



OFFICE OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A DIVISION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CABINET

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

**CRAIG GREENBERG
MAYOR**

**MARILYN HARRIS
DIRECTOR**

January 30, 2024

President Markus Winkler
Louisville Metro Council
601 W. Jefferson Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Dear President Winkler:

In accordance with LMCO 151.61: Legal Representation in Eviction Court, please find enclosed a report of the number of covered individuals served, the extent of legal services performed, metrics evaluating outcomes and a summary of the engagement and education of tenants.

It is the position of the Office of Housing & Community Development that the Right to Counsel program is effective and protects our community's most vulnerable households from displacement. For the upcoming FY2025 Budget, the projected budgeting needs for Legal Aid Society to continue the Right to Counsel Program is \$550,000.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Justin Robinson

EC207BA6797C4E6...

Justin Robinson
Assistant Director
Office of Housing & Community Development

Name of the Organization: <u>Legal Aid Society</u>	
Project Title: <u>Limited Legal Representation to the Indigent in Eviction Court (Eviction Right to Counsel Project)</u>	
Reporting Period: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>October 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>January 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>April 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>July 15th</u>	
Clients Served: <u>(zip code, race, gender, age, # children in home, income, household size, veteran status)</u>	
Cases Served: 351	No. of Children in Home:
Unique Clients Served: 338	1 78
Cases Pending: 138	2 61
Cases Closed/Clients Closed: 213/208	3 45
All Demographic Info For Clients Closed Only	
Gender:	4 16
Female 166	5 5
Male 41	More than 5 3
Transgender 0	Household Size:
Unknown/Client Refused 1	2 58
Race/Ethnicity:	3 65
Asian 1	4 43
Black/African American 138	5 25
Hispanic/Latinx 9	6 10
Native American/American Indian 0	7 6
White 46	8 0
Other/Multiracial 14	More than 8 1
Unknown/Client Refused 0	Veterans: 4
Age:	Victims of Domestic Violence: 2
Under 18 0	Disabled: 13
18-30 62	Information regarding Zip Codes & Income are provided in subsequent sheets of this report.
31-50 130	
51-65 14	
Over 65: 2	
Unknown/Client Refused 0	
Case status[opened/closed/pending]; Type of legal services provided [advice/brief, extended]	
<p>During the reporting period, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project served a total of 338 individuals in 351 cases. In all, 213 cases were closed for 208 clients. 138 cases remain pending. In all, 711 children were secondary beneficiaries of the services provided.</p> <p>Legal Aid Society can only report on the level of legal service provided in closed cases. Of the 213 cases closed, 92 received advice/brief services, while the other 121 received extended representation.</p>	
Eligibility Requirements need to be identified to include the following: (1) Persons who occupied a dwelling under a valid lease or other instrument demonstrating a claim of legal right, other than the owner. (2) Person who occupies a dwelling with at least one child (3) Whose annual gross income is not to exceed 125% federal poverty level (4) Must have a proceeding in Jefferson County District Court, Eviction Court to evict, eject, or terminate the tenancy.	
<p>All individuals assisted through this Eviction Right to Counsel Project have been screened for and met all eligibility requirements set by the grant terms. All individuals either referred to Legal Aid Society by the Court or received through our Intake department are screened for organization and program eligibility requirements.</p>	

Name of the Organization: <u>Legal Aid Society</u>	
Project Title: <u>Limited Legal Representation to the Indigent in Eviction Court (Eviction Right to Counsel Project)</u>	
Reporting Period: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>October 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>January 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>April 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>July 15th</u>	
Project Summary of Issues: (Will the client need ongoing legal services?)	Successes and Barriers identified in the Program (if any):
<p>Of the 121 cases closed this quarter that received extended representation, 113 (93%) either avoided or delayed their eviction with enough time to find alternative housing.</p> <p>Our consistently high number of pending cases is a strong indication of the many Louisville families both eligible for and requesting legal assistance with eviction matters. We continue to strengthen resources (staff and technology) to support and wherever possible increase our capacity to reach and serve more Louisville families facing eviction.</p> <p>Our Housing attorneys and paralegals are attending Eviction Court daily, serving clients outside of court, and participating in community initiatives (LRAN, the Jefferson County Eviction Diversion Program, and more). They are providing all eligible clients in crisis with the legal representation, advice, and assistance they need and connecting them to other community services. Through participation in the Eviction Prevention Task Force, several of our Housing attorneys have been working with other community partners (Louisville Metro Government, Coalition for the Homeless, Louisville Urban League, Association of Community Ministries, Metropolitan Housing Coalition, and landlords) to develop long-term solutions to the eviction crisis in Jefferson County.</p>	<p>Over the last year and a half, in conjunction with the Right to Counsel Ordinance, Judges in Eviction Court have allowed Legal Aid Society to make an announcement at the beginning of each docket, letting all those present know about this ordinance and the services that are available to those who qualify. Judges also continue to refer unrepresented clients, from the bench, to preset LAS staff who are then able to connect with those individuals in real time.</p> <p>Since the passage of this Ordinance, Legal Aid Society has served 1,031 eligible families in Eviction Court. During the same time period, our housing attorneys have provided legal assistance in eviction matters to an additional 3,100 households. These households represent families with children who are outside the income requirements of the Ordinance (i.e. between 125% and 200% FPG) and households without qualifying children. This means that the families served under this Ordinance make up only 25% of the Louisvillians that have requested and received assistance from Legal Aid Society for an eviction matter. That doesn't even account for the individuals and families who need assistance but have not connected with LAS.</p> <p>Through funding and support from this ordinance, the Coalition for the Homeless partners with Legal Aid Society to provide outreach to ALL tenants facing eviction and advise them of the ordinance and the availability of representation from Legal Aid. The Coalition's outreach and referrals have resulted in a more than 400% increase in the number of services requested and provided by Legal Aid Society.</p> <p>As of March, the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funds made available through CARES Act funding coordinated by Metro Government were exhausted and the Kentucky Supreme Court remanded its order granting tenants facing eviction for non-payment of rent an automatic continuance of two weeks to seek assistance. The lack of ERA and the abbreviated court times has created an increased need for negotiation with landlords to establish payment plans or to negotiate additional time for families to move and avoid homelessness. The number of eviction filings in Jefferson County remains high. As of mid-May, the Kentucky Housing Corporation expanded its HHERF (Healthy at Home Eviction Relief) program to allow for Jefferson County tenants to apply. Even with access to these additional rental assistance funds, continued representation of these families is especially important. Legal Aid staff can continue to work with landlords to reach mutually favorable agreements that keep families in their homes.</p>

