Cost-Benefit Analysis
Legal Services Corporation Funding

Civil Legal Aid Brief
Throughout the country, Legal Services Corporation provided aid to almost 4 million household members over the course of two years.

Impact on People
LSC’s $870 million annual budget has resulted in:
- 755,774 closed cases
  - 44,627 victims of domestic abuse received protection from their abuser(s).
  - 15,232 vulnerable Americans were saved from foreclosure.
- 787,947 children positively impacted directly and indirectly.
  - 6,170 juvenile clients protected from their abusers at home.
- 32,559 senior citizens obtained withheld funds in Social Security and Disability.
- 44,569 veterans (and their family members) aided through LSC.

Nationwide Benefits
- Decreasing domestic violence and the costs associated with it.
- Reduced homelessness, resulting in greater tax income potential from communities.
  - Also reduces costs of homeless shelters and other government programs.
- Ensures a safe and productive environment for children to grow up in.
- Protects our veterans and senior citizens from exploitation.

Looking Forward
Continuing support for legal services will only continue to reduce costs associated with offences and return funds to those who rightfully deserve them. Our fellow Americans benefit from this service both directly and indirectly through our communities and growing economy. To eliminate funding for LSC would mean that the most vulnerable populations in America would be devastated.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
The Alaskan Legal Services Corporation (ALSC) provides legal aid to approximately 12,600 low-income Alaskans every two years. ALSC has also dedicated itself to voicing the legal concerns of Alaska’s rural population, a group which comprises over 34% of the state.

Impact on People
ALSC’s $3.6 million annual budget has resulted in:
- 86% of cases with positive outcomes.
- 1,544 victims (and their children) receiving protection from domestic abuse.
- 860 veterans, seniors, and disabled persons obtaining withheld federal benefits.
- 1,196 low-income Alaskans keeping their homes.
- 2,385 children being impacted positively.

Statewide Benefits
- $17.8 million received in form of income and savings for residents.
- 5:1 return on investment.
  - $8.6 million returning to local economies in form of economic multiplier effect.
  - 70 additional jobs.
- $2.6 million saved in costs relating to continued domestic violence, rape, and child abuse.
- $4 million attained for Social Security Disability and Medicaid participants.

Looking Ahead
Further expansions in units of $100,000 could aid 182 additional Alaskans and provide an additional $500,000 to benefit the growth of state and local economies.
Legal services in the state of Alabama provided legal aid to nearly 50,000 individuals over the course of two years through five different legal services corporations operating within the state.

**Annual Impact on People**

LSC’s $8.7 million annual budget has resulted in:

- Receiving withheld federal funds for programs like Social Security, Disability, and Unemployment.
- Long-term savings on children’s medical and support costs.
- Savings on homeless shelter expenditures and other family assistance programs.
- 1,739 clients aided in domestic abuse cases.

**Statewide Benefits**

- $77.1 million in total economic impact.
- $30.4 million cost to communities if legal aid were replaced.
- $46.7 million received in form of savings and income from various areas.
  - Including, but not limited to: reductions in medical care costs, savings in law enforcement and court system operations, etc.
- **Nearly 9:1 return on investment.**

**Looking Ahead**

Replacing or limiting legal services in Alabama would result in a loss of overall return on investment and rising costs of various state-funded programs.
Arkansas (2014)
Cost-Benefit Analysis
Legal Services Corporation Funding

Civil Legal Aid Brief
Over a period of two years, both of Arkansas’ Legal Services Corporation (LSC)-funded organizations—Center for Arkansas Legal Services (CALS) and Legal Aid of Arkansas (LAA)—aided nearly 12,000 clients in 2013.

Impact on People
LSC’s $6.5 million annual budget has resulted in:
- 6594 total cases closed in 2014 alone.
- 1332 cases represented in court involving domestic violence in 2013.
- Direct relief for clients that may come in form of income or savings.

