

LOUISIANA BAR FOUNDATION

FUNDING CIVIL LEGAL AID

2024-2025

ANNUAL REPORT

“Equal justice under law is not merely a caption on the facade of the Supreme Court building; it is perhaps the most inspiring ideal of our society...It is fundamental that justice should be the same, in substance and availability, without regard to economic status.”

**—Lewis F. Powell, Jr.
Associate Justice, Supreme Court of the United States 1972-1987**

New Address as of November 1, 2025:
601 Poydras St, Suite 1777
New Orleans, LA 70130





LOUISIANA BAR FOUNDATION

FUNDING CIVIL LEGAL AID

WHO WE ARE

The Louisiana Bar Foundation is a grant-making organization that exists to preserve, honor, and improve our system of justice by funding, developing, or otherwise promoting efforts which enhance the legal profession, increase public understanding of the legal system, and advance the reality of equal justice under the law.

The Louisiana Bar Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) entity organized under the state of Louisiana, operating as the largest state funder of civil legal aid.

WHAT WE DO

We partner with a trusted network of more than 70 organizations that lead community-driven efforts to help families facing non-criminal, civil legal challenges.

Through grants, we provide services that go to the very heart of the health, safety, and security of many of our citizens and their families.

WHY WE DO IT

While every American has a constitutional right to an attorney in criminal matters, when it comes to civil matters, access to an attorney is not a fundamental right.

With more than 1.7 million people in Louisiana who are potentially eligible for free civil legal aid and the second highest poverty rate in the country, there is an immense necessity for assistance.

We are here to close this gap in our justice system and ensure equal justice and representation for all.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to ensure that all Louisiana citizens have access to civil legal services that they need.

HOW LOUISIANA RANKS NATIONALLY

**1st
highest**

POVERTY

Louisiana's overall poverty rate is approximately 18.9%, which places it among the highest in the nation.

829,565 individuals live below the federal poverty line.

**3rd
highest**

CHILD POVERTY

24.4% of children in Louisiana are living in poverty.

255,159 children are growing up in poverty in Louisiana.

**3rd
lowest**

INCOME

Louisiana's median household income indicates a figure around \$55,416 among the nation's lowest.

**6th
highest**

INCOME INEQUALITY

Inequality remains high in Louisiana largely due to the high concentration of poverty—not high accumulation of wealth.



LOUISIANA CENSUS 2023

Year Ending June 30, 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HON. JOHN C. DAVIDSON (RET.)

2024-25 LBF PRESIDENT

IT HAS BEEN AN HONOR AND PRIVILEGE TO SERVE as the 31st president of the Louisiana Bar Foundation. I am proud to be a Fellow of an organization that brings members of our profession together, maximizing our efforts to better the profession, our communities, and ourselves. Thank you to all of our Fellows for your time, talent, and treasure.

For 30 years, this organization has been a vital source of funding for civil legal aid, supporting vulnerable citizens in crucial aspects of their lives. Addressing the challenges posed by high poverty levels in Louisiana is a crucial mission.

This fiscal year, we awarded more than \$14.6 million in grants for social justice initiatives. These funds, along with countless volunteer hours, allow LBF to continue its commitment to ensuring that Louisiana's civil justice system is truly accessible.

In collaboration with our dedicated board, Fellows, volunteers, and staff, we have embarked on a strategic planning journey to guide our work over the next three years.

Our plan centers around three key priorities:

1. Investing in our staff
2. Securing long-term financial stability
3. Expanding services to underserved legal deserts

This year, we placed an emphasis on strengthening our team by investing in staff development and training to support long-term stability. In July, we were excited to confirm Laura Sewell as our Executive Director. In January, Kim Ramagos joined us as Chief Financial Officer, further enhancing our leadership team. We're fortunate to have several team members who've been with us for over 15 years, bringing deep institutional knowledge. At the same time, newer staff—many with less than two years on the job, offer a fresh perspective that keeps our approach dynamic and innovative.

With a shared vision and strong teamwork, I'm confident we'll achieve meaningful progress and create a lasting impact in our community.



Hon. John C. Davidson (Ret.) with the Justice Bus outside of the Shreveport Bar Center while on the Pop Up Tour.

In addition to maintaining funding levels for this fiscal year, the board and staff are working on a plan to secure grant funding for the next 3-5 years.

