Fighting For Fairness For vulnerable people

Southeast Louisiana Legal Services

2019 Annual Report

Fighting for fairness for vulnerable people
# Table of Contents

Message from the SLLS Board President 3  
About SLLS 4  
  - Our Mission 4  
  - Our History 4  
  - Our Priorities 5  
  - Areas Served 5  
By the Numbers 6  
Economic Impact 7  
Stories Behind the Numbers 8  
  - Civil Legal Aid Helps Domestic Violence Survivor Get a Fresh Start 8  
  - Continued Housing for Mother with Disabilities 9  
  - Helping a Homeless Mother and Her Children 9  
  - Helping a Veteran Navigate the VA Medical System 10  
  - Protecting Vulnerable Veterans 10  
  - SLLS Works Collaboratively with Healthcare Providers 11  
  - Impact Advocacy: Eviction Defense Affecting Hundreds 11  
  - Assisting a Lifelong New Orleanian 12  
  - Helping Client Avoid a Predatory Lender 12  
  - Assisting a Wrongfully Convicted Senior Receive Access to Housing 13  
SLLS Honors 14  
Increasing Access to Justice for All Through Technology Innovations 15  
Self Help Desks Help Address Unrepresented Litigant Crisis 15  
Community Outreach 16  
Making a Difference Through Pro Bono 17  
Law Students Make Lasting Contributions 17  
Leadership in the Legal Community 18  
Cultivating the next generation of justice Leaders 19  
Events 20  
  - SLLS Northshore Pro Bono Project 10th Anniversary 20  
  - Hammond Open House 21  
2019 Bar Exam 22  
  - Baton Rouge 22  
  - Baton Rouge Sponsors 23  
  - New Orleans 24  
  - New Orleans Sponsors 25  
Financial Resources 26  
  - Funders 27  
  - Circle of Justice 28  
  - Donors 29  
  - Donors 30  
Thank You from the SLLS Board of Directors 31
Now more than ever, civil legal aid is critical to protecting the future health and stability of struggling people and to the ability of our communities to recover from COVID-19’s devastating economic impact. Southeast Louisiana Legal Services (SLLS)’ team of dedicated attorneys, support staff, board members, donors, and volunteers are making a big difference in the daily lives of people who turn to us in need of legal help during a major life crisis.

As we have been for over 50 years, SLLS continues to be a lifeline for vulnerable families at the time they most need help. We pivoted almost overnight to become a virtual law firm working remotely to sustain services to struggling workers whose lives have been upended by COVID-19, to seniors and people living with chronic health conditions at increased risk of serious complications, to domestic violence victims trapped in their homes due to abusers, and to so many more people adversely affected by the pandemic. As we continue to fight the long-term effects of COVID-19 on marginalized people, to battle systemic inequities disproportionately impacting people of color, and to ensure equal access to justice in a changing world, I am so proud and honored to serve as SLLS’ Board President and to present our 2019 Annual Report to you.

Mark Surprenant  
SLLS Board of Directors President  
Of Counsel with Adams and Reese, LLP
ABOUT SLLS

OUR MISSION

Justice
One Client
At a Time

Impact Cases

Policy Advocacy

Community
Legal
Education

OUR HISTORY

For over 50 years, Southeast Louisiana Legal Services (SLLS) has provided a legal safety net. We serve 22 parishes covering half of Louisiana’s low-income population from our offices in Baton Rouge, Covington, Harvey, Hammond, Houma, and New Orleans. SLLS attorneys and support staff are complemented by pro bono attorneys, law students, and other volunteers. We work in partnership with other community stakeholders.

SLLS provides legal help for indigent and other vulnerable people who cannot afford a lawyer. We protect livelihoods, health, housing, and families. Programs like ours are essential to assuring fairness for all in the civil justice system.
Having an SLLS attorney prevents loss of family, food, shelter, income, medical care, or personal safety.

