

A photograph of a woman with her eyes closed, smiling warmly, being kissed on the cheeks by two young children. The child on the left is a young boy with short brown hair, wearing a green shirt and a denim jacket. The child on the right is a young girl with long brown hair, wearing glasses and a light-colored denim jacket. The woman is wearing a green patterned sweater and has her hair pulled back. The background is a soft-focus green tree.

**FUELING THE
FUTURE OF
LEGAL AID**

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Campaign for Legal Services

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

To apply for legal assistance:
603legalaids.org or 1-603-224-3333



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D E A R F R I E N D S

I am honored to be writing to you today to celebrate the work and support reflected in this Annual Report of the NH Campaign for Legal Services. Join me, and rejoice in the growth and successes of the Campaign, our programs, and the individuals served by legal aid.

The following pages contain stories of inspiring growth, including the Campaign's largest single-year growth in gifts. You, your friends, colleagues and neighbors gave nearly \$570,000 in donations to the Campaign in 2023, making a strong and impactful statement in favor of equal access to justice.

Thanks to this increased support, NH Legal Assistance (NHCLA) and 603 Legal Aid (603LA) were able to expand their courthouse-based clinics in Concord, Manchester and Nashua, providing on-the-spot legal assistance for even more families facing eviction and domestic violence survivors who needed help applying for a protective order to keep their families safe.

As you will read, your support meant that legal aid was there for Emma, Gino and Steve – all of them veterans who volunteered to serve our country.

The demand for legal aid among veterans is significant. Veterans often encounter unique legal challenges that require not only a deep understanding of the law but also specific training in dealing with complex Veterans Affairs systems. There is a stark paucity of attorneys in New Hampshire certified for this work.

The staff at 603LA recognized this gap and mobilized this year to create the Hope for Heroes initiative to provide free legal services to eligible New Hampshire veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, focusing on those who require assistance with

issues related to VA benefits, housing, and other civil legal matters. NHCLA is ready to receive referrals from 603LA to assist Hope for Heroes veteran clients as needed. Veterans just like Steve, Gino, and Emma.

Through Hope for Heroes, we aim to ensure that our veterans receive the support they deserve, empowering them to navigate their legal issues with confidence and dignity. I look forward so much to sharing stories from Hope For Heroes with you next year.

To me, the remarkable growth of legal aid in New Hampshire is encouraging. As a supporter of the Campaign, I know you share this sentiment.

But I remain humbled by the task before us. Hundreds of applicants are turned away from NHCLA and 603LA without representation every year. Even more do not yet know about the power and potential of legal aid.

A Harris Poll survey found that nationwide, as many as 59% of people facing a civil legal issue did not reach out for legal help.

There is still much to do.

Last year, we considered what our programs truly needed to ensure our neighbors have access to the legal system. When we asked you to help us make this a reality, so many of you answered the call.

To those of you who became the charter members of our Leadership Circle in 2023: **Thank you.** Thank you for prioritizing equal access to the law. You are **fueling the future of legal aid** in New Hampshire and creating even more opportunities for growth.

Megan Hilson
Campaign Leadership Council Chair
In House Counsel, Brady Sullivan Properties



LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR NH RESIDENTS

The NH Campaign for Legal Services is a joint annual fundraising effort to benefit NH Legal Assistance (NHLA) and 603 Legal Aid (603LA).

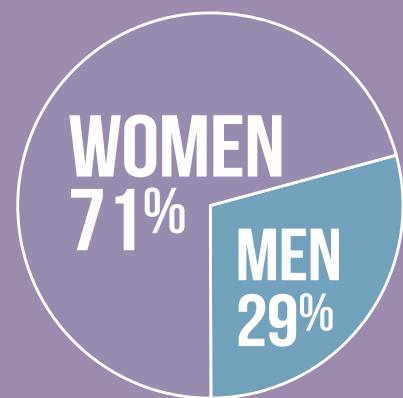
NHLA and 603LA provide community outreach and education, civil legal information, counsel and advice, and direct representation in all of New Hampshire's courts and in many administrative proceedings.

ENSURING ACCESS TO CIVIL LEGAL HELP

- Operating a centralized intake system which connects people with low income quickly with the highest level of civil legal service for which they qualify.
- Hosting a robust "Know Your Rights" online library.
- Providing interpretation for speakers of languages other than English, and accommodations for people with disabilities.

509

PEOPLE IN
COURTHOUSE
CLINICS



VETERANS	124
OLDER ADULTS	591
w/ DISABILITIES	871
CHILDREN AFFECTED	1,968

TOTAL PEOPLE HELPED 2023: **7,440**

FINANCIAL IMPACT: **\$6 MILLION**
to clients from NHLA housing, benefits, and family law cases

5,510

ADDITIONAL
PEOPLE
REFERRED

PROTECTING HOUSING STABILITY

- Representing and advising people with low income facing eviction, foreclosure, tax deeding or loss of housing subsidies, including through courthouse clinics in Manchester, Concord and Nashua
- Challenging illegal housing discrimination.

1,262

HOUSING
CASES



352

INCOME/
BENEFITS
CASES

ALLEVIATING POVERTY

- Helping clients appeal wrongful denials of public benefits and obtain child support.
- Ensuring access to health insurance and health care.
- Assisting low-income taxpayers with IRS disputes



PROMOTING SAFETY FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Representing and advising domestic violence survivors seeking protection from abuse in court, including courthouse clinics in Manchester and Nashua.
- Representing and advising domestic violence survivors in family law proceedings such as divorce, parenting rights and child support.
- Working with 12 regional crisis centers to offer holistic support to survivors.

