

MARYLAND LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION



IOLTA

INTEREST ON LAWYER TRUST ACCOUNTS

ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1, 2005 - JUNE 30, 2006

STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Maryland Legal Services Corporation (MLSC) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006. Since the creation of MLSC and the Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA) program in 1982, we have made grants of more than \$100 million to help provide civil legal assistance to low-income Marylanders in more than 1.4 million legal matters.

As a result of the hard work and support of the access to justice community, FY 2006 has been a good year for legal services delivery in our state. Revenue generated during 2006 and projections for the coming year enabled MLSC to award more than \$10.9 million in grants for the provision of legal aid to Maryland's poor, representing MLSC's highest grant level since its inception. We reached this level through stable funding from filing fee surcharge revenue combined with a 25% increase in IOLTA income. To achieve this increase, MLSC and bar members joined forces and, as a result, several major financial institutions adjusted their IOLTA rates to more reasonably reflect the greatly enhanced interest rate environment. While we celebrate these increases, we are aware that there is still much work to be done with Maryland's financial institutions to ensure that interest rates paid on IOLTA deposits are fair, reasonable and competitive with that paid to non-IOLTA customers.

Another milestone this year has been the statewide expansion of the Reduced-Fee Child Custody Representation Project. We are pleased to report that this partnership with legal services programs and the private bar has proved to be a successful model to provide representation to litigants in these most challenging, important matters. MLSC was also able to award two new grants this year to begin to address the unmet needs of other client populations, specifically the civil legal needs of sexual assault victims and of low-income Asian-Americans who have limited English proficiency.

In 2007, we will reach a milestone of 25 years of support for legal services for Maryland's most needy citizens. We look forward to celebrating this anniversary and continuing our collaboration with members of Maryland's legal services community, as well as members of the bench, bar, General Assembly, Office of the Governor, law firms, financial institutions and many others. As we continue to work together, we will move closer to our shared goal of making "equal justice under law" a reality for all Marylanders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Vernon Boozer". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

F. Vernon Boozer,
Chairman

OVERVIEW – MARYLAND LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

The Maryland Legal Services Corporation (MLSC) was established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1982 (Maryland Code Article 10, Sections 45A - 45O). The Corporation receives and distributes funds to nonprofit grantees that provide legal assistance to eligible clients in noncriminal proceedings or matters. MLSC assures that grants and contracts are made so as to provide the most stable, economical and effective delivery of legal assistance. It also ensures that eligible clients in all areas of the state have access to such services.

GOVERNANCE

The Corporation, a nonprofit organization, is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate for three-year terms. Five members are attorneys admitted to practice in Maryland; four members are non-attorneys. The Board appoints the Corporation's Executive Director, who serves *ex officio* as a nonvoting member of the Board.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

The Maryland General Assembly also enacted the Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA) program in 1982, constituting the Corporation's primary funding source. In 1984, the General Assembly amended Article 10, Section 45-O, directing the Governor to appropriate at least \$500,000 annually from the State Unclaimed Property Fund for the activities of the Corporation. During the 1989 legislative session, the General Assembly enacted legislation converting the State's voluntary IOLTA program to a mandatory program, in which all Maryland attorneys are required to place small or short-term client trust funds into an IOLTA account (Maryland Code Business Occupations, Section 10-303).

During its 1998 term, the Maryland General Assembly, established a \$10 filing fee surcharge on all cases filed in circuit court and a \$2 surcharge on district court cases to help fund civil

legal services. The legislature also created the Maryland Legal Services Corporation Fund (Courts and Judicial Proceedings, Section 7-408), into which all IOLTA revenues, Unclaimed Property money, and filing fee surcharge revenue for civil legal services are collected. Money from the fund is appropriated by the Maryland General Assembly annually for the purposes articulated in the Maryland Legal Services Corporation statute. The Maryland General Assembly approved a \$300,000 general revenue appropriation for the Corporation in 2003.

In the 2004 term, the Maryland General Assembly amended the Maryland Code Courts and Judicial Proceedings, Title 7, Sections 7-202 and 7-301, increasing the filing fee surcharge on all cases filed in circuit court to \$25; summary ejectment actions to \$5; and small claims actions to \$10. During that session, the 2003 general revenue appropriation was eliminated.