In 2019, SLLS handled 11,838 cases, closing over 8,000 of those. SLLS helped 25,076 vulnerable Louisianans, reached another 30,579 people through community education and resources, and provided legal information to 185,000 more through LouisianaLawhelp.org. As we headed into 2020, 3,663 cases remained open. The charts below are a breakdown of our 2019 closed and open cases.
The direct economic impact of SLLS’ 2019 work for our clients exceeded $19 million. This represents income secured, assets or benefits protected, such as the value of homes saved from foreclosure, consumer debt relief, health coverage obtained, housing subsidies preserved, financial support for hard-working families, and much more. No price tag can be placed on the value of lives saved through our Domestic Violence and Child in Need of Care work. A new Economic Impact Study on the value of civil legal aid released in early 2019 by the Louisiana bar Foundation found that for every $1 supporting programs like SLLS, there is $9.13 in social return on investment in immediate and long-term cost savings.

CIVIL LEGAL AID SUPPORTS LOUISIANA
Standing up for our state’s most vulnerable residents

ECONOMIC BENEFIT
Louisiana saw over $19 million in economic benefits by providing Civil Legal Aid through Southeast Louisiana Legal Services.

PEOPLE
In 2019, Southeast Louisiana Legal Services handled 11,838 cases in Louisiana, thereby helping over 25,076 people.

LEGAL ISSUES
In 2019, the top 3 legal issues facing Southeast Louisiana Legal Services clients in Louisiana were Family (39%), Child in Need of Care (CINC) (14%), & Housing (13%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SLLS</th>
<th>Louisiana</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>4,585</td>
<td>11,299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CINC</td>
<td>1,639</td>
<td>2,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>1,583</td>
<td>2,199</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STORIES

BEHIND THE NUMBERS

Civil Legal Aid Helps Domestic Violence Survivor Get A Fresh Start

SLLS fulfills its mission through work with clients like Deanna. Deanna’s marriage to her husband was full of ups and downs. Her husband was often abusive to her. But she loved him and was committed to making things work. After three years of marriage, they had a beautiful baby boy. Deanna was thrilled. She thought the love she and her husband each felt for their son would bring them closer together. Unfortunately, she was wrong. Things got worse. Her husband continued to abuse her physically and emotionally. When her son was four years old, Deanna’s husband pushed her against a wall in a fit of rage, screamed in her face, and threatened to kill her. She was terrified. She had finally had enough.

She wanted legal help, but because she was working a low-wage job and needed to support her son, she knew she could not afford to pay a lawyer. Deanna went to the St. Charles Parish Courthouse to find out what she could do to protect herself on her own. She was directed to the SLLS Access to Justice Center Self-Help Desk funded by the United Way of St. Charles Parish. There, an SLLS attorney helped her fill out the forms she needed to obtain a protective order to keep her and her son safe. Still, she was scared – of her husband, of what the monumental step she was taking would mean for her and her son, and of the complicated legal process she was about to start. It all felt overwhelming and confusing.

Fortunately, SLLS didn’t stop at pointing her to forms she needed to file. She was offered legal representation free of charge to help her obtain more permanent safety for herself and her child than the protective order alone could provide. With the help of an attorney by her side to fight for her rights, Deanna obtained a divorce and joint custody of her son. She was named as the primary custodial parent. Her now ex-husband was ordered to complete a batterer’s intervention program. Now Deanna has the fresh start she needs to stabilize her life and protect her family.
Continued Housing for Mother with Disabilities

The SLLS Capital Area Homeless One Stop Legal Clinic funded by the Capital Area United Way recently changed the life of a single mother of five children. Suzanne struggled with mental health problems, agoraphobia, and osteoarthritis. To make matters worse, her temporary housing was about to expire. Suzanne was referred to our onsite attorney at the Homeless One Stop. We helped her navigate the byzantine process of applying and being approved for disability benefits. Once that happened, we were able to help her obtain permanent housing and a stable future for her family.

In talking about how we impacted her life, she said, “It’s definitely been a long time coming for my benefits and words cannot express how happy and blessed that I can finally take care of my girls I actually took my girls out for the first time in such a long time & it felt so good to do that, that I got emotional just doing it. Again ‘Thank You’ for all your help & also giving me the opportunity to finally be a mother & provide for my girls. Southeast Louisiana Legal Services is definitely a blessing.”