428 DV-RELATED CASES

1,063 PEOPLE AFFECTED BY
DV/FAMILY CASES

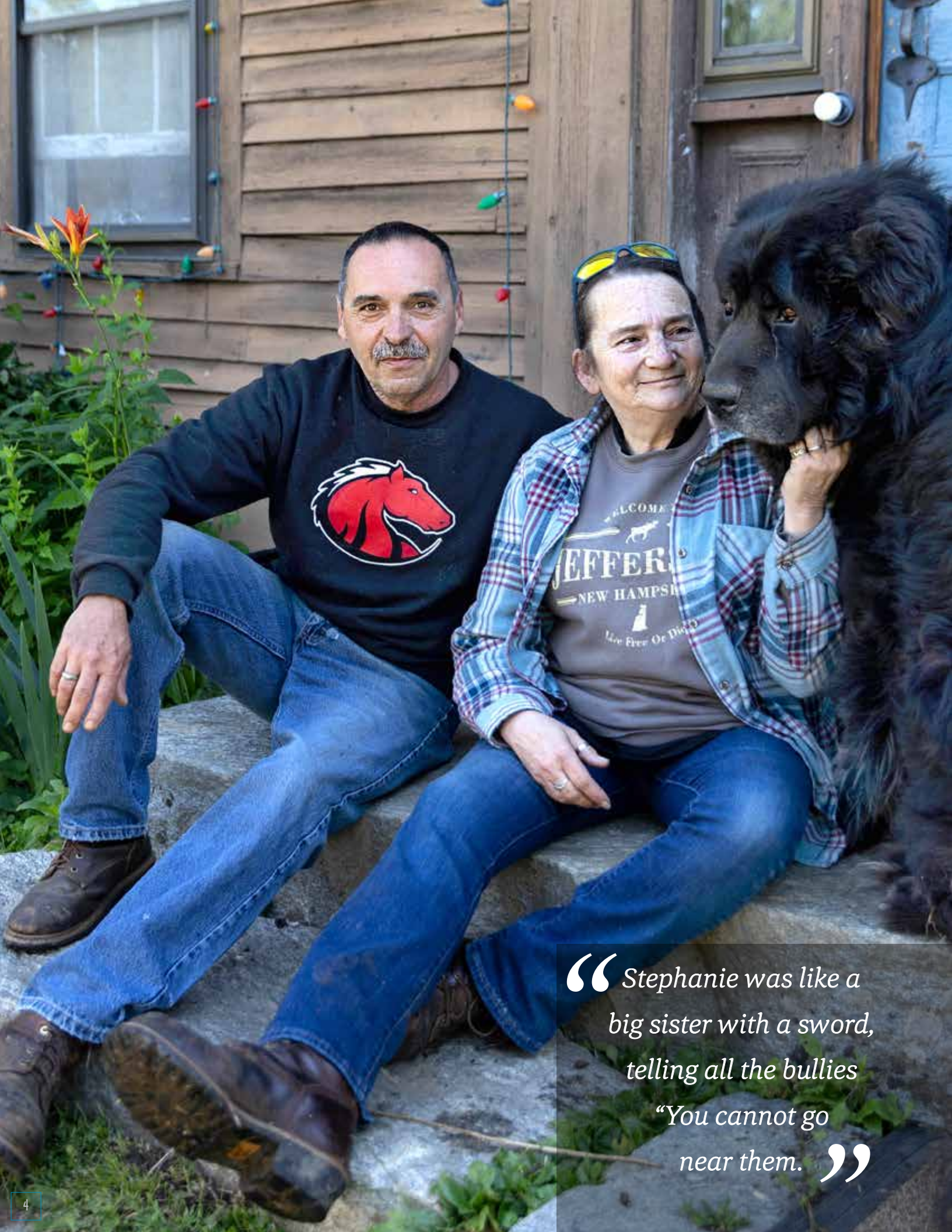


NEW HAMPSHIRE
LEGAL
ASSISTANCE

- 45+/- Full-time Equivalent employees
- 2024 budget: **\$5,900,000**
- Largest source of funding: State of New Hampshire
- 29% of budget raised from private donors and institutional contributions.

603 LEGAL
AID

- 30+/- Full-time equivalent employees
- 2024 budget: **\$2,447,000**
- Largest source of funding: Legal Services Corporation
- 21% of budget raised from private donors and institutional contributions.



“Stephanie was like a big sister with a sword, telling all the bullies “You cannot go near them.””

PREVENTING FORECLOSURES, STABILIZING FAMILIES

When Steve first met Sarah, she and her three kids were still healing after leaving an abusive home. He wasn't sure he wanted to start a relationship with her, fearing he might somehow let them down. But, the family won Steve over, and he embraced his new role of stepdad wholeheartedly. When he and Sarah realized how much the kids gained from caring for animals, they found a home with land enough for chickens, ducks, turkeys, rabbits, pigs and a dog and a cat.

“Once we had the animals, we were home. Because where are you going to go with that many animals? Nowhere. And like I said, the kids had been through a lot and I wasn't ever going to make them give up their animals,” Steve said.

The family diligently kept up with their bills until an unexpected letter arrived. The previous owner of their property had used it as collateral for another loan and had defaulted and the bank was preparing to collect – to take Steve's family's home. To make matters worse, the lawyer who was supposed to protect their interests vanished without a trace.

