

DOING THE RIGHT THING, RIGHT NOW.



*When only an attorney can help...*



ANNUAL REPORT 2010

## What would you do...

*... if you saw a mother and child suffering abuse*

*... if you knew of a family being illegally torn from their home*

*... if you witnessed a vulnerable senior being neglected by her caretaker?*



Would you take a minute to make a difference?

**What would *you* do?** That is a question Prairie State Legal Services, Inc. has faced throughout 2010. What would you do if your funding had been cut? What would you do if more low-income and elderly people needed your help than ever before? For Prairie State, the answer was to stand up to the adversity and find new ways to meet the growing need.

Prairie State faced major challenges to funding in 2010. Our second largest funder, state-administered Interest on Lawyer Trust Account (IOLTA) programs, decreased in 2010. State funding, local funding, and grants also saw a loss in funding. Despite these challenges, Prairie State managed to maintain staffing and services in the 36 counties we serve.

In 2010, Prairie State helped 24,072 adults and 21,009 children who were facing legal issues affecting their basic human needs. There is roughly one Prairie State attorney for every 8,083 low-income persons, yet our dedicated staff provided advice or representation in 19,980 cases in 2010.

And while the number of people needing our help increased, the areas of need were also evolving and expanding. Consumer law, tax law, bankruptcy, housing, and domestic violence issues were all prevalent in 2010. While the number of people needing help in these areas grew, Prairie State sought and obtained new funding sources to meet the demand. As a result, Prairie State gained the capacity to serve clients facing foreclosure, bankruptcy, and other issues.

The Campaign for Legal Services had one of its best years in 2010, and even saw growth in some areas thanks to the hard work of many volunteers. This success demonstrates that community support, especially support from the legal community, remains strong, reinforcing our mission during a time of uncertainty.

While the economy has caused us to evaluate priorities, we are committed now more than ever to provide equal access to justice. The need is great, and more families, children, and seniors are facing issues that only an attorney can solve. Prairie State will continue to provide these people with the legal representation, advice and other services needed to keep in them in their homes, protect them from violent situations, and access vital public benefits.

We offer our sincere thanks to all of our donors and funders who recognize the vital importance of fair and equal access to justice for members of society. Your support has helped to change lives and make our communities a better place for all.

Sincerely,



Michael O'Connor, *Executive Director*



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## A Safe Place to Live

*During the summer of 2010*, Prairie State Legal Services saw a rise in McLean County residents who were facing horrible living conditions. Nicholas Ballard and his wife Michelle were one of those families. They turned to Prairie State for help.

The Ballards struggled to pay rent because much of their money was spent trying to maintain the home. Nicholas contacted Prairie State because he was being evicted for nonpayment of rent. But when Prairie State Attorneys Stacey Tutt and Tristan Bullington began looking into the case, they found that the Ballards were in a much more severe situation. The mobile home that they were renting had numerous health and safety violations. Attorneys Bullington and Tutt also went to the Ballard's home and took over 120 pictures to document the terrible living conditions.

There were holes in the floors caused by leaking windows and doors leading to mold growth throughout the mobile home. Other problems included a broken toilet, the furnace not working properly, a sagging ceiling which obstructed the front door, and exposed electrical wires. When they brought their concerns to the landlord, he made no effort to repair the problems.

After all the issues, Nicholas desperately wanted to leave and began the process of finding a new place to live. Attorney Bullington contacted the city inspector to come out and examine the property. He also reviewed the eviction process with Nicholas and worked with him to find financial assistance so they could move into a new apartment.

When the inspection was complete, the city inspector determined that the home was unlivable and began the process of condemning the trailer. Attorney Bullington tried to work with the landlord, but the case went to trial.

After seeing the pictures from the home and hearing testimony from Nicholas, Michelle, and the city inspector, the Judge found in favor of the Ballards and ordered the landlord to pay them \$1,350. With the money from the settlement, Nicholas can now afford to move into a home that is safe for his family.



## Keeping the American Dream

*For many, owning a home is the American dream.*

Mike\* and his wife were no exception, and as seniors they were very happy when they were finally able to purchase an end-unit townhome. Things were going great until a late night storm caused a defective sump pump in the basement to break, causing the basement to flood.

Mike called the home owners association emergency line several times that night, but no one responded until the following morning. Because they live in the end-unit, the sump pump in their basement also serves the adjoining units. The next day Mike received a new sump pump, but the association refused to pay for the almost \$4,000 in damages to the basement. Mike and his wife didn't have a lot of money and couldn't afford to repair all the damages. Mike also knew that the bylaws of his homeowners association stated that the association was responsible for all repairs and damage caused by the sump pump because it served additional units.

