



**Report to the Governor and  
General Court**

**FY22**

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September 2022

# Introduction

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued into FY22, low-income people in Massachusetts not only faced its health impacts at disproportionate rates, but they also experienced elevated cases of housing instability, food insecurity, unemployment, consumer debt, domestic violence, and lack of vital social services. Civil legal aid organizations weathered challenges brought on by the pandemic as well, such as case backlogs and technology barriers for both staff and clients.

During this time, the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation provided funding and other support needed for legal aid organizations throughout the state to respond creatively to the challenges they faced. MLAC-funded legal aid organizations developed innovative solutions to deliver essential legal services in remote and hybrid environments and strengthened their capacity to meet the needs of more low-income people across the Commonwealth, working in partnership with one another, MLAC, and other community organizations. Thanks to their efforts, civil legal aid has been a critical part of the social safety net for Massachusetts residents who became even more vulnerable during the pandemic, including Black residents and other residents of color.

In its FY22 budget, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts appropriated \$35 million for civil legal aid. MLAC distributed that funding to 16 statewide and regional legal aid organizations through its grant-funding process.

MLAC also receives money from Interest on Lawyers Trust Account funds, as well as from government grants and private foundations. In FY22, MLAC received more than \$6.5 million from the IOLTA program and related funds. Government and foundation grants, including funds for assistance to victims of crime and for assistance to indigent immigrants, totaled nearly \$13.1 million. That funding enabled MLAC to distribute grants to eleven additional organizations.

In total, MLAC distributed \$47,805,238 in FY22.

We are pleased to present this report detailing the role civil legal aid played in expanding access to justice in Massachusetts in FY22.

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# MLAC Basics and Background

The Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation is the largest source for civil legal aid funding in the Commonwealth. MLAC was established by the Commonwealth in 1983 to ensure that low-income people with critical non-criminal legal problems would have access to legal information, advice, and representation.

MLAC’s mission is to provide “leadership and support to improve civil legal services to low-income people in Massachusetts through collaboration with the legal services community, the public, the bar, and the legislature.”

MLAC receives funding from a variety of sources, primarily the state budget and Interest on Lawyers Trust Account (IOLTA) funds, and disburses it to qualified civil legal aid organizations across the Commonwealth.

In FY22, MLAC received revenue from several sources:

- A state appropriation of \$35 million
- IOLTA program and related funds of more than \$6.5 million
- Grants and other revenue totaling nearly \$13.1 million

MLAC awarded a total of \$47,805,238 in grants.

In addition to funding, MLAC also provides these organizations with support in communications; data and research; diversity, equity, and inclusion; information technology; and program monitoring and evaluation. Detailed financial information, descriptions of the organizations funded, and MLAC’s support services to legal aid organizations appear in the following pages.

## About Civil Legal Aid

Civil legal aid organizations provide free information, advice, and representation to low-income people who otherwise would not receive help with serious legal issues related to housing, healthcare, immigration, employment, education, family law and domestic violence, disability, consumer problems, and elder issues. *To be eligible for legal services in FY22, a family of four would have to have an annual income at or below 125 percent of the federal poverty level: \$34,688.*

Although the U.S. Constitution and the Massachusetts Constitution guarantee most criminal defendants a right to counsel, most people in civil cases do not have that right. That’s true even though the consequences of civil cases can be severe: people can lose their homes, health, safety, family, and financial stability—without ever having spoken to a lawyer.

Civil legal aid seeks to ensure that all residents of Massachusetts have access to a lawyer and equal access to justice.

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# Cases and Clients: FY22

**Total cases handled** by MLAC-funded organizations: **42,955**

These cases **benefited 96,649** people.

Cases handled by the **Disability Benefits Project: 1,194**

These cases secure federal SSI/SSDI benefits for elderly residents and those with long-term disabilities.

