

PARTICIAN FOR LEGAL SERVICES Equal Access to Justice for All





LEGAL AID

NAVIGATES

A CRISIS FOR

EVERY CLIENT.

YOU CAN
HELP US
NAVIGATE THE
NEXT ONE.



2021 ANNUAL REPORT





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Campaign for Legal Services

117 North State St., Concord, NH 03301 603-369-6650, **nh-cls.org**

Follow us: Facebook: @nhjustice4all Twitter: @nhjustice4all

If you need legal assistance: 603legalaid.org or 1-800-639-5290



INTRODUCTION

The darkest hour is just before the dawn.

Variations of this proverb have appeared in speeches, poems, and countless other oral and written records dating back to the mid-1600s. It strives to inspire hope in those who hear it – that even when things seem at their worst, they will get better eventually.

As worrisome headlines dominate the news – soaring energy prices, an affordable housing crisis, mounting mental health challenges and more – we each must fight the pull of despair.

But amidst all this uncertainty, people in New Hampshire continue to believe in the positive power of hope. 2021 was the Campaign's best year to date, with nearly \$450,000 raised for legal aid. That money allowed New Hampshire Legal Assistance (NHLA) and 603 Legal Aid (603LA) to help improve access to justice for more than 16,000 Granite Staters, some of whom you'll meet in the coming pages.

We accomplished this, in part, through several exciting new collaborations with our community partners. Staff from NHLA and 603LA trained dozens of volunteer private attorneys to help people like Marshall, whose story you'll see on page 8, appeal unwarranted "clawbacks" of unemployment benefits that helped them stay afloat during the early pandemic shutdowns.

Staff from NHLA and 603LA regularly attend eviction clinics alongside representatives from

Southern New Hampshire Services. Together, they're preserving housing for people like Dawn, whose story is on page 10, and other families on the brink of homelessness.

Meanwhile, a new federally funded program called the Homeowner Assistance Fund is being administered through a partnership including NHLA, 603LA, NH Housing and AHEAD to help homeowners pay past due property taxes and mortgages.

Hope may be easy to lose, but it can be found again.

Legal aid advocates continue to work tirelessly to ensure that low-income individuals and families can reclaim that hope. They're helping people like Erin, featured on page 6, who dread that their landlord might evict them just for needing a service animal to help them through the day. They're also helping people like Danielle and her family, featured on page 4, and Ellen, featured on page 12, navigate a complex and confusing justice system as they seek protection from an abuser.

By supporting legal aid this past year, you gave Marshall, Dawn, Erin, Danielle and Ellen their hope back. And by sharing their stories, they're helping many others find hope, too.

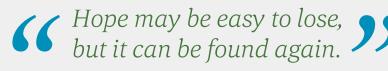
The journey ahead is far from easy, but your commitment to justice inspires hope in all of us!

Michael Delaney & Megan Hilson

Campaign Leadership Council Co-chairs







YOUR GUIDE TO LEGAL

The NH Campaign for Legal Services generates awareness of the importance of civil legal aid for people with low income and raises funds to support two statewide nonprofit law firms: 603 Legal Aid and New Hampshire Legal Assistance. Both programs provide civil legal aid in cases impacting people's basic human needs, employing the tools of the justice system to ensure people in New Hampshire have food on the table, a roof over their heads and protection from domestic abuse.

10,513
TOTAL CASES

ESTABLISHED IN 1971, NEW HAMPSHIRE LEGAL ASSISTANCE (NHLA) is informed by

more than fifty years of work with clients facing economic hardship. In addition to work with individual clients, NHLA also advances systemic change through litigation and policy advocacy.

603 LEGAL AID (603LA) WAS ESTABLISHED IN JUNE 2021, following the merger of two

IN JUNE 2021, following the merger of two organizations (the Legal Advice and Referral Center and the Pro Bono Program of the New Hampshire Bar Association).



- Ensure people can access public benefits such as:
 - ▶ unemployment
 - ▶ food stamps
 - disability
 - ► Medicaid

- Help survivors gain protection from further violence through protective orders and family law cases involving:
 - ▶ domestic violence
 - sexual assault
 - human trafficking
 - stalking

- Defend households against:
 - unlawful evictions
 - ▶ foreclosures
 - property tax deedings

TOGETHER THE PROGRAMS COLLABORATE to connect each applicant with the highest available level of service. Applicants can apply for statewide civil legal assistance via a single online or telephonic application process with 603LA. 603LA then assesses financial eligibility and identifies the issue at hand. Staff may then provide advice and counsel or represent clients directly. 603LA also directs cases to volunteer attorneys, NHLA or other community resources.

