



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2000-2001





EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2000-2001

Table of Contents

Who We Are...What We've Done	1
Eight Years of Growth for Equal Justice America	
Contributions Raised	2
Number of Fellowships Sponsored	3
Dollars Spent for Program Services	4
Percentage of Funds Spent On Program Services	5
What They're Saying About Equal Justice America...	6
Law Schools Where Equal Justice America Currently Offers Fellowships	8
Legal Services Organizations Where Equal Justice America has Sponsored Law Student Fellowships	9
List of Fellowships Sponsored by Equal Justice America During Fiscal Year 1998-1999	10
Letters from Legal Services Organizations	18
Letters from Equal Justice America Fellowship Recipients	28
Report on First Year of Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic	42
Report of Independent Auditors	50
Internal Revenue Service Form 990	60





EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

**3010 Fox Chase Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112
804 744 4200**

Who We Are...

Equal Justice America is an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation established in 1993 in recognition of the fundamental absence of adequate civil legal representation for many members of our society. For eight years Equal Justice America has put law students to work with organizations across the country providing civil legal services to those who need it most. Students at over 40 law schools now have the opportunity to take part in the Equal Justice America Fellowship Program.

Even before legal assistance programs were hit with a new round of budget cuts in the mid-1990s, the American Bar Association had estimated that 80% of the civil legal needs of the poor were not being met. A bad situation has gotten worse. Unlike criminal defendants who are guaranteed an attorney by the U.S. Constitution, most low-income litigants must face civil adversarial proceedings without the benefit of counsel.

As a result, families are wrongfully evicted and forced into homelessness. Women and children victimized by domestic violence do not get the legal help they desperately need. Abuses and neglect by social service bureaucrats go without remedy. Senior citizens and other consumers defrauded by unscrupulous merchants and lenders have no recourse. All of this because there are not enough lawyers working to protect the legal rights of the poor. There can be no justice for those who must face these deprivations without the help of an attorney.

What We've Done

Equal Justice America has put law students to work with over 100 legal assistance organizations throughout the United States, including Greater Boston Legal Services, Vermont Legal Aid, the Legal Aid Society in New York City, the Women Against Abuse Legal Center in Philadelphia, the Public Justice Center in Baltimore, the Legal Aid Society of Washington, DC, Texas Rural Legal Aid, the Free Legal Aid Clinic in Detroit, the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago, the Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis, the Montana Legal Services Association, Bet Tzedek Legal Services in Los Angeles, Bay Area Legal Aid in San Francisco and Alaska Legal Services.

