

# LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE AND THE CUMBERLANDS

INFORMATION FOR RELEASE

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## **LEGAL AID RECEIVES \$136,000 IN GRANT FUNDS**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. May 21, 2007 – Throughout Middle Tennessee, corporations, foundations and government programs are recognizing the important work done by Legal Aid Society and are responding with financial support through grants and donations.

“We have eight offices that provide services to 48 counties,” said Ashley Wiltshire, Legal Aid Society executive director. “It means a great deal to us to have the financial support of outside organizations.”

The Clarksville office, which services Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Robertson, and Stewart counties recently received a grant for \$115,000 from the Departments of Defense and Justice to help with domestic violence initiatives.

“This grant will allow us to hire another full-time attorney and a victims advocate,” said Patricia Mock, managing attorney for the Clarksville office. “It will give us a better presence in the outlying counties to help victims of domestic abuse.”

In other funding news:

- Hospital Corporation of America Foundation gave \$10,000 to the Nashville office, which provides services to Davidson and Williamson counties.
- Middle Tennessee Electric Customers Care Inc. donated \$5,000 to support legal services in Cannon and Rutherford counties.
- The Dell Foundation recently gave a \$3,000 grant for use in Davidson and Wilson counties and Dell, Inc. donated desktop computers for the Gallatin office.
- Regions Bank gave a \$3,000 grant to the Nashville office for general operating support.

“The grants awarded by corporate foundations provide much-needed support for our programs as we strive to help as many Middle Tennesseans as possible,” said Rae Anne

Seay, grantwriter for Legal Aid Society. “Funding and expanding our work is a continuing effort.”

Founded in 1968, the Legal Aid Society is a private, not-for-profit organization governed by a local board of directors comprised of attorneys and members of the client population. Legal Aid Society provides free legal assistance in civil matters to people in 48 Middle Tennessee counties with a total eligible population of 382,000. They have offices in Nashville, Gallatin, Clarksville, Murfreesboro, Columbia, Tullahoma, Cookeville and Oak Ridge.

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