Mike and his wife decided to file a pro se lawsuit against the association. They entered into arbitration, a way to try to resolve a dispute outside of court, but lost because they didn't know the rules or know how to plead their case. Unsure of what to do next, Mike contacted Prairie State where Attorney Kathryn Liss accepted the case.

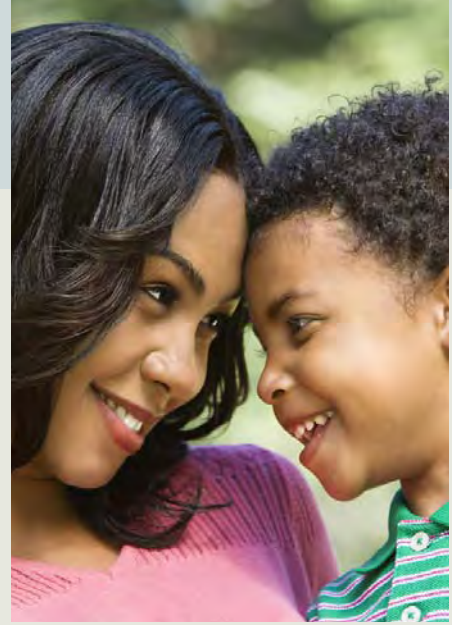
Because they lost in arbitration, Attorney Liss had to reject that decision and file an amended complaint against the association. Mike and his wife were prepared to go to trial, but Attorney Liss was able to negotiate a settlement with the homeowners association. The settlement provided Mike with enough money to fix their basement and live in a healthy environment once again.

*\*Names have been changed to protect our client's privacy.*



## Giving a Mother Her Voice

*Melissa\* was tired of the abuse.* Her ex-boyfriend had been physically abusive to her their entire relationship, and now their 2 ½ year old son was at risk. One night, he threw her against the wall as she was trying to get out of the house. She was running from door to door trying to get out, but he wouldn't let her. Their son, only 2 ½ years old, was following her. When he got in his father's way, the father knocked the baby over. Melissa quickly got some things together, filed a police report, and she and her son went to stay at her mom's house.



Melissa went to court seeking an emergency order of protection (EOP), but she didn't know how to advocate for herself. Because she could not explain her dire situation, the judge denied the EOP for insufficient facts. Not knowing what to do, Melissa called Prairie State for help. She talked to a telephone counselor who at first thought Melissa didn't have much of a case. The telephone counselor decided to ask Melissa a few more questions and was finally able to get her to open up about the long history of violence and abuse. Her ex-boyfriend had thrown her on the floor and bed, picked her up and threw her against walls, thrown items at her, threatened to take their son from her, and threatened to kill her. Melissa needed legal help and needed it fast.

Prairie State represented Melissa in court to obtain an Order of Protection and receive child support. Her ex-boyfriend appeared *pro se* and did not contest the OP. Melissa was given a two-year Order of Protection and agreed to visitation every other weekend. She also was awarded child support.

Melissa's case is a great example of why Prairie State is such a vital resource for people in our community. She tried to handle the EOP on her own, but the court system can be confusing. "[Melissa] probably presented to the Judge like she did to me at first; just goes to show that clients need representation," said Cathy Ritts, Managing Attorney of the Rockford office. With the help of Prairie State, Melissa is now safe from abuse and can provide for her young son.

*\*Names have been changed to protect our client's privacy.*

## A Second Chance to Make it Right

*“All men make mistakes, but only wise men learn from their mistakes.” – Winston Churchill*

*Johnny Ross had made mistakes.* He had been terminated from the Section 8 program 15 years ago for failing to report income on multiple occasions. He'd lost his driver's license after multiple violations, had destroyed relationships with family members, and was involved with drugs. But Johnny knew there was more to life, and committed himself to making a change. Several years ago he began that process by joining the Lake County Substance Abuse and Treatment Program. Once he had come to understand the nature of his addiction he began looking for stable housing. Catholic Charities CTI-RP housing program, designed to intervene in the lives of chronically homeless individuals seeking rehabilitative social services, provided him with housing assistance.