Statewide Benefits
- Over $32 million in income and savings for Arkansas’ economy.
- Only $720,238 of Alabama’s annual budget aids LSC (appropriated through the Public Legal Aid Fund by the Administration of Justice).
- 1 in 4 Arkansans qualify for legal aid.
- Can prevent foreclosures and, therefore, decrease homelessness and state-funding for shelters.
- 91% of judges believe legal aid speeds up trial processes.
- 5:1 return on investment

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Arkansas has been a trusted source for voicing legal concerns of low-income Arkansans, as well as an economic multiplier that benefits the state.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
Legal Services Corporation in Arizona benefits over 70,000 clients and their family members every two years with legal advice and assistance in court.

Impact on People
LSC’s $6.2 million annual budget has resulted in:
- 7,176 cases closed.
  - 2,102 cases resolved domestic relations-related cases such as domestic violence, child abuse, and elderly clients facing home eviction or income loss.
- Resolved 1,946 home-related cases that would have resulted in eviction, foreclosure, or continued living in sub-standard housing.
  - Saving communities $10.6 million in shelter funding and other welfare burdens.

Statewide Benefits
- $42.6 million received in form of income and savings for residents and communities.
  - Nearly a 7:1 return on investment.
- $7 million saved by resolving domestic abuse incidents.
- $2.4 million of withheld federal funds for Medicaid, Social Security, and Disability recipients were finally paid-out to eligible recipients.

Looking Forward
Continued expansion of legal aid in Arizona will only continue to expand upon the possible savings and reinvestment of income and savings attained by clients. Cutting spending would weaken the overall economic benefit to communities and low-income peoples.
California (2012)
Cost-Benefit Analysis
Legal Services Corporation Funding

Civil Legal Aid Brief
California Legal Services Corporation provides legal aid to approximately 420,000 individuals (and their family members) every two years. 81,966 cases were closed, resulting in positive outcomes for clients.

Impact on People
LSC in California utilizes its $43 million annual budget to help:
- 3,178 victims of domestic abuse receive the help they need.
- 4,000 individuals receive withheld federal funds related to Social Security and Disability.
- 1,174 cases closures on foreclosures, saving thousands from homelessness.
- 1,760 saved from bankruptcy.

Statewide Benefits
- Reduced court costs through workshops resulted in $1 saved for every $.13 in costs.
  - Saved the judicial system 1.75 hours of hearings and work for every individual that received help.
- Self-help services saved $1 for every $.14 spent on the service.
- Nearly 5:1 return on investment

Looking Ahead
Continuing to expand the California Legal Services Corporation will continue to help vulnerable populations and reduce court-related costs and time. In short, LSC is good for the people who are directly benefited, as well as tax-payers across the state.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
Colorado’s Legal Services (CLS) was responsible for overseeing 17,309 legal matters in 2012 alone. An average of 30,000 people (and their families) benefit from legal assistance every two years, as well.

Impact on People
CLS’s $10.1 million annual budget has resulted in:

● 17,286 closed cases.
  ○ 8,150 cases resolved domestic relations-related cases such as domestic violence, child abuse, and elderly clients facing home eviction or income loss.
  ○ 1,640 cases involving withheld federal funds for Medicaid, Disability, and Social Security were closed for clients.

Statewide Benefits

● $64.5 million received in form of income and savings for residents and communities.
  ● Nearly 6.5:1 return on investment.
  ● $21.5 million saved by resolving domestic issues.
  ● $24.5 million in of withheld federal funds for Medicaid, Social Security, and Disability recipients were finally paid-out to eligible recipients.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Colorado is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Colorado can expect to see continued return on investment from CLS funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
Delaware ranks 15th out of the 50 states in access to justice. Annually, on average, 1419 cases are successfully resolved due to legal aid funding.