Helping a Homeless Mother and Her Children

With no options of a place to live after leaving her child’s abusive father, Jessica and her baby were living at a local motel with a bad reputation as being a place known for drug activity. To help pay for her room, she took a job cleaning rooms at the motel. Even though her child’s father had physically attacked her in the past, in desperation, she called him for help to buy diapers and food. When he came to the motel, another altercation broke out. The father called the police, lying that she had pulled a gun on him and stolen his wallet. Police realized she did not have a weapon and the father ended up being arrested. Once he got out of jail, he retaliated against our client by calling child welfare to report the mother as living at the motel. He threatened to fight her for custody of the baby. That is when she turned to SLLS for legal help.

We were able to help her obtain an 18-month protective order against the father, temporary sole custody, and the father being limited to supervised visitation. Her SLLS attorney heard about a job and referred her to it. She got the job and now has stable employment as a food truck manager with a five year contract, a vehicle, driver’s license and insurance. Child welfare has now closed its case and the family is no longer living in a motel.
Mr. C is a 77-year old Army veteran. In August 2016, he had an urgent medical problem and was hospitalized for treatment. Adding to his medical issue, Mr. C had fallen ill on a Saturday and the New Orleans VA Hospital had not been open on weekends since Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005. This meant Mr. C had no choice but to go to a non-VA hospital. Unbelievably, three years later, he received a collection notice from the VA alleging he owed them $11,000. Why? Because he had not promptly notified the VA about his hospitalization. He called the VA and tried to explain what happened but he was told that the VA would not pay his $11,000 hospital bill. Mr. C lives on a fixed income, could not afford to pay the bill, and this debt was putting his VA pension and Social Security disability benefits at risk of garnishment.

Mr. C came to see the SLLS attorney onsite at our Medical-Legal Partnership at the New Orleans VA Medical Center Hospital funded by the New Orleans Bar Association and its Foundation. SLLS submitted a memorandum disputing the debt with supporting medical records. We are happy to report that in December 2019, we received notice that the VA had agreed to pay Mr. C’s $11,000 medical bill. As a result, Mr. C was able to protect his monthly benefits from garnishment so that he can continue to pay his mortgage payments on his family home.

### Protecting Vulnerable Veterans

Veterans are an area of special focus at SLLS. Thanks to funding from the New Orleans Bar Association and its Foundation, we have dedicated staff assigned to work with veterans like Mr. W. He was a 57-year old veteran who worked full-time. In May 2019, he was hospitalized due to depression. Unable to work due to his extended hospitalization, Mr. W could not pay his June 2019 rent and was served with an eviction notice.

VA hospital social workers set up an appointment for Mr. W with SLLS while he was hospitalized. We visited him there to help stop his eviction. Working with his social workers and employer after he was released from the hospital, Mr. W was able to work extra hours to catch up on his June 2019 rent and late fees. SLLS represented him in with negotiations with his landlord, who agreed to drop the eviction. Mr. W continues to work and pay his rent and no longer has to worry about becoming homeless due to this hospitalization.
Many of our clients have a wide range of needs. To help clients get the holistic services they need, SLLS works with organizations across our service area to coordinate services and referrals.

Mr. P was referred to us after talking with his supportive housing case manager to get help with obtaining disability benefits. He was late in filing for an appeal of a disability claim he tried to do on his own.

After talking to Mr. P and reviewing his medical records, we learned that he had schizophrenia, HIV, and an IQ of only 65. Yet, he wasn’t receiving any medical or mental health treatment at the time. Because many of Mr. P’s needs were beyond the scope of the legal help that SLLS provides, we referred him to a specialized Assertive Community Team worker to help stabilize people with severe mental illness. He was approved for services and began seeing their psychiatrist, he was connected with HIV treatment, and they helped him with an outstanding bench warrant. Mr. P finally had the scope of services needed to improve his quality of life. We are happy to report that after connecting him to intensive services, we helped build a strong administrative record to support a “good cause” argument for his late appeal and we helped him successfully win his disability claim.

Ms. W, a client whose Section 8 rent was $5 a month, was being evicted. Her landlord was illegally charging her additional fees for pest control and “valet” trash collection. The Housing Authority had not approved these charges which when added on, pushed up her tenant portion of rent far above the maximum amount that she could be charged based on her income.

