

2009

Report to Contributors



CAMPAIGN FOR JUSTICE
SUPPORTING LEGAL AID IN MAINE

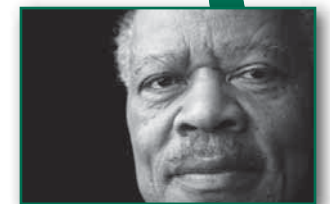
Pursuing Justice • Restoring Hope



The Campaign raised over **\$355,000** to help meet the legal aid needs of over **23,800** clients throughout Maine.



Over 1,500 members of Maine's legal community supported the Campaign.



275 new donors joined in supporting the Campaign and **195 Maine attorneys** increased their giving over last year.



130 members of the Maine Bar supported the Campaign with a leadership gift of \$1,000 or more.

The Campaign for Justice was created in 2004 to increase access to justice for low-income Maine people.

It is an annual, collaborative fundraising effort on behalf of six civil legal aid providers:

Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic, Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project, Legal Services for the Elderly, Maine Equal Justice Partners, Maine Volunteer Lawyers Project, Pine Tree Legal Assistance

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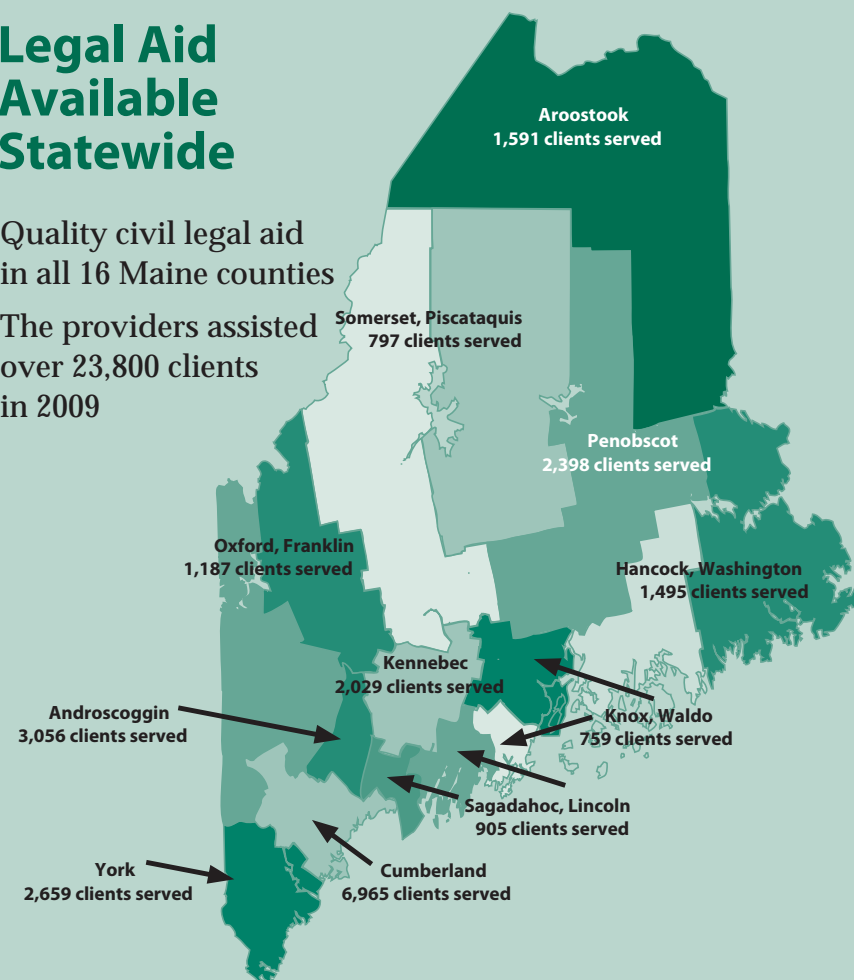
CAMPAIGN FOR JUSTICE
SUPPORTING LEGAL AID IN MAINE



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Legal Aid Available Statewide

- Quality civil legal aid in all 16 Maine counties
- The providers assisted over 23,800 clients in 2009



Volunteer Lawyer's Project :

Dear Volunteer Lawyer's Project:
"I just wanted to thank you for all of our help. On my fixed income, there is no way I could have afforded the legal help that you gave. I am so glad that there is a group like yours to help those of us on disability or fixed income. I hope that your group is there to help many, many more people. Thank you."

Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project:

A woman, forced into marriage at age 12 to a violently abusive man, was years later brought by him to Maine without a visa. Fortunately, a concerned neighbor called police during one of his attacks on her. He was arrested, and she was referred to Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project. Through ILAP, she obtained a visa as a crime victim. She was then no longer afraid to testify against her abuser, leading to his conviction and deportation. She and their children will soon have permanent residency in the United States and no longer fear being returned to her home country, where he could attack her again.

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THANK YOU TO THE 2009 CAMPAIGN VOLUNTEERS
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Bruce Mallonee
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Maine Equal Justice Partners: Pursuing Justice • Restoring Hope



Helping Families Get Ahead through Upstream Intervention:

"As a single parent of a young son with disabilities, the childcare, transportation, and other assistance I received through Parents as Scholars were critical for me to attend college. I have moved beyond the low paying, poverty level jobs I previously held and I'm now employed as a Licensed Social Worker." -Thea

In 1997, Maine enacted first in the nation legislation with the creation of the Parents as Scholars (PaS) program, which allows TANF-eligible parents access to a college education. MEJP was instrumental in creation of this nationally recognized program.

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With current funding, the legal aid
providers can represent only one-in-four
Maine people who seek legal aid. Your gift is a step
toward reaching more of those who
need representation.

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Maine Equal Justice Partners
Maine State Bar Association
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*We make every effort to ensure
this list is complete and accurate.
We sincerely regret any errors or
omissions. Please contact us with
any corrections.*

Year in Review:

A Message from Bruce Mallonee, 2009 Campaign Chair

On behalf of the six legal aid providers and the clients they serve, thank you for making the 2009 Campaign for Justice a resounding success. In a year when demand for services increased nearly a third, resources from other traditional funding sources diminished, and our own financial wellbeing was challenged, 1,500 members of Maine's legal community contributed over \$355,000 to support the system we understand better than anyone else. Through the efforts of our staff and a dedicated team of more than 100 volunteers throughout Maine, and the generosity of our colleagues in the Maine Bar, lives will be changed for the better. Access to justice will be reality and not just aspiration for many of Maine's low-income and elderly residents.

Leading this campaign has been for me both an honor and a joy. I am now delighted to welcome Colleen Khoury as chair of the 2010 campaign. A longtime volunteer, Colleen has for years offered the campaign her guidance, experience, and dedication; with her as chair, we are assured of success this year.

Let's start now. Please join me in confirming our support of access to justice by making a gift to the 2010 Campaign today.

Bruce
Bruce Mallonee
Partner, Rudman & Winchell

Legal Services for the Elderly: Pursuing Justice • Restoring Hope



A widow in her late eighties called Legal Services for the Elderly (LSE) from a nursing facility where she had been placed after a fall. She complained that her requests for return of her prosthesis and physical therapy were being denied by the nursing facility. The client was very distraught and desperately wanted to return home. An LSE staff attorney spoke with the facility and discovered the facility was acting at the direction of a family member who held a Power of Attorney and lived with the client. With legal assistance from LSE the client revoked the Power of Attorney, got the family member to vacate her home, and obtained the medical treatment that she needed in order to return home.

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Pine Tree Legal Assistance: *Pursuing Justice • Restoring Hope*



Cindy is a 52 year old woman who had been homeless for about a year before receiving a Shelter Plus Care voucher through Shalom House. She found an apartment in Portland but her landlord required her to pay for electricity and heat in addition to rent - a clear violation of the contract between the landlord and Shelter Plus Care. Desperate to avoid homelessness, she agreed to these terms. Under crippling utility expenses, she had to sell her car and rely on the food bank for food. Cindy was afraid to confront the landlord so she paid these bills for 16 months until Shalom House discovered the situation. An attorney at PTLA was able to step in and recover reimbursement for Cindy for the full amount she paid in electricity and gas: \$1,461.72. Cindy says she could never have stood up to the landlord without our help and she feels vindicated. She plans to buy a car with the money.

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Student attorney Elizabeth Smith represented Janet as part of the CLAC's Domestic Violence Program in Lewiston District Court. Janet had filed a complaint for Protection from Abuse on behalf of her 11 year old son, Tyler, soon after Tyler disclosed to Janet that he had been subjected to years of terrifying abuse by his father. Elizabeth met with Janet and Tyler at the courthouse on the day of the final hearing, at which time Tyler's father finally agreed to the final protection order without young Tyler having to testify in open court. Tyler now lives with his mom Janet and has telephone contact with his father. Janet was very relieved with this outcome and said later about her experience: "Elizabeth listened to what Tyler had to say and made him feel better to know there is help for him."

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