Name of the Organization: <u>Legal Aid Society</u>
Project Title: <u>Limited Legal Representation to the Indigent in Eviction Court (Eviction Right to Counsel Project)</u>
Reporting Period: <u>X</u> <u>October 15th</u> <u>January 15th</u> <u>April 15th</u> <u>July 15th</u>
Number of clients whose cases were closed successfully:
<p>During the grant period, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project closed 213 cases (nearly 130% of the average number of cases closed each quarter in FY22). Of those cases closed, 121 clients received direct legal representation/defense regarding an eviction. 113 or 93% of those clients avoided or delayed their eviction. The other 92 clients received legal advice or information on how to avoid their eviction or find alternative housing. 100% received the advice they needed to move forward following the initial eviction filing.</p> <p>Legal Aid Society believes that success cannot necessarily be defined by the outcome of a case but by the fact that an individual who otherwise could not afford it received the civil legal representation or legal advice and counsel they need to make their case, thus balancing the scales of justice. Most clients who receive either representation in court or extended assistance attain an immediate positive impact from this legal intervention. For clients who do not have a legal defense, our attorneys work to negotiate with the landlord to provide more time for the tenant to move or to create a payment plan so that the client can avoid the entry of an eviction on their record. Even the delay of an eviction gives the client more time to find alternative housing and to move, helping them to avoid an immediate and upsetting entry into homelessness/the shelter system.</p> <p>The best way to understand the impact of civil legal aid and the work of our team is through the stories of the clients we serve, like that of "Tina":</p> <p>Tina is a single mother of two living in Louisville. She is a Section 8 voucher recipient and with very little income who was facing the threat of eviction after surviving a violent relationship. Without legal assistance, Tina would have been evicted and lost her Section 8 voucher. Prior to her case being referred to Legal Aid Society, Tina had taken no action to avoid being evicted. She was overwhelmed by the entire situation. Once Tina's case was referred to Legal Aid Society, her attorney discovered that Tina was never given proper notice by her landlord ahead of her eviction hearing. As such, Tina was being denied her rights under Kentucky law regarding evictions. Tina was also eligible for but not yet receiving additional support due to her status as a survivor of domestic violence.</p> <p>Tina's attorney filed a written motion requesting that her eviction case to be dismissed because (1) she was denied her right to address her landlord's alleged lease violation against her and (2) the eviction notice was invalid under the law. Tina's attorney argued the motion in court, and, ultimately, her eviction case was dismissed. Prior to Tina's hearing, her attorney had tried reason with her landlord's attorney, but they were unwilling to come to an agreement that would allow Tina and her child to remain housed.</p> <p>After Tina's eviction was dismissed, Tina's attorney worked with her to complete the necessary paperwork to request an emergency move through the Louisville Metro Housing Authority. After receiving her request, LMHA granted Tina a new Section 8 voucher on an emergency basis so that she could find new housing where she and her child would be safe. With the help of her Legal Aid attorney Tina was able to avoid getting evicted and she was able to get a new emergency Section 8 voucher so that she could find a new home, unknown by her abuser, where she and her child would be safe. Without the assistance of Legal Aid Society funded under this Ordinance, Tina and her child would likely be homeless, without a Section 8 voucher, and at further risk of harm from her abuser.</p> <p>Thank you letter from Tina to her LAS attorney:</p> <p>"Thank you for all that you have done. Thank you for listening and understanding when I cried. Your hard work and dedication paid off. The office was aware that I got my new voucher, so they did not file for a new eviction. I will be contacting legal aid for help with my security deposit when the apartment complex gets back with me. Once again thank you and have a blessed day...WE WON!"</p>

Name of the Organization: <u>Legal Aid Society</u>			
Project Title: <u>Limited Legal Representation to the Indigent in Eviction Court (Eviction Right to Counsel Project)</u>			
Reporting Period: <u>October 15th</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>January 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>April 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>July 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/>			
Clients Served: <u>(zip code, race, gender, age, # children in home, income, household size, veteran status)</u>			
Cases Served:	305	No. of Children in Home:	
Unique Clients Served:	293	1	70
Cases Pending:	116	2	51
Cases Closed/Clients Closed:	187/183	3	39
All Demographic Info For Clients Closed Only		4	12
Gender:		5	6
Female	150	More than 5	5
Male	33	Household Size:	
Transgender	0	2	46
Unknown/Client Refused	0	3	60
Race/Ethnicity:		4	41
Asian	1	5	20
Black/African American	113	6	6
Hispanic/Latinx	6	7	8
Native American/American Indian	2	8	1
White	49	More than 8	1
Other/Multiracial	11	Veterans:	4
Unknown/Client Refused	1	Victims of Domestic Violence:	4
Age:		Disabled:	20
Under 18	0	Information regarding Zip Codes & Income are provided in subsequent sheets of this report.	
18-30	57		
31-50	105		
51-65	19		
Over 65:	2		
Unknown/Client Refused	0		
Case status[opened/closed/pending]; Type of legal services provided [advice/brief, extended]			
<p>During the reporting period, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project served a total of 291 individuals in 303 cases. In all, 187 cases were closed for 183 clients. 116 cases remain pending. In all, 626 children were secondary beneficiaries of the services provided.</p> <p>Legal Aid Society can only report on the level of legal service provided in closed cases. Of the 187 cases closed, 105 received advice/brief services, while the other 82 received extended representation.</p>			
Eligibility Requirements need to be identified to include the following: (1) Persons who occupied a dwelling under a valid lease or other instrument demonstrating a claim of legal right, other than the owner. (2) Person who occupies a dwelling with at least one child (3) Whose annual gross income is not to exceed 125% federal poverty level (4) Must have a proceeding in Jefferson County District Court, Eviction Court to evict, eject, or terminate the tenancy.			
<p>All individuals assisted through this Eviction Right to Counsel Project have been screened for and met all eligibility requirements set by the grant terms. All individuals either referred to Legal Aid Society by the Court or received through our Intake department are screened for organization and program eligibility requirements.</p>			

Project Summary of Issues: (Will the client need ongoing legal services?)	Successes and Barriers identified in the Program (if any):
<p>Of the 82 cases closed this quarter that received extended representation, 73 (89%) either avoided or delayed their eviction with enough time to find alternative housing.</p> <p>Our consistently high number of pending cases is a strong indication of the many Louisville families both eligible for and requesting legal assistance with eviction matters. We continue to strengthen resources (staff and technology) to support and wherever possible increase our capacity to reach and serve more Louisville families facing eviction.</p> <p>Our Housing attorneys and paralegals are attending Eviction Court daily, serving clients outside of court, and participating in community initiatives (LRAN, the Jefferson County Eviction Diversion Program, and more). They are providing all eligible clients in crisis with the legal representation, advice, and assistance they need and connecting them to other community services. Through participation in the Eviction Prevention Task Force, several of our Housing attorneys have been working with other community partners (Louisville Metro Government, Coalition for the Homeless, Louisville Urban League, Association of Community Ministries, Metropolitan Housing Coalition, and landlords) to develop long-term solutions to the eviction crisis in Jefferson County.</p>	<p>For nearly two years, in conjunction with the Right to Counsel Ordinance, Judges in Eviction Court have allowed Legal Aid Society to make an announcement at the beginning of each docket, letting all those present know about this ordinance and the services that are available to those who qualify. Judges also continue to refer unrepresented clients, from the bench, to preset LAS staff who are then able to connect with those individuals in real time.</p> <p>Since the passage of this Ordinance, Legal Aid Society has served 1,117 eligible families in Eviction Court. During the same time period, our housing attorneys have provided legal assistance in eviction matters to an additional 3,544 households. These households represent families with children who are outside the income requirements of the Ordinance (i.e. between 125% and 200% FPG) and households without qualifying children. This means that the families served under this Ordinance make up only 32% of the Louisvillians that have requested and received assistance from Legal Aid Society for an eviction matter. That doesn't even account for the individuals and families who need assistance but have not connected with LAS.</p> <p>As of March 2022, the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funds made available through CARES Act funding coordinated by Metro Government were exhausted and the Kentucky Supreme Court remanded its order granting tenants facing eviction for non-payment of rent an automatic continuance of two weeks to seek assistance. The lack of ERA and the abbreviated court times created an increased need for negotiation with landlords to establish payment plans or to negotiate additional time for families to move and avoid homelessness. The number of eviction filings in Jefferson County remains high. As of mid-May 2022, the Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC) expanded its HHERF (Healthy at Home Eviction Relief) program to allow for Jefferson County tenants to apply. Unfortunately, as of December 2022, KHC ceased provision of rental assistance to tenants residing in Jefferson County. KHC now refers callers from Jefferson County seeking rental assistance to Legal Aid Society. With the sudden loss of this rental assistance and the increased number of referrals from KHC, Legal Aid Society is seeing a GREAT increase in the number of tenants requesting representation in their eviction.</p> <p>Throughout the pandemic, Legal Aid Society and our community partners have conducted outreach to inform the public about the Right to Counsel ordinance and community resources available to assist tenants, resulting in an increased demand for legal assistance. The sudden loss of rental assistance makes legal assistance for these families even more crucial. Without legal assistance, tenants must negotiate with landlords for payment plans or additional time to move, in order to avoid homelessness. These negotiations are extremely difficult for tenants if they have no legal representative. Legal Aid staff continue to try to work with landlords to reach mutually favorable agreements that keep families in their homes.</p>

Number of clients whose cases were closed successfully:

During the grant period, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project closed 183 cases. Of those cases closed, 82 clients received direct legal representation/defense regarding an eviction. 73 or 89% of those clients avoided or delayed their eviction. The other 101 clients received legal advice or information on how to avoid their eviction or find alternative housing. 100% received the advice they needed to move forward following the initial eviction filing.