Desperate, Steve sought legal help, but every lawyer demanded money they didn't have.

“We kept paying for the property, paying the utilities, robbing Peter to pay Paul and choosing which bills to pay every month. We never told the kids how close we were to being homeless. They'll figure out the world isn't fair, on their own sometime. It didn't have to be when they were so young. How do you tell a 10-year-old that a lawyer

had cost you your house, your animals, the first stable school you've found, put you to living in a motel, through no fault of yours?” Steve said.

Then, they found NHLA. Stephanie Bray provided the much-needed guidance, support, and facilitation. Stephanie's persistence and her career-long work collaborating with local banks like Savings Bank of Walpole made the difference. She managed to get the bank to pause the foreclosure process just when Steve suffered a severe chainsaw accident at work. The settlement from his injury allowed them to pay down the mortgage, and the bank released their hold on the property.

This victory, however, was short-lived. The pandemic hit, and Steve's wife, a school bus driver, lost her job. They fell behind on taxes and struggled to find assistance. Once again, Stephanie stepped in, helping them navigate federal pandemic-related foreclosure-prevention programs to pay back the taxes and keep their home.

“Stephanie helped us with everything we needed to access the federal assistance for people out of work from the pandemic. But from our perspective, we didn't see all that she was doing, because I was hurt, and my wife was sick, and we were focused on getting those three kids through school. What we saw was Stephanie like a big sister standing between us and the upending of our lives, like a big sister with a sword, telling all the bullies “You cannot go near them.”



“ Steve was just fabulous, one the nicest guys I ever talked to, and he knew his legal work. ”

DIGNITY AND JUSTICE FOR VETERANS

Gino's journey began in Massachusetts, where life presented two paths after high school: college or the Army. With no funds for college, Gino enlisted in the Army, embarking on a relatively quiet four-year stint during the Cold War. After his service, he explored various careers, from warehouse work to computer programming.

After the September 11 attacks, Gino read about the Army Reserve raising the maximum enlistment age. Just barely making the new cutoff at age 39, he reenlisted without hesitation.

The next few years brought Gino through harrowing combat and caused severe combat-related disabilities.

Seeking a quiet, fresh start when he was discharged, Gino settled in a rented manufactured home in Milford. While it was over 50 years old when he moved in, he believed it was stable, and the grounds provided space for his new service dog, Phineas. However, over the next six years, the house deteriorated. The stove, a window, and the floor all gave out. Gino repeatedly contacted the property managers, pleading for repairs.

“For two years, I called and I yelled and I took pictures and I bought new appliances myself, trying to make do. And when they stopped answering, I stopped paying the rent.

Veterans, combat veterans especially, do not like to ask for help. I'm studying psychology now, so I can say this, but I think it's an ego thing,” Gino said.

However, his caseworker at Veterans Count wanted to help him qualify for a housing subsidy. Shocked by the condition of his home, she informed him it would never qualify for the subsidy in its current state.

“When I got an eviction notice for not paying rent, we knew I had the pictures and the records, and I had a strong case, but I don't know anything about legal speak. She told me about 603LA. I had not heard of that before. I was hesitant, but I said to myself, only a fool acts as their own lawyer, right? And I'm no fool,” Gino said.

“Sometimes it's difficult to talk about your station in life. It's embarrassing to say I live in an \$800 trailer. The people I spoke with at legal aid made it really easy to be open and honest. Steve (McGilvary) was just fabulous, one the nicest guys I ever talked to, and he knew his legal work.

“I told him the whole situation, and Steve said you have rights, and he gave me all these possible options. I knew I would be representing myself, and I didn't know if I would win or lose but he gave me the strongest armor I could have.”

Armed with this newfound knowledge, Gino handed the information to his landlady before the hearing, just as Steve had instructed. They went into mediation, and the landlady withdrew the eviction, waived the back rent, and agreed Gino wouldn't have to pay until the damages were fixed.

In the end, Gino got the outcome he wanted. He believed he shouldn't have to pay for subpar living conditions, and he shouldn't be ignored. And he was right.

“

I'm a different person than I was three years ago, I don't feel like a victim anymore

”



EMPOWERING SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Since she was a child, Emma dreamed about being in the Army. She enlisted at age 17, and started basic training a week after she finished high school.

“Both of my grandfathers and some of my uncles served in the military, and my older sister joined the Navy,” Emma said. “Joining the Army was a chance for me to go out on my own and be a part of something bigger.”

Unfortunately, an injury a year later left Emma discharged from duty. She worked for a while, married a man named Paul, and went to college thanks to support from the GI Bill. She had to stop attending college when she had a high-risk pregnancy with their first of two sons.

Paul physically and sexually abused Emma throughout their relationship. She put up with it at first because she felt dependent on him financially. However, in late 2019, when she saw Paul hit her 3-year-old son for not getting dressed fast enough, she knew she had to act. The next time Paul was at work, Emma packed up all of his things and put them outside. She then told Paul he was no longer welcome in their home.

“I felt a range of emotions,” Emma said. “There was the panic and fear that came from seeing Paul do this to our son, followed by a sense of short-lived peace once we watched him finally drive away.”

Emma obtained a court-issued domestic violence protective order against Paul with the help of state child welfare officials. When Emma sought an official divorce and parenting plan, she doubted she could get the legal protections she needed, as Paul had a lawyer representing him.

“I didn't have any money to hire a lawyer,” she said. “And there were so many papers involved I had no idea how to fill out. The people at Waypoint

suggested I look up NHLA, so I decided to give that a shot.”

