

**MidPenn Legal Services  
Schuylkill County Office  
Fact Sheet**

**Mission:** We provide critical help for those with critical needs. We are the legal safety net for low-income persons and for domestic violence survivors in Schuylkill County. We aim to provide the best service available to the greatest number of clients. We advise and represent on civil issues: domestic violence, custody, housing, health care, consumer, elder law and public benefits. The largest part of our caseload is family law cases. We do not handle criminal cases.

**Funding:** Government funding is our primary source of funding. The Pennsylvania Legal Assistance Network (PLAN) provides 48% of our funds. PLAN distributes funds earned as interest on legal escrow accounts (IOLTA) and federal Title XX monies. The Legal Services Corporation (LSC) provides 38% of our funds. Additional monies are obtained from local groups, private foundations, and individuals. We receive funding from the Schuylkill County Commissioners and the Schuylkill Office of Senior Services.

**Schuylkill County Statistics:**

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2009</u>
Residents living below the poverty level	9%	11.4 %
Food Stamp recipients	4.7%	10.1%
Eligible for Medical Assistance	10.4%	17.1%
Poverty Population	13,612	16,753

Schuylkill – FY 09-10 Cases Handled	MidPenn	Volunteer Attorney	Total	%
Consumer	71	4	75	12.8%
Education	0	0	0	0.0%
Employment	9	1	10	1.7%
Family	200	15	215	36.8%
Juvenile	1	0	1	0.2%
Health	21	0	21	3.6%
Housing	176	1	177	30.3%
Income Maintenance	75	1	76	13.0%
Individual Rights	0	0	0	0.0%
Other/Multiple Topics	8	1	9	1.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**MidPenn advocates spent 2,303.10 hours on cases in Schuylkill County in fiscal year 2009-2010.**

**Staff in MidPenn Pottsville office**

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Valerie West, Manager/Attorney  
Marsha Chwastiak, Attorney  
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Lynn Breidegam, Support Staff