



October 12, 2004

President
Helaine M. Barnett

Board of Directors
Frank B. Strickland
Atlanta, GA
Chairman

Lillian R. BeVier
Charlottesville, VA
Vice Chair

Robert J. Dieter
Boulder, CO

Thomas A. Fuentes
Lake Forest, CA

Herbert S. Garten
Baltimore, MD

David Hall
Boston, MA

Michael D. McKay
Seattle, WA

Thomas R. Meites
Chicago, IL

Maria Luisa Mercado
Galveston, TX

Florentino A. Subia
El Paso, TX

Ernestine P. Watlington
Harrisburg, PA

Nan Heald, Executive Director
Pine Tree Legal Assistance
88 Federal Street
P.O. Box 547
Portland, ME 04112

Dear Ms. Heald:

Enclosed is the Maine state justice community planning evaluation report. We hope that this report is useful to you, the Justice Action Group and other leaders of the state justice community in Maine. If you have any comments about this report or want us to reconsider certain aspects of the report, please contact me.

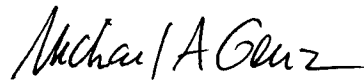
As you know, this evaluation was completed using the state justice community planning initiative evaluation instrument. This instrument was developed so that LSC, its grantees, and other organizations committed to the concept of equal justice for low-income persons would have a uniform set of standards and criteria that would permit us to conduct useful assessments of state justice communities. It was designed so that LSC and others could examine and measure the level of progress being made within each state in the creation of a coordinated, comprehensive, integrated delivery system designed to improve access for and enhance services to low-income persons. As the team explained during the exit interview, this evaluation is designed to be aspirational. Where Maine scored well you should be proud. Where Maine did not score as well, we hope this will help you as you move toward your goal of ensuring that all low income people in Maine have access to justice.

Please note that much of what was discussed during the exit interview is attached to the report as Appendix A. During that session the team discussed resource allocation and development, among other issues, and were asked whether there were people they would recommend you contact about these topics. To further explore some of these issues you may want to contact Marilyn Kershner, Resource development, Florida Legal Services, 12909 N 56th St Suite 209, Tampa FL 33617, 813-984-4632, 813-984-4685 FAX, marilyn@floridalegal.org.

Nan Heald, Executive Director
Pine Tree Legal Assistance
October 12, 2004
Page 2

On behalf of the evaluation team members, Colleen Cotter, Guy Lescault and Tim Watson, I want to thank you again for your hospitality and your openness to this evaluation. It was a pleasure for the team to travel to Maine and talk to so many people who are dedicated to equal justice. We hope that you found the visit helpful, and that this report will provide further helpful feedback.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Genz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Michael A. Genz, Director
Office of Program Performance

Enclosure