NEW HAMPSHIR

1,870 EVICTION CASES

672 INCOME/ BENEFITS CASES

1,168 DV-RELATED CASES

3,603

PEOPLE AFFECTED BY **DV/FAMILY CASES**

CHILDREN

4,664



OLDER ADULTS 1,077

1691

w/ DISABILITIES

1,062

VETERANS

585

66%

16,501 **PEOPLE**

Both 603LA and NHLA focus on legal services

related to the basic necessities of life including

safety, housing, health care,

and subsistence income.

603 LEGAL AID (603LA) now hosts the

New Hampshire statewide centralized intake for people seeking civil legal services. 603LA also maintains a vibrant volunteer recruitment,

training, and coordination

program for lawyers who want to volunteer their time and expertise to assist clients who otherwise cannot afford legal representation.

VALUE: \$821,278 NEW HAMPSHIRE LEGAL ASSISTANCE (NHLA) operates

five branch law offices in Berlin, Claremont, Concord.

Manchester, and Portsmouth. NHLA advocates routinely

appear in all of New Hampshire's state and

federal courts, as well as before myriad federal, state, and

local government agencies.



The importance of legal protection for victims and survivors of domestic violence was brought to many people's attention following the shooting of a 33-year-old New Hampshire woman by her former partner in November, 2021. The woman had been denied a final protection order only a few weeks earlier, due to insufficient evidence that her ex was a credible threat to her safety.

The NH Supreme Court quickly established a task force to conduct a systemic review of the way domestic violence cases are handled in the state court system. Some of the areas reviewed include circuit court practice and procedure, public access to appellate decisions related to domestic violence and civil stalking protective orders, and increasing access to legal counsel for domestic violence victims.

NHLA Domestic Violence Project Director Erin Jasina, staff attorney Mary Krueger, and 603LA DOVE coordinator Pam Dodge served as members of the task force. Krueger was also tapped to chair the Governor's Commission on Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking, following a recommendation from the task force that the Commission be reconvened. 603LA staff attorney Angelika Wilkerson Martin was also appointed to the commission.

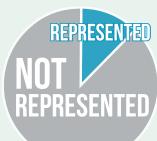
RESTRAINING ORDERS

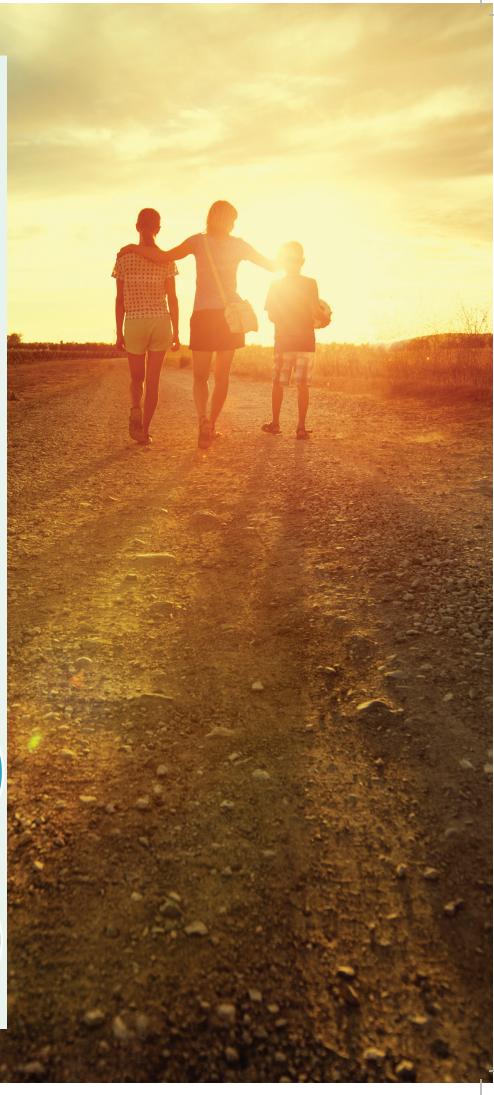
Only 38% of petitions for final restraining orders are granted.



