelle Darsey joined Legal Aid Society as the receptionist in the Oak Ridge office.

Val Jephson joined Legal Aid Society as the office manager/legal team support for the Nashville office.

Patricia Jones joined Legal Aid Society as an attorney in the Columbia office.

Samuel D. Keen joined Legal Aid Society as a Supreme Court Rule 7 §10.04 attorney in the Clarksville office.

Lorna McCandless-Moss joined Legal Aid Society as a secretary for the Columbia office.

Mary Novak joined Legal Aid Society as the bilingual intake specialist in the Nashville office.

Emma Sholl joined Legal Aid Society’s Clarksville office as a staff attorney.

Current and former Legal Aid Society staff members celebrate attorney Russ Overby’s 40 years of service.

Legal Aid Society staff supported Murfreesboro attorneys Andrae Crismon and Aimee Luna during the Rutherford County Impact Awards banquet.

“I have had paid lawyers in the past. Never has even one of them taken interest in any of my cases like Sam Keen [Staff Attorney] did. The interaction of my case was the best. Sam did everything in his power to win my case.” – Clarksville client
The generosity of our donors continues to astound us. We exceeded last year’s campaign by collecting $787,456 from 1,449 donors for the 2014 Campaign for Equal Justice – a 3 percent increase over the 2013 campaign.

We are grateful for the time and resources offered by our 2014 campaign committee and their pursuit to advance Legal Aid Society’s mission.

“Legal Aid Society and [Staff] Attorney Cherrelle Hooper saved my home and my sanity. Had it not been for Mrs. Cherrelle Hooper I don’t know what or where I would be today. She was very instrumental in handling my situation, where others had tried and failed. But with Cherrelle’s expert knowledge, persistence and determination, she successfully saved my life. I will forever be thankful for all of your assistance.” – Gallatin client
ALIGNING THE LEGAL COMMUNITY: 2014 PRO BONO WORK

We are grateful to be surrounded by a wealth of talented and generous legal professionals who volunteer their time to support the mission of Legal Aid Society. Because of their passion and professionalism, we are able to provide additional free legal assistance to those in need.

In just its first year, the support for the Volunteer Lawyers Program has been commendable.

In 2014, a total of **797** pro bono attorneys donated **6,801** hours of service, handled **2,386** cases and provided free legal help worth **$2,431,143**.

The program added **86** new attorneys in all eight offices and opened **1,669** new cases.

The Volunteer Lawyers Program coordinated **76** clinics attended by **1,457** people.

I really appreciate the help I received from Ms. Luna [Aimee Luna, Staff Attorney]. It’s not often that someone is willing to help you in such a kind a caring way. I won’t forget it.” – Murfreesboro client

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**THE VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROGRAM: IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE CLINIC**

Conexión Américas, the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC) and the Nashville Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division (NBA/YLD) formed a new partnership in 2014 by joining forces with Legal Aid Society’s Volunteer Lawyers Program to expand efforts to provide free civil legal assistance to Nashville’s immigrant and refugee communities.

These efforts are best represented in the free legal clinic held every month at Casa Azafrán, which is staffed by about 10 NBA/YLD volunteer attorneys each month, offering free civil legal advice in an approachable, familiar setting.

Since moving the clinic to Casa Azafrán from another location, attendance has tripled.

“We quickly saw the importance of this service, as our waiting room filled up long before the clinic’s start time on the third Friday afternoon of each month,” said Renata Soto, executive director and co-founder of Conexión Américas. “We are glad that this partnership creates a convenient and accessible way for our community to receive professional legal services.”
The following people have dedicated their time and talents to further the mission of Legal Aid Society. We thank them for their contributions and dedication. Please accept our apologies for any omissions.

