

ANNUAL REPORT

OFFICES: WHITE PLAINS, YONKERS, MOUNT VERNON, PEEKSKILL, POUGHKEEPSIE, KINGSTON, NEWBURGH, GOSHEN, MONTICELLO, SPRING VALLEY

The mission

The mission of Legal Services of the Hudson Valley is to provide free, high quality counsel in civil matters for individuals and families who cannot afford to pay an attorney when their basic human needs are at stake.

P.05 Crime Victims Unit

LSHV establishes new program to serve victims of crime

P.11 Another Record-Setting Evening!

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley's 2019 Equal Access to Justice Dinner raises over \$550,000 to provide legal services to Hudson Valley children and families

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A Message from our CEO



The past half-dozen years have been an unprecedented journey for all of us at Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV), characterized by significant growth and impact. We've gone from an \$11.3 million organization employing 89 staff members in 2013, to a \$17.6 million organization employing 145 staff members, including 90 attorneys and 30 paralegals, in 2018.

Over the past year, we opened a new office in Goshen in Orange County, and more than doubled the size of our Peekskill office in Northern Westchester.

We launched new programs such as our Victims Assistance Program, a \$6.5 million grant over five years through the NYS Office of Victim Services to enable us to assist crime victims with civil legal matters, and our Yonkers Right to Counsel Project in collaboration with Westchester County whereby LSHV provides legal assistance to a cohort of low-income Yonkers residents who are at risk of becoming homeless.

All of this growth has been in direct response to the burgeoning needs throughout the Hudson Valley. In fact, last year across the seven counties we serve -- Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Dutchess, Orange, Ulster, and Sullivan -- we handled more than 15,000 cases impacting over 35,000 household members! 70% of our clients were women and 40% of those impacted were children.

It's a daunting responsibility being the only provider of free, comprehensive civil legal services to children and families living in the Hudson Valley who cannot afford an attorney when their basic human needs are at stake.

Our nation was built upon the notion of "Justice for All," but in civil matters, there is no right to counsel. As a result, many low-income Americans face their legal disputes without an attorney advocating for their best interest. According to "The Justice Gap: Measuring the Unmet Civil Legal Needs of Low-income Americans" published by the Legal Services Corporation in June of 2017, an estimated 1.8 million people appeared in the New York State courts without a lawyer in 2015. Furthermore, according to the same study, 71% of low-income households have experienced at least one civil legal problem in the past year. How can marginalized, disadvantaged children and families find justice navigating the legal system without an advocate fighting for their rights?

So, as you read this Annual Report to the Community, we encourage you to get more involved. Whether you make a contribution, volunteer as a Pro Bono attorney, help us raise money at a future event, share our content on social media, or simply tell a friend or two about the important work that we're doing, you will be helping us to make a difference right here in the communities where we live and work.

Because, it's only together that we can ensure *Equal Access to Justice* for all regardless of ability to pay.

Sincerely,

Barbara Finkelstein, Esq.
Chief Executive Officer



Amanda's Story

Amanda is a single mother living in protected Section 8 housing, who works and receives public assistance towards her rent. Amanda was notified that her public assistance would stop, and she reported this to her landlord. She also filed to renew her public assistance. A few months later, Amanda lost her job.

In the 3-month gap between her public assistance payments and her lost income, Amanda was unable to pay her portion of the rent. She owed a balance of under \$500 to the landlord. Six months later, Amanda returned home from a trip to visit her sick father and found a 10-day notice taped to the door of her apartment.

At that point, she turned to LSHV for help. Amanda felt that she could repay the outstanding rent balance if her landlord would agree to a repayment plan. They agreed in court to three small payments of \$163.90. However, due to a simple error, she accidentally paid \$160 instead of the full \$163.90 when the first payment was due. Her attorney received an email from the landlord's attorney stating that the payment was late and that it was not in the correct amount. Amanda attempted to pay the landlord the remaining balance of the payment but was refused, and the landlord initiated eviction proceedings against her, which would also terminate her HUD-subsidized tenancy.

Amanda's attorney filed an Order to Show cause and represented her at the ensuing hearing, where he argued that Amanda's breach of the repayment agreement was *de minimus* (very minor) and did not warrant eviction. The judge ruled in the landlord's favor, despite there being no evidence that the payment was late and that the amount owed was so minor. Amanda's attorney appealed the decision and her eviction was temporarily delayed, under the condition that she stayed current with her rent,

which she was able to do. At the appeal hearing, the judge ruled in Amanda's favor – finding that her default was not willful, she attempted to satisfy the underpayment, the landlord refused to accept any further payments from the tenant, and the landlord failed to allege any harm. The judge also found that the landlord had failed to follow proper procedure in moving to evict, and this should have disqualified the lower court judge from ruling in the landlord's favor.

