A COMMUNITY INVESTED IN JUSTICE

2025
ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

Civil legal aid changes lives.
Community investment
makes it possible.



NH CAMPAIGN FOR LEGAL SERVICES
Equal Access to Justice for All

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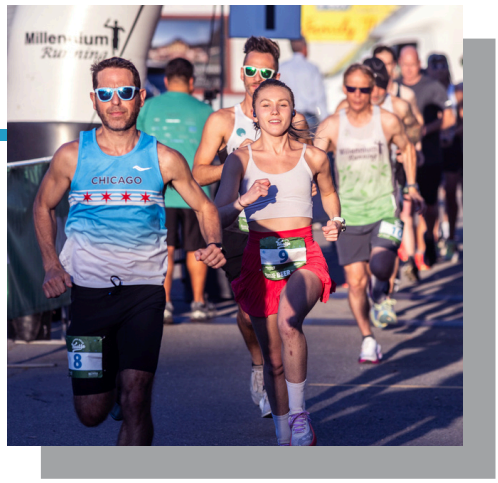
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NH CAMPAIGN FOR LEGAL SERVICES
Equal Access to Justice for All

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nh-cls.org

To apply for legal assistance: Visit **603legalaid.org** or call or **1-603-224-3333**

DEAR FRIENDS:

When I joined the Campaign for Legal Services in the summer of 2025, I knew I was stepping into important work. What I did not fully appreciate was the extraordinary community that makes this mission possible.

Over the past year, I have had the privilege of meeting donors, volunteers, attorneys, law firms, business leaders, foundation partners, and legal aid advocates from across New Hampshire. I have attended court clinics, listened to client stories, and witnessed firsthand the commitment that so many people bring to ensuring that justice remains accessible to everyone in our state.

One of the first legal aid clients I interviewed was a gentleman who had been overwhelmed by medical debt following a health crisis. What stayed with me after our conversation was not the legal issue itself, but how familiar his story felt. An unexpected illness. Mounting bills. Difficult decisions. The kind of circumstance that can touch almost any family at some point in their lives. That conversation stayed with me because it captured something I would see again and again throughout the year: legal aid often enters the picture at moments when people are already carrying more than their share.

As I continued meeting clients, volunteers, donors, and advocates across New Hampshire, I began to understand just how many people stand behind this work. Attorneys volunteer their expertise. Law firms have made support for legal aid part of their culture. Business leaders understand the connection between justice and economic stability. And donors have faithfully invested in this work for decades. Together, they have built something remarkable.

New Hampshire has long relied on private action for public good, and civil legal aid is no exception. The support highlighted throughout this report reflects a shared belief that legal help should be available when it is needed most. That investment not only changes individual lives, but its impact reaches much further, strengthening families, communities, and our state as a whole.

The stories and statistics that follow represent more than the work of 603 Legal Aid and New Hampshire Legal Assistance. They represent the collective impact of a community that believes access to justice matters.

As I reflect on my first year with the Campaign, I am so grateful to have been welcomed into that community. Thank you for your generosity, your leadership, and your partnership. Most of all, thank you for helping ensure that legal help remains within reach for thousands of New Hampshire residents each year.



Rachel DeMaster
Director, New Hampshire Campaign for Legal Services

LEGAL AID IN ACTION 2025 PROGRAM IMPACT

Every day in New Hampshire, thousands of people face life-altering legal problems impacting their most basic needs. The New Hampshire Campaign for Legal Services (the Campaign) is committed to expanding access to justice for people who cannot afford the legal help they need.

The Campaign is the joint fundraising initiative for New Hampshire's two civil legal aid organizations, 603 Legal Aid (603LA) and New Hampshire Legal Assistance (NHLA), raising essential support needed to sustain their work.

Click here to read client success stories showcasing justice in action.

CLOSING THE JUSTICE GAP



60% OF CIVIL LEGAL NEEDS GO UNMET

In 2025, over 16,000 individuals received critical civil legal aid in New Hampshire. Yet a recent analysis found that **60% of civil legal needs go unmet.** The Campaign raises funds to help 603LA and NHLA close that gap.

PROVIDING EMPOWERMENT AND EDUCATION

Through outreach, education, and trusted legal information, we equip people with the knowledge and tools to understand their rights and advocate for themselves.

IN 2025, 603LA AND NHLA	reached **thousands** of people through outreach and courthouse-based clinics.
IN 2025, 603LA	conducted **162 outreach events** that reached more than **3,000** people statewide.
IN 2025, NHLA	helped **324** individuals statewide at clinics in Manchester and Nashua.
603LA'S WEBSITE,	603legalaid.org, serves as a central hub for legal information for self-represented litigants. In 2025, the site experienced more than **60% year-over-year growth** in total visits, unique visitors, and pageviews, with over **147,000** views.

PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS

We help families stay housed by navigating eviction, foreclosure, and property tax cases. By intervening at critical moments, we keep people safely in their homes and communities.

IN 2025, NHLA	assisted **563** households facing loss of their housing.
IN 2025, 603LA	supported **1,414** individuals facing housing instability.
IN 2025, NHLA	prevented more than **190** evictions.
IN 2025, 603LA	was involved in **438** eviction cases.

PROTECTING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

We offer legal protection and safe pathways forward for domestic violence survivors and their children, assisting with emergency legal needs and supporting long-term stability.

IN 2025, NHLA SECURED	**97** protective orders for survivors of domestic violence.
IN 2025, 603LA	provided support in **254** domestic violence cases.
IN 2025, NHLA ACHIEVED	over **$265,000** in financial relief, such as child support, for family law clients in 2025.

PRESERVING FINANCIAL STABILITY

We help our clients preserve their limited income through consumer and tax work and assist them in accessing public benefits programs they need to survive.

IN 2025, NHLA	handled **207** public benefits cases.
IN 2025, NHLA	helped clients secure nearly **$1.4 million** in federal and state public benefits and obtain Medicare benefits with a projected value of over **$1.9 million**.
IN 2025, 603LA	handled **250** consumer law & tax cases.
IN 2025, 603LA'S	Consumer Law Unit helped reduce or eliminate over **$300,000** in debt related to consumer matters, such as credit card and medical debt.
IN 2025, 603LA	decreased tax liabilities, penalties and interest by over **$33,000** and obtained over **$27,000** in refunds for taxpayers.

ANSWERING THE CALL

PRO BONO VOLUNTEER HONOR ROLL

603LA's Pro Bono Program leverages the generous contributions of attorneys who volunteer their time to help legal aid clients. The Campaign celebrates the following ***individual volunteer attorneys*** who took at least one case in 2025. This list does not include the many attorneys who took cases that began in 2025 and carried into 2025.

ACCEPTED 10+ CASES

Randall Clark
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If you are interested in taking Pro Bono cases through 603 Legal Aid, please reach out to **probono@603legalaid.org.**

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

to the following non-attorney volunteers who participated in the Low Income Taxpayer Project (LITP) in 2025: Mark Anderson, Scott Rosenthal, Stephen Jordan, and James Valz.

PRO BONO VOLUNTEER HONOR ROLL

Our thanks to the following ***law firms*** who made it possible for their attorneys to participate in Pro Bono. This list does not include the hundreds of firms whose attorneys have ongoing cases.

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A SPECIAL THANK YOU to the following volunteer attorneys who provided legal advice, support in negotiations, and/or representation at the Concord District Court Eviction Defense Clinics during 2025: Michael Brown, Cameron Cantelmo, Randall Clark, James Harris, Nicholas Harris, Autumn Klick, Griffin Kmon, Katie Mosher, Stephanie Nham, Caroline Palucha, and Rory Parnell.

INVESTING IN JUSTICE

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The Campaign's success is made possible by the remarkable and growing network of law firms, businesses, and private foundations who support equal access to justice in New Hampshire. This list represents donors to the Campaign and its beneficiaries 603LA and NHLA.

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Thank you!

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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.

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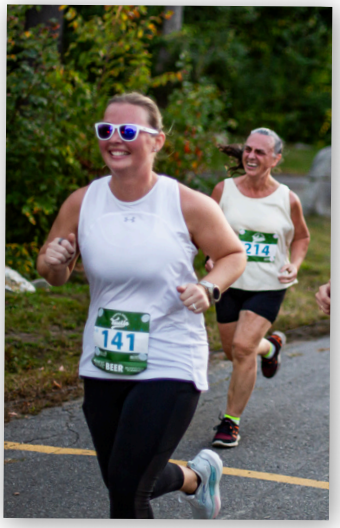
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Social Work: Erin McCarthy
Volunteers: *Pro bono volunteers are recognized on pages 5 and 6.*

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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.

603LA MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide free, high-quality civil legal services to people facing legal issues in New Hampshire through compassionate advocacy, education, and pro bono representation. Our vision is a New Hampshire where justice is accessible to all.

In partnership with volunteer attorneys and community organizations, we help Granite Staters with incomes below the federal poverty level navigate their civil legal problems. We provide free legal advice and information by telephone, connect clients with volunteer attorneys through legal clinics or for full representation, and refer applicants to other programs when appropriate.

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: **www.603legalaid.org**.
Call 1 (800) 639-5290 or (603) 224-3333 from 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM on Monday through Wednesday.