



# MidPenn Legal Services

Dear Friends:

As we near the end of another year, we at MidPenn thank you for your support of our efforts to provide equal access to justice for low-income individuals and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault across our 18 county region.

We work to help clients get their lives back on track through our advocacy that is aimed at strengthening families, stabilizing housing, securing an income stream, gaining access to medical care and education, and protecting personal safety.

## ***Supporting Legal Aid is An Investment In Your Community***

Through your support of legal aid you are making an investment in your Community. Meaningful access to the legal system is necessary to prevent homelessness, stabilize low-income families, and ensure that these families can access needed supportive benefits in times of economic crisis. MidPenn's advocacy not only benefits the individuals but their families and the communities in which they live. As a recent study concluded, **"For every dollar spent on legal aid, between \$9 and \$11 comes back into the community."**

Legal aid provides solutions that help poor families to get their lives back on track. Finding solutions for families who are in danger of losing their homes, experiencing financial set-backs, and advocating for survivors of domestic violence has a ripple effect. Families stay in their homes, women, and children escape domestic violence, and public programs and the court system work more efficiently.

## *Results-Oriented*

Providing access to legal counsel is smart, results-oriented philanthropy. The Pennsylvania IOLTA (Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts) Board concluded that, *“The total economic impact of civil legal assistance in 2011 to Pennsylvania’s low-income individuals and families resulted in a greater than eleven-fold return on the investment.”*

MidPenn advocates have been at work in Central Pennsylvania for nearly 50 years and today we have more requests for service than ever before. Recent studies confirmed that over 70% of income eligible applicants are turned away from our doors because of lack of resources. We are certainly thankful for the assistance we receive from the many private attorneys who volunteer to provide our clients with pro bono assistance, however the demand for our help continues to grow.

Your gift will make a difference: to your neighbors who urgently need our help and to your community. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation today. Your support enables us to reach more individuals and families in need. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rhodia D. Thomas".

Rhodia D. Thomas, Esq.  
Executive Director