

Alaska Legal Services Corporation

Community Justice Worker Program



About ALSC

- Established in 1967 as a private non-profit law firm.
- Our mission is to make justice a reality for all Alaskans not just those who can afford it.
- We do this through providing high quality **civil legal help** to Alaskans who don't have access to legal help.



About ALSC

12 hub offices serve every community in Alaska

- Anchorage, Bethel, Dillingham, Fairbanks, Kenai, Kodiak, Ketchikan, Kotzebue, Juneau, Nome, Palmer/Wasilla and Utqiagvik.

Statewide footprint

- Wide variety of sources: federal, state and local governments; tribal organizations; foundations; and private donations.
- Strategic partnerships to leverage resources.

Office Priorities

- Case acceptance decisions are guided by priorities established by the local office with input from local communities and approved by our governing board.

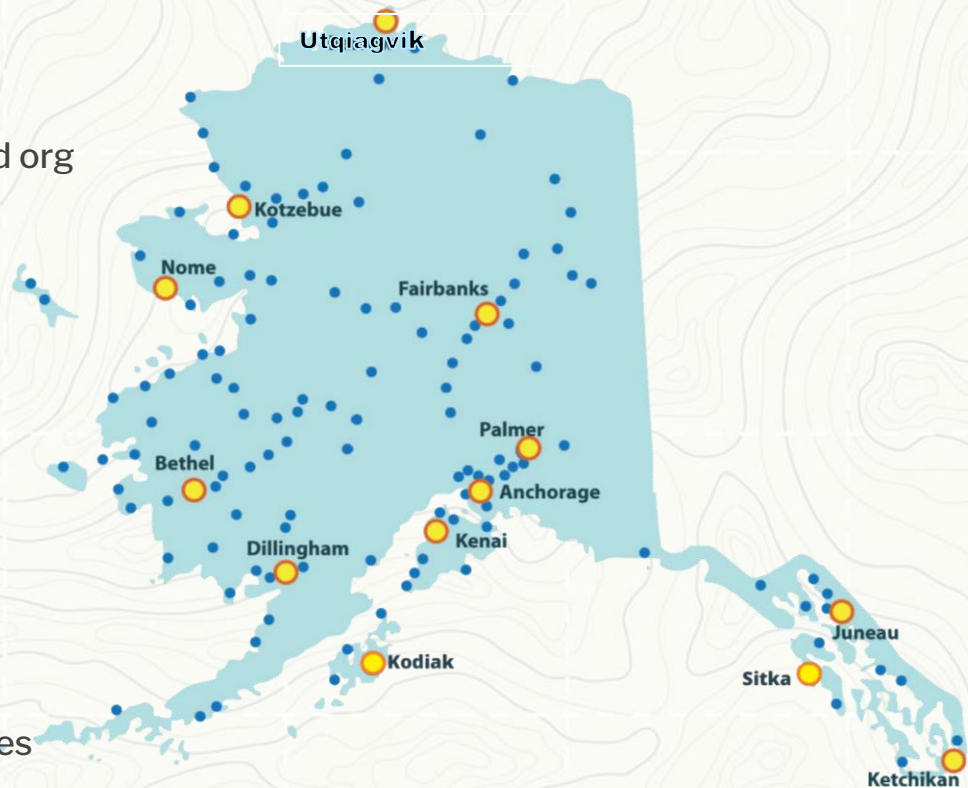
Board of Directors – Regional Representation

- Located throughout the state - attorneys and lay members.



ALSC Quick Facts

- **Service Area: Alaska**
 - Only comprehensive civil legal aid org in state
- **Budget: \$7M**
- **Staff: 50+**
- **Locations**
 - 12 statewide offices
 - MLP offices
- **3,743 cases**
 - Impacting 7,788 Alaskans
 - Clients resided in 176 communities



ALSC is efficient, cost-effective and achieves positive results in 86% of cases

5:1 ROI

- Boosting the economies of Alaska communities
- In addressing client legal problems, ALSC secures millions of dollars in direct federal benefits for eligible families, stimulates local spending, sustains private sector jobs, and spares state and local budgets the costs of responding to family crises triggered by domestic violence, foreclosure, eviction, or lack of healthcare.
- Positive outcomes are achieved **86%** of the time.



Barriers to Justice: Access to Legal Help

Reasons why:

1. Do not know where to find help.
2. Do not know if the problem is "legal".
3. Decide to deal with the problem alone.

92%

of low-income Americans do not seek help for their legal problems.

Source: See Legal Services Corporation, The Justice Gap: Measuring the Unmet Civil Legal Needs of Low Income Americans

There are only .64 civil legal aid attorneys available for every



100,000 Americans in poverty.

Source: 2016 Justice Index, A Project of the National Center for Access to Justice.