Clarksville
Eva Baker
Paige Barbeauld
Rachel Farmer

Columbia
Dollie Butler
Patrick Ren

 Cookeville
Ellie Boles
Zachary Redmon
Billy Segers

Gallatin
Jonathan Adams
Debbie Ament de Nunez
Mary Head
Julia Lawrence
Lauren Ludwikowski
Kisha Miranda
Brie Schmidt
Robert Swann
Christina Zeiden

Murfreesboro
Amy Boyd
Brendan Finley
Kristen Moon
Dorie Williams

Nashville
Susan Creavin
Eric Drake
Joyia Echols
Caitlyn Ellis
Thomas Fielder
Kathryn Haywood

Callie Jennings
Amanda Jane Lloyd
Mary “Betsy” Mangum
Zachary Oswald
Vidhi Sanghavi
Erin Yang

Oak Ridge
Karen Anderson
Michael Beeman
Elizabeth Burrell
Linying Gao
Donielle Hubbard
Trina Hughes
Melissa Owens
Lori Walker
Kyle Watlington

Tullahoma
Connie Beal

Phonathon
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Kerry M. Ewald
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Valeria E. Gomez
Sarah M. Clark Hannah
Ryan T. Holt
Lindsay E. Jacques
Sean Charles Kirk
Christine J. Laird
Kim Harvey Looney
Nancy F. MacLean
John C. McLemore
Marc T. McNamee
Jessica Thomas Patrick
Lisa E. Peerman
Erin Palmer Polly
Sara Anne I. Quinn
W. Casey Reed
A. Scott Ross
Edgar M. Rothschild
J. Gray Sasser
Jean Holcomb Shuttleworth
Lauran M. Sturm
Keith E. Thompson
John C. Tishler
Robin Bicket White
Luther Wright, Jr.
Frank W. Ziegler, III

Volunteer Lawyers
Program
Heather Blair
David Bujdos
Aubreyy Burns
Paula Cagle
Wenni Cai
Trent Craig
Lawrence Crane-Moscwitz
Andrew Daugherty
John Davidson
Victoria Dutschmann
Joyia Echols
Kaitlyn (Katie) Embry

The Clarksville office of Legal Aid Society partners with the Montgomery County Court System, in which staff have developed a close working relationship with the employees at the court clerk’s office.

Victim advocates with Legal Aid Society regularly prepare thorough, engaged Order of Protection petitions for victims that would otherwise have to be prepared by the court clerks. Attorneys may also accompany victims in court, providing comprehensive legal services without burdening the court system.

“People come in here and they get angry with us because we can’t answer questions that our judges say would be giving legal advice,” said Mary Phillips, assistant chief deputy in the Circuit and General Sessions division of the Montgomery County Court. “Legal Aid Society solved this problem; they answer questions we can’t, which means we have a lot fewer angry folks, and that means a lot.”
Please accept our apologies for any omissions.

I feel blessed for the service I received from Mr. [Philip W.] Kendrick [Volunteer Attorney]. He took his time to help someone in need. He did a fine job. They are there when no one else could help without a fee. Everything worked out great for me, so I don’t see any area that needs improving. Thank you all!

– Volunteer Lawyers Program client
TULLAHOMA:
JUDGE WILLIAM RILEY ANDERSON, III

With a poverty rate that exceeds 29 percent, Grundy County is Tennessee’s poorest county. To make the largest impact possible, the Tullahoma office of Legal Aid Society relies on its relationship with a leader of the county’s judicial system.

Judge William Riley Anderson, III, the Grundy County General Sessions and Juvenile Court Judge, allows Legal Aid Society to make an announcement during court about the availability of its services – directly targeting the people who could use civil legal help the most. Judge Anderson also actively informs parties that Legal Aid Society offers free legal services, as he understands that justice can only prevail when accurate information is presented to the court, which often requires an attorney.

“It puts them on an uneven playing field if they’re not represented,” said Judge Anderson. “They can’t get things introduced into evidence because they don’t know the rules of evidence and they don’t know the rules of civil procedures, so it makes them feel more victimized.”
The Power of Partnerships | 2014 Annual Report

DONORS

The list below is for the 2014 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.

