

KANSAS LEGAL SERVICES

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



KANSASLEGALSERVICES.ORG

Executive Director

MATTHEW D. KEENAN

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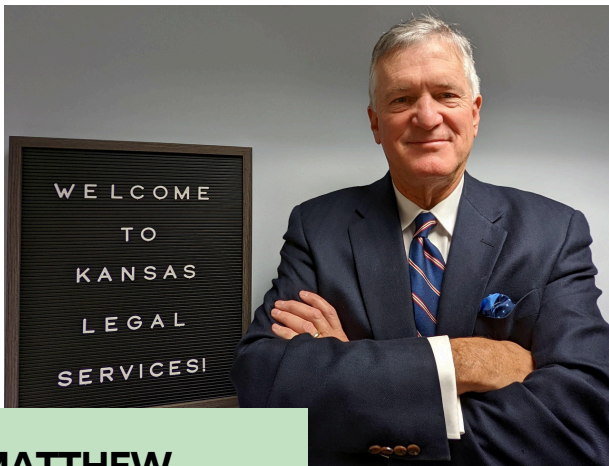
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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**MATTHEW
KEENAN**

Executive Director of Kansas
Legal Services

Serving as the Executive Director of Kansas Legal Services (KLS) is both a profound responsibility and a daily reminder of the transformative power of access to justice. This opportunity is also one of the greatest privileges of my life. After practicing law for 41 years, raising four children with my wife Lori, and contributing to the pro bono space for most of my career, I had a general sense that my life experience was informed and enlightened.

I was wrong.

This position has significantly expanded my understanding in ways that go beyond what can be summarized here. Still, I'll do my best to try. The overall gestalt of what I've seen is that where civil lawyers go lacking, the void is often filled with actors and entities who will seize upon vulnerable moms, dads, teens, and toddlers and push until someone stands up and says "no more." In almost every case, those two words are never uttered. KLS is not there. No one is. Any semblance of equal justice disappears.

And yes, there is so much that is positive and groundbreaking about our successes in 2024, but I can't help but acknowledge that so much remains the same, and our challenges are daunting.

To stay in this discouraging space for a bit longer, one of the most shocking revelations I've discovered is one of the black holes of justice in Kansas is something called the "limited actions docket" – known in the profession as Chapter 61 cases. This is where family dreams go to die. Where dads and moms try to navigate the labyrinth of rules of procedure alone with the inevitable result that families see when the sheriff moves their possessions to the street, where medical debt goes to default judgment, and cases are fast-tracked, from start to finish, in less than a month. In the blink of a legal eye, Kansans see paychecks garnished and, as we have seen time and time again, often it's done wrongfully.

LETTER

CONTINUED

Unlike nearly all other cases, in eviction cases, tenants often have to go to court with no way to compel the landlord to produce any of the relevant documents at trial, such as inspection reports. Also, unlike most other in cases, tenants can't get hearing dates moved back if they can't make a hearing date or to prepare for trial. In debt collection cases, creditors routinely "serve" people by posting court documents on a door and mailing them a copy by regular first-class mail. Then they can get a default judgment even if the debtor doesn't live there anymore, or if they never lived there. Also, the judges overseeing these proceedings are often not even lawyers. They are what is described as non-law trained magistrate judges. In our state, over half the magistrates are not lawyers.

To be sure, many, probably most, Chapter 61 cases are meritorious and there is overall value to a rapidly moving process that allows rights and remedies to be adjudicated expeditiously. But the system is imperfect, some would say flawed. I would say flawed. I cannot count how many times I've uttered to myself, "How can this be?" KLS attorneys have been doing more in Chapter 61. When we get involved, the dynamics change on a dime.

I was student in this area of law because KLS has become more invested in this universe. We've been taking cases in this space and making a difference, particularly as it relates to medical debt collection cases. Our role will expand and it's my hope that in next year's report the tone will be markedly improved.

But yes, 2024 was our best year yet. We helped more than 23,000 Kansans with a wide range of legal issues. Our advocacy not only levels the playing field in court—it also puts money back into the hands of local families. Whether it's securing child support for single mothers or clearing criminal records so people can access better-paying jobs, the impact is tangible. In fact, last year an independent study found that our work generated a \$60 million positive economic impact across the state.

One client story is worth sharing here. We recently helped a mother in Riley County secure survivor benefits for her infant son after the child's father passed away. Because the father's name wasn't listed on the birth certificate, the Social Security Administration initially denied the claim. With our help, the claim was approved in January 2024. As a result, this toddler received a lump-sum back payment of \$2,959 and ongoing monthly benefits of \$432.

LETTER

CONTINUED

Stories like this demonstrate that our work is about more than legal procedure; it is about securing stability and dignity for families. While the systemic challenges are significant, the tangible impact we have on thousands of lives, like that young child, fuels our determination. As we look ahead, we are committed to expanding our presence in critical areas like the Chapter 61 docket and continuing to be a voice for those who would otherwise go unheard.

Thank you for your belief in our mission and your support in making access to justice a reality for more Kansans.