Impact on People
The $18.1 million of funding between 2013-2015 for legal aid resulted in:
- 4258 total cases successfully resolved
- 432 health-related cases successfully resolved
- 1026 family cases successfully resolved

Statewide Benefits
- $36.1 million received in the form of income and savings for residents and communities.
- Nearly 7.5:1 return on investment
- $19 million of debt averted
- $71.5 million in gained resources

Looking Ahead
The social return on investment in Delaware has increased each year and is projected to continue to do so with adequate funding. By increasing investment in legal aid personnel, civil legal aid infrastructure, and client services, the magnitude of social returns will increase. As a result, lower income people and communities will have improved health, education, and income.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
Legal aid programs in Florida, across 33 LSC-sponsored organizations, has aided over almost 200,000 clients and their families over a two-year span.

Impact on People
LSC’s $83 million annual budget in Florida has resulted in:
- More than 83,000 closed cases.
  - 12,000 pro bono cases and aided in easing burden on the Florida court system.
  - 3,969 families avoided eviction and foreclosure.
  - 1,814 women and children escaped domestic violence, resulting in 5,623 fewer injuries over a one-year period.
- 2,243 new jobs created.
  - $274.8 million increase in business income.

Statewide Benefits
- $600 million received in form of income and savings for residents and communities.
  - 7:1 return on investment.
- $53.5 million saved in housing-related programs and expenditures (including community shelters and welfare programs).
- Nearly $200 million in withheld federal benefits received by eligible recipients of Social Security, Medicaid and Medicare, and veteran benefits.

Looking Ahead
Further expansions of LSC in Florida (in units of $100,000) could result in an estimated $719,000 in economic benefits for Floridians and state/local economies.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
The civil legal aid assistance providers of Georgia are Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Georgia Legal Services Program, and Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation. In 2011, each program generated economic benefits valued at $200 million.

Impact on People
$23.3 million of funding resulted in:
- 949 jobs created
- More than 1000 families protected from domestic abuse

Statewide Benefits
- $199.7 million received in the form of income and savings for residents and communities.
- 8.5:1 return on investment
- $2.2 million emergency shelter savings
- $4.2 million domestic violence savings

Looking Ahead
In Georgia, every million dollars of funding creates nearly 14 jobs. Each $100,000 of funding allocated to legal aid programs, could create $850,000 of economic impact.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
In 2012, Illinois legal aid services handled over 220,000 cases. In this particular study, only 8,134 closed cases were reviewed and had their data compiled. Over a period of two years, Illinois legal aid has assisted an average of 130,000 clients and their families.

Impact on People
Illinois’ annual LSC budget of $11.2 million resulted in:
- Over 1,600 families protected from foreclosure and/or eviction.
- 2,845 individuals protected from sustained domestic abuse.
- 2,033 clients received monetary awards for case closures, including issues related to withheld federal funds from programs like Social Security, Disability, and Medicaid.

Statewide Benefits
- $75.4 million in received in form of income and savings for residents.
- Nearly 7:1 return on investment.
  - $14.7 million returning to local economies in form of economic multiplier effects and resident reinvestment.
  - 172 additional jobs.
- $1.5 million avoided in costs of homeless shelter costs.
- $9.4 million saved in health care costs by putting an end to sustained domestic abuse.

Looking Ahead
Further expansions (in units of $100,000) would return an estimated $670,000 and allow for legal service providers to expand their outreach to other vulnerable Illinoisans.
Iowa (2018)
Cost-Benefit Analysis
Legal Services Corporation Funding

Civil Legal Aid Brief
Iowa Legal Aid closes 425 cases per 10,000 low income persons, outstripping the national medium by 253 cases. Each Iowa Legal Aid litigator handles about 350 cases per year.

Impact on People
Iowa’s LSC annual budget of $4.3 million has resulted in:
- 3615 cases involving domestic violence were closed in 2017
  - Estimated avoided cost was $11.6 million
- 4520 housing cases were closed in 2017
- Iowa Legal Aid secured $400,000 in Medicare/Medicaid benefits

Statewide Benefits
- $24 million received in form of income and savings for residents and communities.
  - Nearly a 4.5:1 return on investment.
- $11.6 million saved from preventing domestic violence.
- $3.6 million saved by preventing foreclosures and homelessness.