Leadership Cabinet
Adams and Reese LLP
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC
Bass, Berry & Sims PLC
Bone McAlister Norton PLLC
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings Charitable Foundation
Burr & Forman LLP
Butler Snow LLP
Cory Henard Lyle Levie & Langford PLLC
Cornelius & Collins, LLP
Dickson, Parker, Bethm & Caparella, PC
Driver Law Firm, PLLC
Frost Brown Todd LLC
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Holton & Mayberry, P.C.
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Leader, Bulso & Nolan, PLLC
Manier & Herod, PC
McKenzie Laird PLLC
Phillip Miller & Associates
Law Office of Rachel Odom, LLC
Prochaska Quinn & Ferraro, P.C.
W. Casey Reed
Rothschild & Ausbrooks PLLC
Salas Law Group, PLLC
Sherard & Roe, PLLC
Stites & Harbison, PLLC
The Swafford Law Firm, PLLC
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Terry & Gore
Trauger & Tuke
Tune, Entrekim & White, P.C.
Waldron, Fann & Parsley
Walker, Tipps & Malone PLLC
Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis LLP
Weathers, McNally and Dixon PLLC
Wiseman Ashworth Law Group PLLC
Wyatt Tarrant & Combs LLP

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Melba & Bill Elevins
Kitty Calhoun & David Ettinger
The Dorothy Cate & Thomas F. Frist Foundation at the recommendation of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Frist, Jr.
Michael & Janet Dagley
The Jane & Richard Eskind & Family Foundation
Drew & Carolyn Goddard
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James H. Cheek III
Chase Cole
Law Conner
The Hon. Karl Dean & Ms. Delta Anne Davis
James A. Delanis
Wally Dietz
Jacqueline B. Dixon
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Purity Foundation
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Richard L. Rosenberg
Julie K. Sandine & Dr. Michael D. Zanoli
Rachel A. Seifert
Emily A. Shouse
Jacqueline B. Shrago, The Jacqueline B. Shrago Charitable Fund of Fidelity Charitable
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Joan & Saul Solomon
Joanne & Joe Sowell
Janice Spillman
Kate Stephenson
Sam Stumpf
Matt & Judy Sweeney
T & T Family Foundation
James S. Tate, Jr.
Bob & Mary Battle Thompson
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Sandee & John Tishler
Byron R. Trauger
Charles A. Traugher
Mr. & Mrs. Byrum E. Tullor III
Robert D. Tuke
Mr. & Mrs. J. Stephen Turner
Leigh Walton
Jim & Shelly Weatherly
Ashley & Susan Wiltshire
Nicholas S. Zeppos & Lydia A. Howarth

$500-$999 Friends of Justice
Anonymous
Austin Peay State University, Women & Gender Studies Program
Joseph P. Bednarz, Sr.
Margaret Blair & Roger Conner, The Margaret M. Blair & Roger L. Conner Fund of Vanguard Charitable
James W. Berry
Dora A. Blackwood
Joseph J. Brenner, Jr.
Tim L. Bowden
Joe B. Brown
Buenger, Moseley, & Carson, PLC
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew W. Byrd
Tanya & Curtis Capeling
Davis H. Carr
Mark & Pamela Carver
Dent Chesterham & Rose Palermo
Hon. Cornelia A. Clark
John R. Colvin
Community Health Systems (match gift)
Dixie W. Cooper
Bob Cooper
Richard G. Cowart
Hor. J.S. “Steve” Daniel
Andrew Daughety & Jennifer Reingeranum
Robert S. Day, Jr.
Dot Dobbins
Sherie Lea Edwards
Michael Engle

I have used my painful experiences to make a difference in my life and hopefully to help my three sons break the cycle of domestic violence. Legal Aid Society helped me find confidence, courage, independence, perseverance, and much more. Thank you [DarKenya Waller, Managing Attorney] for your support and encouragements during my difficult times. You have empowered my sons and I to create a better life!” – Nashville client
NASHVILLE: THE JEAN CROWE ADVOCACY CENTER

After identifying a significant number of gaps in resources available for victims of domestic violence, the Nashville Mayor’s Office opened the Jean Crowe Advocacy Center (JCAC) in September 2014, named in honor of former Legal Aid Society family law attorney Jean Crowe. The JCAC provides a safe, comfortable place for victims to obtain legal services, court preparation, victims’ services and more.