Thanks to LSHV's representation, Amanda's eviction over \$3.90 was prevented, and she was able to remain in her home.

* Name has been changed

2018

By the Numbers

approximately

540,856

Hudson Valley residents
eligible for our assistance



15,285

cases handled

145



staff members including

including

90 attorneys

and

30 paralegals

in **10** offices across
the Hudson Valley

35,268

individuals impacted
in all households served

including



4,238

seniors



13,846

children

12,122

clients served, including

1,849

domestic violence survivors

5,442

persons with disabilities



70%

of our
clients are
women

Preventing Homelessness in Westchester

When expensive housing markets intersect with low-income populations, housing often becomes the first domino to fall for families who are living on the edge of poverty. There is currently a shortage of affordable housing in Westchester, and we are seeing an increased demand for our housing services to prevent homelessness for children and families.

Thanks to two recent grants, we are expanding our services to help more families stay in their homes.



On April 18th, the Westchester State Senate Delegation announced \$400,000 in funding for LSHV to address Westchester County's Housing and Homelessness Crisis. Pictured (L-R) Senator Shelley Mayer, LSHV's CEO Barbara Finkelstein, and Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins.

Westchester's State Senate delegation, led by **Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins**, secured a \$400,000 grant in the state budget to support LSHV's housing services. The funding will allow LSHV to hire attorneys in each of its four Westchester County offices to provide free legal representation in housing and eviction cases. The new project will go a long way toward addressing the growing housing and homelessness crisis in Westchester. Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins and **Senator Shelley Mayer** announced the funding during a press conference at LSHV's headquarters in White Plains.

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, "I am proud that the Senate Majority was able to secure \$400,000 for Legal Services of the Hudson Valley through the State Budget. This funding for Legal Services of the Hudson Valley will be crucial in assisting thousands of Westchester families and will help restart their Kinship Caregiver Advocacy Program. The Westchester delegation within the Senate Democratic Majority worked tirelessly for our constituents and local organizations throughout the budget process, and the results are clear."



Yonkers City Court

In 2019, the **Westchester County Department of Social Services** granted \$200,000 of funding to LSHV to start the Yonkers City Court Enhanced Access to Counsel Project. The goal of the Project is to represent Yonkers families who are being sued for eviction, with a priority on families living in subsidized housing. This Project funds a Housing Staff Attorney and part of a Supervising Attorney position to provide legal assistance to low-income Yonkers residents who are at risk of becoming homeless.

In the first 5 months of 2019, this Project has handled **64 cases for 235 Yonkers residents including 131 children**. This project was implemented with the support of the **Westchester County Department of Social Services** and **Kevin McGuire, Commissioner** (pictured above right).



LSHV Establishes Crime Victims Unit



LSHV and Center for Safety & Change (CSC) partner to assist crime victims in Rockland County. Photo (L-R): Back row: LSHV Board Member Paul Adler, Rand Commercial; New York State Assemblyman Ken Zebrowski; Amy Siniscalchi, CSC; Middle row: Clarkstown Town Councilman Donald Franchino; Clarkstown Town Supervisor George Hoehmann; Rachel Halperin, LSHV; Jenny Guzman, CSC; Front row: New York State Senator David Carlucci; Elizabeth Santiago, CSC; Sheeba Mathai, LSHV; Sena Kim-Reuter, CSC; Arlene Abraham, CSC; Dilcia Suazo, CSC

In 2018, LSHV was awarded \$6.5 million over five years to partner with Victim Assistance Programs to help crime victims with civil legal matters.

The funding resulted in the creation of ten new attorney positions and five new paralegal positions across the agency. Through the newly-established Crime Victims Unit, these staff will handle cases such as divorce, custody, immigration and financial legal matters for victims of crime throughout much of our seven-county service area.



LSHV partners with Family Services and Center for Victim Safety and Support in Poughkeepsie to provide holistic legal services to crime victims in Dutchess. Photo (L-R): Leah Feldman, Center for Victim Safety and Support; Rachel Halperin, LSHV; Elizabeth Cronin, NYS Office of Victim Services; Rachel Saunders, LSHV; Kaitlin Rodriques, Family Services

Crime victims often encounter legal problems yet are unable to secure an attorney to represent them. This could be because they can't afford representation, are unaware of existing services, or fear that they will face consequences for going through the legal system. While they may seek counseling, shelter, and other emergency services from Victim Assistance Programs, they often require additional help to resolve their legal issues. This funding is an effort to address that gap in services for those who have already been victimized by crime.