“NHLA cannot take all of the cases that are referred to us because of our limited staff,” said Jessica Erazo, director of NHLA's Domestic Violence Advocacy Project. “We prioritize cases with the highest potential for lethal violence. Given the severity of the abuse allegations as well as sexual assault and violence against Emma, I knew NHLA should take this case.”

As Emma's son shared more about the abuse he suffered at the hands of his father, Emma became more determined to keep both children as safe as possible.

“Jessica even had witnesses come in and testify in support of me,” said Emma. “I wouldn't have had the resources for that on my own.”

In April, Emma received final orders for the divorce and parenting case. The orders require Paul to provide child support and complete counseling and parenting classes before he can see the boys again. Jessica also encouraged Emma to see if the VA would increase her disability benefits. After some communication with the VA, Emma's benefits were increased to the maximum allowance, a change Emma calls, “a huge stress relief.”

“None of this would have been possible without Jessica's help,” she said. “She was always there for me in court, and I felt so much more comfortable and confident knowing she had my back.”

The last three and a half years have been difficult for Emma, but she feels stronger than ever after standing up to protect herself and her kids:

“I'm a different person than I was three years ago,” she said. “I don't feel like a victim anymore.”



PROGRAMS GROWING TEAMS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS

For several years, domestic violence and family law work have been the highest-volume practice areas for legal aid in New Hampshire. 2024 marks a moment of internal transitions and growth to better meet this high demand from our client communities.

At NHLA, longtime Domestic Violence Advocacy Project (DVAP) Director and Paralegal Advocate Erin Jasina leaves NHLA to open her own business in the Seacoast. When Erin started at NHLA in 2008, DVAP consisted of only four staff who were able to serve two New Hampshire regions. In the 16 years since, the project has experienced transformative growth and change.

Thanks to increases in federal funding and a first-ever state appropriation specifically for domestic violence work, NHLA has 12 full-time staff assigned to DVAP work in every corner of the state.

Jessica Erazo, a staff attorney with DVAP since 2018, will succeed Erin as project director. She will partner closely with Supervising Attorney Mary Krueger who has more than 15 years of experience as a domestic violence and family law practitioner. Mary will focus on training and supervising NHLA's many newer DVAP staff, who also represent an evolution in our service model.

New Hampshire's "paralegal pilot project," a trailblazing innovation in access to justice nationally, authorizes trained and supervised paralegals to assist clients with low income in certain legal matters – including through courtroom representation. NHLA has hired a corps of new paralegals, poised to extend the reach of legal aid for survivors.

In October 2022, NHLA also began offering domestic violence "clinics" at the Manchester and Nashua courthouses, one half-day per week when domestic

violence and stalking protective order cases are scheduled. NHLA staff attend court on those days and help as many clients as possible. Since starting the clinics, DVAP staff have already closed more than 110 clinic cases, achieving a protective order with more than 70 percent of their clients.

Current trends show that by the end of 2024, NHLA is poised to help twice as many people achieve a protective order as in 2023.

603LA has also experienced transformative changes and growth in its family law practice, with some newly created roles and new faces serving clients and interacting with DOVE Pro Bono volunteers.

Taylor Flagg joined 603LA in May 2023, serving as the DOVE Project Coordinator. In spring of 2024, she was promoted to the newly created role of Family Law Project Manager.

As project manager, Taylor supports the 603LA Legal Director in administratively managing the entire family law team, which has grown in the last 18 months to seven total members.

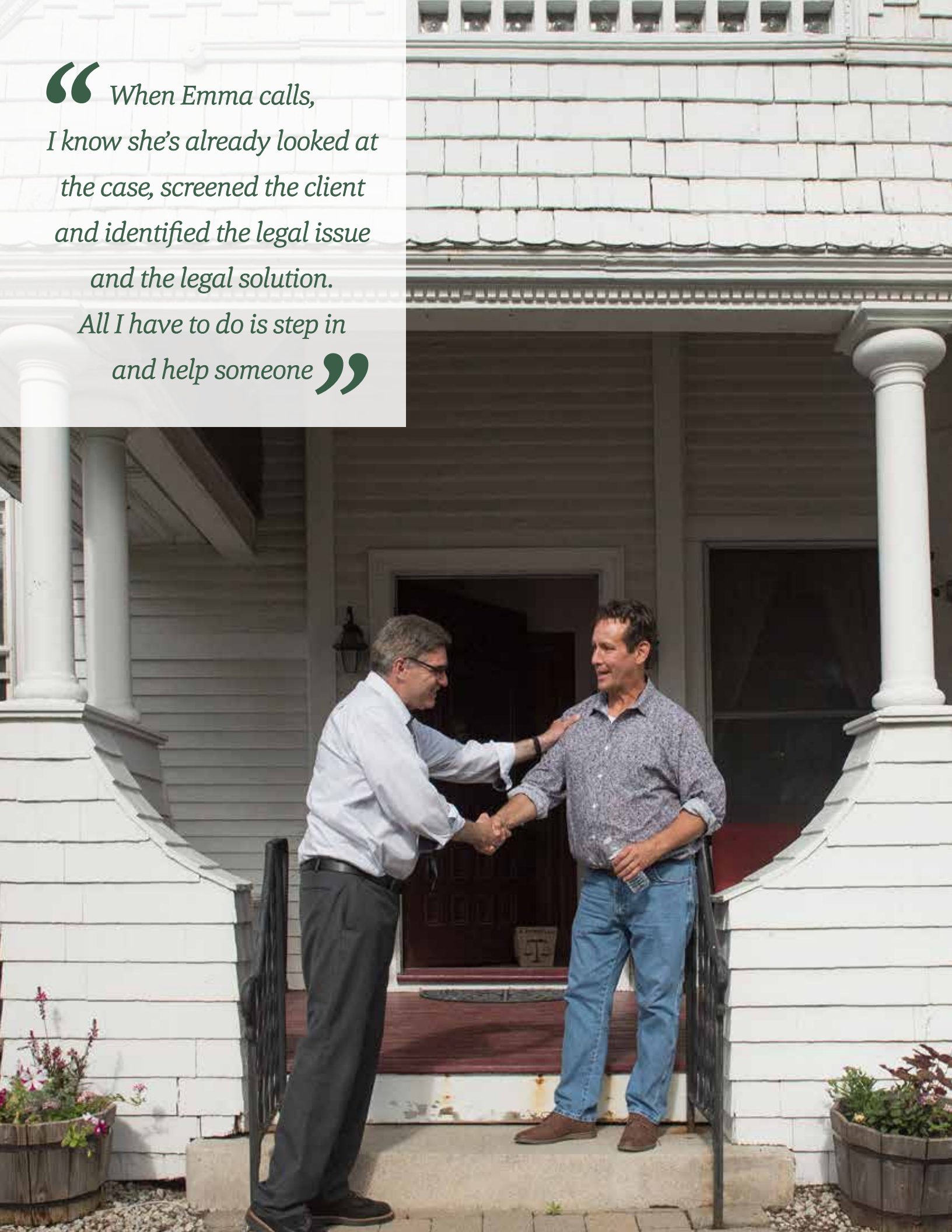
Maggie Florino, who joined 603LA in September 2023 as Assistant DOVE Coordinator, stepped into the Coordinator role. She reconnected with more than 100 former and current Pro Bono volunteers to inspire them to recommit to taking DOVE cases for clients in need.