After she sought SLLS’ assistance, we represented her in an eviction. We defeated it on the grounds that these illegal amounts were never approved by the Housing Authority and she was being overcharged. Ms. W was not only not evicted, she received a refund of $260. But SLLS did not stop there. These same charges were being assessed against all the other tenants in the complex. We negotiated with the Housing Authority and the apartment complex’s corporate headquarters. Through our effects, the Housing Authority ended the fees for over 500 tenants resulting in the avoidance of $32,450 per month in illegal charges.
A single mother of two who worked for a local non-profit providing services to at-risk youth found herself in need of civil legal aid. She had been sued by an online lending company for unsecured debts of more than $25,000. By the time she made her way to us, a motion for summary judgment had already been filed against her in court.

She was very afraid that her meager check would be garnished and that she would be in trouble at her job because of a garnishment. An SLLS consumer attorney met with her, reviewed her loan documents and lawsuit, and found multiple deficiencies. We filed pleadings to challenge the motion for summary judgement to help stop possible collection action. At that point, the lending company negotiated with SLLS and the company wound up dismissing the entire suit. Our client was then able to breathe a sigh of relief.

Mr. O grew up in New Orleans. When he was young, he was shot. Since then, he had chronic pain and weakness in the leg and was eventually diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder. Over time, he became unable to work any longer as his condition deteriorated. After Hurricane Katrina in 2005 Mr. O, who had been evacuated, returned to New Orleans. He could not stabilize, became even more severely depressed and experienced homelessness several times.

After trying several different programs and social service agencies, Mr. O was referred by his social worker to SLLS’ Veterans and Innovative Project (VIP) Unit. SLLS helped him with an application for Social Security disability benefits and diligently built the medical record to support his claim. Although he was initially denied, SLLS appealed and argued his case in front of an Administrative Law Judge. The judge issued a fully favorable decision, monthly SSI benefits, and $16,000 in back-owed benefits. This income helped Mr. O obtain both economic and housing stability for the first time in more than fifteen years. Now he truly feels like he is back home.
In his early 20’s, Mr. Francis was convicted of a serious crime that he did not commit. Rather than face the possibility of the electric chair, he pled guilty to a lengthy prison sentence ultimately serving four decades at Louisiana’s infamous Angola prison. While there, he was a model prisoner becoming an ordained minister, a trained CPR instructor sent to dozens of jails and prisons to teach these lifesaving skills, a trusty, and a mentor for other prisoners enrolled in Angola’s Re-Entry Court Program. His activities were cut short when he had a major stroke at age 66 which left him paralyzed on his left side.

But after over forty years in prison, he didn’t have much of a support system. He couch surfed with some distant relatives - but that was not working out well. He feared becoming homeless since he was now disabled and couldn’t work. Someone suggested he apply for affordable senior housing. He got his hopes up that he might finally have a home of his own when he learned several housing complexes were taking applications. Mr. Francis applied but was denied admission due to his criminal record. He was offered an administrative hearing to appeal.

Though discouraged and doubting an appeal would do any good, he turned to SLLS for legal help. We prepared an appeal to two properties arguing that their blanket denial violated federal law. SLLS represented him in an in-person hearing. The housing providers overturned their decision and further agreed to work with SLLS to update their outdated admission policies. Mr. Francis was able to move in his new home just before Christmas. When describing how his legal aid attorney made a difference in his life, he said “She is my everything”. He also noted that he is only one of many that SLLS helps every day and that he is so grateful we are there to help give a voice to people in their time of need.
The New Orleans City Business Newspaper Named SLLS Executive Director Laura Tuggle a Women of the Year honoree.

The Louisiana State Bar Association Announced the Justice & Accountability Center (JAC)'s Re-Entry Legal Clinic as the winner of the Legal Services Innovation Award. SLLS is a proud partner in JAC’s Re-Entry Clinic.

The Gillis Long Poverty Law Center recognized SLLS with its inaugural Social Justice Champion Award.