This funding comes through the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and is administered by the New York State Office of Victim Services (OVS). In its first year, \$16 million has been awarded to victim assistance programs throughout New York State, who will contract with attorneys and legal services providers to resolve the legal needs of their clients. As a contracted partner with several Victims Assistance Programs including **Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center, Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Family Services, Ulster County's Probation Department, Orange County Safe Homes Project, and Center for Safety & Change**, LSHV will receive approximately \$1.3 million per year for five years.



Veterans

Veterans often face unique legal problems on their return from duty, and without the assistance of a trained attorney, many of them are unable to navigate the legal system on their own.

It was with this understanding that LSHV's Veterans and Military Families Advocacy Project (VMFAP) was created in 2012. The goal of the Project is to provide free legal advice and direct representation to veterans and their family members in civil (non-criminal) legal matters. LSHV's VMFAP fosters the successful reintegration of Veterans into the community by helping them access benefits and services that support their basic human needs – housing, health, safety, etc.

In 2019, LSHV expanded our services to veterans into Rockland County. This is due to a \$200,000 grant in the state budget, which was secured by New York State Senators James Skoufis and Jen Metzger. The funding will allow LSHV to continue providing free legal representation to veterans in Orange County, Sullivan County, and now expands those services to parts of Rockland County.

In 2018, LSHV handled 1,061 cases for veterans or their family members throughout our service area and across all practice areas. This included 309 cases handled for residents of Orange County, 57 cases handled for residents of Sullivan County, and 42 cases handled for residents of Rockland County. These clients were served, in part, thanks to ongoing funding from the state budget.

"We are grateful to Senator Skoufis and Senator Metzger for ensuring that veterans in the Hudson Valley can continue to have access to legal representation. Thanks to the efforts of our State representatives, our Veterans and Military Families Advocacy Project can continue to provide free legal services to those who have served our country," said **Barbara Finkelstein, CEO** of Legal Services of the Hudson Valley. "The funds they secured in the state budget will protect basic human needs like housing, health care access, disability benefits and other critical legal matters for more than 1,000 Hudson Valley veterans."

"Legal Services of the Hudson Valley goes above and beyond to provide necessary civil services to our veteran community," said **Senator James Skoufis**. "I'm thrilled that Senator Metzger and I were able to successfully secure \$200,000 for LSHV's Veterans and Military Advocacy Project. No one should ever take legal advantage of our veterans and, with this funding, LSHV is there to make sure of it."

Senator Jen Metzger said, "I am proud that Senator Skoufis and I were able to successfully secure funding in the state budget so that Legal Services of the Hudson Valley can continue to serve our veterans who have sacrificed so much to serve all of us. This funding will ensure that veterans and their families in Sullivan and Orange counties have access to legal services and assistance when they need it and honor their contribution to our community and our country."

Impact Litigation

In addition to assisting our individual clients in their legal matters, LSHV also engages in Impact Litigation – cases in which we challenge systemic violations and injustices that affect larger groups of clients. Our Impact Litigation work allows LSHV to effect change on a system-wide scale.



In 2018, LSHV and pro bono co-counsel, **Morrison & Foerster LLP**, obtained systemic relief benefitting all students with disabilities in the Mount Vernon School District in settling the claims of eight students against the district. The suit filed in 2013 alleged the students with disabilities were denied a free and appropriate public education because of systemic deficiencies that the district and state officials ignored. The deficiencies included not receiving appropriate evaluations for services, not being provided the services outlined in their special education plans, and poor record keeping that delayed the processes for receiving the appropriate therapy and instruction.

The settlement requires a major investment in the education of students with disabilities, with supervision and assistance from an outside expert monitor. Specifically, under the settlement:

