

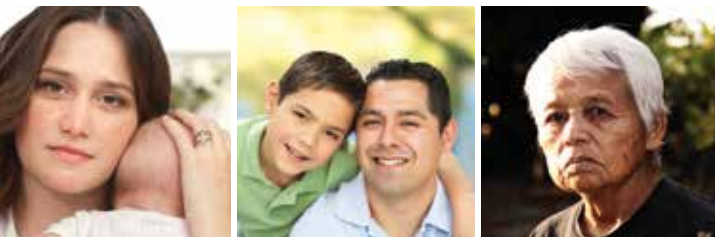


THE CAMPAIGN for Legal Services

Silicon Valley's Legal Access Fund

2014

ANNUAL REPORT



JANUARY 1 –
DECEMBER 31, 2014

WE'VE CHANGED OUR NAME, but not our commitment to assuring access to civil legal counsel for Silicon Valley's low-income residents.

The Silicon Valley Campaign For Legal Services has changed its name to **The Campaign for Legal Services** to better reflect its expanded opportunities for participation.

Since our founding, we have been dedicated to assisting those organizations in the Silicon Valley that provide civil legal services to those in need. While in the beginning our efforts focused on a single campaign, we have since expanded to offer a variety of opportunities for giving and volunteering through additional programs such as our annual Bocce Ball Tournament, our Amicus Committee Associates Campaign and working with the SCCBA Probonomatch.org. In rebranding our organization as The Campaign, we demonstrate our commitment to serving as the Silicon Valley's Legal Access Fund. ✦



**THE CAMPAIGN
for Legal Services**

Silicon Valley's Legal Access Fund

2014 GRANT AWARDS CHANGE LIVES

In 2014 a total of \$336,000 in grants was awarded to the eight agencies within The Campaign's funding umbrella. All eight agencies received increases to their grant awards from the previous year.

Beneficiary agencies continue to remark on the vitality of The Campaign and its importance to legal services delivery. Each beneficiary agency's board of directors determines the best and most effective use of the awarded grant monies, thus ensuring support for the most urgent client needs and program priorities. Organizations receive a proportional share of the funds raised according to an established formula that assures an equitable distribution.

Our special thanks to Facebook for hosting the 2014 Donor Celebration and Grant Awards event and to our keynote speaker, Hon. Peter H. Kirwan, Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara. ✨

CASES INSPIRE OUR ACTION

ACTING TO END HOMELESSNESS

Vanessa, a single mother of three who works as a dental assistant, lived in a rent-stabilized apartment in East Palo Alto for two years. When she was late with the rent, her landlord sought to evict her from her home. Before Vanessa found this apartment, she had lived at a homeless shelter with her children, and feared that the eviction would force them to return to a shelter. She began packing her belongings and took the disheartening step of putting her name on a wait list for a homeless shelter. However, with the help of a legal services attorney, the situation was resolved and a settlement allowed Vanessa and her family to stay in their apartment.

PRESERVING GUARDIANSHIP AND A SAFE HOME FOR A CHILD

Maria was born to a teenage mother unable to care for her due to substance abuse and homelessness. To prevent Maria from becoming part of the foster care system, her mother, Janet, asked a friend's parents to provide for Maria's well-being. When the child became critically ill, the McGuires obtained legal guardianship. After failing to visit her daughter consistently for six years, Janet filed a petition to terminate the McGuire's guardianship. Maria became fearful of even seeing her mother, believing she would be taken from the McGuire's care - the only home she had ever known. A legal services organization worked directly with Maria, her guardians and her mother to create a mutually cooperative and positive agreement that allowed Maria to remain with her guardians. Janet recently asked the guardians to adopt Maria, with an agreement for ongoing visitation.

AN UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANT YOUTH SEEKS A FUTURE WITHOUT FEAR

Joseph, an undocumented 18-year-old youth, was brought to the US from Korea by his parents at age 12. His classmates and friends were unaware of his immigration status. After graduating with honors from high school in San Jose, Joseph was attending community college when he heard about the deferred action for childhood arrivals (DACA) program for undocumented immigrant youth brought to the U.S. as children. When he heard about the DACA program, he was fearful to reveal his immigration status for fear of deportation. He approached a legal services organization for help and shared his fears, hopes and dreams for the future, but did not want to begin the DACA application process before talking with his parents. Once he received their blessing, Joseph successfully completed his application with the assistance of a legal services attorney and was thrilled to receive a work authorization card and obtain his first California Driver's License. Joseph found a part-time job and is now continuing his studies at a local community college; he hopes to transfer to a university after completing his community college curriculum.

