



# ANNUAL REPORT



Michael L. Wojcik, Chief Executive Officer

## WHO WE HELPED - 2023

We helped **8416 people**, including **2927 children**,  
in **5073 cases**.

Of these cases, 4179 were opened  
as new files in 2023.



Our clients communicated in these languages:

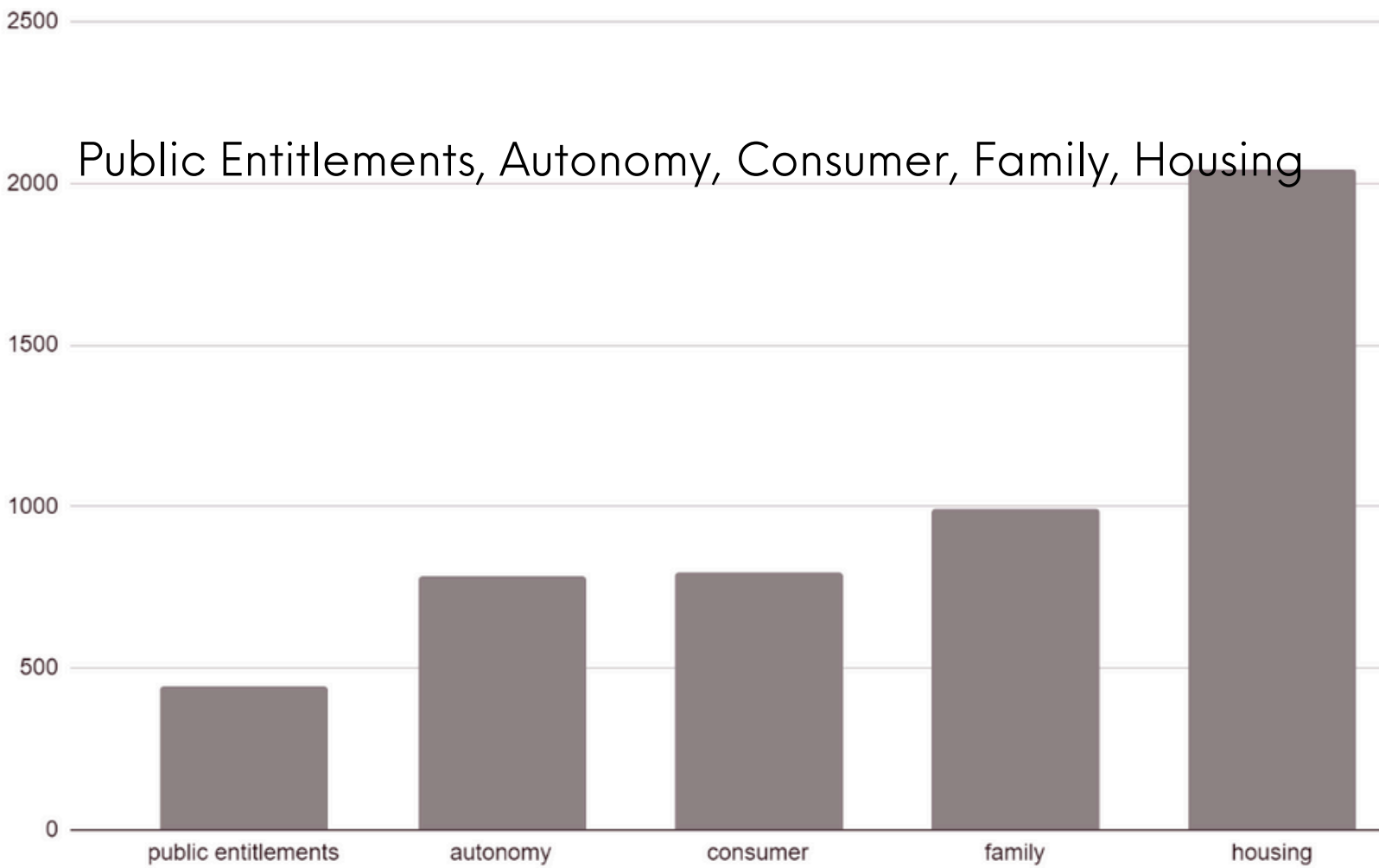
Spanish, Hindi, Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Gujarati, Vietnamese,  
Portuguese, English and Others