In seeking to make his fresh start on life, Johnny began making amends with his past. Johnny expressed a desire to repair his past relationships with family, to put himself in a position where he could get a new job, and to find permanent housing of his own. With the help of Catholic Charities and I-PLUS, Johnny's financial managers, he paid back child support owed to his ex-wife. His children, who had previously shunned him for his drug-using lifestyle, began speaking with him again. Johnny was volunteering at the North Chicago V.A. many hours every week, and worked with Prairie State to have his driver's license reinstated.

In September 2010, Johnny called Prairie State Attorney John Bauters because he had received a letter from the Lake County Housing Authority (LCHA) denying him the Section 8 Voucher he had applied for several years before. Attorney Bauters requested an informal hearing to discuss the basis for denial. The Housing Authority denied the request for the hearing, stating that Johnny owed nearly \$7,500 related to rental assistance payments overpaid to him in the 1990s at a time when he was withholding income information from them. Resigned to this reality, Johnny told Attorney Bauters that he understood he was being denied and knew he still needed to “pay back for the wrong I committed.”

*more on following page*

## A Second Chance *(continued)*

Attorney Bauters contacted the Associate Director of the LCHA and argued against the refusal to provide the procedural hearing. He argued that Johnny should have a hearing and the opportunity to make a settlement offer, allowing Johnny to reenter the program.

The LCHA agreed and set a hearing. Attorney Bauters contacted Catholic Charities fundraising office in Chicago to discuss his case. Attorney Bauters suggested that if he was able to obtain at least \$3,800 of the nearly \$7,500 debt, he believed he could introduce evidence of Johnny's rehabilitation as proof of his fitness for their housing program. With the help of a generous donor, Catholic Charities secured and approved Johnny for a \$3,800 payment contingent upon Attorney Bauters securing a debt settlement prior to the hearing date.

Attorney Bauters submitted a settlement offer, evidence of character rehabilitation and a request that the donated money be accepted as settlement of the outstanding debt owed by Johnny. The Housing Authority accepted the terms of the settlement prior to the hearing date. The balance of Johnny's debt was forgiven and he was granted participation in the Section 8 Program. After years of living in homeless programs, Johnny will be able to have a permanent residence. Having put his life in order with help from numerous social service agencies working together, he now has a chance for a fresh start on life.

## Two Prairie State Employees Receive Forty Under 40 Honors

Communications Officer **Karissa Kienast** was named one of Rockford's 40 Leaders Under 40. Karissa serves as President of IGNITE Young Professionals and is a member of the Association for Women in Communications, Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence, and the Rockford Chamber of Commerce. She also coaches youth soccer and volunteers for numerous community organizations.

Bloomington Managing Attorney **Stacey Tutt** was honored as a 40 under 40 by Central Illinois Business. Stacey community involvement includes Chicago Bar Foundation Sun-Times Public Interest Law Fellowship; Multidisciplinary Team and Money Management Advisory Council, PATH; Human Services Council; Illinois Legal Aid Online, board of directors; Livingston County Coalition Against Violence; McLean County Bar Association, public service committee co-chair; McLean County Mental Health and Aging Coalition; McLean County United Way Agency executive council president; McLean County United Way, board of directors; former member of the C-U Junior Women's Club.



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## McHenry County Bar's Legal Aid Program Honors Outstanding Volunteers

On May 25<sup>th</sup>, during the McHenry County Bar Association's General Meeting and Luncheon, Prairie State Legal Services honored two local attorneys and two firms for their outstanding participation in the Legal Aid Program.

Volunteer attorneys Heidi Aavang and Mathew Perrone were recognized for their outstanding participation in the program – both regularly handle cases for Legal Aid clients, and often they have several cases going at once. We also recognized two local firms, Campion, Curran, Dunlop, Lamb & Cunabaugh and Gitlin, Busche & Stetler, for their continuous participation in the program. Since Prairie State began tracking McHenry County volunteer attorney participation in 2003 through the present, partners in these firms have always had at least one case open and often two or three at a time. They take the lead in setting the example for *pro bono* activity, and we sincerely appreciate their dedication and active commitment to the Legal Aid Program.

## *Pro bono* Awards Presented in Peoria

The Peoria County Pro Bono Plan, a joint project of the Peoria County Bar Association and Prairie State Legal Services, Inc., presented their annual awards for outstanding contribution in providing civil legal services to low income and elderly persons in our community at the Bar Association Annual Meeting on July 12, 2010.

**Michelle R. Eggert**, of the law firm of Vonachen, Lawless, Trager & Slevin, received the award for Pro Bono Attorney of the Year. This award is given to an individual attorney who exhibits exceptional leadership and commitment in the provision of legal services on a pro bono basis.

