

GREATER BOSTON
LEGAL SERVICES



ANNUAL REPORT 2010

*call client
with the
good news...*



29 May 2010

Dear Honey Honey,

Because of your help and dedication to Seniors, My Mother will not be deprived of the benefits of hard earned money that she worked for since 1985.

MassHealth will allow this money, because it is back payment from Soc Sec, to be used for Vaneta's benefit. This can only be done by withdrawing this amount into a new account for Vaneta and to use it down within 6 months.



OUR MISSION



Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS) provides free civil (noncriminal) legal assistance to low-income people in Boston and thirty-one cities and towns to help them secure the most basic necessities of life. The assistance GBLS offers ranges from legal advice to full case representation, depending on client need.

Throughout its proud history, GBLS has remained committed to its mission of providing high-quality services to as many poor people as possible. Founded in 1900, it is the oldest and largest legal services program in New England. In 2010, GBLS served over 16,100 people.

To learn more about GBLS' major areas of work, please visit our website: www.gbls.org




On the Cover

Top Photo Credit: Donna Southwell

Middle Photo Credit: Maria Mendonca-Costanzo

Bottom Photo Credit: Chinese Progressive Association



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Service Area	4
Fixing an Error That Almost Left a Family Homeless	5
GBLS Works with Partners To Solve Community Problems	6-7
Legislative Advocacy Victories	8-9
Establishing a Precedent for Working Parents	10
New 2010 Clinics	11
Victims of Predatory Lending Keep Their Homes	12
Client and Case Statistics	13
Awards/Honors/Notable Achievements	14-15
Financial Statements	16
DONORS	
Lawyers Fund Drive	17-18
Corporate Legal Departments	18
Law Firm Fellowships	19
Deferred/Loaned Associates Fellowships	19
Matching Gifts — Associates Drive	19
<i>Cy Pres</i> Awards	20
In-House Counsel Drive	20
Thank You to Donors Tak and May Takayanagi	21
Annual Fund Donors	22-31
Matching Gifts of Annual Fund Donors	31
Friends of AOU	32
Memorial and Honorary Gifts	33
GBLS Legacy Society	33
PARTNERS	
Community Partners	34
Foundation and Corporate Partners	34
Eastern Region Partners	34
VOLUNTEER SUPPORT	
School Programs	35
Volunteer Attorneys	36
Corporation for National & Community Service — AmeriCorps	36
Volunteers	36
Board Members	37
Corporation Members	38
Staff	39

SERVICE AREA

*Greater Boston Legal Services serves the following cities and towns. Those towns marked with an * are served only by the Elder, Health and Disability Unit.*

Acton*	Chelsea	Medford	Stoneham
Arlington	Cohasset	Melrose	Stow*
Bedford*	Concord*	Milton	Wakefield
Belmont	Everett	Newton	Waltham
Boston	Harvard*	North Reading*	Watertown
Boxborough*	Hingham	Norwell	Weymouth
Braintree	Holbrook	Quincy	Wilmington*
Brookline	Hull	Randolph	Winchester
Burlington*	Lexington*	Reading*	Winthrop
Cambridge	Lincoln*	Revere	Woburn
Canton	Malden	Scituate	
Carlisle*	Maynard*	Somerville	



Together in 2010 GBLS' staff, fellows, loaned associates, volunteers, interns, Board and Corporation members, and many supporters worked to meet the needs of the poorest, most marginalized members of the communities we serve. Our advocates helped poor people understand and defend their rights, and brought about systemic changes that will positively impact

the lives of thousands of vulnerable Massachusetts residents. This report introduces you to some of our clients and their families, describes some of the systemic advocacy successes we achieved, and acknowledges with gratitude the many generous individuals, law firms, agencies, and other partners whose support—*your* support—made it all possible.

Fixing an Error that Almost Left a Family Homeless

More and more clients come to GBLS because of the impact of the economy on them and their families, as more employers reduce their employees' hours or eliminate jobs entirely. Without the support of our funders, GBLS would have to turn away even more clients who have nowhere else to turn for help. The following story is one example of a client whose family would have been homeless without GBLS' intervention and your support.

José M., a hotel housekeeper from Charlestown, had always worked hard to support his family. But with the recession, first his wife lost her housekeeping job then, with the number of hotel guests lagging, José's hours were cut from full time to part time. Meanwhile, his health started to fail, and he began to fall behind on his rent.

