

Atlanta Legal Aid Society's mission is to provide free civil legal assistance to help people in need access justice to protect their rights and secure their safety and stability.



2025

ANNUAL REPORT

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Imerys





STAFF APPRECIATION EVENT

OCTOBER 7, 2025 | DELTA FLIGHT MUSEUM, ATLANTA

On October 7, 2025, we honored our staff at the Delta Flight Museum — a milestone setting for a milestone year, as Delta's centennial coincided with our own. We celebrated 26 dedicated team members in 2025 with service awards recognizing their commitment spanning from 5 to 35 years. The morning included a tour of the newly renovated museum, staff service awards recognizing our team members for their years of dedication, and remarks from Michele Carson-Vaughn, Delta's Managing Director of Airport Customer Service. Made possible by board member Erin H. Harris, the event was a well-earned celebration of the people behind our mission.



LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our second century got off to a busy and successful start!

Celebrating Our Staff.

Thanks to the generosity of Delta Airlines, celebrating its centennial in 2025, we hosted a Staff Appreciation brunch at the Delta Flight Museum. This was a token of our appreciation for each of the talented and hardworking attorneys, paralegals, navigators, receptionists, and administrative staff who ensure we are providing excellent, holistic, empathic service to our nearly 20,000 clients each year.

\$25 Million in Rental & Utility Assistance.

We successfully closed out our two-year Eviction Prevention Initiative with the Department of Community Affairs to facilitate rental assistance to help people facing eviction stay housed. Through our efforts, we provided legal advice to more than 2100 low-income families, securing more than \$25M in rental and utility assistance.

Intake is Centralized!

Thanks to generous multi-year funding, we completed the process of centralizing telephone and online intake into a new Centralized Intake Unit (CIU). Twenty-one dedicated staff now serve as the first point of contact for potential clients, connecting them to representation, advice, self-help resources, or referral sooner, and freeing our advocates to focus on extended services for more clients. Read more about CIU on page 9.

Gwinnett Office on the Move!

Following our successful relocation of the South Fulton office to Clayton County in 2024, we relocated our Gwinnett office in late 2025. Open house coming soon!

Executive Leadership Team.

We strengthened our Executive Leadership Team to support our growing firm and its needs, welcoming a Director of Information Technology, Director of Human Resources, a Senior Director of Development, and a Director of Advocacy.

Strategic Plan.

In 2025, the Board of Directors approved a consultant-led Strategic Plan and detailed 2026 Action Plans to focus our efforts to best serve the clients of today and tomorrow. We revised our mission statement and established five focus areas: Clients, Funding, Staff, Infrastructure, and Community. A few highlights:

- We are conducting a robust legal needs assessment in 2026 to identify unmet needs in our service area, and enable targeted outreach to those individuals.
- We also are assessing how we are structured to ensure effective, efficient, and empathic client service. That assessment led to merging the Fulton Domestic Relations Unit and the Fulton General Law Unit into a Fulton Office. This brings the management of this work in line with similar services in our other offices. It facilitates cross-training and broader professional development, while ensuring holistic client services.
- We continue to enhance our technological resources to support staff. Check out everything we've done on Page 9.

Of course, not everything was a celebration.

Water, Water Everywhere, and a Fallen Window:

In 2025, several offices experienced water incursions. The worst hit our downtown office at 54 Ellis Street, where a water fountain failed over a weekend and staff arrived Monday morning to a waterfall cascading down several floors. A major storm also blew out a conference room window. Thankfully, both happened over weekends and no one was hurt. We love our beautiful, historic building, and these incidents have sharpened our focus on the comfort, safety, and security of our staff, clients, and visitors.

The 2025 Funding Climate Was Challenging, But Could Have Been Worse.

Of course, as a non-profit law firm, funding is always top of mind. Thirty percent of our revenue comes from the Legal Services Corporation (LSC), which is funded by Congress. Early in 2025, the Administration proposed eliminating most of LSC's funding. The House Appropriations Committee recommended a 46% reduction, and the Senate Appropriations Committee recommended slightly more than level funding. When the dust settled and the ink dried, our LSC funding was cut by 3.8%. While \$198K is significant, it could have been much worse. Thanks to the generosity of many lawyers, law firms, corporate law departments, friends, local and state governments, and private foundations, and our own stewardship to reduce expenses, we entered 2026 with a solid budget. The most important part of that budget is a second round of salary increases to be implemented in mid-2026.

What's in store for 2026?

Groundhog Day. Déjà vu. Here we go again. LSC's funding is again in question. However, civil legal services have broad bipartisan support, and I am cautiously optimistic about FY2027. Also, we have a more robust Development Team focused on diversifying our funding. We continue to focus on the things we can control: serving our clients to the best of our ability; sharing our successes; streamlining operations and reducing expenses as long as it does not adversely affect our staff and client services; and pursuing new funding from diverse sources including our natural constituency, as well as others who believe in social justice. I will continue my quest to normalize our compensation so we can continue to hire, compensate, and retain great talent.

To each of you who supported us financially and/or by volunteering, thank you from the bottom of my heart. We need you now more than ever, so I hope you will respond favorably when we reach out to you.

Sincerely,



Rita A. Sheffey
Executive Director

OUTSTANDING OUTCOMES

Here are some of our 2025 outstanding outcomes.