Legal Aid Society believes that success cannot necessarily be defined by the outcome of a case but by the fact that an individual who otherwise could not afford it received the civil legal representation or legal advice and counsel they need to make their case, thus balancing the scales of justice. Most clients who receive either representation in court or extended assistance attain an immediate positive impact from this legal intervention. For clients who do not have a legal defense, our attorneys work to negotiate with the landlord to provide more time for the tenant to move or to create a payment plan so that the client can avoid the entry of an eviction on their record. Even the delay of an eviction gives the client more time to find alternative housing and to move, helping them to avoid an immediate and upsetting entry into homelessness/the shelter system.

The best way to understand the impact of civil legal aid and the work of our team is through the stories of the clients we serve, like those of "Helen" and "Anita and Mark":

Helen came to Legal Aid Society after receiving a letter in the mail stating that her Section 8 voucher was going to be terminated due to a failure to keep her utilities on and unauthorized use of utilities. Helen had lived in her home with two adult family members and her child for more than 4 years and the power had only been cut off once. She had no idea of any unauthorized use to which the letter referred. Helen's case was assigned to a Legal Aid Society attorney who immediately went to work to address the possible termination of Helen's Section 8 voucher. Upon further discussion about the issue, Helen's Legal Aid attorney found that the family had an overdue bill for LG&E and an outstanding water bill that they were struggling to pay off. With the help of her attorney, Helen applied for and received rental and utility assistance from the Neighborhood Place. Once Helen was able to pay both outstanding bills, her attorney coordinated communication with Section 8 to confirm current payment of her utilities, waive the termination hearing, and allow Helen to maintain her Section 8 voucher. Helen has set up a payment plan for all future utilities so that she can maintain her Section 8 voucher and avoid future risk of homelessness. Now, thanks to the help of both Legal Aid Society and the Neighborhood Place, Helen and her family will remain in their home without fear of eviction or termination of the support they need to stay safe and housed.

Anita and Mark came to Legal Aid Society for assistance when their landlord threatened to evict them after the couple had several issues with their HVAC unit that required multiple repairs. According to the couple, their landlord was demanding far more than the cost of the repairs and arguing that they should be liable for abusing the HVAC system. When they attempted to negotiate a more reasonable payment amount for the repairs, the landlord threatened to take them to Court. The young couple and their daughter were Section 8 recipients and they were afraid that an eviction action from their current landlord would threaten their Section 8 voucher. Their case was placed with a Legal Aid Society Attorney who met with Anita and Mark to review the demands of their landlord as well as photos and letters from the couple. Anita and Mark's attorney contacted their landlord to request receipts and other verification of the costs of the HVAC repair. After several discussions and no presentation of receipts or proof, their landlord agreed to accept half of the amount that he was initially demanding from Anita and Mark! With the involvement of Anita and Mark's attorney, the landlord also agreed to sign a lease release, allowing the young family to find new housing without having to break their current lease. As Anita and Mark had already wanted to move prior to this incident, this was the best possible outcome for them. Now, with the help of Legal Aid Society, Anita, Mark, and their daughter can find a new home without the threat of an eviction or loss of their Section 8.

Name of the Organization: <u>Legal Aid Society</u>			
Project Title: <u>Limited Legal Representation to the Indigent in Eviction Court (Eviction Right to Counsel Project)</u>			
Reporting Period: _____ <u>October 15th</u> _____ <u>January 15th</u> <u>X</u> _____ <u>April 15th</u> _____ <u>July 15th</u>			
Clients Served: <u>(zip code, race, gender, age, # children in home, income, household size, veteran status)</u>			
Cases Served:	537	No. of Children in Home:	
Unique Clients Served:	522	0	97
Cases Pending:	276	1	53
Cases Closed/Clients Closed:	261/258	2	54
All Demographic Info For Clients Closed Only		3	36
Gender:		4	14
Female	204	5	2
Male	54	More than 5	2
Transgender	0		
Unknown/Client Refused	0	Household Size:	
Race/Ethnicity:		1	83
Asian	1	2	54
Black/African American	166	3	50
Hispanic/Latinx	5	4	40
Native American/American Indian	2	5	19
White	58	6	9
Other/Multiracial	25	7	1
Unknown/Client Refused	1	8	1
		More than 8	1
Age:		Veterans:	9
Under 18	0	Victims of Domestic Violence:	8
18-30	67	Disabled:	60
31-50	131		
51-65	48		
Over 65:	10		
Unknown/Client Refused	2		
		Information regarding Zip Codes & Income are provided in subsequent sheets of this report.	
Case status[opened/closed/pending]; Type of legal services provided [advice/brief, extended]			
<p>During the reporting period, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project served a total of 522 individuals in 537 cases. In all, 261 cases were closed for 258 clients. 277 cases remain pending. In all, 654 children were secondary beneficiaries of the services provided.</p> <p>The above case numbers, an increase from the previous quarter of 80% of clients who received services and 40% for clients whose cases were closed, are a direct reflection of the recent changes to the Louisville Metro Council's Eviction Right to Counsel Ordinance. These changes allow for additional support for Louisville residents without children. These residents are often elderly or disabled and greatly benefit from representation.</p> <p>Legal Aid Society can only report on the level of legal service provided in closed cases. Of the 264 cases closed, 126 received advice/brief services, while the other 138 received extended representation.</p>			
Eligibility Requirements need to be identified to include the following: (1) Persons who occupied a dwelling under a valid lease or other instrument demonstrating a claim of legal right, other than the owner. (2) Whose annual gross income is not to exceed 125% federal poverty level (3) Must have a proceeding in Jefferson County District Court, Eviction Court to evict, eject, or terminate the tenancy.			
<p>All individuals assisted through this Eviction Right to Counsel Project have been screened for and met all eligibility requirements set by the grant terms. All individuals either referred to Legal Aid Society by the Court or received through our Intake department are screened for organization and program eligibility requirements.</p>			

Project Summary of Issues: (Will the client need ongoing legal services?)	Successes and Barriers identified in the Program (if any):
<p>Of the 138 cases closed this quarter that received extended representation, 134 (97%) either avoided or delayed their eviction with enough time to find alternative housing.</p> <p>Our consistently high number of pending cases is a strong indication of the many Louisville residents both eligible for and requesting legal assistance with eviction matters. We continue to strengthen resources (staff and technology) to support and wherever possible increase our capacity to reach and serve more Louisvillians facing eviction.</p> <p>Our Housing attorneys and paralegals are attending Eviction Court daily, serving clients outside of court, and participating in community initiatives (LRAN, the Jefferson County Eviction Diversion Program, and more). They are providing all eligible clients in crisis with the legal representation, advice, and assistance they need and connecting them to other community services. Through participation in the Eviction Prevention Task Force, several of our Housing attorneys have been working with other community partners (Louisville Metro Government, Coalition for the Homeless, Louisville Urban League, Association of Community Ministries, Metropolitan Housing Coalition, and landlords) to develop long-term solutions to the eviction crisis in Jefferson County.</p>	<p>For nearly two years, in conjunction with the Right to Counsel Ordinance, Judges in Eviction Court have allowed Legal Aid Society to make an announcement at the beginning of each docket, letting all those present know about this ordinance and the services that are available to those who qualify. Judges also continue to refer unrepresented clients, from the bench, to preset LAS staff who are then able to connect with those individuals in real time.</p> <p>Since the passage of this Ordinance, Legal Aid Society has served 1,389 eligible families in Eviction Court. During the same time period, our housing attorneys have provided legal assistance in eviction matters to an additional 3,739 households. These additional households represent families with children who are outside the income requirements of the Ordinance (i.e. between 125% and 200% FPG) and households without qualifying children. This second group, those without children, have only recently been eligible for service under this Ordinance. With this change, LAS is now receiving critical resources for those Louisville residents living at or below 125% FPL without children. In the last quarter, LAS served an additional 221 individuals thanks to this change in eligibility.</p> <p>Even with these changes to the Ordinance, the number of Louisville residents who were eligible for assistance and have received services and under the Ordinance since it was initially passed (from April 2021 to today) make up only 27% of the Louisvillians that have requested and received assistance from Legal Aid Society for an eviction matter. In this quarter, with the changes to eligibility, the percentage of Louisville residents who were eligible for assistance and have received services under this Ordinance was up to 46% of all Louisvillians who requested and received assistance from Legal Aid Society for an eviction matter. We expect this percentage to grow as we continue to serve more Louisvillians with this expanded Ordinance.</p> <p>As of March 2022, the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funds made available through CARES Act funding coordinated by Metro Government were exhausted and the Kentucky Supreme Court remanded its order granting tenants facing eviction for non-payment of rent an automatic continuance of two weeks to seek assistance. The lack of ERA and the abbreviated court times created an increased need for negotiation with landlords to establish payment plans or to negotiate additional time for families to move and avoid homelessness. The number of eviction filings in Jefferson County remains high. As of mid-May 2022, the Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC) expanded its HHERF (Healthy at Home Eviction Relief) program to allow for Jefferson County tenants to apply. Unfortunately, as of December 2022, KHC ceased provision of rental assistance to tenants residing in Jefferson County. KHC now refers callers from Jefferson County seeking rental assistance to Legal Aid Society. With the sudden loss of this rental assistance and the increased number of referrals from KHC, Legal Aid Society is seeing a GREAT increase in the number of tenants requesting representation in their eviction.</p> <p>Throughout the pandemic, Legal Aid Society and our community partners have conducted outreach to inform the public about the Right to Counsel Ordinance and community resources available to</p>

