



# TIMPANOGOS LEGAL CENTER

*"Lifting Lives Through the Law"*

# 2025

ANNUAL REPORT

[www.TimpLegal.org](http://www.TimpLegal.org)



## “Lifting Lives Through the Law” is the guiding principle of Timpanogos Legal Center.

TLC **empowers self-represented Utahns** to pursue safety and stability by providing legal support in family law, domestic violence, and housing matters. We work with individuals who are navigating complex legal situations without access to traditional, paid legal representation.

Through **legal information, advice, and practical assistance**, TLC helps clients understand their rights, evaluate their options, and participate more effectively in the legal system.

After receiving services from Timpanogos Legal Center, clients often report experiencing greater clarity about their next steps, reduced stress related to legal uncertainty, and increased ability to access community resources that support long-term stability.

## Letter from the Executive Director

If I had to pick one word to personify 2025, it would be uncertainty. But if I had to describe Timpanogos Legal Center's response to the last year in one word, it might be resilience.

To continue to meet the ever-increasing demand for our services, 2025 saw TLC hire new attorneys, including an experienced family law litigator, who is now our People and Engagement Director; and a bilingual attorney with a background in criminal defense, who is now our Document Preparation Clinic Lead. We also added a development director and a grant writer to the team to assure that we can be sustainable as an organization far into the future.

In 2025, after over a year of collaborative evaluation, TLC transferred the administration of the Certified Advocate Partners Program (CAPP) to Hayley Cousin, former TLC attorney and current Executive Director of Community Justice Advocates of Utah (CJAU). We are thrilled that Hayley's work is making it possible to provide quality legal advice to more and more people.

We have also continued to collaborate with our community partners in the last year. From providing support to victim advocates, to attending community fairs and events, to providing free CLE to legal professionals, to participating in social media campaigns to raise grassroots awareness of TLC, we have been blessed to interact with some of the very best people Utah has to offer.

In addition, TLC celebrated its 15th anniversary in 2025, and during that decade and a half, it has shown remarkable agility in providing trauma-informed legal services. TLC started as a Utah County-based, volunteer-centered organization, and has become a trusted statewide resource that provides thousands of services a year. It wouldn't be possible without our "village" and the vision of our founders, including the marvelous Susan Griffith, who stepped down as TLC's Executive Director on November 1st to focus on impact work as our Innovations Executive.

Which brings me to a personal note – I was appointed TLC's new Executive Director on November 1st. I have felt truly humbled by this opportunity. When I think about the enormity of need that is out there, the turmoil in our world, and how frightening it can be to face what our clients face, I am so grateful to be a small part of the meaningful work that TLC does.

Fred Rogers famously said, "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'" In these uncertain times, focusing on helping can keep us resilient. And as TLC helps those who are in crisis, we, in turn, are helped by wonderful volunteers, donors, Board members, and partners. We sincerely thank you all - here's to another year of helping each other!

*- Tatiana Christensen*

## Our Team

# Board of Directors



**Richard Sheffield**  
Board President

Partner, Fillmore Spencer



**Liisa Hancock**  
Board Secretary

Partner, Jeffs & Jeffs



**Dayle Elieson**  
Board Member

Faculty, Brigham Young  
University Law



**Danielle Dallas**  
Board Member

Faculty, Brigham Young  
University Law; Attorney,  
Kirton McConkie



**Keenan Carroll**  
Ex Officio Board Member

Staff, Utah Legal Services



**Stephen Whiting**  
Ex Officio Board Member

President, Central Utah Bar  
Association (CUBA)

Our work is made possible by the dedication of Timpanogos Legal Center's staff, board members, and volunteers. Through their expertise, time, and commitment, TLC is able to provide legal services to Utahns who would otherwise be unable to access support.

