## CELEBRATING





# North Penn LEGAL SERVICES

Our mission is to provide civil legal representation to low-income people and ensure equal access to justice for all.

# 2014 Annual Report



The day President Johnson signed the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 inspired communities around the country including Northeast Pennsylvania to form an organization that today is known as North Penn Legal Services. Board members, staff, and other community partners over the past 50 years have worked together to deliver innovative legal aid to the poor.

North Penn Legal Services strives to achieve the four main goals of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. Services are designed to increase the safety net for the poor and unemployed—a key objective of the Act. Staff presents numerous outreach programs throughout the year to educate people about fair housing, landlord-tenant issues, employment law matters, and other current topics. During our 50th year, we will celebrate our accomplishments and continue our fight in the War on Poverty.

## **Getting Results:**

North Penn Legal Services Outcomes for 2013-2014 Program Year

- Handled 11,426 cases. This represents a 5% increase as compared to last year. In 2013-14 housing was a major issue for clients. NPLS' staff helped 3,017 people with housing issues which rose by 38% as compared to the previous year.
- Closed 7,624 cases, in which we provided direct services that helped 15,490 people:
  - Litigated 2,283 cases in court, and 319 in administrative tribunals.
- Enhanced our clients' economic security by obtaining awards totaling \$5.5 million, primarily in disability cases.

- Obtained 489 Protection From Abuse Orders and 382 custody and visitation orders.
- Provided counsel and advice or limited action to 3,627 clients.
- In an attempt to reach the 15,377 eligible applicants we were otherwise unable to serve, we developed self-help materials, distributed 3,851 pamphlets and conducted outreach events to 2,199 people. NPLS advocates increased the number of materials circulated and people served by 40%. Materials were also made available on our website and the website itself received 149,558 page views.

## **Client Victory**

One night after our client returned home from working an 8-hour shift at a local hospital, he found an eviction notice taped to his front door. Like anyone, our client was overwhelmed by this news and could not concentrate on his responsibilities at home or work. As soon as one of our advocates took the case, we discovered that our client needed help with his hoarding issue that was the reason for the eviction. Fortunately, our advocate was able to negotiate an accommodation under the Fair Housing Act which enabled Steve to stay in his apartment and get the assistance he needed to manage his hoarding problem. Steve was able to stay in his "home" where he lived for 15 years.

## The Power of Pro Bono and Judicare\*

Tool of the second seco	Pro Bono	Judicare
otal number of attorneys who provided case services	155	25
otal number of cases accepted by pro bono attorney	303	46
otal number of open pro bono cases pending	216	42
otal number of hours of services provided	1,086	183.7
Dollar value of services provided (valued at \$150.00/hr.)		\$162,900
Dollar value of judicare services provided (valued at \$75.0	0/hour)	\$13,777



## Economic Impacts

By providing civil legal aid, we have a strong and direct impact on segments of our communities.

At NPLS, our staff works hard to pursue free legal aid for all. Every year, many lowincome people throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania are given assistance, justice, and hope. NPLS staff and attorneys, as well as legal service providers offering pro bono help, came together to assist thousands of families with their civil legal problems. During Fiscal Year 2013-14, the work done by NPLS' civil legal aid providers as shown on the previous page, these savings have many effects on the people and the economy of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Direct benefits and savings for lowincome families include the money to pay for necessities such as food, electricity, medical care, transportation, and relief from debt and further poverty. Taxpayers are saved money through our reduction of problems like homelessness and domestic violence, which are costly to everyone. The money we bring into our service area helps local economies. Through our work for low-income clients throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania, NPLS is able to make life better for people throughout the area.

As the funding for legal aid through NPLS continues, these benefits to our service area will grow. With the necessary funding to accept more clients, NPLS can prevent more evictions, foreclosures, denials of services, and other legal issues that can negatively affect everyone. The effect caused by NPLS' services will change lives for the better.

## \$200,096

Saved in support for families.

### \$29,500

Created in savings for populations with special vulnerabilities.

#### \$463,572

Saved in domestic violence abuse costs.

#### \$780,000

Savings in emergency shelter cost.

## \$2,488,570

Brought into the state of Pennsylvania in federal funds.