The 2010 Pro Bono Attorney of the Year is relatively new to the Pro Bono Plan but has already done great things to promote pro bono representation. Her firm has played a key role in the Pro Bono Plan, and is home to some of our best volunteer. She has been a volunteer with the Pro Bono Plan since she became a member of the Peoria County Bar Association. She has proven to be dedicated and compassionate in her work, and we are grateful for all she has done. Congratulations to Michelle Eggert of Vonachen, Lawless, Trager & Slevin for being honored as the 2010 Pro Bono Attorney of the Year.

**The Legal Services Division of Caterpillar Inc.** received the award for Law Firm of the Year. This award is given to a firm that has shown an overall commitment and teamwork in providing pro bono legal services.

The Law Firm of the Year is relatively new to the Pro Bono effort in Peoria, but has brought about big change in how pro bono service will look in the future. They first became involved with Prairie State Legal Services in 1997 as contributors to the Campaign for Legal Services, and approached them in 2006 regarding their attorneys volunteering their services to represent low income persons in our community. They are the winners of several awards for their service, including the statewide 2010 John C. McAndrews Pro Bono Service Award. They were instrumental in the statewide effort to modify the Illinois Supreme Court Rule which allows attorneys with limited house counsel status and retired attorneys to provide pro bono legal services through a licensed legal services office. In the past year, 25 attorneys have volunteered over 300 hours of volunteer service. One of their attorneys, Brian Lewellan, spent 115 hours on a complicated case that involved the Environmental Protection Agency and a small electronic recycling business. Congratulations to the Legal Services Division of Caterpillar Inc. as the Law Firm of the Year.



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## Prairie State Legal Services Nominated for Heart of Rockford Award

**Prairie State Legal Services** was nominated for the River District Association's 24th Annual Heart of Rockford Awards, held on March 25. The Heart of Rockford Awards program recognizes personal and financial investment in the heart of the City of Rockford.

## VLP Coordinator Nancy Hinton Honored

The Kankakee County Bar Association honored Volunteer Lawyer Project Coordinator **Nancy Hinton** for her commitment to pro bono work and her service to the legal community. Nancy was also chosen as the July 2010 Illinois Legal Advocate of the Month by Illinois Legal Aid.



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## Prairie State Volunteer Receives 2010 Kane County Bar Foundation *Pro Bono* Award

The Fox Valley Office of Prairie State Legal Services is happy to announce that **Elizabeth Berrones-Rotchford** received the Kane County Bar Foundation (KCBF) Pro Bono Award at the KCBF's Gala on February 13, 2010. She was nominated by Kathryn McGowan Bettcher, Managing Attorney, and Marcy Heston, Paralegal/Kane County Pro Bono Coordinator.

Elizabeth started volunteering a few years ago when the law firm she worked for, the Law Office of Gil and Cruz, said they would accept any cases in Aurora for Spanish-speaking clients. Since then, Elizabeth has been the pro bono advocate on the bulk of the 50 cases accepted by the firm. She is a strong proponent of legal services for the indigent of Kane County, especially those who cannot speak English, and is always very willing to accept their cases. Since 2006, Elizabeth has accepted 19 cases on her own and has spent about 350 hours on them.

Prairie State Legal Services is deeply appreciative of Elizabeth's commitment to the indigent of Kane County and to the belief that they deserve the best possible legal representation. Congratulations Elizabeth!



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## \$3.62 Million Award Provides Key Support to Legal Aid

Illinois' *pro bono* and legal aid system received a critical boost this week as several organizations received a total of more than \$1.8 million from unclaimed settlement funds in the nationwide class action case of *Miller v. Royal Maccabees Life Ins. Co.* in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

The *Miller* litigation was a 1997 class action stemming from a life insurance rate increase that was alleged to be a breach of contract. There were approximately 54,000 class members in 49 states (none were in Alaska), as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The case settled in October, 2008, with the defendant agreeing to pay \$93 million in cash to the class members and to roll back the cost of insurance rate increases; this rollback had a present value of \$34.6 million. Two years were spent on settlement administration, with members of the class claiming more than 95% of the net settlement fund (i.e., the amount available for distribution after payment of attorneys' fees and expenses).

The law firm of **Schad, Diamond & Shedden, P.C.** was lead counsel for the plaintiff class. According to Lawrence W. Schad, one of the firm's principals and the leader of the firm's efforts in the case, "Thanks to strenuous efforts to locate class members spread throughout the country, we were able to distribute more than 95% of the cash settlement funds to the class members. We recommended *cy pres* awards for the small percentage of the settlement funds that were unclaimed. We are pleased that these funds have been awarded to many admirable charitable organizations to assist them in providing *pro bono* and legal aid services for those in need."