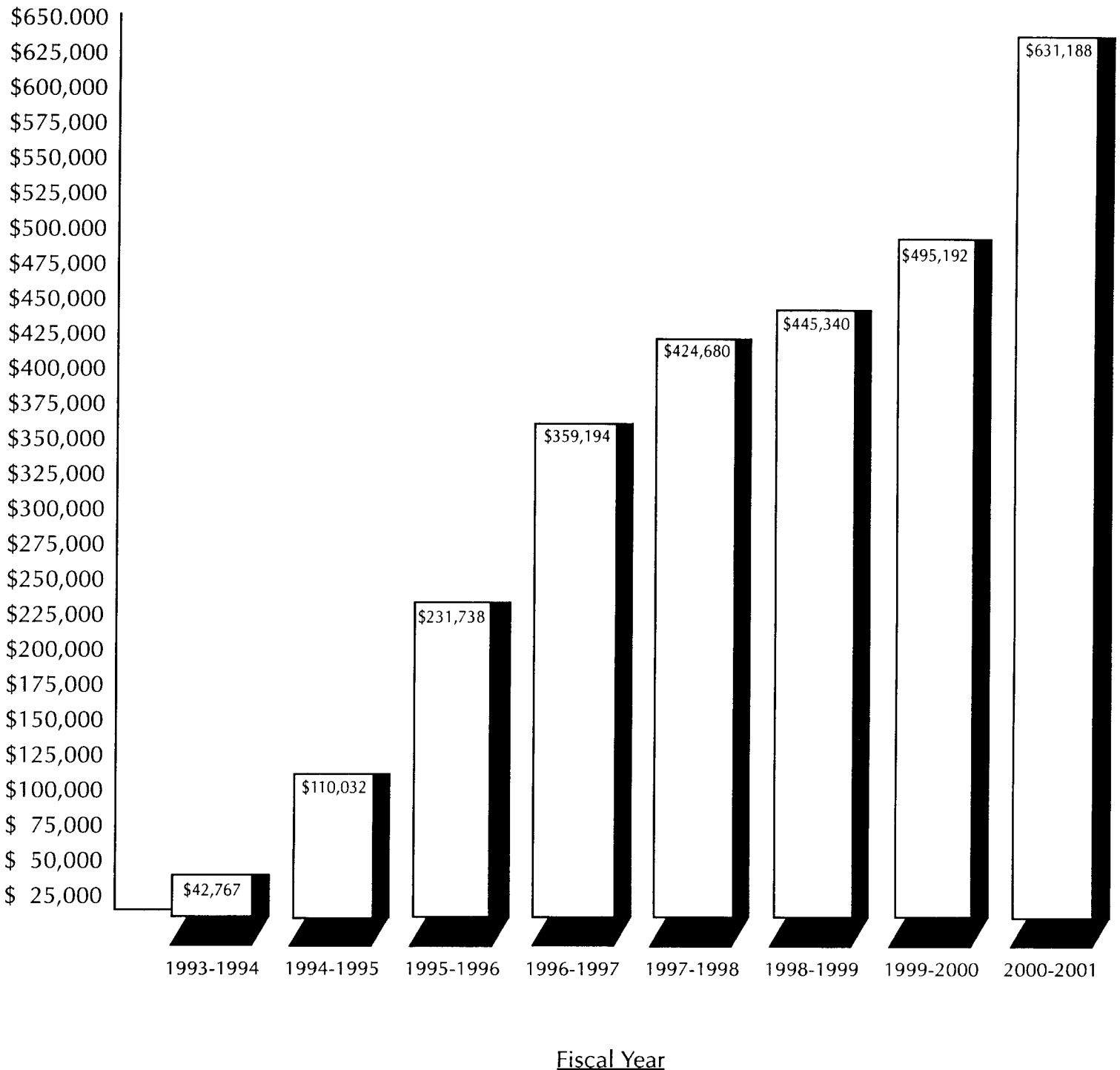
Last fall the Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic opened as part of the clinical program at Pace University School of Law. The Clinic is designed to deliver much needed legal services to indigent disabled children and adults, while educating law students who are committed to becoming effective advocates for those in need. The Clinic has become a major new part of Pace's clinical program, recently rated among the top 20 in the nation by U.S. News and World Report. Like the other clinics at Pace, the EJA Clinic provides civil representation to clients whose financial situations do not permit them to engage private attorneys.

The Equal Justice America Clinic and the EJA fellowships provide a tremendous hands-on legal experience for law students and the fellowships are a huge help to legal service programs throughout the country struggling under the weight of the budget cuts they have sustained.

Equal Justice America, while still a young organization, has grown dramatically since its inception. In the Fiscal Year ending on June 30, 2001, Equal Justice America sponsored 200 law student fellowships. In the previous year, 147 law students received fellowships, up from 125 in the preceding year, 102 the year before that, 66 in the prior year, and 40 the year before that.