Soon José, his wife and their two young children were facing eviction and a frightening future. With the reduced work schedule and increased medical costs, he tried repeatedly to get the housing authority to adjust the rent to reflect his reduced income, but they told him he would not be reevaluated until the end of the year. José knew that if the family was evicted they would probably lose their public housing subsidy permanently. The next step was homelessness. "We didn't know where to turn," he says.



GBLS' funders made it possible for a housing attorney to prevent José and his family from becoming homeless.
Photo Credit: Donna Southwell

The eviction notice arrived, saying that José owed \$7,000. With no hope of paying that amount, he called GBLS. Housing attorney Alex Mitchell-Munevar took the case and began to look into the housing authority's claim.

The attorney discovered that José's rent had been wrongly set too high: José actually qualified for an "earned income adjustment" that the housing authority had failed to consider. Instead of owing \$7,000, José had actually overpaid his rent by \$1,400! When Attorney Mitchell-Munevar pointed out the error to the housing authority, they lowered José's rent, repaid the \$1,400 and dropped the eviction. José and his family had their home back.



GBLS Works with Partners to Solve Community Problems

GBLS engages in close to 100 partnerships ranging from the other Massachusetts legal service providers to over 80 social service organizations and community-based groups, clinical law school programs, Massachusetts agencies and courts, and cities and towns in greater Boston. The next page shows a small sampling of our partners.

Innovative partnership to restore ownership to former homeowners: In 2010, GBLS undertook a unique partnership, the Foreclosure Purchase Project, to help former owners or tenants of foreclosed buildings to repurchase their homes at the present value. GBLS' partners are a community group, City Life/Vida Urbana (CLVU); a non-profit bank, Boston Community Capital (BCC); and the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau. CLVU works to stop evictions of tenants and former owners after foreclosure, reaching out to affected families and bringing them to community meetings. GBLS housing attorneys and Harvard Legal Aid Bureau law students educate participants on their legal rights and identify families who could regain ownership. GBLS also provides eviction representation to keep families in their homes and then works with BCC, which raises capital to buy foreclosed buildings and provides financing to former owners or tenants to buy back their homes. In 2010, the project saved 80 properties for their former owners.

Fighting eviction from foreclosed homes: GBLS' Cambridge office, Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services, initiated a joint outreach project with the Community Action Agency of Somerville to inform tenants and owners in Somerville properties in the process of foreclosure of their right to stay in their homes using the new laws, the courts, and other remedies.

Overcoming barriers to housing, employment, and other benefits for criminal record-holders: In December 2010, a GBLS Employment Law Unit Lead Attorney established a CORI project in the Roxbury division of the Boston Municipal Court (BMC). Once a month, law students do intakes at a table outside the courtroom, and the attorney represents clients in the courtroom. In the Dorchester division of the BMC, Legal Advocacy Resource Center attorney Steve Russo and GBLS' attorney partner on a similar project twice a month.

Assistance on multiple fronts for Asian communities: GBLS' Asian Outreach Unit partners with several community-based organizations, including immigrant workers centers, health centers and hospitals, social service agencies, and domestic violence shelters such as the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence (ATASK) to serve Asians with multiple legal issues. With ATASK, GBLS helps clients develop a safety plan, and obtain shelter and restraining orders.

Assistance to the low-income Chelsea community: With the Chelsea Collaborative, GBLS conducts an extensive outreach effort in Chelsea, a community with a very high percentage of low-income immigrant residents. The partnership focuses on assisting low-income immigrant workers, immigrant victims of domestic violence and immigrants who need assistance with their immigration status.

*Action for Boston Community Development
ACT!! (Affordable Care Today)
Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence
Association of Haitian Women of Boston
Battered Immigrant Women Project
Boston Bar Association
Boston Community Capital Bank
Boston Municipal Court
Boston Tenant Coalition
Brazilian Immigrant Center
Brazilian Women's Group
Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee
Casa Myrna Vazquez shelter
Centro Presente
Chelsea Collaborative
Chinese Progressive Association
Citizens Housing and Planning Association
City Life/Vida Urbana
Clinical law school programs
Community Action Agency of Somerville
Fenway Community Development Corporation
Harvard Human Rights Program
HarborCOV
HomeStart
Legal Advocacy Resource Center (LARC)
Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General
Massachusetts Bar Association
Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (MassCOSH)
Massachusetts Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation
Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition
Mayor's Office for New Bostonians
Medical Legal Partnership at Boston Medical Center
Middlesex Probate Court
National Network to End Domestic Violence
New England Medical Center
Organización Maya K'iche
Political Asylum Representation Program
Pro Bono Unemployment Compensation Panel
Project Hope Shelter Collaborative
Senior Lawyer Project
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
Serving the Health Information Needs of Elders (SHINE)
Volunteer Lawyers Project
Women's Bar Association*



2010 Legislative Advocacy Victories

With your support, in 2010 GBLS represented clients on several critical bills that will make a significant difference in the lives of thousands of Massachusetts residents.


