



**CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES
IN MINNESOTA**

**SEEKING JUSTICE
FOR ALL**

**Minnesota House Judiciary
and Civil Law Committee
April 3, 2025**

Presented by:

Dori Rapaport | Executive Director
Justice North

Bridget Gernander | Legal Services
Advisory Committee (LSAC)



“ You made a very stressful and trying time in our lives much easier to navigate. We felt validated and protected during a very vulnerable process. Thank you.”

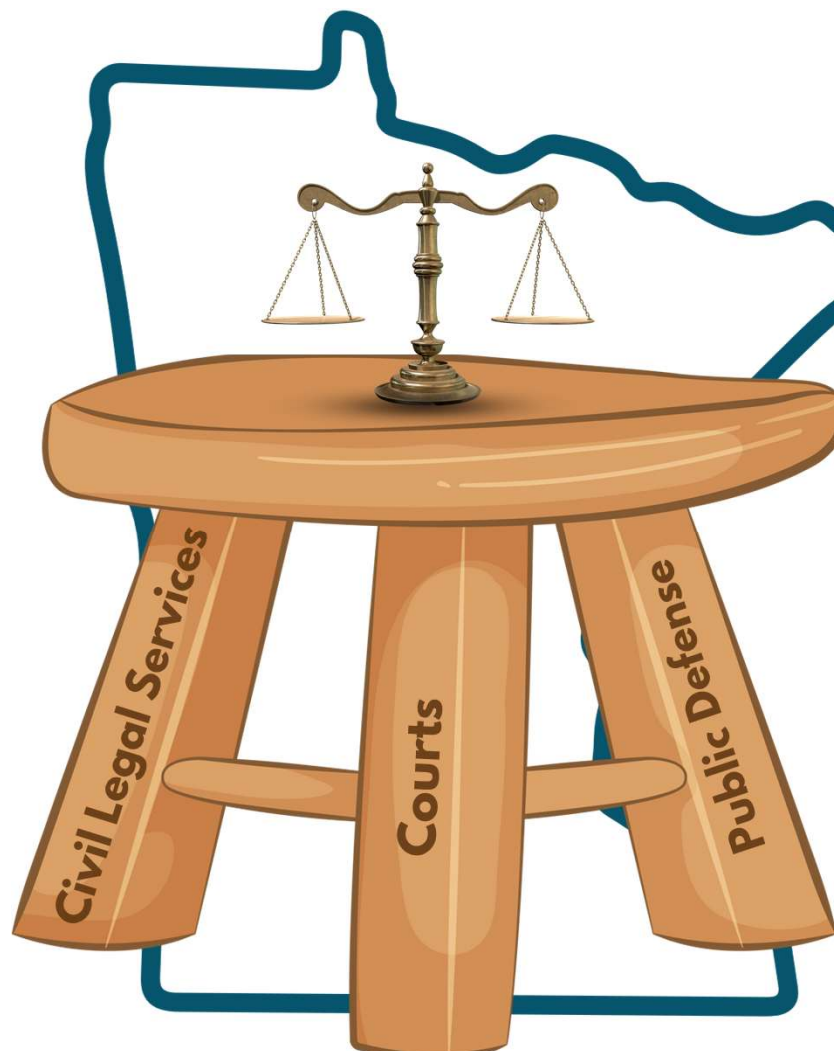
-Minnesota Legal Aid client



Three-Legged Stool

Each "leg" of the stool is equally vital. All three legs need to be strong and evenly balanced to support the whole structure.

Together, they ensure that justice is not only accessible but equitable for all Minnesotans, regardless of their circumstances.



Without one, the system falters and becomes unstable.