MATTHEW D. KEENAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2024 AT A GLANCE

11,219

Clients received timely legal advice as they faced family law, housing, consumer related or other crises in their lives

81.8%

Of Senior Citizens polled were *extremely or very satisfied* with services provided by KLS staff

382

Parents received child support orders in divorce and paternity cases

1,292

Kansans received advise or representation on debt collection matters

190

Adults and children received steady monthly income from Social Security or SSI disability benefits

1,764

Veterans or their families received legal advice or representation



KLS OVERVIEW

VISION

Since 1977, KLS has progressively focused efforts on persons with special needs, domestic violence victims, crime victims, the homeless, children in foster care, consumers with debt disputes, the elderly, those with disabling conditions, individuals with barriers to jobs and housing, and those seeking mediation services.

MISSION

- Kansas Legal Services is legal aid in Kansas, providing equal access to justice for the most vulnerable Kansans.
- KLS provides legal services to alleviate low income Kansans' poverty burdens. KLS has eleven field offices and two mediation offices located across Kansas.

PROGRAMS

ELDER LAW

KLS coordinates with local Area Agencies on Aging and the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services as a legal service provider in the state aging network. Older Americans Act, county Mill Levy funds, and other private funds address this growing area of need. Senior Citizens Law Project (SCLP) provides services in a wide range of civil legal issues to persons age 60 and older. SCLP's objective is to target the more vulnerable elderly population who are in the greatest social and economic need.

KLS also operates the KLS Elder Rights Project which provides assistance for seniors who are victims of financial fraud, exploitation, domestic abuse and other crimes.

The Kansas Elder Law Hotline (below) links KLS staff and private attorneys to provide the broadest possible range of legal advice and information.

**KANSAS ELDER LAW HOTLINE:
316-267-3975**

HOUSING LAW

KLS helps Kansans with many aspects of housing that tenants and homeowners face, including confronting discriminatory practices by landlords and lenders, and resolving unsafe rental housing conditions.

KLS also provides foreclosure prevention legal assistance through a grant from the Kansas Bar Foundation. Hundreds of Kansas families have been helped to prevent or resolve foreclosure actions.

FAMILY LAW

KLS represents thousands of low income persons each year in domestic matters through many funding sources, including: Access to Justice (ATJ), Legal Services Corporation, United Way, Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts (IOLTA) and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA).

Funding specific to family law increased the number of family law clients KLS has been able to serve. Even with increased funding, the demand for direct representation in family law matters continues to exceed KLS' capacity. Priority is placed on cases of spousal or child abuse and protection from abuse orders.

PROGRAMS

SERVICES FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND OTHER CRIMES

Every year, KLS provides assistance to thousands of survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and other crimes. KLS uses funds from a number of resources, including Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), and Interest on Lawyers Trust Account (IOLTA) funding, to ensure that the legal needs of survivors and their families are addressed. In addition to needed legal assistance, KLS looks at the other needs of the survivors such as affordable, safe housing and income maintenance that will help them feel safe and stable.

Funders for this important work for survivors range from federal, state, county and local funds from across the state.



KIDS2KIN

The Kids2Kin program aims at reducing the number of children entering foster care, and preventing foster care placements for those at-risk by helping relatives or caregivers of the kids with guardianships and other legal issues.

KLS was the first legal service organization in the country awarded a grant from the federal Family First program in 2019.



PARENT ADVOCATE PROGRAM

The Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) contracts with KLS to provide case management and legal services to families in 10 counties. The mission of the Parent Advocate Program is to keep families together and prevent children from going into the foster care system. We do this through education, advocacy (personal and legal), and collaboration. Working with parents and caregivers, Parent Advocates provide resources, support, and guidance to strengthen families.

PROGRAMS

SUSPENDED DRIVER'S LICENSE REINSTATEMENT

Over 200,000 Kansans have a suspended or revoked driver's license, a mark which ranks as the 4th highest in the nation. These suspensions are the result of failing to pay a ticket, not showing up for a hearing, being in an uninsured wreck or not paying child support. The road to get a driver's license back is often hard to navigate.

In the fall, 2023, KLS was awarded a two-year special grant from LSC to partner with local bar associations, private attorneys and courts to conduct driver's license clinics around the state, staffed with volunteer attorneys.

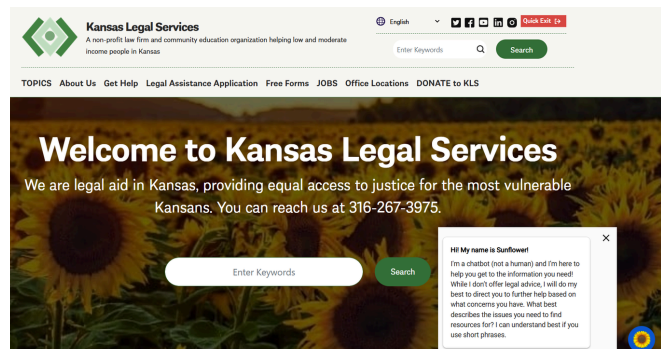
EXPUNGEMENT

KLS conducts expungement clinics across the state through funding from the Kansas Bar Foundation, state funding, and in partnership with local bar associations. We rely on volunteer attorneys to help with these clinics.



