

## **Assessment Finds Justice & Diversity Center's Legal Services Annual Value to San Francisco \$18,220,000**

**April 20, 2015 – San Francisco** -- The Justice & Diversity Center (JDC) of The Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF) recently released four reports that determine the financial value of JDC's legal services to the San Francisco community. The assessment was conducted by CSACO- Community Services Analysis, LLC, a leading provider of social return on investment analysis in the United States. The key findings of the Social Return of Investment reports are:

In 2013, the total value of JDC's legal services to the San Francisco community was \$18,220,639. The immediate direct value of the services JDC provided was more than \$8,700,000, while the long-term consequential impact of the services was \$9,500,000.

The Social Return on Investment for JDC is significantly higher than other types of social service organizations. With an operational budget of less than \$3,700,000, a key reason for the high value of JDC's return on investment is the number of pro bono hours provided by volunteer attorneys.

For every \$1 invested in JDC's legal housing services, the San Francisco community receives \$11.74 of immediate and long-term financial benefit. The net value to the community of services provided in 1,621 housing matters concerning evictions and housing rights was \$10,280,000.

For every \$1 invested in JDC's family law services, the San Francisco community receives \$6.09. The net value to the community of the services provided in 1,187 family law cases, including representation in divorces, custody disputes and child support cases, was \$3,800,000.

For every \$1 invested in JDC's public benefits advocacy services, the San Francisco community receives \$4.30. The net value to the community of services provided in 465 public benefit cases, including federal disability advocacy for people with severe mental health disabilities, was \$2,840,000.

The net Social Return on Investment of JDC's 6,644 cases closed in 2013 was 495%. For every \$1 invested in JDC services, the San Francisco community received \$4.95 of financial benefits, a direct benefit to the City of San Francisco and its residents.

Legal services delivered by JDC result in significant future cost savings or additional income to the community. Some of these long-term values are:

- a. Substantial savings in costs for emergency housing and family assistance resulting from enforcement of landlord/tenant laws;



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- b. Multiple year income from federal disability benefits that were previously denied, terminated, or reduced; and
- c. Long-term savings on children's medical and other support costs resulting from child support payments that were previously not obtained.