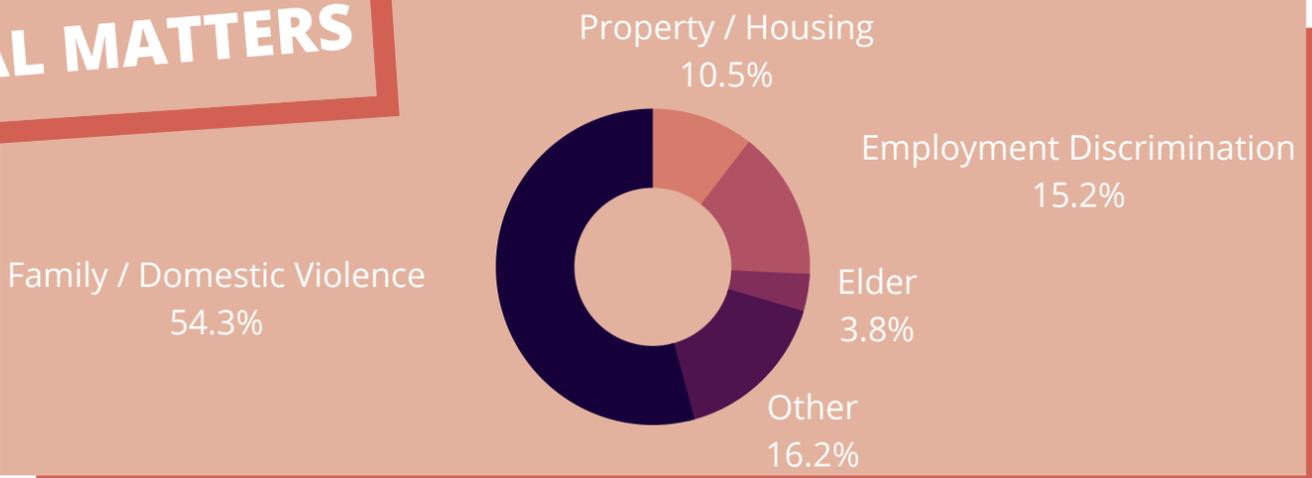


# SOUTHWEST WOMEN'S LAW CENTER

CREATING OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN TO REALIZE THEIR FULL ECONOMIC AND PERSONAL POTENTIAL

## CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES FISCAL YEAR 2020 IMPACT REPORT

### LEGAL MATTERS



### WHO WE SERVE

Our clients call with a wide variety of legal issues. The most significant area of law we provide advice and referrals for is family law.

101 low-income New Mexicans facing a variety of legal issues (i.e., family, housing, employment) received almost four hundred hours of brief services (legal advice and counseling) from SWLC