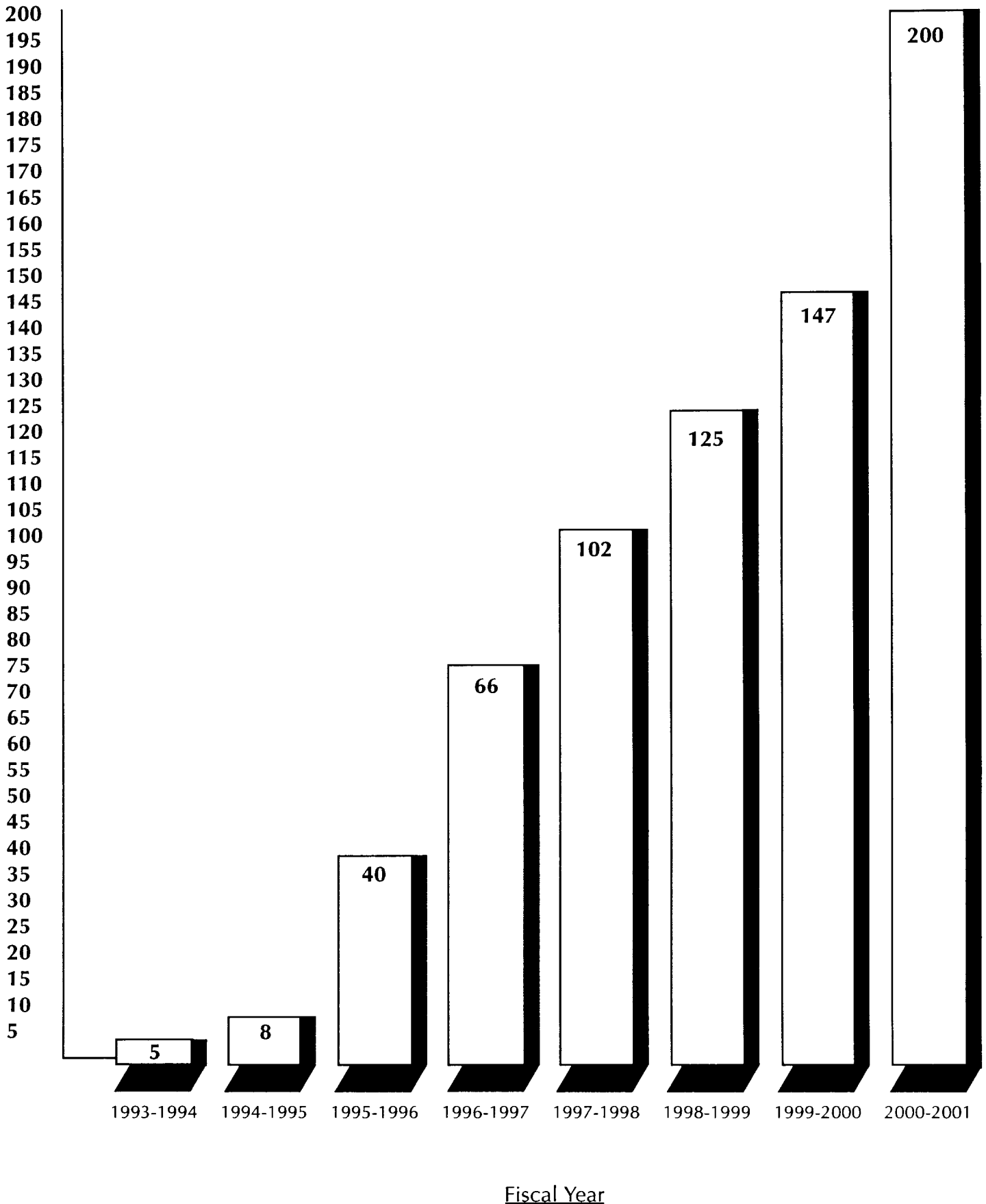
Eight Years of Growth For Equal Justice America