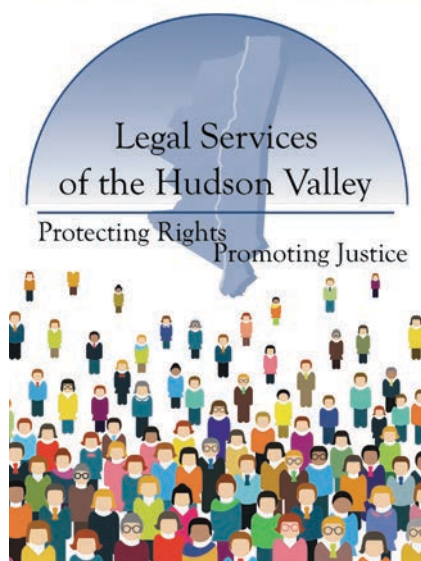
- The district must undertake approximately 90 concrete remedial actions designed to improve the district's provision of educational services to students with disabilities, including creating and implementing a comprehensive special education handbook, providing district-wide professional development trainings, and implementing a data system that allows for real-time monitoring of the district's delivery of special education services.
- The district must establish baseline data on 15 different metrics relating to students with disabilities and improve its performance on those metrics over the next three years. For example, by June 2021, the district must conduct at least 95% of its annual CSE (committee on special education) meetings on time and improve its graduation rate for students with disabilities to at least the state-wide average.

Robert Hermann, Counsel to LSHV, said, "This comprehensive agreement is an important, commendable step by the school district to fix specific goals and procedures for helping its disabled students and to commit itself to sticking to them. The incredible amount and quality of legal work done by so many lawyers at Morrison & Foerster, and the firm's unflagging dedication over the past seven years, are what made this forward-looking settlement possible. It has been a rewarding pleasure for all of us at LSHV to work side by side with them to affirm the rights of so many disabled students who will benefit from what was here achieved."

Because of LSHV's advocacy on behalf of the initial eight student plaintiffs, many more students with disabilities who attend Mount Vernon City School District schools will benefit from increased educational services.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Inclusion Council



Staff Resources

LSHV announced that Sheeba Mathai will serve as LSHV's first Chief Diversity Officer, in addition to her responsibilities as Attorney in Charge of the Spring Valley office. As Chief Diversity Officer, Sheeba is responsible for leading the agency's initiatives around Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

For more info, visit
<https://lshv.org/about/diversity-at-lshv/>

At LSHV, we have continued to focus on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) as priorities for the agency.

Over the past year, we have engaged staff and board members in several new and ongoing DEI initiatives, which are primarily led and facilitated by members of LSHV's Inclusion Council. Some of these initiatives include:

Education

Members of the Inclusion Council distribute educational materials related to timely topics, such as Black History Month in February, Women's History Month in March, and Pride Month in June.



Infrastructure

Staff volunteers planted a Diversity Garden at our headquarters in White Plains.



Mentorship

The 2nd Class of LSHV's Mentor Program celebrated their graduation on June 4th.

Staff Engagement

Members of LSHV's Inclusion Council traveled to all our offices and presented a video and then facilitated a discussion about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. This exercise engaged staff in difficult conversations, with the goal of enlightening staff about the topic and fostering empathy.

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley Partners with Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP and other firms on Housing Crisis Prevention Project

In 2015, Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV) launched a Housing Crisis Prevention Project in partnership with Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP. Through this collaboration, Patterson Belknap's attorneys have been handling, on a pro bono basis, an average of 5 to 10 cases a year focusing on preventing homelessness for children and families.

Through Patterson Belknap's partnership with LSHV, a team of pro bono attorneys at the firm have successfully defended many tenants facing eviction and the threat of homelessness. Patterson Belknap's LSHV leadership team includes litigation Partner **Erik Haas** and the firm's Chief People, Diversity and Professional Development Officer, **Michelle Cohen**, as well as a litigation team that has included over a dozen associates.

Alejandro H. Cruz is a litigation Partner at Patterson Belknap and is a dedicated volunteer for LSHV's Housing Crisis Prevention Project. "This is work that matters in people's lives in ways that are all too real because an unfavorable result often means that your client—including children—will be homeless. That is an outcome that stays with families for a long time, manifesting in physical health, mental health, school outcomes, and instability of the family unit. In that way, this is work that can have an immediate positive impact for a family that needs help now," says Cruz. The simple reality is that "representation matters," says Cruz, which is reiterated by the reflections of other members of the pro bono team at Patterson Belknap.

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley is actively recruiting attorneys and firms for the Housing Crisis Prevention Project. Please contact **Christopher Oldi** at coldi@lshv.org or **Lee Sauerhoff** at lsauerhoff@lshv.org or call (914) 949-1305 Ext. 145 to join the cause.

Associate **Helen O'Reilly** represented a client who had never seen a copy of her lease before her public housing authority threatened to terminate her tenancy. O'Reilly's advocacy, persistence, and patience empowered her client in obtaining "basic respect and fair treatment." "I really had to fight for my client to ensure a fair process," says O'Reilly, but representation "gave her dignity" throughout that process. O'Reilly was able to ensure that her client was able to remain in her apartment.