Looking Ahead
Iowa civil legal services have decreased rates of domestic abuse statewide. In turn, the economy will improve as survivor’s income increases by $253/month after legal aid litigators helped restore economic self-sufficiency for their clients. Funding will create indirect benefits such as decreased medical bills and lower law enforcements costs, that will last for years.
Kentucky (2010)
Cost-Benefit Analysis
Legal Services Corporation Funding

Civil Legal Aid Brief
19 of the 37 counties in Kentucky are among the 100 poorest in the country. LSC has estimated that 88,200 people require legal aid, with over 13,000 applying for aid in 2009. Unfortunately, LSC operations could only accept 7,061 due to lack of resources.

Impact on People
Kentucky’s LSC annual funding of $4.5 million has resulted in:
- 79% of cases “fully” addressing the client’s problem.
  - 21% “partially” addressed the problem.
- 162 created jobs.
- $4.3 million in income from withheld federal benefits (i.e. Social Security, Disability, Medicaid, and tax benefits).
- 701 individuals and families saved from foreclosures/evictions.

Statewide Benefits
- $9.3 million in direct economic impact.
  - $3.3 million in economic stimulus from federal funds.
- More than 16,600 people receive direct, positive, results every year.
- Saves an estimated $1.1 million from domestic abuse-related costs.

Looking Ahead
Further expansions of LSC (in units of $100,000) could aid an additional 370 people and result in an estimated $210,000 of additional revenue for Kentucky residents and communities.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
In 2018, the Louisiana Bar Foundation and Legal Services Corporation provided $10,419,000 of funding for civil legal aid. In return, the gross total value of civil legal aid services in Louisiana was $104,135,000.

Impact on People
Louisiana’s Legal Aid Services budget of $10.4 million in 2018 resulted in:

- 22,727 cases closed
  - 754 employment cases
  - 1918 housing cases
- 60% of cases involve family issues such as abuse, custody, and other issues
- 16% of cases involve community support such as education, mental health, disabilities, and immigration

Statewide benefits
- $95 million received in the form of income and savings for residents
- $34.7 million of immediate direct financial benefits
- $60.4 million in long-term net financial benefits
- Over a 9:1 return on investment.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Louisiana is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term effects, Louisiana can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding. Further funding in increments of $100,000 could result in an estimated $913,000 return for residents and communities.
Maine (2016)
Cost-Benefit Analysis
Legal Services Corporation Funding

Civil Legal Aid Brief
Over two years, legal aid in Maine helps over 80,000 families in need.

Impact on People
Maine’s Legal Aid Services in 2014 helped:
- Over 39,000 people.
- Protect people from domestic violence.
- Stay in their homes.
- Keep their jobs.

Statewide benefits
- $37 million in 2015 in economic impact.
- Avoided Costs of Temporary Housing: $2,553,631
- Avoided Costs Associated with Domestic Violence: $317,268

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Maine is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Maine can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
Over two years, legal aid helps close over 61,000 cases helping families stay out of shelters, avoid abuse, and keep their jobs.

Impact on People
The $56 million invested in Massachusetts’s Legal Aid Services in 2014 helped:
- Close 30,802 total cases.
- Close 5,440 family cases involving abuse, domestic violence, and other family matters.
- 9,246 housing cases involving foreclosures and other issues.

Statewide benefits
- Over $7.2 million in avoided costs for shelter and health care for homeless.
- $2.9 million saved in health care costs through domestic violence prevention.
- $5.6 million won by low income residents on foreclosure and housing stabilization cases.
- $35 million in new revenue and cost savings for MA due to investment in legal aid.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Massachusetts is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Massachusetts can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
The Maryland Legal Services Corporation helps provide important legal services to the most impoverished members of society. In addition to helping those in need, legal aid has a positive impact on the state as a whole. Over two years, legal aid services will help over 5,600 people escape domestic violence and preserve housing for over 4,700 people. Additionally, the state will generate over $380 million in economic activity, cost saving, and increased productivity. By spending money on legal aid up front, the state can help people and avoid costs down the road.