LEGAL REPRESENTATION

88% of domestic violence victims do not receive legal representation





HELPING FAMILIES MOVE FORWARD

Throughout her 20-year marriage,
Danielle supported her husband and
two children with a full-time job in the
hospitality industry in a small town in the
North Country.

"Every day was like walking on eggshells," Danielle said, describing life with her abusive husband. "I didn't know what kind of mood I'd find him in. I remember feeling a knot in my stomach every time I came back home from work."

The constant fear and trepidation were exhausting for Danielle and her children. She knew living this way wasn't right.

When she decided to move out two years ago, she requested a civil standby from the local police. While she gathered their belongings, her husband stood on the lawn and screamed in the officers' faces. That night he called and left her a voice mail that she'd watch her memories burn. The escalating threats and irrational behavior terrified Danielle and her children and cemented her resolve to get a divorce.

"I contacted law firms for help, but I couldn't afford to pay for their services," said Danielle. "Then I got in touch with Voices Against Violence, a domestic violence support center based in Plymouth, and they connected me with NHLA."

Attorney Ruth Heintz eased the mental weight Danielle was feeling at the time. She represented Danielle on her initial DV petition two years ago and the first extension of the petition one year ago.

"She gave a sense that I didn't have to worry about the legal part of this nightmare anymore," Danielle said. "Everything went through Ruth. There's a fine line between empathy and professionalism, and she gets that. She knows what she's doing. Ruth puts her life and soul into trying to help and do what's best for her clients."

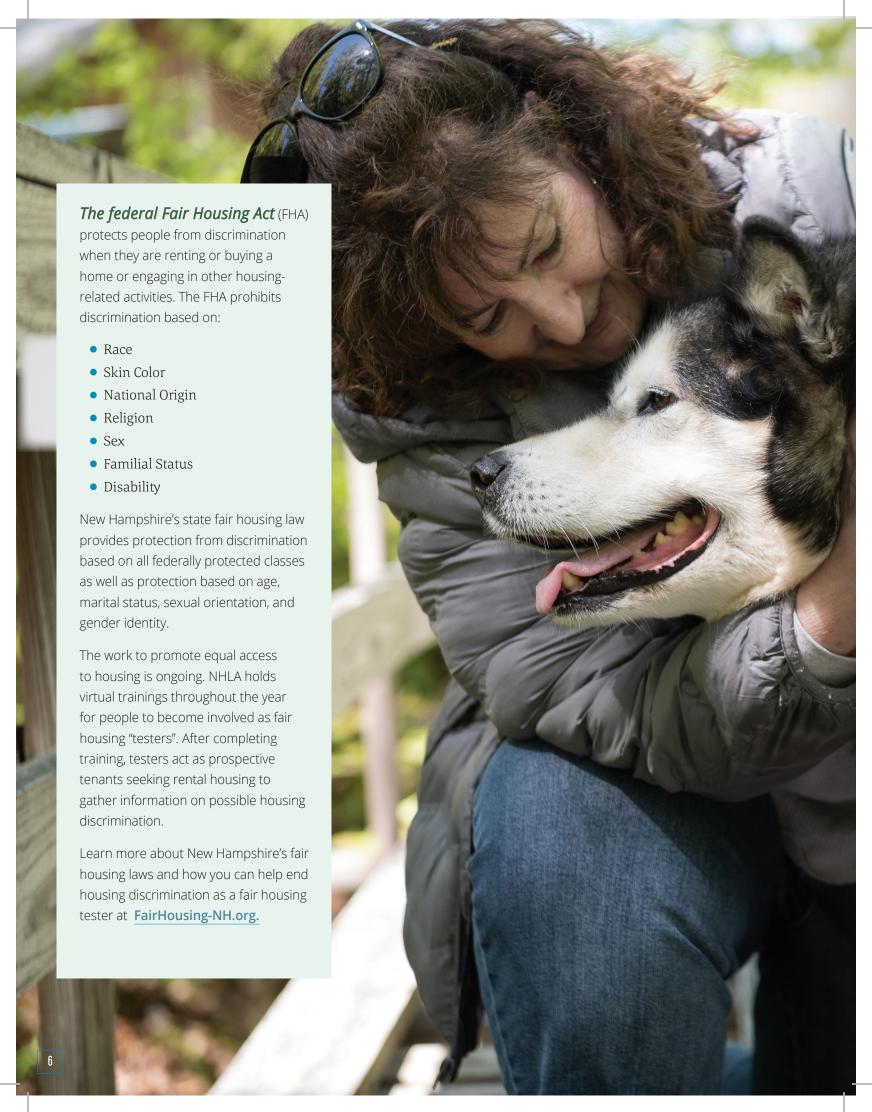
Ruth later helped Danielle finalize her divorce, including complete possession of Danielle's retirement accounts. Still, her ex showed irrational and threatening behavior, including on Facebook. Ruth helped Danielle apply for her current 5-year extension to her protective order, which has given Danielle even more peace of mind. Even though she and her ex still live in the same small rural community and their paths cross occasionally, he is not allowed to approach her or contact her.