While Associate **Nathan Monroe-Yavneh** said, "The Project highlights how important it is that low-income individuals have access to counsel in these types of cases. Without representation, many of these individuals are outmatched during the hearing process and cannot effectively defend themselves. All that it takes to change that, and to give them a fighting chance, is a single attorney. These cases are generally not complex or sprawling, and do not require a large team—but to LSHV's clients, they mean everything."

Tenant success is significantly greater with an advocate (nearly double or more). On average, 60% of tenants have a legal basis to fight an eviction. Many of LSHV's clients are already working hard to manage a paycheck-to-paycheck budget, and others are managing more serious personal life crises, like job loss, domestic violence, lack of familial support, declining health and/or disability. This collective stress often causes clients to freeze in the face of legal proceedings, even when they have justifiable defenses or alternative resources. Many LSHV clients simply need help with the detailed administration necessary to maintain their subsidies.



Although New York City adopted the Right to Counsel law in 2017 giving low-income tenants facing an eviction in housing court a right to an attorney, in the Hudson Valley – including Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster, Orange, Sullivan, and Rockland Counties – there is no such right to counsel.

In an effort to build upon the project launched in collaboration with Patterson Belknap, LSHV won a Pro Bono Innovation Fund Grant in 2018 from the Legal Services Corporation to recruit, train, and cultivate pro bono partnerships with new firms. This past year, firms including **Boies Schiller Flexner LLP**, **Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton and Garrison LLP**, and **Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP**, have all taken cases, while **McCabe & Mack LLP** is preparing to do so.

LSHV staff attorneys cannot provide representation for the thousands of low-income tenants that enter the legal system every year in the Hudson Valley, and private counsel for tenants is virtually non-existent, especially for those already struggling to pay rent. That's why partners like Patterson Belknap and so many others are so important... they help fill the justice gap and quite literally prevent homelessness for children and families.

Thank you all for your support!

Awards, Grants, News & Notes!



LSHV's CEO Barbara Finkelstein received the New York State Bar Association's 2018 Denison Ray Legal Services Program Director Award at the NYSBA Partnership Conference on October 3rd. Pictured (L-R) Edwina Frances Martin, Co-Chair of the President's Committee on Access to Justice; Barbara Finkelstein; and Sergio Jimenez, Chair of the Committee on Legal Aid



LSHV's Chief Development Officer Tom Gabriel was named Fundraising Professional of the Year by the Association of Development Officers (ADO) on March 6th. Pictured (L-R) Julie Sootin, Executive Director of ADO, and Tom Gabriel.



LSHV's Chief Program Officer Rachel Halperin and LSHV's Chief Development Officer Tom Gabriel received C-Suite Awards from Westchester and Fairfield County Business Journals on January 31st.



Attorney in Charge of LSHV's Goshen office, Sarah Maida, was recognized on April 25th by the Women's Bar Association of Orange and Sullivan Counties (WBAOSC) as their 2019 Distinguished Public Interest Attorney Member. Pictured (L-R) WBAOSC President Maureen Crush, Sarah Maida, and Attorney in Charge of LSHV's Newburgh office, Rachel Simons.



LSHV received a \$50,000 grant from the Field Hall Foundation in support of its services for seniors in Westchester, Dutchess, and Putnam counties. Pictured (L-R) John R. Ahearn, CEO of Field Hall Foundation; LSHV's Chief Program Officer, Rachel Halperin; LSHV's Chief Development Officer, Tom Gabriel; and Joanne Sirotkin, Attorney in Charge of LSHV's White Plains Office.



Goshen Office

LSHV is excited to announce that we have opened a new office in Goshen and expanded our Peekskill office in Northern Westchester.

LSHV opens new office in Goshen

In February of 2019, LSHV opened a new office in Goshen, to better serve residents of Orange and Sullivan Counties. The office is currently staffed with an Attorney in Charge, five attorneys, and two paralegals.

Peekskill Office changes location

Over the past year, the Peekskill Office has almost doubled in size. To accommodate the growing staff, the office moved into a larger suite on the second floor of the building in March of 2019. The office is currently staffed with an Attorney in Charge, seven attorneys, and three paralegals.