Other new faces include Dennis Thivierge, Ali Gennaro, Rebecca McKinnon, Kim Lavoie, and Giovan Shepard-Wade. Jeff Goodrich, who served family law clients as a staff attorney at the Legal Advice and Referral Center for more than 20 years, has come out of retirement for part-time work on the project as well.



The domestic violence and family law teams at NHLA (above) and 603LA (left) have grown dramatically over recent years. Still, survivors' need outpace staff capacity and many cases are turned away due to lack of program resources.

“ When Emma calls,
I know she’s already looked at
the case, screened the client
and identified the legal issue
and the legal solution.
All I have to do is step in
and help someone ”



A FRESH START, WITH HELP FROM PRO BONO

Michael remembers his first career started inauspiciously: “At the age of 13, I was given 50 joints to go to school and sell. At 13,” he said.

From there, he quickly accumulated criminal charges. “I look at a 13-year-old now, and they are so precious and so young and impressionable. It’s easy in hindsight to say I shouldn’t have, but all my leaders in my community were into drugs and mental illness and it was bound to happen.”

Flash forward several decades, and Michael had served his time and wanted to clear his conscience and his record.

“I truly believe that for humans to progress in life, forgiveness is needed. I was looking in the rear view, not looking as forward as I wanted,” he said. “I love New Hampshire, from the lakes to the mountains and the trees, and I didn’t want to have feelings of ‘I’m a bad boy’ still following me. I always felt, as I drove around, that I was done with that chapter but New Hampshire hadn’t forgiven me.”

He reached out to 603LA, where Deputy Director Emma Sisti vetted his eligibility for a criminal records annulment, and then called Joe Prieto.

“When Emma calls, I know she’s already looked at the case, screened the client and identified the legal issue and the legal solution. All I have to do is step in and help someone,” says Prieto, who, before starting his own firm, served 10 years as a public defender. “Carrying a criminal record makes it much more likely that you’ll be judged harshly in so many ways.”

“I always said, if I won the lottery, I’d fund a civil defender program. Because as great as the public defender program is, people would say to me, ‘I don’t really care about going to jail, but how do I get my kids back?’ Or they would say, ‘I’m getting evicted, and I don’t really care about this criminal case, I just wanted to make sure my kids have a place to stay.’ I would have to say, ‘I only represent people who might be going to jail.’”

“So as a lawyer, you can make a huge difference for people through these Pro Bono cases.”

Prieto filed petitions to annul 63 convictions for Michael, and represented him during a contested hearing.

“Mr. Prieto and his staff were so wonderful. Through the whole process, they kept my hope alive,” Michael said.

Says Prieto: “Michael was so appreciative of the littlest things that we would do that often other clients take for granted. The gratitude from a Pro Bono client is an influx that helps you as a lawyer want to do more. From a lawyer’s point of view, you don’t see that appreciation on any other case.”

VALUE OF PROFESSIONAL
VOLUNTEER WORK:
\$1MILLION



PRO BONO VOLUNTEERS

The Campaign celebrates the following attorneys and tax professionals who donated their time to the community by accepting cases from 603LA in 2023.