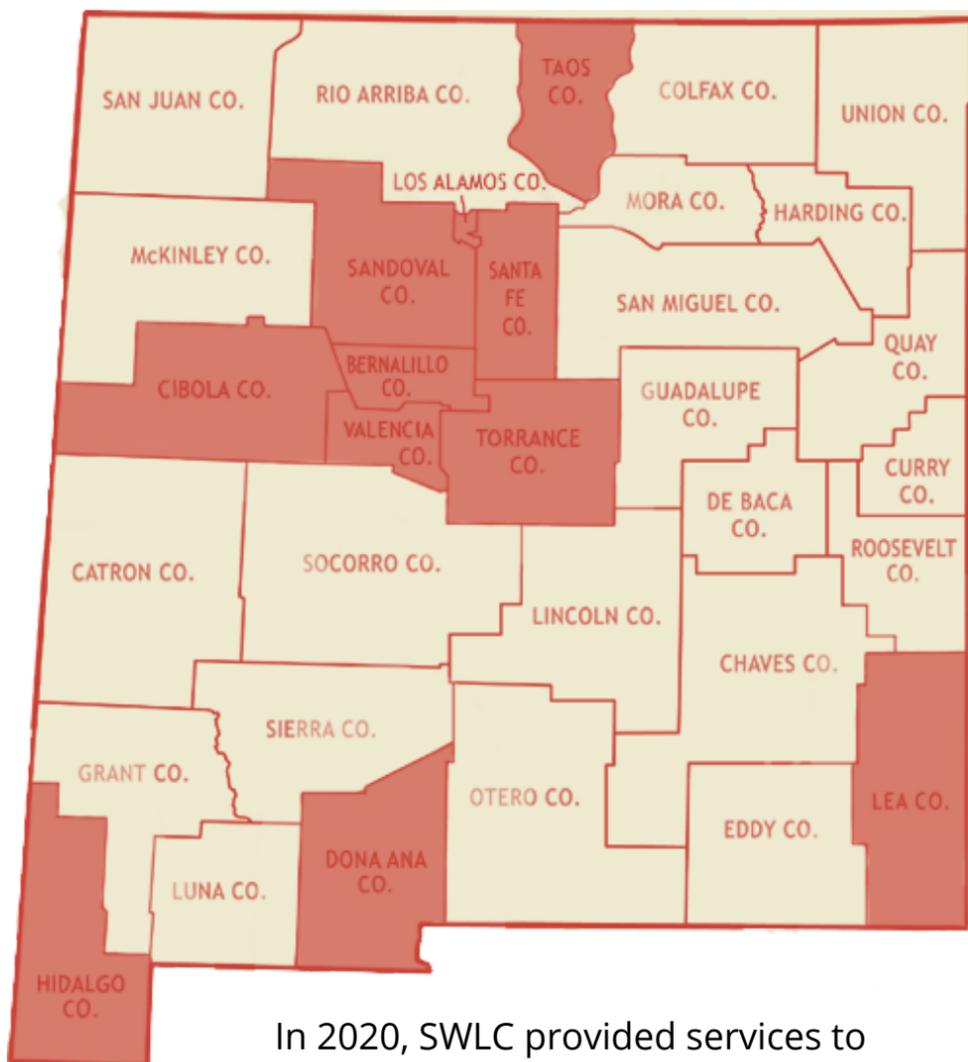
# 101

low-income New Mexicans

648 low-income New Mexicans received three hundred and eighty hours of outreach and community legal education from SWLC

# 648

low-income New Mexicans



In 2020, SWLC provided services to residents in the shaded counties.

### CLIENT IMPACT STORIES

H.A. is a divorced mom with a seven-year-old son. H.A. wanted to take her son to her home country, as he had never met his family. H.A. and her ex-husband had joint custody (in name only, as he had not seen their son in six years). H.A. needed her ex-husband's signature on the passport application and was unable to obtain it.

SWLC informed H.A. of a form she could submit to indicate an exigent circumstance which prevented obtaining the signature of the other parent. H.A. brought her paperwork to SWLC, along with her brother to translate, as H.A. did not speak English well enough to fill out the paperwork. SWLC assisted H.A. in filling out the paperwork, made copies and provided instructions on how to proceed.

E.L. worked in a warehouse with one other person, a man. E.L.'s employer did not provide two-way radios, so employees used their private cell phones to communicate at work. One night, E.L. received an inappropriate unsolicited communication from her co-worker.

E.L. reported the incident of sexual harassment to the corporate office. E.L. and the co-worker were separated and E.L. thought the case was settled. Shortly after E.L. was placed with the co-worker again, despite being extremely uncomfortable working with him. E.L. was fired in retaliation for reporting the sexual harassment.

E.L. contacted SWLC for assistance with paperwork to file a complaint with the Human Rights Bureau ("HRB"). In the meantime, E.L. found another job, where she was paid more and treated better. During her appointment with the staff attorney at SWLC, they discussed the pros and cons of proceeding with the HRB complaint. E.L. decided not to file the complaint because she found a better job where she felt valued, and was satisfied with this organic outcome.