ANNUAL REPORT
ADVANCING JUSTICE.
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES.

LEGAL AID
of East Tennessee
2020 was a year like no other. The year began with our staff energized by new possibilities for helping our clients and innovative ways to reach our community. Then in March everything changed with the onset of the crippling COVID-19 pandemic. Our staff were put in an incredibly difficult position in determining how to continue to serve our clients while changing the way in which we work. Within days of the emergency federal declaration, we were working remotely and remained so throughout much of the year. Despite this unthinkable situation our staff never missed a beat in continuing to serve our clients.

I cannot say enough about the way our staff accepted the challenges not only of remote work but also of continuing to help those most in need. While all of our clients were impacted by the pandemic, the effect on seniors was especially grave. The members of our Senior Law Alliance team took extraordinary measures to reach isolated seniors who had no way to get out to meet with a lawyer in a time of particular need, especially for important documents such as living wills and powers of attorney. Our staff at our four Family Justice Centers continued to do all they could to help those suffering abuse when the pandemic kept them in their home with a violent partner. Our housing attorneys addressed unthinkable tactics by landlords to get our clients out of their homes during a moratorium on lawful evictions. We saw cases of people being locked out of their homes and utilities being cut off in the heat of summer, all illegal actions. Without the help of a lawyer, these clients and their families would have been rendered homeless at the height of the pandemic. All of this work could not have been accomplished without the support of our other staff members, including our Finance, Human Resources, and Development Team members, who ensured our attorneys were able to represent their clients while working remotely.

Last year LAET staff and our wonderful Pro Bono Attorneys helped 533 people with legal problems related to the pandemic. The majority of the problems we saw were housing related, issues involving unemployment compensation, and requests for advance directives or wills. Our staff rose to the challenge of meeting the overwhelming legal need for our low-income neighbors and closed over 5,500 cases while navigating the various hurdles created by the pandemic.

The pages that follow contain our 2020 annual report, which highlights the work of our staff and the gratitude of our clients. Please join me in thanking our wonderful staff for their hard work and dedication in a most unusual year. As we reflect on 2020 and look forward to the hope of 2021 LAET never wavered in our commitment to the cause of equal justice for all.
The mission of Legal Aid of East Tennessee is to strengthen communities and change lives through high quality legal services. Our vision is an East Tennessee where justice is a community value and no one faces a legal problem alone.
2020 IMPACT

11,657 clients and family members impacted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Cases by Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>3951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Violence</td>
<td>1446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pro Bono Cases</td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Attorneys</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer</td>
<td>644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
<td>1056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>1345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>1896</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Economic impact amount:
$72.4 Million

2020 Revenue Sources

- Legal Services Corporation: 41%
- Administrative Office of the Courts: 14%
- Other State of TN Grants: 9%
- United Ways: 9%
- United Ways: 9%
- Other: 5%
- Office of Criminal Justice Programs: 3%
- Fundraising and Contributions: 2%
- Title III, Elder Trust, Cycles of Success, CARES - Payroll Protection Plan, TN CARES Act: 3%

Every $1 creates $11.21 in local impact.
CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

“I was able to keep my home. Life changing.”

“Thanks to LAET, I no longer live in fear!”

“The Legal Aid staff were very kind to me.”

“LAET’s handling of my case gave me peace of mind.”
OUR CLIENTS’ STORIES

A client we will call “Mark” sought help from LAET after he was evicted at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mark did not know about the CDC eviction moratorium that helped people stay in their homes during the pandemic. Before he contacted LAET, Mark went to court without an attorney but did not present the required paperwork to stay in his home. The judge did not inform people in the courtroom about the moratorium so Mark had no way to know it would help him. Sadly, Mark was evicted that very day. After contacting LAET, attorney Jeff Armstrong convinced the county attorney to honor the moratorium on Mark’s behalf and further convinced him to stop the local sheriff’s department from executing evictions on anyone else during this moratorium. This action by Attorney Armstrong saved our client, Mark and countless others from wrongful eviction and losing their homes in the midst of a pandemic.