5 or more cases

Coda Campbell
Campbell Law

Kelleigh Gleason
Gleason Legal

Patricia LaFrance
Black, LaFrance & Bollinger

Jennifer Hoover
Hoover & Flynn

Erick MacLeish
Gregg Hunt Ahern & Embry

Rory Parnell
Parnell Michels & McKay

Lyndsay Robinson
Shaheen & Gordon

Leonard Harden

Timothy Harrington

Scott Harris

James Hawthorne

Patrick Hayes

Jody Hodgdon

Robert Hunt

Michele Kenney

Griffin Kmon

James Laffan

Allen Lucas

Heather Menezes

Robert Moore

James Mulligan

Anthony Naro

John Newman

Min Ji (Stephanie) Nham

Alvin Nix

W. Scott O'Connell

Barbara Parker

Ray Raimo

Alice Ranson

Laura Raymond

Amanda Scheldorf

Brian Shaughnessy

James Shepard

Justin Shepherd

Eric Sommers

Tanya Spony

Katherine Stearns

Joanne Stella

Jon Strasburger

David Tencza

Laura Tetrault

Kayla Turner

James Valz

Jennifer Warburton

Robert Wells

At least 2 cases

Gary Apfel

Leif Becker

Quentin Blaine

Sandra Bloomenthal

Ryan Borden

Nicholas Brodich

Amy Cann

Justin Caramagno

Paul Chant

Joseph Cherniske

Kevin Collimore

Ryan Correia

John Crabbs

Michael Croteau

Suzanne Decker

Jessica Ecker

Kristin Fields

Michael Fisher

William Gillen

Wilbur Glahn

Joshua Gordon

At least 1 case

Ronald Abramson

Mark Anderson

Stephanie Annunziata

David Azarian

Nancy Barbour

Cindy Beaulac

Shawna Bentley

Randi Bouchard

Courtney Brooks

Caroline Brown

Vera Buck

Stephanie Burnham

Christian Burroughs

James Callahan

Bryan Clickner

Patrick Closson

Alexandra Cote

Jack Crisp

Sara Crisp

R. Peter Decato

Robert Dietel

Peter Doyle

Dennis Ducharme

Richard Follender

Edmond Ford

Richard Gaudreau

Richard Guerriero

Dennis Haley

Thomas Hanna

Daniel Hartley

Catherine Hines

John Hughes

Alexie Johnson

Matthew Johnson

Philip Kalil

Christopher Kelley

Sandra Kenney

Amber Kovach

Dat La

Elizabeth Lahey

Gena Lavallee

Jacqueline Leary

Leslie Leonard

Madeline Lewis

Sean List

Pamela Little

Thomas McCue

Catherine McKay

Kathleen McKenzie

RJ Meurin

Brittney Millay

Steven Minutelli

Katie Mosher

Mona Movafaghi

Catherine Napjus

Jesse O'Neill

Matthew Passalacqua

Christopher Paul

Emily Peterson

Caitlin Poole

Michael Racine

Jesse Redlener

Edward Reichert

Hilary Rheume

Scott Rosenthal

Charles Russell

Brittani Schanstine

Tara Schoff

Tony Sculimbrene

Catherine Shanelaris

Ashley Sheehan

Kirk Simoneau

Aaron Simpson

Benjamin Siracusa Hillman

Vineesha Sow

Peter Tamposi

Roy Tilsley

Nancy Tomasko

Elizabeth Velez

Solal Wanstok

John Warren

Phil Waystack

Christopher West

Stephen White

Matthew Zahn



Lyndsay Robinson is the 2023 Bruce Friedman Award winner, and was recognized for that award in large part because of her incredible dedication to pro bono. Lyndsay is willing to assist on just about any pro bono matter, from DOVE cases, to divorces, to tax cases, to participating in the 603LA eviction pro bono clinic. In 2023 Lyndsay has donated more than 40 hours on behalf of 9 individuals.



Bill Glahn has had a long track record of pro bono work, taking his first pro bono case in 2002. In 2023 he re-engaged with pro bono work, joining the 603LA DOVE panel. Since joining the DOVE panel, Bill has taken on some of the most difficult protective and stalking order cases of the year, providing nearly 75 hours of service.



John Laboe's 45 hours in 2023 come solely from one case where he has helped a low-income taxpayer fend off IRS attempts to collect on unpaid income tax. He is still working with the client to help her get into uncollectable status so she can avoid a nearly \$20K tax bill.



Coda Campbell is a 2023 graduate of UNH Law and a Daniel Webster Scholar. Immediately upon graduation she began taking pro bono cases with the 603LA DOVE Project. To date she has assisted clients in 12 cases at a total of nearly 100 hours, helping victims obtain protective orders that provide them with safety and security so they can extricate themselves from dangerous relationships.



Scott O'Connell: While Scott has been a dedicated volunteer since 1998, taking a range of case types, he focused his pro bono work in 2023 on protective order cases. Scott's advocacy has improved outcomes for victims of domestic violence in four different cases with more than 50 hours of service.

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 2023, this support again broke all previous Campaign records, bringing nearly \$570,000 of private support for equal access to justice.

Pionering Leaders \$20,000+



Visionary Leaders \$10,000+



Champions of Justice \$5,000+



Partners in Justice (\$2,500 – \$4,999)

Dartmouth Health
Drummond Woodsum & MacMahon
Fidelity Investments
Lothstein Guerriero, PLLC
Nixon Peabody LLP
Pierce Atwood, LLP
Rath, Young and Pignatelli, P.C.
RiverStone Resources LLC
Sulloway & Hollis, P.L.L.C.