Family Law
Adoption, adult guardianship, birth certificate correction, custody, legitimation, visitation, divorce/separation, name changes, paternity, temporary protective order, child support, and alimony
6,771
Cases in 2025

6,960
Cases in 2025
Housing Law
Denial of housing, foreclosure, landlord/tenant, mortgage loan problems, public/subsidized housing.

Individual Rights Law
Disability rights, Issues/services related to living with mental illness, and other individual rights.
201
Cases in 2025

1,353
Cases in 2025
Estate Planning and Related Documents
Wills, advanced directives, powers of attorney

Consumer Law
Bankruptcy, car title/registration, consumer loans, contract problems, eviction records, credit report issues, garnishments, car repossessions, Major car repair issues, utility problems
1,824
Cases in 2025

180
Cases in 2025
Kinship Law
Attorneys help caregivers navigate the courts to establish a stable legal relationship with the child, including:

- Guardianship proceedings
- Custody arrangements
- Relative adoptions

Health Law
Legal Aid staff address legal issues such as substandard housing conditions or benefit denials impacting health.
681
Cases in 2025

202
Cases in 2025
Education Law
Special Education & IEP Advocacy: Assisting children with disabilities in securing Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and the necessary services to help them succeed in school.

Discipline & Expulsion: Representing students facing unfair or excessive disciplinary actions, school suspensions, or expulsions.

Alternative School Placements: Advocating for students inappropriately placed in alternative programs, ensuring they have access to an equitable and

Employment Law
Veteran's benefits, food stamps, Social Security, disability, Temporary Assistance For Needy Families (TANF)
96
Cases in 2025

