



HOME JUSTICE

A PROJECT OF THE ALLIANCE FOR EQUAL JUSTICE

LEGAL FOUNDATION OF WASHINGTON

APPLICATION TO THE WASHINGTON CONSUMER FORECLOSURE REMEDIES FUND

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NARRATIVE (PAGES 1-12)

ATTACHMENTS

1. STORIES OF PEOPLE HELPED WITH FORECLOSURE-RELATED LEGAL PROBLEMS
2. ALLIANCE FOR EQUAL JUSTICE CLIENT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA
3. POVERTY POPULATION DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
4. MAP OF ALLIANCE FOR EQUAL JUSTICE PROVIDERS
5. LETTERS OF COMMITMENT AND SUPPORT
 - Washington Supreme Court
 - Office of Civil Legal Aid Oversight Board
 - Washington State Bar Association
 - Northwest Justice Project
 - Columbia Legal Services
 - Volunteer Lawyer Programs
 - Seattle University School of Law
6. LEGAL FOUNDATION OF WASHINGTON ORGANIZATIONAL CHART
7. BUDGET INFORMATION FOR HOME JUSTICE
8. ALLIANCE FOR EQUAL JUSTICE FUNDING CHART
9. LEAD PROJECT STAFF RESUMES
10. SAMPLE LEGAL SERVER CLOSED CASES REPORT: 2011 KCBA PRO BONO SERVICES
11. SUMMARY OF ACCESS TO JUSTICE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS
12. LFW FINANCIAL AND NARRATIVE REPORT FORMS

**APPLICATION FOR FUNDS FOR PROJECT TO HELP WASHINGTON
HOMEOWNERS AVOID PREVENTABLE FORECLOSURES OR TO AMELIORATE
THE EFFECTS OF THE FORECLOSURE CRISIS**

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Organization Name:	Legal Foundation of Washington
Mailing Address:	1325 4 th Avenue, Suite 1335
City, State, Zip:	Seattle, WA 98101
County:	King
If Tribal, Designate Tribe:	NA
Primary Contact Person:	Caitlin Davis Carlson
Primary Contact Phone No.:	206 957 6288
Primary Contact Email:	caitlindc@legalfoundation.org
Secondary Contact Person:	Andrea Axel
Secondary Contact Phone No.:	206 957 6289
Secondary Contact Email:	andrea@legalfoundation.org

II. ORGANIZATION TYPE

(check applicable)

- ☒ 501(c)3 nonprofit – YES
☐ Tribal
☐ Governmental agency

III. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Tax Identification Number (TIN):	91-1263533
Uniform Business Identifier (UBI):	601 839 941

A. Does your organization currently receive any funding from the AGO? If yes, please identify the date of your last report.

☐ No ☒ Yes

The Legal Foundation of Washington does not receive funding from the AGO. Several legal aid providers that work with the Alliance for Equal Justice *do* receive AGO funding. Those organizations and the dates of their most recent reports are listed:

Organization	Date of Report
Washington State Bar Association (AGO sub-grant to NJP)	First report due 7/1/12
Seattle Community Law Center	First report due 7/17/12
Seattle University & Gonzaga Law Schools	First report due 1/13/13

B. Does your organization receive any funding from any other governmental agency for housing related projects or foreclosure related assistance? If yes, list the contracts by title, contract number and funding amount for the past 3 years.

☐ No ☒ Yes

The Legal Foundation of Washington does not directly receive funds from any other governmental agency for housing or foreclosure related projects.

LFW contracts with Northwest Justice Project to distribute state funds from the Office of Civil Legal Aid to our grantees for general civil legal aid services to low-income people, which may include housing or foreclosure related work. In the past three years the amounts of the state funding subcontract were:

- 2011 – \$1,850,000
- 2010 – \$1,900,000
- 2009 – \$1,900,000

Multiple legal aid providers in the Alliance for Equal Justice also receive funding from municipal, county, state and federal governmental entities, some of which may be used for housing and foreclosure work.

C. Is your organization solely owned/operated by a current state employee? If so, please complete the Ethics Certification process at www.ethics.wa.gov.

☒ No ☐ Yes

IV. PROJECT PROPOSAL

A. Project Title: Home Justice: A project of the Alliance for Equal Justice

B. Requested Amount: \$16.1 million over five years

On behalf of individuals, families and communities affected by the home foreclosure crisis and as the fiscal agent and primary sponsor of the Washington State Alliance for Equal Justice, the Legal Foundation of Washington requests \$16.1 million in National Settlement residual funds to underwrite a five year legal assistance strategy. In order to have a sustainable impact across Washington and a meaningful effect for individuals and families, we propose the following distribution, with a ramp-up period at the outset and a ramp-down period in years four and five:

- **2013:** \$3.0 million to initiate the core components of this effort and replace current sources of targeted foreclosure related funding that expire on June 30, 2013.
- **2014-2015:** \$3.8 million each year to underwrite the full spectrum of legal assistance efforts focused on the consequences of the foreclosure crisis.
- **2016:** \$3.0 to begin the transition to reduced capacity.
- **2017:** \$2.5 million to conclude National Settlement funded foreclosure prevention and legal assistance to address secondary consequences of the foreclosure crisis.

C. Project summary: In 150 words or less, concisely describe your project and how it meets the criteria set forth in the settlement. This summary will help the Committee review proposals. Attachments and exhibits are not allowed in this section. Over-length summaries will disqualify application.

Immediate and long-term consequences of the national foreclosure crisis plague Washington families and communities. The problems are complex, and require a collaborative legal response. Washington's Alliance for Equal Justice (Alliance) is a nationally recognized coalition that provides legal aid to tens of thousands of families each year. It aims to take a holistic approach to the foreclosure crisis, by both assisting individuals with immediate legal needs and helping entire communities recover from devastation. Using National Mortgage Settlement funding, the Alliance will primarily focus on stopping preventable foreclosures and promoting housing stability in foreclosure-dense areas. Also, our state's legal aid providers will work together to address the wide array of harms experienced by individuals and communities in light of the massive numbers of foreclosures in recent years. Finally, the Alliance will protect homeowners and consumers by crafting appropriate broad based solutions designed to help Washington recover from the crisis.

D. Describe how your project meets the criteria set forth in sections I and III above, including estimated start and completion dates. Supporting information and exhibits may be included here. Please try to make your submission as concise as possible.

Civil legal help is critical to foreclosure prevention, housing stability and community renewal, and is essential to address the cumulative effects of the foreclosure crisis on Washington families and communities. More than 135,000 Washington households have experienced foreclosure related issues in the past four years. In the next two to three years this figure will grow to more than 200,000. Each of these households will face legal and socio-economic repercussions lasting years. In addition to the crisis' toll on individuals, certain geographic and minority communities have been especially affected by high foreclosure rates, as have a number of distinct culturally and linguistically isolated communities. Full recovery from the foreclosure crisis demands a collaborative legal response.

The Legal Foundation of Washington submits this application on behalf of our state's civil legal aid programs, Washington's Alliance for Equal Justice, which will coordinate a range of legal interventions necessary to help the state recover from the foreclosure crisis.

The Alliance for Equal Justice (Alliance) is well situated to realize the intent and spirit of the National Mortgage Settlement by stopping preventable foreclosures and ameliorating the pervasive effects of the foreclosure crisis. The Alliance is a nationally recognized model for civil legal aid delivery with a solid track record of providing high quality legal assistance on the whole range of foreclosure related legal issues. The more than 20 civil legal aid programs that comprise the Alliance can systematically address the numerous long-term consequences confronting low and moderate income homeowners, tenants and communities. A well developed statewide delivery infrastructure reaches underserved populations that experience barriers to recovery, including poverty and isolation.

The Northwest Justice Project (NJP) is the hub of Washington's civil legal aid system, providing and coordinating legal services to eligible clients statewide. NJP operates CLEAR, a toll free hotline that receives more than 700 calls per day and a separate specialized hotline for foreclosure intake. NJP also maintains an extensive online self-help resource center, WashingtonLawHelp.org, which includes foreclosure related video content. NJP's 17 regional and satellite offices provide extended legal representation in the most pressing and difficult cases facing low-income people across the state.

In conjunction with NJP, a network of other legal aid providers (such as Columbia Legal Services, TeamChild, Unemployment Law Project and regional volunteer attorney programs) operates in every corner of the state. In addition to dedicated staff attorneys, these programs leverage more than 50,000 volunteer hours from thousands of private and government attorneys, offering free help for clients at a very low administrative cost. Attachment 1 has three examples of real people facing loss of their homes who were helped by Alliance providers in the past year.

For more than 30 years, LFW has supported the Alliance with annual operating grants. Consistent with its proven ability and with the support of Alliance members, it will act as the fiscal and administrative agent of the National Mortgage Settlement funding on behalf of the Alliance. Together, these organizations propose a three pronged strategy to directly address the ongoing threat of foreclosure facing Washington homeowners, implement the settlement terms and reduce the long-term consequences of the crisis by:

- 1) Preventing foreclosure, promoting housing and community stability
- 2) Helping families and communities recover: legal assistance to ameliorate the consequences of the foreclosure crisis
- 3) Protecting homeowners and consumers: addressing systemic patterns and practices.

Planning and hiring would commence fall (2012) with a goal of beginning client services early in 2013. Alliance members will provide the full range of legal services in tandem, ensuring an adequate response to the anticipated upsurge in foreclosures in the early part of the grant period. During years four and five of the grant (2016 and 2017) we will undertake an orderly ramp down with a sustained focus on the secondary consequences of the foreclosure crisis.

1) PREVENTING FORECLOSURE, PROMOTING HOUSING STABILITY

Spearheaded by NJP, the primary initial focus will be preventing foreclosure and promoting housing stability.

In partnership with the Washington State Bar Association and supported by the Office of the Attorney General, NJP has led Washington's foreclosure focused legal efforts, starting with one attorney and one paralegal in 2009. The Foreclosure Prevention Unit at NJP has undertaken an intensive effort to respond to the crisis through direct homeowner representation and coordinated litigation efforts with the Attorney General's Office. In addition, NJP and Columbia Legal Services have leveraged volunteer attorney recruitment, implemented statewide attorney training efforts, provided the principal training and support for foreclosure related housing counseling efforts statewide, and conducted broad based community outreach and legal education campaigns, including to linguistically and culturally isolated communities.

Current civil legal aid resources are inadequate to address the foreclosure related needs of Washington families, individuals and communities. Implementation of the 2011 Foreclosure Fairness Act (FFA) and the 2012 amendments to this landmark state legislation will only increase the need for foreclosure related legal assistance and representation.

Using settlement funding, LFW will support a significant upgrade in the Alliance's capacity to provide direct legal assistance to low and moderate income families and individuals facing foreclosure or other housing loss related to foreclosure.

- ⇒ **LFW will be able to continue NJP's expiring WSBA/AGO supported foreclosure prevention effort of five attorneys.** The AGO's current WSBA cy pres grant to NJP will end on June 30, 2013. This funding effectively supports the bulk of Washington civil legal aid's current response to the foreclosure crisis. Continuing existing NJP capacity as of July 1, 2013 is essential to maintaining an adequate response to the foreclosure crisis and effectuating the purposes of the National Settlement.
- ⇒ **LFW will support 15-20 new advocates to expand foreclosure prevention client services across the state, especially in areas of the state hardest hit by the foreclosure crisis.** NJP's current efforts will be expanded through increased NJP staffing and participation of other Alliance legal aid providers. Because of their expertise, geographic location and connections with client communities, Alliance programs such as Columbia Legal Services, Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, and pro bono programs will significantly extend the reach and depth of client services provided by NJP, including services to immigrant communities. Where feasible, the Alliance will partner with law students and law schools to support this work.

Specific tactics will include:

- Represent clients in litigation to protect their homes.
- Increase homeowner participation and success in securing loan modifications, and participating in mediations and "meet and confer" processes.

- Expand legal aid representation in housing mediations and other related foreclosure prevention proceedings.
- Expand assistance to individuals and families faced with foreclosure-related evictions from rented homes.
- Expand training and support systems for legal aid and volunteer attorneys involved in foreclosure prevention work.
- Expand support and training for housing counselors so that they are better able to resolve cases at the “meet and confer” stage.
- Make self-help legal resources and technology applications available to the broadest spectrum of people, especially those experiencing cultural, social and linguistic barriers.
- Develop Alliance-wide case management system enhancements to improve client on-line intake and tracking of ongoing project efforts; expand use of foreclosure prevention videos and new media for community education and self-help efforts.
- Expand community outreach and educational campaigns to individuals and communities with special emphasis on those that experience cultural, social, linguistic or other barriers.

