

Section 1 – Top Maps

Organization: Atlanta Legal Aid Society

Please rank the top most useful maps, the intended audience and why you like them. If you would like them as “Trophy Maps” (limit 10 per grantee) please enter in the number of copies you would like.

NOT RANKED IN TOP 10 ORDER

Rank	Map Number	Audience & Reason	Trophy Maps
1	GA00-DSC-5	Illustrates Significant Poverty Change for Funders, Helps Plan Helped get \$50,000 of funding and persuade to open office	5
2	GA00-DSC-6	Illustrates Significant Poverty Change for Funders 125% is better than 100%	5
3	GA01-AGP-44	Illustrates Significant # of Cases in Density Areas for Funders (See note below)	5
4	GA01-DGT-SP01	Illustrates Poverty Change for Planning Immigration and Migration of Outside Populations	2
5	GA01-DGT-SP02	Illustrates Density of Special Population for Planning May not be in poverty, special outreach	2
6	GA01-DGT-SP04	Illustrates ALAS cases Tied to Density Area to Funders Funder is Former Coke CEO	1
7	GA01-AST-SP05	Illustrates Distribution of Hotline Cases for Planning Review with Hotline Director about Hotline	1
8	GA01-SGZ-SP07	Illustrates Area of Special Need for Planning Difficult to read	1
9	GA01-SSC-SP10	Illustrates Area of Increased Need for Funders and Planning Compared to SP09, this one is better	5
10	ML-21	Illustrates Significant # of Cases for Funders Helped display that cases were being served in Gwinnett	5

Special Notes:

ML8g is a better visual demonstration of how Legal Aid cases are in high density areas than is GA01-AGP-44.

SECTION 2 – Overall Project Evaluation

Please be as descriptive as possible when answering the following questions:

1. Before the mapping project, how well were you able to identify, analyze, and effectively communicate the concentrations of low-income persons and legal services provided across your service area, and the relationship between the two? What differences are the maps making in these areas? Please identify any direct areas of improvement.

I could not identify local concentrations of poor people in our services area and could not tie those local concentrations to the provision of our services. Some of the maps allow me to show that we have concentrated our efforts in areas where there is a high density of poor clients; they may also illustrate where we can do so even more.

2. Is having management information displayed visually in a map layout or as a graphic, as compared to a table, helpful to your management team? If yes, how?

Sometimes it illustrates the information in a more compelling way.

3. How useful are these maps in identifying access to legal services and targeting areas for increased focus?

They have been useful to illustrate a new need to funders. They map help us identify areas for increased focus for our own planning.

4. Would having these maps generated on an annual recurring schedule be of value to you, your program, and state or regional planning process? Which maps do you think would be most helpful in such a process?

Yes. The maps that I have identified.

5. Do you think that the information provided in the maps might lead to new or improved management decisions, actions or relations (i.e., access to legal services, statewide or regional planning, locating emerging income-eligible populations, office locations and/or comparisons, resource or service deployments, improved program support, stakeholder awareness, priority setting, identifying trends or partner relationships and fundraising)? Are there any anecdotes that might be helpful in understanding the impact of the maps?

I think they are likely to be most helpful in documenting increased need and in illustrating how we have been meeting the need. See #12 for anecdote.

Do you have any estimates of money saved, resources raised, new program started or extended increasing access to legal services, or other metrics that would be useful in assessing the value of the project and the information it provides?

We obtained \$50,000 in new funding from Gwinnett County with the help of a map which documented the need for increased services in that county. See #12.

6. Do you have any observations about the strengths and weaknesses of legal services mapping?

I think mapping may well be useful in documenting need particularly for funders. It is not yet clear to me that it will have a major impact on how we deliver services.

7. Do you have any concerns about the accuracy of how these maps represent management information, or about the implications of this representation?

No.

8. What lessons have you learned over the life of the project?

The project has demonstrated how mapping can add emphasis and can highlight a particular need.

9. Are there additional maps you would find more useful, other ways of analyzing data that would be more useful or changes in the process that was used that you would recommend?

None that I am now aware of.

10. Are you interested in adopting mapping as an ongoing management support tool? What are the next steps to adoption? What roles could LSC play in that adoption?

I would be interested in using mapping as an ongoing management tool if it were inexpensive and easily used. LSC could provide a low cost and simple system to use.

11. Are there any other observations about the maps or the project you would like to share?

No.

12. In what circumstances have you used the maps to explain your organization or an issue?

I used SL-35C (Percent Change in Poverty Population 1990-2000) to demonstrate to Gwinnett County lawyers and judges how dramatically the poverty population had increased in that county from 1990-2000. That helped us make a case for \$50,000 in funding from the courts in the county which we used to hire an additional attorney for our Gwinnett County office.