19,505 TOTAL CASES

OUTSTANDING OUTCOMES

Calls Answered by GA Senior Legal Aid

8,009

Education/Outreach Events

95

Free Legal Clinics

923

Pro Bono Volunteers

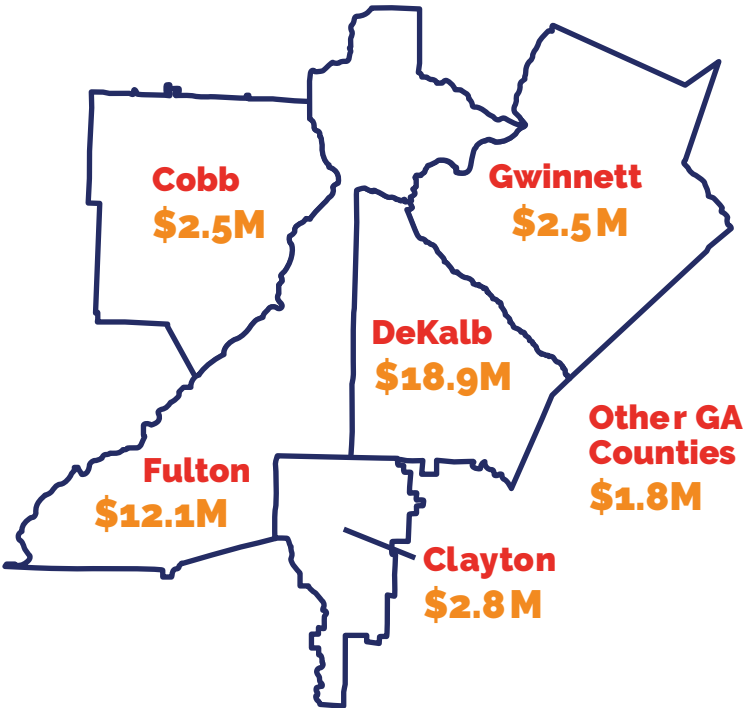
579

25,504

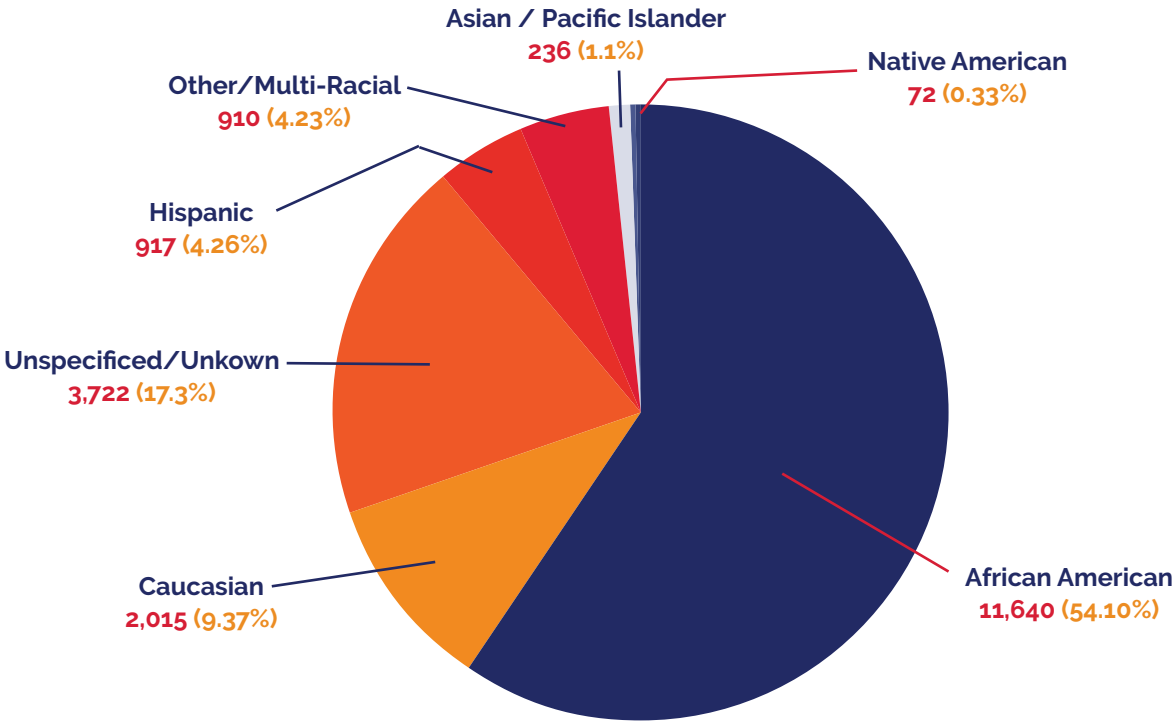
TOTAL PEOPLE HELPED



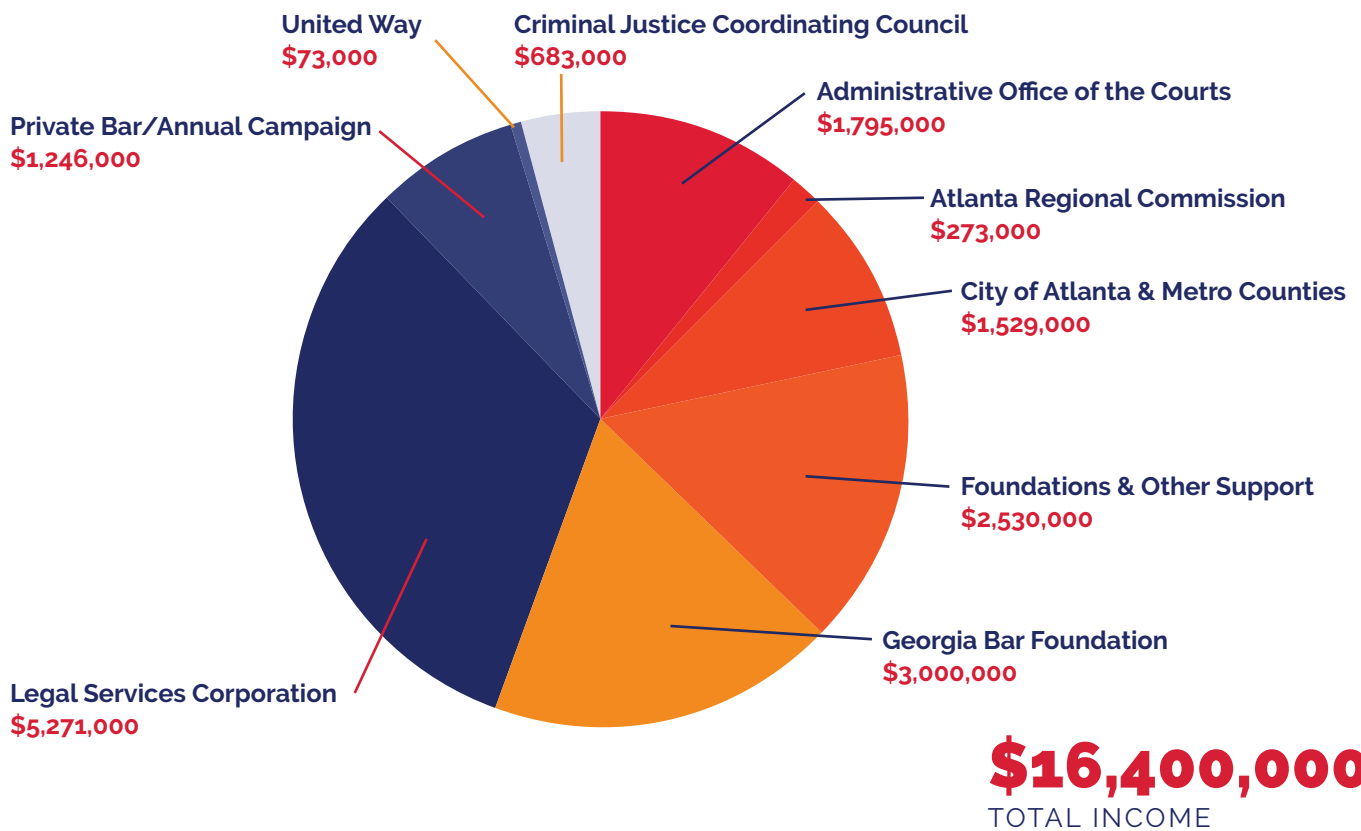
OUR ECONOMIC IMPACT



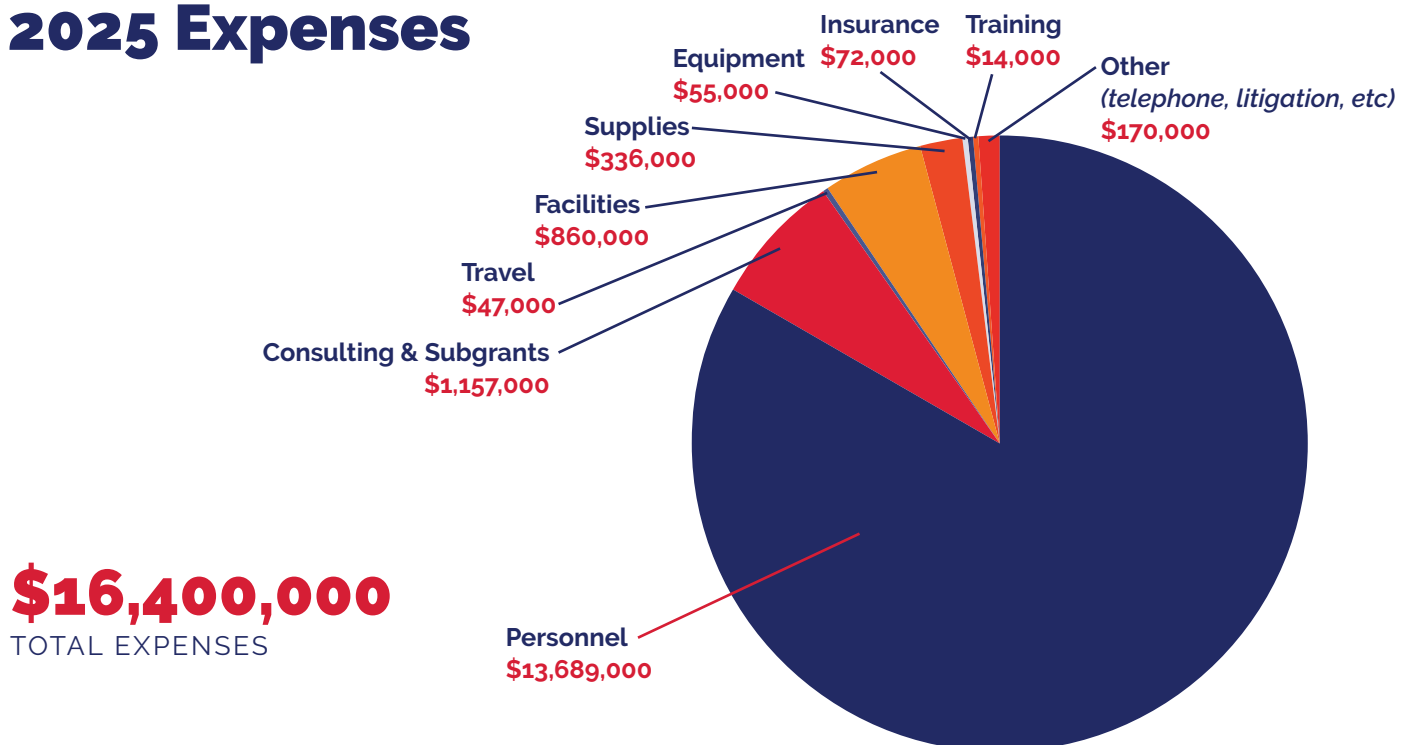
OUR CLIENTS AT A GLANCE



2025 Revenue



2025 Expenses



CLIENT SUCCESS STORIES

ADVOCACY IN ACTION - HOUSING

In 2019, Mr. and Mrs. S*, both 78, faced foreclosure, and were tricked into signing away their home's title to a scammer. A "neighbor" offered a small loan to stop foreclosure but secretly had the elderly couple sign over their property title.

Our Senior Citizen Law Project and Home Defense Unit intervened, secured appellate victories voiding the fraud, and negotiated a \$650,000 settlement after the scammer declared bankruptcy on the eve of the 2025 jury trial. Today, the couple remains safely in their home. The Court of Appeals' decision also now serves as a powerful legal framework to fight similar foreclosure rescue scams.

*all names changed to protect the clients privacy

ADVOCACY IN ACTION - FAMILY LAW

Ms. K* came to Legal Aid seeking assistance with a divorce involving a minor child. The relationship included a history of domestic violence, and she was focused on creating a safer, more stable future for herself and her children. In addition to custody concerns, Ms. K owned a home that was considered marital property. She and her children lived there, and she feared losing the home during the division of property in the divorce.

We represented Ms. K throughout the proceedings and advocated for both her safety and long-term financial stability. We successfully obtained a divorce on her behalf, and she was granted sole legal and sole physical custody of her minor son. The court continued child support under a pre-existing order. The court also restored her maiden name and granted exclusive ownership and control of the home.

As a result, Ms. K and her children were able to remain in their home, and she could move forward from the marriage and the domestic violence she survived. Without legal representation, she may have lost ownership of her home and faced a less favorable custody arrangement. She can now continue her life in an affordable, safe home that she owns outright.

*all names changed to protect the clients privacy

ADVOCACY IN ACTION - CONSUMER LAW

In 2024, Reena* was in a car accident and took her car to be repaired. The repair shop caused even more damage to the vehicle and refused to fix their mistakes. An attorney in our Centralized Intake Unit advised the client on how she could sue the car dealership. Reena sued the car dealership on her own and obtained a \$3,000 judgment.

In 2026, Reena returned to us for assistance with collecting on judgment. Reena got her car repaired and was paid the \$3,000 judgment!

