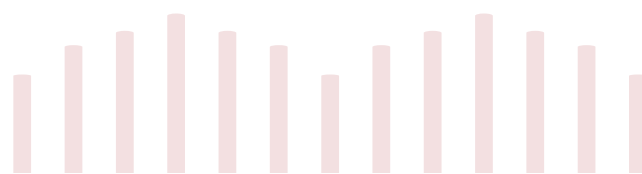




ANNUAL REPORT

2022





A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WHERE WE HAVE BEEN

Over four years ago, my work with the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania alerted me to both the profound deficiencies in basic services available to economically challenged people in the Philadelphia area and the tremendous opportunity afforded by our churches and parish communities to deliver legal assistance in a more efficient and direct manner than the model being followed by most legal aid providers. Encouraged by several of our current clinic hosts, including St. Stephen's Church in Center City and the St. James School, as well as by our dynamic Board of Directors, I spent a year developing a clinic process that does away with many of the conventional characteristics of a law office, including the office itself as well as supporting personnel, equipment and a library. Inspired by a landmark 2017 study by Temple University for Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania, our Board and I sought to reduce the experience of seeking and providing legal advice to its essence -- a client and an attorney in conversation about the client's problem and the attorney's proposed solution. We identified churches and other groups that were offering free meals to the people in their communities, and with their assistance spread the word in their neighborhoods that a lawyer would be available at a table close to where the meal was being served to discuss, at no charge, their civil legal concerns. Five people attended our first clinic and we have never looked back.



WHERE WE ARE NOW

We are currently holding 10-12 clinics per month at various locations in Philadelphia, Delaware and Montgomery Counties at which a client in need of help speaks in person to a knowledgeable attorney who can listen thoughtfully to the client's story, review and copy any documents or papers they may have brought, and either render competent legal advice on the spot or take the matter under advisement. We are blessed with an excellent group of law students from Penn and Drexel who can find the answer to almost any legal conundrum, as well as a first-class group of specialized legal clinics in the area to whom I can refer matters that are too complicated for us to handle.

WHERE WE ARE GOING

Our Board adopted a strategic plan in 2022 that includes three major goals for the next 12-18 months. First, in order to further our core mission of bringing legal assistance to communities in need, we want to add more clinics per month and hold them in all five Philadelphia-area counties. In order to do this,



we must hire an additional staff person to assist with intake, research and case management. This leads to our second goal, which is to increase our financial support. We are almost entirely funded through donations from individuals, churches and private foundations. We will be seeking to broaden our support in all areas, but in particular we will be looking for additional long-term anchor funders that will allow us to hire with confidence. Our third goal is to raise the public profile of Episcopal Legal Aid in order to call attention to both our good work and our innovative model of delivering legal services to the economically disadvantaged among us. Many studies these days focus on concepts like "community lawyering" and "legal navigators" that we have implemented for three years. We are working on an article for publication in both law-related and religion-based journals that will tell our story and detail the lessons we have learned. In this way we hope not only to call attention to our work but also to contribute to the local and national discussion about how to address the current crisis in civil legal aid.

My thanks to all for your encouragement and support. We are looking for great things in the coming year!

Stephen P. Chawaga

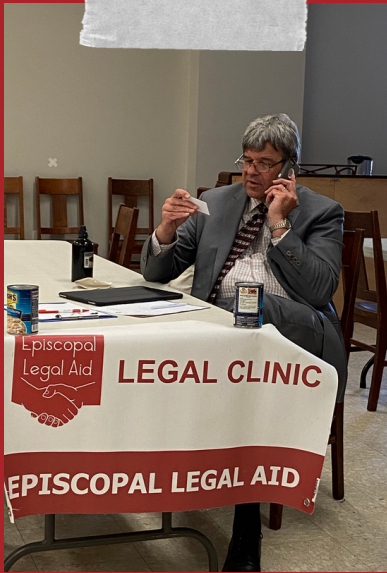
Steve Chawaga
Executive Director



OUR MISSION IS TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO JUSTICE BY BRINGING PRO BONO CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME RESIDENTS OF PHILADELPHIA AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022



WE SERVED
200 CLIENTS



WE RAISED
OVER \$90,000



WE HELD 100
CLINICS





FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

REVENUE

	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Budget
Grants	\$75,500	\$115,000
Fundraiser	\$6,835	\$10,000
Individuals	\$17,175	\$20,000
Other	\$966	\$1,000
TOTAL REVENUE	\$100,476	\$146,000

EXPENSES

	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Budget
Salaries	\$80,105	\$102,200
Office	\$1,738	\$2,000
Marketing	\$1,628	\$2,000
Recurring Costs	\$3,586	\$4,000
Court/Client	\$498	\$1,100
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$87,555	\$111,300

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

CHURCHES / FOUNDATIONS

Church of the Redeemer

St. David's Church

St. James School

Eugene C. Bay Foundation

Henrietta Tower Wurts Foundation

Lawrence Saunders Foundation

Lindback Foundation

Patricia Kind Family Foundation

Schollar Foundation

The Community's Foundation

INDIVIDUALS

Mary Allen

Peggy Beck

Joanne Behm & Bill Severson

Barbara Billings

Peter Bloomfield

Carrie Brodsky

Charles Burrows

Frank Cervone

James Christy

Jan Clarke & Bill Gross

Harold Cohen

Rev. Elizabeth Colton

Ruth Denlinger

Rosanna D'Orazio & Kent Wagner

Rev. Sandra Etemad

Sarah Farkas

David Griffith

Marisa Guerin

Terry & Paul Guerin

Carolyn Harper

Rev. Norman Hjelm

Christie Huddleston & Rafael

Porrata-Doria

Rev. JoAnn Jones

Rev. Karen Kaminskas

Mark & Carolyn Kehoe

Mary Kohart

Rev. Peter Kountz

Christopher Lee

Rev. James Littrell

Stacey Lunsford

Rhena McClain

Norman McClave

Elizabeth McLean

Rev. John Midwood

Linda & Charles Nelsen

Laurie Novo & Steve Chawaga

Patricia Novo

Sandra Novo

Daniel Orr

Sophia Pham

Diana Post

Valerie Sarris & Gary Geoghegan

Hilary Schor

Megan Schumacher

Connie Stelzenmuller

Rev. Judith Sullivan

David Trevaskis

Sallie vanMerkensteijn

Mary & Paul Vilter

Teresa Wallace & John Chou

Rev. Thomas Wand

Susan Weisgrau

Kristine & Rev. William Wood



AND, FINALLY, OUR WONDERFUL BOARD...



SECRETARY

Rev. JoAnn Jones

CHAIR

Rev. Judith Sullivan

TREASURER

Norman McClave

BOARD MEMBERS

Rev. Doris Rajagopal
Christopher Lee, Esq.

Terry Guerin
Everett Gillison, Esq.