Jessica Wood Williams received a Trees for Life award from Children’s Hospital. The awards were given to recognize professionals from various specialties for their work in advocating against domestic violence and child abuse.
SLLS continued to expand justice to all by operating the statewide free legal information website Louisianalawhelp.org with resources available in both Spanish and English. We also posted legal alerts through our website and Facebook page.

**SELF HELP DESKS**

**HELP ADDRESS UNREPRESENTED LITIGANT CRISIS**

Near 2010, with shrinking funding for civil legal aid, the number of self-represented litigants rose to as high as 65% in many courts across the country including Louisiana. The civil justice system found it needed new ways to provide some level of help for people without an attorney especially in family law cases. Local court partnerships with civil legal aid, bar associations, and other organizations started self-help desks or courthouse kiosks with self-help resources.

In Louisiana, civil legal aid and pro bono programs began operating self-help desks several years ago. These desks now serve thousands of people annually. SLLS usually places the self-help desks it operates in rural areas where it does not have an office or where it runs a pro bono project. Through the support of the Louisiana Bar Foundation, the United Way of Southeast Louisiana, and the United Way of St. Charles Parish, SLLS started pilot self-help desks.

These and other resources have allowed SLLS to continue operations beyond initial startup.
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

SLLS staff and volunteers participated in 120 community outreach and legal education efforts in 2019, including Ask-a-Lawyer Programs, Wills for Heroes events, Council on Aging presentations, monthly veterans outreach events, community-based legal clinics, and more. In 2019, 4,405 people were served through our 2019 community events and through dissemination of legal information.
MAKING A DIFFERENCE
THROUGH PRO BONO

SLLS Incubator Programs
Baton Rouge Bar Association Subgrant
SLLS Northshore Pro Bono Project
Pro Bono Project Subgrant
Low-Income Tax Payer Clinic Project

1,396 Closed Cases
708 Hours Donated in 2019
$1,061,700 Market Value

LAW STUDENTS
MAKE LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS

SLLS is fortunate to have law clerks assisting in the delivery of civil legal aid from Loyola, LSU, Southern, and Tulane Law Schools. We also host law students from schools across the country during alternate spring and winter breaks. This nationwide interest in volunteering at SLLS started as an outpouring of support after Hurricane Katrina and continues today. In 2019, law students provided over 10,006 hours of service valued at $150,090. Special thanks to all these dedicated future lawyers and their schools in supporting our work for vulnerable clients.
Civil Legal Aid Day 2019 at Louisiana State Capitol

SLLS Staff and Colleagues at the LSBA Justice Community Conference

Executive Director Laura Tuggle Presenting at Re-Entry CLE in Partnership with the LSBA and the Louisiana Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission
With generous support from local and national organizations, SLLS hosts innovative Fellowship projects to respond to urgent community needs. The New Orleans Bar Association and the New Orleans Bar Foundation currently fund a Veterans Justice Fellowship and the Equal Justice Works Foundation support fellows to address the unmet legal needs of vulnerable veterans. Two Tulane Law School Lutz Fellows and a Loyola Law Schools Gills Long Social Justice Fellow are helping address critical needs of domestic violence victims and abused children. LBF Fellowships provide resources to help SLLS represent abused/neglected children and the needs of vulnerable people with chronic health problems.
SLLS’ Northshore Pro Bono Project (NSPBP) celebrated ten years of serving vulnerable people with a day long CLE featuring local judges, local leaders, SLLS staff, and our pro bono volunteers. We held a luncheon event with a line up of distinguished speakers including 22nd JDC Chief Judge Dawn Amacker, 22nd JDC Judge Mary Devereux, Louisiana State Senator Beth Mizell, Covington Mayor Mike Cooper, SLLS Board President Mark Surprenant, and Brandt Lorio, our 22nd JDC Bar Association Board appointee. We were pleased to honor the Louisiana Bar Foundation’s Northshore Community Partnership Panel represented by long-time SLLS volunteer, Patricia Bonneau, with our Founder’s Award for providing the seed funding to start the project.
After being in our old location for over 30 years, SLLS moved its Hammond office in the fall of 2019. We were delighted to show it off to local judges, elected leaders, attorneys, partners, board members, staff, and other community members. Our new space at 200 Guidry Drive, Hammond, Louisiana is only about a mile away from our old location, has better amenities, and room for us to grow. We were thrilled to host almost 100 guests at our Open House where we were delighted to present Louisiana State Senator Beth Mizell with the SLLS Champion of Justice Award for her dedication to increasing access to justice for low-income Louisiana families.
2019 BAR EXAM