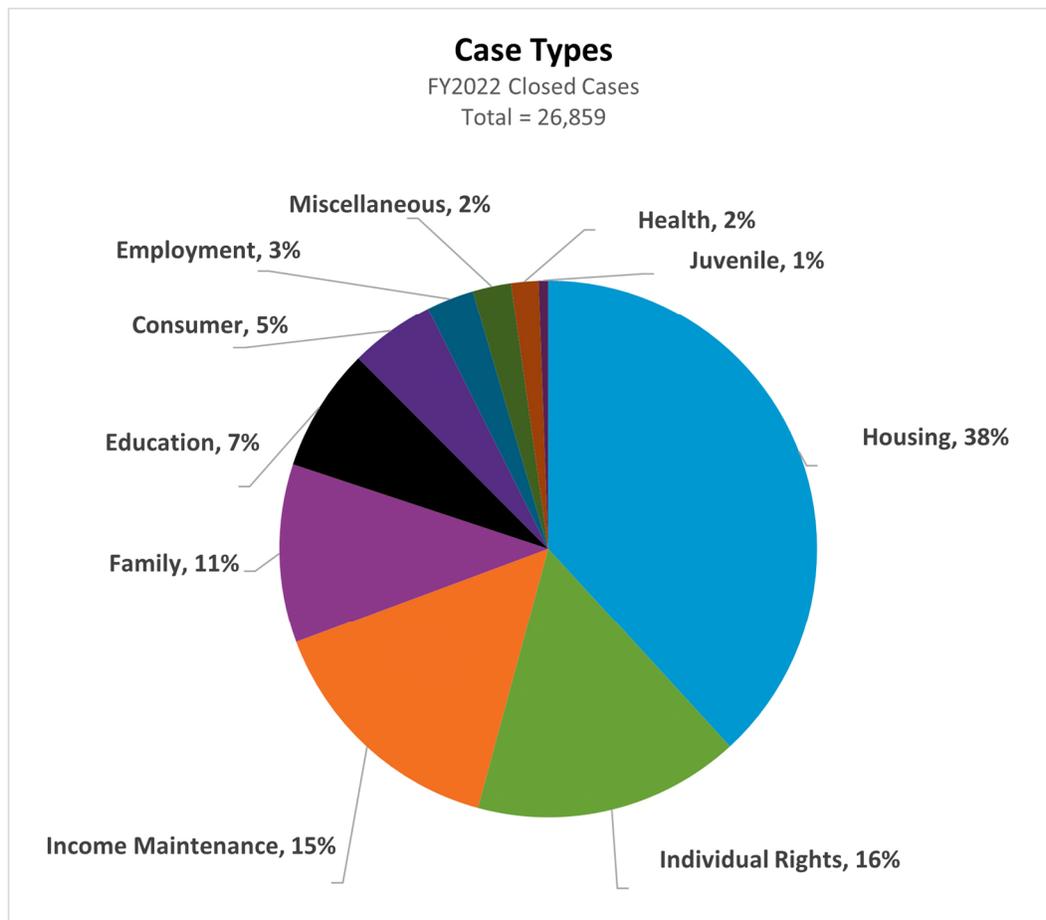
Cases handled by the **Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Project: 1,536**

These cases address physical safety, child custody and support, and health care coverage.