Passage of foreclosure bill that protects tenants and homeowners: Through the efforts of GBLS attorneys, in July 2010 the Massachusetts legislature passed a foreclosure bill providing that tenants cannot be evicted from foreclosed properties except for just cause or if the property is sold to a third party. GBLS had spent countless hours building a strong coalition with dozens of community groups and working with the Massachusetts Alliance Against Predatory Lending, Citizens' Housing and Planning Association, and elected officials to make this happen.

The bill also provides increased protections for homeowners facing foreclosure and a requirement that there be in-person counseling before elders obtain reverse mortgages. Tenants will finally have stronger protections from eviction in foreclosed buildings, and owners will have more leverage to fight their foreclosures.



Governor Patrick signing "An Act Relative to the Preparation of Certain Ballots in the City of Boston" into law in July 2010, surrounded by community advocates, bill sponsors and supporters. The law will make voting much easier for Asian Americans whose first language is Chinese or Vietnamese. GBLS attorney Cynthia Mark is 3rd from left. The lead sponsors were Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz (directly behind the Governor) and Representative Jeffrey Sánchez (far right of the picture). Representative Aaron Michlewitz (to the left of Sen. Chang-Diaz) was also instrumental in getting the bill passed.

Photo Credit: Coalition for Asian American Voting Rights



Passage of bilingual ballot bill for Asian American Voters: In 2010, the Asian Outreach Unit's (AOU's) voting rights work led to the passage of a bilingual ballots bill requiring Chinese/English or Vietnamese/English ballots for those who need them in the City of Boston. On July 31, 2010, Governor Patrick signed into law An Act Relative to the Preparation of Certain Ballots in the City of Boston. AOU has represented limited-English proficient voters since 2005, first representing their interests in the federal lawsuit filed by the U.S. Department of Justice against the City of Boston, and then drafting, filing, and advancing the bilingual ballots bill when the lawsuit's settlement agreement expired. AOU and the Coalition for Asian American Voting Rights led by a group of elderly voter activists worked tirelessly to educate lawmakers about the need for bilingual ballots, including transliteration of candidate names.

With the passage of this bill, many Chinese-American and Vietnamese-American citizens, most of them elders whose English is limited, will be able to vote freely and independently in all local, state, and federal elections. This bill's passage, at a time that many thought impossible, was a great victory for Americans of Chinese and Vietnamese descent who are eager to participate in the democratic process along with other citizens.

Criminal Offender Records Information (CORI) reform: GBLS staff, including Employment Law Unit Lead Attorney Pauline Quirion, Family Law Unit Managing Attorney Patricia Levesh and Attorney Kelly Leighton, were among the advocates who worked towards the July 2010 passage of a bill that will help reduce barriers to housing and employment for people with CORI records. At the same time, the bill preserves access to CORI records for employers in certain fields. GBLS was instrumental in getting domestic violence protections negotiated into the bill by state Senator Cynthia Stone Creem. Highlights of the bill include:

- Reduction of the waiting periods to seal a misdemeanor or a felony as of May 4, 2012;
- Probation before a dismissal no longer a bar to sealing a record in court as of May 4, 2012;
- Employers, housing, and professional licensing entities required to provide a copy of the CORI to the applicants if they are rejected because of it; and
- Prohibition to ask applicants about criminal offender information on a job application; with the exception of state or federal jobs where there is a mandatory or presumptive disqualification for a conviction, or where state or federal law prohibits hiring a person with one or more convictions.

Some types of employers (schools, nursing homes, etc.) continue to be able to obtain "all available" data which includes unsealed convictions and non-convictions.

In addition, following Attorney Quirion's advocacy efforts, in November 2010 the Roxbury Division of the Boston Municipal Court implemented a new criminal record sealing protocol. All CORI sealing petitions will be scheduled for a single hearing after posting of the petition. Previously, individuals had to attend two hearings on two different dates. The new protocol also explains step by step the sealing process and new procedures. This makes the process much clearer and less time-consuming for people seeking to rebuild their lives after a conviction.

