

# 2023-24 Social Return on Investment of Civil Legal Aid Services for Louisiana



For every **\$1** invested in Louisiana Legal Aid,  
the citizens of Louisiana received **\$13.28**  
of immediate and long-term financial benefits.

The total net value realized was **\$162,988,000.**

Social impact return on investment was **1,328%.**



Civil legal aid is free legal advice, representation, or other legal assistance provided to low-income and vulnerable people who cannot otherwise afford legal help. The responsibility for meeting the civil legal needs of Louisiana's poor falls primarily on a network of nonprofit, civil legal aid providers who serve our poorest citizens with free civil legal assistance.

The Louisiana Bar Foundation conducted a Social Return on Investment Analysis for fiscal year 2023-24. The study included data from over 45 civil legal aid providers. Social return on investment (SROI) is an internationally standardized and accepted process for measuring and understanding the financial impact of social services organizations.



## HIGHLIGHTS

• Total number of civil legal aid <b>cases completed</b>	37,399
• Total net <b>value realized</b>	\$162,988,000
• Total <b>tax-based funding</b> for Louisiana civil legal aid operations	\$12,277,000
<b>SOCIAL IMPACT RETURN ON INVESTMENT</b>	<b>1,328%</b>

The Louisiana Bar Foundation is the state's largest funder of civil legal aid. We partner with a trusted network of organizations that lead community driven efforts to help families facing non-criminal, civil legal challenges. Our goal is to make sure that all Louisianans, regardless of their background or income have access to the civil legal services that they need.

**To learn more about our mission, visit us at [raisingthebar.org](https://raisingthebar.org)**

*The 2023-24 SROI percentage (1,328%) is lower than 2021-22 (1,799%) due to two factors that significantly contributed to elevated impact figures: closure of the court system during COVID-1 and devastation caused by Hurricane Ida. These factors were thoroughly detailed in the 2021-22 SROI report. Louisiana's Legal Aid services consistently rank in the top 10% of Legal Aid programs nationwide in terms of SROI impact percentage.*

# MAJOR AREAS OF SERVICES AND TYPES OF LEGAL MATTERS

## HOUSING

- foreclosure
- eviction from subsidized or private housing
- public housing issues
- private landlord/tenant problems
- sub-standard housing conditions

## FAMILY LAW

- domestic violence
- divorce
- separation and annulment
- child custody and visitation
- guardianship
- adoption

## HEALTH CARE

- Medicaid and Medicare
- private health insurance
- long-term health care facilities
- home and community-based care
- state and local health care
- other health issues

## PUBLIC BENEFITS

- Social Security benefits
- Medicare and Medicaid
- food stamps
- temporary assistance for needy families
- unemployment compensation

## CONSUMER PROTECTION

- bankruptcy
- debt and wage garnishments
- tax issues
- debt collections
- repossessions

## EMPLOYMENT

- employment discrimination
- wage claims
- fair labor standards
- tax issues
- employment rights
- other employment issues

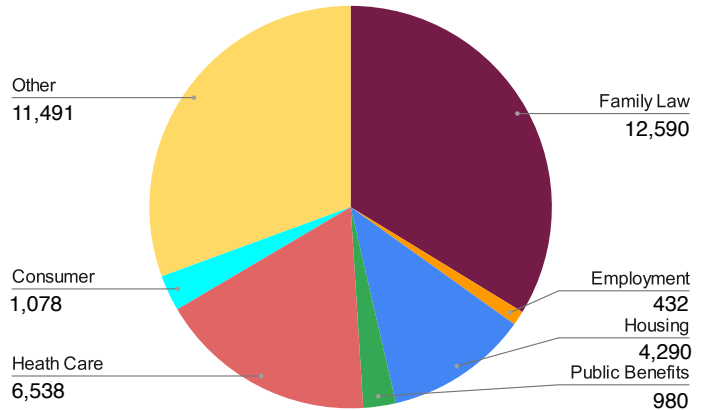
## OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES

- education
- mental health and disabilities
- legal immigration
- wills and estates
- powers of attorney and advance directives
- civil rights
- torts
- licenses
- other individual miscellaneous legal issues

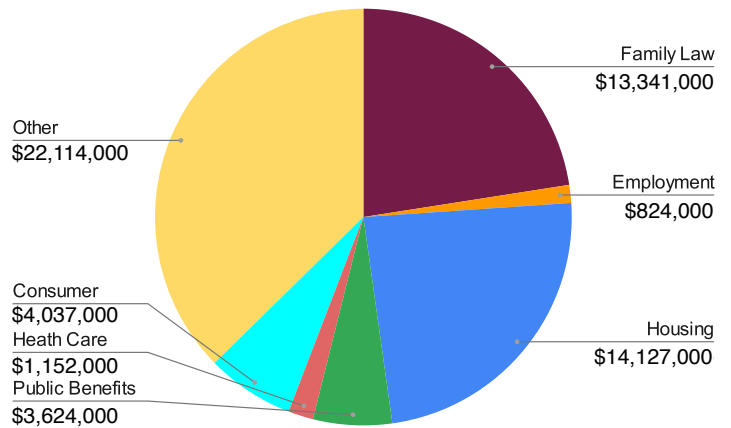
**Community Services Analysis LLC (CSACO)** is a leading provider of Social Economic Impact and Social Return on Investment Analysis in the United States. Since 2007, CSACO has completed over 300 SROI studies for individual organizations, social services membership associations, and local and state organizations and agencies around the country, and over 250 Legal Aid organizations nationwide.

# 2024 OUTCOMES

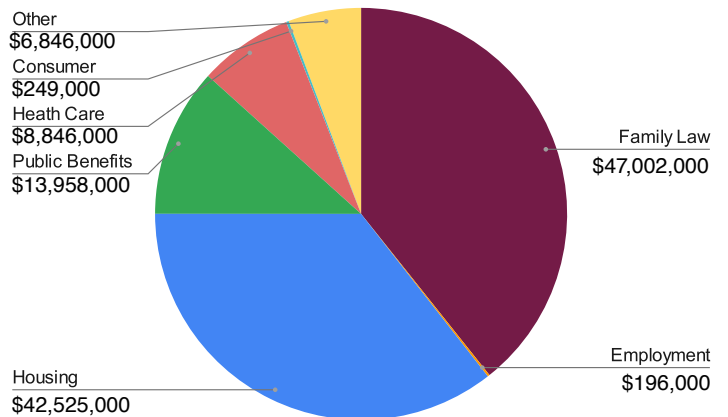
**37,399** CIVIL LEGAL AID CASES COMPLETED



**\$59,219,000** IMMEDIATE GROSS DIRECT VALUE OF SERVICES



**\$119,621,000** LONG-TERM GROSS CONSEQUENTIAL VALUE



**LOUISIANA BAR FOUNDATION**  
FUNDING CIVIL LEGAL AID