Contributions Raised



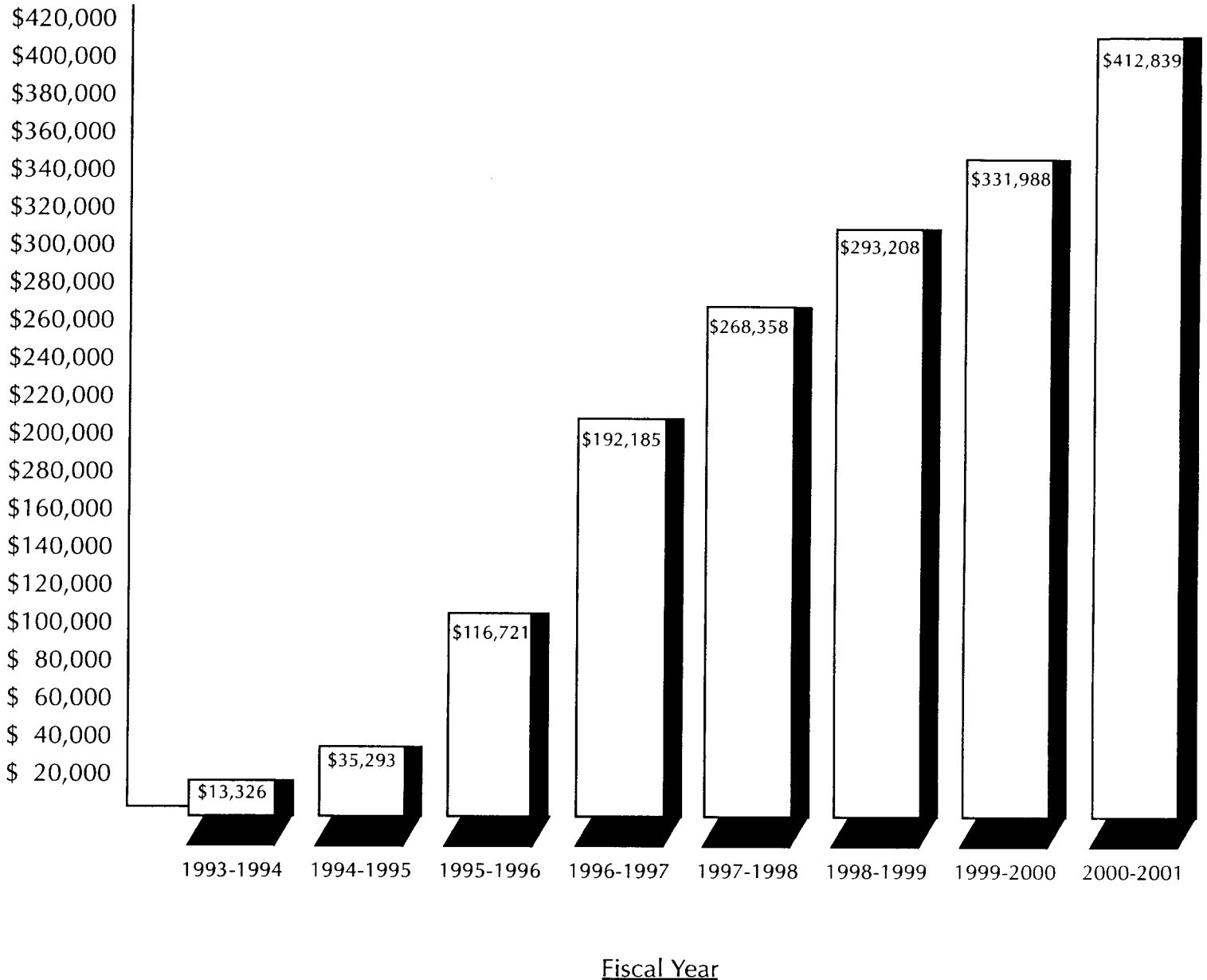
Eight Years of Growth For Equal Justice America