2) HELPING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES RECOVER: LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO AMELIORATE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE FORECLOSURE CRISIS

In addition to the more than 200,000 individuals directly affected by the foreclosure of their homes, the communities faced with a high concentration of foreclosures are already suffering long-term consequences. The social and economic costs of the foreclosure crisis are not limited to the immediate and direct legal issues surrounding foreclosure, but include a wide array of harms – many of which the Alliance can address with legal assistance:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| ○ Evicted and displaced residential tenants in foreclosed properties | ○ Loan modification and home rescue scams |
| ○ Employment losses | ○ Widespread impact of equity stripping |
| ○ Tax and public benefit problems | ○ Deteriorated housing stock and a reduced tax base |
| ○ Foreclosure implicated family law matters | ○ Falling home values |
| ○ Health and education issues affecting displaced households | ○ Vacant and abandoned properties |
| ○ Homelessness | ○ Increases in substandard rental housing |

Ameliorating the long-term individual and community effects of the foreclosure crisis will require a multi-organization effort. **LFW will support approximately 10 additional advocates at multiple legal aid providers to target and address the legal needs of families, individuals, and distressed communities affected by the foreclosure crisis.**

Representative work will include:

- Outreach to affected client populations and communities.
- Identify legal issues and trends, including those affecting communities that disproportionately experienced the consequences of the foreclosure crisis.
- Develop and implement appropriate legal strategies and advocacy responses.
- Increase specialized litigation and related client representation capacity.
- Train and engage volunteer attorneys to provide representation in connection with community economic development initiatives, statewide bankruptcy panels, and expansion of consumer and debt clinics.
- Work with organizations on initiatives designed to strengthen communities and neighborhoods most severely affected by the foreclosure crisis.
- Help community organizations give consumers access to credit, housing counseling and housing stability.
- Facilitate the adoption of local policies and practices that will prevent disparate and often discriminatory practices in the areas of land use, community development, asset preservation and the availability of credit.

3) PROTECTING HOMEOWNERS AND CONSUMERS: ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC PATTERNS AND PRACTICES

The insidious nature of the foreclosure crisis requires systemic advocacy to protect the rights of Washington's homeowners and help all families and communities recover.

Columbia Legal Services (CLS) was pivotal in the passage of the state Foreclosure Fairness Act, and will continue its role in improving and monitoring effective implementation of the new law through training and consultation with stakeholders and providers. As part of a coalition of governmental and nongovernmental entities, CLS will develop and coordinate local legislation to protect homeowners, tenants, consumers and communities. Working with key partners, including the Office of the Attorney General, the Housing Finance Commission, the Departments of Commerce and Financial Institutions and others, the Alliance will secure changes in laws and regulations that protect individuals who have been affected by the foreclosure crisis. Where necessary, the Alliance will employ litigation to eliminate practices and policies that perpetuate the housing foreclosure crisis and place low and moderate income people at risk of housing loss. And finally, the Alliance will partner with and represent community groups engaged in ameliorating the effects of the foreclosure crisis.

LFW will support systemic legal representation and policy work at the local and state levels. Spearheaded by Columbia Legal Services (CLS) with three to four new advocates, the Alliance will potentially serve hundreds of thousands of households in the life of the grant.

E. Describe the demographics of the consumers you serve. Please provide supporting data or statistics.

Washington legal aid providers serve low-income people, defined as people whose income falls below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. NJP's Foreclosure Prevention Unit, which partners with the Washington State Bar Association to use AGO funds, serves people whose income falls below 400 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

Legal aid specializes in serving vulnerable groups, such as those with language and literacy barriers, and people who are geographically isolated. As evidenced in Attachment 2, in 2011 Alliance client service data shows:

- 34 percent of clients served were people of color;
- 66 percent people receiving legal help were female;
- Alliance providers helped people whose primary language was one other than English in over 30 languages; and
- Legal help was provided to people living in all 39 counties.

Demographic information about the poverty population in Washington is found in Attachment 3.

F. Describe the geographic scope of your project.

The Alliance is dedicated to ensuring statewide access to the legal aid system; last year Alliance members served people living in every county in Washington. (Attachment 2)

NJP's statewide client screening and intake phone line (CLEAR) provides expertise with broad geographic reach; for years CLEAR has connected clients living in remote areas with the legal help they need. CLEAR established a dedicated toll free line for home foreclosure issues and a toll free fax number for people seeking help to quickly forward documents. Language interpretation is always available.

As the map of providers shows, Alliance providers have offices statewide. Northwest Justice Project has local offices in 17 locations. Other Alliance members, including specialty programs and volunteer lawyer programs, are located in more than a dozen counties (Attachment 4). Alliance providers are also highly connected through a cutting edge shared case management system, Legal Server, which allows one touch case transfers.

Advocacy impacting specific communities or large numbers of people will also have broad geographic benefits across the state.

G. Identify the total number of consumers you expect to serve during the life of this grant.

LFW will underwrite a comprehensive range of civil legal assistance to address the direct and secondary civil legal needs of people affected by the foreclosure crisis. Legal help will vary greatly in complexity, from a simple intake, assessment and legal advice session to full court representation. Accordingly, in a given year some attorneys may represent hundreds of clients through the provision of brief services while others may litigate a handful of complex cases that will broadly benefit consumers.

Based on averages from legal aid providers, we estimate between 6,000 and 11,000 households will receive direct civil legal aid for foreclosure related legal issues over the five years of this grant, and an additional 2,500 to 5,000 households will receive legal help for secondary effects of the foreclosure crisis.

Hundreds of thousands of households could potentially benefit from successful systemic advocacy, such as class action lawsuits and the implementation of local and state legislation to protect homeowners and victims of the foreclosure crisis.

H. If this is not a new project, describe what changes are being made to an existing project.

National Mortgage Settlement funds will underwrite a substantial expansion of NJP's Foreclosure Prevention Unit to address current and expected increases in foreclosure activity over the next 18 to 24 months. Funds will also allow us to expand Columbia Legal Services' capacity for foreclosure legal representation to complement NJP's work and implement additional strategies to address systemic legal issues that underlie, compound and perpetuate the crisis. We will also enhance capacity to leverage additional pro bono assistance in areas hard hit by the foreclosure crisis, and expand staff in other legal aid providers to address secondary legal consequences as this next wave of foreclosures moves through the system.

I. Describe how net benefit or positive outcomes can be measured at the end of the project.

Alliance for Equal Justice members use a state-of-the-art case management system, Legal Server. Each organization customizes the system for internal client service management and data analysis. The universal nature of the system allows for easy client referrals with attached attorney notes and documents. Individual providers regularly synchronize non-identifying client service data with LFW. These reports show numbers of closed cases, the level of legal service received, the types of legal problems at stake and client demographic information. Plans are underway to modify the Legal Server system to collect additional foreclosure-related outcome information, including loan modifications, deeds in lieu of foreclosures, short sales and other impacts.

In addition to these closed case metrics, providers report detailed project information to LFW via Legal Server's narrative reports. This information includes emerging issues and strategic solutions, representative client stories, descriptions of outreach events, numbers of people impacted by training and education efforts, and estimates of those reached by successful impact advocacy.

J. Have you applied for an equivalent grant in the past, and if so, to which entity and when?

- In 2009 our partner organization, LAW Fund, applied to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to support and preserve Washington's legal aid network. LAW Fund was awarded \$3 million over three years, which was administered by LFW and granted out to Alliance legal aid providers.
- In 2009 LFW applied for and received a grant from the Washington State Bar Association of \$1.5 million, which LFW distributed to its grantees to provide a range of legal services to low-income people.

K. If you intend to collaborate with other organizations, please provide a letter of support from that organization.

Attachment 5 includes letters of commitment and support from: the Washington Supreme Court, the Office of Civil Legal Aid Oversight Board, the Washington State Bar Association, Northwest Justice Project, Columbia Legal Services, four volunteer lawyer programs and Seattle University School of Law.

L. Please provide an organization chart for your organization.

See Attachment 6.

M. Please provide three references familiar with organization's activities and their contact information.

- Office of Civil Legal Aid – Jim Bamberger, Director, (360) 704-4135
jim.bamberger@ocla.wa.gov
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation – Lili Liu, Program Officer, (206) 770-1770,
lili.liu@gatesfoundation.org
- Washington State Access to Justice Board – Kirsten Barron, Chair, (360) 733-0212,
kbarron@barronsmithlaw.com

V. PROJECT BUDGET

As noted previously, this grant must be used to provide additional services and not merely replace existing services or supplant existing funding. No current salaries or benefits may be funded using grants provided by the AGO unless expressly and explicitly granted, in advance and in writing, by the Committee. The Committee reserves the right to request a more detailed budget prior to selection.

A. Total Project Amount:

Salaries: \$13,759,756

Goods and Services (identify): \$1,049,133

Administrative Overhead: \$208,162

Advertising or Outreach: \$1,009,165

Travel: \$73,784

Total: \$16,100,000*

(*Budget with annual allocations and a breakdown of goods and services, Attachment 7)

B. What percent of your total project budget does this funding request represent?

Total Alliance for Equal Justice funding in 2012 is \$25 million, including federal, state, IOLTA, charitable donations and other sources. This funding request would represent about 15 percent of the annual Alliance budget if the other resources remain steady.

C. If the project will be funded in part from other sources, identify those sources and the funding amounts.

See Attachment 8 for the breakdown of Alliance for Equal Justice funding sources and amounts.

VI. PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

A. Identify within your organization who will be directly responsible for the following project components:

(a) Administration: Legal Foundation of Washington (organizational chart, Attachment 6)

(b) Fiscal Oversight: Legal Foundation of Washington Board of Trustees

(c) Service Delivery: Members of the Alliance for Equal Justice

Attachment 9– Resumes:

- Caitlin Davis Carlson, Executive Director of the Legal Foundation of Washington
- Lead project staff:
 - Andrea Axel, Grants Manager at the Legal Foundation of Washington
 - César Torres, Executive Director of the Northwest Justice Project
 - Aurora Martin, Executive Director of Columbia Legal Services

B. Describe what steps your organization will take to ensure that the project will serve its intended purposes and be completed on time.

The Legal Foundation of Washington and its Board of Trustees provide oversight of grantee activity in multiple ways. Appointments to the LFW Board of Trustees are as follows: three Trustees are appointed by the Governor, three by the Washington Supreme Court and the remaining three by the Washington State Bar Association. The board meets regularly and makes annual grant decisions based on information collected throughout the year. A full time grants manager ensures that funds are used effectively and for their intended purpose.

- Grantees submit quarterly financial reports on use of funds;
- Semi-annually grantees synchronize their client service data with LFW;
- Annually grantees provide comprehensive narrative reports on new projects, emerging client needs, program operations and governance;
- LFW conducts regular periodic site visits to programs to learn about progress, challenges and strategies;
- LFW uses a comprehensive set of Access to Justice Performance Standards when assessing grantee performance and to provide guidance;
- LFW requires grantees to submit annual audits or financial reviews to ensure financial health and accountability of the organizations.

C. Describe how you plan to measure and evaluate the success of your project and include samples of evaluation tools if available.

- LFW will review semi-annual closed case Legal Server reports, including numbers of people helped (and basic demographic information), types of legal problems and level of legal help. (Sample annual report from KCBA, Attachment 10)
- For foreclosure-related cases, additional information will be collected, including loan modifications, deeds in lieu of foreclosures, short sales and other data about the monetary impact of preserved homes.
- Impact advocacy will be tracked by descriptions of the advocacy, results and numbers of people affected.
- Education and outreach will be tracked by numbers of events and people impacted.
- LFW will use ATJ Performance Standards to evaluate whether high quality legal help is being provided to those most in need. (Summary of standards, Attachment 11)
- Financial information, governance and program operations will be tracked via LFW financial report forms and LFW's narrative report. (Attachment 12)

VII. CERTIFICATION

I certify that I have the authority to submit this proposal, and that the information in this proposal is true and accurate. If my organization is faith-based, I understand that federal and state law prohibit the use of public funds for religious worship, exercise, instruction or support of any religious establishment.

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/law/state_faith_based.htm

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/constitution.htm>

I understand that my organization will not receive reimbursement for any costs incurred in preparing this proposal. If awarded funding, I understand that our proposal will be incorporated into the final contract.

Printed Name and Title:

Caitlin Davis Carlson, Executive Director of the Legal Foundation of Washington

Signature (by entering name here, form is electronically signed):

Caitlin Davis Carlson

Applications should be addressed to:

Rich Zwicker
 CPGrants@atg.wa.gov
 206-389-3831
 Consumer Protection Division
 Washington State Attorney General's Office
 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000
 Seattle, Washington 98104-3188

ATTACHMENT 1

People Helped with Foreclosure-Related Legal Problems

- “Joanne” tried for two years to get a loan modification. Her situation was especially dire because her main source of income was a well-established home business, so losing her home would mean losing significant income. Joanne had fallen behind on her loan payments after an accident that resulted in serious medical problems that left her unable to work. She attempted to negotiate a loan modification on her own, but was unsuccessful. The stressful situation exacerbated her medical problems and she fell further behind on her payments.

Joanne contacted Columbia Legal Services and with an attorney’s help she successfully negotiated a favorable loan modification. The new loan terms are more reasonable than the terms of her original loan, and she will ultimately pay less for her home than originally planned. Most importantly, Joanne is greatly relieved that she will keep her home and continue to operate her home business.

- “Maura”* is an 82-year old widow who suffers from debilitating health problems. In May 2012 she believed she had run out of options to save her home. The bank was refusing to negotiate a work-out agreement with her because the home had been owned by her deceased domestic partner and he was the only person on the loan. She attempted suicide. Fortunately, her neighbors found her and brought her to the hospital. They also contacted Northwest Justice Project for help with just weeks to go before the scheduled trustee sale.

Despite the short time frame, NJP attempted to negotiate a continuance of the sale and sought a solution that would allow the client to assume the loan and make modified payments. Even with her limited income, Maura would have been able to assume the loan payments and reinstate the loan on modified terms. The bank and trustee rebuffed NJP’s offer.

NJP established that the trustee had failed to give proper notice of the sale to the decedent’s estate and filed an action in Thurston County Superior Court, successfully restraining the sale one day before it was to take place. NJP is continuing to represent Maura in her efforts to save the home that she shared with her domestic partner and the place where she has a community of friends and is comfortable.