Another Record-Setting Evening! *Legal Services of the Hudson Valley's 2019 Equal Access to Justice Dinner raises over \$550,000 to provide legal services to Hudson Valley children and families*



Top left: Emcee Bobby Valentine; Top right: (L-R) Timothy Murphy, Mastercard International Incorporated; Julie Kinch, HEINEKEN USA; Russell Yankwitt, Yankwitt LLP; Vanessa Kaye Watson, Mastercard International Incorporated; Barbara Finkelstein, LSHV's CEO; Bobby Valentine, Emcee; Christopher Cabanillas, Cabanillas & Associates, P.C.; John M. Flannery, Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP; and Paul Adler, Rand Commercial; Bottom left: (L-R) Westchester County District Attorney Hon. Anthony J. Scarpino, Jr., with LSHV Board Chair Alfred Donnellan of DelBello Donnellan Weingarten Wise & Wiederkehr, LLP; Bottom 2nd from left: (L-R) 2019 Access to Justice Award Honoree Julie Kinch, Senior Vice President & Chief Legal Officer at HEINEKEN USA, with 2019 Dinner Co-Chair Russell Yankwitt; Bottom 2nd from right: (L-R) 2019 Dinner Co-Chair Christopher Cabanillas with Mastercard International Incorporated's General Counsel, Timothy Murphy, and Senior Managing Counsel, Franchise, Public Policy, Compliance & New Customer Types, Vanessa Kaye Watson, accepting the 2019 Access to Justice Award on behalf of Mastercard's Law, Franchise & Integrity Group; Bottom right: (L-R) LSHV Board Member Paul Adler of Rand Commercial with 2019 Access to Justice Award Honoree John M. Flannery, Regional Managing Partner, Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP

On Tuesday, April 9th, Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV) hosted its **2019 Equal Access to Justice Dinner**. The Access to Justice Award honorees included **John M. Flannery, Esq.**, former LSHV Board Member and Regional Managing Partner of Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP; **Mastercard's Law, Franchise & Integrity Group**; and **Julie Kinch, Esq.**, Senior Vice President & Chief Legal Officer at HEINEKEN USA.

The record-setting event, which sold out for the third year in a row, was held at the Doral Arrowwood in Rye Brook and gathered almost 500 businesses and individuals in support of LSHV's efforts to provide free civil legal services to children and families throughout the Hudson Valley. The event, co-chaired by **Christopher Cabanillas** of Cabanillas & Associates, P.C.

and **Russell Yankwitt** of Yankwitt LLP, raised over **\$550,000!**

During the event, Major League Baseball Legend **Bobby Valentine**, who served as Emcee and Auctioneer, led a Fund-a-Need that raised more than \$120,000.

Longtime partners and supporters, **DelBello Donnellan Weingarten Wise & Wiederkehr, LLP** and **Mastercard Incorporated International**, were the Presenting Sponsors. In addition, the event received support from: Diamond Sponsors – **Boies Schiller Flexner LLP; Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP**; and **Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP**; Platinum Sponsors – **Cabanillas & Associates, P.C.; HEINEKEN USA; Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP; Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP; PepsiCo; Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP**; and Gold

Sponsors – **Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP; Collier Halpern & Newberg, LLP; FUJIFILM Holdings America Corp.; Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP**; and **MBIA Inc.**

CEO Barbara Finkelstein summed up the importance of LSHV's services, saying, "At LSHV our work impacts the most basic necessities of life, and our most important goal is to ensure that vulnerable households don't lose their homes, health care, food and subsistence income. With no general right to counsel in civil matters, low income and vulnerable individuals continue to flock to LSHV for help when facing civil legal matters affecting basic human needs. In more than 70% of civil cases and 98% of eviction cases, people who can't afford legal representation end up going to court alone – and many lose everything."

Growing Support in the Mid-Hudson Valley

Over the past several years, we have increased our engagement efforts in the Mid-Hudson Valley counties of Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster, in order to raise awareness of the services we offer and to attract support for our operations.

Proceeds from the Partners in Justice Receptions support LSHV's work on behalf of children and families in the Mid-Hudson Valley.

Thank you to all of the Honorees, Sponsors, Honorary Event Committee Members, Patrons and Friends who made these successes possible!

Dutchess Partners in Justice

The **5th Annual Dutchess Partners in Justice Reception** was held on Thursday, September 20th, 2018 and honored **Dr. Elizabeth Howe Bradley, President, and Vassar College**, as "Champion of Justice" and **Feldman, Kleidman, Coffey, Sappe & Regenbaum** as "Advocate for Justice." Almost 175 people attended the networking reception at Locust Grove Estate in Poughkeepsie.



