LSC Board Presentation
TIG 2006
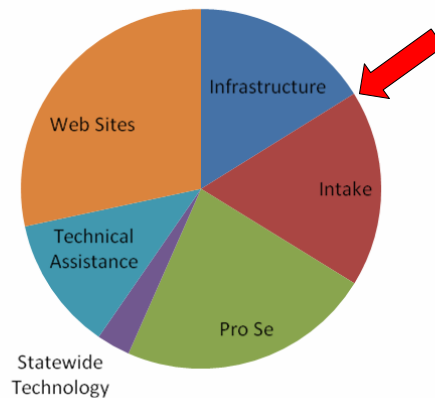
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LSC

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Evolution of TIG Funding
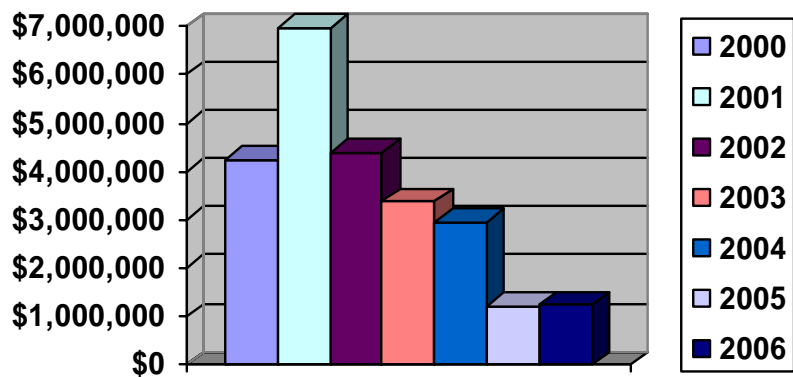
2000 - 2004 TIG Funding

TIG Refined Its Focus

- □ After input from the field, emphasis has been given to national efforts and Web sites
- □ LSC is working on projects such as HotDocs National Server and LegalMeetings to attain sustainability
- □ TIG is working on partnerships to obtain other funding
- □ Benefits to multiple programs from replicability of projects with large cost savings

2005 - 2006 TIG Funding
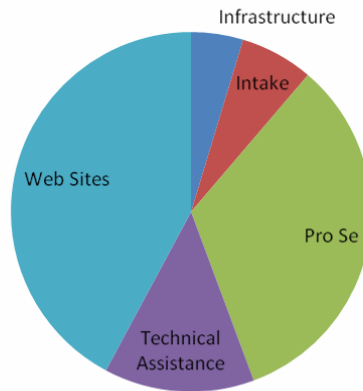
Website Template Enhancements

- ☐ Colorado Legal Service - grant to improve the search capabilities on PBN template by incorporating natural language search and increasing search performance

- ☐ Legal Aid of the Bluegrass – grant to improve the range of statistical data available regarding website usage, also track the type and quantity of website materials. Project will develop tools to aggregate statistical data across the OST community

Statewide Website Circuit Riders

- Probono.net Template Circuit Rider grant –
  28 states using PBN (all with live public sites)
  16 have advocate sites
  over 700 individuals from 200 organizations
  trained to provide content
- Open Source Template Circuit Rider grant –
  23 states using OST (22 with live public sites)
  20 have advocate sites

National Legal Services Document Assembly Server (HotDocs)

Ohio State Legal Services, working with ProBonoNet, will:

- Expand project management to pursue stronger integration into other justice technology initiatives, including the statewide websites and the A2J Project;
- Provide circuit riding to increase the capacity of courts to collaborate with legal services partners;
- Provide virtual and in-person training and support for those states and courts using the national HotDocs server; and
- Enhance the technical capacity of the server.

HotDocs Enhancement

- Indiana Legal Services will create a Spanish language portal using HotDocs to allow pro se users to access the National Public Automatic Document Online Project (NPADO) server in a Spanish environment, but print an English version of the forms that can be submitted to the court.