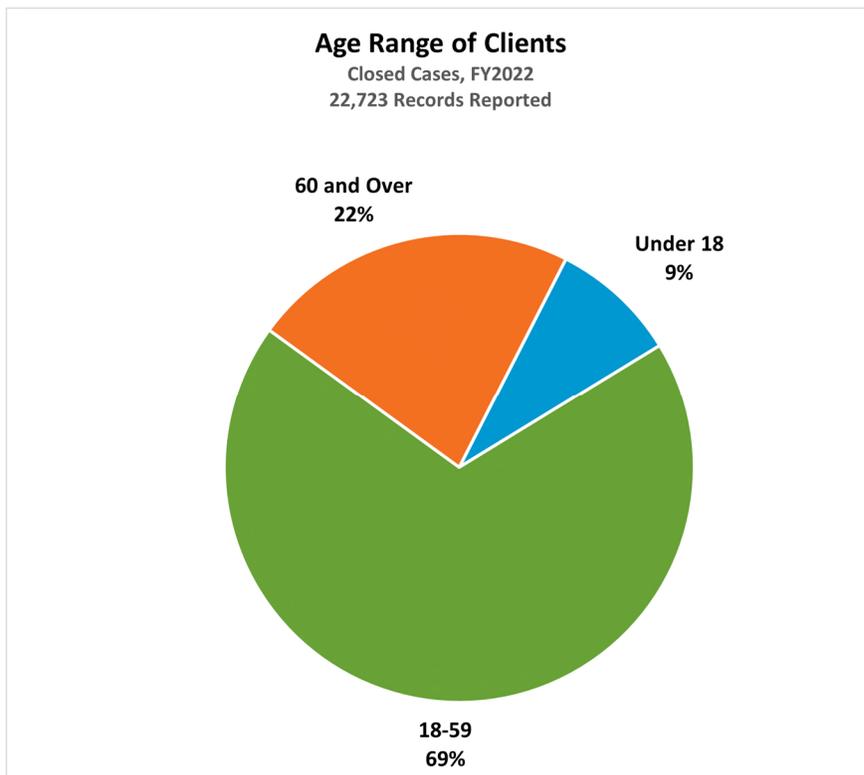
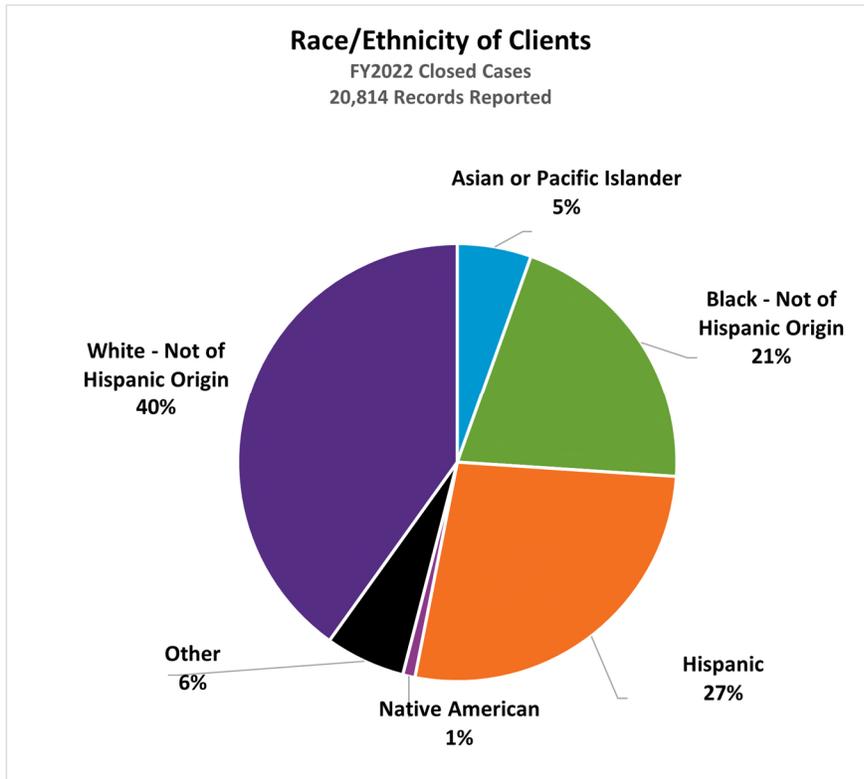
Cases handled by the **Medicare Advocacy Project: 213**

These cases assist elders and people with disabilities.

## Case Types



## Client Demographics



## Serving all of Massachusetts

**94%** of Massachusetts cities and towns had at least one person with a case handled by a civil legal aid organization

**65%** of Massachusetts cities and towns had at least 10 people with a case handled by a civil legal aid organization

*The few towns that did not have a single person helped by civil legal aid in FY22 are among the least populous in Massachusetts.*

## Legal Aid Staff

**362** Attorneys

**95** Paralegals

*These numbers represent full-time equivalents (FTEs).*

## Pro Bono Attorneys

**2,278** pro bono attorneys collectively accepted **2,468** cases through legal aid organizations on behalf of low-income residents, providing **42,341** hours of pro bono work worth **\$8.4 million**.