(\$1,000 – \$2,499)

Ansell & Anderson, P.A.
Bank of New Hampshire
Catholic Medical Center
Donahue, Tucker & Ciandella, P.L.L.C.
Enterprise Bank
Eversource
Gottesman & Hollis, P.A.
Hinckley, Allen & Snyder, LLP
Jackson Lewis P.C.
Mainstay Technologies
Merrimack County Savings Bank
New Hampshire Bar Association
NH Community Loan Fund

NH Housing Finance Authority
Normandin, Cheney & O'Neil, P.L.L.C.
Parnell Michels & McKay PLLC
Patrons Oxford Insurance Company
Planet Fitness
Rivermist Capital Inc
Saint Mary's Bank
Shaheen & Gordon, P.A.
Terri L. Pastori
Town Fair Tire Foundation, Inc.

(up to \$999)

Cardinal Consulting, LLC
Congregation Ahavas Achim
Connelly Reporting & Video Services, Inc.
Elliot Health System
Engage R & D Inc
JPMorgan Chase Foundation
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
NH Planners
Paralegal Association of New Hampshire
Seacoast VW LLC
Travelers Insurance
UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law



United Way

The Campaign is grateful to the following people who designated their gifts to the United Way to benefit civil legal aid.

Jeanette Bilodeau
Kimberly Boone
James D. Christon
Brad and Kathleen Cook
Stephen R. Eckberg
Rebeka M. Fortess
John A. Hattan
Jeffrey Kelcourse
Sean R. Locke
Abbygale Martinen Dow
George Moore
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John T. Pendleton
Norm and Pat Turcotte
David Wolowitz

Thank You, Pacesetter Firms

These generous firms make a commitment of \$500 or more per NH-licensed attorney, providing a bedrock foundation of support for the Campaign.

Ansell & Anderson

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Alyssa Graham Garrigan

Bernstein Shur

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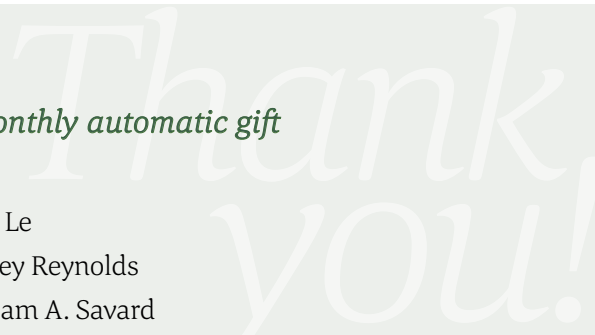
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Remembering Larry Edelman

Former legal aid board member Larry Edelman passed unexpectedly on August 3, 2023 following a brief illness. The Campaign was honored with generous support in his memory from friends and colleagues last year.

Larry was born in 1956 in Brooklyn, New York. His family traveled extensively, exposing Larry and his sister Maura to different cultures, languages and ways of life. Inspired by the film *To Kill a*

Mockingbird, Larry pursued a legal career, based mostly with the firms of Sanders & McDermott and Pierce Atwood.

His story and life will live on through his wife, Heidi Bement, daughters Olivia and Gilda, his grandchildren, family and countless friends. He is predeceased by his sister, his parents, and his late wife, Barbara Edelman.

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Honoring Elliott Berry

At our 2023 Campaign Kickoff Breakfast, friends, colleagues, and family gathered to celebrate Elliott Berry upon his retirement after 47 years at NHLA. His time at NHLA shaped civil legal policy and practice, and he has served as a mentor to generations of legal aid advocates.

In accepting the 2023 John E. Tobin Jr., Justice Award, Elliott movingly paid tribute to the reasons he stayed at NHLA for 47 years:

"The barriers that prevent our clients and their families from escaping poverty are far too numerous to mention. Some, such as domestic and sexual violence, housing discrimination,

or state and local welfare regulations which undercut the programs' own humanitarian goals, can be addressed through legal remedies. Some barriers are as big as our economic system, and institutional racism.

All I know is that in spite of all the barriers, our clients endure. To be able to provide some meaningful help along the way was reason enough to come to work every day. But most often it was through the clients' own blood, sweat and tears that they navigated the minefield that is poverty. They are the ones who deserve an award, not me."

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Elliott speaks with 603LA board members Brittany Hunt and Nora Fiore



Elliott with his daughter Meggie Harvey, wife Campbell Harvey and son Jake Berry

In response to the growing demand for our services, and to address the unmet need, the Campaign for Legal Services has established the Leadership Circle to recognize those in our community who prioritize access to justice with support of \$1,000 or more each year. These are our charter members.

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LEADERSHIP CIRCLE MEMBER PROFILE DODD AND MISTY GRIFFITH

Service has been an undercurrent in the entirety of Dodd and Misty Griffith's lives. He was an Eagle Scout in his West Texas hometown. She was tapped for multiple fundraising campaigns as an undergraduate sorority leader.

Luckily for Concord and New Hampshire, the pair, who met in law school, settled here in 1990 and have been giving back ever since.

Gallagher, Callahan & Gartrell, where Dodd has practiced for more than 30 years, has been a committed Campaign Pacesetter law firm for decades, making an annual gift equal to \$500 per attorney. Dodd and Misty began amplifying this commitment with a Leadership Circle gift in 2020.

"We just really feel that if it's going to be our gift, it needs to come from us. We always want to be sure we're putting our money where our mouth is," Dodd said.

"And then, you can see so clearly what a huge impact legal aid has on people's lives and that makes you think about what you can do to help people within your skillset. I am pretty clearly a business attorney, but I try to share that in the ways I can."

He has helped neighbors and members of his church community who are facing overbearing debt collections calls, and has arranged for Gallagher's regular participation in LawLine – even on Valentine's Day.

"Our involvement in the community has been purposeful. My parents always highlighted to me, you can't just sit in your own little bubble," Dodd said.