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# What We Do

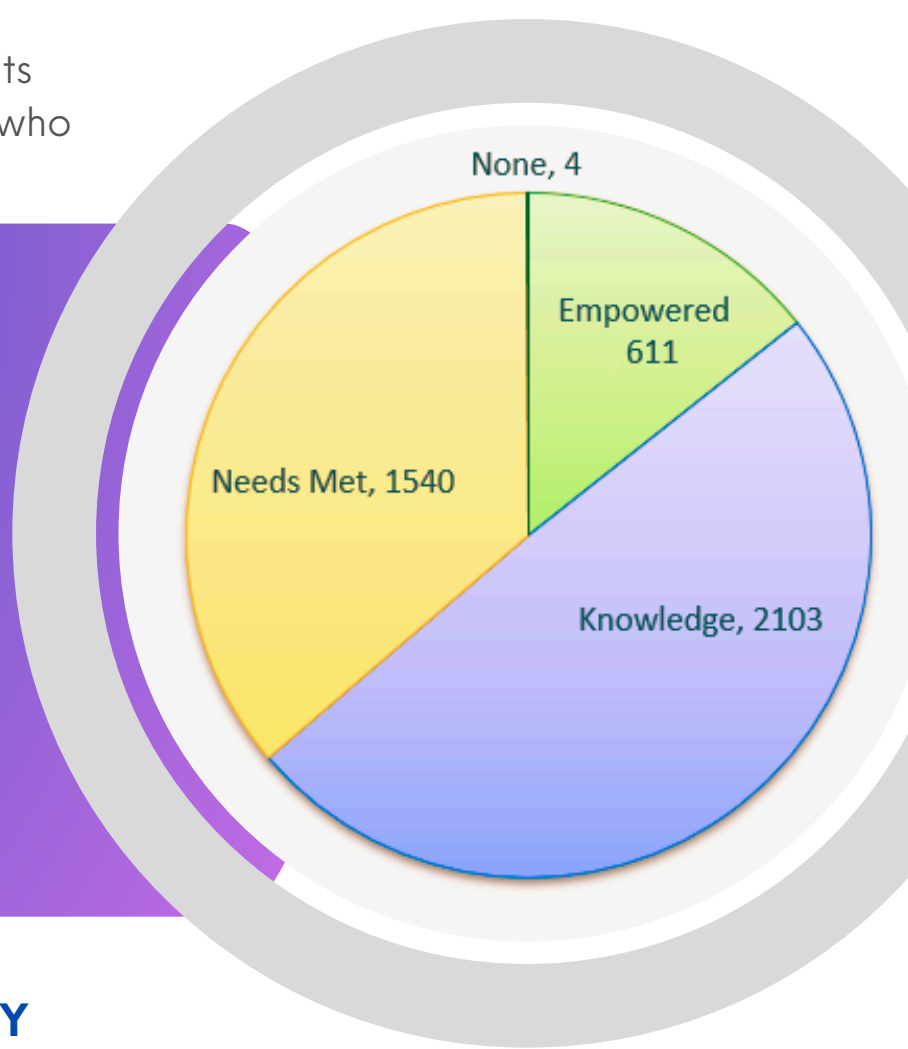


free legal services for eligible people to protect basic needs

LSNWI continues to meet or exceed its benchmarks for outcomes for clients who received full representation.