We are working directly with the Louisiana law schools to engage and educate law students to create a pipeline for public interest attorneys. We partnered with Loyola Law School to fund the Child Welfare & Domestic Violence clinic. And I'm pleased to announce a new partnership with Southern University Law Center to fund their clinical program.

Message continues on next page

Year Ending June 30, 2025



“While legal representation is guaranteed in criminal cases, no such right exists in civil matters. Civil legal aid is crucial for addressing challenges such as housing, custody, and domestic violence... Justice cannot truly exist if access is denied.”

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HON. JOHN C. DAVIDSON (RET.)

2024-25 LBF PRESIDENT

This year, the Pop Up Tour took us across the state to meet our Fellows, partners, and stakeholders where they are—bringing the Foundation directly to their communities. At each of the nine regional stops, we connected with locals, shared meals, and engaged in conversations about the unique challenges and opportunities in their region. As part of the tour, we also offered a one-hour professionalism CLE, highlighting the importance of civil legal aid.

Through the work of the Building Committee, we secured a long-term lease at the Pan Am building at 601 Poydras Street in New Orleans. We will move at the end of the year to our new home.

I am pleased to report that the 2023-24 Social Return on Investment (SROI) of Civil Legal Aid Services for Louisiana analysis is complete. The analysis revealed that the **total net value resulting from Louisiana civil legal aid activities during the year totaled \$162,988,000.**

These values are based on the number of clients and types of legal matters handled during the period. In fiscal year 2023-24 Louisiana's civil legal aid organizations helped in over 100 types of civil legal problems including family law, housing, healthcare, consumer protection, public benefits, employment, and community support issues. The social impact return on investment was 1,328%. In other words, for every \$1 invested in Louisiana civil legal aid, the citizens of Louisiana received \$13.28 in immediate and long-term financial benefits.

The LBF engaged Community Services Analysis to conduct the SROI analysis of more than 45 Louisiana civil legal aid organizations for the 2023-24 fiscal year. SROI measures the financial value created by the organization through delivery of services to the community. SROI is an internationally standardized and accepted process for measuring and understanding the financial impact of social service organizations.

Thanks to all of you who contribute to the important work of the Bar Foundation. I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your dedication in sharing your time, skills, and support. It has been my great honor to be a part of this dynamic organization.

Year Ending June 30, 2025

2024-25 LEADERSHIP OFFICERS



PRESIDENT, Hon. John C. Davidson (Ret.)

Davidson received his undergraduate and law degrees from LSU. He is a 1988 graduate of the Paul M. Hebert Law School where he was Order of the Coif (an honor awarded to the top 10% of the graduating class), a member of the Louisiana Law Review, and inducted into the Paul M. Hebert Hall of Fame. He was in private practice until his election as a district court judge for the 9th Judicial District Court in November 2004. He retired in September 2023. He remains active in his community and state as a volunteer with local nonprofits.



VICE PRESIDENT, Edmund J. Giering IV

Giering serves as general counsel to the Baton Rouge Area Foundation and his practice emphasizes corporate law & governance, corporate, real estate & complex gift transactions, risk management, and nonprofit & tax-exempt organizations. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College in 1990, a Juris Doctor degree from the LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center in 1994, and a Master of Business Administration degree from the LSU E.J. Ourso College of Business in 2005.



TREASURER, Michael J. Mestayer

Mestayer is a solo practitioner in New Orleans, where he handles a broad range of litigation, including admiralty, product liability, and complex civil matters. He received his B.S. from L.S.U. and his J.D. from Tulane University Law School. He is also an adjunct faculty member at Tulane School of Law where he teaches Solo and Small Firm Practice.



SECRETARY, Charles C. Bourque, Jr.

Bourque is a New Orleans native, but currently resides in Houma, where he is a partner in the law firm of St. Martin & Bourque. He graduated from LSU with a degree in accounting and received his Juris Doctorate from Loyola University School of Law in 1990. Prior to entering law school, Bourque served as an officer and helicopter pilot in the United States Army and continued flying helicopters in the Louisiana Army National Guard until he retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2011. He is licensed to practice before all state and federal courts in Louisiana and is an active member of the Terrebonne Parish, New Orleans, Louisiana State, Federal, and American Bar Associations.



IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT, Deidre Deculus Robert

Robert is the current President and Chief Executive Officer East Baton Rouge Parish Redevelopment Authority. She previously served as the Director of State Operations for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development program. Robert served as the executive counsel for the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development. She has also served as general counsel for the Southern University System and deputy director of the Litigation Division of the Louisiana Attorney General's Office. Robert obtained her B.A. from Louisiana State University and her law degree from Southern University Law Center, where she serves as an adjunct professor.

2024-25 LEADERSHIP



BOARD

Linda Law Clark
G. Adam Cossey
George D. "Dave" Ernest III
Christopher B. Hebert
Hon. Marcus L. Hunter
Jonathan L. Johnson
Teresa D. King
A. Kelton Longwell
Hon. Page McClendon
Barbara Melton
Sheri Morris
Paula Miles
Deidre D. Robert
Maggie Simar
Anthony J. Staines
Shayna L. Sonnier
Hon. Karelia R. Stewart
Pat Talley
Edward J. Walters, Jr.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communications & Education
Charles C. Bourque, Jr.

Development
Hon. John C. Davidson (Ret.)

Gala Subcommittee
G. Adam Cossey & Brooke Tigchelaar

Membership Subcommittee
Maggie Simar

Executive
Hon. John C. Davidson (Ret.)

Finance
Michael J. Mestayer

Governance
Deidre Deculus Robert

Grants
Edmund J. Giering IV

Grantee Audit & Training
George D. Ernest

Investment
Michael J. Mestayer

Nominating
Hon. John C. Davidson (Ret.)

People, Culture & Impact
Adrienne White

CPP CHAIRS

Acadiana
Roya Boustany

Bayou Region
Hon. Vanessa Guidry-Whipple

Capital Area
Mark Barbe

Central
Allie Nowlin

Greater Orleans
Hon. Bernadette D'Souza

Northeast
Stacie Guice

Northshore
Patricia Bonneau

Northwest
Allison Foster

Southwest
Hon. Cynthia Clay-Guillory

Year Ending June 30, 2025



2024-25

\$ 14.6 Million

for Civil Justice Initiatives

Louisiana Bar Foundation is the State's largest funder of civil legal aid. We partner with a trusted network of more than 70 organizations that lead community driven efforts to help families facing non-criminal, civil legal challenges. Since 1989 the LBF has granted more than \$133.3 million in grants to help people across a wide range of issues, including assistance for veterans and military families, domestic violence, senior and elderly services, child welfare services, housing, and unemployment.

Access to Justice Fund Grants

\$50,000

Promotes administration of justice and benefits Louisiana's statewide justice community. Initiatives for consideration must meet at least one of the following criteria: The advancement and maintenance of statewide technology, the coordination of statewide intake and referral, or disaster/emergency response.

Justice and Accountability Center of Louisiana

\$20,000

Louisiana Appleseed

\$30,000

Adult Civil Legal Aid Services

\$1,000,000

For the provision of adult civil legal services within the state's civil justice system.

Acadiana Legal Service Corporation

\$500,000

Southeast Louisiana Legal Services

\$500,000

Building Capital Development

\$281,831

Grants up to \$50,000, on a 50% to 50% ratio matching basis, to current grantees with the purpose of assisting in the acquisition or renovation of an office building and/or property.

Acadiana Legal Service Corporation

\$50,000

Baton Rouge Bar Foundation

\$50,000

Baton Rouge Children's Advocacy Center

\$5,750

Lafayette Bar Foundation

\$33,500

Shreveport Bar Foundation

\$44,577

Southeast Louisiana Legal Services

\$48,004

The Wellspring Alliance for Families

\$50,000

Child in Need of Care

\$3,084,853

Through Acadiana Legal Service Corporation and Southeast Louisiana Legal Services this funding provides free legal representation to children in need of care, foster care, and non-custodial.

Acadiana Legal Service Corporation

\$2,109,853

Southeast Louisiana Legal Services

\$975,000

Children's Legal Services

\$400,000

Helps to provide legal assistance to needy children in areas of law which affect their safety, well-being, and future development.

Baton Rouge Children's Advocacy Center

\$25,000

Catholic Charities - Diocese of Baton Rouge

\$50,000

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans

\$75,000

Disability Rights Louisiana

\$60,000

First Grace Community Alliance

\$65,000

Louisiana Center for Children's Rights

\$55,000

Loyola University New Orleans College of Law (Education)

\$20,000

Loyola University New Orleans College of Law (Immigration)

\$10,000

T.E.A.M.S.