MLSC is statutorily required to publish an annual report describing its activities. This annual report covers the fiscal year July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.



HIGHLIGHTS OF 2006

- ◆ IOLTA income rose significantly in FY 2006, bringing in \$4.3 million to help fund legal services programs. This 25% increase was largely the result of several major banks with large IOLTA deposits joining the IOLTA Honor Roll.
- ◆ Ten more banks have joined the IOLTA Honor Roll to date, bringing the total to 25 Honor Roll members. These financial institutions hold 40% of the IOLTA accounts in the state.
- ◆ Filing fee surcharge revenue generated \$6.8 million, similar to the previous year.
- ◆ Overall, MLSC income was approximately \$11.6 million in FY 2006, up 7%, enabling the Corporation to increase certain operating grants as well as provide funding to two new programs, the Sexual Assault Legal Institute and the Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center.
- ◆ In FY 2006, MLSC awarded \$10.1 million in grants to 32 legal services providers for operating funds, special projects, challenge grants and one-time funds.
- ◆ The reduced-fee child custody representation project was expanded to serve clients statewide in FY 2006, resulting in a 73% increase of cases handled by members of the Maryland bar. This successful expansion demonstrated the efficacy of this private attorney partnership delivery model in these most challenging cases (see story on opposite page).
- ◆ Services to clients in FY 2006 increased 3%, with MLSC grantees opening 112,815 new cases. Approximately 222,000 individuals and families directly benefited from this legal assistance.
- ◆ At the close of FY 2006, MLSC committed funds for grants totaling \$10,918,724 to 34 legal services programs for FY 2007, its highest grant level since inception.

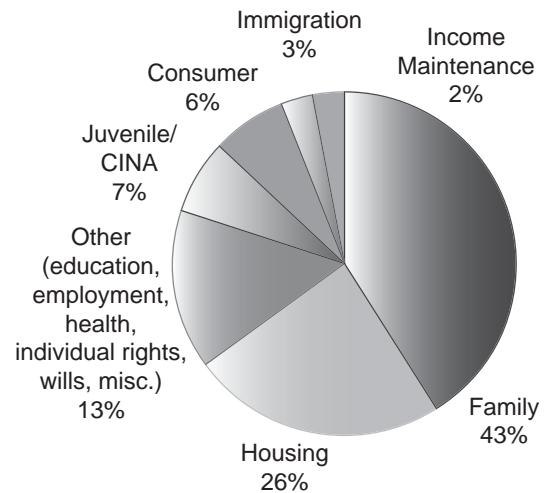
DELIVERY STATISTICS

Between July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006, MLSC-funded legal services programs provided legal assistance to low-income clients in every jurisdiction in Maryland.

CLIENT RESIDENCE

Anne Arundel County	10,870
Baltimore City	36,009
Baltimore County	9,904
Central Maryland	6,037
Eastern Shore	4,631
Montgomery County	5,949
Prince George's County	17,855
Southern Maryland	3,854
Western Maryland	6,787
Other	2,433
 Total (closed cases)	 104,329

TYPES OF CASES



MLSC EXPANDS REDUCED-FEE CHILD CUSTODY REPRESENTATION PROJECT

MLSC awarded nine grants to programs throughout Maryland to administer its newly-expanded Reduced Fee Child Custody Representation Project. The project utilizes attorneys in private practice to provide representation to litigants in these most difficult cases and pays attorneys \$50 per hour with a fee cap of \$1,000 per case.

This year 183 attorneys opened 346 cases on behalf of low-income clients needing legal assistance in complex child custody matters throughout Maryland. This represents a 73% increase from the prior year, and directly benefited 800 individuals and families by helping them gain or maintain custody, visitation, child support or a divorce decree, as well as receiving valuable advice and counsel.