**We are grateful for their ongoing contributions to advancing access to justice across the state.**

# Executive Leadership Team



**Tatiana Christensen**  
Executive Director



**Susan Griffith**  
Founding Director &  
Innovations Executive



**Brooke Robinson**  
Staff Attorney, Programs  
Director & Hotline Lead



**Lani Harris**  
Staff Attorney,  
Administrative Director



**Julene Curtis**  
Executive Assistant, Online  
Clinic Lead & Victim Advocate



**Corttany Brooks**  
Staff Attorney, People and  
Engagement Director

# Additional Staff Members



**Kristen Kellems**  
Staff Attorney



**Joni McDougal**  
Staff Attorney,  
Survey Coordinator



**Michelle Lesue**  
Staff Attorney



**Patricia Zippi**  
Staff Attorney



**Matthew Cloward**  
Staff Attorney,  
Document Clinic Lead



**Rachel Ekman**  
Development  
Director



**Sheila Menendez**  
Legal Assistant



**Danella Zuzunaga**  
Online Clinic  
Zoom Coordinator

# Who We Serve

Timpanogos Legal Center assists Utahns who are representing themselves in family law, housing, and protective order cases. Our staff attorneys and volunteers provide legal information, advice, and practical assistance to help clients understand their rights and take next steps within the legal system.

In 2025, the majority of individuals served by TLC were victims of crime or domestic violence, with the remaining clients consisting of low-income Utahns living at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. TLC served clients statewide, including individuals in rural communities where access to free legal resources is limited.

## 2025 in Numbers



**1,996** Consultations at Weekly Clinics  
(In-Person and Online)



**247** Consultations at Regional Clinics



**7,434** Hotline Calls



**2,636** Volunteer Hours Donated

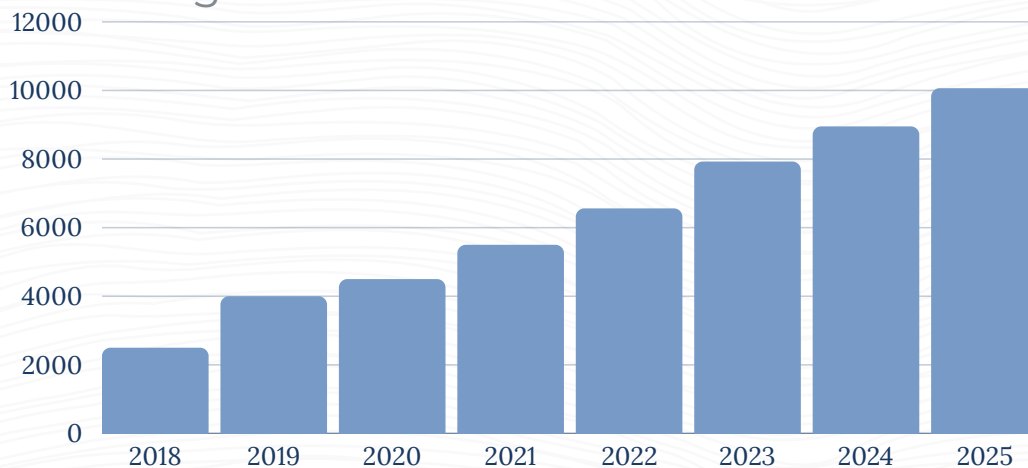
**10,065**

legal services provided in 2025

**+12%**

increase in legal services  
provided compared to 2024

Legal Services Provided Each Year



# Legal Advice Hotline

When navigating the legal system, **it's important to have access to timely and accurate legal advice**, especially when facing tight deadlines. For Utahns who don't have access to an attorney, our hotline provides critical support. Our staff attorneys provide legal advice, explanation of procedural rules, safety planning, and referrals to other resources in the caller's community during brief phone conversations.

## Client Story

A caller reached out for legal guidance while staying in a shelter and trying to understand her options related to family law and protective orders. She shared that she felt overwhelmed and exhausted, and at the start of the call did not feel she had the energy to advocate for herself or make decisions about what to do next.

During the conversation, a staff attorney explained the legal process, discussed available options, and answered questions about her rights. By the end of the call, the caller reported feeling calmer and more informed about her situation, with a clearer sense of how to move forward.

*"Thank you so much. I really appreciate you. I know so much more now about my rights and feel more confident going forward."*

— Hotline Caller

**7,434**  
hotline calls

**22%**  
increase in number  
of calls from 2024

**17,594**  
referrals to local  
programs &  
support services

# Legal Advice Clinics

TLC's legal advice clinics provide clients with an opportunity to sit down with an attorney for a focused, in-depth conversation about their legal situation. During these appointments, attorneys provide legal advice, explain procedural requirements, and help clients understand available options and next steps.

Clinics are designed for individuals who need more detailed guidance than can be provided through a brief hotline call. By dedicating time to complex family law and domestic violence matters, TLC helps clients make informed decisions and move forward with greater clarity.