- “Anna” is a farmworker who settled in Yakima and in 1999 bought a home with her husband on a contract of sale. Anna and her husband considered their home a legacy to leave to their children, so they made sure to stay up to date on their payments and also made improvements to the home.

In January 2012, they made their last payment on the contract. It was then that the sellers told them that the contract was illegal and all of their payments were only for rent. Not only did the seller fail to deliver the title to the property, they demanded that the family leave the premises. When they refused to leave, Anna and her family began receiving threatening phone calls.

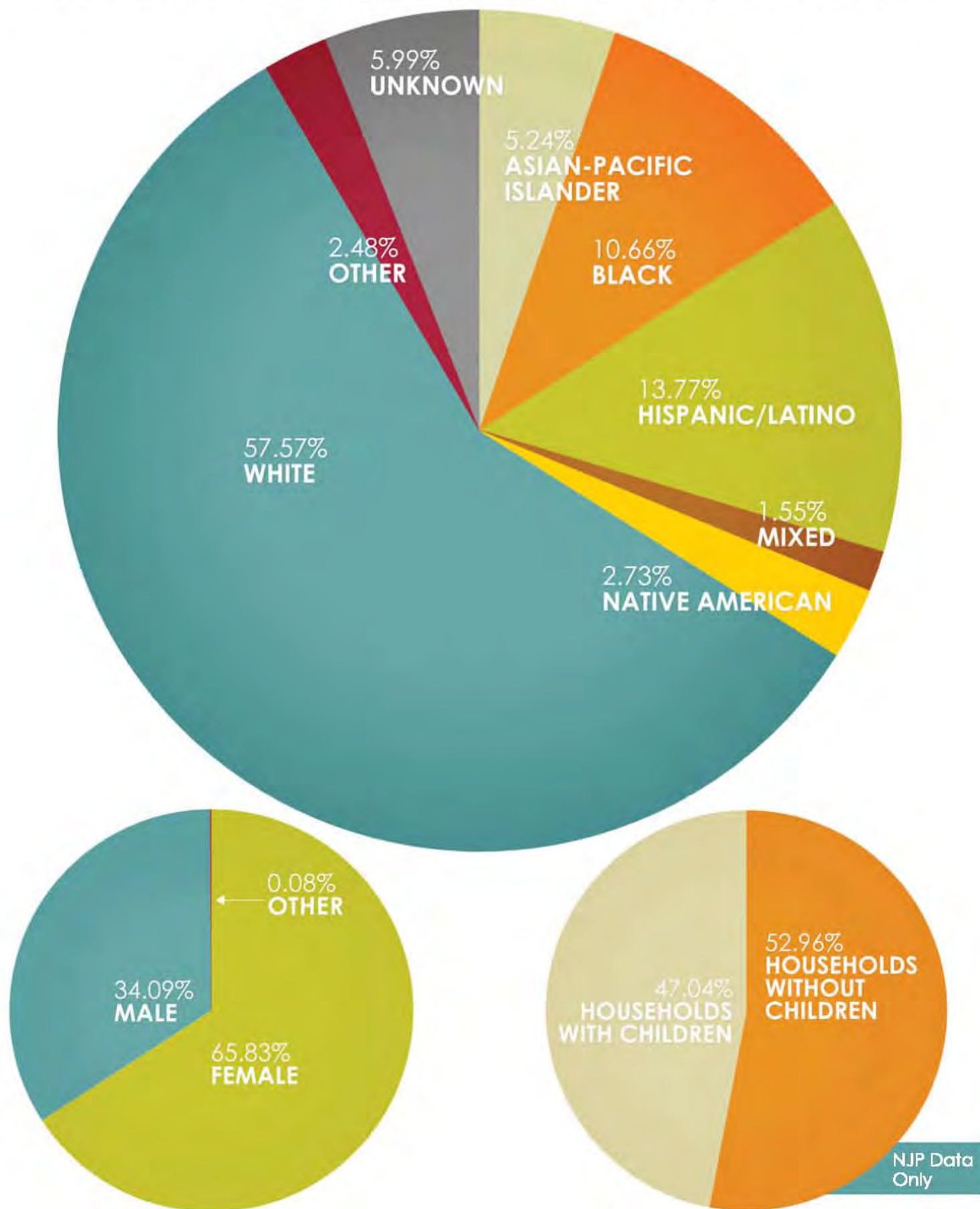
Anna and her husband were desperate. They did not speak English and they could not afford an attorney. Anna contacted NJP’s CLEAR line. The situation was quickly assessed, the documents reviewed, and Anna was advised that they should tell the sellers they had consulted an attorney and were not leaving. NJP then transferred the case to its local partner, Yakima County Volunteer Attorney Services, who found a private attorney who volunteered to represent Anna.

Fortunately, the family had kept all of their records. The volunteer attorney successfully filed a statutory contract fulfillment deed to save the family’s home. Through an interpreter Anna recently said: "I put my faith in the Law, in [my lawyer], and in all of you. Thank you!"

* Clients’ names have been changed to protect confidentiality.

ATTACHMENT 2

ALLIANCE 2011 CLIENT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA



Unless otherwise noted, these charts represent combined client service data from the more than 20 legal aid providers that make up the Alliance for Equal Justice. 20-020

ALLIANCE 2011 CLIENT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

County of Residence	Cases
Adams	88
Asotin	60
Benton	883
Chelan	576
Clallam	910
Clark	2,103
Columbia	18
Cowlitz	795
Douglas	238
Ferry	35
Franklin	553
Garfield	7
Grant	459
Grays Harbor	638
Island	238
Jefferson	150
King	10,900
Kitsap	1,154
Kittitas	110
Klickitat	53
Lewis	599
Lincoln	28
Mason	463
Okanogan	278
Pacific	104
Pend Oreille	55
Pierce	4,114
San Juan	26
Skagit	710
Skamania	30
Snohomish	3,204
Spokane	2,673
Stevens	233
Thurston	2,172
Wahkiakum	19
Walla Walla	304
Whatcom	912
Whitman	92
Yakima	1,487

Language	Cases
Amharic	6
Arabic	36
Cambodian	22
Cantonese	10
Chinese	6
Creole	3
English	28,650
Farsi/Persian	4
French	15
German	1
Hindi	3
Hmong	2
Ilokano	1
Italian	1
Japanese	11
Korean	36
Laotian	3
Mandarin	17
Oromo	5
Polish	3
Punjabi	13
Russian	117
Sign Language	18
Somali	38
Spanish	2,607
Tagalog	26
Thai	5
Tigrigna	6
Triqui	1
Ukrainian	1
Vietnamese	58

These charts represent combined client service data from the more than 20 legal aid providers that make up the Alliance for Equal Justice.

Some programs cross-refer cases after initial legal help is provided, which may result in a 5% to 10% margin of closed case duplication.

ATTACHMENT 3

**American Community Survey
2012 Poverty Estimates for Washington State**

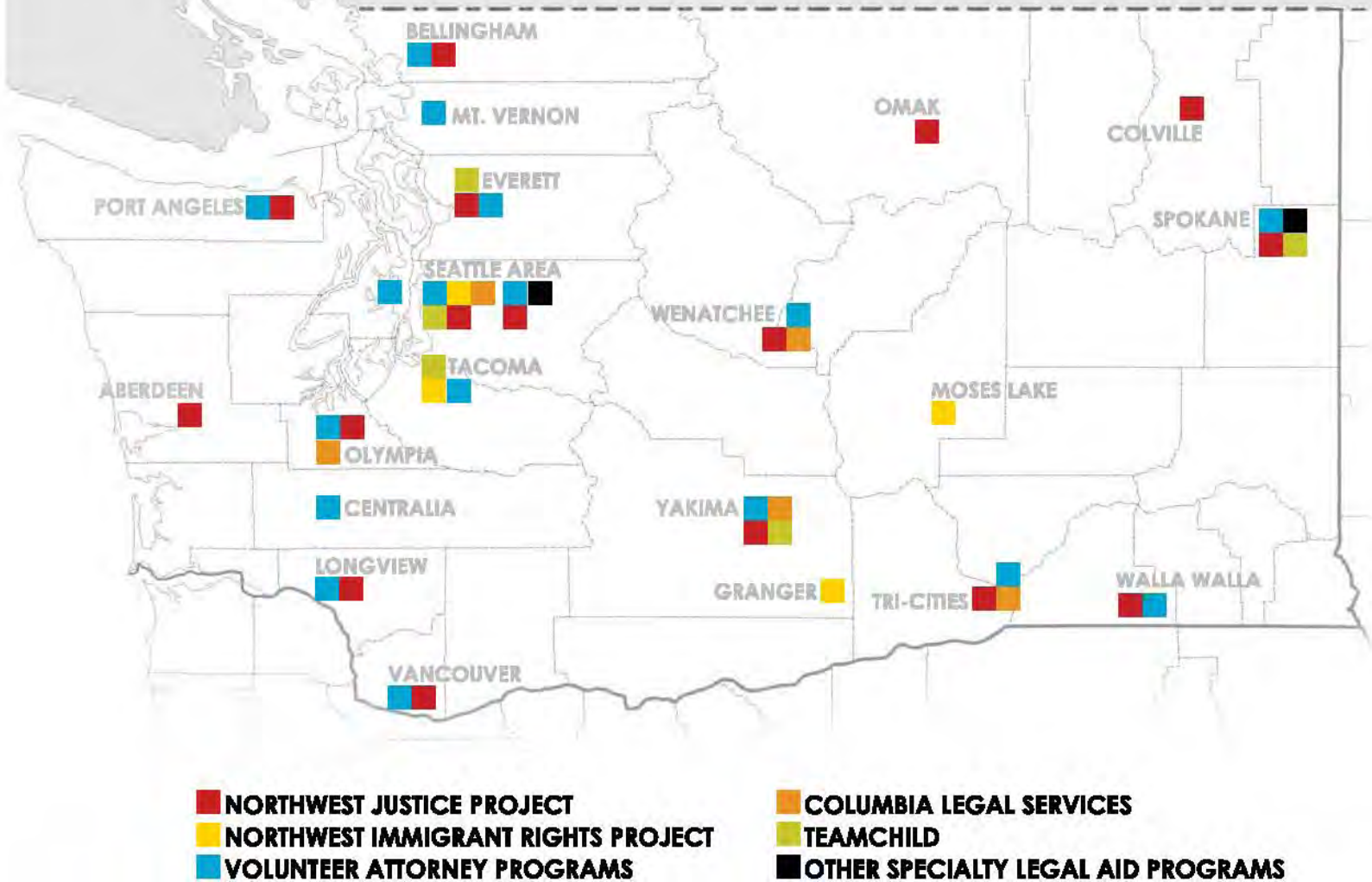
Area Name	Estimate Total	Estimate Below 50% of Poverty	Percent Below 50% of Poverty	Estimate Below 100% of Poverty	Percent Below 100% of Poverty	Estimate Below 150% of Poverty	Percentage Below 150% of Poverty	Estimate Below 200% of Poverty	Percentage Below 200% of Poverty
Adams County, Washington	17,537	1,608	9.17%	4,395	25.06%	6,963	39.70%	9,473	54.02%
Whitman County, Washington	37,822	6,553	17.33%	10,431	27.58%	13,896	36.74%	16,672	44.08%
Yakima County, Washington	232,438	18,860	8.11%	50,608	21.77%	85,169	36.64%	112,367	48.34%
Grant County, Washington	83,907	6,767	8.06%	17,120	20.40%	27,454	32.72%	38,037	45.33%
Klickitat County, Washington	19,861	1,503	7.57%	3,865	19.46%	6,274	31.59%	8,591	43.26%
Franklin County, Washington	70,208	6,231	8.88%	14,000	19.94%	24,139	34.38%	33,370	47.53%
Kittitas County, Washington	37,409	4,369	11.68%	7,942	21.23%	11,197	29.93%	14,072	37.62%
Ferry County, Washington	7,481	892	11.92%	1,558	20.83%	2,580	34.49%	3,357	44.87%
Okanogan County, Washington	39,809	3,434	8.63%	7,781	19.55%	13,421	33.71%	17,449	43.83%
Pend Oreille County, Washington	12,778	1,023	8.01%	2,340	18.31%	3,951	30.92%	5,932	46.42%
Garfield County, Washington	2,157	116	5.38%	339	15.72%	588	27.26%	770	35.70%
Walla Walla County, Washington	53,173	3,278	6.16%	9,314	17.52%	14,726	27.69%	19,982	37.58%
Columbia County, Washington	3,940	143	3.63%	646	16.40%	1,031	26.17%	1,502	38.12%
Grays Harbor County, Washington	69,384	4,522	6.52%	11,197	16.14%	19,361	27.90%	25,846	37.25%
Cowlitz County, Washington	100,060	7,114	7.11%	16,953	16.94%	25,838	25.82%	37,525	37.50%
Pacific County, Washington	21,065	1,477	7.01%	3,544	16.82%	5,744	27.27%	7,648	36.31%
Douglas County, Washington	36,921	1,730	4.69%	5,270	14.27%	10,235	27.72%	14,763	39.99%
Stevens County, Washington	42,813	2,901	6.78%	6,480	15.14%	11,646	27.20%	16,323	38.13%
Mason County, Washington	57,024	3,775	6.62%	8,889	15.59%	13,558	23.78%	18,472	32.39%
Asotin County, Washington	21,147	856	4.05%	2,856	13.51%	5,032	23.80%	7,394	34.96%
Whatcom County, Washington	190,890	13,043	6.83%	28,618	14.99%	46,958	24.60%	62,890	32.95%
Clallam County, Washington	68,860	3,989	5.79%	9,849	14.30%	16,001	23.24%	23,312	33.85%
Spokane County, Washington	447,064	27,243	6.09%	62,847	14.06%	103,869	23.23%	144,471	32.32%
Lewis County, Washington	73,191	3,379	4.62%	9,763	13.34%	17,673	24.15%	25,881	35.36%
Lincoln County, Washington	10,412	471	4.52%	1,260	12.10%	2,282	21.92%	3,437	33.01%
Skagit County, Washington	114,173	6,486	5.68%	13,407	11.74%	24,657	21.60%	34,665	30.36%
Skamania County, Washington	10,735	406	3.78%	1,014	9.45%	2,271	21.16%	3,035	28.27%
Jefferson County, Washington	28,746	1,596	5.55%	3,893	13.54%	6,306	21.94%	9,746	33.90%
Benton County, Washington	165,026	8,697	5.27%	20,962	12.70%	35,162	21.31%	48,170	29.19%
Chelan County, Washington	70,156	3,718	5.30%	8,046	11.47%	14,840	21.15%	23,183	33.04%
Pierce County, Washington	760,201	41,607	5.47%	88,421	11.63%	148,273	19.50%	211,240	27.79%
Wahkiakum County, Washington	3,972	163	4.10%	486	12.24%	943	23.74%	1,159	29.18%
Clark County, Washington	411,321	19,893	4.84%	44,669	10.86%	74,824	18.19%	111,639	27.14%
San Juan County, Washington	15,442	602	3.90%	1,554	10.06%	2,776	17.98%	4,099	26.54%
Thurston County, Washington	239,925	13,035	5.43%	24,782	10.33%	39,568	16.49%	57,028	23.77%
King County, Washington	1,850,930	84,456	4.56%	188,539	10.19%	297,862	16.09%	411,401	22.23%
Kitsap County, Washington	241,998	10,028	4.14%	22,734	9.39%	38,729	16.00%	58,393	24.13%
Island County, Washington	75,631	2,722	3.60%	6,053	8.00%	11,120	14.70%	17,055	22.55%
Snohomish County, Washington	684,624	25,611	3.74%	57,584	8.41%	98,795	14.43%	145,144	21.20%
Total All Counties	6,430,231	344,297	5.4%	780,009	12.1%	1,285,712	20.0%	1,805,493	28.1%