Establishing a Precedent for Working Parents



“Carmelita”, a Mattapan single working mother of three, has a 7-year-old daughter who was having serious behavioral problems in school. Children’s Hospital diagnosed “Rosa” with emotional and psychological disorders, and told Carmelita that her daughter would do better with more attention from her. Carmelita tried to be with Rosa as much as possible, but she had a full-time job at a health center that required working on Saturdays.

At work, Carmelita received calls almost daily from Rosa’s school and from her after-school program because her behavior was unmanageable. Carmelita often had to leave work early to pick up her daughter.

Carmelita asked her supervisor if she could reduce her hours, but there was no part-time work available. So she decided to resign and look for part-time work elsewhere. She thought she would be eligible for Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits while she job searched, but was denied due to the Division of Unemployment Assistance’s regulation that automatically denied benefits to anyone looking for part-time work after a recent history of full-time employment. Carmelita was told that she could appeal, but winning seemed unlikely.

She had nearly given up when she called GBLS. Lead Attorney Monica Halas, the manager of the Employment Law Unit, took her case and represented Carmelita at the appeal, successfully arguing that the UI regulation had exceptions for people with disabilities and it should be the same for the caretaker of a child with disabilities. The case established a precedent for other working parents in similar situations. Equally important, Rosa’s behavior improved significantly with her mother around more. The UI benefits GBLS secured helped stabilize this family at a critical time in their lives.



GBLS secured Unemployment Insurance benefits for this mother while she searched for part-time work in order to spend more time with her child who has emotional and psychological disorders. The case established a precedent for working parents.
Photo Credit: Donna Southwell

Thanks to You, In 2010 GBLS Was Able to Initiate New Clinics to Respond to Emerging Issues: The Haitian Crisis, Job Seekers with Criminal Records, Foreclosures

After the U.S. government starting providing Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitians in response to the humanitarian crisis caused by the Haiti earthquake, for several months the Immigration Law Unit held weekly TPS clinics to help Haitians remain in this country temporarily in view of the devastation Haiti suffered. TPS is often granted to individuals who are unable to safely return to their countries because of an armed conflict or a natural disaster. GBLS' clinics assisted 178 Haitian individuals seeking protection.

In October 2010 a GBLS attorney and a Legal Advocacy Resource Center (LARC) attorney, along with Suffolk University Law School students, hosted a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) clinic at GBLS. Over 70 people struggling to overcome barriers to housing, employment, and other benefits due to their criminal records, received assistance preparing forms requesting their CORI reports, affidavits of indigency, petitions to seal, and affidavits in support of their petitions. See picture below.

In the summer the GBLS attorney also gave a CORI workshop for women at the Women's Lunch Place in Boston, that provides services for homeless women.

Assisting hundreds of people annually, GBLS also continued its ongoing weekly clinic at GBLS for tenants, and several workshops each month in East Boston and Jamaica Plain for tenants and former homeowners impacted by foreclosure.



In October 2010 GBLS and Legal Advocacy Resource Center staff along with Suffolk University Law School students assisted over 70 people struggling to overcome barriers to housing, employment, and other benefits due to their criminal records.
Photo Credit: Rosa Previdi

Victims of Predatory Lending Keep Their Homes Thanks to Your Support

You, GBLS' supporters, enabled us to help hundreds of both low-income homeowners and tenants impacted by foreclosure to retain their homes. In 2010, with the assistance of GBLS, City Life/Vida Urbana, and Boston Community Capital, partners in the Foreclosure Purchase Project, Zephaniah Taylor and his daughter Tisa successfully got back their Dorchester three-family home after undergoing two unlawful foreclosures.

With the project's help, the Taylor family was able to learn their rights, fight their eviction, and repurchase their Dorchester three-family home for half its original price.

GBLS and other project staff met with Mr. Taylor to take the picture at right and to tour the improvements he has made to his home. He told them, "You are welcome any time. You got my house back!"



GBLS and its community partners helped Zephaniah Taylor and his family repurchase their home at half its original price, after two unlawful foreclosures.
Photo Credit: Zoe Cronin

Please help support our client services. Make a donation online. Visit us at www.gbls.org and click donate.

DONATE TODAY!