**1,996**

consultations held  
at weekly clinics

**882**

victims of crime

**1,114**

low-income Utahns

## Weekly Clinic

Timpanogos Legal Center's roots are in Utah County's Family Justice Center, where our attorneys and volunteers can be found every Tuesday evening serving the community. In 2020, we established a concurrent online clinic so we could extend our weekly reach beyond Utah County and enable clients statewide to have timely access to services.



# Staff Testimonial

*“As the lead of our legal advice hotline, I see every day how powerful a single phone call can be. One conversation can bring clarity and calm in the middle of chaos.*

*But not every legal problem can be solved in one call. Our clinics exist for the moments when someone needs more time, time to sit with an attorney, review documents, ask deeper questions, and talk through difficult decisions without feeling rushed. I met with a client whose disabilities made phone and Zoom communication extremely difficult. Being able to speak face-to-face, patiently and without pressure, helped them feel heard and better able to process next steps.*

*Many clients come to our clinics because they want more than quick answers, they want a plan. They want to leave knowing what to do next. That space and support simply cannot always happen over the phone.”*

*- Brooke Robinson, TLC Staff Member and Hotline Lead*



## Partner Impact Statement

*“Timpanogos Legal Center is an important partner in supporting victims and families within Carbon County. Their legal services complement law enforcement efforts by helping individuals understand their options and navigate the legal system more confidently. TLC’s presence strengthens community response and helps ensure that people impacted by crime have access to reliable legal guidance. We appreciate their collaboration and commitment to serving rural communities.”*

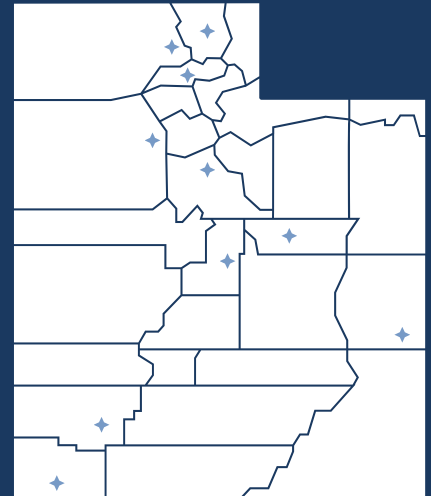
*— Denna Fausett, Victim Advocate,  
Carbon County Sheriff’s Office*

# Regional Clinics

Timpanogos Legal Center holds regularly scheduled in-person legal clinics throughout Utah to expand access to free legal guidance beyond Utah County and the Salt Lake Valley. These clinics are developed in partnership with local organizations and shelters, allowing TLC to respond to the unique needs of each community.

By working with trusted community partners, TLC is able to provide legal advice in locations that prioritize accessibility and safety, particularly for individuals experiencing abuse, housing instability, or other barriers to accessing traditional legal services. Regional clinics focus on family law, protective orders, and related civil legal matters, offering clients the opportunity to speak directly with an attorney about their situation and available options.

In 2025, TLC collaborated with partners across the state to deliver regional clinics tailored to local needs, helping ensure that Utahns in rural and underserved communities could access timely legal information and advice close to home.



## 2025 Regional Clinics and Community Partners:

- Logan: CAPSA
- Brigham City: New Hope Crisis Center
- Ogden: YCC Family Crisis Center
- Price: TLC specific via Zoom
- Tooele: Pathways Domestic Violence Shelter
- Orem: The Refuge
- Ephraim: New Horizon Crisis Center
- Moab: Seekhaven Family Crisis Center
- Cedar City: Canyon Creek Services
- St. George: St. George Library

**10**

**regional clinic locations in 2025**

**247**

**consultations held at regional clinics**

# Document Clinic

Legal documents determine whether a person's voice is heard in court. For self-represented litigants, understanding what to file, and how to file it correctly, can be the difference between participating meaningfully in a case or losing that opportunity altogether.

TLC's Document Preparation Clinic helps clients prepare accurate, court-ready pleadings and motions in family law and domestic violence matters. Through one-on-one support from staff and trained volunteers, clients receive guidance on completing required forms, organizing supporting information, and ensuring filings clearly reflect their position.

## Client Story

A client came to the Document Preparation Clinic feeling scared and unsure how to protect herself in an ongoing divorce case. She believed documents had been filed with the court that made it appear she had agreed to terms she did not understand or consent to. Without an attorney, she was afraid the case would proceed without her having a chance to respond.