RESTORING INCOME FOR A DISABLED CLIENT

Teresa, a disabled retiree, and her husband each had been receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance. When her husband left her, Teresa no longer had access to their combined income benefit and was told that her benefits would be half of the couple's combined benefits, even less than what she would receive as an individual. She then received a notice that her SSI benefits would be terminated altogether because her former husband's income had increased when he began to receive other federal benefits. A legal aid attorney appealed to the Social Security Administration, explaining that Teresa's husband had left her and that her benefits should accordingly be calculated based solely on her own income. The Social Security Administration agreed and Teresa's eligibility income was restored. ✨

“ I could never have afforded
to have legal representation without your help.
Our lives were changed forever. Thanks!”

— VIRGINIA, MOTHER OF TWO SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

CHARACTERISTICS AND NEEDS OF PEOPLE WHO BENEFIT

Nearly 500,000 people in Silicon Valley — 25 percent of the population — qualify for special help due to income, age, or disability. These individuals' critical legal issues are primarily related to:

- ✦ Health care
- ✦ Housing
- ✦ Family law
- ✦ Economic stability
- ✦ Elderly issues
- ✦ Consumer issues
- ✦ Immigration
- ✦ Employment

The people who receive The Campaign's assistance typically have poverty-level incomes far below the amount actually needed to live in Silicon Valley. Many of those individuals are the working poor.

These are the financial circumstances of most of the people we help: In January 2014, the annual federal poverty level for a family of four (two adults and two children) was \$23,850. In Silicon Valley, by comparison, a minimum annual income of \$81,774 is needed to satisfy the California Self-Sufficiency Standard, which measures the level of income that working individuals and families need to pay for their basic needs – housing, food, childcare, health care, transportation, and other fundamental requirements.

While the Self-Sufficiency Standard varies from county to county, a person working two full-time minimum wage jobs does not earn enough to support a family in any county of California, even with California's current minimum wage of \$9 an hour. ✦

STATISTICS OF WHO RECEIVED OUR HELP IN 2014

Number of Clients (unduplicated):

42,473

TYPES OF CASES

Conservatorship/Guardianship	.8%
Consumer/Finance	4.2%
Domestic Violence, Family, Juvenile	16.4%
Education, Employment	3.6%
Health	4.7%
Housing	24.8%
Immigration	13.8%
Income Maintenance	10.9%
Miscellaneous and Individual Rights	20.6%

ETHNICITY

8%	African-American
15%	Asian
24%	Caucasian
35%	Hispanic
1%	Native American
7%	Other

MALE FEMALE

40%
60%

UNDER 18 18-59 60 AND OVER

9%
75%
17%

DISABLED LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

45.2%
16.2%



INADEQUATE LEGAL
SERVICES SUPPORT
AND LANGUAGE BARRIERS
are two of the top three
2 challenges facing our 3
region's ability to integrate
immigrants successfully.

“ My dreams for the future
will now be realized
because of your help.
Thank you for supporting legal aid. ”
— JOSEPH, AGE 18



The United States is a nation of immigrants and owes its political, economic and cultural strength to the contributions of people from many different countries.

Regardless of immigration status, newcomers are woven into the fabric of the United States and are becoming part of our society. In addition to staffing our businesses, immigrants attend and send their children to school, belong to religious congregations and engage in community life. (Our use of the term immigrant and newcomer in this article is used to describe a foreign-born person living in the United States, regardless of their immigration status or whether they have become U.S. citizens.)

Silicon Valley is an immigrant demographic microcosm of the United States. One-third of our residents are immigrants and nearly half of our work force is foreign-born; close to two-thirds of those under the age of 18 are the children of immigrants. Only Los Angeles County and Orange County have more immigrants than Silicon Valley.

We are home to a large number of refugees from the top five countries from which refugees come to the United States. These refugees are admitted to the United States because of persecution on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, political opinion or membership in a particular social group. Refugees who are resettled in our region primarily came from Bosnia/Herzegovina, the former Soviet Union, Vietnam, Somalia and Iran.