While less than 5% of the overall settlement funds went unclaimed, those funds will provide critical support for *pro bono* and legal aid services here in Illinois and throughout the country. Prairie State Legal Services Inc. received \$200,000 to help ensure access to justice for low-income and elderly people in northern and central Illinois.



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## Rockford Office Receives Bankruptcy Software Grant

With rising unemployment rates and more people in the community requesting bankruptcy assistance, Prairie State Legal Services is stepping up to help those in need. Recently the **Rockford Office of Prairie State** received a grant from the American College of Bankruptcy and the American College of Bankruptcy Foundation to purchase software that will allow the office to handle Chapter 7 Bankruptcies in-house.

For the last twelve years, Prairie State's clients have benefited from the generosity of volunteer attorneys in the community to handle these cases. That volunteer program will continue providing low-income persons who have unmanageable debt with the relief they need.

Given the current economic situation and the large number of low-income persons who cannot keep up with their normal household expenses, Prairie State is attempting to augment the important work of our volunteers by handling the more emergency cases in-house.

The office will now have the ability to help those with the most urgent cases, such as those threatened with utility disconnections where a quick filing can prevent the disconnection, or the actual disconnections for clients living in public or subsidized housing whose chances of avoiding the loss of their subsidies are greatly enhanced the quicker they can file and re-establish their utility service.