\$40,000

Domestic Violence Programs

\$1,500,000

Essential services provided by these agencies are shelter, 24-hour crisis line, legal services, education of domestic/dating violence, and establishing collaborative relationships with law enforcement, judges, clerks of court, and prosecutors.

Beauregard Community Concerns

\$50,000

Chez Hope, Inc.

\$125,000

D.A.R.T (Domestic Abuse Resistant Team)

\$72,925

Faith House, Inc.

\$115,000

Family and Youth Counseling Agency, Inc.

\$27,000

Family Justice Center of Central Louisiana

\$150,000

Family Violence Program of St. Bernard

\$50,000

Jeff Davis Communities Against Domestic Abuse

\$26,000

Metro Centers for Community Advocacy

\$95,000

Oasis A Safe Haven

\$50,000

Project Celebration, Inc.

\$129,000

Project SAVE

\$133,075

Safe Harbor

\$60,000

Southeast Spouse Abuse Program

\$115,000

The Haven, Inc.

\$125,000

The Wellspring Alliance For Families

\$177,000

Kids' Chance Scholarships

\$67,000

The Louisiana Bar Foundation Kids' Chance Scholarship Program is helping kids achieve their dreams. The program provides scholarships to the children of Louisiana workers who have been killed or permanently and totally disabled in an accident compensable under a state or federal Workers' Compensation Act or law.

Law-Related Education

\$275,000

The LBF awards grants to entities for law-related educational programs benefitting children and/or the public.

Baton Rouge Bar Foundation

\$55,000

Baton Rouge Children's Advocacy Center

\$35,000

Catholic Charities - Diocese of Baton Rouge

\$55,000

Emergency Legal Responders

\$10,000

Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education

\$57,500

Louisiana State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division

\$12,500

Youth Service Bureau of St. Tammany

\$50,000

Legal Services Corporations

\$4,000,000

Eligible programs are funded by the LSC federal agency and provide civil legal services to the indigent in each parish of the state.

Acadiana Legal Service Corporation

\$2,585,580

Southeast Louisiana Legal Services

\$2,414,420

Loan Repayment Assistance Program **\$65,740**

The Loan Repayment Assistance Program provides forgivable loans of up to \$7,500 per year to attorneys working at an organization supported by the LBF. Recipient identities are kept confidential.

Louisiana Housing Corporation Grants **\$333,333**

Funding is for education, counseling, and direct representation aiding impoverished citizens in matters of title clearing (as it relates to homeowner foreclosure), foreclosure prevention, mediation, and mortgage loan modifications.

Acadiana Legal Service Corporation	\$110,000
Lagniappe Law Lab	\$50,000
Louisiana Appleseed	\$54,400
Southeast Louisiana Legal Services	\$118,933

My Community Cares **\$375,000**

The LBF supports the MCC Program which strengthens families and prevents child abuse and neglect preventing the need for foster care. Funding is for full-time attorney positions fully dedicated to MCC work.

Shreveport Bar Foundation – Caddo	\$75,000
The Extra Mile – Lafayette	\$75,000
Loyola University New Orleans College of Law – Orleans	\$75,000
The Wellspring Alliance for Families – Ouachita	\$75,000
Fostering Community – Rapides	\$75,000

Other Legal Service Providers **\$672,520**

Through staff attorneys and paralegals, these programs provide legal services of a special nature such as mental health and child advocacy mediation.

Catholic Charities Diocese of Baton Rouge	\$123,655
Catholic Charities of North Louisiana	\$110,265
Disability Rights Louisiana	\$75,000
Frontline Legal Services, Inc.	\$60,000
Innocence Project New Orleans	\$20,000
Justice and Accountability Center of Louisiana	\$100,000
Louisiana Center for Children's Rights	\$28,400
NO/AIDS Task Force dba CrescentCare	\$79,200
St. Frances Cabrini Immigration Law Center	\$50,000
STARC of La., Inc.	\$10,000
The Ella Project	\$16,000

Pro Bono Projects **\$1,350,000**

Often operated by the local bar association, these projects utilize the local private bar to handle cases for the poor pro bono in many legal areas.

Baton Rouge Bar Foundation	\$211,000
Central Louisiana Pro Bono Project, Inc	\$97,710
Lafayette Bar Foundation	\$145,000
Northeast Louisiana Bar Foundation	\$124,000
Shreveport Bar Foundation	\$205,000
Southwest Louisiana Bar Foundation	\$128,290
The Pro Bono Project	\$439,000

Pro Hac Vice **\$102,790**

A portion of the fees collected by the Louisiana state courts through motions for pro hac vice admission filed by out-of-state lawyers not licensed to practice law in Louisiana are directed to the LBF for distribution for the Legal Service Corporation's programs providing civil legal aid in Louisiana.

