

Iowa Legal Aid

CRITICAL SERVICES FOR VULNERABLE IOWANS

IOWA
LEGAL
AID®

HOPE. DIGNITY. JUSTICE.

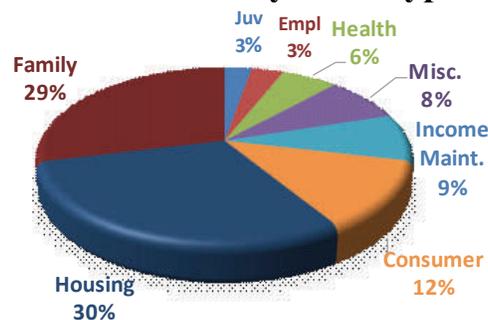
Iowa Legal Aid is the only statewide provider of free, civil legal assistance to low-income Iowans. Iowa Legal Aid:

- Helps people with critical legal needs that affect safety, shelter, sustenance and health:
 - ◊ Protects victims of domestic violence;
 - ◊ Protects families from unsafe housing and illegal evictions;
 - ◊ Protects elderly Iowans from consumer fraud, elder abuse and financial exploitation; and
 - ◊ Secures health care, SSI and basic public benefits for low-income Iowans.
- Provides services in all 99 counties through 10 regional offices.
- Does not handle fee generating cases or criminal cases

CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS:

- 72% are women;
- 30% have a disability
- 24% are age 60 or older;
- Over 16,010 children lived in the households served

2016 Closures by Case Type



UNMET NEED FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE:

- Over 499,000 Iowans (16.7%) have incomes below 125% of the federal poverty guidelines and are income eligible for Iowa Legal Aid's services.
- Iowa Legal Aid closed approximately 16,350 cases in 2016, serving nearly 38,000 Iowans; this is almost 39% less than the number of cases closed in 2010. The decrease is the result of reduced staff (13 fewer attorneys and 6 fewer support staff), not reduced need.
- **10,000 families are turned away or underserved annually due to lack of staff resources.**

"Iowa Legal Aid is a very accomplished, productive, and organized program providing high quality effective and efficient legal services to its clients."

— Report from Legal Services Corporation Office of Program Performance

Iowa Legal Aid

WHAT IOWA LEGAL AID'S CLIENTS SAY:

I was so distraught, not knowing how I could handle my legal problems with no help. Iowa Legal Aid was so helpful and explained every step. My situation was made so much better with the trial agreement that I am doing now. (Foreclosure)

After months of hard work by the Iowa Legal Aid attorney, we received a good decision. My father got his Medicaid! (Medicaid)

Thank you for everything you did for my children and me. We feel safe and are on our way to a new healthy happy life. (Family Law)

I am not going to lose my home now. (Housing Law)

Without Iowa Legal Aid's help, I don't know where I would be! I have custody of my kids and we are now in the process of rebuilding our lives. (Domestic Violence)

FINANCIAL STATUS:

- Iowa Legal Aid's federal funding from the Legal Services Corporation was approximately \$250,000 less in 2016 than in 2010.
- As a result of reduced interest rates and falling revenues, funding from the Supreme Court's IOLTA Commission to Iowa Legal Aid is nearly \$800,000 less than the amount received eight years ago.



ECONOMIC IMPACT:

- In 2012, Iowa Legal Aid's funding and services provided \$44,000,000 in benefits to Iowa's economy
- In 2011, every dollar Iowans invested in Iowa Legal Aid yielded a return of \$6.71 in federal funding, direct benefits to clients and indirect savings to Iowa communities.

For additional information contact:

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