REDUCED-FEE CHILD CUSTODY PROJECT GRANTEES

Allegany Law Foundation
Harford County Bar Foundation
Community Legal Services of Prince George's County
Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service
Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence
Montgomery County Bar Foundation
Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy
Women's Law Center
YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County

SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE

ALLEGANY LAW FOUNDATION REDUCED-FEE PROJECT

An Allegany County mother of two had endured physical and mental abuse throughout her marriage. Furthermore, her husband verbally abused her pre-teen daughter, who was not his child. Deciding to leave this abusive situation, the mother packed her family's belongings and went to the women's shelter to seek refuge until she could receive legal advice. She had battled the court system trying to gain protection from her abusive spouse. After the husband was arrested and jailed for abuse, he hired experienced attorneys to represent him. He was given light penalties and, at one point, he was awarded custody of his biological minor child. The woman did not have any money or resources of her own to hire an attorney. She felt alone and intimidated by the court system. She was referred to the Allegany Law Foundation, which placed her case with an experienced family law reduced-fee attorney who fought for her and her children. She was granted a divorce on the grounds of abuse, and she was awarded sole physical custody of her children, while sharing legal custody with her ex-husband. She is now gainfully employed and enjoying her life without fear of abuse.

AWARDS AND ANNUAL RECEPTION



Standing (L-R): Chief Judge Robert M. Bell, James M. Themides, Wachovia Bank, John P. Sarbanes, Judith A. Wolfer, Judge Leo E. Green, Jr. (on behalf of Senator Green), MLSC Chairman F. Vernon Boozer. Sitting (L-R): Delegate Pauline H. Menes, C. Sue Hecht.

Each year the Corporation solicits nominations and presents awards to persons or entities who have contributed significantly to the provision of legal services to the poor.

The Corporation held its Annual Awards Reception at the Calvert Ballroom of the Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore Hotel on December 4, 2006. At the reception, this year's **Arthur W. Machen, Jr. Award** was presented to **John P. Sarbanes**, a former partner at Venable LLP and incoming member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

The **Benjamin L. Cardin Distinguished Service Award** was presented to **Judith A. Wolfer**, managing attorney with the House of Ruth Domestic Violence Clinic.

The **William L. Marbury Outstanding Advocate Award** was presented to **C. Sue Hecht**, immediate past CEO of Heartly House and incoming member of the Maryland House of Delegates.

The **Herbert S. Garten Public Citizen Award** was given to **Wachovia Bank**, Maryland's second-largest holder of IOLTA deposits and a Gold member of the MLSC and Maryland State Bar Association Interest on Lawyer Trust Account (IOLTA) Honor Roll program.

At the reception, MLSC presented two additional awards this year. **Senator Leo E. Green** and **Delegate Pauline H. Menes**, retiring Maryland legislators, received **Awards of Special Recognition** for their steadfast commitment to supporting civil legal services to the poor during their service in the Maryland General Assembly.

ABOUT THE AWARDS

Arthur W. Machen, Jr. Award - For a lawyer in private practice who has rendered extraordinary public service by providing legal representation to the poor or by improving the delivery of legal services in Maryland.

Benjamin L. Cardin Distinguished Service Award - For an outstanding public interest lawyer who regularly provides civil legal services to the poor.

William L. Marbury Outstanding Advocate Award - For a non-lawyer who has demonstrated outstanding advocacy in Maryland on behalf of low-income persons.

Herbert S. Garten Public Citizen Award - For an entity or organization that has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to increase access to justice for the poor in Maryland.

CONTRIBUTORS

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

PATRON

Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos
DLA Piper
Fedder & Garten, PA
Gallagher Evelius & Jones LLP
Goodell, DeVries, Leech & Dann, LLP
Hirschel, Savitz, Parker & Hollman, P. A.
Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chartered
Ober, Kaler, Grimes & Shriver
Venable LLP
Wachovia Bank

DONOR

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Linowes and Blocher LLP
Arthur W. Machen, Jr.
Maryland State Bar Association
Network Business Solutions, Inc.
Rosenberg Martin Greenberg, LLP
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Southern Management
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University of Maryland School of Law

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Paul F. and Tracey C. Caron
Harbor Bank of Maryland
Nolan, Plumhoff & Williams, Chartered
PNC Bank
Melanie L. Shanty
SunTrust Bank
Weinstock, Friedman & Friedman, P. A.

MLSC AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the 2007 *Arthur W. Machen, Jr. Award*, the *Benjamin L. Cardin Distinguished Service Award*, the *William L. Marbury Outstanding Advocate Award* and the *Herbert S. Garten Public Citizen Award* must be received by the Corporation June 30, 2007. Anyone may submit a nomination; however, current members of the Board of Directors and staff are not eligible for the awards. Nomination forms are available from the Corporation and MLSC web site. The Corporation will honor the awardees at the MLSC 2007 Annual Awards Reception.

OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS HONORED

Several former members of the MLSC Board of Directors were honored for their outstanding service to MLSC. They include: **Reginald L. Jenkins**, Montgomery County, 1998 to 2006, immediate past vice-chair; **Connie J. Koenig**, Frederick County, 2001 to 2006; and **Joyce Knox Moorehead, Esq.**, Baltimore, 2000 to 2006.



(L-R): Chairman F. Vernon Boozer; Joyce Knox Moorehead; Executive Director Susan M. Erlichman; Chief Judge Robert M. Bell; Reginald L. Jenkins; Connie J. Koenig.

IOLTA HONOR ROLL

We wish to acknowledge with special appreciation financial institutions of Maryland's IOLTA Honor Roll. This initiative of the Maryland State Bar Association and MLSC recognizes financial institutions paying an annual net yield (gross interest minus charges) of at least 2% on all IOLTA deposits for Gold membership and at least 1.5% for Silver membership.

Attorneys are encouraged to consider these "IOLTA-friendly" institutions for their banking needs.

GOLD MEMBERS

Adams National Bank
 American Bank
 Baltimore County Savings Bank
 Bay National Bank
 First Horizon Bank
 Harbor Bank of Maryland
 K Bank
 Maryland Bank & Trust Co., N.A.
 NBR Financial
 PNC Bank
 Provident State Bank
 Sandy Spring Bank
 Sovereign Bank
 Wachovia Bank

SILVER MEMBERS

Alliance Bank
 Bank of America
 BB&T
 Community Banks
 Farmers & Mechanics Bank
 M & T Bank
 Mercantile Safe-Deposit & Trust
 Regal Bank & Trust
 SunTrust Bank
 Susquehanna Bank
 WashingtonFirst Bank

ABOUT IOLTA

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

Lawyers — If you are a lawyer in private practice in the state of Maryland, you must place all eligible client trust funds into an IOLTA account. Your escrow accounts and banking relations will remain the same, and the Maryland Legal Services Corporation will pay reasonable and customary service charges on your IOLTA escrow account.

Financial Institutions — If you offer commercial checking accounts, you should provide the Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Program to your lawyer customers. We will work directly with your representative to show you how easy it is to begin this worthwhile program.

To learn more about IOLTA, including attorney compliance reporting, an up-to-date list of Honor Roll banks and "A Guide to the IOLTA Program for Financial Institutions," visit www.mlsc.org.

GRANTS AND GRANTEE PROFILES

The Maryland Legal Services Corporation annually awards grants to nonprofit organizations that provide civil legal services to eligible persons. MLSC funding supplements other federal, state and private sources for civil legal assistance.

MLSC approved FY 2007 grants totaling \$10,918,724 to 34 legal services providers. It awarded \$9,915,876 in operating grants, \$410,862 for the reduced-fee child custody representation project, \$300,000 in challenge grants and \$291,986 in one-time funding for computers, moving expenses and publications. The MLSC grant recipients are described below.



SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE

ALTERNATIVE DIRECTIONS SECURES TEMPORARY GUARDIANSHIP

After his wife died, a prisoner turned to Alternative Directions, Inc. (ADI) to get help for his son. The child's grandmother, who was caring for the grandchild, wanted to send him to the school near her house and thought that all she had to do was to enroll him at the school. Luckily, her incarcerated son told ADI about the situation, and ADI contacted the grandmother and notarized a temporary guardianship form for her so that her grandchild could get into the neighborhood school and receive medical care if needed. Thanks to ADI's assistance, the client's grandson was able to attend the first day of school with his classmates.

Allegany Law Foundation, Inc. - \$36,000 (plus \$15,000 for reduced-fee project). *Marcia Conrad, Executive Director.*

The Foundation serves low-income clients through the efforts of a small in-house staff and a panel of attorneys handling cases on a pro bono or reduced fee basis.

Alternative Directions, Inc. - \$160,698 (plus \$9,129 one-time grant). *Mary Joel Davis, Executive Director.*

Alternative Directions provides free legal assistance, primarily with family and domestic legal issues, to persons in prison or recently released from incarceration. The program also provides monthly workshops to prisoners on legal rights and responsibilities.

Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center - \$30,000. *Jayne Park, Executive Director.*

The Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center addresses the legal needs of low-income, limited English proficient Asian Americans in Maryland through a multilingual legal referral hotline and the legal interpreter project. It provides direct representation of low-wage workers in Montgomery County.

Associated Catholic Charities, Baltimore - \$87,050 (plus \$10,000 one-time grant). *Cindy Fickes, Director.*

Associated Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services Project provides client screening, counseling and legal representation for low-income persons in the Baltimore metropolitan area in a wide array of immigration matters.

Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc. (BNI) - \$88,997. *Joseph J. Coffey, Executive Director.*

MLSC's grant award supports BNI's operation of its statewide landlord/tenant counseling hotline.

CASA of Maryland, Inc. - \$74,376 (plus \$25,000 challenge grant). *Gustavo Torres, Executive Director.*

CASA receives MLSC funding for its Employment Rights Project, which assists Latin Americans and other day laborers in Montgomery and Prince George's counties and Baltimore City with employment related legal issues.

SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE

**MPILP INTERNSHIP
GIVES LAW STUDENT
REAL-WORLD
EXPERIENCE AT
LEGAL AID BUREAU**

A first-year law student at University of Baltimore (UB) School of Law, who was one of 10 students from University of Maryland and UB who participated in internships through an MLSC grant to the Maryland Public Interest Law Project (MPILP), spent the summer working as an intern for the Legal Aid Bureau's Nursing Home program. She was able to get first-hand experience working with clients and learning how to analyze cases, including conducting intake interviews of clients with long-term care issues.

One case the intern worked on involved a client who was denied recertification of Medical Assistance eligibility. Thanks to the intern's efforts in gathering facts from medical documents and interviewing care providers and family members, Legal Aid won a reversal of the denial at the hearing, and the client's Medical Assistance was reinstated.

Catholic Community Services - \$102,053 (plus \$20,808 one-time grant). *Jeanne Atkinson, Project Director.*

Formerly Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, Inc., Catholic Community Services Immigration Legal Services uses MLSC funds to provide legal assistance and representation to low-income persons with immigration problems from its office in Silver Spring to clients residing primarily in Prince George's and Montgomery counties.

Community Law Center, Inc. - \$50,842 (plus \$30,000 one-time grant and \$15,000 challenge grant). *Kristine Dunkerton, Executive Director.*

CLC provides legal counsel and representation to nonprofit organizations that represent issues of low-income people and are unable to afford private counsel. MLSC's grant supports CLC's pro bono project.

Community Legal Services of Prince George's County - \$187,800 (plus \$44,500 for reduced-fee project). *Neal Conway, Executive Director.*

Formerly the Law Foundation of Prince George's County, Community Legal Services provides civil legal assistance to low-income persons of Prince George's County through a panel of volunteer attorneys.

Domestic Violence Center of Howard County - \$28,956 (plus \$10,000 one-time grant). *Jodi Finkelstein, Executive Director.*

Howard County's Domestic Violence Center receives funding from MLSC to support its legal services project, which serves low-income domestic violence victims.

Harford County Bar Foundation, Inc. - \$41,390 (plus \$27,000 for reduced-fee project). *Brandy Miller, Executive Director.*

The Harford County Bar Foundation operates a pro bono legal services program, providing intake and referral services to low-income persons with civil legal problems.

Health Education Resource Organization (HERO) - \$58,466.

Leonardo Ortega, Executive Director.

HERO is a Baltimore-based nonprofit agency that provides assistance to persons with HIV infection and AIDS. MLSC funding is used to provide legal services to HERO's clients.

Heartly House, Inc. - \$54,000 (plus \$7,633 one-time grant). *Barbara Martin, Executive Director.*

Heartly House is a private, nonprofit agency serving victims of domestic violence, rape and sexual assault in Frederick County. MLSC funds are used to provide legal services to low-income victims of domestic violence.





Homeless Persons Representation

Project - \$157,068 (plus \$38,950 one-time grant). *Dianne Pasternack, Executive Director.*

HPRP provides staff and pro bono assistance in a range of housing and other legal matters to clients in homeless shelters in Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard and Montgomery counties.

