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The Women's Fund of Herkimer & Oneida Counties grants \$20,000 to Legal Aid to support victims of domestic violence

(Utica, NY) The Women's Fund of Herkimer & Oneida Counties has contributed \$20,000 to support victims of domestic violence in the Mohawk Valley.

The funding awarded to the Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York, Inc. (LASMNY) will help provide free civil (non-criminal) legal services to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking victims.

"We are proud to award funding to Legal Aid. The Women's Fund seeks to create economic, educational, and personal growth opportunities for women in the Mohawk Valley. We want to respond to women's urgent and emerging needs. Since the pandemic, domestic violence has been on the rise. Legal Aid assists, to keep these community members safe," President Diane Wolfe said.

Services delivered to victims include; emergency legal assistance from those accommodated at the YWCA and Catholic Charities of Herkimer County, advocates for income and assets needed to sustain housing, and works with clients to obtain "orders of protection" for the individual or family, including children.

"Without quick assistance from a lawyer to protect their rights, a victim risks severe injury or even death from her abuser, as well as long-term poverty and homelessness. We are deeply grateful for these resources provided by the Women's Fund. It will help us sustain this vital program to close to 250 victims annually," Paul Lupia, Esq., Executive Director of LASMNY, said.

The funding was announced publicly at The Women's Fund of Herkimer & Oneida Counties holiday party on Wednesday, December 15th at 12:00 pm at Delmonico's.

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The Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York, Inc. is a not-for-profit law office. LASMNY provides free civil legal information, advice, and representation to people who cannot afford a lawyer. We serve thirteen counties, including Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, and Otsego. We also serve agriculture workers anywhere in New York State. For more information, visit lasmny.org.

LASMANY has offices in Utica, Syracuse, Binghamton, Watertown, Oswego, Oneonta, Cooperstown, and New Paltz