

BLC 2019 Annual Report Preview

Benefits Law Center

Overview

2019 was a year of growth for BLC, and we are excited to tell you more about it in our upcoming Annual Report that will arrive on your doorstep shortly! In 2019 we delivered more service than ever before, WA state's first mobile legal unit - the Justice Bus - started delivering services, and we increased our program staffing by 70%. Stay tuned to hear a more detailed account of your dollars at work in the community. But, until then enjoy this snapshot of 2019 in review!

2019 Program Outputs

1,427
of clients served in 2019

\$555,501
New Benefits awarded to clients in 2019

\$467,023
Back Pay & debt relief secured for BLC clients



The Justice Bus Hits the Road

In 2019, there were an estimated 1,276 persons living in tents/unsanctioned encampments. This represented a 32% increase compared to 2018*. In response to this shift, BLC created a plan to respond, and launched WA State's first Mobile Legal Unit, the Justice Bus.

Barriers like access to transportation, communication, mental and physical health problems, and the need to prioritize tasks required for everyday survival make our clients some of the most marginalized in the community. The Justice Bus provides accessible legal services by addressing these barriers and bringing our attorneys directly to the clients.

Because of your support, we are able to drive to where our clients are at in the community, open our doors, and deliver our services in a warm, dry, and safe environment.

*Figures provided by 2019 Count Us In All Home Report



In 2019, BLC had an Annual Operating Budget of \$858,912

Thank you to our Major Funders



BLC in the Community



In 2019, we created 8 new community partnerships that resulted in 13 total field locations where BLC delivers services outside of our headquarters.



BLC staff held more than ten community information trainings for service providers in 2019.



BLC partnered with 27 legal aid and human service organizations to ensure wrap around services for our clients in 2019.

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King County in 2019

11,199

In 2019, there were over 11,000 people who were experiencing homelessness in King County.

1 in 3

1 in 3 people living in homelessness are living with one or more disabilities.

3,600-8,500

We estimate that at any time, between 3,600 and 8,500 individuals in King County need our help each year.



BLC in 2019

\$602

On average, BLC spends \$602 to help one person navigate the Social Security system to achieve economic independence.

5

In 2019, we were able to provide services to 1,427 individuals with five staff attorneys.

3x

A person is three times as likely to be approved for Social Security Benefits with the help of an attorney. Our advocacy works to give clients the financial security needed to escape homelessness.

2019 By the Numbers

Thank you to our generous Sponsors



Your Dollars At Work

In 2019, BLC Advocates were able to secure over \$555,501 in new benefits awarded to clients in annual income added to the local economy. This resulted in an additional \$46,491 per month to individuals living with disabilities so they can meet their monthly expenses.