

North Carolina Lawyer Assistance Program



NCLAP[™]
NORTH CAROLINA
LAWYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

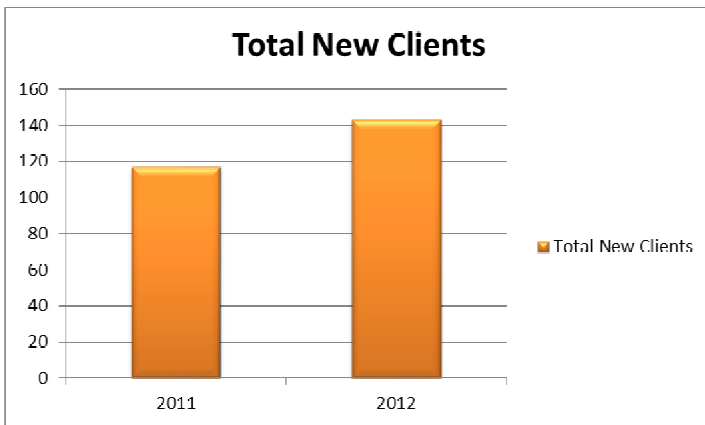
2012 ANNUAL REPORT

Protecting the Public by Insuring the Health and Integrity of the Legal Profession

LAP recognizes alcoholism, addiction and mental illness as diseases, not moral failures.

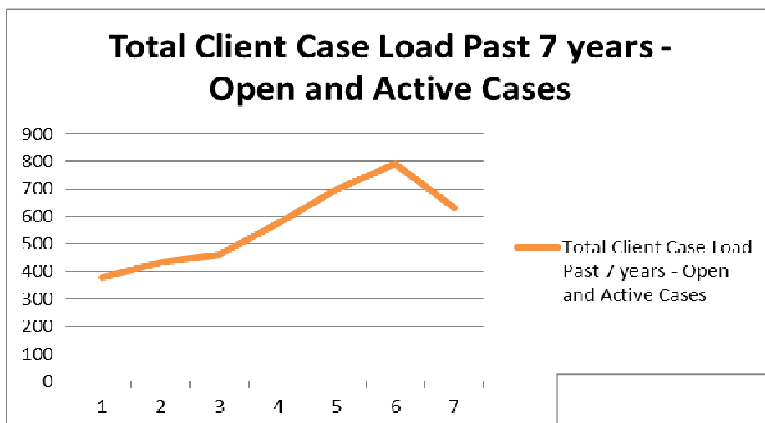
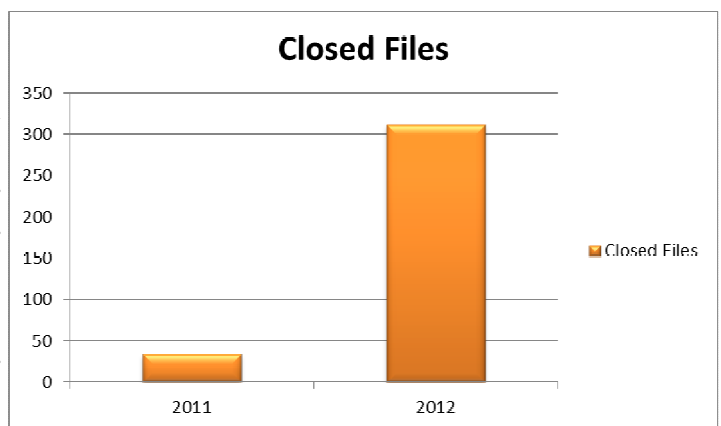
The only stigma attached to these illnesses is the refusal to seek or accept help.

Operations and Clients



It continues to be busy and productive for the North Carolina Lawyer Assistance Program (“LAP”). In its 33rd year of operation, NC LAP fielded over 600 telephone calls from impaired attorneys, judges, law students, family members, managing partners, and colleagues. Of these calls, 143 resulted in newly opened files in 2012, bringing the total number of current open cases to 631.

