



# Dutchess County

## FACT SHEET

### LEGAL SERVICES OF THE HUDSON VALLEY (LSHV)

One Civic Center Plaza, Ste 506 • Poughkeepsie NY 12601 • (845) 471-0058

**OUR MISSION** is to provide **FREE**, high quality counsel in civil matters for those who cannot afford an attorney where basic human needs are at stake.

The work we do each day provides justice to thousands of our neighbors in Dutchess County who have nowhere else to turn, including protecting individuals from domestic violence; defending seniors against abuse; serving veterans on the homefront; supporting the rights of the disabled; ensuring that LGBTQ individuals are free from discrimination; and keeping families in their homes.

**COVID-19** has highlighted the disparity between people throughout the State. The inequities faced by poverty influence a wide range of health and quality of life outcomes and increases the need for our services throughout the county.

### Dutchess County

*In 1996, we opened our first office in Poughkeepsie and twenty five years later, have grown to a staff of 12 full-time attorneys and six support staff.*

*Our location is centrally located, convenient to public transportation, close to the courts and co-located with many of our community partners. Our practice areas include elder law, children's advocacy, kinship care, family law, domestic violence, benefits, consumer debt, eviction, foreclosure, and other civil matters involving clients who are disabled or vulnerable.*

### 2020 Results

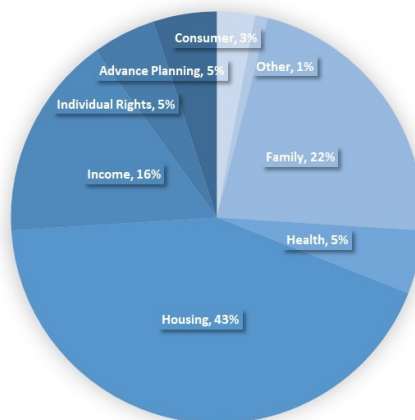
**1,814**  
cases  
handled for  
Dutchess  
residents

**3,913**  
household  
members  
impacted

**1,430**  
clients  
served

**12**  
attorneys  
**6**  
paralegals/  
support staff

#### Cases by legal matter



### STATISTICS

**293,894**  
**5.4%**

Population;  
Unemployment rate;

**14,991**

Number of veterans;

**9.1%**

Poverty rate in Dutchess County. In Poughkeepsie that number jumps to 20.2%;

**11.8%**

of Dutchess Co. children live in poverty, while child poverty in Poughkeepsie has reached 26.3%;

**46,983**

persons in Dutchess are over age 65; 6.2% of them live in poverty county-wide, while the rate is higher in Poughkeepsie at 11.4%;

**\$55,880**

annual income needed to afford a two-bedroom apartment in Dutchess Co.;

**\$13.64**

estimated mean renter wage in Dutchess Co. At this wage, renters need to work 80 hours/week to afford a two-bedroom apartment.

(2019 American Community Survey; Mid-Hudson Valley Community Profiles; National Low Income Housing Coalition, "Out of Reach 2019")