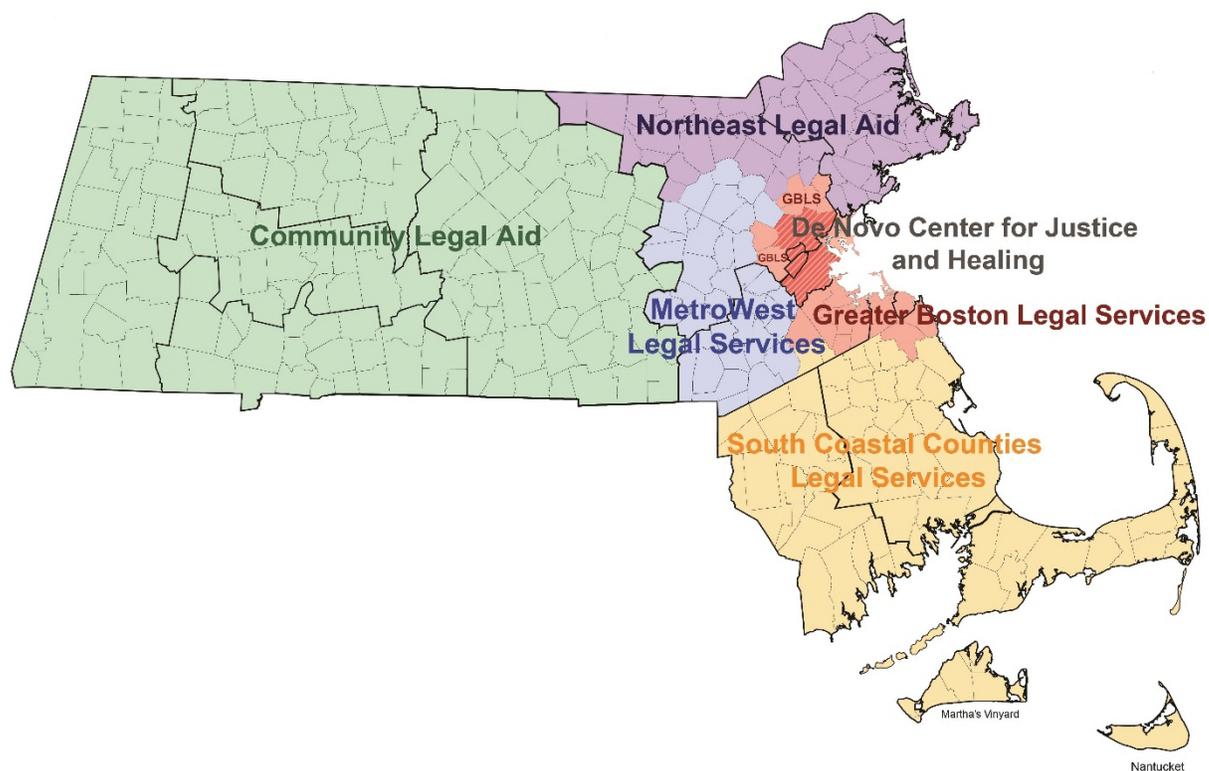
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# Legal Aid Organizations MLAC Funds

MLAC uses state-appropriated funds to support two different types of civil legal aid organizations: regional and statewide.

**Regional Organizations** help people from a particular geographic area resolve a variety of civil legal problems related to housing, health care, unemployment insurance, public benefits, immigration, domestic violence, and other serious issues.

- **Community Legal Aid**, with offices in Worcester, Northampton, Pittsfield, Springfield, and Fitchburg, serves Central and Western Massachusetts.
- **De Novo Center for Justice and Healing**, based in Cambridge, serves Boston, Cambridge, and interior suburbs of Boston.
- **Greater Boston Legal Services**, with offices in Boston and Cambridge, serves the Greater Boston area.
- **MetroWest Legal Services**, based in Framingham, serves the MetroWest region.
- **Northeast Legal Aid**, with offices in Lawrence, Lowell, and Lynn, serves Essex and Northern Middlesex Counties.
- **South Coastal Counties Legal Services**, with offices in New Bedford, Fall River, Brockton, and Hyannis, serves Cape Cod, the Islands, and Southeastern Massachusetts.



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**Statewide Organizations** specialize in specific subjects or types of law and serve people across the Commonwealth. They also provide support to the regional organizations.

- **Center for Law and Education** provides expertise on education-related cases.
  - **Center for Public Representation** is dedicated to enforcing and expanding the rights of people with disabilities and others who are in segregated settings.
  - **Children’s Law Center of Massachusetts** advocates for the rights of young people across Massachusetts.
  - **Disability Law Center** is the Protection and Advocacy agency for Massachusetts, protecting the rights of people with disabilities.
  - **Massachusetts Advocates for Children** represents children, students, and youth who face significant barriers because of their economic status, disability, race, ethnicity/culture, immigration status, language, and/or traumatic life experiences.
  - **Massachusetts Law Reform Institute** provides statewide advocacy and leadership in advancing laws, policies, and practices that secure economic, racial, and social justice for low-income people and communities.
  - **National Consumer Law Center** advises on a variety of consumer law issues, including student loans, debt collection, disaster protection, mortgages, and consumer protection.
  - **Political Asylum/Immigration Representation (PAIR) Project** provides legal services to asylum seekers and promotes the rights of detained immigrants.
  - **Prisoners’ Legal Services** protects the health and civil rights of people who are incarcerated in Massachusetts.
  - **Veterans Legal Services** promotes the self-sufficiency, stability, and financial security of homeless and low-income veterans.
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# Specialized Funding for Eviction Prevention, Immigrants' Rights and Victims of Crime

## COVID Eviction Legal Help Project

The COVID Eviction Legal Help Project (CELHP) was part of the Baker-Polito Administration's Eviction Diversion Initiative, preserving housing stability for low-income tenants and owner-occupants of two- and three-family homes who faced financial challenges caused by the pandemic. CELHP expanded the capacity of existing legal aid organizations to provide essential help to income-eligible tenants facing eviction due to COVID-19 and to landlords who are income-eligible owner-occupants of two- and three-family homes.