Since its inception, Legal Aid Society has been a partner in providing its services to ensure domestic violence victims are able to obtain safety and independence through expedited civil legal assistance.

“Legal Aid Society’s partnership with the Jean Crowe Advocacy Center is a critical part of our coordinated community response to domestic violence,” said Diane Lance, special counsel to Nashville Mayor Karl Dean. “In particular, the Jean Crowe Advocacy Center goes a long way in helping improve domestic violence victims’ safety in our community.”
GALLATIN:
THE SHALOM ZONE

Legal Aid Society staffs a monthly legal clinic at the Shalom Zone, a non-profit organization in Gallatin designed to engage and empower the city’s impoverished residents. Organization leaders also provide referrals for individuals who could benefit from civil legal assistance.

“It is an easier transition for the client. They are comfortable going to [Legal Aid Society] for their services when they’ve been referred by someone, especially if we have a name that they can go down and see,” said P.J. Davis, executive director of the Shalom Zone.

The Shalom Zone also houses 14 different community partners in its building and collaborates monthly with 75 non-profit organizations that provide services to Sumner County communities. Such a connected alliance allows Legal Aid Society and all participating partners to have an efficient and frequent opportunity to engage in important conversations and better meet the needs of the community.
Cynthia Bell was chronically ill when she came to Legal Aid Society for help. She had Hepatitis C, a contagious liver disease. She knew a drug called Sovaldi was her best chance for survival.

Sovaldi is a cure for Hepatitis C, not just a treatment. But the drug wasn’t approved by TennCare for Genotype 1 patients like Cynthia.

Unless she could pay $1,000 per pill for Sovaldi (about $84,000 for the complete treatment), Cynthia’s only treatment option was a liver transplant, a procedure in which 25 percent of patients survive less than one year. Further, it can take months or even years before a transplant is available, meaning many transplant candidates die before they can receive a new liver. Cynthia worried she would become part of that statistic.

“I was a walking time bomb,” she said.

When Legal Aid Society attorneys became involved in Cynthia’s case, they worked with dedicated doctors to compile detailed affidavits that explained how the drug worked on similar patients. A judge issued a favorable decision in the case, and TennCare provided coverage for Cynthia’s use of Sovaldi.

“It means a lot to me. Legal Aid helped me,” Cynthia said. “You don’t find too many people going against the stream like that.”

With a new lease on life, Cynthia is now able to live and work, and has a new lifetime of opportunities ahead of her. She credits Legal Aid Society for never giving up hope on what she felt was a hopeless situation.
A near spitting image of Santa Claus, Gary Jackson spent every holiday season mirroring the Christmas spirit. He spent hours each day taking the bus to ring the bell for the Salvation Army’s red kettle, generating a modest income of $1,500 to last the entire year.

A 63-year-old Korean War veteran, Gary lived a quiet and humble life, but he was on the brink of homelessness. His landlord was about to evict him from his subsidized apartment because Gary was an extreme hoarder.

“I was helpless,” Gary said. “They gave me a 14-day notice to do the miracle of cleaning everything out, and my brain just couldn’t handle it.”

A junk removal company discounted its services and cleaned out the house. To further support Gary, Legal Aid Society coordinated counseling to help Gary overcome his hoarding tendencies. Legal Aid Society also secured Social Security Disability benefits and benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide Gary with financial security, increasing his annual income from $1,500 to more than $12,000.

Because of these efforts and the compassion of the landlord, Legal Aid Society’s staff was able to convince Gary’s landlord to dismiss the court case against him. Gary kept his home and is on a path to emotional healing and independence.