*all names changed to protect the clients privacy

CLIENT SUCCESS STORIES

ADVOCACY IN ACTION - PUBLIC BENEFITS

Kiera* entered the military immediately after high school, motivated by a desire for structure and a clear path toward her future. Her plan was abruptly derailed when she became the victim of sexual abuse by a fellow service member, an experience that deeply impacted her life and mental health.

After leaving the military, Kiera applied for disability benefits related to PTSD, but the VA initially denied her claim. Unsure of what to do next, she reached out to our Veterans Legal Program (VLP) for help navigating the complex appeals process.

With our attorney's support, the VA approved Kiera's disability claim. She received more than \$40,000 in back pay and now has ongoing monthly benefits, providing long-overdue financial stability and recognition of the harm she endured.

*all names changed to protect the clients privacy



SPECIAL PROJECTS SPOTLIGHT

VETERANS LAW PROJECT

Our Veterans Law Project (VLP) handles a variety of civil legal matters for Veterans including eviction defense, VA benefits, public benefits and health insurance, access to appropriate support services, disability rights, poor housing conditions, end-of-life planning, family law, and consumer law.

QUICK 2025 VLP FACTS:

Cases closed: 903

Outcomes (primarily due to rental assistance secured): \$1,156,336

Top 3 legal categories assisted with:

- **housing (44%)**
- **income maintenance (23%)**
- **family law (17%)**

CENTRALIZED INTAKE UNIT

CIU Data

In 2025, we launched our Centralized Intake Unit (CIU) to enhance consistency and responsiveness across our five-county service area. CIU officially began handling live intake calls for DeKalb County on April 9, and expanded to Cobb County on May 21, with the other counties following. We also continue to accept applications through our online intake portal, which is accessible 24/7. Our offices are generally open 9am to 5pm, Monday through Friday.

Potential clients are screened by trained CIU staff, intake specialists, paralegals, and attorneys. They gather eligibility information, assess legal issues, and either provide brief legal services or refer eligible applicants for full representation. To maximize our impact, we collaborate with volunteer attorneys and legal partners to handle select cases that align with their expertise, allowing us to serve more clients efficiently.

This approach has reduced wait times, improved consistency in client service, and freed up staff attorneys to take on more complex matters in court and administrative hearings.

INNOVATION AT LEGAL AID



**MEET
LAVA**

**LEGAL
AID
VIRTUAL
ASSISTANT**

LAVA is a chatbot designed by Atlanta Legal Aid and LawDroid to answer your questions about civil law in Georgia.

How do I get Medicaid?

Ask LAVA

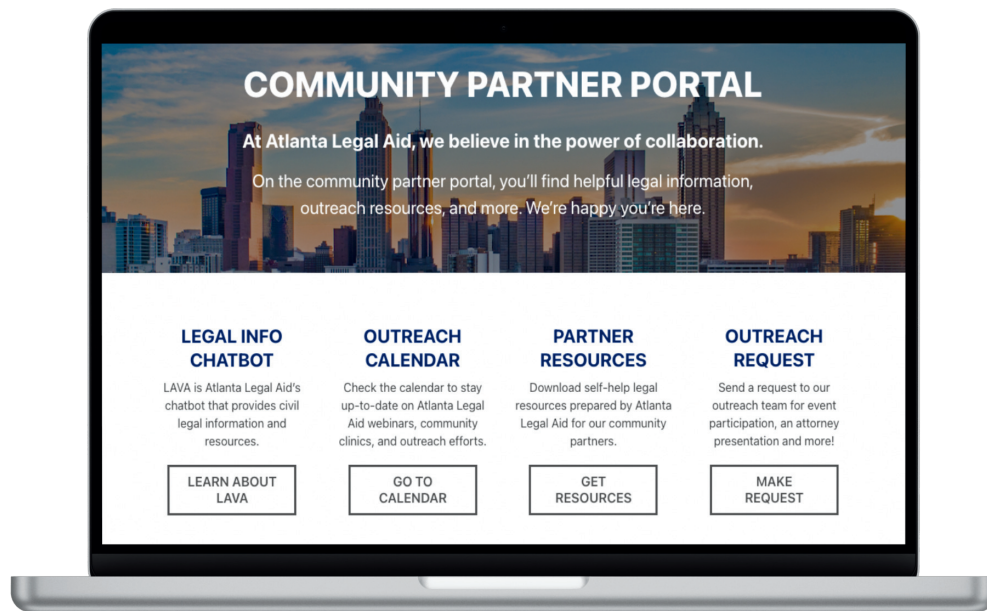
Ask LAVA a question at atlantalegalaid.org

IT AT LEGAL AID

We continue to invest in technologies that help increase access to justice across metro Atlanta. In 2025, through a Technology Innovation Grant from the Legal Services Corporation, we launched two tools: the Community Partner Portal and LAVA (Legal Aid Virtual Assistant).

Developed with input from our partners, the Community Partner Portal serves as a hub for community organizations to connect with Legal Aid and find legal education resources.

Also in 2025, we began carefully adopting AI-supported tools to improve internal efficiency, practice management, and strengthen service delivery. We also continued to emphasize responsible and appropriate AI use.



Introducing Our New Community Partner Portal

PRO BONO AT ATLANTA LEGAL AID

The Power of Pro Bono: Advancing Justice Together

In 2025, our mission was supported by 579 volunteer attorneys, law students, and other professionals who donated over 9,000 hours of their time. This incredible investment of time transformed lives through vital advice calls, courthouse clinics, and full case representation. We are very grateful - the collective effort significantly amplified our reach, allowing us to provide critical legal support and ensuring justice is accessible. Thank you!