CELHP's impact has preserved housing statewide. During the term of the project, CELHP has handled **4,698 cases** statewide across **331** cities and towns. Of these total cases, **4,600** were on behalf of tenants and **98** were on behalf of owner-occupant landlords. CELHP aided an estimated **11,745 people**, of which at least **4,000** were children.

These positive results were made possible due to the invaluable investment of the Baker Administration and coordinated efforts of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), and CELHP project partners. MLAC oversaw the delivery of services through contracts with the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, the Volunteer Lawyers Project, and six regional legal aid organizations across the state: Community Legal Aid, De Novo Center for Justice and Healing, Greater Boston Legal Services, MetroWest Legal Services, Northeast Legal Aid, and South Coastal Counties Legal Services.

In addition to preserving housing security, avoiding homelessness, and preserving the overall wellbeing of thousands of people, CELHP strengthened collaborations and developed important infrastructure within the legal aid community that will extend beyond the lifetime of CELHP.

## Greater Boston Immigrant Defense Fund

MLAC created the Greater Boston Immigrant Defense Fund in 2017 in partnership with the City of Boston Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement, the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, and a group of foundations. The fund supports legal aid and community organizations that represent and provide legal information to immigrants facing deportation who cannot afford a lawyer. The Greater Boston Immigrant Defense Fund leverages national funding support as a member of the Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees' nationwide Delivering on the Dream Initiative. The fund has awarded more than \$2 million to a network of legal aid and community organizations, including \$540,000 in FY22—which builds the capacity of

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Eastern Massachusetts to protect vulnerable immigrants, refugees, and temporary status holders and respond to federal policy shifts.

Organizations that receive GBIDF funds:

- Brazilian Worker Center
- Catholic Social Services of Fall River
- Centro Presente
- Essex County Community Organization
- Greater Boston Legal Services
- Immigrant Family Services Institute
- La Colaborativa
- Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
- MetroWest Legal Services
- Northeast Legal Aid
- PAIR Project
- South Coastal Counties Legal Services

## Massachusetts Immigration Legal Assistance Fund

In 2019, with funding from an anonymous donor, MLAC created the Massachusetts Immigration Legal Assistance Fund to respond to persistent unmet legal needs among vulnerable immigrant and refugee populations in the Commonwealth. MILAF provides funding to organizations that work to fill the gaps within services to immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. MILAF's aim is to protect the rights of vulnerable immigrants so they can pursue a stable future. The fund has awarded more than \$3 million, including \$675,000 to twelve organizations in FY22, providing direct legal services, community education, and systemic advocacy that benefit large groups of immigrants.

Organizations that received MILAF funds:

- Community Legal Aid
- Children's Law Center of Massachusetts
- De Novo Center for Justice and Healing
- Greater Boston Legal Services
- Health Law Advocates
- Justice at Work
- Northeast Legal Aid
- PAIR Project
- Prisoners' Legal Services
- Rian Immigrant Center
- South Coastal Counties Legal Services

## Civil Legal Aid for Victims of Crime

The Civil Legal Aid for Victims of Crime initiative helps victims of crime throughout Massachusetts with their related civil legal problems — including family law, housing,

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immigration, disability rights, child welfare, education, consumer, identity theft, employment rights and public benefits.

Crime victims often experience difficult legal problems that cannot be addressed in the criminal law system. For example, a victim of an assault may be unable to work, leading to financial distress including an eviction and debt collection problems. Or, a survivor of domestic violence may need legal help to get a divorce and child support. Jane Doe, Inc. and the National Consumer Law Center provide training and support. MLAC and the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute also provide training, support and overall CLAVC project coordination.

In FY22, the initiative awarded more than \$4.2 million to nine civil legal aid organizations, which provide direct legal services to victims of crime through this initiative.

Organizations that received CLAVC funds:

- Children's Law Center of Massachusetts
- Community Legal Aid
- De Novo Center for Justice and Healing
- Disability Law Center
- Greater Boston Legal Services
- MetroWest Legal Services
- Northeast Legal Aid
- South Coastal Counties Legal Services
- Victim Rights Law Center
- Volunteer Lawyers Project

## Afghan Refugee Project

In 2022, three philanthropic partners provided funding for MLAC to create a program to assist Afghan refugees in filing and completing their legal status applications and resolutions in the Greater Boston area. Additional support was received from two resettlement agencies to fund five dedicated attorneys for this project.