Last year we helped “Joseph,” an elderly client who sought assistance from LAET after his daughter wrongfully used a power of attorney to sell his home and take his savings. The daughter then used that money to purchase her own home. LAET was able to present evidence that Joseph’s daughter had wrongfully used the power of attorney and had not acted in his best interest. The judge ordered that her newly purchased home be put solely in Joseph’s name and also entered a judgement for her to repay the savings she had taken from him. Without LAET’s help, Joseph would be without a home and means of financial support.
2020

VOLUNTEERS

Heather Anderson
Tim Ballard
Heather Banks
Heidi Barcus
Steve Barham
F. Arthur Bass
William Beasley
Gregory E. Bennett
Tasha Blakney
Linda Gay Blanc
Ned Boehm
Holly Booksh
Wade Boswell
Jack Bowers
Brenda Brooks
Ashley Burlesci-Niukkanen
Alan L Cates
Timothy Chambers
H. Franklin Chancey
Kisha Cheeks
Gary Chin
Sally Coffey
Nancy Cogar
Stephanie Coleman
Meagan Davis Collver
Amelia Crotwell
Richard Currie
Iris Devault
Devin DeVore
Ben Dickenson
Cathy Dorvil
Douglas Dunn
Mark Edmonds
David M. Eldridge
Caitlin Elledge
Kelly Etcults
James Exum
Jennifer Exum
Spencer Fair
Donald Farinato
Phillip E. Fleenor
Mike Forrester
Arthur Fowler
Ardena Garth-Hicks
Layne Gillespie
Brook Givens
Tim Grandchamp
Maurice Guinn
Matthew Haralson
Jaclyn Hardin
Susan Harmon
Joshua Hedrick
Diane Hicks
Frederick Hitchcock
Dan Holbrook
April Holland
Thomas Humphries
John Jackson
Thomas Jarvis
Katlyn Jones
Sam Jones
Courtney Keehan
Blair Kennedy
Ted Kern
David Kesler
Rebecca Ketchie
Aaron Kimsey
Nathan Kinard
Emma Knapp
Adam Kneisley
Vicki Tucci Krusel
Jay Ku
Jennifer H. Lawrence
Heather Lopez
Samantha Lunn
Brian Mansfield
Chris Martin
John Martin
Joseph Matherly
Savannah McCabe
Samantha McCammon
Matthew McClanahan
Heather McCoy
Anne McKinney
Joseph McMurray
Betsy Meadows
Stacie Miller
Kenneth Miller
Rebecca Miller
F. Scott Milligan
Kayla Moran
Julie Myrick
Ward W Nelson
Jessica Newhart
Kevin Newton
Tommy Joe Norton
Ashley Ownby
Samantha Parris
Chelsea Parrish
Wendy Patrick
Polly Peterson
Marshall Peterson
J. Nikki Price
Elizabeth Rauber
David Rexrode
Patricia Robledo
Cody Roebuck
Joel Roettger
Stephanie Rogers
John Rosson
Bill Routh
Frank Santore
Brian Schott
Daniel Scott
Charles Sharrett
Caroline Shea
Charles Edwin Shoemaker
Lauren Smith
Jennifer Smith
P. Andrew Sneed
Amber Spelman
Stephen Stark
Allison Starnes-Anglea
Lynn Talley
Lynn Tarpy
William Terrell
Derek Terry
Benet Theiss
Marjorie Thornton
Crews Townsend
Luis Urrea
Sarah Valk
Gary Wade
Courtney Walker
Allie Weiss
Lisa Collins Werner
Felisha White
Daniel Wilkins
Gregory D Willett
Jared Williams
Jim Willimas
Randy Wilson
Fisher Wise
Patrick Woodside
Laura Wyrick
## DONORS

### PLATINUM GAVEL
*$5,000+
- Egerton McAfee Armistead & Davis P.C.
- Chambliss Bahner & Stophel
- Erlanger Baroness Hospital
- McKee Foods Corporation
- Kramer Rayson LLP