Legal aid organizations are forced to turn away

50%

of applicants due to lack of resources.



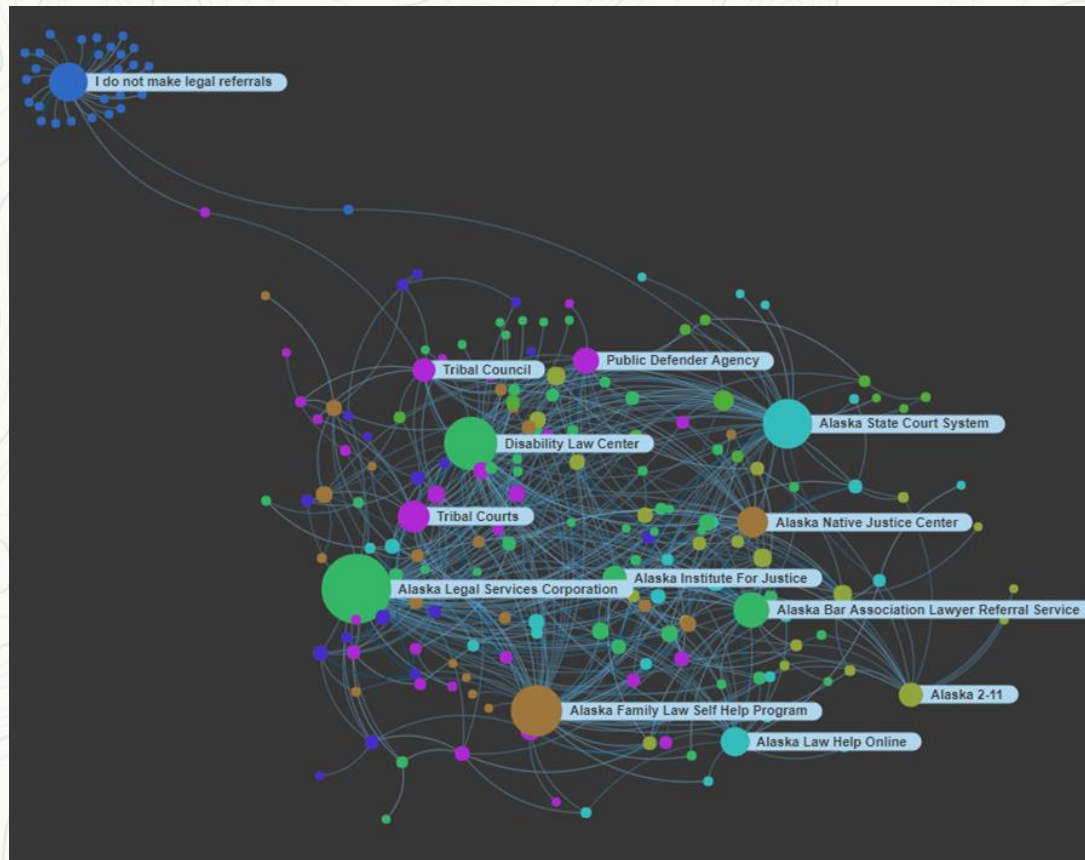
Justice Gap ~~Gap~~ **CRISIS**

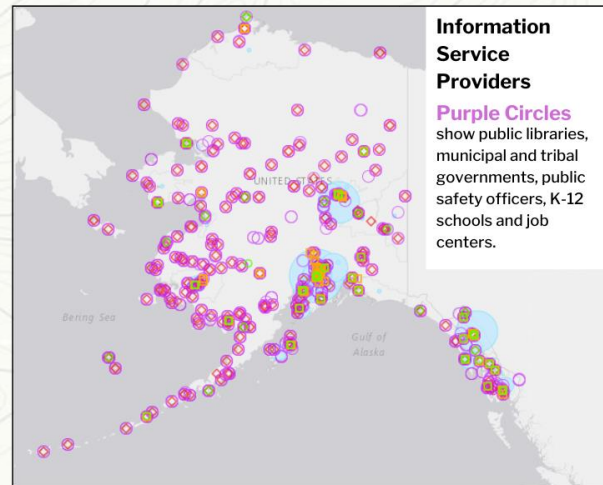
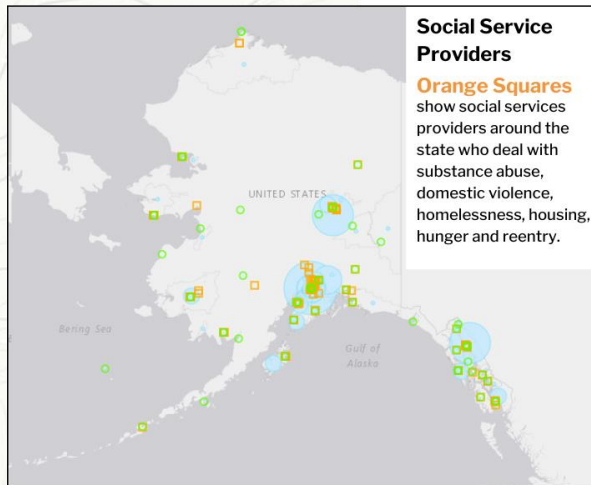
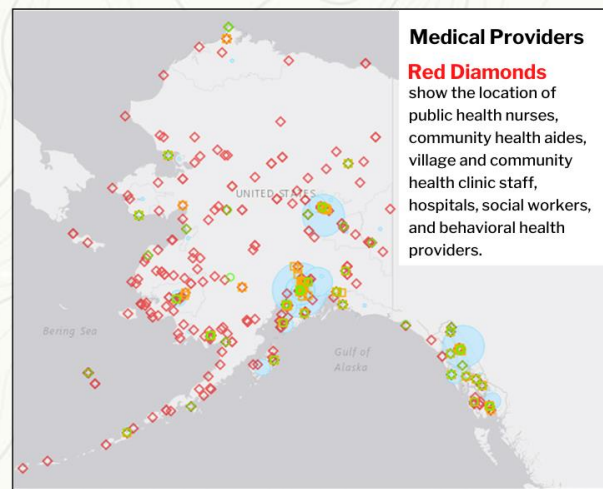
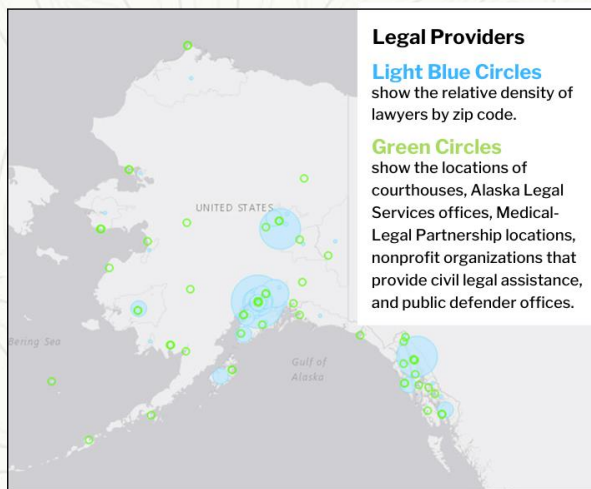


Alaska Legal Referral Network

The majority of referrals for legal services in Alaska go to ALSC, followed by the Alaska Court System and its Family Law Self-Help Center.

Source: Justice for All Project Social Network Analysis
<https://app.polinode.com/networks/explore/5a2e4b56f7d8f50013d3afe1/5a2e6bf9410df90013b0b8ff>