Special Program and Project Grants **\$570,000**

Collaboration with justice community stakeholders providing umbrella support services to several or all civil legal aid providers.

Lagniappe Law Lab	\$320,000
Louisiana Appleseed	\$250,000

Jock Scott Community Partnership Panel Grants **\$475,650**

Nine Community Partnership Panels act as regional chapters of the Foundation. These panels identify needs in their community and fund efforts to address those needs. Grants are awarded throughout the year.

Acadiana	
Acadiana Legal Service Corporation	\$6,145
Catholic Charities of Acadiana	\$15,000
Lafayette Parish Bar Foundation	\$10,000
Teche Bar Association	\$20,000
Oral History Projects	\$1,705

Bayou Region	
Acadiana Legal Service Corporation	\$5,000
CASA of Terrebonne	\$10,000
Southeast Louisiana Legal Services	\$20,350
Teche Bar Association	\$17,500

Capital Area	
Baton Rouge Bar Foundation	\$8,250
CASA of the 18th JDC	\$5,000
CASA of the 18th JDC	\$3,015
Chez Hope	\$5,044
Justice and Accountability Center of Central Louisiana	\$20,021
Manners of the Heart	\$11,520

Central	
Acadiana Legal Service Corporation	\$12,250
Family Justice Center of Central Louisiana	\$15,000
Lagniappe Law Lab	\$22,500
Oral History Projects	\$3,100

Greater Orleans	
Jefferson Children's Advocacy Center	\$7,261
Loyola University New Orleans College of Law	\$10,000
Loyola University New Orleans College of Law	\$7,261
NAMI of Southeast Louisiana	\$28,328

Northeast	
Acadiana Legal Service Corporation	\$8,150
Northeast Louisiana Bar Foundation	\$20,250
Pine Hills Advocacy Center	\$22,850
Oral History Projects	\$1,600

Northshore	
Children's Advocacy Center	\$17,500
Family Reach Alliance	\$9,463
Southeast Louisiana Legal Services	\$25,887

Northwest	
Gingerbread House	\$25,000
TEAMS	\$12,850
Volunteers for Youth Justice	\$15,000

Southwest	
Family and Youth Counseling Agency	\$17,500
Sulphur Christian Community	\$17,850
The Whistle Stop & Family	\$17,500

Year Ending June 30, 2025

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

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

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

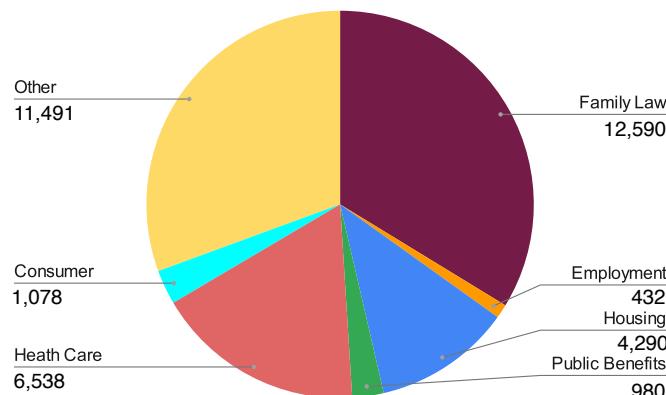
- employment discrimination
- wage claims
- fair labor standards
- tax issues
- employment rights
- other employment issues

● OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES

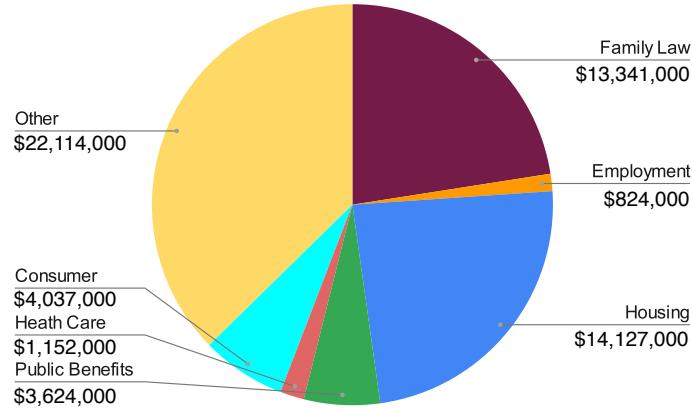
- education
- mental health and disabilities
- legal immigration
- wills and estates
- powers of attorney and advance directives
- civil rights
- torts
- licenses
- other individual miscellaneous legal issues