Danielle wants other people to know that legal aid makes an impact well beyond any one client. "Legal aid didn't just help me," she said. "Legal aid helped my children and my parents move forward from this nightmare. Thank you."



Legal aid didn't just help me... [they] helped my children and my parents move forward from this nightmare.







DEFENDING THE RIGHT TO THRIVE AT HOME

Savannah, an 11-year-old indoor cat, provides Erin with emotional support for her debilitating anxiety and depression. But coping with her symptoms wasn't actually helping Erin improve.

"My doctor reminded me about how active I was when I had my old dog, and we agreed that I would have no choice but to get out and exercise if I had another one," Erin said.

The mobile home park where Erin lives only allows one pet per household, and Erin was told the rule applies for emotional support animals as well.

"The park owner sent me a lease addendum to be signed by me saying the dog would have to be the only animal in my home and my cat would have to go," she said. "I need Savannah with me to help with my anxiety."

Noncompliance with the park's rules would put her at risk of eviction, and Erin knew that her landlord had a lot more resources than she did if things came to a legal battle.

"I was extremely worried. I did hours of research, but I could not find anything about my specific situation. I called Disability Rights Center – New Hampshire. They said that an emotional support animal should not be counted as a pet. But they also suggested I get in touch with legal aid, just in case, which I did."

Maria Eveleth, an advocate with NHLA's Fair Housing Project, spoke with Erin.

"She treated me with respect and dignity," said Erin. "And that was before we spoke about the legal issues. Her even-keeled approach gave me so much confidence right when I was ready to give up."

Maria described how Erin could explain to her property manager that she wasn't breaking any rules by having two animals, with each one helping her with a particular issue. However, once the property manager learned that Erin was working with NHLA, she said Erin could keep Savannah and her new dog, Zephyr.

"I honestly feel like just having Maria on my case made a difference in what the property manager would accept," Erin said. "It's like she knew I would know my rights."

After feeling powerless on her own, NHLA helped Erin find the strength to fight for her rights.

"With NHLA's support, people who might otherwise get trampled on can actually get what the law allows for. I'm now able to get fresh air and talk with people comfortably with Zephyr by my side."



She treated me with respect and dignity, and that was before we spoke about the legal issues.



Expanded federal unemployment **benefits** allowed many people in New Hampshire to stay afloat during the COVID-19 pandemic. For the first time, self-employed individuals and those who work part time could apply for benefits.

Total unemployment throughout 2021 decreased steadily from a high of 31,781 in January to 22,518 in December.

The federal expansion of unemployment benefits was set to end in September 2021, but some states, including New Hampshire, elected to end the benefits earlier. Doing so pushed nearly 15,700 Granite Staters off all unemployment aid. While many people have returned to work, many others continue to face economic challenges.

Women and people of color have been affected particularly hard. Both women and people of color are more likely to work in sectors that experienced the most layoffs since the pandemic started, such as hospitality and retail. Other women dropped out of the workforce to care for their children, and have been unable to find new jobs that pay enough for them to afford childcare. Low-income households have also faced rising costs for necessities like food and utilities.

These problems have persisted into 2022. Legal aid helps people access benefits and appeal unfair denials, bringing hundreds of thousands of dollars to those who need it most.

VALUE OF PUBLIC BENEFITS WE HELPED CLIENTS ACCESS:

\$3.4 MILLION





ROTECTING E O P L E 'S I N C O M E

Cemi-retired at age 72, Marshall has worked part time for the last six years for a company that performs auditing services and display set-up for retail stores across New England. When COVID hit and retail stores restricted vendors from entering, his company furloughed its workers, and Marshall applied for state and federal unemployment.

"That aid that came in, that sufficed to take care of my living expenses when I would have had nothing," he said.