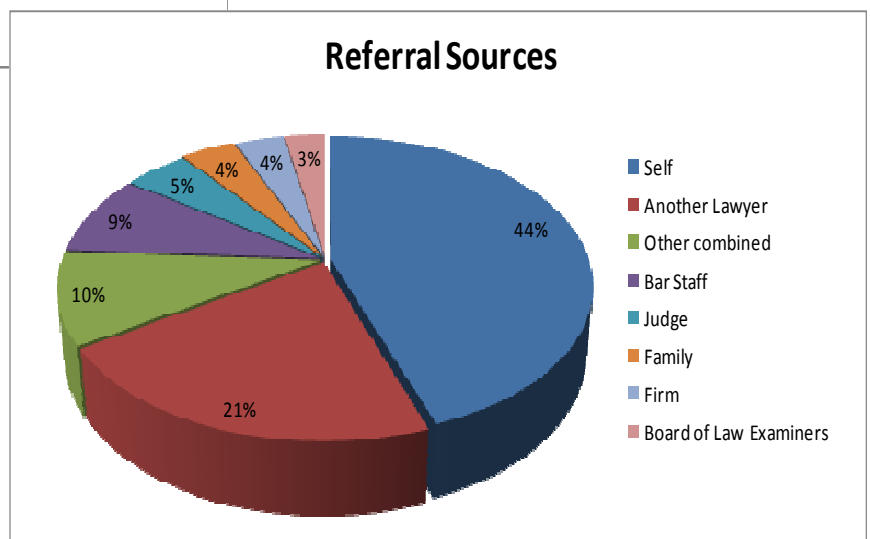
In 2012 the LAP conducted an extensive audit of all files, and audit which is on-going and is a labor-intensive process, and began closing files for clients who had successfully completed the program, converted to volunteer status, or who had no meaningful activity for more than two years. By closing inactive files, greater program resources can be dedicated to currently active cases, leading to greater efficiency. The LAP closed 314 files in 2012.



Because the rate of new files being opened far outpaces the rate at which a file is or can be closed, the LAP’s annual case load has increased by an average of 100 cases per year.

The following sources each represent 1% or less of all referrals (“other combined”):

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Physician | Local Bar |
| Grievance | Non-Lawyer |
| DHC | DA |
| Bar Examiner | EAP |
| Investigators/SCA | Another LAP |
| Therapist | Law School |
| Unknown | Other |

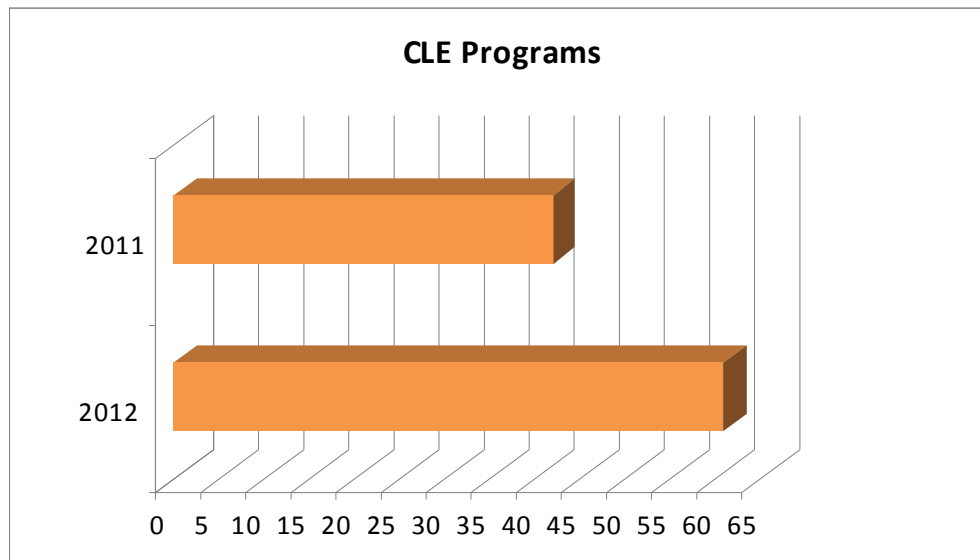


Issues

Here is the list of issues that the LAP assists lawyers with (and has begun tracking in detail with the goal of providing meaningful statistics next year):