WEBSITE

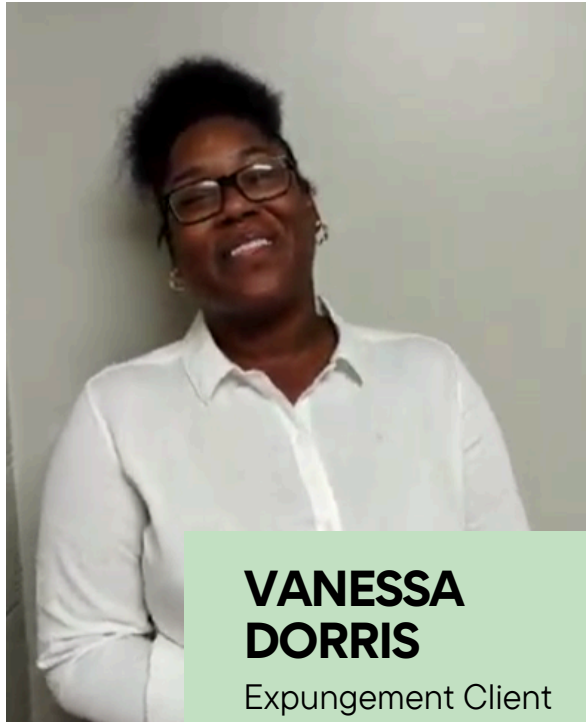
KLS's newly improved, mobile-friendly website serves as a key resource for people with legal needs throughout the state of Kansas. Users seeking KLS advice or representation can apply directly for assistance, while *pro se* users can access the website's numerous legal tutorials, prepared forms, FAQs, and other resources. Information pages relating to eviction and domestic violence consistently rank as our most viewed webpages and 8 serve as valuable guides for vulnerable Kansans.



[HTTPS://KANSASLEGALSERVICES.ORG](https://kansaslegalservices.org)

1,188,548
UNIQUE VIEWERS IN 2024

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS



VANESSA DORRIS

Expungement Client

* “Attending the expungement clinic that the Kansas legal aid provided was very life changing for me. Before the expungement, I was having difficulties, having a career attending my children's school activities and having a better housing situation for us.

* After the expungement, life had changed tremendously. I was able to get charges expunged in three counties, and due to that, I was able to attend nursing school. I'm able to attend my children school trips, and also I'm able to afford in living better housing neighborhoods. My career has also progressed.” - *Vanessa Dorris*



CHRISTINE SHEAR

Medical Debt Client

* “Kansas Legal Services was truly a godsend for me. I was served with a lawsuit by the local hospital over a medical bill—even though I had insurance at the time. I tried multiple times to resolve the issue with the billing department, but they claimed the bill was too old to submit to insurance.

* I applied for assistance, and KLS exceeded every expectation. I have never had anyone fight so hard for me. The entire KLS team was incredible to work with and stood by my side every step of the way. They made the impossible possible—and for that, I am forever grateful.” - *Christine Shear*

ELIZABETH FERGUSON AWARD

2024 RECIPIENT: DEBBY WELLS



DEBBY WELLS

Central Intake Training and
Support Specialist

The Elizabeth Ferguson award is given annually to a KLS staff member in recognition of outstanding achievements by staff members providing a substantial direct benefit to a client or the client community. Our 2024 recipient is Debbi Wells, KLS's Central Intake Training and Support Specialist, who ensures our new hires are well-trained, supported, and ready to assist the many clients who reach out to KLS.

"I just want to leave a positive comment about Debbi. She has been very helpful, particularly since I have severe hearing losses. She was able to slow down her cadence and enunciate clearly... She was very patient with my hearing loss, and took time trying to help me!" - KLS Client

Debbi brought 10 years of customer service experience to KLS and has now spent an incredible 27 years serving our clients and supporting her coworkers. Her supervisor, Michele Davis, and the whole team know they can count on her daily to check application work, provide thoughtful feedback, and offer consistent, knowledgeable support. Whether she's responding to instant message questions, sending out detailed training tips, or taking over a tough call, Debbi is always present, always helpful.

Since July 2011, Debbi has also maintained our Online Intake process—a critical part of our services that now accounts for nearly half of all applications at Central Intake. This process demands constant oversight and training, and Debbi has met that challenge with patience and dedication.

Debbi's calm, kind demeanor has a real impact. Intake staff praise her ability to prioritize urgent matters like domestic violence cases, communicate clearly and compassionately with clients, and go above and beyond to make sure nothing falls through the cracks.

Debbi has given so much to Kansas Legal Services—always showing up, always caring, often putting in more time than she's even able to take off. Her dedication, grace under pressure, and outstanding service to both staff and clients make her a true exemplar of the .

MARILYN HARP AWARD

2024 RECIPIENT: MATT ODOM

The Marilyn Harp Award honors the legacy of longtime KLS attorney and executive director Marilyn Harp. It is given annually to a Kansas Legal Services attorney in recognition of extraordinary service to clients.

This year's recipient, Matt Odom, has been the backbone of the KLS Hays office since his hiring on November 17, 2021. Until just recently, Matt was the only attorney in the office—handling an expansive range of cases across 21 counties, including family law, landlord/tenant disputes, elder law, debt defense, and guardianships. He is also the lead outreach attorney for the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) grant and oversees the Thomas and Ellis County Self-Help Centers.

Matt brings a rich background to KLS, including prior legal work in Colorado, his own practice in Hays, and service in the military. He is known not only for his strong legal knowledge but also for his deep compassion and calm professionalism.