Organizations that received ARP funds:

- Greater Boston Legal Services
- MetroWest Legal Services
- PAIR Project

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# Strengthening the Legal Aid Network

The Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation strengthens legal aid in the Commonwealth by providing support in several key areas.

## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

MLAC's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion team improves services to low-income clients by building cultural competence, addressing diversity-related issues, and promoting equity within MLAC and the civil legal aid organizations it funds. Through education and training, improved hiring practices, statewide events, and collaboration, this initiative spurs legal aid organizations to reflect the diversity of their clients and exemplify our shared values of justice and fairness.

The Statewide Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council is led by MLAC's Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and consists of staff representatives from legal aid organizations across the Commonwealth. It encourages transparency and communication between MLAC and the organizations it funds and promotes shared solutions to persistent inequities.

## Fellowships

The **Racial Justice Fellowship** was created in 2006 to expand the reach of legal aid in communities that have had difficulty obtaining access to the justice system or legal services due to linguistic or cultural barriers. The goal of the fellowship is to use systemic advocacy and other strategies to address pervasive problems of racial injustice, given the disproportionately high rate of poverty in communities of color and the unmet legal needs of these communities. The Racial Justice Fellowship funds a two-year position at legal aid organizations in Massachusetts.

The **Bart Gordon Fellowship** helps legal aid organizations enhance their services by providing funding to hire recent law school graduates equipped to assist underserved communities. The fellowship, which rotates among the Massachusetts legal aid organizations that receive MLAC funding, provides financial support to new attorneys qualified to address these barriers. One new Gordon Fellow is funded each year for a one-year term. (There is an option to renew for a second year.) Bart J. Gordon was a Springfield attorney and a founding member of the MLAC Board of Directors. This fellowship program was renamed in his honor after his passing in 1995.

## Central Technology Project

The Central Technology Project seeks to standardize technology for MLAC-funded legal aid organizations in Massachusetts. It provides Help Desk and user support and training to staff within those organizations. The staff of the Central Technology Project oversees computer hardware and software, telephone and internet service, video conferencing, and networks.

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## Data and Analysis

MLAC's Data and Analysis team collects and analyzes a wide range of information about legal aid organizations funded by MLAC as well as the clients they serve. With that data, the team reports on the legal aid workforce (e.g., workforce diversity, areas of practice, language ability and experience), the impact the workforce is having on behalf of low-income people (e.g., improved safety, health, income, housing and more) and recommends new goals and strategies for addressing current and emerging legal needs.

## Program Evaluation

MLAC conducts grantee program evaluations using a peer review model that engages attorneys and other professionals skilled in organizational development and legal aid service delivery. Performance standards are drawn from the American Bar Association's *Standards for the Delivery of Civil Legal Services* and cover six areas of focus: strategic planning and collaborative priority setting; development and utilization of resources; client access; quality assurance; management, administration, and use of technology; and governance.

## Communications

MLAC's Communications team develops content and campaigns that promote awareness of civil legal aid and the work of MLAC grantees through client storytelling and data. Additionally, it supports efforts to increase communications and media outreach capacity within legal services on a statewide basis by convening regular meetings with legal aid organization communications and development staff and facilitating information exchange through a quarterly email newsletter.

## The Equal Justice Coalition

The Equal Justice Coalition (EJC) is a collaboration created by the Massachusetts Bar Association, Boston Bar Association and MLAC. The Coalition includes representatives from bar associations across the Commonwealth, law firms and legal services programs who together work to protect and increase the state appropriation for civil legal aid (budget line item 0321-1600, the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation).

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# Client Stories

## Legal aid helps reinstate SNAP benefits after decades-long denial



services for help.

Carol had been trying for years to reverse a decision that forever barred her from receiving federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits (also known as food stamps). The SNAP program has a “three strikes” rule that bans people with three violations from receiving benefits for life. Carol, who overcame a drug addiction, became even more stressed each time she applied for food stamps and was denied. During the pandemic, she lost her job, and decided to reach out to legal

Deborah Harris and Aisha Sleiman of the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute took on Carol’s case and successfully argued that the violations barring her from SNAP benefits were invalid. Carol’s benefits were reinstated in time for Thanksgiving, and she was able to cook her family a large holiday meal.

Carol said she was grateful that legal services helps people who “don’t know all of the right words to say or the avenues to take or who to go to see in a time of need.”