| | |
|---|---|
| Addiction (Drugs) | Compassion Fatigue |
| Al-Anon (Family Member w/ Alcoholism) | Depression |
| Alcoholism | Food Addiction |
| Anger Management | Gambling Addiction |
| Anxiety Disorder | Grief and Loss |
| Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD/ADHD) | Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) |
| Axis II/Confirmed (Personality Disorders) | Physical Impairment or Disability |
| Axis II/Tendencies | Schizophrenia |
| Bipolar | Secondary Trauma |
| Bipolar Tendencies | Sex Addiction |
| Burn Out/Stress | Suicidal Ideation and/or Prior Attempt |
| Career Counseling | Trauma: PTSD (Child Abuse, Rape or Other) |
| Codependency | Trauma: PTSD from Combat |
| Cognitive Impairment/Related to Aging | Traumatic Brain Injury |
| Cognitive Impairment/Unrelated to Aging | Workaholism |

Education and Outreach



The best intervention always begins with education. In addition to our 4 quarterly articles appearing in the State Bar Journal, the LAP continues to provide presentations at law schools, ethics CLE workshops and local and specialty bar association meetings. The LAP completed 61 CLE programs this year.

October

- NCBA – Greensboro, NC – October 6, 2011
- Association Roundtable – Raleigh, NC – October 11, 2011
- Annual LAMP CLE Program – Jacksonville, NC – October 13, 2011
- Catawba County Bar Association – Newton, NC – October 13, 2011
- UNC School of Law – Chapel Hill, NC – October 14, 2011
- Coalition Against Domestic Violence – Franklin, NC – October 14, 2011
- American Immigration Lawyers Association – Elon, NC – October 14, 2011
- Advocates for Justice – Asheville, NC – October 15, 2011
- NCLAP – Asheville, NC – October 20, 2011
- Mecklenburg County Bar – Charlotte, NC – October 28, 2011
- Poisson Poisson & Bower – Wadesboro, NC – October 28, 2011
- Legal Aid of NC & Moore County Bar – Pinehurst, NC – October 28, 2011

November

- Judicial District 22A – Statesville, NC – November 10, 2011
- Advocates for Justice – Greensboro, NC – November 18, 2011
- Association Roundtable – Raleigh, NC – November 30, 2011

December

- Mecklenburg County Bar – Charlotte, NC – December 2, 2011
- 19C Judicial District – Salisbury, NC – December 2, 2011
- 26th Judicial Judges Training – Charlotte, NC – December 9, 2011

January

- Smith Moore Leatherwood – Greensboro, NC – January 13, 2012
- Mecklenburg County Bar – Charlotte, NC – January 18, 2012
- NC Bar Leadership Institute – Raleigh, NC – January 27, 2012
- Legal Support Staff of Winston Salem – Winston Salem, NC – January 28, 2012

February

- Bridge Trust Title – Raleigh, NC – February 2, 2012
- NCBA Worker's Comp Annual Meeting – Greensboro, NC – February 10, 2012
- Mecklenburg County Bar – Charlotte, NC – February 11, 2012
- Advocates for Justice – Webinar – February 15, 2012
- Advocates for Justice – Webinar – February 22, 2012
- 23rd Judicial District – Wilkesboro, NC – 23 February, 2012
- 15B Judicial District – Chapel Hill, NC – 24 February 2012
- LAP FRIENDS Conference – Pinehurst, NC – February 25, 2012
- Winston County Bar – Winston Salem, NC – February 29, 2012
- Mecklenburg County Bar – Charlotte, NC – February 29, 2012

March

- Charlotte School of Law – Charlotte, NC – March 21, 2012
- NCSB District 25 – Newton, NC – March 23, 2012

- K&L Gates (Video CLE) – Charlotte, NC – March 27, 2012

April

- Charlotte School of Law – Charlotte, NC – April 4, 2012
- Mecklenburg County Bar New Admittee Professionalism – Charlotte, NC – April 28, 2012

May

- Poyner Spruill (Video CLE) – Raleigh, NC – May 1, 2012
- Bridge Trust Title – Fayetteville, NC – May 9, 2012
- Federal Public Defenders Conference – Wrightsville Beach, NC – May 10, 2012
- NCSB District 16B – Lumberton, NC – May 18, 2012
- NC Electric Co-Op Membership, Employee Assistance – Raleigh, NC – May 18, 2012