House of Ruth - \$290,706 (plus \$21,300 one-time grant). *Carole Alexander, Executive Director.*

House of Ruth's Domestic Violence Legal Clinic provides legal assistance to low-income victims of domestic violence from offices in Baltimore City and Prince George's and Montgomery counties. The

clinic also provides technical assistance and training to spouse abuse centers and interested community organizations statewide.

Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. - \$6,245,200 (plus \$220,000 for the Maryland Legal Assistance Network and \$250,000 Challenge Grant). *Wilhelm H. Joseph, Jr., Executive Director.*

Established in 1911, LAB is Maryland's primary provider of civil legal services to low-income persons. The MLSC grant is used to fund attorneys and paralegals providing general civil legal assistance to low-income persons throughout Maryland and for administering the Maryland Legal Assistance Network (MLAN), which supports the legal services delivery system through a variety of technology initiatives.

Maryland Civil Liberties Union Foundation - \$36,965. *Susan Goering, Executive Director.*

MCLUF receives MLSC funding to provide legal representation to low-income persons statewide in matters involving racial discrimination, police abuse and jail conditions.

Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education - \$40,000 (plus \$10,000 Challenge Grant). *Selene Almazan, Director.*

MCIE provides representation to disabled children throughout Maryland seeking to be educated in the least restrictive environment.

Maryland Crime Victims Resource Center, Inc. - \$93,156. *Russell Butler, Executive Director.*

Formerly the Stephanie Roper Foundation, this statewide victim's rights organization receives MLSC funding to disseminate information on victim's rights to all Marylanders and provide specialized legal services to indigent crime victims.

Maryland Disability Law Center - \$581,169 (plus \$10,695 one-time grant). *Virginia Knowlton, Executive Director.*

MDLC provides free representation for disabled children and adults statewide with legal problems related to their disabilities.

SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE

MARYLAND DISABILITY LAW CENTER FIGHTS HOUSING DISCRIMINATION

Maryland Disability Law Center (MDLC) represented a man with physical disabilities who was living in a large public housing development with his four teenage boys. The client had severe congenital problems with his back, needed to use a wheelchair at times and could not climb stairs. He had requested a medical transfer to a first-floor apartment through the Immediate Needs Policy of the Housing Authority of Baltimore City (HABC) more than 18 months previously but had not been transferred to a unit that met the family's needs.

With the help of MDLC, HABC offered to move the client to a newly renovated, accessible unit in another development as well as provide critically needed moving expenses. MDLC is happy to report that the family moved shortly afterward into an apartment that met their needs.

SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE**MID-SHORE
COUNCIL ON FAMILY
VIOLENCE FREES
WOMAN FROM 17
YEARS OF ABUSE**

A 39-year-old Talbot County woman with a daughter who is 14 and a 12-year-old son had endured physical and emotional abuse throughout her 17-year marriage. She originally sought help from the Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence (MSCFV) after her estranged, drug-addicted husband made verbal threats toward her and repeatedly came to her home and workplace harassing her for money. With the help of MSCFV, the client obtained a Protective Order in June 2005. Since then the client has been moving forward with her life since leaving the abusive relationship, including pursuing educational opportunities and arranging therapy for her children. Her MSCFV attorney also represented her in divorce and custody proceedings. In June 2006, just after the Protective Order expired, the woman was granted a divorce and sole legal and physical custody of her children.

Maryland Public Interest Law Project - \$40,000. *Jenny Deines and Lauren Bregman, Co-Presidents.*

MPILP, located at the University of Maryland School of Law, encourages law students to enter public interest law practice and offers law students from the University of Maryland and the University of Baltimore paid internships at public interest organizations of their choice.

Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service - \$302,819 (plus \$3,000 for litigation expense fund, \$62,000 for reduced-fee project and \$41,871 one-time grant). *Winifred C. Borden, Executive Director.*

MVLS is a statewide program that places low-income persons with civil legal problems with volunteer or reduced-fee attorneys. MLSC also funds a litigation expense fund administered by MVLS for other pro bono and reduced-fee programs throughout the state.

Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence, Inc. - \$45,550 (plus \$28,750 for reduced-fee project). *Jeanne Yeager, Executive Director.*

The Mid-Shore Council receives MLSC funding for its reduced-fee legal services program (separate from the child custody project) to provide representation for low-income victims of domestic violence in Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot counties.