2024 OUTCOMES

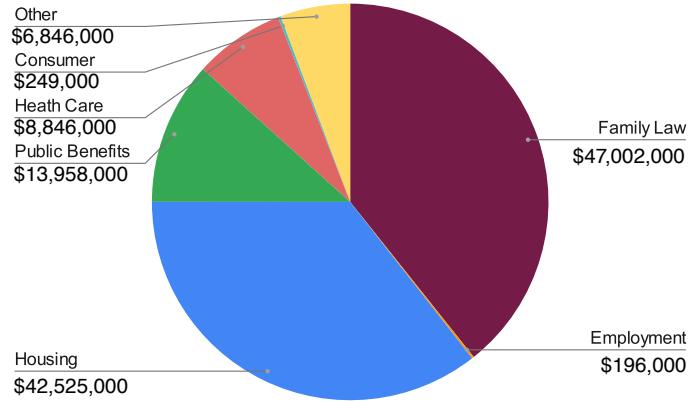
37,399 CIVIL LEGAL AID CASES COMPLETED



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



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



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.



LOUISIANA BAR
FOUNDATION
FUNDING CIVIL LEGAL AID

Year Ending June 30, 2025



The Louisiana Bar Foundation Kids' Chance Scholarship Program is the state chapter of a national organization that awards scholarships to the children of Louisiana workers who have been killed or permanently and totally disabled in an accident compensable under a state or federal Workers' Compensation Act or law.

Each year one of every 50 Louisiana workers will be injured on the job. Some of these work accidents will result in death or permanent and total disability. Families of these individuals face difficult challenges as they struggle to overcome the financial burden of these losses. Often a child's dream of going to college is crushed because of unexpected income loss and/or the necessity to forfeit an education for work to financially support other family members. To these children, the future can appear frightening. Already confronting difficult emotions, they often have to confront the hurdle of funding their education beyond high school.



Caption: L-R, Kristin Wall, LWCC President & CEO; Seth Irby, LWCC Senior Vice President, Chief Strategy Officer; and Skip Philips, LBF Past President, receiving mock check on behalf of LBF Kids' Chance Scholarship Program.

Every year the entire Kids' Chance community dedicates one week to raise awareness of Kids' Chance Scholarship Programs nationwide. Kid's Chance is now in all 50 states!

LBF Kids' Chance celebrates by sending Kids' Chance Care Packages to our scholarship recipients. We accept donations for the care packages: company swag, office/school supplies, snacks, and donations of money or gift cards.



LWCC Raises \$58,000 for LBF Kids' Chance Scholarship Program

The Louisiana Workers' Compensation Corporation (LWCC) hosted a speaker series event at the LWCC headquarters in Baton Rouge on October 24, 2024. Together with agent and business partners, LWCC donated \$58,000 to the Louisiana Bar Foundation Kids' Chance Scholarship Program. The event featured bestselling author Renée Mauborgne.

"When a parent loses their wage-earning ability, their families face many challenges, including financing their kids' education," said Hon. John C. Davidson (Ret.) LBF President. "We're grateful for the funding and partnership that LWCC provides because it helps us to ensure that the goals of aspiring students in our state aren't derailed by the workplace injury of a parent." With the support of LWCC, LBF has awarded 349 scholarships in the amount of \$940,000 since its inception in 2004.

THE KIDS

Tyrese from **New Orleans** attends the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Tyrese's dad died while working when his car plunged from the 5th floor of a parking garage.

Eston from **Patterson** attends Nicholls State University. His mom, a teacher, was assaulted by a student while trying to stop a fight. This resulted in massive blood clots in her lungs, neck surgery, 3 level fusion, and surgery to repair a torn rotator cuff, permanently disabling her.

Ethan from **Iowa, Louisiana** attends the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Ethan's father, a police officer, was shot while conducting a traffic stop and died the following morning.

Nasir from **Arnaudville** attends Southeastern Louisiana University. Nasir's father is permanently disabled, restricting him from walking without physical support. He also attends kidney dialysis 3-4 times a week.