Looking Ahead: Building the Future of Service

To further enhance this impact, we were honored to receive a three-year grant from the LSC Pro Bono Innovation Fund in October 2025. This funding allows us to modernize and transform our program into a proactive, client-centered, and impactful program across our five-county service area. Guided by a 2024 planning grant, we are reorganizing the pro bono staffing structure, streamlining internal processes, integrating with our new centralized intake system, and standardizing volunteer training and resources. Join us and experience the impact of pro bono:

atlantalegalaid.org/volunteer

PRO BONO VOLUNTEERS

We are grateful for these pro bono volunteers that gave of their time in 2025 to Legal Aid.

Amira Abassi	Nneka Obianuju Asika	Dominique Best	Jenna Brittle
Mario Lee Adkins	J. Kai Avery	Esther Best	Caleb Britton
Oluwatobi Ajimoko	Cristina Azcoitia	Robert Bexley	Ashley Brown
Mariam Akbar	Julia Bahms	Ta'lor Billups	Nicole Brown
Ashley Akins	Tim Bailey	Damon Bivek	Melanie Brubaker
Austin Albertson	Amina Bakari	Paul Black	Marquetta Bryan
Austin Alexander	Kyla Baker	Catie Blackwell	Lauren Bryant
Madison Alexander	Lauren Baker	Laura Blakeslee	Joshua Buffa
Saif Ali	Shibani Baksi	Alyssa Blanchard	Michael Burnett
Jessie Altman	Robert Ballard	Sean Blank	Meridith Bush
Olivia Amerson	Rachel Barrick	Elaine Blanks-Green	Jada Butler
Nicholas Ames	Laura Barron	Aileen Bleach	Kayla Butler
Tala Amirfazli	Samantha Bartley	Lisa Bliss	Shauna Byrnes
Patricia Ammari	Carol Baskin	Lorie Blount	Gabriella Cabrera
Ashly Anderson	Ashley Bays	Keona Blunt	Deja Cagle
Brittany Anderson	Nia Beamon	Kyle Boehme	Matthew Calvert
Laura Anderson	Carlos Becerra-Gomez	Jennifer Bonieja	Andrew Cameron
Lori Anderson	Bridget Beier	Britnie Bontrager	Pia Candotti-Sherman
Kimberly Andrews	Griffin Bell III	Nick Booth	Imani Capers
Mary Jane Apostle	Gabrielle Benacin	Grace Bowman	Matthew Caplan
Alexandra Apple	John Bennett	Shireen Bowman	Jason Carlton
Miriam Archibong	Kaylee Benton	Lila Bradley	Stephanie Carman
Natalyn Archibong	Kadejia Berkley	Humayra Bramblett	Elizabeth Carter
Marianne Arrington	Sheraya Bernard	Jude Brandt	Jalen Carter

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Torryn Carter	Tessa Deardorff	MacKenzie Gansert	Joseph Hill
J. Wickliffe Cauthorn	Bridget Deehan	Jonathan Garcia	Katherine Hill
Marijane Cauthorn Sanders	Siji Deleawe	Kynna Garner	Rhonda Hill
Dena Cecil	Shreya Desai	Philip Garnett	Sheridan Hill
Derek Centola	Brittany DeVillers	Nancy Ghertner	Derrick Hinton II
Ophelia Chan	Lauren Didelot	Jameson Glenn	Brianna Hira
Kelley Chandler	Carolyn Dinberg	Vanathi Gnanam	Betsy Hodges
Lynnette Chard	Hannah Doherty	Corey Goerd	James Hogan
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David Cheng	Rachel Duffy	Samuel Goldstein	Joy Hong
Rita Cherry	Patrick Dunlap	Shadaia Gooden	Donald Horace
Katherine Chew	Xavier Dyer	Charlotte Graddock	Watson Horner
Donna Christian	Amila Dzebo	Zoe Grant	Aleia Hornsby
Lindsey Churchill	Deborah Ebel	Courtney Simone Graves	Zhihan Hu
Sarah Cipperly	Megan Eckel	Timothy "TJ" Graves	Crystal Huffman
Ashley Clark	Patricia McKenzie Edwards	Irma Griffith-Steele	Randall Hughes
Matt Cline	Regina Edwards	Natalie Griggs	Kisha Irvins
Tamara Cline	Bert Eidson	E. Ann Guerrant	Kathryn Isted
Leah Cohen	Christine Emello	Chassidy Janese Guidry	Deborah Jackson
Neil Cohen	Patrick Emery	Dianna Hacker	Ladasiah Jackson
Shenika Collier	Philip Erickson	Ashley Hairston	Tamara Jackson
Dennis Collins	Marcia Ernst	Carey Haley	DeBetta James
Tyler Comer	Mia Falcon	Victor Haley	Jim Jenkins
Kathleen Cornett	Ian Falcone	Natasha Halloran	Megan Jerome
Sylvia Coulon	Madeline Felts	Kellie Halpin	Danielle Le Jeune
Lucas Benjamin Cowan	Jessica Fields	Halil Hampton	Augustine Jimenez
Scott Creasman	Megan Richards Flores	Lynice Hannah	Surinder Chadha Jimenez
Adrienne Culver	Anissa Floyd	Glenise Harris-Wilson	Shahzaib Jiواني
Dionne Cutting	Sean Fogarty	Brooke Harrison	Amber Johnson
Matthew Daigle	Michelle Folsom	Leila Harrison	Ben Johnson
Caroline Dailey	Tracey Foster	Helen Hart	Fabienne Johnson
Mike Dalton	Sally Fox	Holly Hart	Precious Johnson
Deborah Dance	Susan Foxworth	Cameron Hastings	Tamika Johnson
C'vita Dancy	Dina Franch	Chelsey Haun	Averi Jones
Alexa Lee Dato	Ken Franklin	Shaqoria Hay	Camille Jones
Melissa Davies	Marcia Freeman	Jake Head	Cherae Jones
Chandra Davis	Martha Sue French	Kathryn Hecker	Duane Jones
Kimberlynn Davis	Laura Friedman	Susan Heikkila	Harmony Jones
Michelle Davis	Lauren Frisch	Jordan Hendrick	Joshua Jones
Canah Dawson	Judith Fuller	Amber Hendrix	Kiara Jones
Kailyn Day	Virginia Fuller	Dorian Henriquez-Simons	L'Zandra Jones
Dawn de Klerk	Olga Gambini	Thomas Hiett	Claire Jordan