Because the medication he takes for his arthritis has made him vulnerable to other illnesses, including COVID, Marshall's doctor recommended he self-quarantine even after businesses started to open again in late 2020. Marshall provided the state unemployment office and his employer with a letter from his doctor about his need to stay home until he could be vaccinated.

After getting fully vaccinated in March 2021, Marshall returned to work. He thought his COVID experience was essentially over.

"Then I got a bill from the state of New Hampshire for \$26,000," he said. "And I knew that that wasn't right because I had a doctor's note."

Marshall attempted to sort things out on his own. Although the people he spoke with were pleasant, they could not fix the mistake.

"I realized that I needed assistance, so that's when I dialed up 603 Legal Aid."

Marshall worked with 603LA attorney Marta Hurgin by phone and email to prepare for his appeal hearing. Although they never met face to face, Marta's professionalism and knowledge gave Marshall confidence that his case would be resolved in his favor.

"She immediately sounded well-versed in dealing with NHES and she was familiar with the issues that most people were going through with delays in phone calls, making appointments, trying to get answers. I had a great deal of confidence in Marta right from the start."

They waited nearly four months for the hearing, but after Marshall and Marta presented their case, the tribunal reversed Marshall's overpayment a few days later. It also disbursed additional benefits that had been held pending the results of the appeal.

"I had no way of paying back \$26,000," Marshall said when asked what the outcome of his case meant to him. "Had I lost that case, I would have had a repayment schedule that would have likely stretched into the last years of my life.

"People don't normally think about getting into a situation where they need an attorney, and if they have no place to turn, they can really tie themselves in knots emotionally. They need to know that 603 Legal Aid is there for them."



Marta's professionalism and knowledge gave Marshall confidence that his case would be resolved in his favor.







PREVENTING

In the face of the historic public health threat of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention imposed an unprecedented nationwide temporary moratorium on residential evictions in September 2020. The moratorium would keep renters and their families across the country safely housed despite record layoffs and loss of income. It would also prevent overcrowding in homeless shelters, thereby reducing the spread of the novel coronavirus.

Originally meant to expire on December 31, 2020, the CDC moratorium was extended multiple times until until its vital eviction protections that kept millions of people safe and stably housed ended in September 2021.

Emergency rental assistance for tenants still struggling with the economic consequences of the pandemic was available at the time. However, some renters were and still are unaware of the help that is available, so evictions for nonpayment of rent began again in earnest.

Attorney Lauren Greenwald, administrative assistant Karen Dorr and attorney Steve Tower assisted clients at one eviction-prevention clinic at the Manchester District Court last fall.

1,763 EVICTION CASES
HELPED BY NHLA & 603LA

HOMELESSNESS IN

To help address the potential tidal wave of evictions post-moratorium, attorneys from NHLA and 603LA have been holding "eviction clinics" at the Manchester and Nashua District Courts every week. Tenants facing eviction have the opportunity to meet with attorneys or paralegals who can help them negotiate with their landlord for more time to find new housing or to apply for rental assistance. Representatives from Southern New Hampshire Services (SNHS) are also present during the clinics to help tenants fill out the application forms and fast-track payments to their landlords.

Dawn, an elderly woman with disabilities, had been working with SNHS to cure the arrearage on her apartment, but her landlord refused to complete the required paperwork and instead served her an eviction notice in December 2021.

"I was terrified," Dawn said. "The thought of being evicted wore me down physically and mentally. But I called 211 beforehand and learned the eviction clinic was happening."

Dawn met NHLA attorney Sofia Hyatt at the courthouse. After reviewing Dawn's file, Sofia told the landlord she would be representing Dawn in the case. The landlord ultimately completed the form with SNHS so they could cure the arrearage, and the case was dismissed.

"It was a relief," said Dawn. "Without legal aid, I'm sure I would have been out on the street."

The NH Homeowner Assistance

Fund is a federally funded program through the NH Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery and is administered by NH Housing. NHLA and 603LA have partnered with NH Housing to provide legal services to homeowners who are past due on their mortgage, property taxes home insurance, association fees or utility bills due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For renters whose incomes have been negatively affected due to COVID, the NH Emergency Rental Assistance Program (NHERAP) helps pay missed rent to landlords. NHLA and 603LA have partnered with NHERAP to provide legal services to tenants seeking to cure their back rent.