Tyran from **New Orleans** attends the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Tyran's dad died while working when his car plunged from the 5th floor of a parking garage.

Treyton from **Franklinton** attends Southeastern Louisiana University. Treyton's father was involved in a helicopter crash while working in the Gulf of Mexico.



Sarah from **Lake Charles** attends Lamar University. Sarah's father was severely injured on the job after being struck in the back by a vendor pushing open a cooler. This led to severe mobility issues and many years in a wheelchair.

Emma from **Baton Rouge** attends Louisiana Tech University. Emma's father was on a motorcycle at work when he was killed in a horrible accident.

Sara from **Baton Rouge** attends Louisiana State University. Sara's father was on a motorcycle at work when he was killed in a horrible accident.

Kailey from **Gramercy** attends Nicholls State University. Kailey's stepfather is a 100% permanent and total disabled military veteran.

Skyler from **Baton Rouge** attends The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Skyler's mother became permanently disabled while lifting a heavy object at work. She suffered torn back muscles, bulging discs, and nerve damage.

Noah from **Zachary** attends the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Noah's father, a Baton Rouge police officer, was involved in a single vehicle accident on duty en route to a call. This accident resulted in a broken neck and incomplete spinal cord injury at C4, C5. He is now quadriplegic.

\$67,000 Awarded in 2024-25!

Year Ending June 30, 2025



FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2025

FOUR SEASONS HOTEL NEW ORLEANS



Our decades of experience as a responsible steward of funds along with our well-established partnerships across all 64 parishes has allowed us to help hundreds of thousands of Louisiana residents gain access to the legal system. Every spring lawyers, judges, and professors gather from across the state to support the LBF mission and recognize the Distinguished Jurist, Attorney, Professor, and Calogero Justice Award recipient. Proceeds raised help strengthen the programs we support and services we provide.

2024 DISTINGUISHED HONOREES

Recognition is given to those individuals who, by reason of his or her professional activities, have distinguished themselves in their chosen profession and have brought credit and honor to the legal profession.



2024 CALOGERO JUSTICE AWARD FRANK X. NEUNER, JR. NEUNERPATE

Frank X. Neuner, Jr. received a Juris Doctor degree from Louisiana State University Law Center. He was honored as the LSU Law Distinguished Alumnus. LBF honored him as its 2013 Distinguished Attorney. Neuner was awarded the American Bar Association (ABA) Solo and Small Firm Lifetime Achievement Award. He is a Fellow of the International Society of Barristers, the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, served as the ABA State Delegate, been on the Board of IPNO, currently the Emeritus Board Chair, he is past Chair of the ABA Client Protection Committee, Chair of The Fellows of the American Bar Foundation(ABF), Immediate Past Chair of the Lafayette Economic Development Authority and a member of the ABA and the ABF Board of Governors.

Neuner served as Louisiana State Bar Association president during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. He spoke at The World Justice Forum in the Netherlands sharing his experience in restoring the legal system after a natural disaster. As Chair of the Louisiana Public Defender Board he spearheaded the drive to provide legal protection and access to justice for indigent defendants. He has served on the Board of the Legal Services Corporation and as chair of its Audit Committee.

Neuner is the founding partner of NeunerPate based in Lafayette. NeunerPate has developed a culture of dedication to community service and providing pro bono legal services. NeunerPate was awarded LSBA's Pro Bono Publico Award twice, and The Legal Service Corporation's Certificate of Appreciation. NeunerPate has received the Large Firm Pro Bono Award presented by the Lafayette Volunteer Lawyers and the Lafayette Bar Foundation for fifteen consecutive years. Neuner's leadership roles and volunteerism extend beyond Acadiana to the state and national stage.

2024 DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR DEAN MADELEINE LANDRIEU LOYOLA UNIVERSITY NEW ORLEANS COLLEGE OF LAW

Madeleine M. Landrieu became Dean of Loyola University New Orleans College of Law on July 1, 2017. Prior to her appointment, she served as a judge on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal for the State of Louisiana, and prior to that as a trial court judge on the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans. During her 16-year tenure in the judiciary, Dean Landrieu served in many leadership positions, including serving as President of the Louisiana District Judges Association, President of the Louisiana Judicial College, and Chair of the New Judges Training Committee.