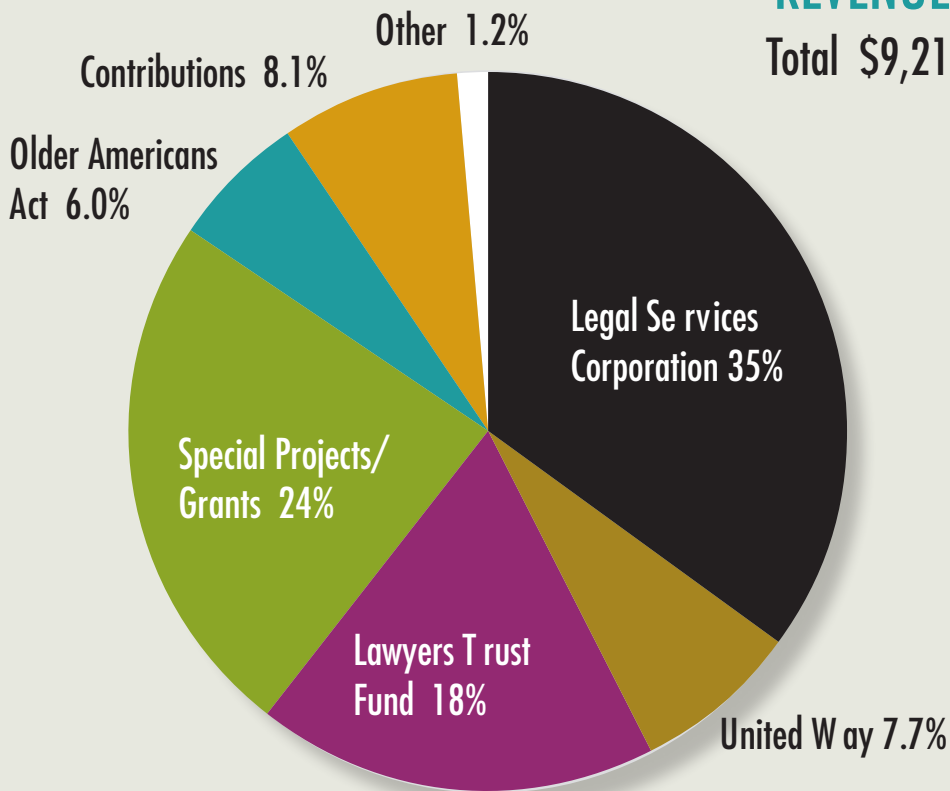


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# Financial Statement 2010

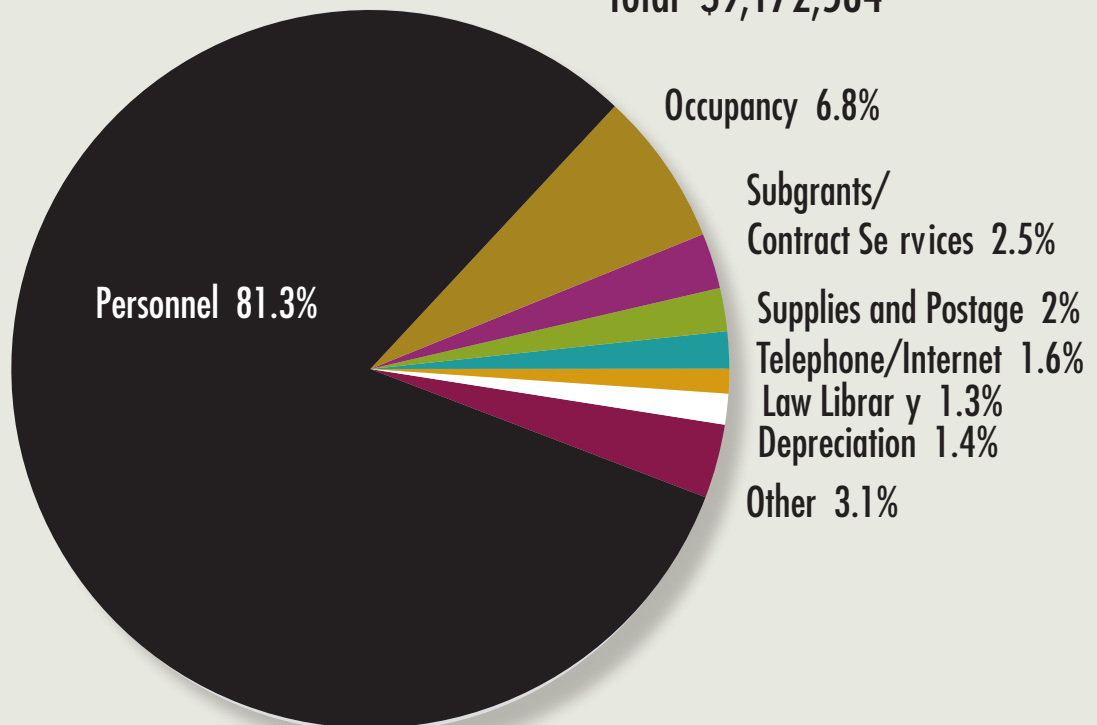
## REVENUE

Total \$9,216,873



## EXPENDITURES

Total \$9,172,584



# Partner Organizations

Each year, dozens of partner organizations commit their resources in order to help us provide legal services for populations and communities throughout our service area. In 2010, the following partners helped ensure access to justice for tens of thousands of clients in northern and central Illinois.

American Bar Association  
Aurora Mental Health & Mental Retardation Services  
Bloomington Township  
Bureau County United Way  
Catholic Charities  
Central Illinois Agency on Aging  
Chicago Department of Public Health  
City of Aurora Neighborhood Redevelopment Division  
City of DeKalb  
City of Peoria Neighborhood Development Division  
City of Rockford Department of Human Services  
Community Foundation of Central Illinois  
County of McHenry Tax Levy  
DeKalb County Community Services Department  
DuPage Community Development Commission  
DuPage County Community Development Commission  
DuPage County Division of Human Services  
The DuPage Community Foundation  
Dwight Community Chest  
East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging  
Fox Valley United Way  
Grundy County United Fund  
Heart of Illinois United Way  
Herbolsheimer Foundation  
Illinois Attorney General's Office  
Illinois Bar Foundation  
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority  
Illinois Department of Children and Family Services  
Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity  
Illinois Department of Human Services  
Illinois Housing Development Authority  
Illinois Equal Justice Foundation  
Illinois Office of Rehabilitation Services  
Joliet Township  
Kendall County Tax Levy  
Kishwaukee United Way  
Lake County Department of Planning and Development  
Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois  
Legal Services Corporation  
McHenry County Dept. of Planning and Development  
Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging  
Northwest Illinois HIV Care Connect  
Northwestern Illinois Area Agency on Aging  
Rock Island 708 Mental Health Board  
St. Charles Township  
U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development  
U.S. Dept. of Justice  
United Way of Boone County  
United Way of Central Kane County  
United Way of DuPage County  
United Way of Eastern LaSalle County  
United Way of Illinois Valley  
United Way of Kankakee County  
United Way of Knox County  
United Way of Lake County  
United Way of Lee County  
United Way of McDonough County  
United Way of McHenry County  
United Way of McLean County  
United Way of Metro Chicago  
United Way of North Shore/North Suburban  
United Way of Northwest Illinois  
United Way of Northwest Suburban  
United Way of Ogle County  
United Way of Pekin  
United Way of Pontiac  
United Way of Rock River Valley  
United Way of the Quad Cities Area  
United Way of Will County  
University of Illinois  
Warren County United Way  
Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging



# Thank you

We thank our individual and corporate supporters who gave so generously in time and money to Prairie State Legal Services in 2010.

