

Legal Services Corporation (LSC) Funding

Please Fund LSC at \$593M in Fiscal Year 2020

- LSC and legal aid have long enjoyed **bipartisan support** because Americans believe in **justice for all**, not just those who can afford it.
- Legal aid helps Ohioans **struggling to make ends meet**: veterans, children, senior citizens, victims of domestic violence and many others.
 - We help protect from foreclosure, domestic violence, and fraud; we address the legal problems that stem from addiction and we resolve matters that, if left unaddressed, cost not only the individual Ohioan, but our communities as a whole.
- Legal aid puts Ohioans on the road to **self-sufficiency**.
- **LSC accounts for just under a third of the statewide legal aid budget** providing just over \$13M of the \$49.9M projected statewide budget for 2018.

Legal aid is a good investment

- Legal aid is a **successful public-private partnership**, leveraging federal funds to generate private, philanthropic support. Ohioans contribute more than \$2 for every federal dollar invested through privately-raised dollars, interest earned on lawyer trust accounts, civil filing fees and a small amount of state general revenue.
- Legal aid **makes pro bono possible**, by training and mobilizing private attorneys across Ohio who in 2018 volunteered almost 75,000 hours of legal services at no cost to clients, a \$15M value.
- Legal aids' work not only provides a **hand up** to clients, but it also strengthens Ohio's communities:
 - In 2017, legal aid saved Ohio communities and taxpayers **almost \$11M** in declining property values, lost property taxes, and the cost of municipal services like police and fire by saving homes from foreclosure.
 - That same foreclosure work prevented an almost 1% decline in the property value of homes within an 1/8 mile of the home saved.
 - In 2017, legal aid increased clients' income and assets by over **\$7M**, which means that more money is being spent in local grocery stores, gas stations, and other local businesses keeping Ohio's communities healthy and strong.
- **Legal aid provided an almost 283% return on investment** in 2017. So, for every \$1 spent to operate legal aid, \$2.83 was returned to Ohioans and the economy.

Legal Aid puts Ohioans on the road to self-sufficiency

- Working in all 88 Ohio counties, legal aid serves **over 100,000 Ohioans annually**, including:
 - **4,402 veterans** who gain housing; appropriate medical care; or, rightfully earned benefits;
 - **8,904 victims of domestic violence** who obtain timely protection orders; and,
 - **15,877 seniors** who receive remedies for financial fraud; access medical care or supportive living; and access earned pension benefits.
- Legal aids collaborate on **14 medical-legal partnerships** around the state improving health, housing and outcomes the **33,370 children** served in 2018.