

(Meeting Your Mission through) Civil Legal Aid in NC



Presentation to the North Carolina Network of Grantmakers

MARCH 1, 2018

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Pop quiz

- Who is in the room?
- What are your experiences with civil legal aid?

Who are the providers?

DISABILITY RIGHTS
NORTH CAROLINA

Champions for Equality and Justice



Financial Protection Law Center



PISGAH
LEGAL SERVICES

celebrating our 50th year



charlotte center
for legal advocacy

justice lives here.



north carolina
JUSTICE CENTER

LEGAL AID NC



NORTH CAROLINA
PRISONER LEGAL SERVICES

Who are the clients?



- 3.7 million North Carolinians are eligible for legal aid (based on 200% of the federal poverty level).



Who are the clients?



- Vulnerable populations served

- People with disabilities
- Seniors 60+
- Children
- Domestic violence
and sexual assault victims



Who are the clients?



- **Special populations served**
 - Veterans and military families
 - Farmers
 - Farmworkers
 - Native Americans
 - Immigrants
 - Inmates
 - Persons living with HIV/AIDS



Who gets help?



- Each year, 70,000 individuals ask for a lawyer to represent them.
- 35,000 + people DO NOT get a lawyer.



What are the services?



- **Provide legal representation**
 - Legal advice
 - Brief or limited legal services
 - Negotiation
 - Litigation
 - Appeals
 - Advocacy targeted to systemic issues for our clients



What are the services?



- Offer other services
 - Community education and clinics
 - Volunteer attorney recruitment, training, mentoring, and management
 - Public policy advocacy
 - Investigation and monitoring
 - Communications



Who provides the services?



Legal aid staff

- 471 staff located across North Carolina including:
 - 260 lawyers
 - 105 paralegals
 - 106 other staff
- How does this compare to attorneys available for a fee?
 - 1 attorney practicing in the state of NC for every 362 people.
 - 1 legal aid attorney for every 11,000 eligible clients.

How are we funded?



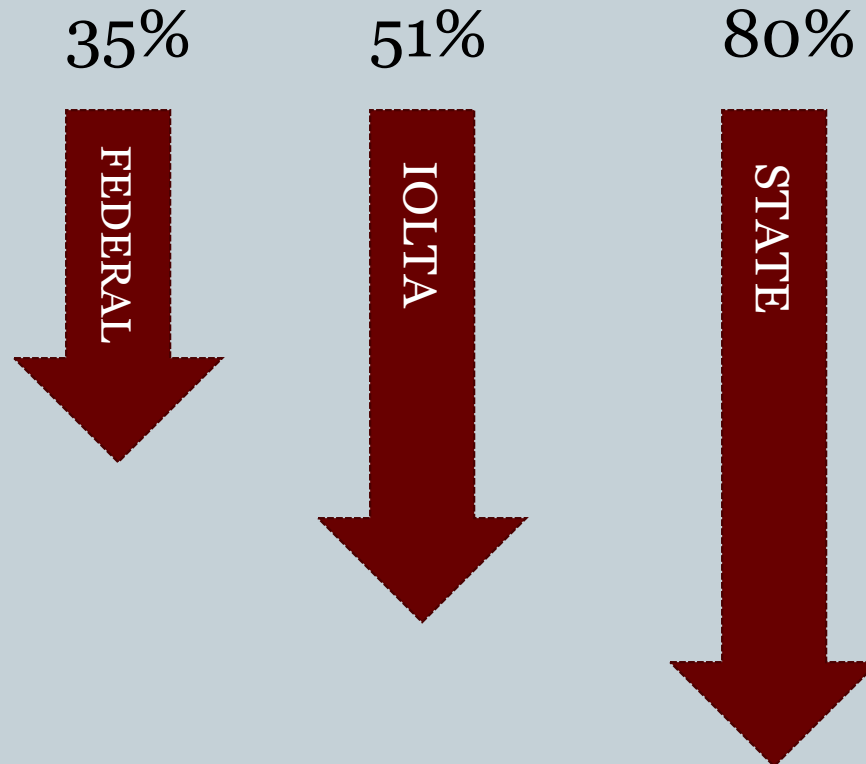
- Federal, state, and local governments
- NC IOLTA
- Private and public foundations
- Bar organizations
- Individual donations



How has our funding changed?



Funding has decreased sharply since 2008.



What are the economic benefits of legal aid?



- \$11.4 million in new federal benefits, including food stamps, SSI, disability and federal tax refunds in 2016.
- \$9 million in child support and housing awards in 2016.
- \$ 1 million+ in medical costs saved through legal aid's prevention of domestic violence.



Speakers



- Philip Belcher, The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina
- Velvet Bryant, Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Katie Eyes, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation

HOORAY! THAT EAR IS BETTER...
ANYTHING ELSE...?