BATON ROUGE SPONSORS

Champions of Justice

Defenders of Justice

Allies of Justice

Linda Law Clark
For every $1 invested in civil legal aid in Louisiana, our communities receive a $9.13 social return on investment. This includes emergency services, law enforcement, healthcare, justice returns, and other public cost savings. That is why strong support from our funders and donors is so important. Because of you, we were able to improve the lives of thousands of vulnerable people across Southeast Louisiana in 2019.

**Total Budget: $8,205,482**
THANK YOU!

2019 FUNDERS

19th Judicial Family Court for the Parish of East Baton Rouge
21st Judicial District Court (Tangipahoa, Livingston, St. Helena)
22nd Judicial District Court (St. Tammany and Washington)
24th Judicial District Court for the Parish of Jefferson
34th Judicial District Court (St. Bernard)
AmazonSmile Foundation
American Bar Association
Baptist Community Ministries
Baton Rouge City Court
Capital Area Agency on Aging
Capital Area Alliance for the Homeless
Capital Area United Way
City of New Orleans
Civil District Court
East Baton Rouge Council on Aging
Edward Wisner Foundation
Equal Justice Works Foundation
Gillis W. Long Poverty Law Center
Greater New Orleans Foundation
Hope Center, Inc.
Huey and Angelina Wilson Foundation
Internal Revenue Service
Jefferson Parish Office of Community Development
Justice and Accountability Center
 Lafourche Parish Council on Aging
Livingston Parish Clerk of Court
Louisiana Bar Foundation
Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement
Loyola University New Orleans College of Law
Lutz Family Foundation (Tulane University School of Law)
New Orleans Artists Against Hunger and Homelessness
New Orleans Bar Association/Foundation
Plaquemines Council on Aging
Single Stop USA
Southeast Advocates for Family Empowerment (SAFE)
St. Charles Council on Aging
St. Helena Clerk of Court
St. James Council on Aging
St. John Council on Aging
St. Tammany Council on Aging (COAST)
Start Corporation, Inc.
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Terrebonne Council on Aging
Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government
The Haven
U.S. Department of Justice Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
U.S. Department of Veterans’ Affairs Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)
United Way of Southeast Louisiana
United Way of St. Charles
Unity of Greater New Orleans
Wells Fargo Foundation
Thank you to our Founding Circle of Justice Donors!

John and Ann Hairston
Mary Heck Barrios and Mike Barrios
Maureen Harbourt
Dr. Chin-Chin Ho
Jane Johnson and David Marcello
Susan Caroline Johnson
Damon Kirin
Laurent and Monica Lutz Jr.
Benjamin Miskow
Leon and Cynthia Rittenberg Jr.
Darnell Shuart
Mark and Monica Surprenant
R. Patrick and the Honorable Sarah S. Vance
James Weiss
Patrick Yancey
THANK YOU!  
2019 DONORS

Thanks to all of our 2019 donors for your generous support. You helped us fulfill our mission of achieving justice for low-income people in twenty-two parishes in Southeast Louisiana.

Please accept our apologies for any omissions.