Learn more about the NH Homeowner Assistance fund and the NH Emergency Rental Assistance Program at HomeHelpNH.org.







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PRO BONO VOLUNTEERS— MAKING ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Even while he was in college, Tony Naro knew he wanted to use his future law degree to help people.

"If there wasn't so much injustice in the world, I might have gone to a big firm to do contract law, but every step of the way reaffirmed my commitment to be a public defender," he said.

Tony worked at the New Hampshire Public Defender office for 12 years. He started as a staff attorney and eventually became an Assistant Appellate Defender in 2019. Although Tony left the Public Defender in 2020 following the birth of his second child, he never lost his commitment to justice for people living with low incomes.

During his time as a public defender, Tony felt frustrated when he was unable to assist his clients with their civil legal needs.

"You have a constitutional right to an attorney if you are charged with a crime, but you don't have a constitutional right to an attorney if you are going through a divorce, or a parenting case, or if you're getting evicted, or if you're a domestic violence victim.

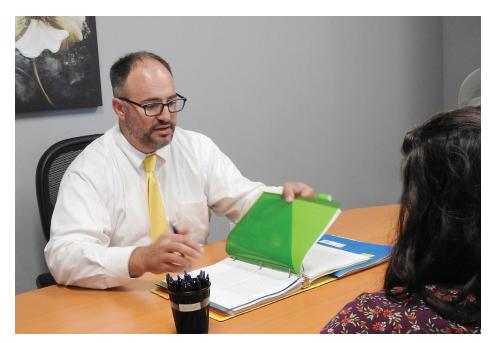
There was nothing I could do except say, 'call legal aid,' but there just aren't enough legal aid attorneys to go around," Tony said. "There are so many important aspects of your life that are affected by the civil legal system but there's no civil version of the Sixth Amendment, so we need to help these people out."

Tony now works for Bernazzani Law Offices in Nashua. In addition to his regular caseload, he takes between five and eight pro bono cases a year. Last November, 603LA connected him with "Ellen," a young woman who works as a patient access specialist with a major health care provider.

After Ellen's boyfriend sexually assaulted and attempted to strangle her, she left him, and sought a restraining order. But without legal advice on her options and how to effectively present her evidence, her application was denied.

"It was tough," said Ellen. "It hurt that he essentially got away with what he did."

It also bothered Ellen that she wasn't told what her future legal options were.





POSSIBLE FOR ALL

"I got a list of survivor resources such as Bridges, YWCA, that sort of thing, but nobody said we could still pursue something legally. I ended up doing a ton of research on my own."

Ellen contacted the NH Bar Association looking for legal help, and was referred to 603LA. Within an hour she was on the phone with Tony for an initial consultation.

"Tony was great," Ellen said regarding that first consultation. "He explained everything. He's just been advocating for me and has been in my corner since then."

Tony helped Ellen draft and submit a new restraining order which she believes will protect her from further abuse by her ex. His guidance in navigating the judicial system has been invaluable to Ellen, and Tony is glad to help people like her who otherwise can't afford an attorney.

"I like the feeling of helping people without having to charge them money," Tony said. "I can't think of one reason why lawyers shouldn't do pro bono work. I think it's morally lawyers' responsibility to take pro bono cases," Tony said. "There's really no excuse to not take at least a couple cases a year, whatever your field is. For younger attorneys, you're going to get experience, and that's a good thing. But then you want to keep doing it, so you get better."

"You can tell an attorney really truly cares about what they're doing and cares about a case when they take it pro bono," said Ellen. "I know Tony's doing this because he cares deeply about my case, and he cares deeply about making me feel okay. He said that from the start. He said, 'You're incredibly brave for coming forward and I'm so glad I've been able to help you."

Expanding Pro Bono opportunities for Limited Active Status Attorneys

In an effort to address the lack of attorneys available to represent indigent individuals, the New Hampshire Supreme Court announced changes in August 2022 to encourage inactive attorneys to elect instead to take Limited Active Status (LAS).

Attorneys taking LAS pay reduced New Hampshire Bar Association dues and no longer need to complete mandatory CLE requirements or submit Trust Account Certificates. And for the first time, attorneys who have LAS will be able to represent poor criminal defendants through the Judicial Council on an assigned or contract basis.

These changes will also make it easier for qualified attorneys, who may otherwise take an inactive status, to provide critical civil legal advice and representation to people with low incomes.