assist tenants, resulting in an increased demand for legal assistance. The sudden loss of rental assistance makes legal assistance for these households even more crucial. Without legal assistance, tenants must negotiate with landlords for payment plans or additional time to move, in order to avoid homelessness. These negotiations are extremely difficult for tenants if they have no legal representative. Legal Aid staff continue to try to work with landlords to reach mutually favorable agreements that keep families in their homes.

Number of clients whose cases were closed successfully:

During the grant period, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project closed 261 cases. Of those cases closed, 138 clients received direct legal representation/defense regarding an eviction. 134 or 97% of those clients avoided or delayed their eviction. The other 126 clients received legal advice or information on how to avoid their eviction or find alternative housing. 100% received the advice they needed to move forward following the initial eviction filing.

Legal Aid Society believes that success cannot necessarily be defined by the outcome of a case but by the fact that an individual who otherwise could not afford it received the civil legal representation or legal advice and counsel they need to make their case, thus balancing the scales of justice. Most clients who receive either representation in court or extended assistance attain an immediate positive impact from this legal intervention. For clients who do not have a legal defense, our attorneys work to negotiate with the landlord to provide more time for the tenant to move or to create a payment plan so that the client can avoid the entry of an eviction on their record. Even the delay of an eviction gives the client more time to find alternative housing and to move, helping them to avoid an immediate and upsetting entry into homelessness/the shelter system.

The best way to understand the impact of civil legal aid and the work of our team is through the stories of the clients we serve, like that of "Tandi":

Tandi lives with her mother and six children, renting a home in the Highview Neighborhood of Louisville. There was a sale of the property that Tandis was renting and during that process she had numerous issues when attempting to contact her property manager. Tandis had fallen behind on her rent and was trying to work out a payment plan with the property manager but was unable to get a hold of them. She also reached out multiple times to request that maintenance come out to fix her broken refrigerator. No one responded to Tandis for 3 months. When Tandis received an eviction notice for non-payment of rent, she immediately contacted LAS. Tandis's LAS attorney worked with her to negotiate a resolution with her new landlord's attorney. After several exchanges in the negotiation process, Tandis's lawyer successfully convinced the new landlord to accept Tandis's payment of overdue rent minus late fees that had accrued to \$200. Tandis's LAS attorney was also able to negotiate that she only pay one half of the coming month's rent due to the landlord's failure to repair or replace the broken refrigerator of a household with six children! With the help of LAS, Tandis was able to catch up on her past due rent with her new landlord, compel maintenance to come out and fix her refrigerator, and receive an appropriate discount on upcoming rent due to the inconvenience.

Name of the Organization: <u>Legal Aid Society</u>	
Project Title: <u>Limited Legal Representation to the Indigent in Eviction Court (Eviction Right to Counsel Project)</u>	
Reporting Period: _____ <u>October 15th</u> _____ <u>January 15th</u> _____ <u>April 15th</u> <u>X</u> _____ <u>July 15th</u>	
Clients Served: <u>(zip code, race, gender, age, # children in home, income, household size, veteran status)</u>	
Cases Served: 544	No. of Children in Home:
Unique Clients Served: 514	0 179
Cases Pending: 143	1 77
Cases Closed/Clients Closed: 402/388	2 66
All Demographic Info For Clients Closed Only	
	3 35
Gender:	4 23
Female 300	5 1
Male 87	More than 5 7
Transgender 1	
Unknown/Client Refused 0	Household Size:
	1 143
Race/Ethnicity:	2 85
Asian 0	3 71
Black/African American 237	4 50
Hispanic/Latinx 7	5 23
Native American/American Indian 1	6 8
White 95	7 3
Other/Multiracial 42	8 3
Unknown/Client Refused 6	More than 8 2
Age:	Veterans: 11
Under 18 0	Victims of Domestic Violence: 13
18-30 103	Disabled: 70
31-50 187	
51-65 83	
Over 65: 11	
Unknown/Client Refused 4	
	Information regarding Zip Codes & Income are provided in subsequent sheets of this report.
Case status[opened/closed/pending]; Type of legal services provided [advice/brief, extended]	
<p>During Quarter 4, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project served a total of 514 individuals in 544 cases. In all, 402 cases were closed for 388 clients. 142 cases remain pending. In the cases served this quarter, 604 children were secondary beneficiaries of the services provided. Legal Aid Society can only report on the level of legal service provided in closed cases. Of the 402 cases closed, 119 received advice/brief services, while the other 283 received extended representation.</p> <p>In this Grant Year, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project served a total of 1,101 individuals in 1,206 cases. In all, 1,062 cases were closed for 983 clients (up from 667 cases closed in the previous grant year). In the cases served this grant year, 1,679 children were secondary beneficiaries of the services provided. Of the 1,062 cases closed, 414 received advice/brief services, while the other 648 received extended representation.</p> <p>The above Quarter 4 data, showing a steady number of clients served and a continued increase in clients whose cases were closed (up 52% from the previous quarter), is a direct reflection of the recent changes to the Louisville Metro Council’s Eviction Right to Counsel Ordinance (in late 2022/early 2023). These changes allow for additional support of our services to Louisville residents without children. These residents are often elderly or disabled and greatly benefit from our legal representation.</p> <p>The above Year-End numbers FAR exceed our projections of serving 700 individuals and families during the grant year. We attribute this both to the diligent work of our Housing Unit and the expansion of Louisville residents covered under Right to Counsel Ordinance.</p>	
Eligibility Requirements need to be identified to include the following: (1) Persons who occupied a dwelling under a valid lease or other instrument demonstrating a claim of legal right, other than the owner. (2) Person who occupies a dwelling with at least one child (3) Whose annual gross income is not to exceed 125% federal poverty level (4) Must have a proceeding in Jefferson County District Court, Eviction Court to evict, eject, or terminate the tenancy.	
All individuals assisted through this Eviction Right to Counsel Project have been screened for and met all eligibility requirements set by the grant	

terms. All individuals either referred to Legal Aid Society by the Court or received through our Intake department are screened for organization and program eligibility requirements.