From the beginning, Matt hit the ground running, sometimes even before his name was in the court system. In one early case, Matt took on a complex federal housing eviction case on behalf of a disabled veteran facing discrimination. Though new to appeals, Matt argued the case before the Kansas Court of Appeals and won a decision that will allow the eviction to be expunged—giving his client a second chance at stable housing.



MATT ODOM
Hays Office Staff Attorney

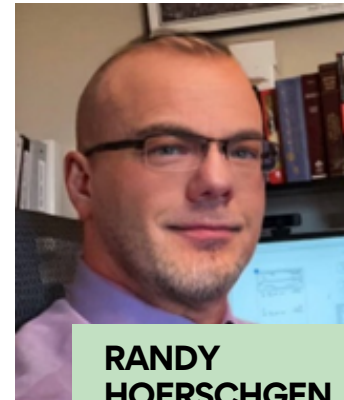
One of Matt's first cases at KLS involved saving an 84-year-old blind woman in Norton, Kansas, from losing her home to foreclosure, a type of case he had never handled before. With little guidance, he taught himself the law, drafted the necessary documents, and personally visited the client, ultimately negotiating a successful settlement.

Matt does it all with humility, humor, and relentless commitment. Whether representing survivors of domestic violence, advocating for vulnerable seniors, or keeping the Hays office afloat single-handedly, Matt consistently delivers compassionate, high-quality legal help to those who need it most.

MIDLAND MEDIATION AND SETTLEMENT SERVICES: PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The KLS mediation program operates as Midland Mediation & Settlement Services. Midland utilizes mediators approved by the Kansas Office of Judicial Administration, who have met and exceeded the standards to serve as a state approved mediator. Our mediators have successfully facilitated thousands of cases and are highly trained, experienced, and educated in the field.

Kansas Legal Services, provides civil rights, employment, domestic, juvenile permanency, insurance and other mediation services throughout the state. Mediation services complement the work of KLS by providing a non-adversarial dispute resolution method for appropriate cases.



**RANDY
HOERSCHGEN**
Director of Mediation

CITY OF WICHITA- NON DISCRIMINATION ORDINANCE

- * On October 12, 2021, the Wichita City Council voted to adopt a Non-Discrimination Ordinance (NDO), Ordinance 51-654, effective October 29, 2021. This ordinance is intended to assure equal opportunity for Wichitans and to ban discrimination or segregation in housing, employment and public accommodations based on age, color, disability, familial status, gender identity, genetic information, national origin or ancestry, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status or other factor protected by law. KLS was awarded this contract and currently provides mediation services for the city of Wichita.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE (ATJ)

- * ATJ Mediations are funded by the Office of Judicial Administration under the direction of the Kansas Supreme Court. ATJ funding enables parties' access to KLS offices for mediation services at no cost to participants who qualify. Most ATJ mediations involve post-divorce custody and parenting time issues.

KANSAS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

- * Kansas Human Rights Commission offers voluntary mediation to individuals involved in employment, housing and public accommodation discrimination claims filed with the Kansas Human Rights Commission.

FOR-FEE MEDIATIONS

- * For-Fee Mediations are offered to parties in domestic matters on a sliding fee basis when neither party is ATJ-eligible, and is available to parties in some civil matters at a reasonable hourly rate, no more than \$75.00 with a \$15.00 administrative fee.

**TO CONNECT WITH MEDIATION SERVICES
PLEASE CALL 785-232-5348**

STATEWIDE PRO BONO SERVICES

KLS THANKS ALL OF OUR PRO BONO ATTORNEYS!



Joy Springfield

KLS Statewide Pro Bono Services Director, worked hard through 2024 on many pro bono events, trainings, and coalition building.

KANSAS BAR FOUNDATION EXPUNGEMENT PROJECT

- * Expungements help low-income Kansans compete for better jobs. The KLS Volunteer Lawyer Program partnered with local bar associations, corporations and private law firms to conduct expungement clinics in several locations. The clinics enhance the benevolent reputation of Kansas attorneys.
- * Expungement clinics were held in Wichita (in partnership with Koch), Johnson County (in partnership with T-Mobile), Ellis County, Wyandotte County and Montgomery County.



DRIVER'S LICENSE CLINICS

- * Suspended driver's licenses have become a hot-button topic over the past few years. KLS receives funding from the LSC PBIF grant to conduct clinics that provide assistance to people with persistent barriers to employment and housing, such as driving on a suspended or revoked license.
- * Clinics in 2024 were held in Shawnee County, Johnson County, Saline County and Douglas County using volunteer attorneys and law students.



Attorney Volunteers

KLS recruited over **100 private attorneys** to provide legal assistance to **629 clients** in 2024. These attorneys provided **725 hours** of legal services at no cost.