A2J ™ Author

- Pro Se friendly tool to develop interviews for automated forms
- LA of Western New York will develop A2J Author™ 2.0, and make it more compatible with e-filing systems and case management systems, and provide training tools.

CD/DVD's for Pro Se

- Alaska Legal Services Corporation grant to create a CD/DVD based interactive guide entitled "The Pro Se Divorce Companion: How to Represent Yourself in a Contested Divorce Case When You Cannot Afford an Attorney". ("The Guide")
- Based on current, tested curricula
- Distribution via Court/DV community partnerships
- Uses pervasive, available technology

Video Conferencing

- Legal Services of Alabama, Inc received a grant to fund a pilot video conferencing for in court representation and mobile / remote assistance.

- Based on successful Montana Project (as seen in Helena, MT by the Board)

I-CAN! EITC

- Legal Aid Society of Orange County – continued funding for I-CAN! EIC
- I-CAN! EIC is a web-base application that helps low-wage earners claim Federal EITC
- I-CAN! EIC is written at a fifth grade literacy level, in English and Spanish.
- I-CAN! EIC is available for any of our programs to use for free
- Estimated FY2006 federal EITC payments: $35.1 billion

EITC is a Priority

- You might say that doing taxes is not a program priority, but what about:
  - Housing – EITC can reduce the housing gap by more than Section 8
  - Preservation of income – EITC and Child Tax Credit can boost wages by $1.50 to $2.50 an hour
  - Eliminating Poverty – In 2003 EITC directly lifted 2.3 million children above the poverty line

Expansion of LiveHelp

- Montana Legal Services Association was awarded a grant to expand LiveHelp in three ways:

  1) Partner with Georgia Legal Services and the State Bar of Georgia Pro Bono Project and Probono Net to provide assistance to pro bono attorneys navigating the statewide advocate website

  2) Integrate LiveHelp with document assembly

  3) Test cross-jurisdictional support

Integration of Statewide Websites and Case Management Systems

- Georgia Legal Services was awarded a grant to link the online CMS and the statewide website. Client education materials, model briefs, volunteer training resources – project seeks to improve support for private attorney involvement

- Kentucky Legal Aid was awarded a grant to link CMS with online document library portion of the statewide website – project seeks to improve support for staff advocates - "virtuous circle"

Cyber-Piracy

- Pine Tree Legal Assistance, in partnership with the Legal Services National Technology Assistance Project (LSNTAP) was awarded a grant to educate the poverty law community about the various aspects of cyber-piracy.
- There are 6 specific tasks associated with this project:

Cyber-Piracy

- Ensure the terms of the Legal Match Settlement are enforced
- Research how prevalent cyber-piracy is
- Develop response protocols
- Develop a national leadership
- "Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval"
- Provide education and training

National Technology Assistance
Project www.lsntap.org

- NTAP, started by TIG in 2001 to provide direct assistance to programs on technology projects
- Currently the primary mission is to provide technology trainings to legal service management, advocates, technical staff and support staff
- In 3rd Quarter of 2006 NTAP trained 489 people, more than all of 2005! People from 40 states and 77 LSC programs attended training.

LegalMeetings www.legalmeetings.org

- Online meeting center for legal services programs.
- LegalMeetings had a significant increase in the usage for 3rd quarter of 2006.
- Total number of meetings held during this three-month period was 568 with 2199 attendees.

Strategies to Implement
Strategic Directions

- ☐ Strengthen collaboration and strategic partnerships with judicial organizations
  - ■ Partnered with the State Justice Institute on ten projects where our programs are working with the courts on bridging the justice gap. SJI provided $318,867 for grants to LSC programs in 2006

Strategies to Implement
Strategic Directions

- ☐ Develop a strategic vision for LSC's Technology Investments
  - ■ Establishment of a Technology Advisory Committee made of field representatives, staff of technology companies, other technology funders, and our partnering organizations to provide input and guidance