



Women's  
Bar  
Foundation

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Annual Report

2014



# Dear Friends,

Thank you for sharing your time, talent and financial resources in 2014. Your substantial and unwavering support allowed the Women's Bar Foundation to provide pro bono legal assistance to nearly 2,000 low-income residents of the Commonwealth – the majority of whom are women with children. Your generosity resulted in ending the cycle of domestic abuse, preventing homelessness, providing counsel to incarcerated and homeless women and securing end-of-life documents for seniors.

The accomplishments highlighted in this 2014 Annual Report are your accomplishments. It is because of you, our most stalwart champions and financial contributors, that the organization has impacted the lives of so many.

We welcome you to visit [www.womensbar.org](http://www.womensbar.org) to sign up to receive Noteworthy, our quarterly e-newsletter. You may also view a complete donor and volunteer list on the website.

With your ongoing commitment to our mission, we will continue to make the difference for the nearly 2,000 clients we serve each year. Thank you for making this work possible.



Kristy L. Nardone, President



Patricia E. Comfort, Executive Director

## Thank You

The Women's Bar Foundation is supported by grants from:

Anonymous

Boston Bar Foundation

Deborah Munroe Noonan Memorial Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee

G.W. Cadbury Charitable Trust & Jennifer C. Boal

Massachusetts Bar Foundation

The Ludcke Foundation

Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts, Inc.

## Support Us!

### Become a Volunteer

Participating as a volunteer attorney or volunteer mentor in one of the WBF's pro bono projects is rewarding, challenging, educational and inspiring. As a volunteer attorney, you will receive comprehensive training in an area of law you may not otherwise have the opportunity to learn and you will also provide critical services to low-income individuals and their families who have nowhere else to turn. As a volunteer mentor, you will provide invaluable guidance for the volunteer attorneys which, in turn, has a positive impact on the outcome for our clients. To volunteer, please contact Rachel Biscardi via email at [rbiscardi@womensbar.org](mailto:rbiscardi@womensbar.org) or by telephone at 617.973.6666.

### Become a Contributor

The Women's Bar Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) organization, dedicated to providing pro bono legal services to low-income individuals, primarily women and children. We are funded exclusively through the generosity of foundation grants, law firms, corporations and individual donors. Every donation makes a measurable and lasting difference in the lives of our clients. All contributions to the Women's Bar Foundation are fully tax deductible. To make a contribution, visit us online at [www.womensbar.org/WBF](http://www.womensbar.org/WBF), or send a check to:

**Women's Bar Foundation, 27 School Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02108**

**Thank You!**

## Connect With Us

The Women's Bar Foundation uses social media to connect with our friends, volunteers, donors and clients. We also send out a quarterly e-newsletter to keep the WBF community updated on our pro bono accomplishments. Subscribe to our e-newsletter via our website.

[www.womensbar.org](http://www.womensbar.org)

 [www.facebook.com/WomensBarFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/WomensBarFoundation)

 [www.twitter.com/WBFofMA](http://www.twitter.com/WBFofMA)



Special Thanks  
To All Of Our  
Donors and  
Volunteers  
Who Make Our  
Accomplishments  
Possible.



Mary, FLP client.

**The Family Law Project for Battered Women (FLP)** fielded **1660** calls to its intake line; conducted an intake evaluation with **404** of those callers; referred **128** clients for full representation by a volunteer attorney and provided brief service and counsel to **276** clients.

1660

Intake  
Requests



**The Framingham Project for Incarcerated Women** operates at MCI-Framingham and South Bay House of Correction in Suffolk County, and at Kingston House, a post-release program in Boston. The Framingham Project held 11 educational seminars reaching approximately **100** women.



ELP client Julia Viera (center) with her volunteer attorney, Jeannette Sedgwick (right).

**The Elder Law Project (ELP)** fielded **121** calls to its intake line and referred **46** low-income seniors to a volunteer attorney. The ELP staff conducted **8** senior site visits this year—the highest number in the Project's history.

121

Intake Requests



Volunteer attorneys at a Hampden & Hampshire Housing Court Training.