Law Student Interns

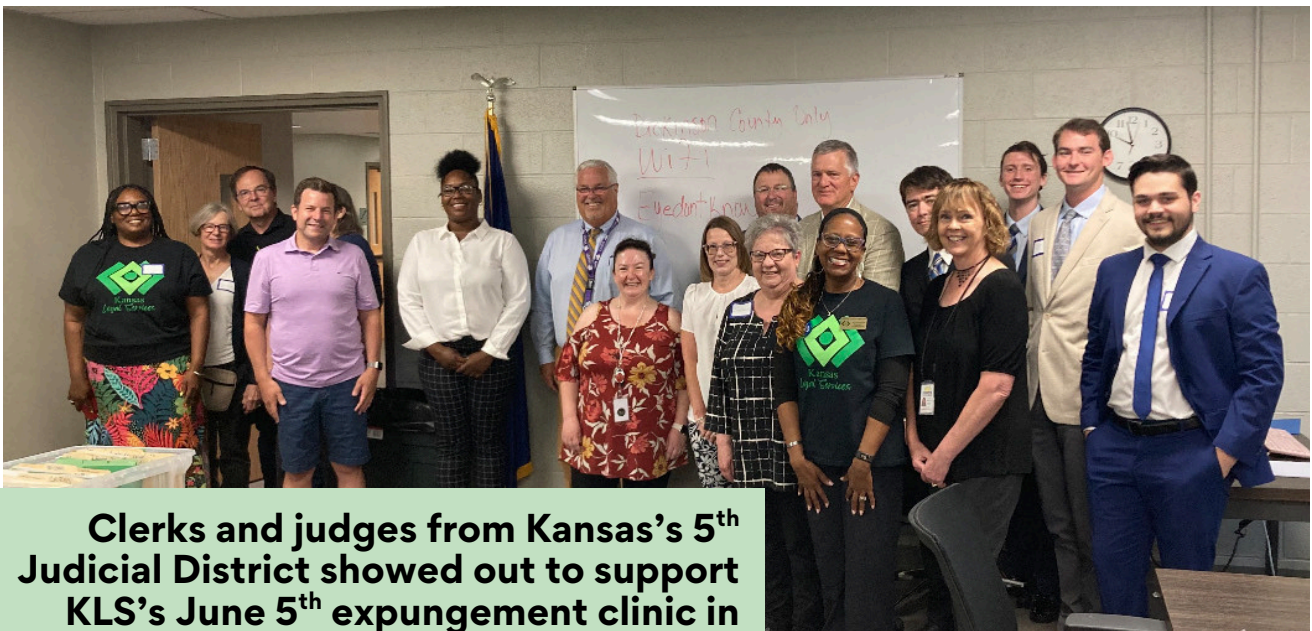
KLS was fortunate to have **33 law school interns** and **8 volunteer interns** who contributed **2,422 hours** to address the legal needs of **1,078 KLS clients**.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR CLINICS

KLS would not be able to provide life-changing legal assistance at clinics throughout Kansas without the support of local attorneys, businesses, nonprofits, and non-attorney volunteers. Thank you to everyone who helped KLS make a difference in 2024!



Foulston Siefkin LLP sponsored KLS's September 6th expungement clinic in Sedgwick County



Clerks and judges from Kansas's 5th Judicial District showed out to support KLS's June 5th expungement clinic in Lyon County

OUTREACH AND EVENTS



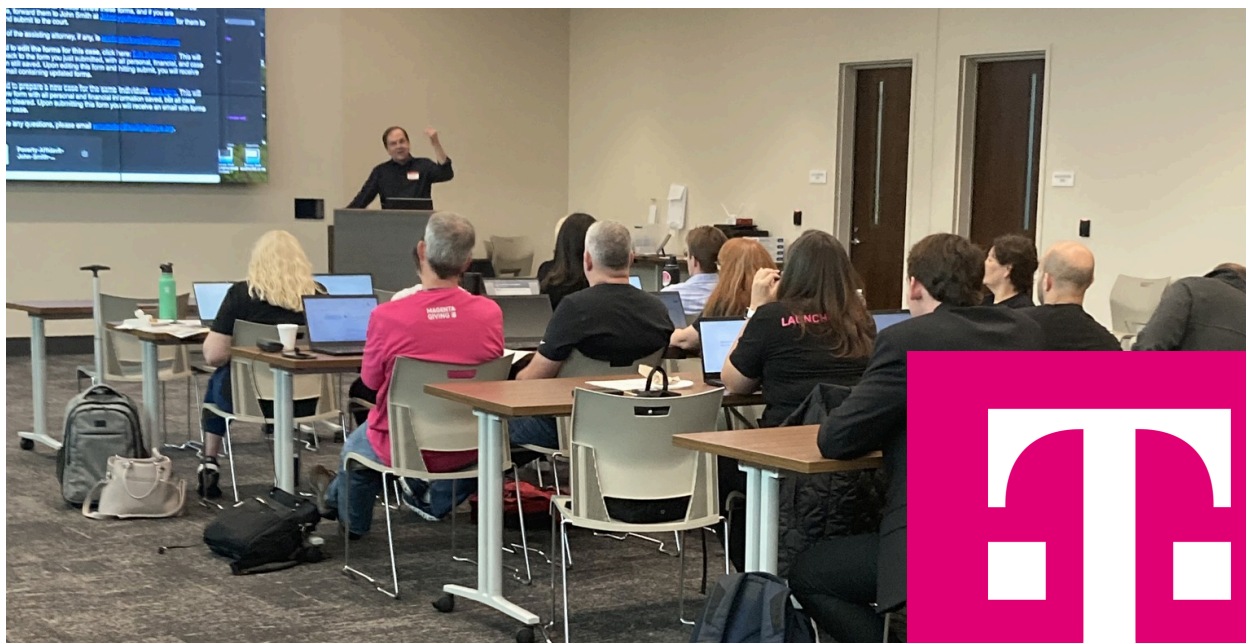
TRIVIA NIGHTS

Trivia Nights are held in October each year to honor Celebrate Pro Bono Month. The nights are fundraising events, as well as fun-raising events! KLS - Kansas City had the Wyandotte and Johnson Counties' Bar Associations competing against each other, and Wichita had private law firms competing.