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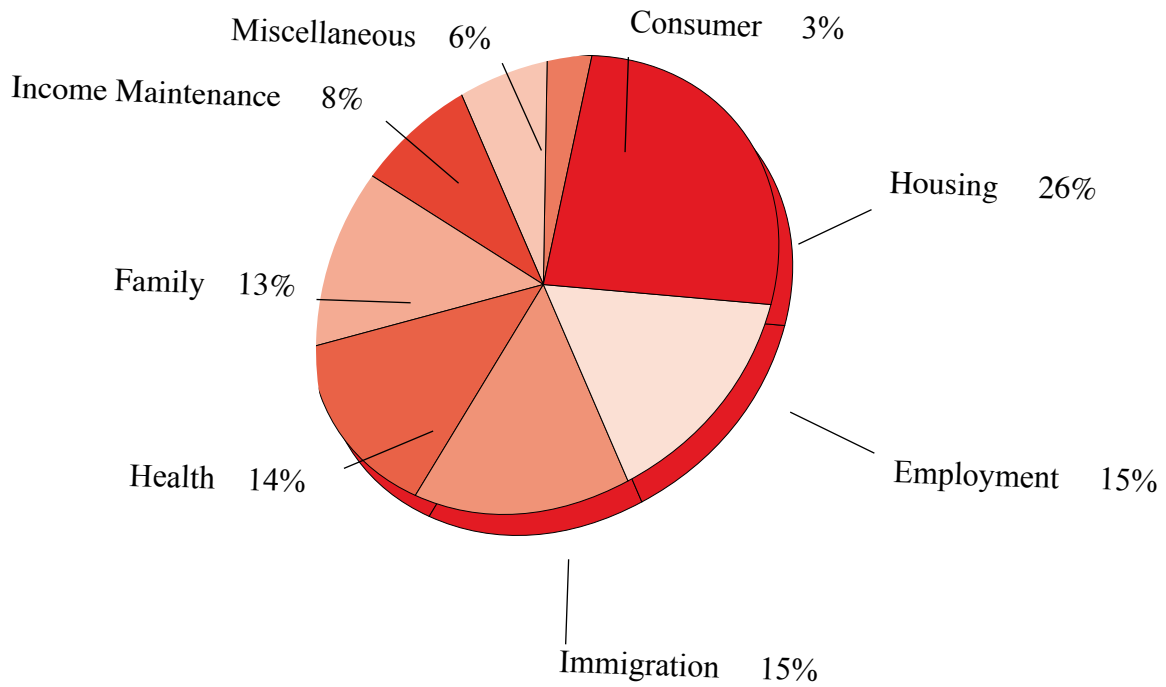
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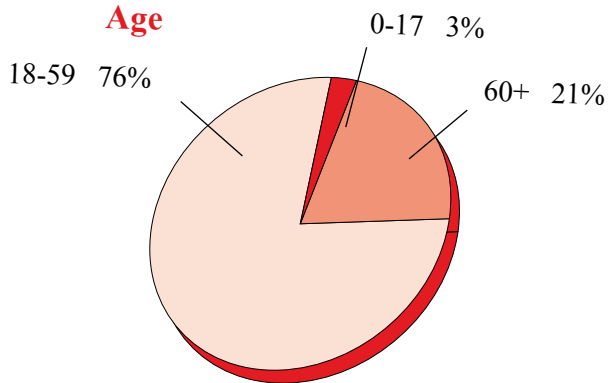
Did You Know?

In 2010, GBLS assisted 16,120 clients.