**The Hampden & Hampshire Housing Court Project** assisted more than **250** low-income tenants facing eviction from their homes.

250

Clients

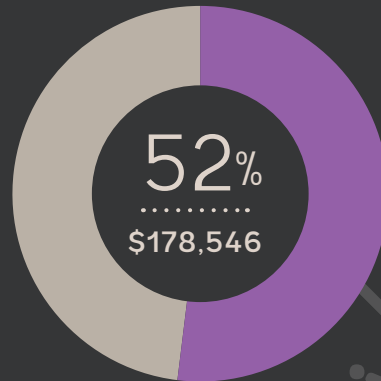


**The Women's Lunch Place Project** provides volunteer attorneys to staff a weekly clinic for the guests of The Women's Lunch Place, a day shelter for homeless women in Boston. Clinic topics include Social Security benefits, criminal procedure, consumer law, immigration, new CORI laws, and housing. Our volunteer attorneys counseled approximately **120** guests during their on-site visits.

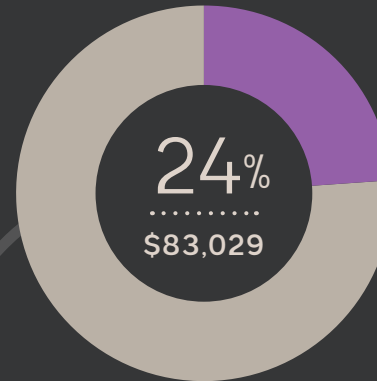
January 1-  
December 31  
2014

TOTAL  
INCOME  
.....  
\$340,325

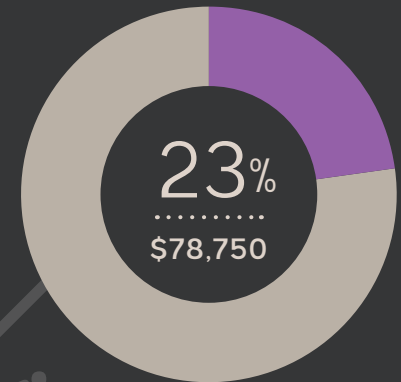
Fundraising Initiatives



Pledges & Individual Donations



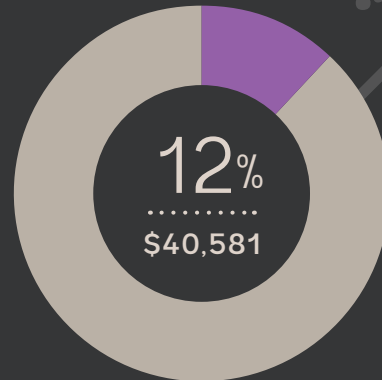
Grants



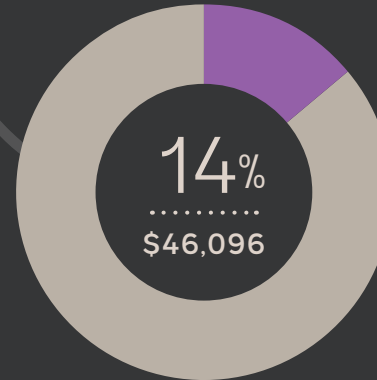
January 1-  
December 31  
2014

TOTAL  
EXPENSES  
.....  
\$333,657

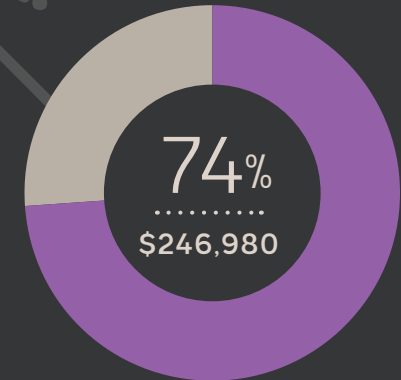
Administrative



Fundraising



Programming



# Staff

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**Rachel B. Biscardi,**  
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**Lisa F. Jacobson,** Family Law  
Project Staff Attorney  
**Alexa DeJesus,**  
Administrative Assistant



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WOMEN'S BAR FOUNDATION

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