### GOLD GAVEL
*$2,500 - $4,999
- Thomas E. Plank
- Husch Blackwell Sanders LLP
- Gary R. Wade

### SILVER GAVEL
*$1,000 - $2,499
- Robert Adamcik
- Joan Adorno
- William Dale Amburn
- Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz
- Eldridge & Blakney, P.C.
- Century 21 LEGACY
- Hodges Doughty & Carson
- Samuel J Furrow
- Hamilton County Herald, LLC
- Debra L House
- Law Offices of Tony Farmer & John Dreiser
- Home Federal Bank
- Merchant & Gould
- TVC Trust and Wealth Management
- UT College of Law
- Vicki L. Mayfield
- Jack H. McCall, Jr.
- Dennis R McClane
- Kenneth A. Miller
- Marshall Peterson & Linda Gay Blanc
- Pugh & Company, P.C.
- Tony Seaton
- Norman G Templeton
- Lewis Thomason Charitable Giving
- Woolf, McClane, Bright, Allen & Carpenter, PLLC

### BRONZE GAVEL
*$600 - $999
- U.S. Bank
- Wade M. Boswell

### SUPPORTER
*$300 - $599
- Marcia J. Eason
- McMurray Law Office, PLLC
- Melrose Foundation Inc.
- Rachel K. Powell
- Lynn P. Talley
- Catherine E. Shuck
- Deborah Yeomans-Barton