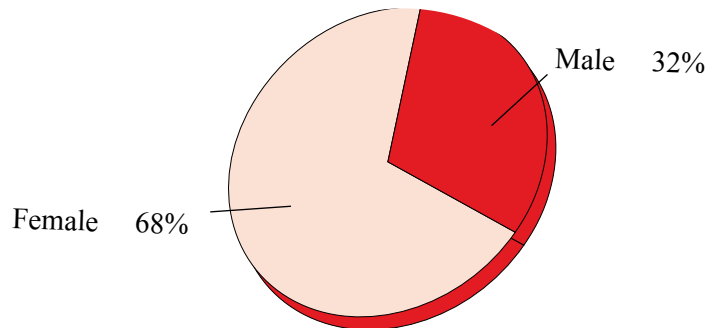
Case Types



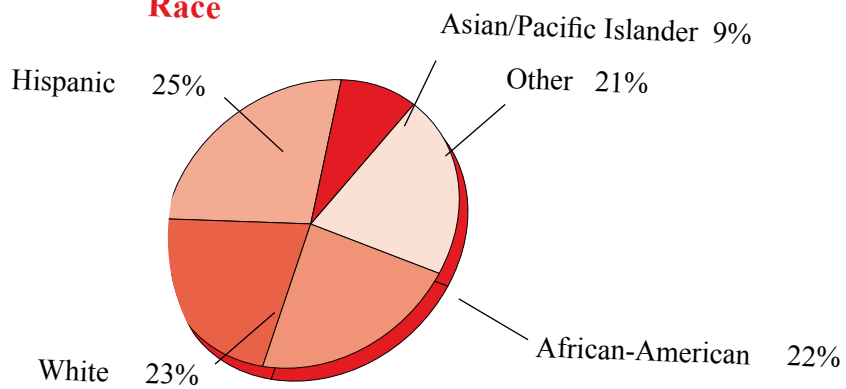
Age



Gender



Race





A Selection of 2010 Awards/Honors/Notable Achievements

GBLS staff, volunteers, and board members continue to be recognized for their many achievements.



Jason Corral
Photo Credit: Zoe Cronin

Recognition for assisting unaccompanied minors: Jason Corral, Immigration Law Unit Attorney, was recognized for his work by the Fundación Ritmo Guanaco that assists children from El Salvador.

Unsung Hero awards for dedication, service and outstanding leadership to the City of Chelsea: Consumer Rights Unit Managing Attorney **Nadine Cohen** and **Zoe Cronin**, Housing Law Unit Attorney, were honored by the Chelsea Collaborative.



Nadine Cohen
Photo Credit: Pamela Haran



Zoe Cronin
Photo Credit: Linda Lank



Nadine Cohen, Barbara Zimbel and Elenor Newhoff
Photo Credit: Linda Lank



Regina Healy

Top Women of the Law: Nadine Cohen, Consumer Rights Unit Managing Attorney, **Barbara Zimbel**, Housing Law Unit Senior Attorney, **Eleanor Newhoff**, Immigration Law Unit volunteer attorney, and GBLS Board member **Regina Healy**, were honored by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly.

Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation Bart Gordon Fellowship: **Carla Moniz**, Immigration Law Unit Attorney, was awarded this one-year fellowship. Its purpose is to support her work providing legal representation in immigration matters to poor, undocumented individuals who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other violent crimes.



Carla Moniz
Photo Credit: Katie Moniz



Bob Sable
Photo Credit: Jeff Thiebauth

Boston Bar Association John G. Brooks Legal Services Award: Bob Sable, Executive Director, was honored for his “relentless advocacy on behalf of indigent clients and his exemplary leadership in providing access to some of the most vulnerable people in society”.

MassCOSH Health Tech/Legal Champion Award: Tom Smith, former Skadden Fellow and 2010 volunteer attorney in the Employment Law Unit, was honored for his legal support of the Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (MassCOSH) immigrant worker center.



Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services (GBLS’ Cambridge and Somerville office) staff, “deferred associates”, and volunteers. Back row, l-r: Todd Kaplan, Senior Attorney; Ellen Shachter, Senior Attorney; Susan Hegel, Senior Attorney; James Haley, volunteer receptionist and GBLS Board member; Levi Sanders, Senior Paralegal; Doris Rivas, Administrative Secretary/Legal Assistant. Front row, l-r: Dan Routh, Ropes & Gray deferred associate; April Kuehnhoff, Skirnicks Public Interest Fellow; Deborah Filler, Senior Attorney; and Maureen Siedor, 2010 summer law student.

Somerville Human Rights Commission 2010 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Award: GBLS’ Cambridge and Somerville office (Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services) staff were honored for promoting economic justice by improving access to safe and affordable housing, food, health care, and income supports.



Jane Gottschalk, volunteer attorney; Sue Gerard, senior aide/receptionist; and Susan Chimene, volunteer attorney.
Photo Credit: Susan Hegel

South Asian Bar Association Greater Boston 2010 Member of the Year Award: GBLS was honored “for its outstanding partnership” with SABA GB, and primarily for the work of Family Law Unit Senior Attorney Manisha Bhatt along with other GBLS lawyers who were instrumental in the launch of SABA’s Know Your Rights! Program. Attorney Bhatt and Executive Director Bob Sable accepted the award on GBLS’ behalf.



l-r: Sonia Shah, South Asian Bar Association Greater Boston Treasurer; Manisha Bhatt; Bob Sable
Photo Credit: SABA GB