## \$10,000 or more

Abbott Laboratories Fund  
McLean County Bar Association  
Peoria County Bar Association  
Anthony Raccuglia  
State Farm Insurance Company  
James Walker  
Will County Bar Association

## \$5,000 to \$9,999

A. & E. Kaplan Foundation  
Arthur & Gesena Griffin Trust  
George R. Black  
Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen  
Howard & Howard  
Lake County Bar Foundation  
S. Edward Marder Family Foundation in honor of the Chris and Linda Marder Family

## \$2,500 to \$4,999

Anonymous in memory of Laurie Cohen  
Bozeman, Neighbour, Patton & Noe  
Doris & Victor Day Foundation, Inc.  
Foote, Meyers, Mielke & Flowers  
Amy Goldman in memory of Harold and Ruth Goldman  
Herbolsheimer, Lannon, Henson, Duncan & Reagan, P.C.  
Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP  
Husch Blackwell Sanders LLP  
LakeLaw  
Law Elder Law  
Suzanne and William Lindsay  
Mike and Shirley McElvain  
Mickey, Wilson, Weiler, Renzi & Andersson, P.C.  
Shaw, Jacobs & Associates, P.C.  
Speers, Reuland & Cibulskis, P.C.  
Richard Turner  
Van Der Snick Law Firm

Vonachen, Lawless, Trager & Slevin  
Weiler & Lenge, P.C.  
Westervelt Johnson Nicoll and Keller

## \$1,000 to \$2,499

Anonymous (3)  
Association of Women Attorneys of Lake County  
Robert Baizer  
Bank of America Matching Gifts  
Barrington Bank & Trust Company, N.A.  
Nicholas Bertschy and Lucinda Uphoff  
Timothy Bertschy, Tim and Janet Bertschy  
Jim Black  
James Borland  
Bradley T. Fedorow Perpetual Charitable Trust  
Braun & Edwards, Chartered  
Carter Law Offices  
Mike and Kim Casey  
Gregory A. Cerulo  
James L. Chancellor  
Robert A. Chapski, Ltd.  
Chausow Shafer, P.C.  
Clifford Law Offices  
Bob and Val Coletta  
David Collins  
William F. Cunningham  
Claire D. de Chazal in honor of Linda Rothnagel  
Bob and Lauri Dewey  
Gayle K. Dompke  
Donovan Trust  
David J. Bressler, George N. Gilkerson, John J. Mangano  
Esp, Kreuzer, Corres & McLaughlin, LLP  
Joseph G. Feehan  
First Federated Church  
First Midwest Bank  
First Presbyterian Church  
Gretchen E. Fisher

James P. Ginzkey  
Gitlin, Busche & Stetler  
Deb Goldberg and Neil Puller in honor of the special birthday of Gloria Davidson  
Justice Mary P. Gorman  
Tom and Ann Hamlin in memory of Paula Hamlin  
Mark D. Hansen  
Hasselberg, Rock, Bell & Kuppler LLP  
Stephen J. Heine  
Heritage Bank of Central Illinois  
Jack and Catherine Herrmann  
Holmstrom & Kennedy  
Hynds, Rooks, Yohnka & Bzdill  
Illinois Mutual  
John and Nancy Kamin  
Kane County Bar Foundation  
Katz, Goldstein & Warren  
Karen L. Kendall  
Justice Thomas L. and Mary Kilbride in memory of Joseph W. Smith  
William Kohlhase  
Konicek & Dillon  
Lake Forest Bank & Trust Company  
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher P. Larson  
Law ElderLaw LLP  
Liberty Bank & Trust  
Linn, Campe & Rizzo, Ltd.  
Kim MacCloskey & Associates, LLP  
Steven D. McCormick  
McKeown, Fitzgerald, Zollner, Buck, Hutchison & Ruttle  
Modern Woodmen of America  
Gary D. Nelson  
Mike and Laura O'Connor  
Vance C. Parkhurst in memory of John C. Parkhurst  
Mary F. Petruchius  
Murvel and Mary Ann Pretorius  
Thomas Prindable  
Charles J. Prorok and Marcia L. Mueller