- John T. Batson Jr.
- Bass, Berry & Sims
- Paine Bickers LLP
- Tasha C Blakney
- Ida Elizabeth Bond
- Breeding & Henry, LLC
- John H. Cameron
- Kyle Carpenter
- J. William Coley
- Scherri and Larry Hickman
- Josh Hoeppner, Attorney at Law
- Hunter Smith & Davis
- Amanda Dunn
- The East Tennessee Foundation
- East Tennessee Lawyers Association for Women
- John W. Elder
- Elizabeth B. Ford
- Frantz McConnell & Seymour LLP
- Gearhiser, Peters, Elliott and Cannon, PLLC
- Graham Marie Swafford, III
- Kizer & Black, Attorneys, PLLC
- Leitner Williams Dooley & Napolitan
- Matthew R. Lyon
- Carl P. McDonald
- Maureen Myers
- James A. Ridley III
- Ritchie, Dillard & Davies, PC
- Mark A. Rosser
- Joanie Sompayrac
- Steven & Suzanne Spell
- Charles W. Swanson
- Tarpy, Cox, Fleishman & Leveille, P.L.L.C.
- The IT Company
- Jeffrey Tuck
- UT Federal Credit Union
- Monty L. Walton
- Watson, Roach, Batson, Rowell & Lauderback, P.L.C.
- Kevin Wilson
- David R. & Dolores Yoder
Bible Harris Smith, P.C.
Carl A. Pierce
Daniel Swanson
Drew Clark
George Tolibert Lewis
Houston and Alexander
Imogene A. King
Jimmy F Rodgers, Jr.
John H. Cameron, Jr.
Katherine Frost Loeffler
Kirsta M. Oglesby
Morris Hadden
Penny J. White
Richard L. Banks
Thomas M. Hale
James T. Williams
Aaron Chapman
Charles Edward Young, Jr.
Gail Williams
Gayden Green
Herbert Thornbury
Jason Creech
Kimberly Bolton
Virginia C. Love
Wayne E. & Suzanne C. Thomas
William A. Harris, III
Mary L. Gavlik
Amy Morris Hess
Joshua & Hannah Reed
L. Marie Williams
SmartBank
Susan P. Herndon
William Allen Mynatt, Jr.
Patricia I. Robledo
Jason Mirmelstein
Kyle W. Eiselstein
Patsy J. Read
Randy Wilson
Robert Dann
Roger W. Dickson
Alison B. Martin
Allison Starnes-Anglea
Suzy Anthony
Aaron M. Kimsey
Antonio Rodriguez
Benjamin K. Hunter
Bobby A. Hewitt
Catherine Kim
Cornelia A. Clark
David Higney
David R. Duggan
Elizabeth Kelley & Hanson Ridley
Tipton
Frances L. Ansley
George Hixson
Gregory D. Shanks
Helen D. Dixon
Herbert Thornbury
Ian P. Hennessey
J. Scott Moore
Jackson G. Kramer
Jake Stein
James Gregory OConnor
Jason P. Lambert
Jeffrey or Karen Staser
Jennifer L. Brundige
Jerri Bryant
Jerry H. Summers
Jerry M. Martin
Joan MacLeod Heminway
John W. Cleveland
Karen Davidson
Karen Moore
Kendra T. Mansur
Lee S Rideout
Madge Smith
Maria V. Gillen
Mark Siegel
Maureen Dunn McBride
McKenna L. Cox
Mercedes Andrino
Nancy Self
Patricia Jean Obenour
Richard Baker
Robert Downs
Rosemarie Hill
Russell Ivey
Stephen Kiefer
Steven R. Barrett
Stian Romberg
Susan Eckelmann Berghel
Ward W. Nelson
Jane Kopp Morris
James Nelson Irvine, JD
Karen Boyd
Robert D. Philyaw
The Senter Law Firm PC
Bobby Babb
Jo Willems
Heidi A. Barcus
John R. Bode
Larry L. Cash
Barbara Waters
Benjamin Barton
Christopher V McMahill
Eddy Smith
Eric M. Lutton
Erin & Daniel Keck
Helen Humphreys
Jennifer Craig Fehling
Joseph C. Simpson
Kirsten Self
Les Leonard
Leslie Cory
Lindsey Chapman
Michael Hromadka
R. Jackson Pope
Richard M. Currie, Jr.
Robert E. Lee, Jr.
Suzette Jane Brown
Toby A. Koosman
Vonda Laughlin
Wanda Arthur
Robin Cotton
Wynne du Mariau Caffey-Knight
C. Crews Townsend
Joseph C. Simpson
Paige Bureau
Samantha Lunn
Karen D. Copenhaver
Chris Stiles
Emily Lay Hooper
Fred or Rita Garland
Judith Hamilton
Stephanie Rogers
Barry Kolar
Elizabeth Friedman
Gina Sliger
Angela Middlebrooks
Ann Price Morrison
Barbara M. Traynor
CharLee Howard
David Bang
Federico A. Flores
Frances Virgin
Goran Musinovic
Heather Swift Woolf
Helen McNutt
John Logan Jolley
Nancy J. Reid
Peggy Lindsey
Peggy R. Justice
Rosa L. Brooks
Thomas Dubose
Wilma S. Womack
Anita Indra Tharasingh
George Davis
Gloria Ar-Rahamaan
Mary A. Myers
Marya Schalk
Kevin Krapf
Brenda J. Ewell
Johnelle Simpson, II
Carmela Santos Cesario
The Honorable J. Lauderback
BOARD OFFICERS
Amanda Dunn, President
Keith Alley, President Elect
Joanie Sompayrac, Treasurer
Tammye Taylor, Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Keith Alley, Esq.
DeAnna Baxley
Ashley E. Bentley, Esq.
John H. Cameron, Jr., Esq.
Aaron J. Chapman, Esq.
Cheryl Crane
Amanda B. Dunn, Esq.
Trey Harris, Esq.
Justin M. Huggins
Timothy Jones
Matt Lyon, Esq.
Donald F. Mason, Jr., Esq.
April Morrison
Marshall H. Peterson, Esq.
Katherine “Katie” Priester, Esq.
Stephanie Rogers, Esq.
Joseph C. Simpson, Esq.
Amy Kathleen Skelton, Esq.
Joanie Sompayrac, J.D., M.Acc., C.P.A.
Tammye Taylor, Esq.
Penny J. White, Esq.
Charles Wille
Heather S. Woolf

KNOXVILLE AREA
Sonia Andrade, Receptionist
Zach Arnold, Deputy Director of Litigation & Advocacy
Melissa Boyd, Paralegal
A'LeShia Browning, Paralegal
Michael Davis, Attorney
Robert Downs, Attorney
Holly Fuller, Managing Attorney
Anne Galbraith, Legal Secretary
Jennifer Garland, Paralegal
Hayley Griffith, Paralegal
Melanie Henry, Paralegal
Debra House, Director of Development & Compliance
Sam Kemp, Legal Secretary
Almeda King, Paralegal
Cynthia Miller, Paralegal
Lyndsey Phillips, Attorney
Pat Read, Paralegal
Lee Ann Swarm, Attorney
Caitlin Torney, Pro Bono Attorney
Mila Yarbrough, Paralegal