American Community Survey
2010 Poverty Status in Washington State (Past 12 Months)

Subject	Washington State		
	Total	Below Poverty Level	Percent Below Poverty Level
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
Population for whom poverty status is determined	6,615,922	888,718	13.4%
AGE			
Under 18 years	1,559,990	284,045	18.2%
Related children under 18 years	1,549,916	274,778	17.7%
18 to 64 years	4,245,857	549,115	12.9%
65 years and over	810,075	55,558	6.9%
SEX			
Male	3,280,368	405,361	12.4%
Female	3,335,554	483,357	14.5%
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN			
One race	6,320,864	836,882	13.2%
White	5,219,441	603,207	11.6%
Black or African American	227,681	60,263	26.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	96,216	26,213	27.2%
Asian	477,761	52,113	10.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	38,761	7,952	20.5%
Some other race	261,004	87,134	33.4%
Two or more races	295,058	51,836	17.6%
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	743,825	215,546	29.0%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	4,806,075	490,095	10.2%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT			
Population 25 years and over	4,451,316	443,431	10.0%
Less than high school graduate	446,966	115,732	25.9%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	1,053,307	125,045	11.9%
Some college, associate's degree	1,556,434	143,491	9.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	1,394,609	59,163	4.2%
EMPLOYMENT STATUS			
Civilian labor force 16 years and over	3,424,985	292,735	8.5%
Employed	3,057,306	196,661	6.4%
Male	1,611,032	91,424	5.7%
Female	1,446,274	105,237	7.3%
Unemployed	367,679	96,074	26.1%
Male	211,366	49,320	23.3%
Female	156,313	46,754	29.9%
WORK EXPERIENCE			
Population 16 years and over	5,237,336	632,083	12.1%
Worked full-time, year-round in the past 12 months	2,069,576	41,993	2.0%
Worked part-time or part-year in the past 12 months	1,457,590	241,153	16.5%
Did not work	1,710,170	348,937	20.4%
All Individuals below:			
50 percent of poverty level	400,377	(X)	(X)
125 percent of poverty level	1,149,959	(X)	(X)
150 percent of poverty level	1,439,450	(X)	(X)
185 percent of poverty level	1,838,021	(X)	(X)
200 percent of poverty level	1,985,204	(X)	(X)
Unrelated individuals for whom poverty status is determined	1,381,881	339,077	24.5%
Male	694,523	158,717	22.9%
Female	687,358	180,360	26.2%
Mean income deficit for unrelated individuals (dollars)	6,409	(X)	(X)
Worked full-time, year-round in the past 12 months	547,925	12,699	2.3%
Worked less than full-time, year-round in the past 12 months	381,345	138,954	36.4%
Did not work	452,611	187,424	41.4%
PERCENT IMPUTED			
Poverty status for individuals	20.3%	(X)	(X)

ATTACHMENT 4

ALLIANCE FOR EQUAL JUSTICE PROGRAMS



ATTACHMENT 5

The Supreme Court
State of Washington

BARBARA A. MADSEN
CHIEF JUSTICE
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
POST OFFICE BOX 40929
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON
98504-0929



(360) 357-2037
FAX (360) 357-2085
E-MAIL J.B.MADSEN@COURTS.WA.GOV

June 14, 2012

Honorable Rob McKenna, Attorney General
Washington Consumer Foreclosure Remedies Fund Committee
Office of the Attorney General
800 Fifth Ave., Suite 2000
Seattle, WA 98104-3188

Re: Alliance for Equal Justice Foreclosure Assistance Legal Aid Initiative

Dear Attorney General McKenna and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Washington Supreme Court, I encourage your consideration of the proposal for the use of National Foreclosure Settlement funding submitted by the Legal Foundation of Washington. This proposal is designed to offer a full range of civil legal aid services to individuals, families, and communities adversely affected by the foreclosure crisis. The collaborative approach outlined in the proposal reflects the maturity of our state's integrated, civil legal aid delivery system. Managed and administered by a single entity, funding this proposal should ensure the highest and most strategic use of National Foreclosure Settlement funds targeted for civil legal aid.

The lead agency role will be played by the Legal Foundation of Washington, a nonprofit foundation established by this court nearly 30 years ago to collect and distribute interest earned on lawyer trust accounts (IOLTA) to support critically needed civil legal aid services for low income people. Since its inception, the Legal Foundation has granted well over \$150 million in funding to organizations involved in the direct delivery of services. The Supreme Court has every confidence in the Legal Foundation's capacity to administer and oversee the effective use of National Foreclosure Settlement funding in the manner outlined in its proposal.

The primary legal aid provider organizations, Northwest Justice Project and Columbia Legal Services, have played key roles in identifying the scope and impact of the

Hon. Rob McKenna, Attorney General
June 14, 2012
Page 2

foreclosure crisis, developing legal strategies to address the needs of clients and client communities affected by the crisis, securing strategic private volunteer attorney support, and developing systems and strategies to reach out to those who need help in protecting their homes or navigating other related civil legal problems. Our state's private bar has also demonstrated both a willingness and ability to help address the foreclosure crisis both through locally-based pro bono programs and on a statewide basis through the Home Foreclosure Legal Aid program. The Legal Foundation's proposal contemplates a strong, strategic partnership between the staffed and volunteer legal aid communities as well as a broad range of other stakeholder organizations.

The Washington State Supreme Court is proud of Washington State's civil legal aid system. Over many years we have developed systems and oversight structures that provide guidance to and ensure accountability of those involved in the delivery of civil legal aid services. My colleagues and I know firsthand the quality of client representation that staffed legal aid and private volunteer attorneys provide to their clients. And we are confident in the collective capacity of this system to provide effective, nonduplicative civil legal aid services to individuals, families, and communities affected by the foreclosure crisis.

Thank you for consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Barbara Madsen", written in a cursive style.

Barbara A. Madsen
Chief Justice



Washington State Civil Legal Aid Oversight Committee

1206 Quince St. SE
Olympia, WA 98504
MS 41183
360-704-4135

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Hon. Erik Rohrer, Vice-Chair (Clallam County)
Hon. Lesley Allan (Chelan County)
Rep. Terry Nealey (R-Dayton)
Rep. Jamie Pedersen (D-Seattle)
Sen. Adam Kline (D-Seattle)
Hon. Ellen Clark (Spokane County)
Hon. Martin Bohl (Colville Tribe)
Jesse Magaña (Vancouver)
Hon. Paul A. Bastine (Ret.) (Spokane County)

June 20, 2012

Honorable Rob McKenna, Attorney General
Washington Consumer Foreclosure Remedies Fund Committee
Office of the Attorney General
800 Fifth Ave., Suite 2000
Seattle, WA 98104-3188

Re: Alliance for Equal Justice Foreclosure Assistance Legal Aid Initiative

Dear Attorney General McKenna and Members of the Committee:

I write in my capacity as Chair of the bipartisan Civil Legal Aid Oversight Committee established by RCW 2.53.010. The Civil Legal Aid Oversight Committee includes legislative members from both major parties, representatives from the judicial branch, an appointee from the Governor and an appointee from the Washington State Bar Association. Our job is to oversee the administration of state funds appropriated to the Office of Civil Legal Aid and to make recommendations relating to the need for and provision of civil legal aid services to low income people in Washington State.

The purpose of this letter is to transmit the Civil Legal Aid Oversight Committee's unanimous support for the Legal Foundation of Washington's proposal to provide comprehensive civil legal aid services to individuals, families and communities affected by the foreclosure crisis. As you know, our state is poised to experience a "second wave" of the foreclosure crisis. Even before the initial hit in 2009-10, our civil legal aid system was threadbare and unable to serve the vast majority of those who need legal help on matters affecting the most basic human needs – family safety and security, access to nutritional, health care, disability and educational services and support, preservation of housing, etc. The foreclosure crisis has compounded the problem greatly, expanding the range and complexity of legal problems as well as the number of people and families that face them.

The Alliance for Equal Justice is the umbrella under which Washington State's civil legal aid providers provide integrated, non-duplicative and effective civil legal aid services to low and moderate income people across the state. Comprised of more than 25 individual partners, the Alliance is able to offer a full range of high quality civil legal aid services to those who need them. The Alliance operates within the framework of a unified *State Plan for the Delivery of Civil Legal Aid*, adopted and regularly updated by the Supreme Court's Access to Justice Board.

Re: Alliance for Equal Justice
Proposal for Civil Legal Aid
June 20, 2012
Page 2

All Alliance partners operate under a common set of performance standards based on national best practices in the delivery of civil legal aid services.

While the State of Washington, through the Office of Civil Legal Aid, is the largest underwriter of day-to-day legal aid services, the Legal Foundation of Washington serves as the principal grant making and oversight body for the most of the Alliance. Over more than 30 years, the Legal Foundation has developed expertise in administering and overseeing funding for civil legal aid, and ensuring accountability for funding made available from a wide array of public and private sources. The Civil Legal Aid Oversight Committee endorses the principal role that the Legal Foundation will play in the administration and oversight of National Foreclosure Settlement funds.

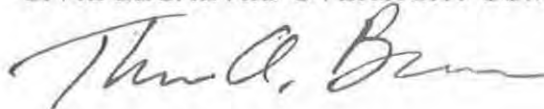
During our October 2011 Oversight Committee meeting, we received an update from representatives of Columbia Legal Services and the Northwest Justice Project on the impacts of the foreclosure crisis on low and moderate income households, the efforts that have been taken to address this crisis and the gravity of unmet needs that remain. The Oversight Committee was deeply troubled by the numbers and the complexity of the problems that individuals and families were facing – not only those facing foreclosure, but also those who were experiencing other types of legal problems that were traceable back to the foreclosure crisis.

The Alliance's proposal sponsored by the Legal Foundation offers a plan of coordinated action that responds to the problems that we learned about in October 2011. At its June 8, 2011 meeting, the Oversight Committee unanimously endorsed the proposal and directed that I share our support for the same with you. The proposal is thoughtful and strategic, and is of a magnitude and duration that can make a real difference for the individuals, families and communities affected by the crisis.

Thank you for the opportunity to share these thoughts. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

CIVIL LEGAL AID OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Thomas A. Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" being more prominent.

Thomas A. Brown, Chair



WSBA

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Stephen R. Crossland
President

phone: 509.782.4418
e-mail: steve@crosslandlaw.net

June 25, 2012

Rich Zwicker
Consumer Protection Division
Washington State Attorney General's Office
800 Fifth Avenue, #2000
Seattle, WA 98104-3188

Dear Mr. Zwicker,

On behalf of the Washington State Bar Association, I am writing in support of the Legal Foundation of Washington's application to your office for funding our state's legal aid response to the foreclosure crisis through the Foreclosure Remedies Fund.

We are highly confident in the ability of our state's legal aid programs—the Alliance for Equal Justice—to deliver effective and efficient services to low-income residents in Washington State. The Washington State Bar Association is proud to partner with the Alliance in our Home Foreclosure Legal Aid Project that will be partially folded into this proposal next June. We can attest first hand to the high quality legal services provided by Northwest Justice Project and its partner organizations.