Impact on People
In 2012, Maryland’s Legal Services Corporation helped:
- Obtain over $10.7 million in direct financial benefits for Maryland residents.
- 2,825 clients obtain protection from domestic violence.
- Preserve housing in 776 cases helping 2,389 individuals.

Statewide benefits
- Generates $190 million a year in economic activity, cost saving, and increased productivity.
- Resulted in at least $882,096 in tax revenue by keeping Marylanders in the work force.
- Saved over $3.7 million on shelter costs alone by preventing homelessness.
- Saved at least $1.3 million in health costs and productivity by preventing domestic violence.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Maryland is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Maryland can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
Over two years, Legal aid helps close over 32,100 cases helping over 96,600 families in need.

Impact on People
The $53.6 million invested in Minnesota’s Legal Aid Services in 2014 helped:
- 48,344 families and individuals.
- Closed 16,060 cases.
  - 25% of cases are housing related.
  - 24% of cases are family related.
- Secure 3,225 harassment and restraining orders.
- Secure 2,093 orders for protection.

Statewide benefits
- Nearly 4:1 return on investment.
- Produced $133 million in total revenue.
- Saved the state $7.3 million in avoided costs of domestic violence.
- Saved the state $4.1 million in avoided costs of homelessness.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Minnesota is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Minnesota can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
Legal Aid in Missouri is provided through 4 organizations that are a part of the Missouri Legal Aid Network. Over two years, the Legal Aid Network helps over 250 families avoid homelessness and 13,800 families seek protection from abuse and violence. Beyond helping people in need in Missouri, legal aid funding also provides a boost to the economy. 48 jobs are created in the state for every million dollars spent on legal services. The total economic impact per year is $33.1 million. There are many other non-quantifiable benefits such helping to keep kids in school by helping them to avoid abuse or homelessness. Continued legal aid funding will provide important services while benefitting the entire state.

Impact on People
The $17 million invested in Missouri’s Legal Aid Network in 2008 helped:
- 130 low-income families (with 350 family members) successfully avoided homelessness.
- 1,790 cases for consumer advocacy and protection.
- 6,900 cases for family safety and security.

Statewide benefits
- $33.1 million total economic impact.
- Nearly 2:1 return on investment.
  - 48 jobs created for every million dollars spent on legal services.
- $1.5 million savings in emergency shelter costs.
- $2.2 million savings in costs related to domestic abuse.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Missouri is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Missouri can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Civil Aid Legal Brief
Legal aid in Mississippi is provided through 3 organizations that partner within the Mississippi Legal Services coalition. In 2016 alone, external funds brought into MS by legal aid created nearly $40 million in increased local business income, while adding 334 jobs. Legal aid prevented 26 clients from declaring foreclosure, saving over one million dollars. In the same one-year period, 493 cases revolving around divorce, custody, support, and domestic violence were closed with benefits estimated near $1.5 million.

Impact on People
The $6.09 million of funding for Mississippi legal aid provided:

- $32.37 million in direct benefits to clients and their families
  - $17.1 million in SSI, SSDI, and other Social Security benefits
  - Nearly $13 million in Medicare/Medicaid benefits
  - Nearly $50k in savings per foreclosure avoided
- A child support award in 66 cases

Statewide benefits

- The total economic impact of MS Legal Services amounted to $73.42 million.
- Over 12:1 return on investment
- $39.8 million increased business income, adding 334 jobs
- $32.5 million in external funds brought into MS by case resolutions

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Mississippi is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Mississippi can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
The Montana Legal Services Association (MLSA) provides legal aid services to the people in Montana that have the greatest need. Over two years, MLSA has helped over 1,500 people escape domestic abuse. In addition to helping those in need, legal aid services also benefits the economy. Legal aid representation of low-income clients has generated $1,985,625 in cost savings for the state, and the total economic impact is over $9 million. Continued funding over legal aid services will provide a valuable service and benefit the Montana economy.