CHATTANOOGA AREA
Cathy Allshouse, Deputy Dir of Litigation/Attorney
Teresa Allen, Paralegal
Nicole Benjamin, Attorney
Melissa Brumfield, Director of Finance
Maria Calderon, Paralegal
Ben Danford, Attorney
Sarah DiStefano, Paralegal
Russell Fowler, Dir Litigation & Advocacy/Attorney
Sheri Fox, Executive Director
Brian Frye, Attorney
Linda Hall, Director of Operations
Emily Hooper, Attorney
Matt Huff, Pro Bono Attorney
Gail Hughes, Legal Secretary
Logan Jenkins, Paralegal
John Jolley, Attorney
Renee Lautigar, Legal Secretary
Linda Laymon, Receptionist
Sarah Leeth, Paralegal
Robyne Lopez, Paralegal
Rhonda Morgan, Accounting Assistant
David Nagle, Attorney
Jennifer Redmond, Paralegal
Tanya Richardson, Paralegal
Shahen Salili, Attorney
Suzanne Wisdom, Development Specialist

TRI-CITIES AREA / MORRISTOWN
Jeff Armstrong, Managing Attorney
Tanner Beck, Attorney
Jessica Crawford, Paralegal
Jennifer Davis, Attorney
Kimberly Grace-Seals, Attorney
Nathan Gross, Paralegal
Delphia Hauser, Legal Secretary
Lucille Lawson, Legal Secretary
Polly Peterson, Deputy Director of Litigation/Attorney
Amanda Pettry, Attorney
Amanda Simpson, Pro Bono Attorney
Shelly Stonick, Receptionist
Micheal Talley, Attorney
Camilla Thompson, Paralegal
Deborah Yeomans-Barton, Managing Attorney

CHATTANOOGA AREA
Cathy Allshouse, Deputy Dir of Litigation/Attorney
Teresa Allen, Paralegal
Nicole Benjamin, Attorney
Melissa Brumfield, Director of Finance
Maria Calderon, Paralegal
Ben Danford, Attorney
Sarah DiStefano, Paralegal
Russell Fowler, Dir Litigation & Advocacy/Attorney
Sheri Fox, Executive Director
Brian Frye, Attorney
Linda Hall, Director of Operations
Emily Hooper, Attorney
Matt Huff, Pro Bono Attorney
Gail Hughes, Legal Secretary
Logan Jenkins, Paralegal
John Jolley, Attorney
Renee Lautigar, Legal Secretary
Linda Laymon, Receptionist
Sarah Leeth, Paralegal
Robyne Lopez, Paralegal
Rhonda Morgan, Accounting Assistant
David Nagle, Attorney
Jennifer Redmond, Paralegal
Tanya Richardson, Paralegal
Shahen Salili, Attorney
Suzanne Wisdom, Development Specialist
GENERAL OFFICES
Providing civil legal assistance to qualifying East Tennessee residents

CHATTANOOGA
(423) 756-4013
(800) 572-7457

CLEVELAND
(423) 303-2266
(800) 572-7457

JOHNSON CITY
(423) 928-8311
(800) 821-1312

KNOXVILLE
(865) 637-0484

MARYVILLE
(865) 981-1818

MORRISTOWN
(423) 587-4850
(800) 821-1309

FAMILY JUSTICE CENTERS
Providing legal help for those in abusive, violent and trafficking situations

BRANCH HOUSE - THE FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER OF SULLIVAN COUNTY
(423) 574-7233

CHATTANOOGA FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER
(423) 643-7600

JOHNSON CITY / WASHINGTON COUNTY FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER
(423) 722-3720

KNOXVILLE FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER
(865) 215-6830

ERLANGER HEALTH LAW PARTNERSHIP
Providing legal assistance that improves medical outcomes

For Erlanger patients only
(423) 778-7807

TENNESSEE SENIOR LAW ALLIANCE
Providing free legal solutions for qualifying seniors

Serving 26 counties in East Tennessee
1(866) 333-1505

View Full Report At LAET.ORG