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Southern Partnership to Reduce Debt

North Carolina Network of Grantmakers Meeting

Velvet Bryant, Program Associate

THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION



March 1, 2018

The Annie E. Casey Foundation

The Annie E. Casey Foundation dedicates all of its resources to creating a brighter future for all children in America. We foster public policies, human services practices and community supports that help struggling families meet their children's needs.

FAMILY



OPPORTUNITY



COMMUNITY



What Are We Trying to Achieve?

All families are financially stable and their children are on a path to success.



Families Achieve
Financial Stability



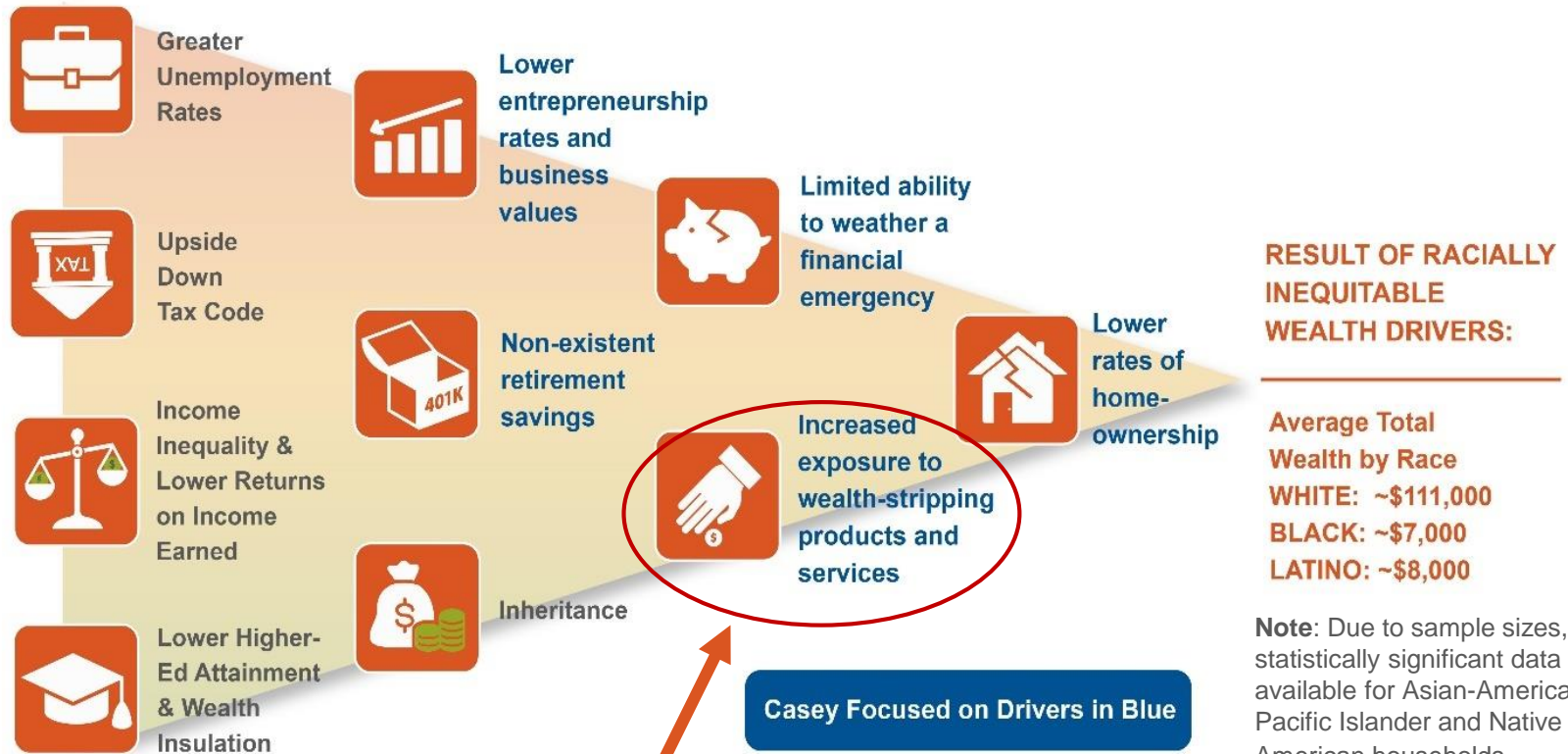
Decreased
Economic Stress



Children Achieve
Age-Appropriate
Milestones

Drivers of the Racial Wealth Divide

Drivers of the Racial Wealth Divide



Source: Prosperity Now, 2017

2017-2018 Southern Partnership to Reduce Debt



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Developing solutions to build a brighter future for children, families and communities

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