Impact on People
The $2.7 million funding for MLSA helps:
- 18% of MLSA’s clients are women who have been abused and their children.
  - Represent 474 case involving domestic violence and family matters.
  - 758 Montanans, including 450 children escape domestic abuse situations.
- Represent 798 clients with housing matters, helping 1,801 Montanans and 673 children.
  - Clients in attaining $111,547 of housing benefits.

Statewide benefits
- The total economic impact of MLSA’s statewide civil legal aid services is $9,645,345.
- **Over 3:1 return on investment.**
  - Legal aid provided by MLSA resulted in over $1 million in awards to Montanans.
  - Legal aid for low-income clients has generated $1,985,625 in cost savings.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Montana is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Montana can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
The people of North Carolina benefit greatly from legal aid services, and there is a great need in
the state for legal services for the poor. A family of four with an annual income of $29,437 or
less qualifies for legal aid services. 23.8% of the population is eligible for free legal services,
18% of the population lives below the poverty line, and 26% of the children in the state live
below the poverty line. In a two year period, legal aid services were able to help these people by
obtaining 3,800 protective orders, closing 9,400 domestic violence cases, and obtaining over
17.2 million in housing benefits for clients. In addition to helping people in need, legal aid
services can boost the economy. The total economic impact of legal aid services in North
Carolina is over $97.5 million. That is a 108% return on investment for what the state spends on
legal aid services.

Impact on People
Legal aid services in North Carolina help provide:
• Legal services to more than 13,000 individuals a year.
• Over 1,900 protective orders on behalf of clients in domestic violence cases.
• Over 4,700 closings of domestic violence cases affecting over 12,000 people.
• Over $8.6 million in housing benefits, rent abatements, and other rewards for clients.

Statewide benefits
• The total economic impact of legal aid services in North Carolina in 2012 was
  $48,775,276.
  • Nearly 10:1 return on investment.
• $16,857,503 in cost savings, including domestic violence, eviction, and foreclosure
  prevention.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in North Carolina is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through
immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, North
Carolina can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
Legal aid services help to fill a vital need for the most disadvantaged members of the community. In addition to providing important legal aid to people in need, legal aid services can provide a boost to the economy as well. Over two years, the total benefits to the state of Nebraska from legal aid services will amount to over $26 million. This translates to more jobs and more tax revenue that can benefit the whole state.

Impact on People
The $5.7 million invested in Nebraska’s Legal Aid Services produced:
- $2,511,052 in total benefits to clients.

Statewide benefits
- Total benefits to Nebraska amounted to $13,511,817 in 2007.
- Nearly 4:1 return on investment.
- Tax savings to the state was $599,313.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Nebraska is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Nebraska can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
Legal aid services are provided through three organization in New Hampshire: Legal Advice & Referral Center (LARC), New Hampshire Pro Bono (NHPB), and New Hampshire Legal Assistance (NHLA). The combined effort of these organizations has had a great impact statewide by both helping the members of the state most in need and boosting the economy. Over a two year period, these three organizations have closed over 2,000 family, custody, or domestic violence cases, over 2,900 housing cases, and created nearly 60 jobs.

Impact on People
The $1.37 million invested in New Hampshire’s Legal Aid Services produced:
- $12.8 million in child and spousal support.
- 1,040 family, custody or domestic violence cases closed.
- 1,476 housing cases closed.

Statewide benefits
- $84.4 million in statewide economic impact through revenue and savings.
  - 30 jobs created across the state.
- $2.4 million saved in prevention of domestic violence.
- $400,000 saved in avoidance of emergency shelters.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in New Hampshire is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, New Hampshire can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
Legal aid in New York is operated primarily through the Interest on Lawyers Account Fund of New York State (IOLA). In a two-year period, IOLA has been able to close over 510,000 cases.