# CLIENT BENEFIT OUTCOMES

of Cases Completed in 2023



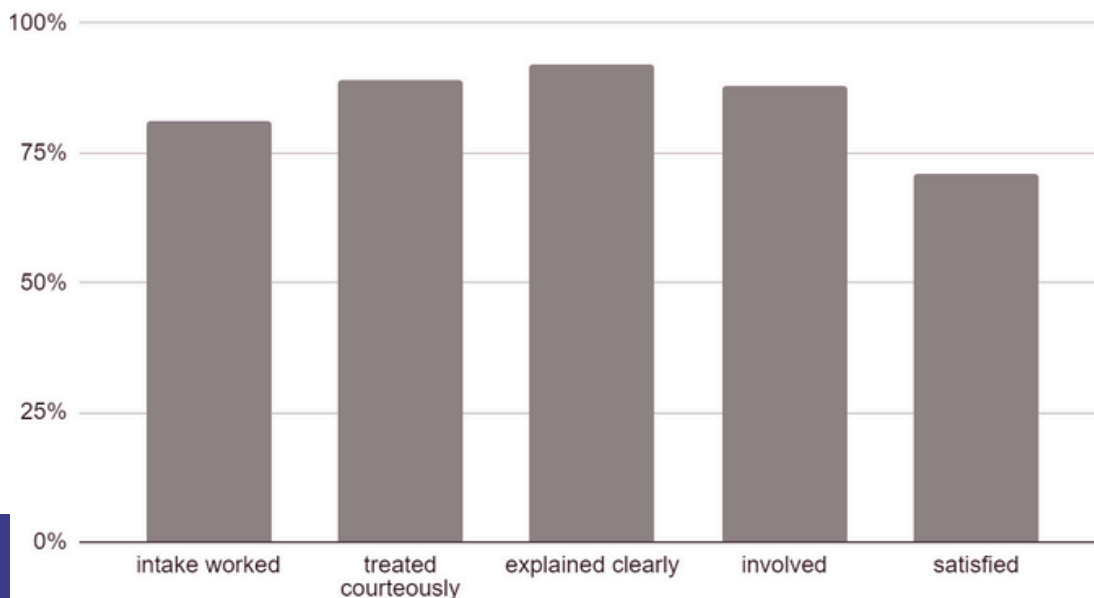
## CLIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY



completed in 2023 for clients served in previous year 2022

ALL clients surveyed, including advice, brief service, representation:

Clients Overall: Advice, Brief Service, Extended Representation



For clients offered legal representation,

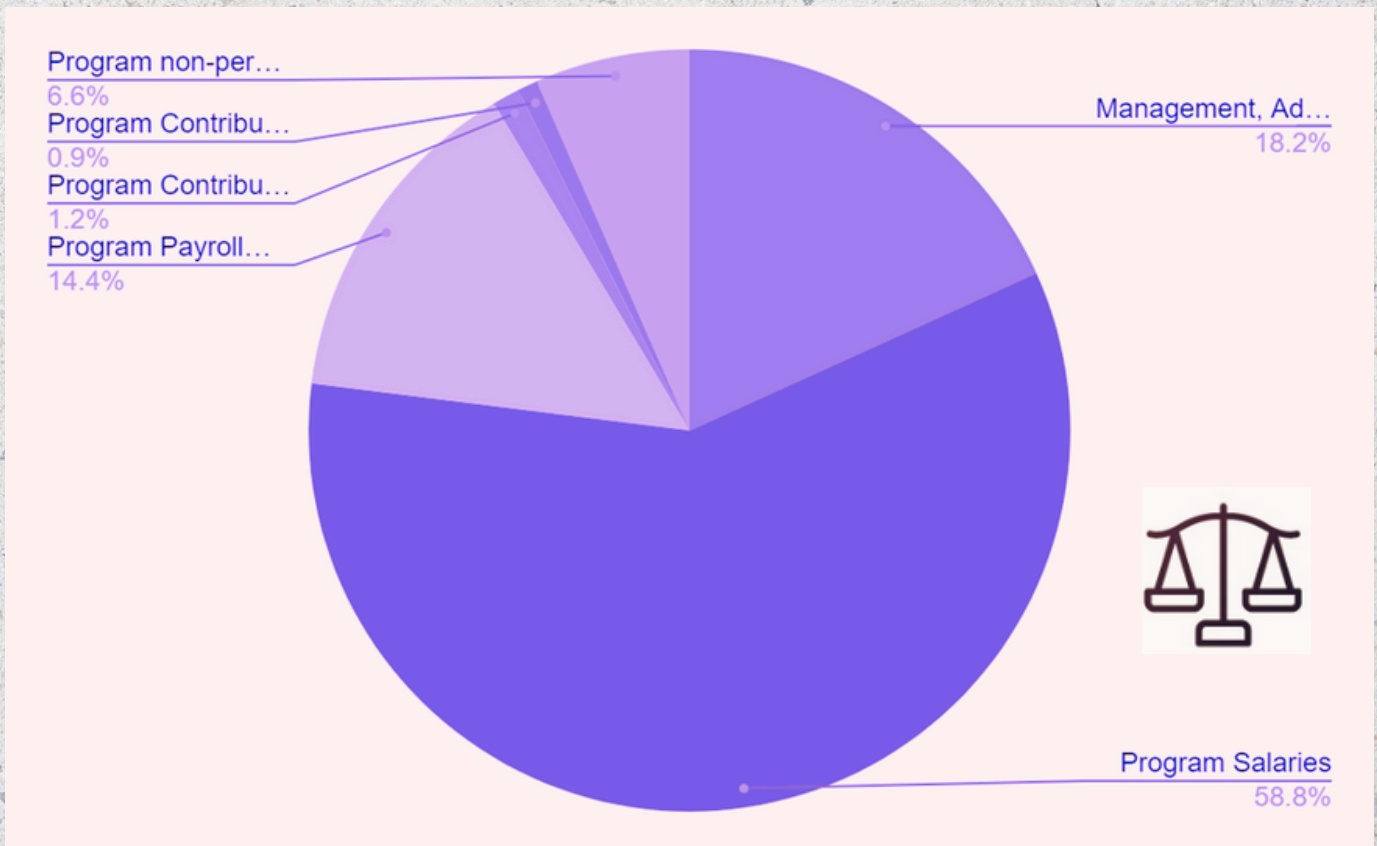
- 92% reported **intake worked well,**
- 98% reported **they were treated courteously,**
- 97% reported receiving **clear explanation,**
- 93% felt they were **involved in setting the goals** of representation,
- 83% were overall **satisfied** with services.