“My single word would be thanks,” Gary added. “They have done something that I could not do on my own.”

SAVING A HOME, IMPROVING A LIFE: GARY JACKSON’S STORY
learned so much.”
approachable, and our seniors have
conservatorship and benefits,” said Kathy Ayers,
legal help so easy for the seniors, who are often
staff also often provides educational seminars on
Not only does this partnership provide direct
Not only does this partnership provide direct
To better reach the area’s rural and dispersed
Not only does this partnership provide direct
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Having Legal Aid Society come directly to our
Having Legal Aid Society come directly to our
Having Legal Aid Society come directly to our
“Having Legal Aid Society come directly to our
“Having Legal Aid Society come directly to our
COLUMBIA: AREA-WIDE SENIOR CENTERS
COLUMBIA: AREA-WIDE SENIOR CENTERS
COLUMBIA: AREA-WIDE SENIOR CENTERS
To better reach the area’s rural and dispersed population, Legal Aid Society’s Columbia office hosts free monthly intake clinics for senior citizens and other community members at eight senior centers across its service area.
Not only does this partnership provide direct access to Legal Aid Society staff for individuals who may not be able to drive to the office in Columbia for client intake and questions, Legal Aid Society staff also often provides educational seminars on legal issues affecting seniors, such as elder abuse, phone scams and Powers of Attorney.

Having Legal Aid Society come directly to our community senior center makes getting important legal help so easy for the seniors, who are often facing new challenges regarding health care, conservatorship and benefits,” said Kathy Ayers, director of the Wayne County Senior Citizens Center. “Their staff makes even difficult issues approachable, and our seniors have learned so much.”
Legal Aid Society was among a group of community leaders advocating for greater accessibility to assistance for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and elder abuse in the Upper Cumberland Region of Tennessee. This initial idea was the seed that grew into the Upper Cumberland Family Justice Center (UCFJC), an agency housing onsite partners that provide social services, victim advocacy, civil legal aid, counseling, law enforcement and prosecution.

Not only does this partnership already provide opportunities to discuss and implement solutions for systemic problems regarding domestic violence, sexual assault and elder abuse, it will also increase efficiency for clients who need assistance.

“We did six different focus groups with survivors of domestic violence, and civil legal aid was number three on their list overall of priority needs [behind shelter and counseling for their children],” said Amy Stockwell, project coordinator for UCFJC. “Legal Aid Society has been very instrumental in helping us to develop a program to meet this need.”

DONORS

COOKEVILLE: THE UPPER CUMBERLAND FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER
A CRY FOR HELP FINALLY ANSWERED:
BRANDY SPIVEY’S STORY

Brandy Spivey endured an emotionally and physically abusive relationship for three years, and was admitted to the hospital twice because of domestic violence.

After she was nearly strangled to death by her husband, she finally had enough and mustered the courage to leave.

Her husband was her only way to work, so when she left the relationship, she was left without money, a job or a home. A divorce was her only hope to start new again. Brandy went to 10 different attorneys to get the legal help she needed to obtain a divorce – but she couldn’t pay the fees for them to take her case.

After being connected with Legal Aid Society, Brandy was provided an attorney immediately. Shortly thereafter, our attorney helped her get a divorce, in which she was awarded alimony, and best of all, got her children home. The children had been removed from her custody by their fathers to make sure they were safe while Brandy was still in her abusive relationship.

“They saved my life,” Brandy said of Legal Aid Society attorneys and staff. “They cared. They genuinely cared about my well being and safety.”

Because Legal Aid Society gave her so much encouragement to fight for herself and regain control of her life, Brandy now has a salaried job, financial stability and the support she needs to break the cycle of violence.
HONORING A VETERAN THROUGH JUSTICE: ANNETTE HICKS’ STORY

An 18-year U.S. Navy veteran, Petty Officer 2nd Class Annette Hicks and her husband, William, cared for an extremely autistic biological daughter and an adopted daughter who suffered from severe mental health problems. The Rutherford County couple’s adopted daughter was placed in a state residential facility. Though Annette and William originally received an adoption subsidy to assist with care, the State of Tennessee pulled the subsidy. Additionally, the state claimed that it had overpaid the Hicks and ordered the couple pay back more than $6,000 over the course of 10 months.