Adams & Reese LLP  
Andrew Albritton  
Heather Alexis  
AmazonSmile Foundation  
Anonymous  
Stephen Armbruster  
Ruthe Ashley  
Matthew Averill  
Glyde Babylon  
Joseph Ballard  
Rishi Banda  
Lauren Barletta  
Rebecca Bayer  
Troy Bell  
Talya Bergeron  
David F. Bienvenu  
Blake Jones Law Firm LLC  
Blue Williams LLC  
Kim Boyle  
Sarah Bradley  
Whitney Brady  
Edward Branley  
Jude Bratman  
Jessica Braun  
Lauren Bridges  
Maggie Broussard  
Amanda Brown  
Michael Bush  
Chester Cabirac  
Lindsay Calhoun  
Pam Callahan  
Bradley Campbell  
Margaret Campiere  
Laura Cannon  
Capital One Bank  
Douglas Carey  
William D. Cass  
Nathan Cataline  
The Celtic Group  
Briana Cervantes  
Paula Charles  
Miriam Childs  
Cigna  
Linda Law Clark  
Gianluca Cocito-Monoc  
Lisa F. Cookmeyer  
Aymee Costales  
Costco  
Antoine Coulter  
Kathryn Cox  
Thomas Crosby  
Caroline Crowley  
Jacob Crump  
The Honorable Charles Cusimano II  
The Honorable Bernadette D’Souza  
Casie Davidson  
Bennett Davis  
Jennifer Day  
William DeJean  
Charles Delbaum  
Ednya Delpit  
Tim Dickinson  
Kevin Dillon  
Dawn DiRosa  
Amy Duncan  
Kurt Duncan  
Philip Dunham  
Jennifer Eagan  
Jenny Efron  
Nora Ellertsen  
Entergy Services Inc  
Jean Faria  
Adam Feibelman  
Fidelity Charitable Donor-Advised Fund  
Nell Figge  
Chelsea Fitzgerald  
Eric Foley  
Pat Ford  
Gainsburgh Benjamin David Meunier & Warshauer LLC  
Gilsbar Pro  
Barbara Gislason  
Caitrin Gladow  
Mark Goldstein  
Goldstein & Bendana LLC  
Nancy Goodwin  
Gordon Arata Montgomery Barnett  
The Honorable Hunter Greene  
Ann Gregoire  
Caryn Groedel  
Howard Groedel  
Clarence Guillory Jr.  
Vivian B. Guillory  
Thomas Haklar  
Hancock Whitney  
David Handelman  
Julie Schwam Harris  
Hayley & Associates  
Michael Hearty  
Herman, Herman, & Katz LLC  
Ava Hernandez  
Robert Hirshon  
Barbara Howe  
HRI Properties  
Sue Hughes  
Irwin Fritch Urquhart and Moore LLC  
Renato Izquieta  
Julie Jackson  
Andrea Jeanmarie  
Catherine Jennings  
Christopher Jennison  
Diane Johnson  
Hannah Lommer Johnson  
Jennifer Jones  
Jones Walker LLP  
Regina Joseph  
Justgiving  
Christy Kane  
Amy Kearney  
Amythist Kearney  
Betty Monroe Kennedy  
Samantha Kennedy  
Mary Margaret Keys  
Maxine Kimbrell  
Kinney, Ellinghausen & DeShazo  
Andrew Kopplin  
Steven Lacoste  
Raymond Ladouceur
THANK YOU!