Project Summary of Issues: (Will the client need ongoing legal services?)	Successes and Barriers identified in the Program (if any):
<p>Of the 283 cases closed in Quarter 4 that received extended representation, 280 (99%) either avoided or delayed their eviction with enough time to find alternative housing.</p> <p>Of the 648 cases closed this grant year that received extended representation, 627 (97%) either avoided or delayed their eviction with enough time to find alternative housing.</p> <p>Our consistently high number of pending cases is a strong indication of the many Louisville residents both eligible for and requesting legal assistance with eviction matters. In the fourth quarter of this year, we saw a return to an average of 130-150 pending cases (after a dramatic increase to 270+ pending cases in Quarter 3). We continue to strengthen resources (staff and technology) to support and wherever possible increase our capacity to reach and serve more Louisvillians facing eviction.</p> <p>Our Housing attorneys and paralegals are attending Eviction Court daily, serving clients outside of court, and participating in community initiatives (LRAN, the Jefferson County Eviction Diversion Program, and more). They are providing all eligible clients in crisis with the legal representation, advice, and assistance they need and connecting them to other community services. Through participation in the Eviction Prevention Task Force, several of our Housing attorneys have been working with other community partners (Louisville Metro Government, Coalition for the Homeless, Louisville Urban League, Association of Community Ministries, Metropolitan Housing Coalition, and landlords) to develop long-term solutions to the eviction crisis in Jefferson County.</p>	<p>For a little over two years, in conjunction with the Right to Counsel Ordinance, Judges in Eviction Court have allowed Legal Aid Society to make an announcement at the beginning of each docket, letting all those present know about this ordinance and the services that are available to those who qualify. Judges also continue to refer unrepresented clients, from the bench, to preset LAS staff who are then able to connect with those individuals in real time.</p> <p>Since the passage of this Ordinance, Legal Aid Society has served 1,706 eligible families and individuals in Eviction Court. During the same time period, our housing attorneys have provided legal assistance in eviction matters to an additional 3,741 households. These additional households represent families with children who are outside the income requirements of the Ordinance (i.e. between 125% and 200% FPG) and households without qualifying children. This second group, those without children, have only been eligible for service under this Ordinance in the last two quarters of this grant year. With this change, LAS is now able to devote these critical resources to those Louisville residents living at or below 125% FPL without children. In the last two quarters, LAS served an additional 333 individuals thanks to this change in eligibility.</p> <p>Even with these changes to the Ordinance, the number of Louisville residents who were eligible for assistance and have received services and under the Ordinance since it was initially passed (from April 2021 to today) make up only 31% of the Louisvillians that have requested and received assistance from Legal Aid Society for an eviction matter. In this quarter, the percentage of Louisville residents who were eligible for assistance and have received services under this Ordinance was up to 55% of all Louisvillians who requested and received assistance from Legal Aid Society for an eviction matter. We expect this percentage to grow as we continue to serve more Louisvillians with this expanded Ordinance.</p> <p>As of March 2022, the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funds made available through CARES Act funding coordinated by Metro Government were exhausted and the Kentucky Supreme Court remanded its order granting tenants facing eviction for non-payment of rent an automatic continuance of two weeks to seek assistance. The lack of ERA and the abbreviated court times created an increased need for negotiation with landlords to establish payment plans or to negotiate additional time for families to move and avoid homelessness. The number of eviction filings in Jefferson County remains high. As of mid-May 2022, the Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC) expanded its HHERF (Healthy at Home Eviction Relief) program to allow for Jefferson County tenants to apply. Unfortunately, as of December 2022, KHC ceased provision of rental assistance to tenants residing in Jefferson County. KHC now refers callers from Jefferson County seeking rental assistance to Legal Aid Society. With the sudden loss of this rental assistance and the increased number of referrals from KHC, Legal Aid Society is seeing a GREAT increase in the number of tenants requesting representation in their eviction.</p> <p>When approximately 2,400 applicants were withdrawn from the ERA application process by KHC in December 2022, a significant amount of rental assistance funds remained. As a result, the</p>

remaining funds were ultimately administered by Louisville Metro Office of Housing. After some time had passed, Louisville Metro determined that the only applicants that would be eligible for the remaining rental assistance funds were the 2,400 applicants whose applications were withdrawn by KHC. However, many of those applicants were unaware that they could reapply to receive the funds through Louisville Metro, and as a result, many of those 2,400 applicants never knew they were eligible to reapply for the remaining rental assistance funds. As of June 2023, tenants are eligible for HHERF rental assistance through Louisville Metro if they applied for rental assistance through Neighborhood Place and the landlord was unwilling to participate/accept rental assistance funds (Neighborhood Place's policy requires landlord to sign an agreement and accept rental assistance directly from Neighborhood Place). In order to be eligible for HHERF funds, the tenant must request that Neighborhood Place send the Louisville Metro Office of Housing a "Referral Letter" stating that a tenant's landlord was unwilling to accept rental assistance directly from Neighborhood Place. Once Louisville Metro receives the "Referral Letter" from Neighborhood Place, the tenant must also resubmit an application to Louisville Metro to receive the HHERF funds. Our Housing Team is doing what they can to facilitate this reapplication and referral letter process for those eligible clients.

Throughout the pandemic, Legal Aid Society and our community partners have conducted outreach to inform the public about the Right to Counsel Ordinance and community resources available to assist tenants, resulting in an increased demand for legal assistance. The sudden loss of rental assistance makes legal assistance for these households even more crucial. Without legal assistance, tenants must negotiate with landlords for payment plans or additional time to move, in order to avoid homelessness. These negotiations are extremely difficult for tenants if they have no legal representative. Legal Aid staff continue to try to work with landlords to reach mutually favorable agreements that keep families in their homes.

Number of clients whose cases were closed successfully:

In Quarter 4, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project closed 402 cases. Of those cases closed, 283 clients received direct legal representation/defense regarding an eviction. 280 or 99% of those clients avoided or delayed their eviction. The other 119 clients received legal advice or information on how to avoid their eviction or find alternative housing. 100% received the advice they needed to move forward following the initial eviction filing.

Legal Aid Society believes that success cannot necessarily be defined by the outcome of a case but by the fact that an individual who otherwise could not afford it received the civil legal representation or legal advice and counsel they need to make their case, thus balancing the scales of justice. Most clients who receive either representation in court or extended assistance attain an immediate positive impact from this legal intervention. For clients who do not have a legal defense, our attorneys work to negotiate with the landlord to provide more time for the tenant to move or to create a payment plan so that the client can avoid the entry of an eviction on their record. Even the delay of an eviction gives the client more time to find alternative housing and to move, helping them to avoid an immediate and upsetting entry into homelessness/the shelter system.

The best way to understand the impact of civil legal aid and the work of our team is through the stories of the clients we serve, like that of Captain Henry Duke Livingston:

On his last tour in Afghanistan, Captain Henry Duke Livingston was gravely injured while trying to remove an explosive strapped on to a juvenile civilian. When Captain Livingston returned to the U.S. having completed his serve in the Marine, he experienced more trauma when he lost his wife and then his children in a tragic accident. Despite his profound loss and injury, Captain Livingston did what every good marine does, and kept on moving forward. Life would once again take another blow when he was diagnosed with cancer in 2022. In the late summer of that same year, a bureaucratic snag delayed the payment of his social security disability check and Captain Livingston fell behind on his rent. Captain Livingston was served an eviction notice while in Hospice care.

That's when Legal Aid Society stepped in. Volunteer attorney, Brian Abell agreed to help Mr. Livingston. He negotiated with Captain Livingston's landlord and helped the Captain apply rental assistance, persuading the landlord's attorney to press his client for a ledger and a copy of the lease to expedite rental assistance. Time was of the essence for Captain Livingston. Because of Mr. Abell's service, Captain Livingston remains in his home and receiving hospice care with the dignity and respect he deserves, not only as fellow human, but as a Veteran.

