



LFW

LEGAL FOUNDATION

OF WASHINGTON

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES,

Thank you for your generous financial support and partnership as we continue to work toward a vision of a more just and equitable society. In our new COVID-19 reality, the need for civil legal services is increasing every day as more people fall into poverty through job loss, housing challenges, and economic instability.

Legal aid is a lifeline in a time of crisis and your support in 2019 helped more than 36,000 families resolve life-changing legal issues and stay safe, healthy, and housed. In addition to legal services, you are funding critical advocacy and public policy reforms which have resulted in ending solitary confinement of youth, implementing workplace protections for farmworkers, and stopping evictions to prevent homelessness.

Before the crisis hit, only one in four low-income families with a civil legal problem could access help due to lack of funding. Now, the number of low-income people is rising every day, putting increasing demand on a stressed and underfunded legal aid system. We can and must do better.

Meeting the immediate needs of our neighbors, especially for communities of color disproportionately affected by COVID-19, has never been more important. Thank you for helping seniors, youth, veterans, survivors of domestic violence and others access legal aid and ensure justice becomes a reality in Washington. Thank you for walking with us toward justice.

With gratitude,

CAITLIN DAVIS

Executive Director, Legal
Foundation of Washington

MARK JOHNSON

President, Legal Foundation of
Washington, Board of Trustees

JOANNA PLICHTA BOISEN

President, Campaign
for Equal Justice

JOHN HOERSTER

President, Endowment
for Equal Justice

HOUSING & SAFETY

It was mid-April and “Lee” had new housing lined up for May, but with an emergency eviction hearing looming, they were at risk of temporary homelessness. Fortunately, they connected with a legal aid attorney through a local Housing Justice Project run by Chelan-Douglas County Volunteer Attorney Services. After a phone consultation, the attorney negotiated with the landlord’s attorney to strike the hearing if the client moved by May 1.

The agreement relieved the client’s worries about how to maintain health and safety if unhoused during the pandemic, and Lee was incredibly grateful for their legal aid attorney.



2019 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

LFW is a responsible steward of your investment

LEGAL FOUNDATION OF WASHINGTON

REVENUE

Campaign Donations	\$1,296,029
Endowment Disbursement	\$823,604
Public Funding	\$2,675,000
IOLTA	\$11,595,291
Investment Income	\$1,499,627
Cy Pres	\$1,333,803

Total Revenue **\$19,223,354**

EXPENSES

Grants & Grantee Support	\$10,865,016
Management and Fundraising	\$944,074

Total Expenses **\$11,809,090**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Total Assets	\$25,482,639
Total Liabilities	\$10,062,251
Total Net Assets	\$15,420,388

ENDOWMENT FOR EQUAL JUSTICE

REVENUE

Donations and Pledges	\$1,428,969
In-Kind Donations	\$48,448
Investment Income	\$3,141,203

Total Revenue **\$4,618,620**

EXPENSES

Grant to LFW	\$823,604
Program	\$24,396
Fundraising	\$260,413

Total Expenses **\$1,108,413**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$15,488,144
Net Assets End of Year	\$18,998,351
Change in Assets	\$3,510,207

2019 GRANTEES

Benefits Law Center	Lavender Rights Project
Benton Franklin Legal Aid	LAW Advocates
Blue Mountain Action Council	Legal Counsel for Youth and Children
Center for Justice	Northwest Immigrant Rights Project
Chelan Douglas Volunteer Attorney Services	Northwest Justice Project
Civil Survival	QLaw Foundation
Clallam-Jefferson Pro Bono Lawyers	Seattle Clemency Project
Clark County Volunteer Lawyers Program	Skagit Volunteer Lawyer Program
Colectiva Legal del Pueblo	Snohomish County Legal Services
Columbia Legal Services	Solid Ground
Communities Rise	Spokane County Bar Volunteer Lawyer Program
Cowlitz Wahkiakum Legal Aid	TacomaProBono
Disability Rights Washington	TeamChild
Dispute Resolution Center of Yakima & Kittitas Counties	Tenants Union of Washington State
Eastside Legal Assistance Program	Thurston County Volunteer Legal Services
Entre Hermanos	Unemployment Law Project
Freedom Project	Washington Parole Coalition
King County Bar Association	West African Community Council
Kitsap Legal Services	What's Next Washington
Laurel Rubin Farmworker Justice Project	Yakima County Volunteer Attorney Services

FIGHTING INCARCERATION OF YOUTH

Solitary confinement is potentially dangerous for anyone, but especially harmful for children, who are still developing physically, psychologically, and socially. In 2018, a Columbia Legal Services (CLS) lawsuit against King County resulted in a settlement and ban on solitary confinement of children in detention facilities. The suit was brought by CLS on behalf of four youth who were imprisoned at the Regional Justice Center in Kent, WA, and challenged King County's policies and practices of holding children in long-term solitary confinement and denying adequate educational services. As a result of the suit, the King County Council passed an ordinance that prohibits the use of solitary confinement against children in any detention facility except in very limited circumstances and for an extremely limited period of time. The ordinance also required ongoing monitoring of King County's compliance with these requirements.

As a result of the injustices uncovered through the King County litigation, the Washington legislature passed a landmark bill in 2020 that prohibits the use of solitary confinement against any child in any juvenile detention facility in Washington State.

CLS's work continues to ensure that all people injured by King County's past practices are appropriately compensated for the serious emotional, psychological, and physical injuries they suffered during their prolonged confinements in solitary confinement as children.



“King County’s practice of isolating children is out of step with community values, the science, and generally accepted correctional standards because it is harmful to children and counterproductive. It’s time to take a big step forward to eliminate the inhumane practice of isolation that harms already vulnerable children and violates their constitutional rights.”

—NICK STRALEY, CLS ATTORNEY

INVEST IN JUSTICE
at legalfoundation.org

CAMPAIGN for
**EQUAL
JUSTICE**

LFW
LEGAL FOUNDATION
OF WASHINGTON

ENDOWMENT for
**EQUAL
JUSTICE**