Impact on People
$40 million in civil legal aid funding has resulted in:
- 6776 jobs generated from civil legal services
- 266,461 closed cases by IOLA between 2012-2013
- Helping clients claim over $5.1 million in support payments
  - $3.9 million in child support
  - $1.2 million in spousal support

Statewide benefits
- $116.1 million in savings from the prevention of evictions and homelessness.
- More than 6:1 return on investment
- $1.5 billion in economic benefits statewide
- $679 million in economic stimulus in 2012
- $85 million annual saving in costs relating to domestic violence victim assistance

Looking Ahead
IOLA annual revenue for civil legal service providers plummeted from $32 million to $7 million. In 2012, the Chief Judge increased available funding to $40 million for direct Judiciary Civil Legal Services, $15 million of which was allocated to stabilizing the IOLA Fund. With the increase in funding, New York citizens receiving legal aid increased from 125,169 in 2011 to 267,965 in 2012. Even with an increase in funding there remains many New Yorkers in need of legal aid; because of a lack of funding, only one in nine eligible low-income individuals who seek help receive legal assistance. Research reported by the Task Force to Expand Access to Civil Legal Services in New York recommends: 1) expanding law school and law student involvement and 2) increasing access to technology. Without adequate funding New York will be unable to improve access to justice.
Ohio (2010)
Cost-Benefit Analysis
Legal Services Corporation Funding

Civil Legal Aid Brief
Over a two year period, the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation (OLAF) has closed over 174,700 cases helping over 328,000 people.

Impact on People
In 2010, OLAF’s $49.1 million annual budget helped:
- 164,000 low-income individuals and families across the state every year
- 87,390 cases closed.
  - 23,852 family cases involving abuse, violence, custody, and other matters.
    - 1,000 individuals (and their children) protected from domestic abuse.
  - 22,209 housing cases involving foreclosure, discrimination, and other matters.
    - 3,000 foreclosure preventions.
  - 7,475 Cases Obtaining financial assistance, such as veteran benefits, food stamps, and SSI.

Statewide benefits
- Legal aid produced $106 million in economic output.
- **11.5:1 return on investment**
- Sustained over 700 jobs.
- $5.6 million in tax revenue to state and local governments.
- $48 million into the hands of hardworking Ohioans.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Ohio is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Ohio can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
The Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma Inc. (LASO) helps provide legal services to Oklahomans most in need while also providing economic benefits to the state and local economy. LASO closes nearly 30,000 cases over two years. 48% of these cases involve domestic abuse, divorce, or other family matters that are important for keeping families and children safe. LASO supports over 200 jobs over a two year period and creates over $14 million in economic activity and over $700,000 in state and local tax collections in that time period.

Impact on People
LASO’s $8.7 million annual budget has helped:
- LASO close over 15,000 cases in 2010.
  - 48% involved domestic abuse, divorce, child custody, and other family matters.
- Directly or indirectly affect over 338,000 Oklahomans since 2002.
- Prevent over 100 tenant evictions and home foreclosures.

Statewide benefits
- $7.1 million increase in economic activity statewide due to legal services funding.
  - Supported 108 jobs.
  - LASO directly employs 134 individuals.
- Supported $4.1 million in direct income.
- $351,458 in state and local tax collections.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Oklahoma is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Oklahoma can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Legal Services Corporation

Cost-Benefit Analysis

Pennsylvania (2012)
Cost-Benefit Analysis
Legal Services Corporation Funding

Civil Legal Aid Brief
Legal aid funding can help over 3,400 families avoid homelessness and over 13,300 families avoid abuse over a two year period.

Impact on People
The $53.6 million invested in Pennsylvania’s Civil Legal Services in 2011 helped:

- 1,715 families avoid the need for emergency shelters, saving $14,794 per family.
- Protect 6,658 Pennsylvanian families from domestic abuse, saving $3,462 per family.
- Kept children in school by helping them avoid homelessness or abuse.