Mid-Shore Pro Bono - \$30,000. *Steven Periconi, Executive Director.*

The Mid-Shore Pro Bono Project receives funding from MLSC through the Mid-Shore Community Foundation to provide pro bono services in Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties in family law, domestic violence, housing and landlord/tenant matters, wills and related documents, and elder law issues.

Montgomery County Bar Foundation - \$163,000 (plus \$55,000 for reduced-fee project). *Beverly C. Mondin-VanderHaar, Executive Director.*

The Montgomery County Bar Foundation operates a pro bono program in which attorneys are recruited to take pro bono cases in their area of expertise and conducts community outreach to the county's growing immigrant population.

Pro Bono Resource Center - \$162,792 (plus \$6,600 one-time grant). *Sharon E. Goldsmith, Executive Director.*

PBRC is a statewide pro bono support center created in 1990 by the Maryland State Bar Association to coordinate pro bono training and activities, maximize volunteer attorney services to low-income Maryland residents and provide support for pro bono programs throughout the state.

Public Justice Center, Inc. - \$189,500 (plus \$50,000 one-time grant). *John Nethercut, Executive Director.*

PJC provides legal representation to the underrepresented, particularly children, the mentally ill and victims of discrimination, through the services of both an in-house staff and pro bono attorneys. The Center also operates the Tenant Advocacy Project, providing low-income tenants representation in rent court by qualified lay advocates.

St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center, Inc. - \$105,230 (plus \$10,000 one-time grant). *Vincent P. Quayle, Executive Director.*

St. Ambrose Legal Services Program provides free legal assistance to low-income homeowners who are in danger of losing their homes because of fraudulent mortgage schemes, tax or judicial liens or have been victimized by home improvement fraud.

Sexual Assault Legal Institute - \$40,000 (plus \$2,500 one-time grant). *Lisae C. Jordan, Project Director.*

SALI is part of the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault and provides comprehensive legal assistance to victims of sexual assault throughout the state.

Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy - \$47,182 (plus \$32,612 for reduced-fee project). *Laura Joyce, Executive Director.*

The former Southern Maryland Women's Center provides legal services to low-income clients of St. Mary's, Charles and Calvert counties, primarily in the area of domestic relations, with emphasis on cases involving domestic violence.

University of Maryland School of Law - HIV Project - \$63,475. *Brenda Blom, Clinical Director.*

The MLSC grant to the University of Maryland Clinical Law Office helps to continue the HIV Legal Representation Project, in which law students provide legal services to persons with AIDS and HIV infection at the University of Maryland Hospital.

Whitman-Walker Clinic - \$40,000. *Don Blanchon, Executive Director.*

The Whitman-Walker Clinic's Legal Services Program provides pro bono legal assistance to persons living with HIV/AIDS in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, including the Maryland counties of Montgomery, Prince George's, Frederick, Charles and Calvert, focusing on discrimination in employment, health care, education and housing and immigration matters.

Women's Law Center, Inc. - \$128,436 (plus \$48,000 for reduced-fee project and \$22,500 one-time grant). *Tracy Brown, Executive Director.*

The Women's Law Center was established in 1971 to meet the special legal needs of women and uses the MLSC grant to continue its statewide Family Law Hotline.

YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County - \$48,000 for reduced-fee project. *Janis Harvey, Executive Director.*

The YWCA legal services program administers the Child Custody Project matching private attorneys with low-income individuals seeking representation in custody matters.

TIMETABLE FOR THE 2007-2008 GRANT AWARDS

Deadline for Applications:

March 15, 2007

Selection of Grantees:

May 31, 2007

First Disbursement:

July 15, 2007

Requests for information and inquiries about grants should be directed to: Harriet Robinson, Deputy Director, Maryland Legal Services Corporation, 15 Charles Plaza, Suite 102, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, 410.576.9494 or 800.492.1340 (toll free), e-mail: hrobinson@mlsc.org.

HOW GRANTS ARE MADE

The Maryland Legal Services Corporation Board of Directors annually awards grants. By statute, the Corporation's funds must be used by grantees to provide legal assistance to eligible clients in noncriminal proceedings or other civil legal matters.

For a more detailed description of funding guidelines, potential grantees should see our web site at www.mlsc.org or contact the MLSC office for information. A first-time applicant should send a brief description of the proposed program to the Corporation. If the proposed program appears to fit grant guidelines, the Corporation will request a formal application and more detailed information.