#### \$9,914,832

Total effect on local economies in our service area when using the PA community development economic multiplier of 1.86

### Financial Position YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014 (with comparative totals for the year ended June 30, 2013)

#### **STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted 2014	Temporarily R <u>estricted 2014</u>	Total 2014	Total 2013
<b>Revenues and other support</b>				
Contracts and grants	\$5,325,548	\$13,607	\$5,339,155	\$5,431,322
Contributions				
In-kind	186,503	-	186,503	194,213
Other	257,051	-	257,051	61,630
DAP equitable payments	1,386	-	1,386	14,554
Interest income	1,639	-	1,639	1,427
Other income	509	-	509	306
Net assets released				
from restrictions	83,412	(83,412)		
Total revenues and				
other support	5,856,048	(69,805)	5,786,243	5,703,452
Expenses				
Program services	5,035,792	-	5,035,792	4,648,758
Management and general	737,569	-	737,569	626,948
Fundraising	38,736		38,736	54,849
Total expenses	5,812,097	-	5,812,097	5,330,555
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Change in net assets	43,951	(69,805)	(25,854)	372,897
Net assets - beginning	976,349	839,793	1,816,142	1,443,245
Net assets - ending	1,020,300	769,988	1,790,288	\$1,443,245

#### STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

	Program I	Management &	Fundraising	Total	Total
	Services 2014	General 2014	2014	2014	2013
Salaries	\$2,864,710	\$441,112	\$26,165	\$3,331,987	\$3,126,559
Fringe benefits	1,052,264	173,419	2,305	1,227,988	1,131,240
Consultants and contracto	rs 48,756	13,065	5	61,826	74,322
Travel	35,944	14,463	-	50,637	36,476
Space costs	440,756	6,576	119	447,451	417,837
Consumable supplies	108,248	25,390	15	133,653	65,877
Equipment repairs					
and maintenance	83,724	11,425	-	95,149	48,403
Other	330,200	41,299	10,127	381,127	348,672
Depreciation and					
amortization	71,140	10,640		81,780	81,169
Total expenses	\$5,035,792	\$737,569	\$38,736	\$5,812,097	\$5,330,555

ACCETC	2014	2013
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,420,238	\$1,278,327
Client escrow funds	4,707	1,514
Accounts receivable		
PLAN	261,844	210,620
Other	276,454	331,429
Prepaid expenses	118,115	169,717
roperty and equipment - net	135,339	149,815
otal assets	2,213,697	\$2,141,422
IABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
	¢210 /21	¢116.007
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$310,421	\$116,997
Accrued compensated absences	111,281	106,769
Client trust deposits	4,707	1,5142
ine of credit		100,000
ōtal liabilities	426,409	325,280
let assets		
Unrestricted	1,020,300	976,349
Temporarily restricted	769,988	839,793
		037,733
otal net assets	1,790,288	1,816,142
otal liabilities and net assets	2,216,697	\$2,141,422
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS Cash flows from operating activities		
Change in net assets Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets o net cash and cash equivalents provided by	\$(25,854)	\$372,897
used in) operating activities: Depreciation and amortization	81,780	81,169
ncrease) decrease in:	0.1,7.00	0 1/10 /
Accounts receivable	3,751	102,761
repaid expenses	51,602	(71,697)
ncrease (decrease) in:	51,002	(71,097)
	102 424	10 712
accounts payable and accrued expenses accrued compensated absences	193,424 4 512	48,713 799
cei ueu compensaleu absences	4,512	799
let cash equivalents provided by	000	
used in) operating activities	309,215	534,642
ash flows from investing activities		
urchases of equipment	(67,304)	(18,858)
Jet cash and cash equivalents		
used in) investing activities	(67,304)	(18,858)
ach flows from financing activities		
Cash flows from financing activities roceeds from line of credit	(100,000)	100,000
Net cash and cash equivalents provided		
y financing activities	(100,000)	100,000
let increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	141,911	615,784
	171,211	015,764
Cash and cash equivalents		
leginning of year	1,278,327	662,543
ind of year	1,420,238	\$1,278,327
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#### Donor and volunteer lists are available at www.northpennlegal.org

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