Eighty-five percent of immigrant families have mixed immigration status – 75 percent of children in immigrant families are U.S. citizens and more than 3 million children have undocumented parents. This demographic difference is important because the prevalence of mixed immigration status families means that when laws draw sharp distinctions between citizens and non-citizens, members of the same family are treated differently (e.g., loss of Medicaid, food stamps, health insurance and any general assistance programs).

Immigrating to a new country and learning a new way of life is a highly individualized process of acculturation during which the individual both keeps and sheds some elements of his or her previous culture, and chooses to adopt some elements of an American or mainstream culture. This process is usually a gradual one. Factors that influence how quickly an individual adapts, as well as which new cultural elements will be adopted or not embraced, include both personal preferences and circumstances.

Current thinking on immigrant integration supports not only the immigrant taking responsibility for the adaptation process, but also the immigrant's new home community taking responsibility for the process. This two-way model does not place the entire burden on the individual, but rather emphasizes that both mainstream institutions and community members have important roles to play.

According to a report published by the Community Foundation of Silicon Valley, an inadequate legal services support infrastructure and language barriers are two of the top three challenges facing our region's ability to integrate immigrants successfully. These concerns have reverberated through the local, statewide and national legal community, and among The Campaign's funded agencies, for some time.

For example, in our 2007 Annual Report we highlighted the problem of Language Barriers to Justice. With over 100 languages spoken in our community on a regular basis, 45 percent of the general population speaks a language other than English at home. A report by the California Commission on Access to Justice, *Language Barriers to Justice in California*, underscored this issue.

In cases brought to our attention by the legal services organizations that The Campaign benefits, we frequently see how a lack of language proficiency or an individual's immigrant status can play a significant role in clients' lives. Such individuals are vulnerable to consumer fraud, unable to access health services to which they are entitled, subject to wage garnishments, trapped in creditor/debtor cases and powerless in family law matters.

There is a significant need to expand the legal support services infrastructure for both documented and undocumented immigrants. Although in Silicon Valley some immigrants are high-skilled workers who can afford to pay for legal services, there is a critical need to provide disadvantaged, low-income immigrants and refugees assistance with routine and complex immigration and citizenship cases.

In addition to immigration and citizenship cases, low-income immigrant communities also experience the same full range of life-affecting legal problems that their American-born counterparts do. Such basic services as food, shelter, health care and access to education are preserved when these individuals have access to civil legal services.

The involvement of civil legal services providers often is necessary for individuals to legitimately access services to which they are legally entitled, but may have been declined due to a variety of circumstances. This is true even when all involved act with the best of intentions. But because immigrants are especially vulnerable to the predations of those unscrupulous individuals who seek out and victimize immigrants, the need for civil legal services can be especially critical. Legal services also are necessary to assist immigrants as they seek to have their rights enforced in the new society.

Legal services organizations face a daunting challenge in trying to accommodate an overwhelming workload despite limited resources. A 2007 survey, by Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees, of 64 legal service providers in Northern California revealed that these agencies are providing services to 8,000 individuals: barely 10 percent of all individuals eligible for immigration status adjustment. And any changes to the country's immigration laws that promise changed legal status for immigrants mean that legal services agencies who serve immigrants have even larger pools of potential clients to serve.

We welcome and thank you for your support for The Campaign. Together we can make headway to remedy these significant community issues. ❁

This article draws from a research paper prepared by the Community Foundation of Silicon Valley.



THE CAMPAIGN MISSION

THE CAMPAIGN FOR LEGAL SERVICES provides low-income individuals access to civil legal counsel by assuring a stable, diverse network of legal service providers across all civil matters. The Campaign acts a fundraising arm for eight agencies. All but three of these organizations lack staff capacity to seek effective community philanthropic support on their own. The agencies provide civil representation on issues such as domestic violence, immigration, and accessing social and educational services.



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The Campaign also acts to encourage members of the legal community to become more involved in the provision of pro bono legal assistance. The legal community's pro bono actions and financial support are not only welcome, but essential. We count upon the participation of our friends in the greater community who believe, as we do, that access to civil legal counsel is a fundamental tenet of our society, rather than a benefit for the privileged few.