Number Of Fellowships Sponsored



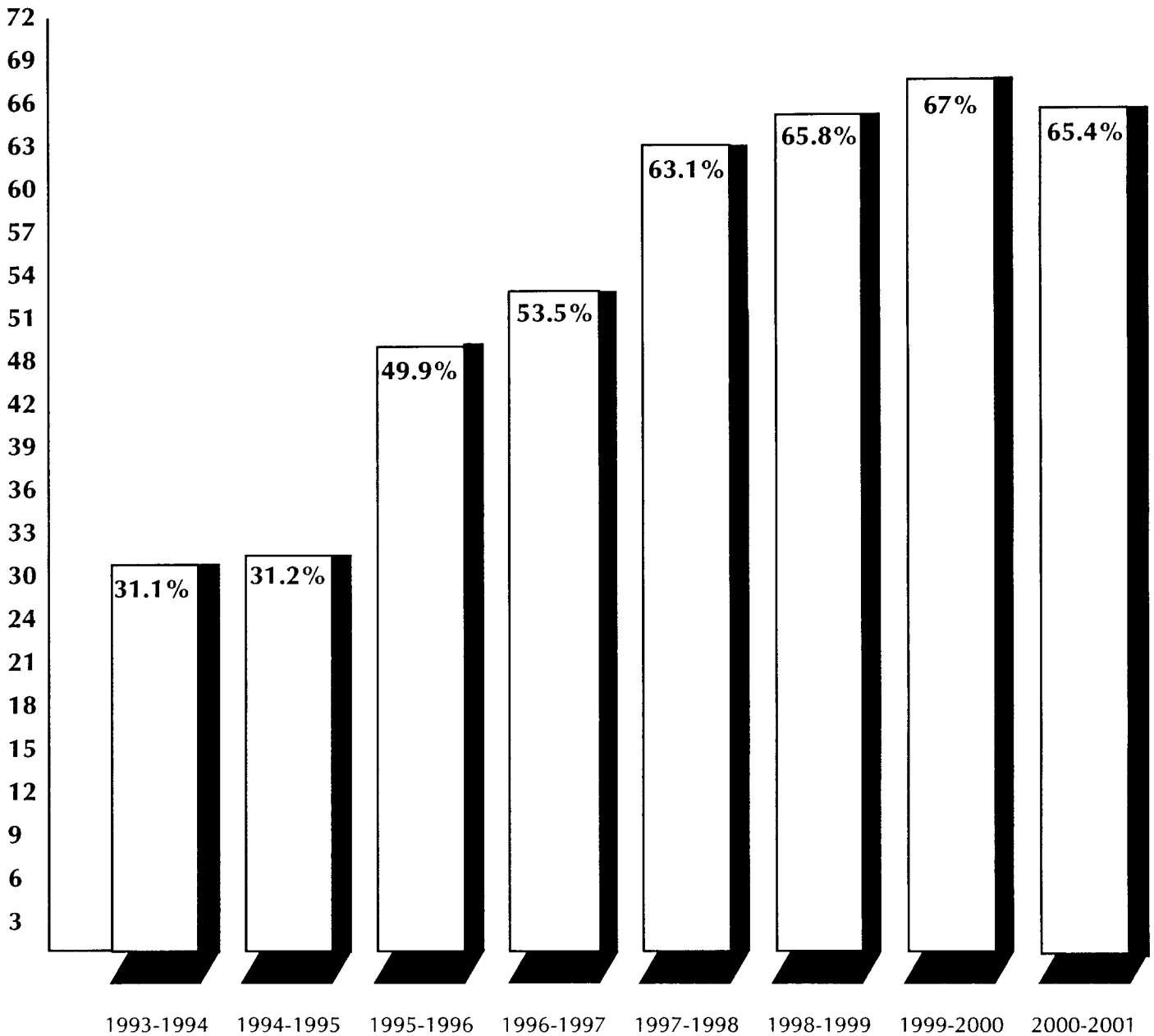
Eight Years of Growth For Equal Justice America

Dollars Spent For Program Services



Eight Years of Growth For Equal Justice America

Percentage of Funds Spent on Program Services



Fiscal Year



What They're Saying About Equal Justice America...

“There is nothing more vital than providing desperately needed legal advice to the millions of low income Americans who are forced to fend for themselves in the complex tangle of our civil justice system. Best wishes for success as Equal Justice America grows and prospers.”

Mario M. Cuomo
Former Governor of New York

“The support of Equal Justice America has helped us do even more to protect women from domestic violence and to put the weight of the judicial system fully behind those who have been victimized. I know that Equal Justice America has a growing reputation for assisting organizations all over the country which provide legal services to the poor, including many groups which devote much of their efforts to protecting battered and abused women and children. We look forward to continuing our successful relationship with Equal Justice America.

Victoria L. Lutz
Director, Battered Women's Justice Center
Pace University School of Law

“I would once again like to express my sincere appreciation for your continued support of Public Counsel. Your fellowships have allowed us to provide quality, free legal services to the most vulnerable people in our community, particularly in the areas of assisting abused women and children and assisting with the adoption of children out of the foster care system. Your ongoing support is critical and invaluable.”

Dan Grunfeld
President/CEO
Public Counsel Law Center
Los Angeles, CA

“I am writing to express the thanks of Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services, Inc., to Equal Justice America for funding the summer internship of David Lund. David proved himself to be an extraordinary law clerk who was very highly regarded by all who worked with him. I would also like to thank Equal Justice America for the absence of red tape in their process. You did what you said you would do, and you required very little time from our office. This allowed the bulk of our involvement to be directed toward supervising David in the provision of direct service to our clients.”

Steven J. Wolfe
Law Work Manager, Southern
Minnesota Regional Legal Services

“It is fortunate that we have organizations like Equal Justice America to provide funds to students who would not otherwise be able to work for nonprofit organizations such as ours. I feel strongly that public interest law or clinical participation is essential to a law student's education in order to keep them grounded and balanced in the profession they are about to enter.