“People need to know that there’s help out there and that nobody should be turned away for food,” she added.

## With eviction looming, legal aid keeps Air Force vet in his home



Ed had been living in his apartment for 20 years before the COVID-19 pandemic struck.

An Air Force veteran and former special education teacher, Ed was afraid to leave his apartment during the lockdown. After falling behind on his rent for several months, he received a knock on his door and was handed an eviction notice. “It was quite a shock to me,” he said.

Ed called legal services and was referred to a lawyer at South Coastal Counties Legal Services. She helped him get rental assistance, negotiate a fair agreement, and stay in his home.

“If I hadn’t been able to receive legal services, I would have been in very bad shape. I have no idea what could have happened to me,” Ed said. “It eased my fears and settled my problem quite well.”

# Activities & Changes in Net Assets

## FY22 Revenue

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Appropriation	\$35,000,000
Massachusetts IOLTA Committee	
Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Program	\$4,632,963
Opt-Out Bar Registration Fees	\$879,104
Cy Pres Awards	\$637,208
Pro Hac Vice Fees	\$231,460
Management Fees	\$138,925
COVID Eviction Legal Help Project (CELHP) Grant	\$6,210,000
Massachusetts Office of Victim Assistance (MOVA) Grant	\$4,327,265
Interest and Other Income	\$53,917
Donated Services	\$29,810
Forgiveness of Note Payable, Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)	\$700,416
Grants with Donor Restrictions	\$2,556,505
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$55,397,573</b>

MLAC directs all its state-appropriated funds to general support, the Disability Benefits Project, the Medicare Advocacy Project, and the Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Project.

## Net Assets

Beginning of Year: July 1, 2021	\$	6,550,014
End of Year: June 30, 2022	\$	9,366,774

## FY22 Expenses

	<b>Program Services</b>	<b>General and Administrative</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Personnel and Related Costs:</b>			
Salaries	\$ 1,029,789	\$ 672,945	\$ 1,702,734
Payroll taxes and fringe benefits	297,115	241,696	538,811
<i>Total personnel and related costs</i>	<i>1,326,904</i>	<i>914,641</i>	<i>2,241,545</i>
<b>Grants and Contracts Awarded:</b>			
General Support Funding			
Regional and Statewide Organizations	30,838,468	-	30,838,468
Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Project	2,437,260	-	2,437,260
Disability Benefits Project	1,178,888	-	1,178,888
Medicare Advocacy project	446,980	-	446,980
Forgivable Loan Disbursements	98,404	-	98,404
Other Grants			
COVID Eviction Legal Help Project (CELHP)	5,942,860	-	5,942,860
Massachusetts Office of Victim Assistance (MOVA)	4,205,138	-	4,205,138
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding	1,233,460	-	1,233,460
Website	388,041	-	388,041
Central Technology	430,738	-	430,738
Other	77,796	-	77,796
Fellowships	527,205	-	527,205
<i>Total grants and contracts awarded</i>	<i>47,805,238</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>47,805,238</i>
<b>Other:</b>			
Professional Services	1,092,061	432,047	1,524,108
Occupancy	153,542	339,984	493,526
Other Support Services	420,164	28,766	448,930
Office and Other	11,081	35,831	46,912
Depreciation	-	16,389	16,389
Travel	2,871	1,294	4,165
<i>Total other</i>	<i>1,679,719</i>	<i>854,311</i>	<i>2,534,030</i>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 50,811,861</b>	<b>\$ 1,768,952</b>	<b>\$52,580,813</b>

# MLAC Fiscal Year 2022 Grants:

## \$47,805,238

### Regional Organizations

#### Community Legal Aid

General Support	\$7,035,660
COVID Eviction Legal Help Project	\$1,504,114
Special Projects	\$1,045,558
Victims of Crime Act Funding	\$885,571
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding	\$67,000
Fellowship	\$50,000
Farmworkers	\$75,000

**Total** \$10,662,903

#### De Novo Center for Justice and Healing

General Support	\$190,744
COVID Eviction Legal Help Project	\$157,014
Special Projects	\$25,824
Victims of Crime Act Funding	\$206,661
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding	\$57,000

**Total** \$637,243

#### Greater Boston Legal Services

General Support	\$7,962,488
COVID Eviction Legal Help Project	\$1,108,577
Special Projects	\$1,319,546
Victims of Crime Act Funding	\$733,310
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding	\$121,000
Fellowship	\$205,000
Technology	\$247,789