Dean Landrieu was a founding member of the Louisiana Institute for Children in Families, and was instrumental in the launch of Louisiana's Quality Parenting Initiative and Louisiana Fosters. For many years, she served on the Board of Covenant House New Orleans, serving as Chair of the Board of Directors in 2016. She also served as Chair of the Pro Bono Project and has twice received the President's Award from the Louisiana State Bar Association.

Dean Landrieu teaches Trial Advocacy, Collaborative Law, and the Rights of Children. She speaks and presents in the areas of Trial Advocacy, Judicial Ethics, Professionalism, Civil Procedure, the Rights of Children, and the impact of early childhood trauma.

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Glenn J. Armentor is President of The Glenn Armentor Law Corporation in Lafayette where he has practiced since graduating from LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center in 1977. Armentor is a past President of the Lafayette Bar Association and Louisiana Association for Justice. He is a proud LSU fan and currently serves on the LSU Board of Supervisors.

Armentor has served on many nonprofit boards throughout his career, and he established The Pay-it-Forward Scholarship Program which awards college scholarships to hardworking, at-risk high school students, empowering them to

pursue higher education and reshape their futures. He enjoys being a Mystic Krewe of Louisianians Lieutenant and is the reigning King Xanadu XXXV.



2024 DISTINGUISHED JURIST CYNTHIA T. WOODARD (RET.) THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

Judge Cynthia T. Woodard (Ret.) holds a Juris Doctor degree from Louisiana State University Law Center, obtained in May 1981, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of New Orleans, where she graduated magna cum laude in May 1975.

Judge Woodard was elected as District Judge for Division A of the Third Judicial District Court, serving Lincoln and Union Parishes, in

September 1996, and she was re-elected in 2002, 2008, and 2014, before retiring in January 2018 after 21 years of service. Prior to her judgeship, she practiced law with her husband in Columbia (1981-1990) and Ruston (1990-1996). Judge Woodard has also served as a part-time instructor at Louisiana Tech, Grambling State University, and Louisiana State University.

Judge Woodard was a member of the Town Council in Columbia, and former president of both the Caldwell Parish Bar Association and the Lincoln Parish Bar Association. She has also been actively involved in various community organizations and educational institutions. Judge Woodard has been a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and several local bar associations. She has also served on numerous boards, including the St. Francis Hospital Foundation and the Lincoln Parish Fund, as well as Louisiana's Indigent Defender Board.



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The LBF supports organizations that provide free legal aid to the poor, veterans, homeowners and renters facing foreclosure or evictions, families with children, people with disabilities, victims of domestic violence, the elderly, and victims of natural disasters.

***Statewide
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Local Prime Partner Banks as of June 2025

Bank of Coushatta (Coushatta)
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Bank of Sunset & Trust Co. (Lafayette)
Bank of Zachary (Zachary)
BankPlus (Baton Rouge)
Bank United, NA (New York, NY)
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The LBF strives to present a complete and accurate list of banks. If a mistake has been made in your listing, we sincerely apologize and ask that you contact Tina Ferrera at (504) 561-1046 or tina@raisingthebar.org so that we may correct our records.

You can help!

Bank at a Prime Partner bank.

**If you do business with a
non-Prime Partner bank,
encourage the bank to
become a Prime Partner.**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Louisiana Bar Foundation

June 30, 2025

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,474,758
Investments	52,703,362
Grants receivable	445,174
Prepaid expenses	54,034
Property and equipment, net	3,708
Operating right-of-use asset	<u>94,163</u>
 Total assets	 <u>\$ 54,775,199</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities	
Grants payable	\$ 10,039,580
Accrued payroll liabilities	107,897
Other liabilities	666
Operating lease liabilities, net	<u>94,163</u>
 Total liabilities	 <u>10,242,306</u>
 Net assets	
Without donor restrictions	
Board designated	
Operating reserve	37,831,718
Endowments	<u>1,973,913</u>
 Total without donor restrictions	 <u>39,805,631</u>
With donor restrictions	
Purpose restricted:	
Donor designated	4,548,543
Endowments	<u>178,719</u>
 Total with donor restrictions	 <u>4,727,262</u>
 Total net assets	 <u>44,532,893</u>
 Total liabilities and net assets	 <u>\$ 54,775,199</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



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Jack Harvey
Accounting Specialist

Renee LeBoeuf
Chief Grants Officer

Maria Landrum
Associate Grants Administrator

Year Ending June 30, 2025