This is a continuing, annual event that we will expand upon in 2025. We had celebrity emcees for the Wichita event, Court of Appeals Judges Amy Fellows Cline and Lesley Ann Isherwood. Kansas City also had celebrity emcees: Chief Judge Sarah Warner and James Campbell.

OUTREACH

Legal aid is a collaborative project. KLS is constantly listening to the legal needs of Kansas communities and relaying those needs to local attorneys, judges, legislators, volunteers, and community partners. KLS will continue to strengthen our relationships with clients and partners alike through educational clinics, media appearances, and community events.



CORPORATE SPOTLIGHT: T-MOBILE

Kansas Legal Services is proud to highlight one of several private–public partnerships with Kansas employers working to expand access to justice. One core example is our growing collaboration with T-Mobile, which has become a key partner in supporting second chances through expungement.

In both 2023 and 2024, T-Mobile hosted two expungement clinics in Johnson County, collaborating with KLS staff and volunteers to assist Kansans in clearing their criminal records of old or minor offenses that can create lasting barriers to employment, housing, and opportunities. These clinics are part of T-Mobile's broader commitment to community engagement and social impact in the regions where its employees live and work.

Through this partnership, T-Mobile provided both financial support and hands-on legal service, helping clients navigate the complex process of record expungement. The work T-Mobile and KLS have done together is a model for how employers can take an active role in ensuring access to justice. It reflects a growing recognition that removing legal barriers helps individuals realize their full potential and benefits entire communities.

AUGUST 17, 2024 CLINIC

33

clients served

73

cases expunged

OCTOBER 23, 2024 CLINIC

14

clients served

27

cases expunged

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Amy Bipes

*Attorney – Manhattan
Service Area*

Second Term: 1/23 – 1/26

Stacey Blakeman

*Attorney – KU School of
Law*

First Term: 1/22 – 1/25

Daren Bruschi

*Attorney – Kansas City
Area*

First Term: 1/24 – 1/27

Christy Campbell

*Staff
Representative*
First Term: 1/22 – 1/25

Alexus Dunaway

*Client Rep – Manhattan
Service Area*
First Term: 1/24 – 1/27

**Nathan Elliott
President**

*Attorney – KS Trial
Lawyers Assoc.*
Second Term: 1/23 – 1/26

Jerry Fairbanks

*Attorney – Hays Service
Area*
First Term: 1/24 – 1/27

Abby Franco

*Client Rep – Dodge City
Service Area*
Second Term: 1/24 – 1/27

Jared Hiatt

Attorney – Service Area
First Term: 1/22 – 1/25

Randall Hodgkinson

*Attorney – WU School of
Law*
First Term: 1/22 – 1/25

Rebecca Long

*Client Rep – Hays Service
Area*
First Term: 1/23 – 1/26

Angela Meyer

*Attorney – Pittsburg
Service Area*
Second Term: 1/23 – 1/26

Tim O'Brien

Executive Committee
*Attorney – KBA
Representative*
First Term: 1/24 – 1/27

William “Bill” Ossmann

Executive Committee
Attorney – At Large
First Term: 1/24 – 1/27

Jennifer Pesina

*Client Rep – Emporia
Service Area*
Second Term: 1/24 – 1/27

Ben Swinnen

Treasurer
Attorney – At Large
First Term: 1/23 – 1/26

Molly Wood

Vice-President
*Attorney – Topeka
Service Area*
First Term: 1/23 – 1/26

Sara Zafar

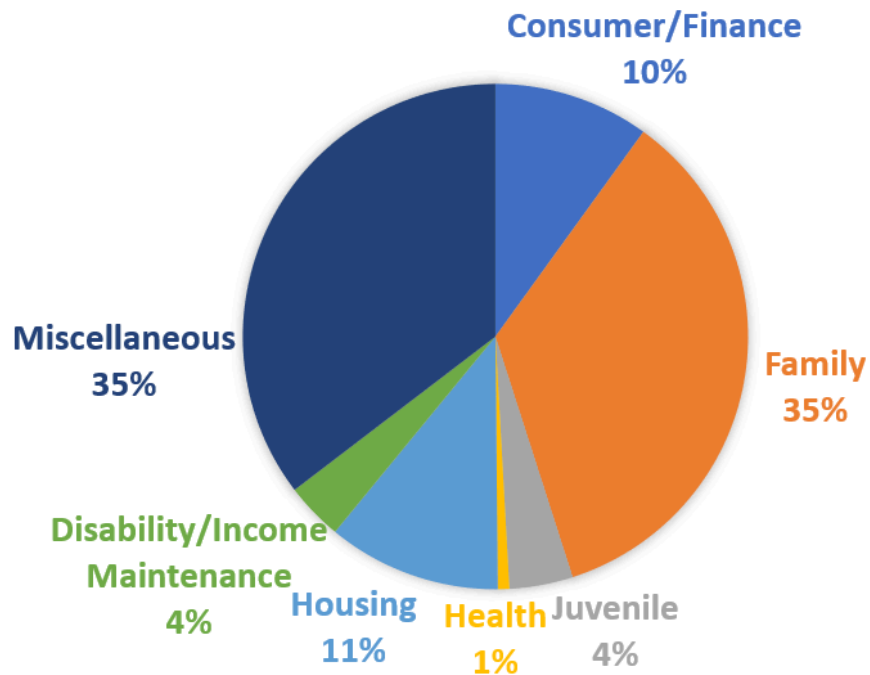
*Attorney – Wichita
Service Area*
First Term: 1/22 – 1/25

