

Celebrating 50 Years of SLLS

1960's

- 1967: New Orleans Legal Assistance Corporation (NOLAC) founded with funding from the Economic Opportunities Act in five parishes – Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, and St. Bernard
- NOLAC organizes tenants and welfare recipients and conducts class action suits

1970's

- 1974: Legal Service Corporation (LSC) founded
- LSC makes grants to field programs across the United States, including NOLAC
- 1978: Southeast Louisiana Legal Services (SLLS) founded in five parishes – Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington

1980's

- SLLS has major victories in class action suits and makes significant impacts on federal policy
- NOLAC wins *Cook v. Ochsner*, establishing the right of the poor to access free care in 18 federally financed hospitals in the nation
- Ban on class action suits
- Federal threat to eliminate and defund LSC

1990's

- Rise of pro bono
- NOLAC provides seed funding to start the New Orleans Pro Bono Project
- 1966: Additional LSC restrictions
- SLLS funding is restricted and banned from community organizing and representing prisoners

2000-
2015

- National effort to merge LSC programs
- 2003: NOLAC merges with SLLS
- 2005: Hurricane Katrina causes the biggest civil legal aid crisis in the United States
- 2011: SLLS merges with Capital Area Legal Services