Sylvia M. Brennan
Managing Attorney
Legal Services of Northern Virginia



“We deeply appreciate the assistance of Equal Justice America. Your funding enables us to stretch our limited resources to better represent our clients, for whom our summer interns provide valuable service. With significant new funding cuts on the horizon, additional funding sources are crucial if the motto of “Equal Justice for All” is to be more than an empty slogan. Please accept our thanks for your assistance in bringing that motto closer to a reality for our clients.”

Peter Schneider
Community Legal Services
Philadelphia, PA

“Thanks to Equal Justice America, we have four new student fellows who are this semester’s student directors of the Yale Law School TRO Project. This project is one of the most successful student projects to come out of the Law School and is a demonstration project for law schools and legal services programs throughout the country. It provides critical services to victims of domestic violence who come to the courthouse and attempt to file for orders of protection on their own. I cannot thank you and the Yale Law School alumni enough for supporting the work that we do at legal services in such a constructive and positive way by funding law students to work with us... On behalf of the low-income community we serve, many thanks.

Patricia Kaplan
Executive Director
New Haven Legal Assistance Association

“We are very grateful for the support Equal Justice has provided to us in the past and look forward to continuing to collaborate with you. We commend your efforts to support the legal needs of the District’s most needy residents.”

Joseph C. Zergerle
Executive Director
Legal Aid Society
District of Columbia

“I wanted to express my deep appreciation for all the support you have given us. I congratulate you on your efforts, and your commitment to providing students the opportunity to work with people who desperately need help. We look forward to continuing our relationship with Equal Justice America.”

Gerald Nordgren
Director of Legal Services
Chicago Legal Clinic

“How about all lawyers, particularly if you aren’t doing your share of pro bono work, send a check to... [Equal Justice America.]”

Nancy Q. Keefe
Columnist
Gannett Newspapers



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA
Currently Offers Legal Services
Fellowships to Students at the
Following Law Schools:

- ◆ American University Washington College of Law
- ◆ Boston College Law School
- ◆ Boston University School of Law
- ◆ Brooklyn Law School
- ◆ Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law
- ◆ Chicago-Kent College of Law
- ◆ Columbia University School of Law
- ◆ Cornell Law School
- ◆ De Paul University College of Law
- ◆ Detroit College of Law
- ◆ Fordham University School of Law
- ◆ George Washington University Law School
- ◆ Georgetown University Law Center
- ◆ Harvard Law School
- ◆ Howard University School of Law
- ◆ John Marshall Law School
- ◆ Loyola University of Chicago School of Law
- ◆ New York Law School
- ◆ New York University School of Law
- ◆ Northwestern University School of Law
- ◆ Pace University School of Law
- ◆ Rutgers University School of Law
- ◆ Saint John's University School of Law
- ◆ Southwestern University School of Law
- ◆ Stanford Law School
- ◆ Suffolk University Law School
- ◆ Temple University Beasley School of Law
- ◆ Union University Albany Law School
- ◆ University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall
- ◆ University of California Hastings College of the Law
- ◆ University of California, Los Angeles School of Law
- ◆ University of Chicago Law School
- ◆ University of Colorado School of Law
- ◆ University of Illinois College of Law
- ◆ University of Michigan Law School
- ◆ University of Minnesota Law School
- ◆ University of Pennsylvania Law School
- ◆ University of Texas at Austin School of Law
- ◆ University of Virginia School of Law
- ◆ University of Wisconsin Law School
- ◆ University of Washington School of Law
- ◆ Wayne State University Law School
- ◆ Yale University Law School



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA
has Sponsored Law Student
Fellowships at the Following
Legal Assistance Organizations:

- AIDS Legal Council of Chicago
- Atlanta Legal Aid Society
- Advocates for Children, New York, NY
- Alaska Legal Services
- AYUDA Legal Aid, Washington, DC
- Battered Women's Alternatives, Concord, CA
- Battered Women's Justice Center, White Plains, NY
- Bay Area Legal Aid, San Francisco, CA
- Bay Area Legal Services, Tampa, FL
- Berkeley Community Law Center, Berkeley, CA
- Bet Tzedek Legal Services, Los Angeles, CA
- Boston College Immigration and Asylum Project
- Boston College Legal Assistance Bureau
- Bronx Legal Services
- Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
- Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation B
- California Rural Legal Assistance
- Cambridge & Somerville Legal Services, MA
- Catholic Charities Immigration Services, Washington, DC
- Center for Arkansas Legal Services
- Central Virginia Legal Aid Society
- Charlottesville-Albermarle Legal Aid Society, VA
- Chemung Legal Services, Elmira, NY
- Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, SD
- Chicago Legal Clinic
- Columbia Legal Services, Seattle, WA
- Community Legal Services, Philadelphia, PA
- Cornell Legal Aid Clinic, Ithaca, NY
- DC Employment Law Center, Washington, DC
- DC Law Students in Court, Washington, DC
- Disability Law Center, Seattle, WA
- East Bay Community Law Center, Berkeley, CA
- Essex-Newark Legal Services, NJ
- Farmers' Legal Action Group, St. Paul, MN
- Farmworkers Legal Services, New Paltz, NY
- Florida Justice Center
- Free Legal Aid Clinic, Detroit, MI
- Georgia Legal Services
- Greater Boston Catholic Charities, Immigration Legal Services
- Greater Boston Legal Services
- Haitian Refugee Center, Miami, FL
- Hale & Dorr Legal Services Center, Jamaica Plain, MA
- Homeless Action Center, Berkeley, CA
- Juvenile Law Center, Philadelphia, PA
- Juvenile Rights Project, Portland, OR
- Kentucky Legal Services
- Knoxville Legal Aid Society, TN
- Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation, IL
- Latino Workers Center, New York, NY
- Lawyers for Children, Inc., New York, NY
- Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, San Francisco, CA
- Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, Washington, DC
- Legal Advocates for Children & Youth, San Jose, CA
- Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
- Legal Aid of Western Missouri
- Legal Aid Society of Albuquerque, NM
- Legal Aid Society of Hawaii
- Legal Aid Society of New York City
- Legal Aid Society of Westchester County, NY
- Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago
- Legal Services Center at the Door, New York, NY
- Legal Services of Central Michigan
- Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York
- Legal Aid Society of Rochester, NY
- Legal Aid Society of San Francisco
- Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County, CA
- Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia
- Legal Corps of Los Angeles
- Legal Services of Southeastern Michigan
- Legal Services of the Blue Ridge, Boone, NC
- Lifespan Center for Legal Services, Chicago, IL
- Make the Road by Walking, Inc., Newark, NJ
- Merrimack Valley Legal Services, Lowell, MA
- MFY Legal Services, New York, NY
- Michigan Poverty Law Program
- Montana Legal Services Association
- Nassau Suffolk Law Services Committee, NY
- National Center for Youth Law, San Francisco, CA
- Native Lands Institute, Albuquerque, NM
- Neighborhood Law Project, Madison, WI
- Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc., Lawrence, MA
- Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc., Lynn, MA
- Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Washington, DC
- New Orleans Legal Assistance Corporation
- New Haven Legal Assistance Association
- New Jersey Legal Services
- New York Lawyers in the Public Interest
- New York Legal Assistance Group
- Northern Virginia Legal Services
- North Carolina Justice Center
- North State Legal Services, Hillsborough, NC
- Philadelphia Legal Assistance
- Piedmont Legal Services, Charlottesville, VA
- Pine Tree Legal Assistance
- Political Asylum Project of Austin, TX
- Pro Bono, Inc., Puerto Rico
- Public Counsel, Los Angeles, CA
- Public Justice Center, Baltimore, MD
- Sanctuary for Families' Center for Battered Women's Legal Services, New York, NY
- San Francisco Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation
- Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Service
- Sugar Law Center for Social & Economic Justice, Detroit, MI
- Texas Rural Legal Aid
- Urban Justice Center (formerly the Legal Action Center for the Homeless)
- Vermont Legal Aid
- Virginia Justice Center
- Welfare Law Center, New York, NY
- West Tennessee Legal Services
- Women Against Abuse Legal Center, Philadelphia, PA
- Women Empowered Against Violence, Washington, DC
- Youth Law Center, San Francisco, CA