Name of the Organization: <u>Legal Aid Society</u>			
Project Title: <u>Limited Legal Representation to the Indigent in Eviction Court (Eviction Right to Counsel Project)</u>			
Reporting Period: <u>Cumulative</u>			
Clients Served:			
<u>(zip code, race, gender, age, # children in home, income, household size, veteran status)</u>			
Cases Served:	1,206	No. of Children in Home:	
Unique Clients Served:	1,101	0	273
Cases Pending:	142	1	263
Cases Closed/Clients Closed:	1,062/983	2	210
All Demographic Info For Clients Closed Only		3	146
Gender:		4	61
Female	782	5	13
Male	200	More than 5	17
Transgender	1		
Unknown/Client Refused			
		Household Size:	
Race/Ethnicity:		1	223
Asian	3	2	232
Black/African American	620	3	226
Hispanic/Latinx	26	4	162
Native American/American Indian	5	5	81
White	232	6	32
Other/Multiracial	89	7	17
Unknown/Client Refused	8	8	7
		More than 8	3
Age:		Veterans:	22
Under 18	0	Victims of Domestic Violence:	22
18-30	277	Disabled:	128
31-50	521		
51-65	154		
Over 65:	25		
Unknown/Client Refused	6		
		Information regarding Zip Codes & Income are provided in subsequent sheets of this report.	

Legal Aid Right to Counsel FY2023

Household Size:	0-50% of FPG					50.1-100% of FPG					100.1-125% of FPG							
	1	2	3	4	C	1	2	3	4	C	1	2	3	4	C			
1 Person			40	77	116	\$7,290 or Less			34	54	86	\$7,291 - \$14,580			9	12	21	\$14,581 - \$18,225
2 Person	33	27	33	55	142	\$9,860 or Less	17	13	15	18	66	\$9,861 - \$19,720	8	6	6	12	24	\$19,721 - \$24,650
3 Person	36	34	33	45	135	\$12,430 or Less	18	14	12	19	68	\$12,431 - \$24,860	11	12	5	7	23	\$24,861 - \$31,075
4 Person	21	26	21	27	88	\$15,000 or Less	11	11	15	16	58	\$15,001 - \$30,000	11	4	4	7	16	\$30,001 - \$37,500
5 Person	10	10	9	13	40	\$17,570 or Less	12	8	7	8	35	\$17,571 - \$35,140	3	2	3	2	6	\$35,141 - \$43,925
6 Person	6	2	5	2	17	\$20,140 or Less	4	4	3	6	14	\$20,141 - \$40,280			2		1	\$40,281 - \$50,350
7 Person	1	3		1	6	\$22,710 or Less	4	4		2	11	\$22,711 - \$45,420	1	1				\$45,421 - \$56,775
8 Person		1	2	5	9	\$25,280 or Less	1	1			1	\$25,281 - \$50,560						\$50,561 - \$63,200
	107	103	143	225	553		67	55	86	123	339		34	25	29	40	91	

Quarter 1	208
Quarter 2	183
Quarter 3	258
Quarter 4	388
Cumulative	983

Zip Codes					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Cumulative
40018					
40023					
40025					
40027					
40041					
40059					
40118	3	2	5	4	12
40201					
40202			5	7	12
40203	12	6	17	30	60
40204	3	2		7	10
40205					
40206	2	6	4	6	18
40207	1	6	4	7	17
40208	7	5	19	21	52
40209					
40210	9	8	10	18	42
40211	15	15	23	27	75
40212	12	13	22	31	75
40213	3	7	4	6	20
40214	25	12	11	35	79
40215	7	15	15	20	54
40216	27	23	21	31	92
40217	1		1	6	8
40218	13	11	13	16	52
40219	13	8	15	21	55
40220	10	7	8	17	39
40221					
40222			2	5	7
40223	1	2	2	4	9
40224					
40225					
40228	4	2	3	4	12
40229	4	4	9	11	25
40231					
40232					
40233					
40241	1	1	4	4	10
40242	2		1	3	5
40243	1		2	1	4
40245	4	1	3	3	11
40250					
40251					
40252					
40253					
40255					
40256					
40257					
40258	9	12	8	12	39
40259					
40261					
40266					
40268					
40269					
40270					
40272	6	4	7	13	30
40280					
40281					
40282					
40283					
40285					
40287					
40289					
40290					
40291	6	4	6	7	21
40292					
40293					
40294					
40295					
40296					
40297					
40298					
40299	7	7	14	11	38
Total	208	183	258	388	983

Legal Aid Right to Counsel FY2024

Name of the Organization: <u>Legal Aid Society</u>																																																																																											
Project Title: <u>Limited Legal Representation to the Indigent in Eviction Court (Eviction Right to Counsel Project)</u>																																																																																											
Reporting Period: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>October 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>January 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>April 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>July 15th</u>																																																																																											
Clients Served: <u>(zip code, race, gender, age, # children in home, income, household size, veteran status)</u>																																																																																											
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Cases Served:</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;">409</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unique Clients Served:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">401</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cases Pending:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">134</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cases Closed/Clients Closed:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">275/267</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">All Demographic Info For Clients Closed Only</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Gender:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td style="text-align: right;">204</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td style="text-align: right;">63</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transgender</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unknown/Client Refused</td> <td style="text-align: right;">267</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Race/Ethnicity:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Asian</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Black/African American</td> <td style="text-align: right;">156</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hispanic/Latinx</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Native American/American Indian</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>White</td> <td style="text-align: right;">69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other/Multiracial</td> <td style="text-align: right;">31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unknown/Client Refused</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Age:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Under 18</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>18-30</td> <td style="text-align: right;">61</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31-50</td> <td style="text-align: right;">136</td> </tr> <tr> <td>51-65</td> <td style="text-align: right;">54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over 65:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unknown/Client Refused</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3</td> </tr> </table>	Cases Served:	409	Unique Clients Served:	401	Cases Pending:	134	Cases Closed/Clients Closed:	275/267	All Demographic Info For Clients Closed Only		Gender:		Female	204	Male	63	Transgender		Unknown/Client Refused	267	Race/Ethnicity:		Asian	0	Black/African American	156	Hispanic/Latinx	7	Native American/American Indian	0	White	69	Other/Multiracial	31	Unknown/Client Refused	4	Age:		Under 18		18-30	61	31-50	136	51-65	54	Over 65:	13	Unknown/Client Refused	3	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">No. of Children in Home:</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">1</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;">54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td style="text-align: right;">37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td style="text-align: right;">32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td style="text-align: right;">14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>More than 5</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Household Size:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td style="text-align: right;">68</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td style="text-align: right;">40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td style="text-align: right;">37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td style="text-align: right;">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td style="text-align: right;">8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>More than 8</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Veterans:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Victims of Domestic Violence:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">47</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disabled:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding-top: 10px;">Information regarding Zip Codes & Income are provided in subsequent sheets of this report.</td> </tr> </table>	No. of Children in Home:		1	54	2	37	3	32	4	14	5	7	More than 5	5	Household Size:		2	68	3	40	4	37	5	20	6	8	7	4	8	2	More than 8	2	Veterans:	7	Victims of Domestic Violence:	47	Disabled:	6	Information regarding Zip Codes & Income are provided in subsequent sheets of this report.	
Cases Served:	409																																																																																										
Unique Clients Served:	401																																																																																										
Cases Pending:	134																																																																																										
Cases Closed/Clients Closed:	275/267																																																																																										
All Demographic Info For Clients Closed Only																																																																																											
Gender:																																																																																											
Female	204																																																																																										
Male	63																																																																																										
Transgender																																																																																											
Unknown/Client Refused	267																																																																																										
Race/Ethnicity:																																																																																											
Asian	0																																																																																										
Black/African American	156																																																																																										
Hispanic/Latinx	7																																																																																										
Native American/American Indian	0																																																																																										
White	69																																																																																										
Other/Multiracial	31																																																																																										
Unknown/Client Refused	4																																																																																										
Age:																																																																																											
Under 18																																																																																											
18-30	61																																																																																										
31-50	136																																																																																										
51-65	54																																																																																										
Over 65:	13																																																																																										
Unknown/Client Refused	3																																																																																										
No. of Children in Home:																																																																																											
1	54																																																																																										
2	37																																																																																										
3	32																																																																																										
4	14																																																																																										
5	7																																																																																										
More than 5	5																																																																																										
Household Size:																																																																																											
2	68																																																																																										
3	40																																																																																										
4	37																																																																																										
5	20																																																																																										
6	8																																																																																										
7	4																																																																																										
8	2																																																																																										
More than 8	2																																																																																										
Veterans:	7																																																																																										
Victims of Domestic Violence:	47																																																																																										
Disabled:	6																																																																																										
Information regarding Zip Codes & Income are provided in subsequent sheets of this report.																																																																																											
Case status[opened/closed/pending]; Type of legal services provided [advice/brief, extended]																																																																																											
<p>During the reporting period, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project served a total of 409 individuals in 401 cases. In all, 275 cases were closed for 267 clients. 134 cases remain pending. In all, 550 children were secondary beneficiaries of the services provided.</p> <p>Legal Aid Society can only report on the level of legal service provided in closed cases. Of the 275 cases closed, 80 received advice/brief services, while the other 195 received extended representation.</p>																																																																																											
<p>Eligibility Requirements need to be identified to include the following: (1) Persons who occupied a dwelling under a valid lease or other instrument demonstrating a claim of legal right, other than the owner. (2) Whose annual gross income is not to exceed 125% federal poverty level (3) Person in Jefferson County either (1) with a legal case in District Court, Eviction Court to evict, eject or terminate the tenancy or (2) with the threat of a legal case to evict.</p>																																																																																											
<p>All individuals assisted through this Eviction Right to Counsel Project have been screened for and met all eligibility requirements set by the grant terms. All individuals either referred to Legal Aid Society by the Court or received through our Intake department are screened for organization and program eligibility requirements.</p>																																																																																											