CASES BY THE NUMBERS

CASE TOTALS

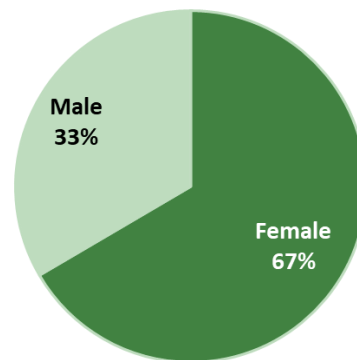
		<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Consumer/Finance	Advice & Brief Service	1,814	1,759	1,650	1,299	1,240
	Representation	102	99	106	132	120
	Other Services	655	660	479	446	476
	Mediation	-	-	-	-	-
	Total Consumer/Finance	2,571	2,518	2,235	1,877	1,836
Family	Advice & Brief Service	4,633	4,871	4,429	4,638	4,625
	Representation	2,001	1,802	2,229	2,280	2,162
	Other Services	2,179	1,993	1,917	1,881	1,928
	Mediation	115	105	93	135	131
	Total Family	8,928	8,771	8,668	8,934	8,846
Juvenile	Advice & Brief Service	256	305	369	375	326
	Representation	523	400	481	699	917
	Other Services	222	239	210	199	174
	Mediation	2	3	3	135	6
	Total Juvenile	1,003	947	1,063	1,408	1,423
Health	Advice & Brief Service	137	159	175	154	153
	Representation	5	6	7	14	12
	Other Services	46	44	24	21	16
	Mediation	-	-	-	-	-
	Total Health	188	209	206	189	181
Housing	Advice & Brief Service	1,764	1,864	1,904	1,626	1,025
	Representation	367	362	180	195	118
	Other Services	334	355	333	232	234
	Mediation	2	7	7	10	4
	Total Housing	2,467	2,588	2,424	2,063	1,381
Disability/Income Maintenance	Advice & Brief Service	377	408	447	444	288
	Representation	330	399	457	437	399
	Other Services	90	167	142	90	118
	Mediation	-	-	-	-	-
	Total Disability/Income Maintenance	797	974	1,046	971	805
Miscellaneous* *Includes education, employment, individual rights, tribal law, wills, crime/juvenile defense, driver's license	Advice & Brief Service	2,237	2,024	3,146	2,801	2,229
	Representation	4,094	3,112	1,130	1,161	1,266
	Other Services	1,101	1,048	739	594	477
	Mediation	473	509	441	318	3,327
	Total Miscellaneous	7,905	6,693	5,456	4,874	7,299
Total Cases		23,859	22,700	21,098	20,316	18,771

CASE DISTRIBUTION



CLIENT PROFILES

GENDER



AGE AND ETHNICITY

	Under 18	18-35	36-59	60 & Over	Total
Asian	2	54	86	40	182
Black	21	848	1095	497	2461
Hispanic	7	430	389	111	937
Multi-Racial	7	278	208	63	556
Pacific Islander	0	13	10	1	24
Native American	4	96	117	44	261
Alaskan Native	0	0	3	1	4
Other	11	357	403	237	1008
White	571	3461	4486	3324	11842

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

FUNDING FIGURES

*YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS 2021-2023*

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Legal Services Corporation	\$4,288,241	\$3,996,097	\$3,646,436	\$3,226,366
Department of DCF – State of Kansas	1,392,033	1,372,660	956,289	297,541
Access to Justice	926,131	788,592	800,000	799,998
Kansas Governor’s Grant Program	768,902	785,619	802,964	799,010
Kansas Housing Resource Center - KEPP	0	28,856	80,134	5,750
IOLTA & Bar Sponsored	155,718	117,857	102,567	164,405
Kansas Bar Foundation	290,836	259,164	325,000	290,747
Lawyer Giving	287,754	216,796	128,997	83,515
City/County/Misc. State Grants	700,021	915,975	753,518	651,569
Area Agencies on Aging	376,945	299,961	364,218	281,388
United Way	101,888	114,720	109,149	114,371
Low Income Taxpayer Clinic	0	22,082	32,671	44,563
Mediation Contracts & Fees	144,496	115,000	115,000	115,000
Medical-Legal Partnerships	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000
Independence Charitable Trust	192,987	203,615	191,770	175,632
Court Awards	226,611	170,752	200,392	197,942
Cy Pres Awards	185,000	59,520	120,000	0
Interest Income	11,118	12,425	13,452	15,681
Farm Counseling	6,760	12,519	7,324	0
Kansas Office for Refugees	113,929	86,761	0	0
Other Miscellaneous	273,289	257,758	264,889	100,627
Investment Gain/Loss	109,996	108,888	-50,963	0
Total Revenues	<u>\$10,672,655</u>	<u>\$10,065,617</u>	<u>\$9,083,807</u>	<u>\$7,501,717</u>

