



OPEN HANDS

LEGAL SERVICES

IMPACT REPORT

2023

454 CLIENTS SERVED:

- 177 ACTIVE CASES
- 277 CLOSED CASES



VISION

Open Hand's vision is to transform lives through the power of justice and hope. Our mission is to uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed in New York City. We do this by bringing free legal services directly to some of NYC's most vulnerable residents at soup kitchens, homeless shelters, and churches throughout the city. We break down legal barriers to their success, enabling the individual to flourish.

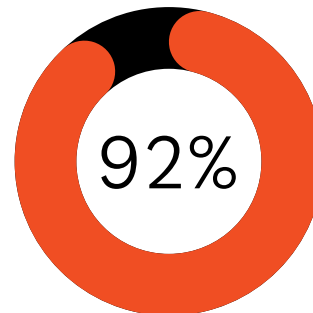
WHY WE'RE IN DEMAND

More than **2.3 million** low-income New Yorkers fighting to obtain or keep the essentials of life—including home, job, benefits and family—face the complexities of the civil justice system without legal counsel. They are five to ten times more likely to lose.

92% OF OUR CLIENTS LIVE BELOW THE POVERTY LINE



LOW-INCOME AMERICANS RECEIVED NO OR INADEQUATE LEGAL HELP FOR 92% OF ALL THE CIVIL LEGAL PROBLEMS



ASSISTANCE OFFERED

IMMIGRATION

FAMILY

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

WORKERS' RIGHTS

PUBLIC BENEFITS

CIVIL ACTION

”THANK YOU OPEN HANDS FOR ALL THAT YOU ARE AND DO. EVERY SINGLE DROP MATTERS AND IS SORELY NEEDED IN NYC.”

Desiree, former client

HEAR FROM OUR VOLUNTEERS



“It is an honor and privilege to meet clients and hear their story and see the work God is doing in and through this organization.” **Logan Leonard**



Crystal D.

104
Volunteers
served a
total of
1231 hours



Kunal K..

OUR PROGRAMS

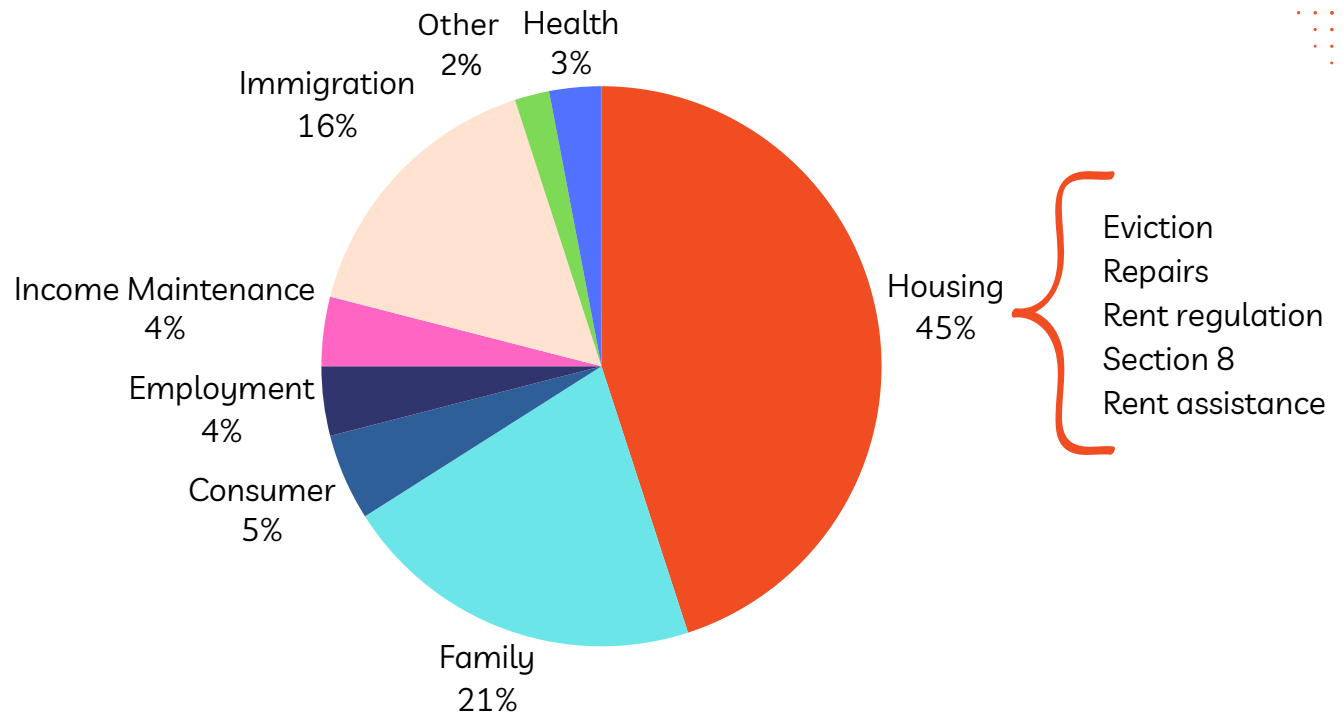
Legal Aid Desks

We set up mobile legal aid desks at soup kitchens and homeless shelters, providing on-site legal assistance and advocacy.

Know Your Rights Seminars

We develop informative seminars about the legal challenges clients face for our partner organizations.

CLIENT LEGAL ISSUES



"Open Hands gives hope to people in a situation where you feel there is no one there to help."
- Terrence

"I am very grateful to Open Hands. They listen. They care and they take the time."

- Rosa

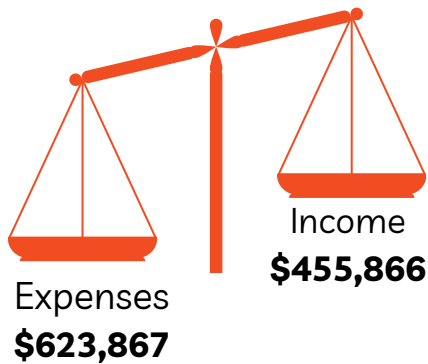


 [See more client stories on our YouTube channel](#)

PARTNERSHIPS

- We connect with our clients through **13** nonprofit organizations in New York City
 - An additional 3 nonprofits and two NYC courts are referring clients

FUNDING



In 2022 Open Hands fundraised to add a third staff attorney to our Legal Team but did not sustain funding in 2023.

In 2024 Open Hands is fundraising from two new sources to rebalance our scales.

HOW YOUR FUNDS HELP



\$50 fuels our volunteers and staff with coffee every month

\$100 monthly supports our copying and printing needs

\$500 contributes to the monthly costs of our case management software

\$1,000 to operate a recurring Legal Aid Desk

\$2,500 to set up and prepare a Know Your Rights seminar

WHAT OUR DONORS SAY

"Very encouraging to think my support helped conduct so many client meetings." - Angela

"Thank you for all you are doing."- David

"Open Hands does great work for the community so I want to help out" - Grace



MAKE AN IMPACT DONATE HERE

Questions? Please contact matt@openhandslegalservices.org