We can also attest to the Legal Foundation of Washington's ability to: administer and oversee multiple funding sources; direct those resources responsibly to the appropriate entities; and provide monitoring and oversight to ensure high levels of fiscal and programmatic accountability. Originally created by the Washington Supreme Court in 1984 to administer the Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts (IOLTA) program, the Legal Foundation now manages multiple funding sources including funds raised through LAW Fund's Campaign for Equal Justice. When interest rates on IOLTA dropped in 2009, the Washington State Bar Association made a one-time contribution of \$1.5 million to the Legal Foundation to help make up for the lost funding. The Legal Foundation demonstrated a high level of fiscal integrity in its management of those funds.

An important part of the Washington State Bar Association's mission is to champion justice. In keeping with the spirit of that principle, we are proud to support the Legal Foundation's grant proposal and encourage you to fund it.

Sincerely,

Stephen R. Crossland

Working Together to Champion Justice

PO Box 566 / Cashmere, WA 98815 / fax: 509.782.4298

20-032



Northwest Justice Project

401 Second Ave S. Suite 407
Seattle, WA 98104
Tel. (206) 464-1519
Fax (206) 903-0526

Toll Free 1-888-201-1012
www.nwjustice.org

César E. Torres
Executive Director

June 20, 2012

Rich Zwicker
Consumer Protection Division
Washington State Attorney General's Office
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000
Seattle, Washington 98104-3188

Re: Legal Foundation of Washington - National Foreclosure Settlement Proposal

Dear Mr. Zwicker:

The Northwest Justice Project (NJP) strongly supports and is fully committed to the successful implementation of the Legal Foundation of Washington's (LFW) proposal for a statewide civil legal aid response to the ongoing foreclosure crisis that also addresses the repercussions and legal consequences of the crisis for countless Washingtonians and their communities for years to come.

LFW's comprehensive proposal is particularly important given the magnitude of the foreclosure crisis thus far and the limited civil legal aid resources currently available to represent homeowners and challenge numerous unlawful private and public practices. With the need to ensure proper implementation of the National Settlement and the 2012 amendments to Washington's Foreclosure Fairness Act (FFA), which are expected to release pent up foreclosure activity and increase by as much as 50% the number of households likely to seek mediation, the need for a coordinated and comprehensive response is greater than ever.

The proposal builds on LFW's demonstrated success and significant track record in securing and managing statewide resources to address critical civil legal aid needs in Washington even in the most difficult times. LFW's success is grounded in large part in its development and support for the Alliance for Equal Justice, Washington's highly coordinated, efficient and non-duplicative service delivery system that integrates staffed legal aid programs like NJP, nearly 20 county based volunteer programs, and specialized legal aid providers to ensure a full range of civil legal aid services to low-income individuals, families and communities. As such, the Alliance is especially well suited to implement LFW proposal to address the full range of immediate and long-term civil legal needs resulting from the foreclosure crisis.

NJP is Washington State's largest provider of civil legal services to low-income people through its 17 offices and a centralized statewide intake system for the Alliance. NJP has particular expertise in the complexities of providing large scale representation across the state on a broad range of interrelated legal needs and problems facing low-income people, including housing preservation, protection from unlawful and predatory consumer practices, employment, income maintenance and benefits, health care, and family law.

Moreover, NJP has an extensive track record of direct representation and advocacy in response to the foreclosure crisis. In partnership with the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) NJP spearheaded the Home Foreclosure Legal Aid project beginning in 2009 with just one attorney and a legal assistant. With WSBA's continuing support, and AGO *cy pres* funding among others, NJP's foreclosure effort today is comprised of 8.0 FTEs who provide critical foreclosure prevention representation and crucial training and support to volunteer attorneys and the overall housing counseling effort across the state. NJP has also been asked to assist the Legislature, and has worked closely with Legislators and other Alliance for Equal Justice advocates to monitor, and help improve, the FFA, which has entailed significant cooperation and coordination with Alliance partners.

NJP is thus especially well situated to support LFW's comprehensive proposal to respond to the ongoing need to prevent foreclosures, thereby stabilizing families and communities, and also to address the long-term legal consequences facing those who have already been impacted by the foreclosure crisis in areas ranging from consumer, to health, to education issues.

The strategies outlined in LFW's proposal reflect the full range of necessary legal advocacy and representation to prevent foreclosures and to mitigate the long-term adverse individual and community effects of foreclosure in the recent past and in the years to come.

Please contact me should you have any questions or require any additional information.
Thank you for your attention.

Yours truly,


César E. Torres
Executive Director



June 26, 2012

Andrea Axel, Grants Manager
Legal Foundation of Washington
1325 Fourth Ave.
Seattle, WA 98101

Dear Andrea:

Columbia Legal Services (CLS) is committed to fulfilling its statewide role in the advocacy planning and delivery of critical legal services to clients and communities affected by the foreclosure crisis. The overwhelming client needs across the state require a coordinated response to ensure delivery of multiple levels of services. That is why CLS appreciates and fully supports the Legal Foundation of Washington's leadership in applying for the foreclosure settlement funds, on behalf of the diverse legal aid providers in the Alliance for Equal Justice.

The demand for legal services will substantially increase with more than 135,000 households in Washington having already experienced foreclosure, and thousands more projected in the coming years. What the foreclosure crisis has meant for Washington, is that some residents who may have been tenants slipped further into poverty, and other residents who were within reach of planning a stable future as homeowners, lost a generation's worth of assets and consequently joined the category of working poor – those unemployed or underemployed. CLS has seen that a series of costly everyday disruptions to the lives of clients follows the loss of housing. Relocation has meant disruption and educational achievement gaps for families with children, stress on continuity of healthcare for household members, and tension related to job security depending upon job-related commute in light of the loss of a home. Often, the impact of foreclosure has also meant the confluence of devastating financial events such as loss of a household job or medical debt.

In response, CLS will continue to play a critical role in addressing the impact of the national foreclosure crisis in Washington State. Given CLS's mission to serve clients who experience multiple barriers related to poverty, and our expertise in utilizing specialized legal tools that have broad-based impact, our approach to the foreclosure crisis has been to engage in advocacy that *capitalizes on the momentum of multiple efforts to provide comprehensive client services*, as well as advocacy that serves as a *catalyst expanding legal protection, leveraging practical resources, and critical social services* for Washington residents and communities at risk.

Partnering to ensure availability of comprehensive client services

Over the past four years, CLS has been at the forefront of foreclosure prevention advocacy efforts, working in close collaboration with Northwest Justice Project (NJP), private pro bono lawyers, regional volunteer lawyer programs, and community housing service providers. Bruce Neas, CLS senior attorney and expert on foreclosure legal assistance, has conducted regional and statewide trainings with NJP's senior foreclosure attorney, Lili Sotelo, to recruit and prepare

attorneys to increase the availability of legal representation for clients affected by foreclosure. Community outreach has also been necessary in order to educate the public about new laws and availability of resources. Such outreach has entailed trainings for housing assistance providers, housing counselors and case managers in order to help such community resources timely identify issues and connect people affected by foreclosure to legal services and other resources. As an extension of the trainings, and to maximize the reach of public legal education efforts, CLS has also assisted in the production of materials that are available online and in hardcopy. Such collaborations have been a crucial part of the statewide public education strategy aimed at reducing the tide of foreclosures, and thus stemming the subsequent social and economic problems that have resulted for clients and whole communities.

*Collaborating to expand legal protection, leverage practical
resources and social services*

CLS policy advocacy is perhaps the most effective example of how our work has had broad impact, and is coordinated with key partners such as NJP and the Attorney General's Office (AGO). The Washington Foreclosure Fairness Act has not only created much needed relief and remedies for residents at risk of foreclosure, but it has also served as a model for other states. This is an example of CLS strategically utilizing specialized legal tools, on behalf of the Alliance of legal aid programs, to achieve systemic change for clients in need. Litigation is also a tool that CLS is prepared to undertake to the extent that it is necessary to ensure clients fully realize the protection and remedies related to new state, federal foreclosure laws and other relevant relief. That CLS has participated in the expansion of legal services and leveraged practical resources and social services, is also demonstrated through its trainings and consultations with various entities as described above. Further, although CLS has had limited ability to represent individual clients because of our substantially reduced staffing capacity, we have still managed to provide such client services over the past four years. If CLS is called upon to complement the client services that are available through NJP and other pro bono programs, then we are prepared to make some strategic staffing shifts to ensure the implementation of the full range of foreclosure related advocacy services. CLS's expertise in community development and relationships with community organizations, also creates potential partnerships for further leveraging of resources and services for clients affected by foreclosure, to the extent that we can collaborate on anti-blight efforts and assist with community renewal in counties, such as Pierce, south King, Snohomish and Clark, that have been hardest hit by the crisis.

CLS is pleased to be part of a coordinated and thoughtful proposal advanced by LFW. We look forward to continued partnerships and collaboration to address the client needs across the state.

Sincerely yours,



Aurora Martin
Director



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Everett, WA 98206

telephone (425) 258-9283
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June 14, 2012

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Executive Director
Anita C. Hale

Rich Zwicker
Consumer Protection Division
Washington State Attorney General's Office
800 Fifth Avenue #2000
Seattle, WA 98104-3188

Dear Mr. Rich Zwicker:

As the Executive Directors of four local Volunteer Lawyer Programs (VLPs), we have seen the ramifications of the current foreclosure crisis in the lives of the families that we serve. Our offices are located in some of the regions hardest hit by the statewide foreclosure crisis. We represent the VLPs in King, Pierce, Clark and Snohomish counties. Jointly, we serve over 15,000 individuals a year. We are writing this letter in strong support of the Legal Foundation of Washington's proposal to your office, particularly in relation to civil legal assistance to individuals, families and communities affected by the foreclosure crisis.

Sponsored by the
Snohomish County
Bar Association

As families continue to be displaced by the housing crisis, the need for assistance is also growing. According to King County 211 data, the need for assistance in foreclosure related matters has grown by 445% between 2008 and 2011. For individuals and families caught in the foreclosure process, whether as mortgage holders or renters, the legal maze is incredibly complex and confusing.



Volunteer Lawyer Programs, as natural partners with local private bar associations, are ready to help our communities in this crisis. Our four programs offer local expertise, as well as volunteer panels with upwards of 2,000 local attorneys collectively, who regularly come and help at clinics and help with *pro bono* casework. We are familiar with our local judiciary and several VLP programs have clinics and other programs located at our particular courts. Each program also has staff adept at working with and coordinating our *pro bono* attorney volunteers. Additionally, through our clinics and



Snohomish County Legal Services
2731 Wetmore Avenue, Suite 410
Everett, WA 98201

Telephone: 425-258-9283
Fax: 425-259-2906

pro bono case work, we are able to leverage support to staffed legal aid providers. However, every Volunteer Lawyer Program in Washington is struggling with our current economic reality. No program has the ability to meet the expanding client need and, without additional funding, programs will not be in a position to increase services to those families who need legal services as a direct result of the foreclosure crisis.

Currently, there are very few resources devoted to the plight of renters in foreclosed properties. The National Housing Law Project estimates that renters occupy approximately 40 percent of homes in foreclosure, yet these renters often fall through the cracks of our legal system. With additional resources, the volunteer lawyer programs would be able to train volunteer attorneys to assist renters in foreclosed properties, supplement available self-help publications, conduct outreach, and ensure that renters in foreclosed properties are able to exercise their rights.

With the assistance of funding through the Legal Foundation's request, we are ready and willing to work with other Alliance for Equal Justice partners to provide a coordinated response to the legal needs of low income families. As VLPs, we are ready to offer the community holistic (wrap-around) legal services to assist affected home owners and get them back on their feet. Our programs and staff work diligently to help stabilize families by providing for legal solutions to essentials, such as housing and personal safety.

Some projects that we could implement while partnering with our local bar associations and other service providers are:

- Trainings on spotting predatory themes and recruitment of private attorneys to do outreach
- Holistic legal services to families facing foreclosure
- A cooperative local prevention/outreach/representation/mediation program
- Continued and enhanced collaboration with the Washington State Bar Association's Home Foreclosure Legal Aid Project (HFLAP) and Northwest Justice Project's Foreclosure project; specifically outreach beyond the urban centers



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Fax: 425-259-2906

Thank you so much for your time and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Threesa Milligan
Director
King County Bar Association Pro Bono Services

Laurie Davenport
Executive Director
Tacoma-Pierce County Bar Association VLS

Susan Arney
Executive Director
Clark County VLP

Anita Chakravarti Hale
Executive Director
Snohomish County Legal Services



June 20, 2012

Rich Zwicker, Paralegal
Consumer Protection Division
Washington State Attorney General's Office
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000
Seattle, WA 98104-3188
CPGrants@atg.wa.gov

Re: Letter of Support for the Legal Foundation of Washington

Dear Mr. Zwicker:

I am writing to support the Legal Foundation of Washington and its proposal on behalf of the Alliance for Equal Justice to help Washington homeowners facing foreclosure. Consistent with our mission of educating lawyers to be leaders for a just and humane world, we collaborate with our Alliance partners to offer our students opportunities to serve marginalized and underserved communities.