2019 DONORS

Joanna Laidler
Rita Lambert
Carolyn Lamm
Bonnie Landreneau
R. L. and Lynn Landreneau, Jr,
Randal Leffelman
Pamela Legge
Catherine Lemann
The Honorable Ivan L.R. Lemelle
The Honorable Harry T. Lemmon
Adolph Levy
Deborah Levy-Pearlman
Liskow & Lewis
Amanda Bastanzuri Loring
LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center
Sharon Lyles
Lois Maberry
Janet L. Macdonell
Marion MacKenzie
Judy Perry Martinez
Gwynne Kizer Mashon
Timothy McEvoy
Wayne McGaw
McGlinchey Stafford PLLC
Margherita McWilliams
Emma Mekinda
David Melancon
Charlie Merrigan
Keith Mikesell
Kean Miller LLP
Maria Miller
Rachael Mills
Thad D. Minaldi
Monte Mollere
Andre Moreau
Andreanea Morris
Morris Bart LLC
Jillian Morrison
Robert Morrison III
Maureen Morrow
Greg Mollowney
Theodore W. Nass
Briana Nels
Network For Good
Frank Neuner
The New Orleans Martinet Legal
Foundation, Inc.
Roxanne S. Newman
Randall D. Noel
Claire Noonan
Jeremy Nusloch
Ryan Ours
Robert Owens
Whiton Paine
Amber Humm Patnode
C. Jason Patterson
Elena Perez
Phelps Dunbar LLP
Rachel Piercy
Paul L. Pugliese
Chris Ralston
RAM Computer Services
Dan Reese
Tara Richard
Andrew Ridgeway
Mary Rodgers
Jennifer Romig
Crawford Rose
John Rosenberg
Rosenberg & Clark LLC
Mary Ryan
James Sacher
Steven Scheckman
Leo Schelver
Valerie Schexnayder
Rebecca Schiller
Chester Schofield
Mary Sheehan
Sher Garner Cahill Richter Klein &
Hilbert LLC
Darcey Siegel
Mary Siemann
Kathy Simino
Simon, Peragine, Smith & Redfearn
LLP
Martine Sladovich
Sarah Margaret Smith
Southern University Law Center
Edgar Spielman
Ali Spindler
Steven Spindler
Elise Stubbe
Paul A. Tabary III
Anne E. Tate
Charles Tate
Christina Taylor
Taylor Porter
Cynthia J. Thomas
Marie Thomas
Lynnette Tillis
Trust
Laura Tuggle
Richard Paul Tuttle
John Tye
United Way of Greater Atlanta
Quentin Urquhart
USI
Jennifer Van Metre
Carol Waldrip
Walters, Papillion, Thomas, Cullens
LLC
Lance Waters
Lauren Webb
John B. Wells
Adrienne K. Wheeler
Brice White
Morgan Williams
Salyria Gumms Williams
Joy Willig
Rachel Wisdom
Withers and Withers, Attorneys at Law
Jefferey Wittenbrink
Justin Woodard
Marie Wright
YourCause, LLC Trustee for Marathon
Petroleum Company
David and Rella Zapletal

SPECIAL
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

THANK YOU TO SLLS
VOLUNTEERS ISABELLA TAPE AND
GIANLUCA COCINTO-MONOC!
The SLLS Board of Directors

Thanks you for your support!

Mark C. Surprenant (Orleans Parish), President
Christopher Ralston (Orleans Parish), Vice President
Emma Dixon (Washington Parish), Assistant Vice-President
Jennifer Van Metre (East Baton Rouge Parish), Treasurer
Regina Joseph (Jefferson Parish), Assistant Treasurer
Warren McKenna, III (Orleans Parish), Secretary

Lila Arsan ( Lafourche Parish)
Mary Barrios (Livingston Parish)
Lauren Bridges (Jefferson Parish)
Ashley Greenhouse (East Baton Rouge Parish)
Vivian B. Guillory (East Baton Rouge Parish)
Kerrie Hart (St. Tammany Parish)

Dorric Middleton (East Parish Baton Rouge)
Brandt Lorio (St. Tammany Parish)
Ryan Ours (East Baton Rouge Parish)
Paul A. Tabary (St. Bernard Parish)
Claudette Warren (Orleans Parish)
Patrick Yancey (Terrebonne Parish)
You can increase access to justice in southeast Louisiana

Make a Donation Today.

Your donation to SLLS helps ensure families can escape abuse, keep their homes, become self-sufficient, and access health and education services they need to succeed. The demand for our services continues to grow at a pace that outstrips resources. Your support makes it possible for SLLS to respond to urgent needs like helping crime victims, supporting disaster survivors, and helping struggling families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

You can join our community of donors by making a gift today at:

https://slls.org/donations/

Or your tax-deductible donation can be mailed to:

Roxanne Newman, Deputy Director
Southeast Louisiana Legal Services
P.O. Drawer 2867
Hammond, Louisiana 70404

How Does your Contribution Support the Fight for Fairness?

- Provides legal advice to an at-risk community college student to remove barriers to completing education and improving employment opportunities
  - $50

- Underwrites a community outreach event to 100 seniors to help them understand their legal rights
  - $100

- Protects a domestic violence survivor and his or her children from future abuse through an uncontested divorce and permanent stay away order
  - $150

- Saves a hard working family from eviction
  - $250

- Protects a child from abuse and neglect by providing a year of legal representation to a child in need of care
  - $500

- Gets a disabled homeless veteran off the streets and into safe, permanent housing by providing representation in Veterans and Social Security benefits matters
  - $1000