PRO BONO VOLUNTEERS

Sherley Joseph-Roper	Ashley Lightsey	Aaron Monick	Eric Pettis
Flannery Josey	Marvin Lim	Andrew Montgomery	Emilie Pfister
Robert Hughes Jr.	Alex Limeres	Estefany Montoya	Sarah Hannah Phillips
Emily Kang	Rachel St. Louis	Dominique Moore	Amy Pleasance
Bryan Kaplan	Naomi Lumpkin	Kevin Moore	Samantha Podlas
Quinn Kasper	Matthew Lundy	Tracie Morgan	Jill Pope
Sean Kasper	Kristen Mackenzie	Paula Moseley	Davis Postell
Nicole Katapodis	Sarah Mancini	Amanda Moulthrop	Olivia Potthast
Moe Katchen	Michaela Manley	Yesenia Muhammad	Ray-Kelle Preston
Jonathan Kaufman	Radha Manthe	Julie Naanes	Sarah Price
Simran Kaur	Olivia Marbutt	Raina Nadler	Benjamin Privitera
Rachel Keefe	Ted Marcus	Sruthi Navneetha	Sarah Quattrocchi
Rachel Keller	Precious Marsh	Aury Naylor	Katrina Quicker
Claudia Kelly-Bazan	Roderick Martin	Nikki Nekoei	Margaret Quinlan
Allyson Kemp	Jasmine Mathis	Grace Nelmes	Erik Raaum
Robert Kennedy	Max Mauldin	Colby Nelson	Cary Racioppi
Jeffrey Kershaw	Feyisara Maxime	Ugoola Nnawulezi	Michael Rafter
Stacie Kershner	Mary McCallum	Beth Nordhorn	Kristen Rajagopal
Dina Khismatulina	Michelle McClafferty	Lindsey Novikoff	Olivia Ramage
Hans Khoe	Emily Elizabeth McClarty	Kayla O'Brien	Michelle Rapoport
Daryl Kidd	Jamala McFadden	Lynne O'Brien	Hailey Ray
Matthew Kirk	Sarah McGee	Rebekah Whittington	Josie Redwine
Joshua Kirschner	Sadie McIntyre	O'Brien	Steve Reed
Vanessa Kosky	Candice McKinley	Jennifer O'Connor	Adam Reichel
Savannah Steele Kuntz	Danielle Hoyer McWaters	Ashley O'Neil	Balean Reid
Philip Ladin	Ariana Mejia	Jordan Ockleberry	Stephanie Remy
Kayla Lakes	Nadiya Merchant	Janelle Owusu	Henry Reynolds
Zaynah Lakhani	Nida Merchant	Logan Paeglis	Nick Reynolds
Lauren Lamp	Donna Merrell	Ed Palmer	Tracy Rhodes
Megan Lane	Ryan Van Meter	Lauren Parramore	Cheryl Richardson
Luke Lantta	John Miles	Toni Pastore	Keara Richardson
Todd Larsen	Alex Milios	Kishan Patel	Mary Richardson
Kelsea Laun	Burton Miller	Shivani Patel	Thomas Richey
Saint Joseph Von Law	Jody Miller	Sonali Patel	Jasmine Riddick
Allegra Lawrence-Hardy	Tory Miller	Ariel Patrick	Amanda Riedling
Scott Allen Leak	Tim Minors	Shannon Patterson	Noelia Rivera
David Lerner	Harold Minsk	Neal Patton	Jonielle Robertson
Gary Leshaw	Alizé Mitchell	Victoria Paul	Sasha Robinson
Jennifer LeVan	Kenneth Mitchell	Ash Penn	Maria Rodriguez
Dawn Levine	Kathryn Mize	Amanda Perez	Rachel Rosenberg
Crawford Lewis	Samantha Mogovero	Christopher Perkins	Jacob Rothman
Daniel Li	Ikram Ali Mohammed	Monica Perkowski	William Rothschild
Michelle Licht	Ashley Molina	Karis Perusek	Jenna Rubin