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

EXPENSE FIGURES

*YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024
WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS 2021-2023*

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Salaries	\$7,097,955	\$6,425,623	\$5,745,516	\$4,907,076
Employee Benefits & Payroll Taxes	1,727,695	1,566,370	1,365,262	1,209,609
Rent, Parking, Utilities & Maintenance	723,077	667,451	603,235	582,896
Equipment Rental and Maintenance	88,368	71,137	69,922	58,883
Office Supplies, Printing & Postage	124,321	131,124	115,208	102,747
Telephone	127,285	253,924	187,502	133,293
Travel	82,641	92,073	53,815	28,787
Training	34,831	37,335	30,218	21,821
Electronic Research & Library	76,812	110,539	105,557	87,687
Insurance	49,638	44,473	44,699	44,228
Litigation Expenses	149,415	137,702	129,543	87,291
Audit, Consulting & Contract Services	485,814	271,910	447,534	307,350
Private Bar Involvement	931	3,104	8,113	6,615
Depreciation	0	48,543	40,865	42,234
Other	87,332	144,838	95,866	97,874
Total Expenses	<u>\$10,856,115</u>	<u>\$10,006,146</u>	<u>\$9,042,855</u>	<u>\$7,718,391</u>

STAFF TOTALS

	2024	2023	2022	2021
FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES	124.52	119.38	107.25	105.5

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: JACK GOLDSTEIN CHARITABLE TRUST



**JACK AND JOANN
GOLDSTEIN**
Founders of the Jack
Goldstein Foundation

Kansas Legal Services is proud to recognize the Jack Goldstein Trust, whose generous support has enabled us to expand our legal advocacy in Riley County. Beginning in 2023, the Trust committed to awarding \$50,000 annually for three years, allowing our Manhattan office to grow its capacity to serve the community.

Thanks to this support, KLS was able to bring on a third attorney to our Manhattan office. Her presence is already making a difference in a region where 36 percent of children are enrolled in the Free or Reduced-Price Lunch Program, a number that continues to rise.



DIRK DAVELINE
CFO of Steel Pipe and Supply and
Trustee of Jack Goldstein Trust

The legal services provided by KLS in Riley County do more than help families find safety and stability—they also bring measurable economic impact. A recent study showed that KLS's work produced a net economic benefit of over \$2 million in Riley County last year. Whether by helping parents collect child support or securing expungements to enable individuals to qualify for better jobs, our services directly improve the lives of our neighbors.

DONORS

KLS is deeply grateful for all of our 2024 private donors. Your support is essential to funding life-changing programs throughout the state of Kansas. As funding landscapes shift, your contributions are more important than ever in ensuring access to justice for every Kansan.



Executive Director Matt Keenan welcomes KLS donors and community partners at a trivia night fundraising event.

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We appreciate the generous donations we receive that help us serve more than 20,000 Kansans per year. Thank you for your support!

WE ARE LEGAL AID AND THE EQUAL JUSTICE PROJECT

In 2024, Kansas Legal Services continued building an innovative partnership between the defense and plaintiff's bars, united by a common goal: to reduce domestic violence in Kansas by providing legal counsel to victims who would otherwise face the legal system alone.

This collaborative effort has already delivered meaningful results. Through the We Are Legal Aid campaign, 45 defense firms raised a total of \$55,250. At the same time, the plaintiff's bar supported the cause through the Equal Justice Project, with 10 firms raising an additional \$25,500. Together, these generous contributions are expanding access to legal services for some of the most vulnerable Kansans.

IN KANSAS, NEARLY 70% OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS NAVIGATE THE LEGAL SYSTEM WITHOUT AN ATTORNEY.

Survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault face, on average, as many as 18 legal issues per person, including matters related to child custody, housing, health care, credit, education, and public benefits. Without legal representation, these challenges can feel insurmountable.

Thanks to this partnership, more survivors now have a voice in court, a path to safety, and the legal support necessary to rebuild their lives. This collaboration is changing outcomes and lives across Kansas.

843

VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
OBTAINED A FINAL PROTECTION
FROM ABUSE ORDER, THROUGH THE
REPRESENTATION OF A KLS
ADVOCATE IN 2024

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2024 PRIVATE DONOR DATA

18.6%

of donors
were first time
contributors
in 2024

\$613,000

total private
contributions from
individuals, law firms,
and charitable
foundations

95%

donor
retention
from 2023

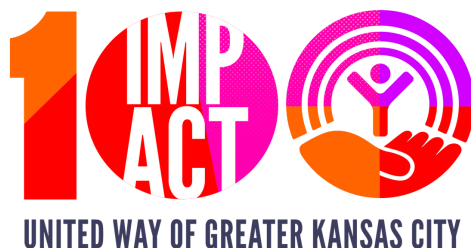
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