Specifically concerning assisting distressed homeowners, Seattle University School of Law has two programs which give law students the opportunity to advocate on their behalf and engage in work to address the effects of the foreclosure crisis. The programs are the Ronald A. Peterson Law Clinic's Predatory Lending Clinic and the recently launched Foreclosure Mediation and Outreach Project (FMOP), which is supported by funding from the Attorney General's Office. We have collaborated with our partners in the Alliance for Equal Justice to ensure our effectiveness in both programs. For example, through FMOP, we work with Northwest Justice Project and the Washington State Bar Association's Home Foreclosure Legal Aid Project to train and match law student interns with pro bono attorneys representing homeowners in foreclosure mediations. We have also collaborated with those organizations as well as Columbia Legal Services and the Tacoma Pierce County Bar Volunteer Legal Services Program to implement an awareness campaign so homeowners know about foreclosure prevention mediation.

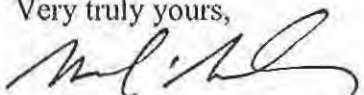
We believe collaboration is key to addressing the foreclosure crisis because resources can be leveraged, duplication can be avoided, and each partner can play to its strengths. We believe that the law school can uniquely contribute to foreclosure prevention efforts in the following ways:

- 1) We can help increase the existing capacity for homeowner representation in pre-foreclosure mediation under the Foreclosure Fairness Act by having law students provide valuable research and assistance to attorneys representing homeowners in mediation. Through this work, law students maximize the lawyers' time and expand their capacity to take more mediation cases. In addition, we anticipate that there will be an ultimate increase in the number of attorneys representing homeowners in mediation because the trained law student will be more likely to assist homeowners once they are licensed.
- 2) We can help increase the number of homeowners who are familiar with their rights under the Foreclosure Fairness Act through community outreach. Teams of law students can increase the capacity of community partners to expand the breadth and depth of outreach throughout the state.
- 3) We can inform future legislation and policy choices by law students gathering important data and doing research. Further, my faculty colleagues in the larger university may also have the capacity to offer community-based research that would assist with foreclosure advocacy.

Given the effects of the foreclosure crisis is statewide, I hope that my colleagues in the other Washington law schools may join our efforts and collaborate with the Alliance for Equal Justice. We have already demonstrated collaboration through our statewide Moderate Means Program so I am confident that if there are sufficient resources, we can join together with the Alliance and make a difference.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our primary contact person for partnerships with the Alliance, Diana Singleton, Director of the Access to Justice Institute, at 206-398-4168 or at singletd@seattleu.edu. Thank you very much for your consideration.

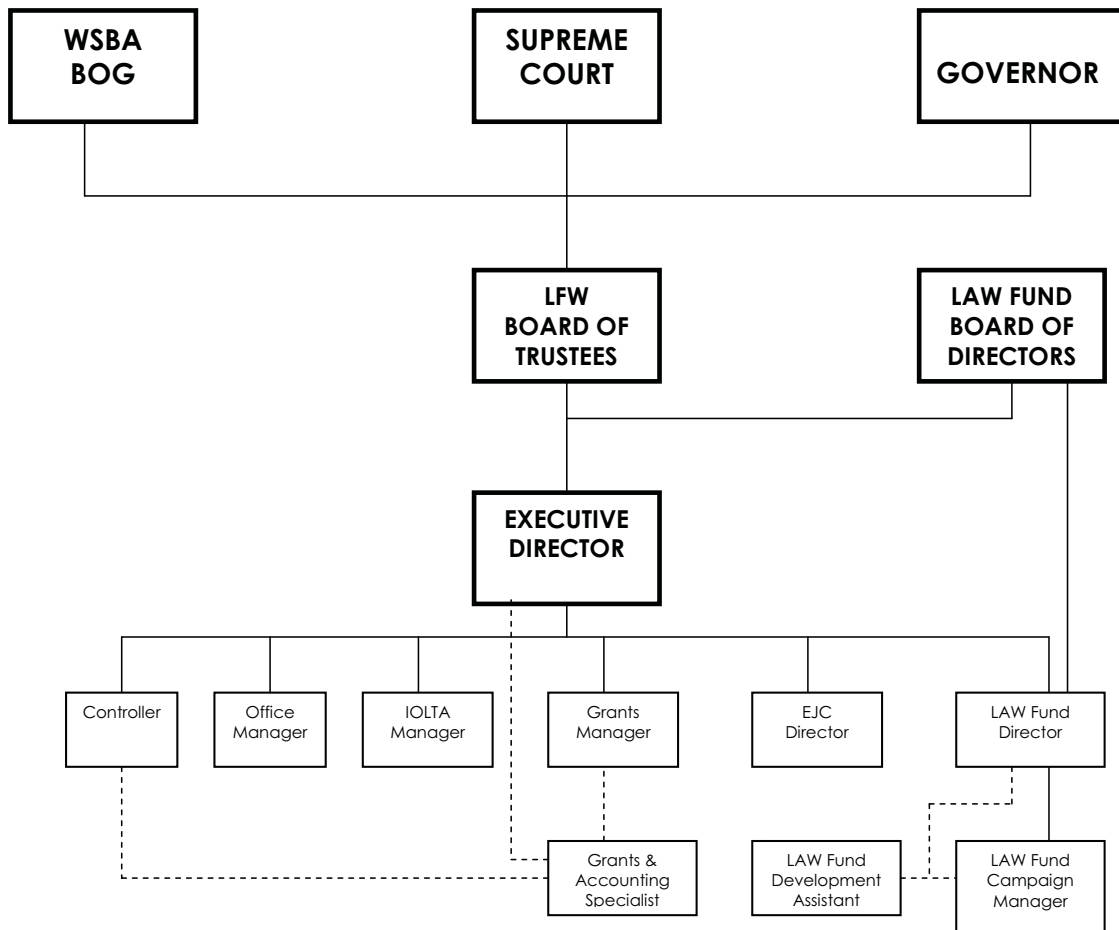
Very truly yours,



Mark C. Niles
Dean and Professor of Law

ATTACHMENT 6

**THE LEGAL FOUNDATION OF WASHINGTON
2012 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**



ATTACHMENT 7

Budget Information for *Home Justice: A Project of the Alliance for Equal Justice*

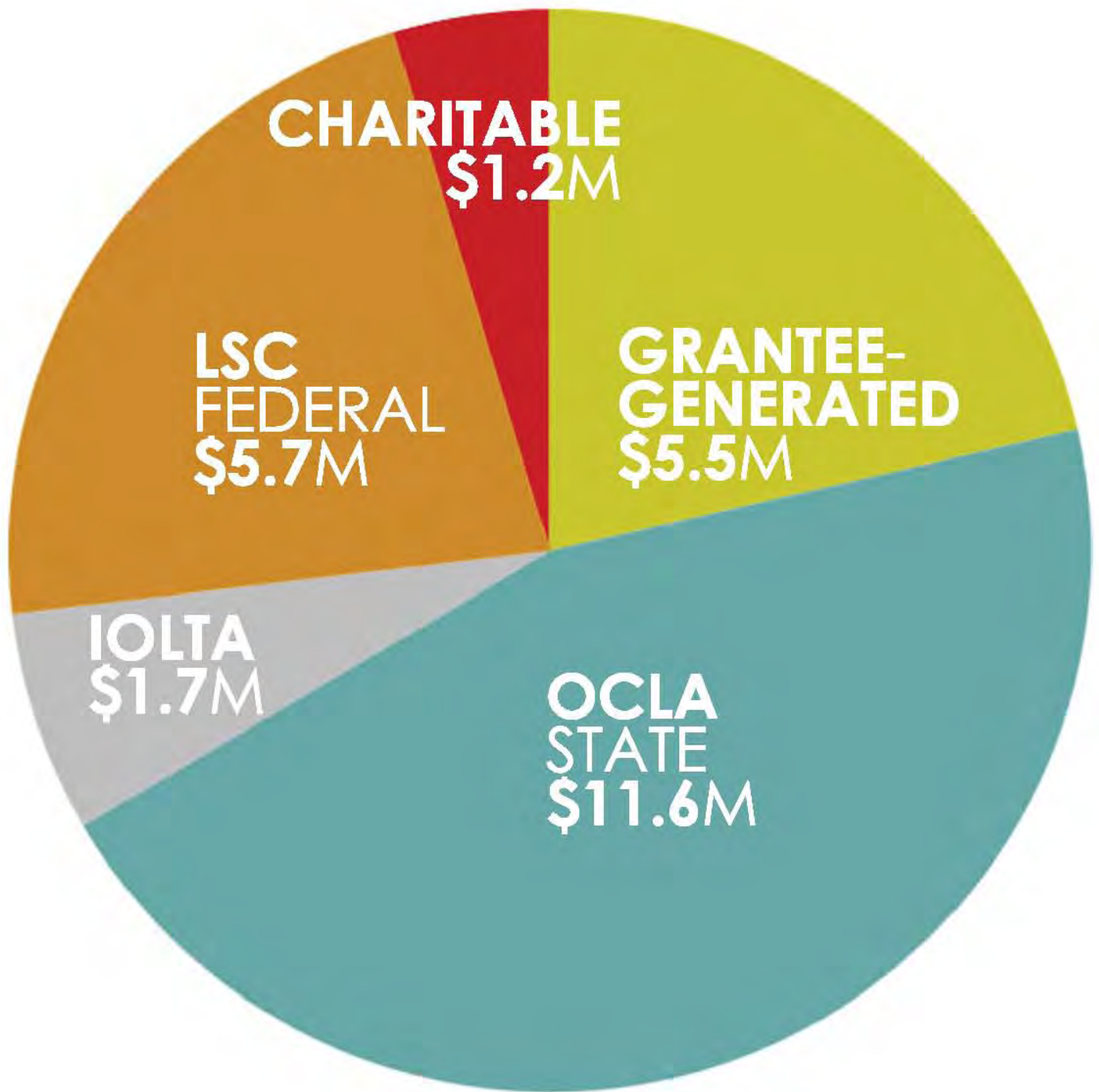
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
A. Personnel	\$2,495,833	\$3,238,500	\$3,303,270	\$2,675,441	\$2,046,712	\$13,759,756
B. Goods and Services	290,350	243,300	243,300	158,145	114,038	1,049,133
C. Travel	15,417	18,500	18,500	12,210	9,158	73,784
D. Outreach	200,000	244,800	249,696	178,283	136,386	1,009,165
E. Administration	40,000	40,800	41,616	42,448	43,297	208,162
	\$3,041,600	\$3,785,900	\$3,856,382	\$3,066,527	\$2,349,591	\$16,100,000

B. Goods and Services:

Legal Server Enhancement	50,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	50,000
Computer Equipment	37,600	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	37,600
Training	28,333	34,000	34,000	22,100	16,575	135,008
Occupancy	61,667	74,000	74,000	48,100	36,075	293,842
Professional Liability Ins.	8,250	9,900	9,900	6,435	4,826	39,311
Bar Dues	8,250	9,900	9,900	6,435	4,826	39,311
Other	41,250	49,500	49,500	32,175	24,131	196,556
Litigation Costs	55,000	66,000	66,000	42,900	27,604	257,504
	\$290,350	\$243,300	\$243,300	\$158,145	\$114,038	\$1,049,133

ATTACHMENT 8

ALLIANCE FOR EQUAL JUSTICE 2012 FUNDING CHART



ATTACHMENT 9

Caitlin Davis Carlson
3917 South Ferdinand Street
Seattle, Washington 98118
(206) 957 6288 - work
(206) 755 6597 – cell
caitlindc@legalfoundation.org

Employment History

Executive Director
Legal Foundation of Washington
December 2005 – present

Responsible for the leadership and operation of the Legal Foundation of Washington (LFW), which has an annual grant budget of \$5-\$10 million. Ensure that all funds received by LFW are managed in a professional, accountable manner that recognizes the Board of Trustees' fiduciary responsibilities. Ensure that grant funds that are distributed by LFW are well managed by the organizations that receive them and that they are accountable for delivery of high quality and effective services. Provide management and support to LAW Fund and the Equal Justice Coalition. Serve as liaison to the Washington State Bar Association, Washington Supreme Court, Washington Bankers Association, and the Access to Justice Board. Supervise 7.0 FTEs. Report on a regular basis to the nine members of the LFW Board of Trustees.

Associate Director
Legal Foundation of Washington
June 2003 – November 2005

Substantially increased funding for civil legal aid by successfully negotiating higher rates and lower fees on IOLTA accounts with banks. Evaluated other new revenue sources; worked with other stakeholders to develop a court rule amendment that would create new revenue stream for civil legal services. Communicated with a highly diverse and politically complex network of organizations about the role of LFW in civil legal aid funding. Drafted the 2005 budgets for LFW, LAW Fund, and the EJC. Provided significant levels of supervision and/or support to the IOLTA database manager, the accounting staff, the Equal Justice Coalition staff, and the Grants Manager. Recruited and trained new board members.

Grants Manager
Legal Foundation of Washington
June 1997 – May 2003

Managed 25-30 annual grant contracts with statewide legal aid providers to ensure high quality client service and compliance with funding sources and other stakeholders. Made staff funding recommendations to the Grants Committee. Implemented statewide technology initiative including case management system for legal aid providers. Provided technical assistance and training on fundraising, technology, community outreach and leadership development to legal aid providers for the purpose of improving service to low-income people.

Owner, Peninsula Communications
December 1993 – May 1997

Provided contract services to a variety of businesses and organizations in rural southwest Washington and northwest Oregon. Services included writing/editing projects; managing special events; proposal development; hardware/software set up, installation and maintenance. Clients included churches, healthcare providers, real estate developers and contractors, and other small businesses.