Left: (L-R): Dr. Hal Teitelbaum, Founder, Managing Partner and Chief Executive Officer, Crystal Run Healthcare; Jeffrey Feldman, Founding Partner, Feldman, Kleidman, Coffey, Sappe & Regenbaum; Rachel Saunders, Esq., Attorney in Charge of LSHV's Poughkeepsie Office. Right: (L-R): Dr. Lisa Kaul, Director, Office of Community-Engaged Learning at Vassar College; Dr. Elizabeth Howe Bradley, President, Vassar College; Rachel Saunders, Esq., Attorney in Charge of LSHV's Poughkeepsie Office

Ulster Partners in Justice

LSHV hosted its **2nd Annual Ulster Partners in Justice Reception** on the rescheduled date of Wednesday, December 19th, 2018 at Stonehedge in West Park. The event honored **Rusk Wadlin Heppner & Martuscello, LLP** as "Champion of Justice" and **Dr. Alan Roberts, President and SUNY Ulster** as "Advocate for Justice." Approximately 100 people attended the event.



(L-R): John Rusk, Esq., Partner, Rusk Wadlin Heppner & Martuscello, LLP; LSHV's Attorney-in-Charge, Kingston, Lauren Sheeley; Dr. Alan Roberts, President, SUNY Ulster.

Orange & Sullivan Partners in Justice

On Tuesday, May 21st, 2019, LSHV held its **3rd Annual Orange & Sullivan Partners in Justice Reception** at Newburgh Brewing Company. The event honored **Maureen Crush, Esq. and Crush & Varma Law Group P.C.** as "Champion of Justice," and **Kellyann Kostyal-Larrier, Executive Director and Safe Homes of Orange County**, and **RBT CPAs, LLP**, as "Advocates for Justice." The event welcomed almost 160 people.



(L-R): LSHV's Sarah Maida, Attorney in Charge, Goshen Office and Rachel Simons, Attorney in Charge, Newburgh Office



(L-R): Honorees Kellyann Kostyal-Larrier of Safe Homes of Orange County; Maureen Crush of Crush & Varma Law Group P.C.; and Ita Rahilly of RBT CPAs, LLP.

Financials

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley & Affiliate Revenue & Expense

Year ending December 2018

Revenue		% of Total	
Interest on Lawyer Account	1,356,669	8%	<div></div>
Legal Services Corporation	1,868,595	11%	<div></div>
City & County Funding	3,124,065	18%	<div></div>
NYS Grants	3,565,115	20%	<div></div>
NYS Office of Court Administration	5,074,843	29%	<div></div>
Other Federal Funding	534,643	3%	<div></div>
Private Funding	1,027,266	6%	<div></div>
Donated Services	1,061,771	6%	<div></div>
Interest & Other Revenue	(15,097)	0%	
Total	17,597,870	100%	

Expenses			
Program	15,001,684	85%	<div></div>
Core Mission Support *	2,556,810	15%	<div></div>
Total	17,558,494		

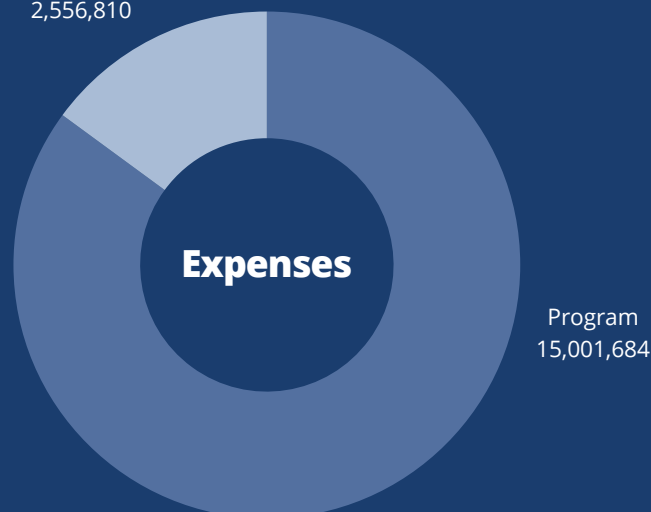
Note: Interest & Other Revenue includes Investment returns and unrealized stock loss and expenses.

This statement covers both Legal Services of the Hudson Valley and its affiliate, Hudson Valley Justice Center.

For a copy of our audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018 please visit our website or contact us at 914-949-1305 ext 175.