**Total** \$11,697,710

#### MetroWest Legal Services

General Support	\$1,123,544
COVID Eviction Legal Help Project	\$415,808
Special Projects	\$152,128
Victims of Crime Act Funding	\$157,132
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding	\$70,918
Technology	\$24,131

**Total** \$1,943,661

**Northeast Legal Aid**

General Support	\$3,804,236
COVID Eviction Legal Help Project	\$977,483
Special Projects	\$554,044
Victims of Crime Act Funding	\$572,553
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding	\$121,000
Fellowship	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,079,316</b>

**South Coastal Counties Legal Services**

General Support	\$4,345,120
COVID Eviction Legal Help Project	\$845,638
Special Projects	\$666,790
Victims of Crime Act Funding	\$522,763
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding	\$121,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,501,310</b>

**Statewide Organizations****Center for Law and Education**

General Support	\$296,211
Technology	\$8,999
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$305,210</b>

**Center for Public Representation**

General Support	\$503,560
Special Projects	\$34,116
Technology Grant	\$15,431
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$553,107</b>

**Children's Law Center of Massachusetts**

General Support	\$349,908
Victims of Crime Act Funding	\$137,001
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$536,909</b>

**Disability Law Center**

General Support	\$592,420
Special Projects	\$182,256
Victims of Crime Act Funding	\$137,598
Technology Grant	\$15,567
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$927,842</b>

**Massachusetts Advocates for Children**

General Support	\$234,008
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$234,008</b>

**Massachusetts Law Reform Institute**

General Support	\$3,554,526
COVID Legal Eviction Help Project	\$343,851
Special Projects	\$82,866
Websites Project	\$388,041
Language Access Fellowship	\$100,000
Victims of Crime Act Funding	\$281,671
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding	\$50,000
Technology Grant	\$118,820
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,919,776</b>

**National Consumer Law Center**

General Support	\$296,212
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$296,212</b>

**PAIR Project**

General Support	\$87,720
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding	\$132,542
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$220,262</b>

**Prisoners' Legal Services**

General Support	\$385,076
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding	\$57,000
Fellowship	\$125,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$567,076</b>

**Veterans Legal Services**

General Support	\$175,440
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$175,440</b>

## Victims of Crime Act Funding

MLAC provides Victims of Crime Act funding from the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance to the Statewide and Regional Organizations noted above and to:

<b>Victim Rights Law Center</b>	\$505,877
<b>Volunteer Lawyers Project</b>	\$65,000

## COVID Eviction Legal Help Project Funding

MLAC provides COVID Eviction Legal Help Project funding to the Statewide and Regional Organizations noted above and to:

**Volunteer Lawyers Project** \$590,376

## Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding

MLAC provides Immigrant and Refugee Rights funding to the Statewide and Regional Organizations noted above and to these organizations:

### Greater Boston Immigrant Defense Fund

<b>Brazilian Worker Center</b>	\$20,000
<b>Catholic Social Services of Fall River</b>	\$45,000
<b>Centro Presente</b>	\$45,000
<b>Essex County Community Organization</b>	\$20,000
<b>Immigrant Family Services Institute</b>	\$45,000
<b>La Colaborativa</b>	\$20,000

### Massachusetts Immigration Legal Assistance Fund

<b>Health Law Advocates</b>	\$57,000
<b>Justice at Work</b>	\$67,000
<b>Rian Immigrant Center</b>	\$67,000

## Guide to Terms and Abbreviations

### **General Support**

Funds are from the state appropriation.

### **Special Projects**

Funds are from the state appropriation.

- Disability Benefits Project - **\$1,178,888** to eight organizations
- Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Project - **\$2,437,260** to seven organizations
- Medicare Advocacy Project - **\$446,980** to three organizations

### **Victims of Crime Act Funding**

Funds are from a federal grant through the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance.

### **Immigrant and Refugee Rights Funding**

Funds are from private foundations, the City of Boston and refugee resettlement organizations.

- Greater Boston Immigrant Defense Fund (GBIDF)
- Massachusetts Immigration Legal Assistance Fund (MILAF)
- Afghan Refugee Project (ARP)

# MLAC Board and Staff

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*Fiscal Manager*

**Azim Mazagonwalla**  
*Chief Financial Officer*

**Michael Raabe**  
*Director of Data and Policy Analysis*

**Martha Rogers**  
*Data Associate*

**Patricia Shaughnessy**  
*Support and Training Specialist*

**Jacqueline Sullivan**  
*Technology Support Analyst*

**Patricia Swansey**  
*Director of Program Monitoring and Evaluation*

**Tonysha Taylor**  
*Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*