Misty, who has been Member Services Supervisor at the NH Bar since 2020, agreed.

"The housing stories we hear about today are so sad, and sometimes you hear about the unequal access to money in some divorces that lead to some desperate situations. I'm very proud of the work we do, but taking Pro Bono cases isn't an option for us. Giving to the Campaign is a way to contribute when going to court isn't in the cards."

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In 2023, NHLA and 603LA benefitted from more than 1,703 hours of volunteer service, primarily from law students and retired attorneys. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers!

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Maria Dalterio	Arya Novinbakht
Brianna Hankel	Katie Taylor
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NHLA MISSION STATEMENT

New Hampshire Legal Assistance is a nonprofit law firm working to make justice a reality for and with people who experience economic hardship that threatens their basic human needs. Through representation and systemic advocacy, NHLA offers civil legal aid that addresses the effects and root causes of poverty.

We offer high-quality civil legal aid ranging from simple legal information and advice to vigorous and thorough representation in all of New Hampshire's courts and before numerous local, state and federal agencies.

603 LEGAL AID MISSION STATEMENT

603 Legal Aid is a civil legal aid provider offering legal representation, advocacy, and education. In partnership with volunteer attorneys and community organizations, 603 Legal Aid works to make justice a reality for and with people who experience economic hardship that threatens their basic human needs.

603 Legal Aid helps low-income people by providing free civil legal advice and information by telephone, by representing someone in court, or through a referral to a volunteer attorney or another program for legal help.

If you know someone who needs help with a non-criminal legal problem, contact 603 Legal Aid.

You or your client can apply for legal help from this website at any time.

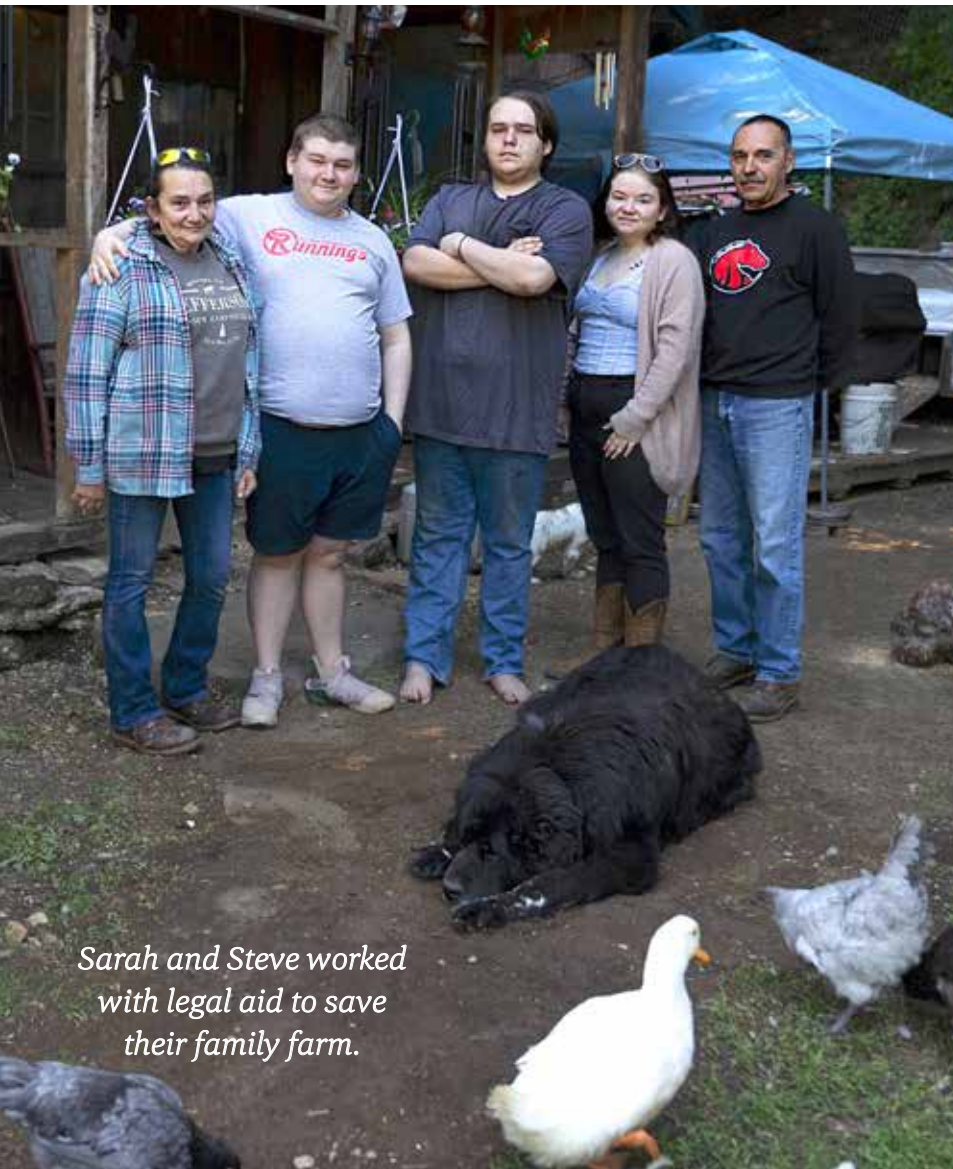
Call 1 (800) 639-5290 or (603) 224-3333 from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM on Monday through Thursday.

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Sarah and Steve worked with legal aid to save their family farm.

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