

# Impact Report

2023



Pisgah Legal Services is a nonprofit organization that provides a broad array of free, civil legal aid, anti-poverty advocacy and access to health care to people with low incomes in Western North Carolina.



**23,513**

People helped by Pisgah Legal in 2023. More than 7,186 of them were children.\*

## PRIORITY AREAS



**HOUSING** 4,363 people helped to stabilize housing and prevent homelessness



**SAFETY** 6,957 people helped to escape domestic abuse and rebuild their lives



**HEALTH** 5,532 people assisted to increase their access to health care, including ACA and Medicaid health insurance



**INCOME** 5,865 people helped to increase and protect their basic income, including free tax aid



## DAWN'S STORY

Dawn is a single mom to Trinity, who lives with autism. When Trinity's disability payments stopped, and they were told by the government that they owed thousands in overpayments, they feared they would lose their home trying to pay it back.

Scared and desperate, Dawn reached out to Pisgah Legal Services where attorney Shoshana Barton took on their case.

With Shoshana's help, they contested the overpayment claims and discovered that not only did Dawn and Trinity not owe money, but they were also entitled to more benefits than they were receiving. Trinity's monthly benefits were reinstated and increased, and they received a lump sum back payment of over \$2,000.

(more - over)

\*Includes all household members, cases closed and pending and those served through NC Medicaid Ombudsman. Some may be helped and counted more than once.

## Pisgah Legal's Holistic Services



### DAWN'S STORY CONTINUED

Dawn and Trinity also worked with other Pisgah Legal programs, including free help filing taxes and taking advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Between fixing the original benefit issues and accessing tax credits they didn't know they were entitled to, Dawn and Trinity received over \$10,000 in benefits through Pisgah Legal Services. Dawn is very grateful, especially for the kindness and support they were shown. She says she never felt shamed asking for help, but as if Pisgah Legal was holding her hand, saying, "I got you."

### CONTACT US

62 CHARLOTTE ST. ASHEVILLE NC 28802  
(828) 253-0406 PISGAHLEGAL.ORG

## PISGAH LEGAL SERVICES

# More community impact, facts & figures

## \$24+ million

secured in quantifiable financial benefits

- \$2,983,412 in benefits for people with disabilities
- \$1,204,050 tax refunds secured
- \$1,778,829 estimated in Medicaid and Medicare benefits, payable to WNC medical providers
- \$8,344,533 in monetary benefits for clients, such as home equity preserved from foreclosure, child support, etc.
- \$4,477,991 estimated health insurance premium tax credits
- \$739,750 value of pro bono hours donated
- \$4,827,216 estimated value of healthcare benefits from clients eligible under Medicaid Expansion

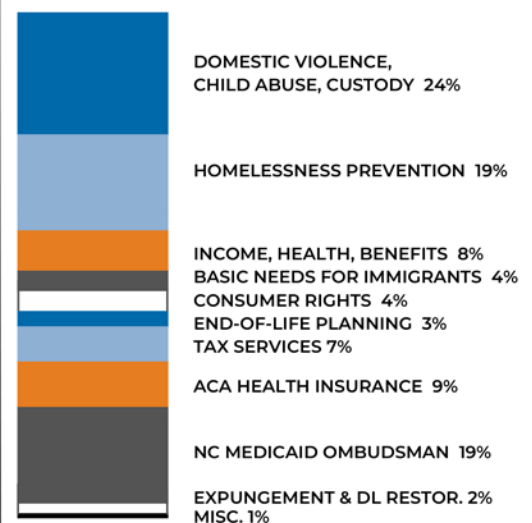


**ONLY 1 LEGAL AID ATTORNEY** is available for every 8,000 North Carolinians eligible for legal services.



**VOLUNTEER** attorneys and community members donated close to 12,000 hours of their time in 2023.

### PEOPLE HELPED BY PISGAH LEGAL PROGRAM IN 2023



### WNC OFFICE LOCATIONS

ASHEVILLE - BREVARD - BURNSVILLE - FRANKLIN  
HIGHLANDS/CASHIERS - HENDERSONVILLE - MARSHALL - MORGANTON  
NEWLAND - RUTHERFORDTON - SPRUCE PINE - WAYNESVILLE