While paying down the debt, the couple fell behind after William suffered a stroke. Months later, the Tennessee Child Support Office recognized the couple were due a refund, but suspended their payments for six months and garnished Annette’s wages and William’s Social Security Disability benefits.

With their finances on the brink of collapse, the Hicks turned to a legal clinic where they were directed to Legal Aid Society. Attorneys with Legal Aid Society filed a motion in juvenile court to have the Hicks’ garnishments stopped and the suspended funds applied to the debt. Though the court did not have the suspended funds applied to the debt, the magistrate required the garnishments to be stopped immediately. Legal Aid Society attorneys recovered more than $2,000 that had been overpaid for the child support debt.

“We’re building our life back together,” Annette said. “Had Legal Aid not been there, I really don’t know what would have happened. We could be in a homeless shelter.”
In honor of the Rutherford County Pro Bono Program
Bragdon & Bragdon

In memory of Leroy Bolling
Janet Rosenberg

In memory of Mike Buhl
Robyn E. Smith

Robert M. Burns

In memory of Col. & Mrs. John J. Gallagher
Russell C. Gallagher

In memory of Drake Holliday
David Allen Weil II
Susan & Ashley Wiltshire

In memory of Jere McCulloch
Justin & Kimberly Pitt

In memory of Michael E. Moore
Elizabeth T. Ryan

In memory of Lora Morgan
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC

In memory of John M. Roberts
Chris & Jamie Cobb

In memory of John Seigenthaler
Henry Martin

In memory of Bob Sullivan
Kristi Wilcox Arth
Angela Dailey
Tiffany Dunn
Cindy Durham
Richard A. Green
Sam & Mary Ann Lipshie
Kerry O’Neil
Lou & Karen Robin
Brittany & T.J. Schaffer
Denise & Steven Sheehan
Catherine C. Sullivan
Casey Gill Summar

In memory of Alfred T. Taylor & Alfred T. Taylor, Jr.
Elizabeth Adams & David Scott

In memory of Sarita Wright
Jamie Brown & Phillip Bangale

Bob Sullivan Memorial Breakfast Sponsors
Avenue Bank
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Cabana
Dickinson Wright, PLLC - Entertainment Law Practice Group
KraftCPAs
Loeb & Loeb LLP
Milom Horsnell Crow Rose Kelley PLC
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
SunTrust Bank – Music Row
Riley Warnock Jacobson, PLC

Holliday-Wiltshire Fund
(one-time help for clients in need)
Brentwood United Methodist Church
First Presbyterian Church
Marci & Guy Hicks
Patricia McDonald
NeedLink Nashville
Rooftop Foundation
Second Presbyterian Church
St. David’s Episcopal Church
Trinity Presbyterian Church

Legal Aid Society Agency Endowment Fund
(through The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee)
David W. Smith & Stephen D. Nix

In honor of Allen Weil II
Susan & Ashley Wiltshire

In memory of Neil McBridge, Mary Gillum and Paula Trujillo
Fran Ansley & Jim Sessions

In memory of Russ Overby
Margaret Behm & Harlan Dodson
Janet Rosenberg

In honor of the wedding
of Allison Pingree & Chris Teal
John Kochanowski
Jennifer O. McGuire
Greg Pingree
Felix Wang

In honor of the marriage
of Jesse Ford & Jay Harbison
Jan Liff

In honor of Richard Green
Angelica Dailey

In honor of David Kozlowski
Joshua A. Decker

In honor of Walter Kurtz
Brad Reed

In honor of Howard Lamar
Institute of Management Accountants - Nashville Chapter

In honor of Kyle Lehning
Cara Alexander
Pat Alger
Ryan Alger & Julie Eliserio
Cliff Audreth
Julia D. Audreth
Bryan B. Bolton