Statewide benefits

- $594 Million in Income and Savings for Residents and Communities.
  - Supported 2,643 Jobs. Every million dollars in funding supports 13.84 jobs.
- Greater than 11:1 return on the investment.
- In Philadelphia, return on investment was nearly 13:1 in 2018.
- Revenue for Pennsylvania hospitals from $59 million in Medicaid reimbursements.
- Philadelphia avoids costs of at least $45.2 million a year.
- Tax revenue from jobs preserved as a result of Legal Aid employment cases.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Pennsylvania is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Pennsylvania can expect to see continued return on investment from legal aid funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
Through the operation of four regional agencies in the state of Tennessee, Legal Services Corporation has been able to help close over 20,500 cases over two years. Over 2,200 families are kept out of shelters and over 1,400 families are protected from domestic abuse over two years.

Impact on People
The Tennessee Legal Services Corporation’s $16.83 million budget helps provide:
- $2.7 million in child and spousal support.
- $26 million in benefits to social security and disability income recipients.
- 398 foreclosures prevented in one year.
- 1,105 families kept out of shelters.
- $33.8 million saved by preventing foreclosure and keeping people in their homes.
- 709 people and their families protected from domestic violence every year.
- $64.3 million in benefits to clients and their families.

Statewide benefits
- $188.6 million in total support and savings.
- **Greater than 11:1 return on investment.**
  - 619 jobs created in one year.
- $42.6 million in cost saving to the community.

Looking Ahead
Legal aid in Tennessee is a substantial contributor to state and local economies. Through immediate savings and income, as well as the long-term economic multiplier effect, Tennessee can expect to see continued return on investment from LSC funding.
Civil Legal Aid Brief

The LSC in Texas is able to help provide service for over 200,000 vulnerable Texans every two years. 202,400 cases are closed every two years with the help of LSC services, and almost half are family cases.

Impact on People
LSC in Texas has an annual budget of $96.5 million, resulting in:

- 41,294 family law cases closures.
  - 11,059 victims of domestic abuse (and their children) received protection.
- 19,697 disabled persons received federal benefits.
- 13,745 seniors received withheld federal funds (such as Medicare and Social Security).
- 7,106 children benefited as a result of parental case closure.

Statewide benefits

- $30.5 million in revenue to State and local governments for $4.8 million in contributions.
- Almost 7.5:1 return on investment
  - 4,528 jobs created from legal aid funding.

Looking Ahead
Increasing funding to the point where Texas can meet a portion of overall need equivalent to that occurring in the nation as a whole would result in an annual stimulus of $816.6 million in aggregate expenditures, $392.1 million in output, $242.2 million in earnings, and 5,659 jobs. Not to mention the social benefits of more equitable access and a larger portion of people’s legal needs being met.
Civil Legal Aid Brief
Through Legal Services Corporation presence in Virginia, more than 130,000 clients are directly impacted through case closures every two years.

Impact on People
Through LSCV’s $24.1 million annual funding, legal aid has aided:
- 29,807 people to acquire uncollected child support, protection from domestic abusers, and ensuring children are well-supported.
- 14,861 clients are living in adequate housing and/or will not be illegally foreclosed on.
- 4,020 individuals receiving withheld or terminated federal funds for Social Security and other programs.

Statewide Benefits
- $94.1 million in income and savings for residents.
- **Nearly 4:1 return on investment.**
  - $42.1 million returning to local economies through economic multiplier.
  - 538 additional jobs.
- $25.5 million withheld federal benefit funds returned to state residents in form of Social Security, Medicaid, and Disability.
- $1.4 million saved in costs related to continued domestic abuse.
  - Saving 384 families (and children) from their domestic abusers.

Looking Ahead
Since 2015, LSCV has lost 3% of its potential clients due to funding cuts and rollbacks. For every additional $1 million in funding, Virginia legal services will be able to support 2,271 more people. This will only continue to amplify the returns from closed cases.