Membership & Development Officer
King County Bar Association/Foundation
September 1989 – November 1993

Raised money for community legal aid programs, law school scholarships for students of color, and law-related education projects. Planned and implemented membership services and benefits; oversaw member recruitment efforts. Served as assistant editor of the Bar Bulletin, a monthly newspaper with a circulation of 10,000. Staffed the Programs, Membership, and Bar Bulletin Committees, as well as the Bar Foundation.

Education and Professional Development

Bachelor of Arts in English, Simon's Rock College, Great Barrington, MA
Baccalaureate thesis passed with honors. Dean's List.

Certificate in Principles & Techniques of Fundraising
Indiana University Center on Philanthropy

Seattle University Coursework:
Management Analysis & Control
Human Resources Management
Public Budgeting

Professional Activities

Leadership for Justice Fellowship Selection Committee member
Seattle University School of LAW, 2012

Judicial Screening Committee, non-attorney member
King County Bar Association, 2011-2012

National Association of IOLTA Programs Board of Trustees
American Bar Association, 2007 - 2011

ANDREA D. AXEL

5532 31st Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98105

phone: (206) 234-4781 email: andrea.axel@gmail.com

EMPLOYMENT

2006-present Grants Manager, Legal Foundation of Washington (Seattle, WA)

- Oversee the annual grant-making process to over 20 legal aid organizations that serve Washington families living in poverty. Work closely with the board to evaluate program requests and strategically allocate funds to maximize critically needed legal help to low-income people.
- Monitor grantee programs to ensure effective administration and client service. Conduct regular site visits with program staff and governing boards across the state; review financial and operational reports; oversee installation and maintenance of an electronic case management system to evaluate effectiveness; and provide feedback and recommendations to programs.
- Collaborate with grantees and others to develop statewide priorities and design plans to address emerging legal issues for low-income communities.
- Supervise the work of a statewide coordinator for pro bono services, including developing work plans, providing feedback, and monitoring expenses.
- Collaborate with grantees and development staff to raise financial support for legal aid from private foundations and individuals.

1999-2003 Attorney, Foster Pepper (Seattle, WA)

Advised health care clients on a range of legal issues. Represented clients before administrative agencies and in court. Managed junior attorneys and staff. *Pro Bono:* Assisted low-income clients, including an immigrant woman seeking to obtain legal residence independently of her abusive spouse. Taught a seminar for litigants unable to hire attorneys.

1998-1999 Attorney, Sidley & Austin (Chicago, IL)

Wrote legal briefs, deposed parties, and appeared in state and federal court. *Pro Bono:* Filed a petition on behalf of a female inmate denied adequate medical treatment in prison. Coached a high school mock trial team.

1996-1997 Judicial Clerk, Judge Milton Shadur, U.S. District Court (Chicago, IL)

Researched legal issues and drafted opinions in a wide range of federal law cases.

1990-1992 Assistant Director of Education, Population Connection (Washington, DC)

Co-authored an award-winning curriculum for high school teachers addressing social and environmental issues related to population growth. Presented seminars at teacher conferences throughout the United States. Designed a monthly educational newsletter distributed to 4,000 teachers.

EDUCATION

1995 J.D. - University of Michigan Law School, *magna cum laude*

1990 B.A. - Stanford University, Anthropology

César E. Torres

NORTHWEST JUSTICE PROJECT
401 Second Ave. S. – Suite 407
Seattle, WA 98103

(206) 464-1519
Fax: 464-0229
cesart@nwjustice.org

EDUCATION

J.D. University of Virginia School of Law, Charlottesville, Va., 1985.

B.A. Yale University, New Haven, Ct., 1980; *Cum Laude*; Distinction in the Major.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NORTHWEST JUSTICE PROJECT (NJP), Seattle, WA

Responsible for overall direction and leadership to 100 attorney, publicly funded, statewide non-profit law firm providing comprehensive, high quality legal services to low income Washingtonians through 17 field locations and statewide legal hotline. Provide statewide leadership in coordinated statewide civil legal aid delivery system overseen by Supreme Court's Access to Justice Board. 11/06 – present

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, ESSEX-NEWARK LEGAL SERVICES (ENLS), Newark N.J.

Assist Executive Director with regulatory compliance issues and substantive legal management of 25 attorney legal services program, service area includes some of the greatest poverty concentrated communities in New Jersey. Supervisor, Anti-Predatory Lending Practices Project (2003 - present); Supervisor, Volunteer Lawyer Program. Lead staff - Computer and Information Technology. 8/98 - 10/06

MANAGING ATTORNEY, ENLS HOUSING & INCOME MAINTENANCE UNIT

Training, supervision and management of day-to-day delivery of high volume, high quality legal assistance and representation to very low income Essex County residents on all aspects of state and federal housing rights, emergency assistance programs to prevent homelessness, and (beginning 1999) advocacy and representation with respect to Work First New Jersey, TANF welfare-to-work implementation, and representation with individual benefit disputes; Individual caseload, extensive appellate experience.. 9/89 – 10/06

TRAINER, LEGAL SERVICES OF NEW JERSEY, Edison, NJ. Conduct annual statewide attorney training on all aspects of federally subsidized and public housing programs. 1990 - 2006

STAFF ATTORNEY, HUDSON COUNTY LEGAL SERVICES, Jersey City, N.J.

Specializing in housing law; consumer law. 9/85 – 8/89

LEGAL INTERN, CENTER FOR LAW AND SOCIAL POLICY, Washington, D.C.

Poverty and civil rights national legal advocacy and litigation center; research/analysis for federal litigation; preparation of comments for LSC federal rule making. 9/84 – 12/84

SUMMER INTERN, COMMUNITY LAW OFFICES, THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY, East Harlem, N.Y.

Housing Development Unit: specializing in Article 7-A Administrators and Representation of tenant associations; completed extensive census based housing needs survey of East Harlem Community. 6/84 – 8/84

PROGRAM RESOURCE SPECIALIST, HOT LINE CARES, INC., East Harlem, N.Y.

Program development for multi-service teenage crisis intervention program; Training, supervision, counseling of teenage volunteers; crisis caseload. 6/81 – 8/82

PUBLISHED OPINIONS/PUBLICATIONS

Hodges et al. v. Feinstein, Raiss, Kelin & Booker, LLC, et al., 189 N.J. 210, 915 A.2d 1 (2007). In a case of first impression the New Jersey Supreme Court held that attorneys who regularly file eviction actions are subject to the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. 1692 *et seq.*

Housing Authority Morristown v. Little, 135 N.J. 274 (1994) (co-authored Legal services of New Jersey *amicus* brief to New Jersey Supreme Court setting forth N.J. public policy against homelessness in case involving public housing eviction).

Maryland National Mortgage v. Littlejohn, 133 N.J. 439 (1994) (certif. granted), decided *sub nom:* Chase Manhattan v. Josephson, 135 N.J. 209 (1994) (Co-authored petition for certification; Argued before the New Jersey Supreme Court - applied New Jersey statutory good cause for eviction provisions to foreclosing mortgagees).

Ivy Hill Park, Section III v. Abutidze & Giorgadze, 371 N.J.Super. 103 (App.Div. 2004)

Durruthy v. Brunert, 228 N.J.Super. 199 (App.Div.), certif. denied, 114 N.J. 482 (1988).

The Housing Crisis Facing Low Income People, Housing and Hope Symposium, 29 Seton Hall Law Review 1499 (1999)

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES/BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

Management and Information Exchange	2007-present
Treasurer, Founding Board Member, Wynona's House, Newark, NJ	2003 - 2006
President/Treasurer, 185 Washington Court, Inc., Newark, NJ	2005 - 2006
New Jersey Hispanic Bar Association	2005 – 2006
Co-Chair, N.J State Bar Assn., Special Civil Part Practice Committee	2003 - 2006
Secretary, Essex County Bar Association, Newark, NJ	2004 - 2006
Board of Trustees, Essex County Bar Association, Newark, NJ	2002 - 2006
Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointments Committee, Essex County Bar Assn.	2000 - 2006
Secretary/Executive Committee, The Apostle's House, Newark, NJ	2001 - 2006
Essex County Bar Association Pro Bono Taskforce	1999 - 2001
Board of Trustees, Essex County Bar Association, Newark, NJ	1997 - 2000
Board of Directors, The Apostle's House, Newark, NJ	1995 - 2006
Co-Chair, Special Civil Part Bench-Bar Committee, Essex County	1990 - 2006
New Jersey Hispanic Bar Association.	1991 - 1994

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

The Ronald B. Atlas Outstanding Attorney Award, Legal Services of New Jersey, 1990
New Jersey Citizen's Action - Recognition Award (anti-lead paint poisoning work), 1998
Award for Extraordinary Achievement - Housing Unit, Legal Services of New Jersey, 1999
Pro Bono Attorney Achievement Award, Essex County Bar Association, 1999
Friend of the People Award, N.J. ACORN, 2003

Aurora Martin
Columbia Legal Services
101 Yesler Way, Suite 300
aurora.martin@columbialegal.org
206.287.9650

EXPERIENCE

Columbia Legal Services, Director (December 2011- Present); Deputy Director (July 2004 – November 2011); Assistant Deputy Director (September 2001-June 2004)

Continue to serve as part of administrative leadership team for statewide legal aid program; managing overall program advocacy planning, operations, and community relations.

Columbia Legal Services, National Public Interest Law Fellow (1999-2001)

Established and managed volunteer attorney courthouse program at Norm Maleng Regional Justice Center, focused on homelessness prevention through same-day eviction defense.

Washington State Supreme Court, Judicial Law Clerk (1998-1999)

Served as judicial law clerk to Justice Barbara A. Madsen.

Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, Six-month Post-graduate Goldmark Fellow (1997-1998)

Worked on applications for political asylum, domestic violence, and general removal cases.

EDUCATION

University of Washington School of Law, J.D. 1997

Pacific Rim Law & Policy Journal, Editorial Board

Public Service Program Advisory Board, student representative

University of Washington, 1994

B.A., International Studies: Southeast Asian Studies – Department Distinction with Honors

B.A., Political Science – Political Economy

Office of Minority Affairs Student Advisory Board, student board member

COMMUNITY SERVICE, AFFILIATIONS, AWARDS

Laurel Rubin Farm Worker Justice Project, Advisory Board Member

Access to Justice Board Law School Relations, Founding Member

*Special initiatives: Developed statewide summer law student orientation; Developed the Laurel Rubin Rural Externship Advocacy Program – First joint externship program between in-state law schools with clinical seminar component where various faculty and practicing attorneys lead seminars; each student earns academic credit and is placed to work in Yakima Valley to work full-time in a civil legal aid program. Developed the Heritage University Community Economic Development Clinic – pilot project between CLS, Heritage University and various practitioners provide seminars to students who adopt local community service project.

KCTS-9 Community Advisory Board, Member.

Washington State Bar Association, Member.

ATJ Leadership Award (2010).

University of Washington School of Law, Public Interest Law Association Hall of Fame, Inductee (2012).

ATTACHMENT 10

2011 Sample Closed Case Report - KCBA Pro Bono Services

Legal Problem Code	Cases
01 Bankruptcy/Debtor Relief	694
02 Collect/Repo/Def/Garnsh	458
03 Contract/Warranties	78
04 Collection Practices / Creditor Harassment	48
05 Predatory Lending Practices (not Mortgages) previously Energy	2
06 Loans/Installment Purchase	10
07 Public Utilities	3
08 Unfair Sales Practices	59
09 Other Consumer/Finance	234
11 Education	3
110 - Criminal	242
12 Discipline (incl. Expulsion & Suspension)	4
15 Vocational Education	1
16 Student Financial Aid	3
19 Other Education	7
21 Job Discrimination	71
22 Wage Claims	50
24 Taxes (not EITC)	5
25 Employee Rights	81
29 Other Employment	192
30 Adoption	17
31 Custody/Visitation	702
32 Divorce/Sep./Annul.	834
33 Adult Guardianship	40
34 Name Change	9
35 Parental Rights Termination	6
36 Paternity	40
37 Domestic Abuse	45
38 Support	218
39 Other Family	149
43 Emancipation	2
44 Minor Guardianship/Conservatorship	4
49 Other Juvenile	2
51 Medicaid	3
52 Medicare	2
54 Home and Community-Based Care	3
55 Private Health Insurance	9
57 State and Local Health	7
59 Other Health	74
61 Fed. Subsidized Housing	151
62 Homeownership/Real Property	118
63 Landlord/Tenant not Public Housing	1,776
64 Other Public Housing	162
65 Mobile Homes	33
66 Housing Discrimination	3
67 Mortgage Foreclosures (not Pred)	76
68 Mortgage Predatory Lending/Practices	9
69 Other Housing	229
71 TANF	5
72 Social Security (Not SSDI)	12
73 Food Stamps	1
74 Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)	26
75 SSI	15
76 Unemployment Compensation	39
77 Veterans Benefits	4
79 Other Income Maintenance	31
81 Immigration/Naturalization	79
82 Mental Health	5
83 Prisoner's Rights	4
84 Disability Rights	11
85 Civil Rights	49
89 Other Individual Rights	45
91 Legal Assist. to Non-Profit Org/Group	1
93 Licenses (Auto and Other)	64
94 Torts	150
95 Wills and Estates	158
96 Advance Directives/Power of Attorney	16
97 Municipal Legal Needs	10
99 Other Miscellaneous	892
Grand Total	8,585

Closing Code	Cases
A-Counsel and Advice	7,011
B-Brief Service	430
F-Negotiated Settlement w/out Litigation	322
G-Negotiated Settlement with Litigation	147
H-Administrative Agency Decision	4
IA - Uncontested Court Decision	48
IB - Contested Court Decision	50
K-Other	51
L - Extensive Service	520
M - Community Advocacy (non-legal help)	2
Grand Total	8,585

Gender	Cases
(blank)	101
Female	5,009
Male	3,475
Grand Total	8,585

Language	Cases
(blank)	3,735
Cambodian	2
English	493
French	1
Korean	2
Mandarin	1
Other	6
Polish	1
Russian	6
Sign Language	1
Spanish	26
Tagalog	8
Unknown	4,299
Vietnamese	4
Grand Total	8,585

Ethnicity	Cases
(blank)	174
Asian or Pacific Islander	956
Black (Not Hispanic)	1,874
Hispanic or Latino	716
Native American	147
Other	497
Unknown	172
White - not Hispanic	4,049
Grand Total	8,585

ATTACHMENT 11

Outline of ATJ Performance Standards

This is a summary of the Performance Standards for Legal Aid in the State of Washington developed by the Access to Justice Board in 2009. The full 67-page version may be found at www.wsba.org/Legal-Community/Committees-Boards-and-Other-Groups/Access-to-Justice-Board/Access-to-Justice-Board-Key-Documents.

