



PERFORMANCE REPORT

Maryland Legal Services Corporation (MLSC) submits the following report pursuant to the ARPA Subgrant Agreement with the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore (Grant 442260 – Renter’s Right to Counsel), Exhibit D (Reporting Terms and Conditions).

Legal Services

The following data represent cases closed with Baltimore City ARPA funds during FY24. From these closed cases, the legal services providers helped Baltimore City residents receive more than \$110,000 in housing judgments and avoid more than \$745,000 in direct costs. More than 1,490 people were directly affected and benefitted from the representation provided. Of those tenants who received full representation in FY24, 82% avoided disruptive displacement or obtained some other benefit (including obtaining repairs and enforcing their right to habitable housing, obtaining redress for illegal charges, and preserving or restoring access to personal property).

Type of Eviction	Cases
Failure to Pay Rent	517
Breach of Lease	22
Tenant Holding Over	22
Subsidy Termination	17
Other (Affirmative Rent Escrow, Illegal Eviction, etc.)	81
Total	659

Case Outcome	Cases ¹
Prevented eviction from public or subsidized housing	43
Prevented eviction from other housing	142
Prevented termination or denial of housing subsidy	6
Delayed eviction, providing time to either pay-and-stay or seek alternative housing, thus preventing disruptive displacement	160
Prevented eviction filing	9
Prevented denial of public/subsidized housing tenant’s rights	4
Avoided or obtained redress for illegal or unfair charges by landlord	24
Enforced rights to decent, habitable housing	26
Obtained repairs to dwelling	6
Obtained reasonable accommodation	1
Preserved or restored access to personal property	1
Obtained cash-for-keys, relocation assistance, or other tenant settlement	2

¹ Some grantees report more than one benefit per case for some cases.



Obtained other benefit for tenant	11
Obtained legal counseling (client may have declined full representation)	151
Obtained representation in litigation or administrative proceeding	91

Coordinated Intake

During FY24, the Coordinated Intake pilot formally launched in Baltimore City. Tenants residing in Baltimore City could apply for assistance and representation by calling 211 or completing an online application form. 84% of applicants residing in Baltimore City were referred to a legal services provider. 82% of those cases were accepted by a legal services provider. The most common reasons cited for rejection of a case were that the applicant was over-income², the applicant was not a tenant, the applicant had a landlord-tenant issue outside the scope of the Access to Counsel in Evictions and Right to Counsel programs, and the applicant had a housing-related consumer issue. In addition to applicants referred to a legal services provider, over 2,600 tenants were either referred to the Court Help Center for brief advice or to a social services/benefits program like rental assistance.

Number of applicants residing in Baltimore City	1,318
Number of applicants referred to legal services provider(s)	1,111
Number of cases accepted by legal services providers ³	906
Number of cases rejected by legal services provider(s)	187
Number of brief advice referrals (Court Help Center)	275
Number of referrals for other social services/benefits programs	2,381

² Although Baltimore City's Right to Counsel ordinance does not have any income eligibility criteria, funds that flow through MLSC cannot be used to represent clients with a household income that exceeds 50% of the Maryland median income. See Maryland Code, Human Services, Title 11 – Maryland Legal Services Corporation Act.

³ Some referrals were outstanding at the close of the fiscal year and thus are not reflected in either cases accepted or cases rejected.