MARYLAND LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION
SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL INFORMATION
JUNE 30, 2006

Statements of Financial Position

ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 308,853
Repurchase Agreements	1,652,082
Investments	5,040,901
Due from State	200,000
Other	<u>29,895</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 7,231,731</u>
LIABILITIES AND DEFICIT	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 50,313
Due to State	97,354
Grant Awards Payable	<u>3,333</u>
Total Liabilities	151,000
Deficit ()	<u>7,080,731</u>
Total Liabilities and Deficit	<u>\$ 7,231,731</u>

Statements of Activities

PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE	
State of Maryland Appropriations:	
Legal Assistance	\$ 10,867,000
Investment Income	428,707
Other	<u>26,435</u>
Total Public Support and Revenue	<u>\$ 11,322,142</u>
EXPENSES	
Program Services:	
Legal Assistance	\$ 10,732,438
Management and General	<u>157,892</u>
Total Expenses	<u>10,890,330</u>
Change in Net Assets from Operations	431,812
Unexpended Grant Funds Returned	<u>(7,255)</u>
Change in Net Assets	<u>\$ 424,557</u>

NOTE: Effective July 1, 2005, the Corporation was advised by the State that it would be required to report its financial statements under standards issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), and this audit was conducted accordingly. Prior to July 1, 2005, the financial statements of the Corporation had been prepared in accordance with standards issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB).

MLSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

Douglas M. Bregman, Esq., Treasurer – Montgomery County – Partner, Bregman, Berbert, Schwartz & Gilday, LLC; B.A., Colgate University; J.D., Georgetown University Law Center.

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

***Reginald L. Jenkins, Vice-Chair** – Montgomery County – Consultant, Safety Technologies; B.A., Macalester College; M.S., Safety Management, West Virginia University.

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

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

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

**Pamela J. White joined the MLSC Board in July 2006 replacing outgoing member Joyce Knox Moorehead, who served on the Board since 2000. Bernard L. Jennings joined the MLSC Board in November 2006 replacing Reginald L. Jenkins, who served on the Board since 1998. Connie J. Koenig resigned from the MLSC Board effective December 31, 2006 after being a member since 2001. The Corporation wishes to thank Ms. Moorehead, Mr. Jenkins and Ms. Koenig for their dedicated and outstanding contributions to MLSC.*



Standing (L-R): Harriet Robinson, Bernard L. Jennings, Douglas S. Snyder, Douglas M. Bregman, Pamela J. White, Susan M. Erlichman. Seated (L-R): Connie J. Koenig, F. Vernon Boozer, Reginald L. Jenkins. Not Pictured: Bedelia Commodore, Judge Robert B. Kershaw, Nathaniel E. Jones, Jr.

***Connie J. Koenig** – Frederick County – Field Manager, Center for Studies on Alcohol, WESTAT; Secretary, Brunswick Planning & Zoning Commission; B.S., University of Nebraska; M.S. and M.A., Hood College.

***Joyce Knox Moorehead, Esq.** – Baltimore – Managing Partner/Owner, Law Offices of Joyce H. Knox; B.S., Bethune Cookman College; M.S., Boston University; J.D., University of Arkansas.

Douglas S. Snyder, Ph.D. – Prince George's County – Adjunct Professor of Sociology, Prince George's Community College; Professor of

Sociology (emeritus), Bowie State University; B.A., University of Iowa, M.S., Purdue University, Ph.D., University of Washington.

Pamela J. White, Esq. – Baltimore – Principal, Ober, Kaler, Grimes & Shriver, P.C.; B.A., University of Maryland Washington; J.D., Washington and Lee University.

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

MLSC STAFF

Susan M. Erlichman, Esq.
Executive Director

Harriet Robinson
Deputy Director

Sue Lentz
Finance Manager

Rebecca Parker
IOLTA Administrator



“THERE IS A NEED TO PROVIDE EQUAL ACCESS TO THE SYSTEM OF JUSTICE FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO SEEK REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES. THERE IS A NEED TO CONTINUE AND EXPAND LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO THOSE WHO WOULD OTHERWISE BE UNABLE TO AFFORD ADEQUATE LEGAL COUNSEL.” — *Preamble, Maryland Legal Services Corporation Act, 1982*



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