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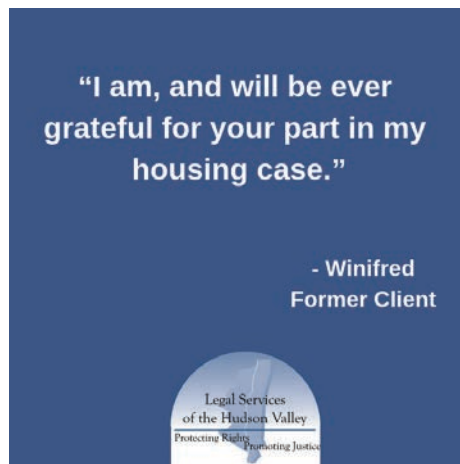
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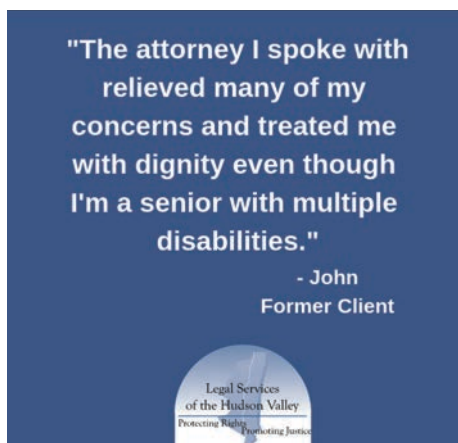
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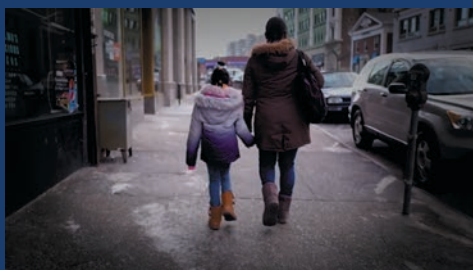
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New Client Video!



Susan and Diego are two former clients who were facing unlawful evictions and had to fight to stay in their homes. We are so grateful to them for sharing their stories.

See how LSHV's attorneys kept them and their children from becoming homeless: <https://youtu.be/RajaTL9XD3c>.

LSHV Adds Six to its Board of Directors, Promotes Five Staffers to Leadership Roles to Increase its Impact!

Alfred E. Donnellan, LSHV's Board President and Managing Partner at DelBello Donnellan Weingarten Wise & Wiederker LLP, announced the addition of six new members to the organization's Board of Directors.



Sarmad M. Khojasteh is a partner at Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP focusing on complex commercial litigation in state and federal courts, and in proceedings before state and federal regulatory agencies.



Nelida Lara-Garduno is a partner in DelBello Donnellan Weingarten Wise & Wiederkehr, LLP's Commercial Litigation practice group.



Jane M. Sovern is an experienced higher education attorney who will be joining the New York City office of the law firm of Bond, Schoeneck & King. Prior to that, she served as Deputy General Counsel at CUNY for more than 20 years.



Kiara Taylor spent a decade as a Personal Bank Representative, before switching to healthcare and working as a Mental Health aide and a Practical Nurse.



Clifford S. Weber is General Counsel and Chief Risk Officer at PCSB Bank & PCSB Financial Corporation. Cliff has 30 years of experience representing banks, thrift holding companies, and other financial service providers in regulatory, corporate, securities, and transactional matters.



Russell M. Yankwitt is Founder & Managing Partner of Yankwitt LLP, an elite trial and litigation firm. He has been on the New York Metro Super Lawyers list repeatedly since 2011 and on the Top 25 Westchester Lawyers list since 2013.

LSHV's CEO Barbara Finkelstein,

announced the staff promotions saying, "Lara, Sheeba, Shary, Sarah and Chris have been valuable members of our team for many years and we are thrilled that they will bring their unique backgrounds and skills to these new positions to further the mission of our agency."



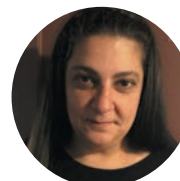
Lara Kasper-Buckareff was promoted to Program Director to assist the management team in addressing systemic legal issues affecting LSHV's clients, procuring funding, contract oversight, and agency-wide programming, as well as oversee LSHV's foreclosure prevention practice.



Sheeba Mathai was named LSHV's first Chief Diversity Officer and will lead the agency's initiatives around Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, in addition to her responsibilities as Attorney in Charge of LSHV's Spring Valley Office.



Shary Enid Sanchez was named the first Attorney-in-Charge of LSHV's newly expanded Peekskill Office, which serves Northern Westchester and Putnam County.



Sarah Maida was named the first Attorney in Charge of LSHV's new Goshen Office, which opened this spring.



Christopher Oldi was promoted to Pro Bono Director, where he oversees the implementation and development of pro bono programs to engage volunteers in the agency.

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