Through the Document Preparation Clinic, TLC helped the client understand what had been filed and guided her through preparing the documents she needed to avoid default and ensure her position was clearly presented to the court. Having support during that process helped her feel less overwhelmed and more capable of navigating the legal system on her own.

**388**

documents drafted,  
reviewed, or coached

**256**

clients served



# Volunteers

TLC creates meaningful pro bono opportunities for attorneys and law students that fit alongside their professional, academic, and personal commitments. Because of the time and expertise donated by our volunteers, we are able to serve more Utahns who are navigating difficult legal moments on their own. TLC staff provide training, mentoring, and practical resources so volunteers feel prepared and supported when assisting clients. This ongoing support allows volunteers to step in with confidence, compassion, and clarity, helping people move forward when they need it most.

## Volunteer Testimonial

*“Volunteering with TLC gives me a tangible way to show up for others during moments when compassion and consistency matter most. Knowing that my time and effort can make even a small difference brings meaning to my days and reminds me that connection and service really do keep us going.”*

- Victor Moxley, TLC Volunteer



**2,636**

hours donated by  
volunteers

**1,494**

attorney hours

**1,141**

non-attorney\* hours

**\$368,165\*\***

value of volunteer time donated in 2025

\*This group includes law and high school students, undergraduates, paralegals, LPPs, LPP candidates, and victim advocates

\*\*Volunteer time value estimate based on attorney time at \$220/hour and law student time at \$34.45/hour

# Continuing Legal Education (CLE)

Timpanogos Legal Center offers Continuing Legal Education (CLE) courses as a way to engage and support attorneys and law students whose work aligns with our mission. These trainings focus on practical, ethical, and trauma-informed issues that arise when serving self-represented individuals and survivors of abuse. In 2025, TLC provided these CLEs at no cost, inviting participants to give back by volunteering their time or supporting the organization's work.

## 2025 Courses

- **The Intersection of Bankruptcy and Divorce**, presented by Dane L. Hines
- **Basics and Changes to Housing Law/Effect on Domestic Law**, in partnership with Utah Legal Services
- **Family Law Legislative and Case Law Updates for 2025**, presented by Stewart Ralphs and Julie Nelson
- **Working with Clients Who Are Immigrants, Refugees, and Asylees**, presented by Tanner Matthews (Immigrant Legal Services) and Leonor Perretta (Perretta Law Office)
- **2025 Guardianship Law Updates**, presented by Katie Cox and Nate Crippes
- **Unique Retirement CLE**, presented by Erin Byington and Kelli Larson

*Timpanogos Legal Center's series of CLEs bring a unique value to the nonprofit legal arena in Utah. They provide opportunities to come together in this space, learn from each other and interact with our colleagues. The presenters and materials are excellent - clear, well-organized, and applicable to the type of work that we do as nonprofit legal professionals.*

*- Bonnie Rivera, CLE Attendee*

**288**

attendees at CLEs

**495**

units of CLE credit awarded

# Our Funders

Timpanogos Legal Center relies on public funding, grants, and charitable contributions to support our legal services and advance access to justice across Utah. We never charge clients for services.

**We are deeply grateful to the institutional funders listed below whose support sustained our work during the year. We are also grateful to the many additional funders and partners who support this work and prefer to remain anonymous or unnamed.**

- **Utah Bar Foundation**
- **Joseph & Kathleen Sorensen Legacy Foundation**
- **Sorenson Legacy Foundation**
- **Utah Office for Victims of Crime, Victims of Crime Act Funding**
- **Utah Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Funding**
- **Utah Office for Victims of Crime, Utah Victim Services Program Funding**
- **Adobe Employee Community Fund**
- **George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation**
- **And Justice For All**
- **Walter M. Lewis Family Foundation**
- **Kirton McConkie**
- **NuSkin Force For Good Foundation**
- **Intermountain Community Care Foundation**
- **Walmart Spark Program**
- **Medallion Bank**
- **eBay**
- **Larry H. and Gail Miller Family Foundation**

**Learn more, volunteer, or make a gift to support our work at [www.TimpLegal.org](http://www.TimpLegal.org).**

Client stories are shared with permission, and identifying details have been changed to protect confidentiality.



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**[www.TimpLegal.org](http://www.TimpLegal.org)**