Danielle Lares Bouharoun
Karl M. Braun
Patrick Clifford
Bob Doyle
Cindy Durham
Mr. Michael Ernst
& Dr. Lynette Gillis
Chris Farren
Gary Glover
S. Ralph Gordon
Tony Gottlieb
Wayne & Pat Halper
Laurie Hughes
Amy Hill
John Huie
Suzanne Kessler
Amy Kurland
Jason Lehning & Heather Edwards
Patrick A. McMakin, Sr.
Vicki & David Mead
Reen Nalli
Fred Mollin
Lynn Morrow
Robert K. Oermann
& Mary A. Bufwack
Bob Regan
Sherod Robertson
John M. Rolfe, Jr.
Brittany & T.J. Schaffer
Martha M. Sharp
Denise & Steven Sheehan
Casey Gill Summar
Jeff Walker
Tim Warnock
Jack Williams
J. David Wykoff
Jim Zumwalt

In honor of Neil McBridge
Anonymous

In honor of Neil McBridge, Mary Gillum and Paula Trujillo
Fran Ansley & Jim Sessions

In memory of Kyle Lehning
Cara Alexander
Pat Alger
Ryan Alger & Julie Eliserio
Cliff Audreth
Julia D. Audreth
Bryan B. Bolton

Danielle Lares Bouharoun
Karl M. Braun
Patrick Clifford
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Brittany & T.J. Schaffer
Martha M. Sharp
Denise & Steven Sheehan
Casey Gill Summar
Jeff Walker
Tim Warnock
Jack Williams
J. David Wykoff
Jim Zumwalt
The Oak Ridge Pre-School, which serves low-income families and families with children who have disabilities, the partnership identifies and addresses potential legal issues that could hinder a child’s education. The partnership resulted in approximately 40 referrals and 50 cases in 2014.

“Our free and reduced lunch participants are 86 percent of our student population, so we serve some of the most at-risk students in the community, so we really try to improve the lives of our families, and there is always a need in many different areas,” said Tribby Kelly, family and community engagement manager at The Oak Ridge Pre-School. “Legal Aid Society has been amazing for our families.”

**Beacons of Justice Society**

The Beacons of Justice Society is a prestigious group of individuals who have advised that they included Legal Aid Society in their will, life insurance and/or estate-planning documents. The Beacons of Justice Society will continue to shine a light on the path to justice for all and help our neighbors in their journey from surviving to living. If YOU have included us in your estate planning, please notify Cindy Durham at 615-780-7125 or cdurham@las.org.

- Cynthia A. Durham
- Gary D. Housepian
- Susan L. Kay
- Lynda F. Jones
- Herman O. Loewenstein
- Lou McHugh
- Joseph J. Brenner, Jr.
- Charles H. Warfield
- Ashley T. Wilshire

**United Way Designations**

Note: This listing includes some gifts which were made in 2013 but not reported until 2014.

- $5,000-$9,999
- Silver Gavel
- Linda & Jay Hancock

**$2,500-$4,999**  
**GUARDIANS OF JUSTICE**  
Bob & Mary Battle Thompson

**$1,000-$2,499**  
**CHAMPIONS OF JUSTICE**  
Anonymous
- Sherie Lea Edwards
- Lee & Glenda Kraft
- Richard M. Riebeling
- Matthew Wilshire

**$500-$999**  
**FRIENDS OF JUSTICE**  
Anonymous
- Vic Alexander
- Robert E. Boston
- Phyllis Childs
- Walter & Ruth Crouch
- Nicki N. Eke
- Homer Ferguson
- Lora Barkenbus Fox
- Lucy H. Haynes
- Kim & Bob Looney
- Linda O’Neal
- Brian K. Tate
- TN Regional Combined Federal Campaign