Legal Aid Right to Counsel FY2024

Name of the Organization: <u>Legal Aid Society</u>	
Project Title: <u>Limited Legal Representation to the Indigent in Eviction Court (Eviction Right to Counsel Project)</u>	
Reporting Period: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>October 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>January 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>April 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>July 15th</u>	
Project Summary of Issues: (Will the client need ongoing legal services?)	Successes and Barriers identified in the Program (if any):
<p>Of the 275 cases closed in Quarter 1 that received extended representation, 272 (99%) either avoided or delayed their eviction with enough time to find alternative housing.</p> <p>Our consistently high number of pending cases is a strong indication of the many Louisville residents both eligible for and requesting legal assistance with eviction matters.</p> <p>Our Housing attorneys and paralegals are attending Eviction Court daily, serving clients outside of court, and participating in community initiatives (LRAN, the Jefferson County Eviction Diversion Program, and more). They are providing all eligible clients in crisis with the legal representation, advice, and assistance they need and connecting them to other community services. Through participation in the Eviction Prevention Task Force, several of our Housing attorneys have been working with other community partners (Louisville Metro Government, Coalition for the Homeless, Louisville Urban League, Association of Community Ministries, Metropolitan Housing Coalition, and landlords) to develop long-term solutions to the eviction crisis in Jefferson County.</p>	<p>As of June 2023, tenants are eligible for HHERF rental assistance through Louisville Metro if they applied for rental assistance through Neighborhood Place and the landlord was unwilling to participate/accept rental assistance funds (Neighborhood Place’s policy requires landlord to sign an agreement and accept rental assistance directly from Neighborhood Place). In order to be eligible for HHERF funds, the tenant must request that Neighborhood Place send the Louisville Metro Office of Housing a “Referral Letter” stating that a tenant’s landlord was unwilling to accept rental assistance directly from Neighborhood Place. Once Louisville Metro receives the “Referral Letter” from Neighborhood Place, the tenant must also resubmit an application to Louisville Metro to receive the HHERF funds. Our Housing Team is doing what they can to facilitate this reapplication and referral letter process for those eligible clients.</p> <p>Throughout the pandemic, Legal Aid Society and our community partners have conducted outreach to inform the public about the Right to Counsel Ordinance and community resources available to assist tenants, resulting in an increased demand for legal assistance. The when rental assistance is difficult to obtain, it makes legal assistance for these households even more crucial. Without legal assistance, tenants must negotiate with landlords for payment plans or additional time to move, in order to avoid homelessness. These negotiations are extremely difficult for tenants if they have no legal representative. Legal Aid staff continue to try to work with landlords to reach mutually favorable agreements that keep families in their homes.</p>

Legal Aid Right to Counsel FY2024

Name of the Organization: <u>Legal Aid Society</u>
Project Title: <u>Limited Legal Representation to the Indigent in Eviction Court (Eviction Right to Counsel Project)</u>
Reporting Period: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>October 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>January 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>April 15th</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>July 15th</u>
Number of clients whose cases were closed successfully:
<p>During the grant period, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project closed 275 cases . Of those cases closed, 195 clients received direct legal representation/defense regarding an eviction. The other 80 clients received legal advice or information on how to avoid their eviction or find alternative housing. 100% received the advice they needed to move forward following the initial eviction filing.</p> <p>Legal Aid Society believes that success cannot necessarily be defined by the outcome of a case but by the fact that an individual who otherwise could not afford it received the civil legal representation or legal advice and counsel they need to make their case, thus balancing the scales of justice. Most clients who receive either representation in court or extended assistance attain an immediate positive impact from this legal intervention. For clients who do not have a legal defense, our attorneys work to negotiate with the landlord to provide more time for the tenant to move or to create a payment plan so that the client can avoid the entry of an eviction on their record. Even the delay of an eviction gives the client more time to find alternative housing and to move, helping them to avoid an immediate and upsetting entry into homelessness/the shelter system.</p>

Name of the Organization: <u>Legal Aid Society</u>	
Project Title: <u>Limited Legal Representation to the Indigent in Eviction Court (Eviction Right to Counsel Project)</u>	
Reporting Period: _____ <u>October 15th</u> <u>X</u> _____ <u>January 15th</u> _____ <u>April 15th</u> _____ <u>July 15th</u>	
Clients Served: <u>(zip code, race, gender, age, # children in home, income, household size, veteran status)</u>	
Cases Served: 455	No. of Children in Home:
Unique Clients Served: 447	1 48
Cases Pending: 190	2 44
Cases Closed/Clients Closed: 265/259	3 21
All Demographic Info For Clients Closed Only	
Gender:	4 17
Female 193	5 9
Male 65	More than 5 2
Transgender	
Unknown/Client Refused 1	Household Size:
	2 59
Race/Ethnicity:	3 47
Asian 1	4 30
Black/African American 157	5 16
Hispanic/Latinx 8	6 15
Native American/American Indian 1	7 4
White 55	8 0
Other/Multiracial 35	More than 8 1
Unknown/Client Refused 2	
Age:	Veterans: 12
Under 18 0	Victims of Domestic Violence: 4
18-30 60	Disabled: 54
31-50 138	
51-65 42	Information regarding Zip Codes & Income are provided in subsequent sheets of this report.
Over 65: 15	
Unknown/Client Refused 4	
Case status[opened/closed/pending]; Type of legal services provided [advice/brief, extended]	
<p>During the reporting period, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project served a total of 447 individuals in 455 cases. In all, 265 cases were closed for 259 clients. 190 cases remain pending. In all, 327 children were secondary beneficiaries of the services provided.</p> <p>Legal Aid Society can only report on the level of legal service provided in closed cases. Of the 275 cases closed, 95 received advice/brief services, while the other 170 received extended representation.</p>	
Eligibility Requirements need to be identified to include the following: (1) Persons who occupied a dwelling under a valid lease or other instrument demonstrating a claim of legal right, other than the owner. (2) Person who occupies a dwelling with at least one child (3) Whose annual gross income is not to exceed 125% federal poverty level (4) Must have a proceeding in Jefferson County District Court, Eviction Court to evict, eject, or terminate the tenancy.	
<p>All individuals assisted through this Eviction Right to Counsel Project have been screened for and met all eligibility requirements set by the grant terms. All individuals either referred to Legal Aid Society by the Court or received through our Intake department are screened for organization and program eligibility requirements.</p>	