June

- Bridge Trust Title – Greensboro, NC – June 7, 2012
- NCSB District 21 – Winston Salem, NC – June 15, 2012
- Advocates for Justice – Wilmington, NC – June 18, 2012
- Superior Court Judges Summer Conference – Wilmington, NC – June 21, 2012
- Haywood County (Video CLE) – Waynesville, NC – June 22, 2012

July

- K&L Gates (Video CLE) – Charlotte, NC – July 10, 2012
- Social Services Attorney Annual Conference – New Bern, NC – July 19, 2012
- Charlotte School of Law – Charlotte, NC – July 20, 2012
- Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism – Raleigh, NC – July 30, 2012

August

- Attorney’s Title – Wilmington, NC – August 2, 2012
- Bridge Trust Title – Boone, NC – August 9, 2012
- NC Child Support Council Annual Conference – Asheville, NC – August 24, 2012

September

- Bridge Trust Title – Charlotte, NC – September 12, 2012
- NCSB District 10 – Raleigh, NC – September 21, 2012
- 19C Judicial District – Salisbury, North Carolina – September 21, 2012
- UNC School of Government (Video CLE) – Raleigh, NC – September 25, 2012
- NC Army National Guard JAG Training (Video CLE) – Raleigh, NC – September 28, 2012
- Cabarrus County Bar – Concord, North Carolina – September 28, 2012
- Mecklenburg County Bar New Admittee Professionalism – Charlotte, NC – September 29, 2012

Volunteer Development

We currently have 234 LAP Volunteers. The LAP network of volunteers and lawyer support groups provide a major part of the assistance given by the LAP to lawyers around the state. Without the extended volunteer network, it would be impossible for the LAP to be as effective as it has been during the past year. Staff and volunteer efforts have prevented or limited possible harm to the public in numerous instances.

Training

- The 32nd Annual PALS Meeting and Workshop was held November 4-6, 2011 at the Crowne Plaza Resort, Asheville, North Carolina. Chief Justice Sarah Parker attended.
- FRIENDS 13th Annual Conference was held at Pine Needles Lodge & Conference Center, Southern Pines, North Carolina on February 25, 2012. This conference was in conjunction with BarCares and the NC Bar Association Quality of Life Committee.
- The 33rd Annual PALS Conference and Workshop will be held November 2-4, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Resort, Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina.
- ABA Annual CoLAP Conference was held in Grand Rapids, Michigan October 8-11, 2012.

Local Volunteer Meetings

The LAP continues the development of local volunteer meetings to provide greater continuity and support in meeting the needs of lawyers new in recovery and allowing volunteers the chance to grow in their own recoveries. Local volunteer support meetings are held in the following areas (contact the representative in the area for information):

| | | | |
|-----------|------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Asheville | Durham-Chapel Hill | Greenville | Wilmington |
| Beaufort | Fayetteville/Sandhills | New Bern | Winston-Salem |
| Charlotte | Greensboro | Raleigh | |

Staff

Don Carroll retired as LAP Emeritus Director at the end of 2011. Cathy Killian, based in Charlotte, was hired as the Western Clinical Coordinator effective September 13, 2012. There were no other changes in the LAP Staff: Robynn Moraites, Executive Director; Ed Ward, Assistant Director; Towanda Garner, Piedmont Clinical Coordinator; Joan Renken, Raleigh Office Coordinator and Buffy Holt, Charlotte Office Coordinator.

LAP Board

Mark W. Merritt, Chair
Fred J. Williams, Vice Chair
Joseph Jordan
Kathy Klotzberger
Nena Lekwauwua, M.D.
David W. Long
Margaret J. McCreary
Burley B. Mitchell, Jr.
Bert Nunley

LAP Board Meetings Scheduled For 2013

LAP Board meetings are usually scheduled for lunchtime on Wednesday of the week the Bar Council meets except in October, when the LAP Board meets at the Annual LAP Meeting and Conference held the first weekend in November. The 2012-2013 schedule is:

January 22-25, 2013 – Raleigh Marriott City Center, Raleigh

April 16-19, 2013 – Raleigh Marriott City Center, Raleigh

July 16-19, 2013 – Chetola Resort, Blowing Rock

November 1-3, 2013 – Crown Plaza Resort, Asheville