**$150-$499**  
**SUSTAINING MEMBERS**  
Anonymous
- Kelly Cashman-Grams
- Bryan K. Coatney
- Joseph P. Crump, Jr.
- Margaret O. Darby
- Burney T. Durham
- First Farmers & Merchants Bank, Franklin
- Jess Q. Hale, Jr.
- Erin Phillips Hughes
- Kim Y. Jefferson
- Christopher M. Kennedy
- Kim & Bob Looney
- Alan L. Marx
- Michael Paslay
- Lisa E. Peerman
- Ben A. Moss
- Naomi Snyder
- Lisa Sweeney
- Barbara Ann Williams

**$1-$149**  
**PACEMSETTERS**  
Anonymous
- Jessa Brown
- Bill Calhoun
- Catherine Marie Cameron
- David R. Clay
- Erin Cole
- Homer Ferguson
- Nancy Klausen-Mash
- Carrie Logan
- Ryan McCutcheon
- Katie Evans Moss
- Dr. Margaret Norris
- Pamela Penniman
- T’Lanie Ruegge
- Smokey Mountain Region Combined Federal Campaign
- Martha Splain
- Valerie Thornton
- Michele Valentino
- Charlotte Watson

**Government Contracts and Grants**

American Bar Association, Section of Litigation  
Access to Justice Commission

Allegra-Nashville  
FOOTPrint Fund

Baptist Healing Trust

The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee

Joe C. Davis Foundation

Greater Nashville Regional Council AAAD

The HCA Foundation  
Legal Aid of East Tennessee, Inc.

Legal Services Corporation

MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger

Metropolitan Government of Nashville & Davidson County

Montgomery County Government

Nashville Bar Foundation

Operation Stand Down Tennessee

Phillips Foundation

South Central Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability

Supreme Court of Tennessee, Administrative Office of the Courts

Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services

Tennessee Bar Foundation

TN Dept of State - Office of Criminal Justice Programs

US Dept of Justice

US Dept of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service

United Way of Anderson County

United Way of Bedford County

United Way of Franklin County

United Way of the Greater Clarksville Region

United Way of Humphreys County

United Way of Maury County

United Way of Metropolitan Nashville

United Way of Rutherford and Cannon Counties

United Way of Sumner County (includes Macon County)

United Way of Williamson County

United Way of Wilson County

Volunteer Tennessee

West End Home Foundation

West Tennessee Legal Services
### ASSETS

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<tr>
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<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<td>Cash</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property and equipment, net</td>
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<td>296,313</td>
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<tr>
<td>Client escrow funds</td>
<td>29,939</td>
<td>26,169</td>
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**TOTAL ASSETS**

|                  | **$ 6,136,522** | **$ 5,916,837** |

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

#### LIABILITIES

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<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$ 69,438</td>
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<td>Accrued expenses and other</td>
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**TOTAL LIABILITIES**

|                  | **$ 533,655** | **$ 498,665** |

#### NET ASSETS

**Unrestricted:**

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<td>Designated for 2014 operations</td>
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<td>Designated for property and equipment</td>
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<td>296,313</td>
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</table>

**Total unrestricted**

|                  | 3,547,799  | 3,323,004  |

**Temporarily restricted**

|                  | 2,055,068  | 2,095,168  |

**TOTAL NET ASSETS**

|                  | **$ 5,602,867** | **$ 5,418,172** |

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

|                  | **$ 6,136,522** | **$ 5,916,837** |

---

*The help I got from Legal Aid greatly helped me with the worry and fear that I have had from being abused by my husband. My lawyer [Iska Hoole, Managing Attorney] helped me to get an order of protection and get custody of my daughter and child and marital support. I am very thankful for the assistance I have received. It is a blessing that there is help for women who have been abused and who need help getting a divorce so they no longer have to be miserable.*

– Tullahoma client

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The financial statements of Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands for the years ended December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 were audited by KraftCPAs, PPC. The audit was completed on April 28, 2015 and in the opinion of the auditors, these financial statements represent fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of 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 Legal Aid Society.