Project Summary of Issues: (Will the client need ongoing legal services?)	Successes and Barriers identified in the Program (if any):
<p>Our consistently high number of pending cases is a strong indication of the many Louisville residents both eligible for and requesting legal assistance with eviction matters.</p> <p>Our Housing attorneys and paralegals are attending Eviction Court daily, serving clients outside of court, and participating in community initiatives (LRAN, the Jefferson County Eviction Diversion Program, and more). They are providing all eligible clients in crisis with the legal representation, advice, and assistance they need and connecting them to other community services. Through participation in the Eviction Prevention Task Force, several of our Housing attorneys have been working with other community partners (Louisville Metro Government, Coalition for the Homeless, Louisville Urban League, Association of Community Ministries, Metropolitan Housing Coalition, and landlords) to develop long-term solutions to the eviction crisis in Jefferson County. As of June 2023, tenants are eligible for HHERF rental assistance through Louisville Metro if they applied for rental assistance through Neighborhood Place and the landlord was unwilling to participate/accept rental assistance funds (Neighborhood Place’s policy requires landlord to sign an agreement and accept rental assistance directly from Neighborhood Place). In order to be eligible for HHERF funds, the tenant must request that Neighborhood Place send the Louisville Metro Office of Housing a “Referral Letter” stating that a tenant’s landlord was unwilling to accept rental assistance directly from Neighborhood Place. Once Louisville Metro receives the “Referral Letter” from Neighborhood Place, the tenant must also resubmit an application to Louisville Metro to receive the HHERF funds. Our Housing Team is doing what they can to facilitate this reapplication and referral letter process for those eligible clients.</p>	<p>Throughout the pandemic, Legal Aid Society and our community partners have conducted outreach to inform the public about the Right to Counsel Ordinance and community resources available to assist tenants, resulting in an increased demand for legal assistance. The when rental assistance is difficult to obtain, it makes legal assistance for these households even more crucial. Without legal assistance, tenants must negotiate with landlords for payment plans or additional time to move, in order to avoid homelessness. These negotiations are extremely difficult for tenants if they have no legal representative. Legal Aid staff continue to try to work with landlords to reach mutually favorable agreements that keep families in their homes.</p> <p>Project successes are perhaps best measured by client impact stories:</p> <p>Mary had watched over her daughter Clara all her life. She watched her grow up, get married, and have three beautiful children of her own. And Mary watched as Clara was diagnosed with life-threatening melanoma at only 31 years old. Although Clara worked as long as she could, eventually her failing health made her bedridden. As her paychecks ceased and medical bills mounted, Clara’s landlord threatened to evict her due to past due rent payments.</p> <p>Mary could no longer watch her daughter struggle. As she stepped in to help take care of her three grandchildren as well as her dying daughter, Mary contacted Legal Aid for assistance in the rent dispute. Legal Aid attorneys took the case with haste, knowing Clara’s time on this earth was all the more precious due to her failing health. Attorneys organized a letter for Clara’s landlord from her medical professionals explaining the extenuating circumstances—that Clara had mere weeks to live and an eviction may very well kill her.</p> <p>The landlord moved forward with the eviction anyway. In response, Legal Aid attorneys filed a motion to re-docket the case and asked the Judge to hold the eviction warrant. The Judge understood, and held the warrant to give Clara time. A week later, Mary was with Clara as she peacefully transitioned out of this world. Legal Aid is proud to have served Clara in her final moments.</p> <p>Although Mary was devastated at the loss of her daughter Clara, she is incredibly grateful to Legal Aid for facilitating her daughter’s peace and dignity as she passed. Because of Legal Aid’s assistance, Clara rested without fear of a sheriff wheeling her hospital bed out to the curb.</p>

Number of clients whose cases were closed successfully:

During the grant period, the Eviction Right to Counsel Project closed 265 cases . Of the 275 cases closed, 95 received advice/brief services, while the other 170 received extended representation. 100% received the advice they needed to move forward following the initial eviction filing.

Legal Aid Society believes that success cannot necessarily be defined by the outcome of a case but by the fact that an individual who otherwise could not afford it received the civil legal representation or legal advice and counsel they need to make their case, thus balancing the scales of justice. Most clients who receive either representation in court or extended assistance attain an immediate positive impact from this legal intervention. For clients who do not have a legal defense, our attorneys work to negotiate with the landlord to provide more time for the tenant to move or to create a payment plan so that the client can avoid the entry of an eviction on their record. Even the delay of an eviction gives the client more time to find alternative housing and to move, helping them to avoid an immediate and upsetting entry into homelessness/the shelter system.

Name of the Organization: <u>Legal Aid Society</u>			
Project Title: <u>Limited Legal Representation to the Indigent in Eviction Court (Eviction Right to Counsel Project)</u>			
Reporting Period: <u>Cumulative</u>			
Clients Served:			
<u>(zip code, race, gender, age, # children in home, income, household size, veteran status)</u>			
Cases Served:	1,206	No. of Children in Home:	
Unique Clients Served:	1,101	0	273
Cases Pending:	142	1	263
Cases Closed/Clients Closed:	1,062/983	2	210
All Demographic Info For Clients Closed Only		3	146
Gender:		4	61
Female	782	5	13
Male	200	More than 5	17
Transgender	1		
Unknown/Client Refused			
		Household Size:	
Race/Ethnicity:		1	223
Asian	3	2	232
Black/African American	620	3	226
Hispanic/Latinx	26	4	162
Native American/American Indian	5	5	81
White	232	6	32
Other/Multiracial	89	7	17
Unknown/Client Refused	8	8	7
		More than 8	3
Age:		Veterans:	22
Under 18	0	Victims of Domestic Violence:	22
18-30	277	Disabled:	128
31-50	521		
51-65	154		
Over 65:	25		
Unknown/Client Refused	6		
		Information regarding Zip Codes & Income are provided in subsequent sheets of this report.	

Legal Aid Right to Counsel FY2024

Household Size:	0-50% of FPG					50.1-100% of FPG					100.1-125% of FPG							
	1	2	3	4	C	1	2	3	4	C	1	2	3	4	C			
1 Person	42	46			88	\$7,290 or Less	34	30			64	\$7,291 - \$14,580	10	13			23	\$14,581 - \$18,225
2 Person	38	26			64	\$9,860 or Less	19	16			35	\$9,861 - \$19,720	11	16			27	\$19,721 - \$24,650
3 Person	20	17			37	\$12,430 or Less	13	17			30	\$12,431 - \$24,860	7	13			20	\$24,861 - \$31,075
4 Person	16	15			31	\$15,000 or Less	13	6			19	\$15,001 - \$30,000	8	9			17	\$30,001 - \$37,500
5 Person	12	9			21	\$17,570 or Less	6	4			10	\$17,571 - \$35,140	2	3			5	\$35,141 - \$43,925
6 Person	2	10			12	\$20,140 or Less	3	5			8	\$20,141 - \$40,280	3				3	\$40,281 - \$50,350
7 Person	1	3			4	\$22,710 or Less	3				3	\$22,711 - \$45,420					0	\$45,421 - \$56,775
8 Person	1	1			2	\$25,280 or Less	1				1	\$25,281 - \$50,560					0	\$50,561 - \$63,200
	132	127	0	0	259		92	78	0	0	170		41	54	0	0	95	

Quarter 1	265 (2 households of 9+)
Quarter 2	259
Quarter 3	0
Quarter 4	0
Cumulative	524

Zip Codes					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Cumulative
40018		2			
40023					
40025					
40027					
40041					
40059					
40118	4				
40201					
40202	2	6			
40203	21	24			
40204	2	3			
40205		1			
40206	3	10			
40207	2	4			
40208	9	11			
40209					
40210	13	17			
40211	25	20			
40212	24	18			
40213	7	3			
40214	24	22			
40215	18	9			
40216	12	16			
40217	3	2			
40218	12	10			
40219	19	16			
40220	12	16			
40221					
40222	2	5			
40223	2	6			
40224					
40225					
40228	3	3			
40229	3	3			
40231					
40232					
40233					
40241		4			
40242	3				
40243	1				
40245	1	1			
40250					
40251					
40252					
40253					
40255					
40256	1				
40257					
40258	9	7			
40259					
40261					
40266					
40268					
40269					
40270					
40272	9	8			
40280					
40281					
40282					
40283					
40285					
40287					
40289					
40290					
40291	8	5			
40292					
40293					
40294					
40295					
40296					
40297					
40298					
40299	13	7			
	0				

Total	267	259	0	0	0
-------	-----	-----	---	---	---