603LA is planning to expand unbundled civil legal services offered to people with family law issues, and LAS family law practitioners have the potential to be the piece that will complete that puzzle.

RECOGNIZING ATTORNEYS

Pro Bono Attorneys

The Campaign is grateful to the following attorneys who donated their time and talents to 603LA.

Paul Alfano James Allmendinger Allison Ambrose Mark Anderson Gary Apfel William Barry Catherine Baumann Leif Becker Quentin Blaine Jaren Blessing Sandra Bloomenthal Cindy Bodendorf Randi Bouchard **John Brandte** Courtney Brooks Cassandra Brown

Donna Brown
Ann Butenhof
Justin Caramagno
Bryan Clickner
Thomas Closson
David Cole
Kevin Collimore
Ryan Correia
Jason Crance
Jack Crisp
Sara Crisp
Michael Croteau
James Davis
Kolbie Deamon
Suzanne Decker

Michael Degieux

Denis Dillon Dawn DiManna William Driscoll Debra DuPont **Ionathan Evans** Kristin Fields Michael Fisher Margaret Fulton Elizabeth Garon John Garvey John Gasaway Cynthia Gilman Chloe Golden Scott Harris Stephen Harris Iames Hawthorne Patrick Hayes Casey Hewitt

Robert Hunt Eric Janson Anne Jenness **Iack Kauders** Carol Kunz Patricia LaFrance Sarah Landres Jacqueline Leary Petar Leonard Michael Lewis Iames Lombardi Adam Lord Allen Lucas Joseph MacAllister Roderick MacLeish Marilyn Mahoney Crystal Maldonado Amy Manzelli

Stephen Martin

Kyle McDonald

Robin Melone

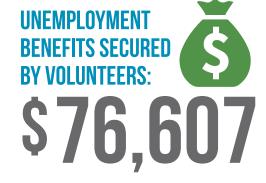
Jon H. Meyer

RI Meurin

Penina McMahon

Abbygale Martinen





WHO STEP UP FOR JUSTICE

Robert Moore Adam Mordecai Anthony Muir Kenneth Murphy Anthony Naro Thomas Neal W. Scott O'Connell Iessica Parasco Justin Pare Theodore Parent Barbara Parker Rory Parnell Roger Phillips Joseph Prieto Andrew Prolman Donald Reape Lyndsay Robinson Ion Rochlis **Judith Roman** Scott Rosenthal Ionathan L. Ross Mark Rouvalis Charles Russell Amanda Scheldorf Steenhuis Jane Schirch

Larry Schwartz

James Sessler Kimberley Shaughnessy Charles Sheng James Shepard Justin Shepherd Kirk Simoneau Aaron Simpson **Gregory Smith** Tony Soltani **Eric Sommers** Timothy Sorenson Tanya Spony Katherine Stearns Ioanne Stella Amber Talbot Dennis Thivierge Mary Thron Rosangeliz Torres Thomas Trunzo Kenneth Walton Solal Wanstok Philip Waystack Lisa Wellman-Ally **Brittany White** Ethan Wood Dawn Worslev

Robert Young



I had no money and no family to help me," Diane said. "I was sinking deeper and deeper and couldn't see my way out. The frustrating part of it was that I was dutifully looking for work and coming up against a wall."

Pro Bono paired Diane with a volunteer attorney who recommended she file bankruptcy. Diane initially resisted but is glad she took the advice.

"I was embarrassed," Diane said.
"But my lawyer told me I did not have to feel ashamed or embarrassed and helped me understand that bankruptcy was there for people like me who are in a pickle and need a new start. It is such a huge relief not to have that debt anymore.

2021 EVENTS: A GRADUAL

The Campaign's Kickoff Breakfast

held in May featured several special guests who joined online to celebrate 50 years of legal aid in New Hampshire and the creation of 603LA.

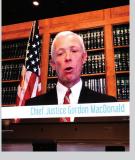
Co-Chairs Ovide Lamontagne and Michael Delaney presented Deborah Kane Rein with the 2021 John E. Tobin, Jr., Justice Award from the Campaign for Legal Services.















RETURN TO TOGETHERNESS









By October, we were ready for our first in-person event since the start of the pandemic. Dozens of individuals and families as well as teams representing law firms and law schools joined us at Delta Dental Stadium for the inaugural Run/Walk for Justice 5K.