PRO BONO VOLUNTEERS

Trevor Ruff	Tondeka Sitole	Jasmine Thompson	Jackie Weiss
Erica Ruggiero	Kris Skaar	Suzanne Thompson	Tyler Wells
Sterling Russ	Jennifer Sluka	Tanieka Thompson	Alaina Welmaker
Dorothy Sachs	Brianna Smith	Tori Thompson	John Welsh II
Quincy Sackey-Mensah	Carrie Smith	Tyler Thorne	Falkner Werkhaven
Andrew Salman	Douglas Smith	Sarah Timmers	Twanda Westbrook
Arlaidra Salter	Iyana Smith	Matt Tokajer	Briana Wheatley
Jessica Samford	Loretta Smith	Talis Trevino	Isabel White
LaShawnda Sampson	Zeelita Smith	Linda Trickey	Katie White
Nadia Sarangi	Vilma Sneed	Christine Triebsch	Sarah White
Melissa Sawyers	Garth Snider	Leslie Trimmer	William White
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ATLANTA LEGAL AID EVENTS

The Great Whiskey Debate

JUNE 18, 2025 | PARK TAVERN, ATLANTA

On June 18, 2025, we brought together whiskey enthusiasts and community supporters for The Great Whiskey Debate at Park Tavern. Top Atlanta bartenders competed to craft the most creative whiskey cocktails, with guests enjoying tastings and casting votes for their favorites. The event offered a spirited evening of community and competition, with sponsorships and ticket sales generating critical resources to support free civil legal services for low-income Georgians



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Justice Jam: Bowl a Strike for Justice

OCTOBER 9, 2025 | ANDRETTI'S, MARIETTA

On October 9, 2025, we hosted Justice Jam 2025 at Andretti's in Marietta, rallying bowling teams for an evening of strikes, spares, dinner, and drinks. The event united community members and advocates around a shared belief that legal help should be within reach for everyone — regardless of income. Funds raised support free civil legal services for families, seniors, and veterans throughout Cobb County.

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ATLANTA LEGAL AID EVENTS

35th Annual Run for Justice **NOVEMBER 8, 2025 | DECATUR, GA**

On November 8, 2025, we celebrated the 35th Annual Run for Justice in Decatur, drawing runners, families, and advocates for a morning of movement and mission. The 5K served as an official 2025 Peachtree Road Race qualifier, offering competitive and family-friendly options alike. The event raised more than \$50,000 — a powerful testament to a community that has shown up, year after year, to champion equal justice.



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Women in Service Luncheon **DECEMBER 4, 2025** **MAC'S CHOP HOUSE, MARIETTA, GA**

On December 4, 2025, in partnership with the Cobb Women of the Bar Section, we gathered for the 16th annual Women in Service Luncheon at Mac's Chop House. The afternoon centered on a conversation between Sharon Mason, Executive Director of the Cobb Chamber, and Joyette Holmes, Chair of the Georgia Board of Pardons and

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HOW WE SERVE COMMUNITIES

We organize our work through five neighborhood offices and several specialized projects.

NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICES

Each office handles general civil legal matters—specifically **housing, consumer, family, and public benefits**—for residents of their respective counties:

- **Fulton County / Downtown Headquarters:** The central hub serving Fulton County residents.
- **Clayton County Office:** Provides local services for Clayton County residents.
- **Cobb County Office:** Located in Marietta, serving Cobb County.
- **DeKalb County Office:** Located in Decatur, serving DeKalb County.
- **Gwinnett County Office:** Located in Norcross, serving Gwinnett County.

SPECIALIZED PROJECTS & UNITS

We respond to new client needs as they develop. This has led to the creation of several projects in which we develop expertise to assist vulnerable populations. These units focus on specific populations or complex legal issues that cross county lines:

- **Veterans Law Project** (est. 2022) Protects the rights of veterans, focusing on eviction defense, VA benefits, and specialized healthcare access.
- **Georgia Senior Legal Aid (GSLA)** (est 1998): A statewide hotline providing advice and brief services to Georgians aged 60 and older.
- **Senior Citizens Law Project** (est. 1975): Provides deeper representation for seniors in the metro area, focusing on elder abuse, nursing home issues, and income security.
- **Health Law Unit** (est. 2005) Helps individuals with AIDS/HIV and cancer navigate the complex legal system with a focus on outcomes that will improve the client's health.
- **Grady Medical Legal Partnership** (est. 2023) Helps improve health outcomes for patients by providing a coordinated approach to health care and civil legal services.
- **Disability Integration Project** (est. 1999) Advocates for children with disabilities, focusing on disability benefits and the right to live independently in the community
- **Health Law Partnership (HeLP)** (est 2005): A medical-legal partnership with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta that addresses legal issues such as substandard housing conditions or benefit denials impacting children's health.
- **Home Defense Program** (est. 1988): Battles predatory lending, wrongful foreclosures, and property tax issues to help low-income homeowners keep their equity and homes.
- **Kinship Care Project** (est. 1988): Assists non-parent relatives (like grandparents) who are raising children, helping them secure legal custody or adoption and access necessary benefits.



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The background of the entire page is a grayscale photograph of the Atlanta skyline, featuring several prominent skyscrapers. In the foreground, a multi-lane highway stretches from the bottom towards the city, with some light trails from vehicles. The overall image has a faded, high-key appearance.

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