The Campaign for Legal Services is a recipient of the American Bar Association's prestigious Harrison Tweed award in conjunction with the Santa Clara County Bar Association, for leadership in expanding and developing support for the provision of free legal services to the poor. ❁

AMICUS COMMITTEE

The Campaign is grateful to have the support of its Amicus Committee, a dynamic group of young lawyers who are dedicated to advancing its mission. These attorneys are critical to building a new generation of enthusiastic supporters for the legal services agencies that serve Silicon Valley. The Amicus Committee provides visibility and support for The Campaign within the firms, corporations, and government agencies where its members work; it also hosts a variety of social and networking events throughout the year. Anne Davis, Morrison & Foerster LLP, chaired the 2014 Amicus Committee. ❁

BOCCE BALL TOURNAMENT AND SUMMER SOCIAL MIXER LAUNCHES THE SUMMER SEASON IN STYLE!

The 2014 Bocce Ball Tournament was, as always, a popular draw. The event on June 26 drew associates, summer associates, and partners from area law firms, as well as teams from the business community, for a lively evening of court play, dinner, and a silent auction of fine wines.

At the end of play two Jones Day LLP teams had triumphed, taking home the first- and second-place finish.

The Tournament was chaired by Patrick Lundell, Hoge Fenton Jones & Appel, with assistance from a legion of others including yeomen's effort by Julie Davies and Eric Foster of Morgan Lewis & Bockius, and Jongjit Wongsrikasem of Chevron. ❁



2014 Bocce Tournament Winners: Jones Day LLP

ASSOCIATES CAMPAIGN

The Associates Campaign raises vital funds and contributes to the Campaign's overall success. Many law firm associates, who begin their relationship with The Campaign by contributing through this mechanism, continue to support our mission for many years to come.

This year, seven firms participated. Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP associates rallied to raise the most funds from the greatest number of donors, with Sullivan & Cromwell LLP coming in a close second in number of donors. Bergeson LLP heralded 100 percent participation among associates.

Our hearty thanks to everyone who contributed to making this new program a success – the donors and volunteers whose efforts established this new tradition of support. Special recognition goes to Tyler Pender and Samantha Knox of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, whose leadership inspired others to act. ❁



THE CAMPAIGN FOR LEGAL SERVICES 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

INCOME

Contributions			
Individuals			
Board Members	\$450,10		
Individuals (attorneys and others)	<u>42,471</u>		
Subtotal Individual Gifts		\$ 92,577	
Law Firms		271,700	
Companies		48,025	
Foundations		17,000	
Cy Pres		8,916	
Special Events (gross)		<u>27,183</u>	
Subtotal Gifts			\$465,401
Donated Services			19,881
Interest Income			<u>3</u>
Total Contributed Income			\$485,285

EXPENSES

Agency Distributions			
Bay Area Legal Aid (SCC Office)	\$ 56,530		
Katherine & George Alexander Community Law Center	55,140		
Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto	48,300		
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley	56,530		
Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County	20,000		
Pro Bono Project Silicon Valley	33,628		
Santa Clara County Asian Law Alliance	41,675		
Senior Adults Legal Assistance	<u>24,474</u>		
Subtotal Distributions to Agencies			\$336,277
Other Programs			<u>35,737</u>
Subtotal All Programs			\$ 372,014
Administrative Expenses			
Management and General	\$ 52,129		
Fundraising	71,184		
Total Expenses			\$495,327
Increase (Decrease) in Unrestricted Net Assets			-10,042
Cash, Beginning of Year			44,934
Surplus (Deficit) Held for Operations			\$ 34,892

“ For many Californians, access to justice can be far from easy. Many impediments exist – some caused by language and cultural differences, others by physical or emotional barriers, lack of money, or inadequate information about available services. Our nation and our state were founded on the fundamental principle of liberty and justice for all. ”

— RONALD M. GEORGE, FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE OF CALIFORNIA

THANK YOU! 2014 DONORS

Thank you for supporting our very important mission – to give low-income individuals access to civil legal counsel. We gratefully acknowledge gifts from January 1 through December 31, 2014.

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Gifts of \$40,000 and above

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*The Thurgood Marshall Society recognizes law firms whose gift is equivalent to \$350 or greater per attorney based in Silicon Valley.

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