O U R S U P P O R T E R S

**The access-to-justice gap touches us all, and that is why it is so encouraging to see the ever expanding reach of this campaign." – NH Supreme Court Chief Justice Gordon MacDonald.

Thank you to our Pacesetter law firms who have, for more than 20 years, provided the bedrock foundation of support for the Campaign.

Pacesetters

Firms that make a commitment of \$500 or more per NH-licensed attorney

Ansell & Anderson

Christine Anderson Alyssa Graham Garrigan

Gallagher Callahan & Gartrell

Charles P. Bauer
Matthew V. Burrows
Peter G. Cline
Robert J. Dietel
Samantha D. Elliott
W. John Funk
Dodd S. Griffith
Susan B. Hollinger
Anne E. Jenness
Caroline K. Leonard
Donald J. Pfundstein
Ari B. Pollack

Donald P. Reape

Michael D. Ruedig

Orr & Reno

Peter F. Burger Robert S. Carey Neil F. Castaldo William L. Chapman Heidi S. Cole Jonathan M. Eck Jeremy D. Eggleton Judith A. Fairclough Meredith Farrell Goldstein Susan S. Geiger Laura J. Hartz Margaret R. Kerouac Iames F. Laboe Connie B. Lane Petar M. Leonard John A. Malmberg Allison McGregor Bradford Melson James E. Morris Julie R. Morse Lindsay E. Nadeau Douglas L. Patch Nicole M. T. Paul George W. Roussos Tony K. Sayss Maureen D. Smith Jeffrey C. Spear Erin Vanden Borre Elizabeth Velez Lisa S. Wade Steven L. Winer

John M. Zaremba

Sheehan Phinney Bass + Green

Elizabeth Bailey Peter Beach Jeff Bernaducci Brian Bouchard Thomas Burack Christopher Candon Megan Carrier Gregory Chakmakas Robert Cheney Christopher Cole **Bradford Cook** Peter Cowan Mark Dell'Orfano Bryanna Devonshire Joseph DiBrigida Paul Durham Andrew Eills Matthew Fay Chloe Golden Jason Gregoire Katherine Hanna **James Harris** Courtney Herz Madeline Hutchings Eric Kilchenstein

Michael Lambert James LaMontagne Jon Liland Ryan Lirette Robert Lucic Jennifer Lyon Colleen Lyons Susan Manchester Abbygale Martinen David McGrath Robert Miller Peter Nieves William O'Sullivan Lynn Preston Margaret Probish Michael Ramsdell James Reidy Paul Reuland James Shirley **Brian Thomas** John-Mark Turner Douglas Verge Kenneth Viscarello Jonathan Voegele Jonathan Whitcomb



A CULTURE ROOTED IN COMMUNITY

Everywhere we turned in 2021, friends from Bernstein Shur were there, winning the Team Spirit Prize during our inaugural Online Trivia Challenge, helping organize the Virtual Campaign Kickoff Breakfast, or bringing the biggest team of walkers and runners to the 1st Annual Run/Walk 5k for Justice.

"Core to Bernstein Shur's identity is our unwavering commitment to strengthening communities in New Hampshire and beyond," says firm CEO Joan Fortin. "Helping to ensure that each person has equal access to our justice system is a top priority for our firm, and something that we work towards via charitable giving and our attorneys' pro bono work. We firmly believe that we are all stronger when our courts are accessible, fair, and efficient for every person, despite their wealth or status."

Jim Merrill, Managing Partner of the firm's Manchester office, says the firm shares a common goal with NHLA and 603LA: "working to ensure that New Hampshire's courts are accessible for everyone who lives here.

"Our attorneys value the partnership we have developed with the Campaign over many years, and we are committed to strengthening that partnership in the years to come. Together, we can work to increase access to justice for our most vulnerable citizens, and in so doing, help to prevent homelessness, poverty and abuse in New Hampshire. We thank the Campaign for allowing us to make this important contribution to such a worthy cause."



Ioan Fortin



Jim Merrill





O U R S U P P O R T E R S

Every year, a growing community of generous law firms, businesses, private foundations, and attorneys show their support for civil legal aid in New Hampshire. We are tremendously grateful for their financial support and participation. In 2021, this support broke all previous Campaign records, bringing nearly \$450,000 of private support for equal access to justice.

Visionary Leaders

\$70,000+
Boston Billard Club



\$25,000+ Sheehan Phinney Bass + Green



\$20,000+
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