

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD
HOUSE SPEECHES AND INSERTS
July 25, 2014

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2014

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 40th anniversary of the Legal Services Corporation (LSC).

LSC was established by Congress in 1974 to provide civil legal aid to millions of Americans who would otherwise be unable to afford it. Congress gave the Corporation the mission of ensuring equal access to justice for all Americans, and the Corporation has worked tirelessly to achieve that goal. With nearly 800 offices serving every Congressional district and U.S. territory, LSC offers support to mothers trying to obtain child support, veterans seeking the benefits they earned, and to many other individuals facing an array of issues.

It is noteworthy that three out of four legal aid clients are women, and domestic violence is one of the top issues LSC clients face. Without the efforts of legal counsel from LSC, victims across the country would have no way to seek legal recourse for domestic disputes, enforcing child support payments, or maintaining custody of their children.

In addition, during Superstorm Sandy, when thousands of Americans had their homes and belongings damaged, LSC provided storm-related services to low-income victims to assist in filing claims with insurance companies and help retrieve documents such as insurance and mortgage paperwork that had been lost or damaged in the storm.

Mr. Speaker, every American, regardless of wealth, deserves quality representation before the courts. The work that LSC does to ensure that those most in need receive legal counsel and due process before the courts is invaluable. I am proud to recognize the Legal Services Corporation and LSC-funded attorneys for the vital work they do every day on behalf of Americans who desperately need their counsel. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring their tremendous accomplishments.