Hon. Cynthia M. Raccuglia  
 Rauch Family Foundation 1, Inc.  
 Brian W. Ruddell  
 Edward Rust, Jr.  
 Leonard Sachs  
 Peter Schlax  
 Slingerland & Associates  
 Larry and Jane Smith  
 Daniel J. and Jeanne F. Smith  
 Debra L. Stegall  
 Jean Swee and Paul Bailey  
 Mr. and Mrs. Tobin J. Taylor  
 The Cosentino Law Firm, LLC  
 in memory of Edward F. and  
 Dawn Diedrich  
 Tracy, Johnson & Wilson  
 Barbara A. Weiner  
 John and Susan Whitcher  
 Marisa Wiesman  
 Will County Take Back The Night  
 Louis P. Milot and Lisa Y. Wilson  
 Winnebago County Bar Foundation  
 Mr. and Mrs. Craig S. Young

### **\$500 to \$999**

Anonymous (4)  
 Lynn and Richard Batcher  
 Judge Joseph Beatty  
 Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Been Fund  
 Jon L. Beermann  
 Patricia Benassi and A. Lou Benassi  
 Jeremy Bergstrom in memory of  
 Major Kenneth Rusher, USAF (Ret.)  
 Elizabeth Birkey  
 Black, Black & Brown  
 Block, Klukas & Manzella, P.C.  
 Chris Bohlen  
 Thomas H. Boswell  
 Peg Breslin  
 Chuck Bretz  
 Brown Law Group, LLC  
 Caterpillar, Inc.  
 Michael Cavanaugh in memory  
 of Edith Cavanaugh  
 Clancy Law Offices  
 William L. Cleaver  
 Ann Conroy  
 Alan H. Cooper  
 Anne Megan Davis in honor  
 of Sarah C. Megan  
 Deere & Co. Global Law Services Group

Will Detrick and Keirsten Anderson  
 Dixon & Giesen Law Offices  
 Hon. Patrick Dixon  
 Duncan & Brandt, P. C.  
 Kenny and Amy Eathington  
 Ellida Lodge #25 IOV  
 Mr. and Mrs. Brad Elward  
 Exelon Nuclear  
 Fabrizio, Hanson, Peyla & Kawinski  
 J. Todd and Sonja Faulkner  
 Douglas W. Fehr  
 Peter F. Ferracuti  
 First Bank of Highland Park  
 Fred Foreman Family Fund  
 John W. France in honor of Cathy Ritts  
 Philip and Leslie Frankfort including  
 gifts in memory of John Holmstrom, Jr.  
 Franks, Gerkin & McKenna, P.C.  
 Betsy Wolf Friestedt  
 Mary and James Gesmer  
 Scott Gibson  
 The Gitlin Law Firm, P.C.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth J. Glick  
 Alexandra Goddard in  
 memory of Charlotte A. Martin  
 Judith Goodie  
 Grotta & Associates, P.C.  
 Jeff and Amanda Hamaker  
 Hasselberg, Williams, Grebe,  
 Snodgrass & Birdsall  
 Mr. and Mrs. David E. Higgins  
 Bob and Nancy Hinton  
 Janssen Law Center Jay H. Janssen  
 James R. and Anita H. Jenkins  
 June, Prodehl & Renzi, LLC  
 Jim and Chris Keely  
 Jerald Kessler  
 Kelly G. Kimmitt  
 Kingery Durree Wakeman &  
 Ryan Assoc.  
 Konecky, Koenig, Kutsunis & Weng  
 Lisa A. LaConte  
 Steve Larson  
 Sally Lichter  
 Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. Ludolph  
 James J. Manning  
 Victoria Martin  
 R. Nick Mason Law PC  
 Mateer & Associates  
 Tom and Kelly McConaughay  
 McNamara Phelan McSteen, LLC

Jean Herigodt and Verlin R. Meinz  
 Deborah Morrison  
 Gail and Robert Muir  
 J. Sue Myatt  
 John P. Nicoara  
 Gregory R. Noe, Greg Noe  
 Michael Olewinski  
 Tom and Marcia O'Neal  
 Robert T. Park  
 Thomas Paulson  
 Paul Perona  
 Gary and Lana Peterlin  
 Joseph Poell  
 John C. Potter  
 Prusak, Winne & McKinley, Ltd.  
 Diane Reinsch  
 J. Reed Roesler  
 Howard H. Rosenfeld  
 Sharon Rudy  
 Christopher P. Ryan  
 Schiller DuCanto & Fleck LLP  
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