Housing Eviction

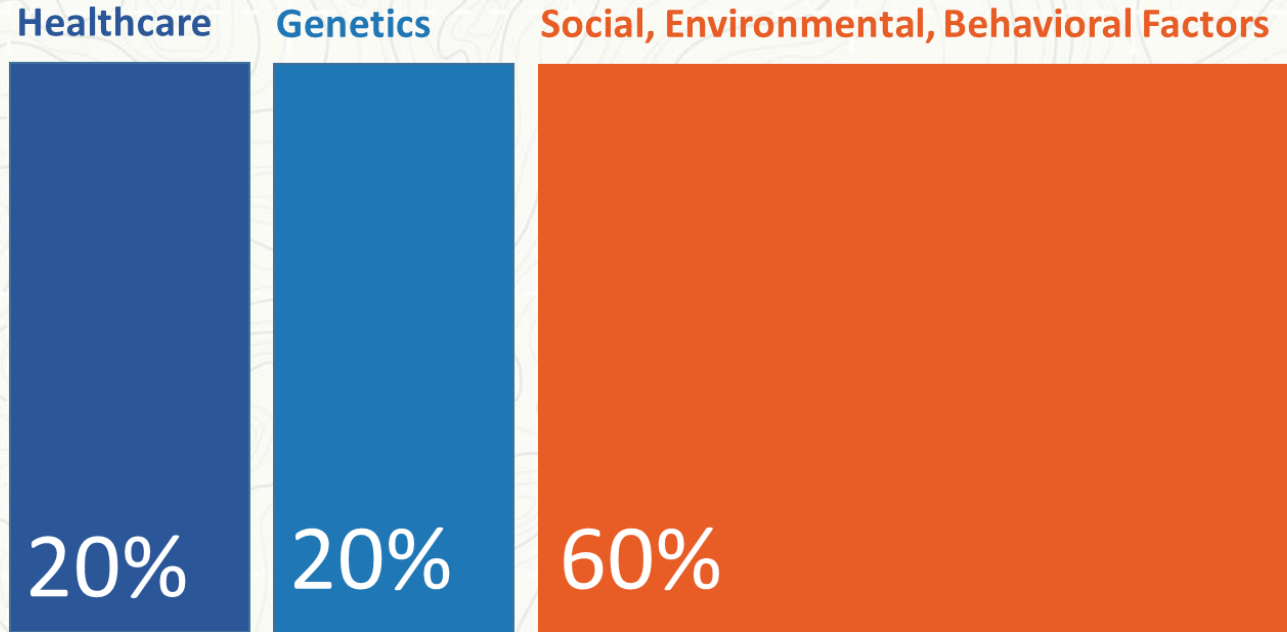
Family Violence

Debt & Finances

Health Problems



Legal Issues = Social Determinants of Health



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Social Determinants of Health*; Tarlov, A.R., Public Policy Frameworks for Improving Population Health. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, 1999. 896 (SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS AND HEALTH IN INDUSTRIAL NATIONS: SOCIAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND BIOLOGICAL PATHWAYS): p. 281-293.

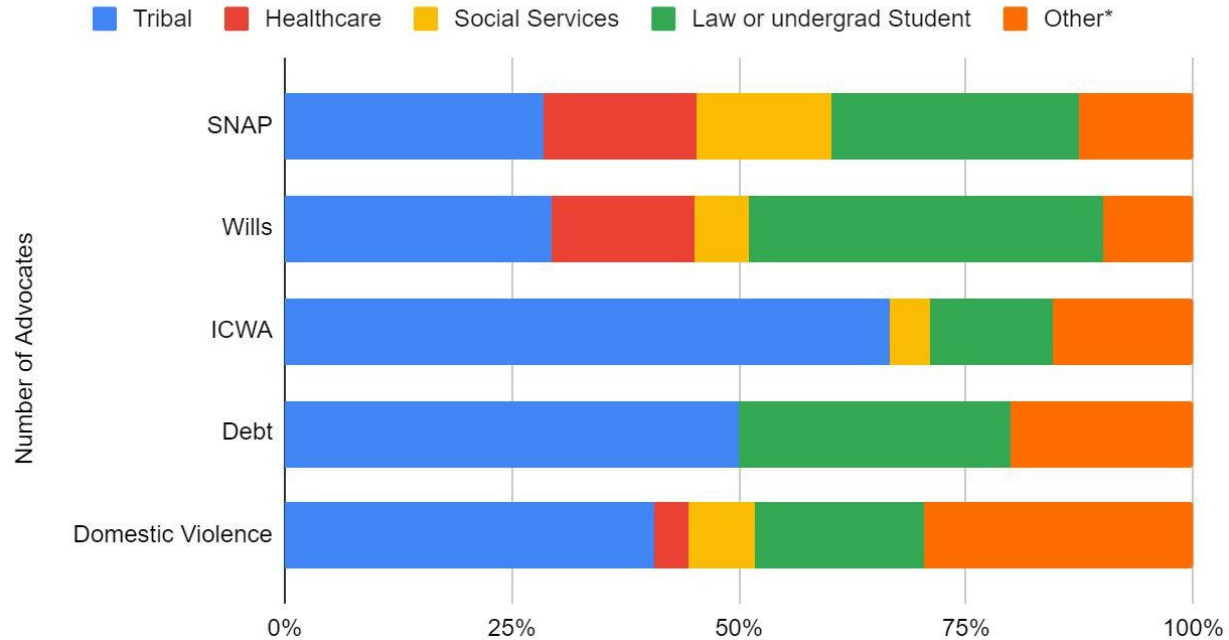


Locally sourced community justice workforce

- Curriculum and trainings focus on existing community helpers that already serve rural areas.
- Training modules and supporting resources offered in-person, remotely, or both.



Advocate Reported Affiliation (excludes drops)



Community Justice Workers by the Numbers

- Practice Areas
 - SNAP
 - Wills
 - ICWA
 - Debt Collection Defense
 - Domestic Violence
- Limited Scope Practice Waiver
 - Alaska Bar Rule 43.5
 - Approved by Alaska Supreme Court

Course	Completed	Enrolled/ Progressing	Total
SNAP	52	36	88
ICWA	12	13	25
Wills	29	22	51
Debt	5	5	10
DVPO	2	25	27
TOTAL	100	101	201

Alaska Bar Rule 43.5 Waiver

- Train on rules of professional responsibility
- Provide supervision as needed
- Community justice workers practice exclusively for ALSC
- Informed consent
- ALSC puts candidates up for approval
- Scope can evolve with evidence



Community Justice Worker Resource Center

Alaska Partners