ONE: Identifying legal needs and planning strategically and collaboratively to respond

- A. Does your program *identify the most compelling legal needs* of the communities you serve?
- B. Does your program *strategically plan* how to deliver services to meet compelling needs?
- C. Do you *coordinate* with Alliance for Equal Justice members and other stakeholders to meet compelling client needs?
- D. Does your program *evaluate* the effectiveness of your efforts and make necessary adjustments?

TWO: Strategic employment of resources to provide services that respond to the compelling needs of low-income communities

- A. Does your program choose *delivery methods* (such as legal advice, full representation, and representation in negotiation) that most effectively meet client needs?
- B. Does your program seek to accomplish *lasting results* for low-income individuals and communities, including solving individual problems, providing education, and systemically working to improve laws and practices?

THREE: Client access

- A. Does your program strive to treat people seeking legal help with *dignity and respect*?
- B. Does your program's *intake process* accurately identify legal problems and promptly advise people seeking help of the level of help they will receive?
- C. Does your program have *conflict of interest* practices that identify potential conflicts and do not unduly burden access to needed services?
- D. Does your program *protect information* provided by prospective clients and clients from unauthorized disclosure?
- E. Does your program *overcome barriers* for isolated low-income communities?
- F. Does your program operate with *sensitivity to values and cultures* of all communities served?
- G. Does your program have the capacity to help clients in their primary *language*?
- H. Does your program work to eliminate barriers for people with *disabilities*?
- I. Does your program work to *improve access* to the legal system?
- J. Does your program use *technology* in ways that provide access to legal help and the justice system?

FOUR: Production of high quality legal work

- A. Does your program *recruit and retain* a well-qualified, diverse, client-sensitive workforce?
- B. Does your program provide *supervision and mentoring* for less experienced advocates?
- C. Is there regular *review* of advocates cases and workload?
- D. Is *training* provided to staff and volunteer attorneys?

- E. Does your program have *policies* to promote the timely and effective practice of law, including case acceptance policies, assignment and management of cases and workload, and procedures to maintain client files?
- F. Is your program familiar with and following the guidance for effective practice of law, contained in *ABA Standard for the Provision of Legal Aid 7*?

FIVE: Effective leadership, management and administration

- A. Does the program's leadership establish and maintain a commitment to the program's *mission*?
- B. Does program management support provision of *high quality* legal work?
- C. Does your program effectively *administer program finances and personnel issues*?
- D. Does your program maintain *compliance* with grant and contract requirements?
- E. Does your program use *technology* to support the program's operation and work?

SIX: Governance

- A. Does the board know its *governance role*, i.e. to determine the mission, adopt general policies, engage in planning, oversee the financial integrity, hire and supervise the executive officer, and ensure organization follow its policies and complies with applicable laws?
- B. Are your board members *knowledgeable* about legal aid and supportive of the mission?
- C. Do board members *understand the Alliance for Equal Justice* and the program's role in the statewide community?
- D. Does the board assist in *community relations and advocate* on behalf of the program?

SEVEN: Resource Development

- A. Does your program collaborate with the *Equal Justice Coalition* to preserve and expand public resources for the Alliance, including:
 - 1. Expecting all staff to be a member of the EJC (i.e. on the email list) and take action when Alliance funding is at risk
 - 2. Encouraging board members and supporters to join the EJC
 - 3. Contacting the EJC for help with legislative or media relations support?
- B. Does your program participate in the *Campaign for Equal Justice* in efforts to develop and expand private resources to support the Alliance, including:
 - 1. actively *participating* in the Campaign by identifying area volunteers for the Campaign, promoting donations to the Campaign and report back to the local legal community its annual results ,
 - 2. *refraining* from activities that compete with Alliance collaborative fundraising, and
 - 3. *coordinating* private resource development efforts such as grant writing and event planning with the Campaign?
- C. Does your program work with LFW, EJC and the Campaign to create and disseminate *consistent communications* about the goals of the Alliance?

EIGHT : Effective Use of Volunteer Attorneys

- A. Does your program effectively recruit potential volunteer attorneys?
- B. Does your program offer training and support to volunteer attorneys?
- C. If your program has non-attorney staff, does an attorney supervise activities that constitute the practice of law pursuant to GR24?
- D. Does your program coordinate with CLEAR for intake and strive to ensure that the intake process is as efficient as possible to avoid creating additional barriers to getting legal help?
- E. Does your program monitor volunteer capacity to avoid delays for clients?
- F. Does your program follow up with cases to ensure that the matter is progressing as expected or that problems have not arisen?
- G. Does your program clearly define the roles of the volunteer attorney, the client and the pro bono program so that expectations and responsibilities are clear?

ATTACHMENT 12

**Legal Foundation of Washington
QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Organization Name _____

Quarter (dd/mm/yy – dd/mm/yy) _____

Name of person completing this form _____

	A	B	C
EXPENSES	LFW Disbursements	Other Disbursements	Total Quarterly Disbursements
Salaries: List each category of staff funded by this grant (e.g.: Attorney, Administrative Assistant etc.). Attach extra sheet as needed.			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
SALARY SUBTOTAL			
Employee Benefits			
TOTAL PERSONNEL COSTS			
Office Space			
Equipment Rental			
Office Supplies/Expenses			
Communications			
Travel			
Training			
Translation/Interpretation			
Library			
Lobbying: Direct			
Grassroots			
Other			
Insurance			
Dues & Fees			
Audit			
Litigation			
Capital expenditures			
Contract Services			
Other			
TOTAL NON-PERSONNEL COSTS			
TOTAL			

**LEGAL FOUNDATION OF WASHINGTON
QUARTERLY CASH FLOW REPORT**

1. _____
Name of Recipient Organization

2. Quarter covered by this report:

From _____ to _____

3. Report Legal Foundation of Washington funds:

A. LFW Cash on hand beginning of reporting period	\$ _____
B. Grant cash receipts - LFW	_____
C. Total LFW cash available (A + Bb)	_____
D. Gross disbursements during quarter - LFW	_____
E. Adjustments of prior periods	_____
F. Cash on hand end of period - LFW	_____

4. If you have overspent or underspent funds granted by the Legal Foundation by 5% or more during the previous quarter, please provide a brief explanation here:

I certify to the best of my knowledge that this report is true and that all disbursements have been made for the purpose and conditions of the grant.

Signature

Date



LEGAL FOUNDATION OF WASHINGTON YEAR-END
ANNUAL GRANT NARRATIVE REPORT
2011

Program name:

Person completing report:

A. TELL US ABOUT YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

*Using only the space provided, present an executive summary of your program's **most significant accomplishments** during the period, highlighting the following information:*

- *Services that benefited low-income people in Washington;*
- *Changes in the nature or number of services you provided, compared with prior years;*
- *Significant developments that affected your program's capacity to deliver legal services, e.g., the addition of a weekly clinic or the loss of funding which resulted in personnel cuts;*
- *The role that LFW funding played in these accomplishments;*
- *How the selected accomplishments relate to your program priorities.*

1. In the space provided, present an executive summary of your program's most significant accomplishments during the report period.

(For all remaining questions, please use additional space as needed.)

2. Provide brief summaries of *at least* three cases your program has worked on during the report period. Explain the problem(s) faced by the client(s) and the assistance provided by your program. If available, include or attach client quotes that express the impact of these services. *(Please note: we frequently use these summaries, without client names, to illustrate to others the important work done by LFW grantees. If you do not want a particular summary to be shared, please indicate that below.)*

Case One:

Case Two:

Case Three:

B. TELL US ABOUT EMERGING ISSUES, OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS.

1. Please describe emerging issues affecting the legal needs of the clients that you serve, including if your program has experienced an increased demand for legal help as a result of the economic downturn. For each of these emerging issues, please describe: (a) indicators you see that show the trend and (b) your program's plans to address the emerging issue.
2. Please describe any obstacles or issues you encountered that affected your program's ability to achieve the purposes of the grant. Indicate how you addressed those obstacles.

C. TELL US ABOUT YOUR STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS.

1. Tell us of all personnel changes that affect the program funded by this grant.
2. Briefly summarize professional training received by staff during this period. Which trainings did your staff find to be most effective?

3. Did you complete staff evaluations for all staff, including evaluation of the program director by the board, as described in the grant application? If not, please describe your plan for implementation.

4. Using the chart below, please indicate the total number of volunteers who participated in the delivery of legal services during the reporting period. Do not include compensated attorneys (VOCA-funded, GAAP referrals, etc.).

Volunteers (Number of Persons)			
	Attorneys	Paralegals	Others
a. Served on panel(s)			
b. Provided case services during period			
c. Provided other services during period			

Definitions:

- a) "Served on panel(s)" - Number of volunteers who are signed up to participate in the program; may or may not have been requested to provide services during the reporting period.
- b) "Provided case services" - Actually provided services on one or more full-representation cases during the reporting period.
- c) "Provided other services" - Provided services such as teaching a pro se class, staffing an advice clinic, etc., as well as in-house services such as intake, answering phones, clerical support, accounting, etc.

5. Using the chart below, indicate hours of service performed by volunteers. Use reported figures or estimate, using your best professional judgment.

Hours of Volunteer/Pro Bono Service			
	Attorneys	Paralegals	Others
a. on case services			
b. on other services			
TOTAL			

6. Estimate the dollar value of the services reported in #5. Briefly describe the basis of your estimate.

7. Please describe any efforts made during the reporting period to recruit, train and/or recognize volunteers.

D. TELL US ABOUT YOUR BOARD

If you are an independent organization, please provide the following information about your governing board. If your program is part of a larger organization, please provide this information about both your advisory board and the governing board of the sponsoring organization.

- | | Advisory | Governing |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| • Number of board members: | | |
| • Number of board members who are WSBA members: | | |
| • Number of board meetings held during this report period: | | |
| • Dates of the meetings: | | |
| • Average number of board members in attendance at each meeting: | | |
-
1. Please describe any training on board governance or client advocacy issues received by your governing or advisory board during the report period.

E. TELL US ABOUT YOUR CLIENTS

1. What were the primary intake and screening mechanisms used by your program during the report period?
 - For programs outside of King County, approximately what percentage of the cases handled by your program came through CLEAR?
 - For programs in King County, please provide an update on your experience receiving referrals from the 211 system.
2. What steps did you take during the report period to remove access barriers for clients with special needs (such as non-English speakers, people with physical or cognitive disabilities, etc.)?
3. Have your eligibility criteria changed since your program submitted its last LFW grant application? If so, please describe the changes. If you have served clients who do not meet your low-income criteria, please indicate how many you served during the report period. Describe criteria by which exceptions are made.
4. Did you receive any client grievances during the reporting period? If so, briefly explain how they have been or will be resolved.

F. TELL US ABOUT YOUR COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION WITH OTHER COMMUNITY GROUPS.

1. List the primary legal services providers and/or community groups with which you worked during the period, and describe your collaborative work with them.
2. List any new partners or allies you have made in the report period. Describe how you will work together.

G: RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

1. Please describe the ways your program participated in the Alliance for Equal Justice's two resource development efforts:
 - The Equal Justice Coalition's work to raise support from the State Legislature.
 - The Campaign for Equal Justice's work to raise private support from the legal community in your area.
2. If your program pursued grants from public or private foundations or other major funding sources, please let us know to which organizations you submitted letters of inquiry or applications, the amount of the request, and the status of your request. (We will pool this information so that Alliance members can better coordinate fundraising efforts.)

The following two questions should cover the entire 2011 calendar year, not just the second six months:

3. Describe any non-cash or in-kind contributions your program received in 2011 other than volunteer legal services.
4. Please list the source and amount of non-LFW funding received by your program during 2011.

Individuals*	\$	Community block grants	\$
Local Bar Association/Foundation**	\$	VOCA & VAWA	\$
Bar Sections	\$	Federal Stimulus Funds	\$
Attorney Fees	\$	Other Federal	\$
United Way	\$	State	\$
Other Workplace Gifts	\$	County	\$
Special Events	\$	City	\$
Other Foundations	\$	Client Fees	\$
Religious Institutions	\$	Fellowships & Interns	\$
Unions	\$	Work Study	\$
Cy Pres Awards	\$	Courthouse Facilitator	\$
Earned Revenue	\$	Other (specify)	\$
Other (specify)	\$	Other (specify)	\$