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INCOME	2010	2009
Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation	3,566,852	3,502,847
Law Firms and Attorneys	3,080,403	3,064,124
<i>Cy Pres</i> Awards	299,011	58,864
Foundations/Corporations	2,016,570	2,240,284
Government Grants	2,072,288	1,472,134
Individual Contributions	881,756	841,049
United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley	432,242	482,136
Miscellaneous	994,760	1,475,956
TOTAL INCOME BEFORE DONATED SERVICES	13,343,882	13,137,394
Volunteer Services	6,850,194	5,260,933
TOTAL INCOME	20,194,076	18,398,327
EXPENSES	2010	2009
Salary and Benefits Subtotal	11,527,123	12,231,607
Non-Personnel:		
Occupancy	439,437	434,147
Equipment and Supplies	253,631	337,045
Contract Services	587,752	895,612
Library and Litigation Expenses	281,054	356,373
Transfer to Capital	65,000	30,000
Miscellaneous	378,414	284,742
Non-Personnel Subtotal	2,005,288	2,337,919
TOTAL EXPENSES BEFORE DONATED SERVICES	13,532,411	14,569,526
Volunteer Services	6,850,194	5,260,993
TOTAL EXPENSES	20,382,605	19,830,519
CUMULATIVE OPERATING NET ASSETS	4,480,717	4,669,246

GREATER BOSTON
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THANK YOU!
LEGAL COMMUNITY DONORS

LAWYERS FUND DRIVE

The legal community demonstrates a special commitment to GBLS and its mission of ensuring access to justice regardless of income. Every year individual attorneys, law firms, and corporate law departments show the extent to which they respect and value the legal assistance GBLS provides to impoverished residents of greater Boston. Their support is provided in a variety of ways.

Leadership League

(\$700 or more per Boston attorney)

Choate, Hall & Stewart
Davids & Cohen, P.C.
Dechert LLP
Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
Englander, Leggett, & Chicoine, P.C.
Goodwin Procter
Goulston & Storrs
Hemenway & Barnes
Meehan, Boyle, Black & Bogdanow, P.C.
Ropes & Gray
Skadden
Smith Lee LLC
Sokolove Law, LLC
Sugarman and Sugarman, P.C.
Sunstein Kann Murphy & Timbers LLP
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP
WilmerHale

Pacesetter League

(\$600-\$699 per Boston attorney)

Collora, LLP
Foley Hoag LLP
Sullivan & Worcester LLP

Reginald Heber Smith League

(\$500-\$599 per Boston attorney)

Bingham McCutchen LLP
Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels, LLP

President's League

(\$350-\$499 per Boston attorney)

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DLA Piper LLP (US)
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Nutter, McClennen & Fish, LLP

Supporter League

(\$200-\$349 per Boston attorney)

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Garrett & Dunner, LLP
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Rackemann, Sawyer & Brewster
Robinson & Cole LLP

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LAWYERS FUND DRIVE (cont'd)

Friends League

(up to \$199 per Boston attorney)

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Behar & Kalman
Bernkopf Goodman LLP
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The McLaughlin Brothers, P.C.
Urbelis & Fieldsteel, LLP
Verrill Dana LLP
Zelle Hoffman

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Biogen Idec
Bose Foundation
Children's Hospital Boston
Citizens Bank
Copyright Clearance Center, Inc.
EMD Serono, Inc.
Fidelity Investments
Genzyme Corporation
Houghton Mifflin
Liberty Mutual Insurance Company
The Millipore Foundation
NSTAR
Pioneer Investment Management USA Inc.
Putnam Investments
Raytheon Company
Reit Management
Sovereign Bank
State Street Foundation, Inc.
Wainwright Bank
Anonymous

LAW FIRM FELLOWSHIPS

In addition to their 2010 Lawyers Fund Drive contribution, the following firms provided funding to support the salaries of GBLs attorneys.

Goodwin Procter
Ropes & Gray
Skadden
WilmerHale

DEFERRED/LOANED ASSOCIATE FELLOWSHIPS

In addition to their 2010 Lawyers Fund Drive contribution, the following firms provided law firm associates to work full time at GBLs.

Foley Hoag LLP
Dewey & LeBoeuf
Goodwin Procter
Goulston & Storrs
K&L Gates
Mintz Levin
Ropes & Gray
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP
WilmerHale

MATCHING GIFTS – ASSOCIATES' DRIVE

Donations were matched by the firms or by individual partners.

