



**elm**  
Elder Law of Michigan, Inc.

# 2015 Annual Report

Elder Law of Michigan, Inc.  
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# THE PROGRAMS OF ELM



Seniors can receive legal assistance from the **Legal Hotline for Michigan Seniors** on a wide range of topics including Social Security, Medicare, Consumer Law, Financial Exploitation and Scams, Wills/Probate, Long Term Care, Medicaid, and many more.



Seniors can receive assistance from the **MiCAFE Network**, in person and over the telephone, to apply for benefits that meet their basic needs including food, utilities, housing, medical assistance, and prescriptions.



Seniors can receive advice from the **Mid-America Pension Rights Project** about the rights of employees, surviving spouses, and former spouses. Our staff will also investigate lost pensions and pension benefit denials when necessary.



Individuals of all ages can receive assistance from the **Housing Rights Center of Michigan** on housing issues including foreclosure prevention, landlord/tenant issues, affordable housing, property taxes, and fair housing rights/discrimination.



The Center for Elder Rights Advocacy (CERA) provides national technical support for 27 Senior Legal Helplines throughout the nation as part of the National Legal Resource Center. CERA also provides training and technical assistance to prevent and respond to abuse and financial exploitation of vulnerable adults in Michigan. Our Pooled Trust Account offers the opportunity to set money aside for the care and future needs of someone under the age of 65 who is living with a disability at a low cost.

# THE HIGHLIGHTS



6,800+  
LEGAL CASES HANDLED



\$1.4 MILLION  
SECURED TO PREVENT FORECLOSURES



4,500+  
BENEFITS SCREENINGS



\$3 MILLION  
RECOVERED IN LOST PENSION BENEFITS

THE ATTORNEY WAS HELPFUL, HAD PATIENCE, AND [PROVIDED A] KIND WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE.  
- CLIENT FROM DETROIT



# ELM IN THE COMMUNITY



30+ ATTORNEYS

PROVIDED PRO BONO & LOW COST SERVICES



440 PROFESSIONALS

TRAINED ON ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION



190+ PARTNERS

TRAINED ON BENEFITS APPLICATIONS



150 PROFESSIONALS

TRAINED ABOUT GUARDIANSHIP ISSUES

11 HONOREES

AT THE 2015 CALL TO JUSTICE AWARDS

JUDGE JAMES ALEXANDER  
LYNN ALEXANDER  
AREA AGENCY ON AGING 1-B  
CHRIS BECKER  
ROSEMARY BUHL  
KELLY QUARDOKUS  
SENIOR NEIGHBORS  
SGT. MICHELLE ROBINSON  
SHELLY STRATZ  
SIXTY PLUS ELDERLAW CLINIC  
AMY TRIPP



# ELM HELPED 8,300 SENIORS IN 2015



7 IN 10 CLIENTS

FACE THEIR LEGAL ISSUES ALONE

3 IN 4 CLIENTS

ARE LOW INCOME

1 IN 3 CLIENTS

IDENTIFY WITH A MINORITY GROUP

1 IN 5 CLIENTS

UNDER AGE 70 HAVE A DISABILITY

325+ CLIENTS

ARE RAISING THEIR GRANDCHILDREN

71 YEARS OLD

AVERAGE AGE OF OUR CLIENTS



# HELP SUPPORT OLDER ADULTS

ELM provides many ways you can make a positive impact in the community and for older adults across Michigan.

## **VOLUNTEER**

Our volunteers work with ELM staff to support our client service delivery. Many volunteers work directly with older adults over the phone and in-person on benefits access.



Call us at 866.400.9164.



Visit our website at [www.elderlawofmi.org](http://www.elderlawofmi.org)

## **PRO BONO**

Volunteer attorneys can work directly with older adults on our Legal Hotline to provide advice, guidance, and clarity to older adults on a wide range of legal topics.



[www.facebook.com/ElderLawofMichigan](https://www.facebook.com/ElderLawofMichigan)



[www.twitter.com/ElderLawofMI](https://www.twitter.com/ElderLawofMI)

## **DONATE**

Your contribution provides older adults with access to services they would otherwise not receive and makes an immediate, impactful change on an older adult's life.



[www.youtube.com/ElderLawMI](https://www.youtube.com/ElderLawMI)

## **SPREAD THE WORD**

Tell your friends, family, and neighbors about our services.



Email us at [info@elderlawofmi.org](mailto:info@elderlawofmi.org)