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Law Student Fellowships

Fiscal Year 2000-2001

Fall 2000/Spring 2001 Fellowships

- Albert Acken, Northwestern University School of Law, Chicago Legal Clinic, Fall 2000.
- Marcia Adelson, Pace University School of Law, Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic, White Plains, NY, Spring 2001.
- Richard Agins, Pace, Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic, Spring 2001.
- Jacqueline Bardini, Pace, Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic, Spring 2001.
- Anne Behk, New York Law School, Sanctuary for Families Center for Battered Women's Legal Services, New York, NY, Fall 2000
- Marti Breier, University of California at Los Angeles, Public Counsel Law Center, Los Angeles, CA, Fall 2000.
- Denise Calderon, Harvard University Law School, Legal Services Center, Jamaica Plain, MA, Spring 2001.
- Bridgette Carr, University of Michigan, Legal Services of Southern Michigan, Spring 2001.
- Stephen Cerrato, Pace, Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic, Spring 2001
- Courtney Clark, Yale University, New Haven Legal Assistance Foundation, Fall/Spring.
- Lisa Courtney, University of Colorado, Colorado Legal Services, Spring 2001.
- Henry Cruz, University of Texas, Political Asylum Project of Austin, Spring 2001.
- Karen Dalichow, Georgetown University, Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Washington, DC, Spring 2001.
- Rimonda Dalloul, Pace, Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic, Spring 2001.
- Stephen Dewey, Pace, Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic, Spring 2001.
- Maria Teresa Javier Ellis, Georgetown, DC Employment Justice Center, Spring 2001.
- Jill Feldman, Harvard University, Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, Fall 2000.
- Cara Garvey, Temple University, Sanctuary for Families, Fall 2000.
- Dominique Greek, UCLA, Bet Tzedek Legal Services, Los Angeles, CA, Spring 2001.
- Monique Gudger, Catholic University, Legal Services of Northern Virginia, Spring 2001.
- Anne Heidel, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Community Legal Services, Philadelphia, PA, Fall 2000.

Equal Justice America
Law Student Fellowships
Fiscal Year 2000 - 2001
Fall '00/ Spring '01 cont.

- Narges Kakalia, Fordham University School of Law, Sanctuary for Families, Fall 2000.
- Nicole Keller, Southwestern University School of Law, Public Counsel law Center, Fall 2000.
- Uswah Khan, Pace, Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic, Spring 2001.
- Lana Khory, Southwestern, Bet Tzedek, Fall 2000.
- Kristine Kim, Hastings, Legal Services for Children, San Francisco, CA, Spring 2001.
- Anne-Marie Knopp, DePaul University, Chicago Legal Clinic, Fall 2000
- Marcie Kowlowitz, Brooklyn Law School, Sanctuary for Families Center for Battered Women's Legal Services, Fall 2000.
- Robert Kruminen, Harvard, Legal Services Center, Spring 2001.
- Cleo Kung, Northwestern, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago, Fall 2000.
- Pamela Laufer, Harvard, Legal Services Center, Spring 2001.
- Grace Lee, Yale, New Haven Legal Assistance Foundation, Fall 2000.
- Tenagne Lemma, Southwestern, Bet Tzedek, Fall 2000.
- Min Su Longiaru, Harvard, Legal Services Center, Spring 2001.
- Barry McGoey, Pace, Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic, Spring 2001.
- Sally Mermelstein, University of Minnesota, Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis, Spring 2001.
- Gregory Meyers, George Washington University Law School, DC Law Students in Court, Fall 2000.
- Susannah Monk, Southwestern, Public Counsel, Spring 2001.
- Alex Montgomery, University of Chicago, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago, Fall 2000.
- Kati O'Brien, University of California Hastings College of the Law, Legal Aid Society of San Francisco, Fall 2000.
- Robert Papa, Pace, Equal Justice America Disability Law Clinic, Spring 2001.
- Alma Ramirez, DePaul, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago, Spring 2001.
- Toki Rehder, Georgetown University, Neighborhood Legal Services, Fall 2000.
- Laura Rinaldi, George Washington University, DC Law Students in Court, Fall 2000.
- Baldwin Robertson, Georgetown, Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Fall 2000.
- Chaba Samb, University of Minnesota, Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis, Spring 2001.
- Michael Schleigh, Rutgers University, Community Legal Services, Spring 2001.
- Charlotte Scott, UCLA, Bet Tzedek, Spring 2001.