Anderson Krieger LLP	K&L Gates LLP
Bingham McCutchen LLP	Krokidas & Bluestein LLP
Burns & Levinson LLP	Lando & Anastasi
Choate, Hall & Stewart	McCarter & English
Cooley Godward Kronish	McDermott, Will & Emery
Craig & Macauley	Nutter, McClennen & Fish, LLP
Day Pitney LLP	Peabody & Arnold LLP
DLA Piper LLP (US)	Sally & Fitch
Donnelly, Conroy & Gelhaar	Sherin and Lodgen LLP
Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP	Skadden
Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP	Sugarman, Rogers
Fish & Richardson, P.C.	Sullivan & Worcester LLP
Foley Hoag LLP	Sunstein Kann Murphy & Timbers LLP
Greenberg Traurig	WilmerHale
Hemenway & Barnes	Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.

2010 *CY PRES** AWARDS

We wish to acknowledge and thank the following law firms and attorneys who facilitated the award of class action lawsuit residuals to GBLS.

Bingham McCutchen LLP
Bonsignore & Brewer
Berman Devalerio
Philip J. Gordon
Lichten & Liss-Riordan, P.C.
Morrison Mahoney LLP

** Cy Pres awards are residual funds arising from damages awarded in successful class action cases, that are unclaimed or cannot be distributed to all the class members or beneficiaries who were the intended recipients.*

IN-HOUSE COUNSEL DRIVE

Many thanks to the 2010 drive chairs and captains who inaugurated a brand-new fundraising effort on behalf of GBLS. Thanks to them, 100 corporate counsel contributed over \$30,000 to GBLS.



From l-r: Robert Leveille, Putnam Investments; John Norberg, Wellington Management [co-chair]; Anne Trinque, GMO [co-chair]; Melissa Reed, EMD Serono; John Hitt and Martha Mazzone, Fidelity Investments. Not pictured: Christopher Bohane, MFS Investment Management; and Christine Swope, State Street Bank and Trust.
Photo Credit: Linda Lank

Thank You, Donors Tak and May Takayanagi!

Tak and May Takayanagi have supported Greater Boston Legal Services since 2005. Says May, “A lot of the issues that GBLS is involved with – housing, employment – are issues I’ve cared about for a long time.” As a treasurer and board member at several nonprofits, she also appreciates “how much you [GBLS] do on a tight budget.”

Listening to this dynamic couple brings history to life. May and Tak are Nisei, born in California of parents who immigrated from Japan. (Tak’s father came by way of Mexico, spoke Spanish and cooked tortillas and beans on Sunday.) They were 17 and 21, respectively, when they were taken to U.S. internment camps with their families after Pearl Harbor was bombed.

Tak was drafted into the Army and served as an interpreter in the Philippines and Japan as part of General MacArthur’s staff. May, meanwhile, left the camp to work as a domestic in St. Paul. Her family settled there after the war, and May cut short her college studies to help support them. When Tak was discharged from the Army, the GI bill helped him fulfill his life-long dream of going to college. He studied at the Institute of Design in Chicago and also at Harvard’s Graduate School of Design. (If you’ve been on the campuses of Hamilton College, Mt. Holyoke, or UMASS/Amherst, among others, you’ve seen his architectural work.)

Tak brought his young bride with him to Cambridge, May having finally agreed to marry him after much persistence on his part. They soon had another of the formative experiences that influenced their lifelong activism and philanthropy: No one would rent an apartment to them. May says, “They told us, ‘Your cooking smells funny’.” They eventually found an apartment and May busied herself with their growing family (they have 2 daughters, a son and now, 4 grandchildren). She also became an activist, becoming involved in the peace movement and fair housing initiatives. May notes that there was no one to turn to when they faced housing discrimination. When she saw others facing the same injustice and indignity, she couldn’t stand by silently.

When asked how they started their philanthropic career, Tak quickly points to May: “She’s a joiner.” May laughs and says, “He’s my driver. He takes me everywhere.” And they have been many places together during their 60-year marriage. An incomplete list of the organizations they have supported with their time and treasure, in addition to GBLS (where May is a member of the GBLS Corporation), includes the Women’s League for Peace and Freedom, the American Friends Service Committee, the Dow Fund, WGBH, and the Institute of Asian American Studies at UMASS Boston where they sponsor the Takayanagi Speaker Series.

It is clear the Takayanagis share a commitment to social justice, in part as a result of their personal exposure to discrimination and injustice. Says May, “Other people shouldn’t have to go through the same thing.”



Philanthropists Tak and May Takayanagi are passionate about social justice issues. They are generous supporters of GBLS and many other organizations in greater Boston.
Photo Credit: Zenobia Lai



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