Minnesota Civil Legal Services Funding Management

**Established:
July 1, 1982**

**Effective:
July 1, 2025**

**Legal Services
Advisory
Committee (LSAC)**



**State Board of
Civil Legal Aid**

Governed by Minnesota Statutes 480.242

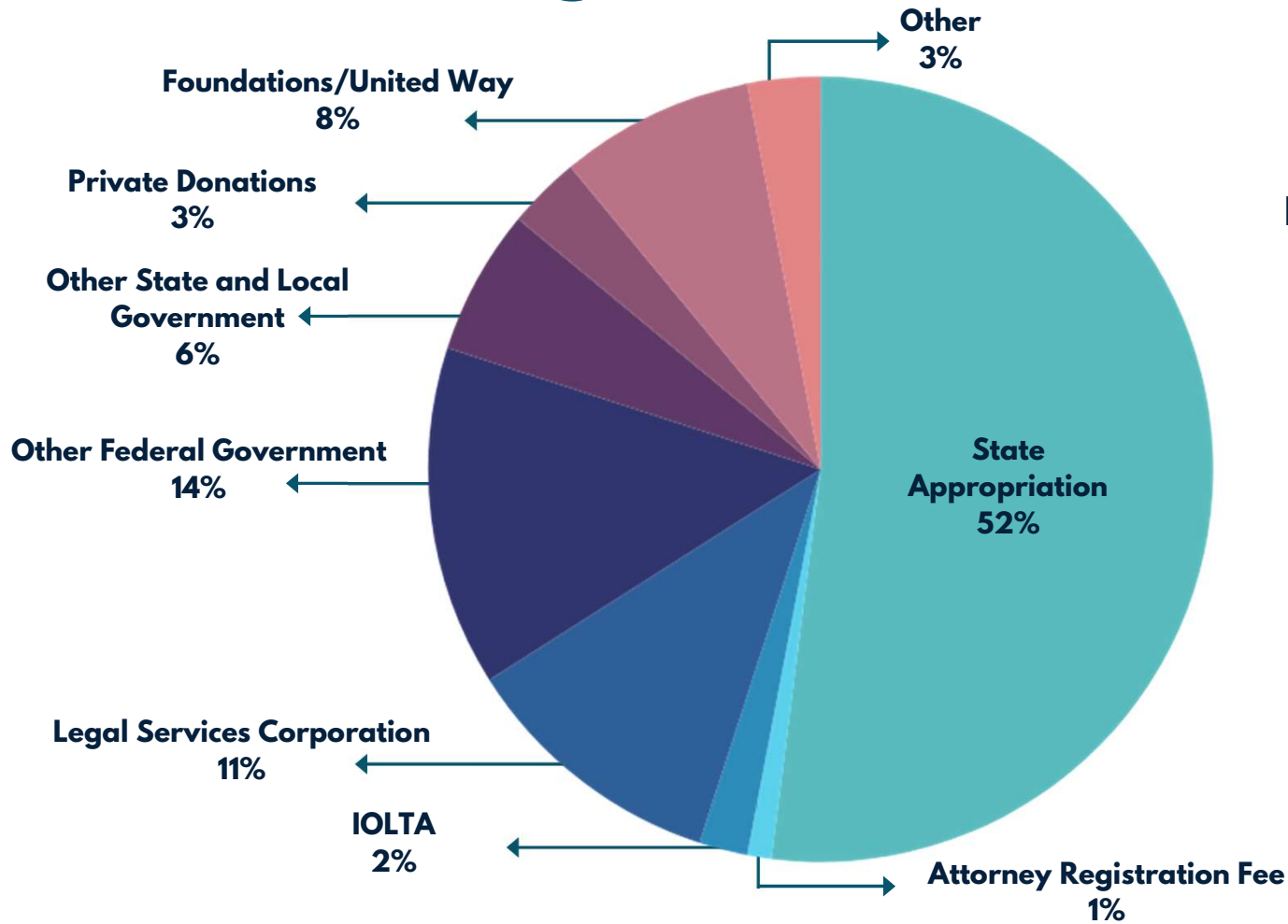
- Advisory committee to the Minnesota Supreme Court
- Governed by court rules and the Judicial Branch Outgoing Grant Management Policy

Established by Minnesota Statutes 480.2415

- Standalone agency in the Judicial Branch
- Similar to the State Board of Public Defense and Guardian Ad Litem Board
- Charged with ensuring high-quality legal services in every county



Civil Legal Services Funding



**FY24 Total Revenue:
\$64,550,959**



Civil Legal Services Budget Request FY 26-27

FY26	FY27	FY26-27
\$8.83m	\$20.508m	\$29.338m

These numbers represent the request for Civil Legal Services over the base amount.



➔ Increase of **20%** in closed cases

➔ An additional **25,000** Minnesotans in households served



Q & A

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