2023



**Expenses**

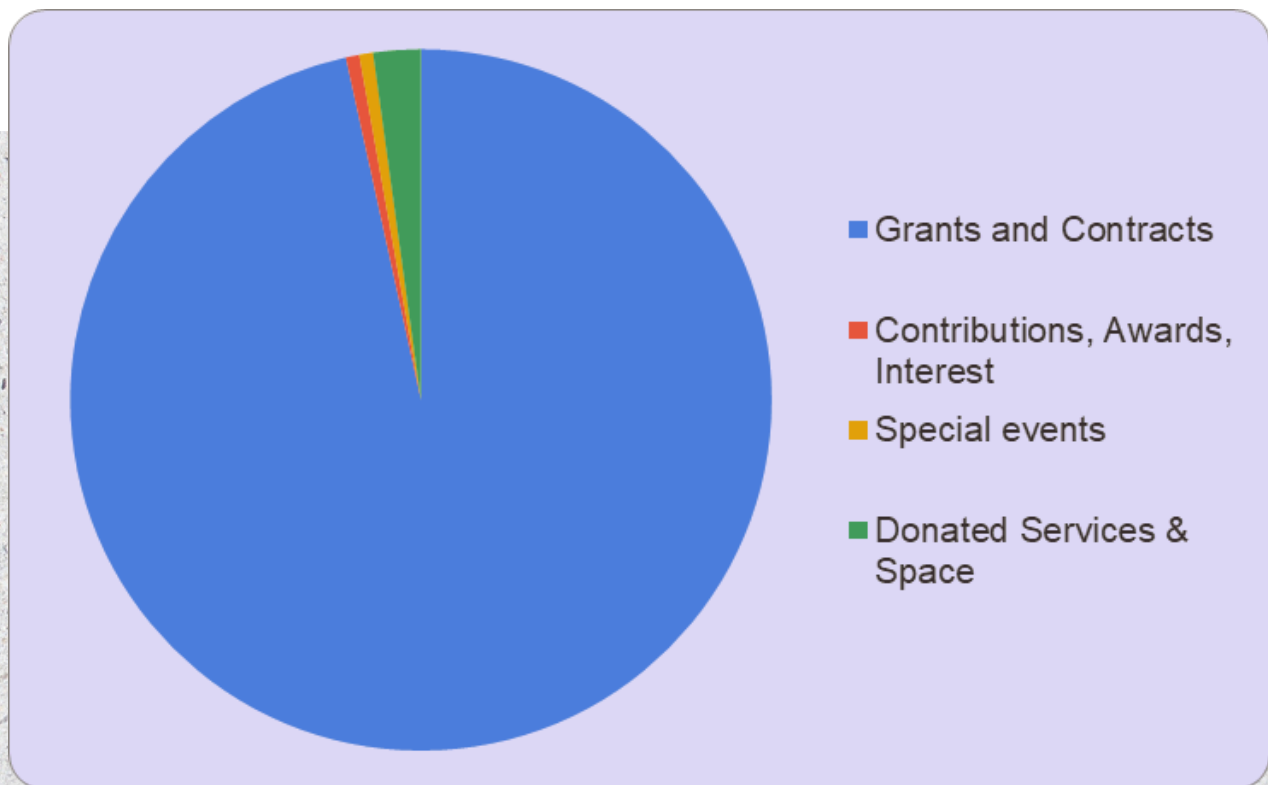
Management, Administration & Fundraising	\$1,096,078	18.22%
Program Salaries	\$3,535,398	58.76%
Program Payroll Taxes and Benefits	\$868,621	14.44%
Program Contributed Services	\$69,744	1.16%
Program Contributed Office Space	\$51,656	0.86%
Program non-personnel expenses, depreciation	\$395,246	6.57%
Total	\$6,016,743	100.00%



## Support and revenue

# 2023

Grants and Contracts	\$5,859,980	96.56%
Contributions, Awards, Interest	\$37,798	0.62%
Special events	\$38,419	0.63%
Donated Services & Space	\$132,744	2.19%
Total	\$6,068,941	100.00%



**LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTHWEST JERSEY IS GRATEFUL FOR THE FUNDING AND SUPPORT OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION, THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, THE COUNTIES OF HUNTERDON, MORRIS, SOMERSET, SUSSEX, AND WARREN, OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS, FOUNDATION FUNDERS, AND OUR VOLUNTEERS.**





# MORE GOOD NEWS

## New Community Health Team

Experienced staff attorney Mellissa Kiefer was promoted to Team Leader of our newly created Community Health Team.

The team works within our projects HEAL, (a medical legal partnership with Zufall), Veterans' Justice Initiative, and Guardianships.

The Team is keenly focused on the social determinants of health and the intersection of the medical and legal fields, and engages in substantial outreach efforts.

## Domestic Violence

Expansion of DV work through new funding

- ✓ Mimi Washington Starrett Foundation
- ✓ VOCA (Victims Of Crime Act)
- ✓ NJ STOP (Violence Against Women Act)



## Courts Reopened for In-person Hearings in 2023

in Morris, Somerset and Sussex Counties.



## LSNWJ Offices Reopened to Public

in Belvidere, Flemington, Morristown and Somerville.



## HR Director

Nana Abena A. Osafo, Managing Attorney, added HR Director to her duties, expanding LSNWJ administration team efficiency



## Michael Wiener Justice Center Building Improvements

Maintenance, Repairs and Updates in the Belvidere office





## Legal Services for Veterans V.A. Program

Claire Corsey, Esq., joined our Public Entitlements Team as staff attorney under a new Veterans Administration grant. Claire supervised disability appeals in her prior legal work in Washington, D.C. for Vietnam Veterans of America.

## New Funding from the County of Morris- Legal Services for Veterans and Families

LSNWJ received the County of Morris' inaugural veterans funding which is focused on providing supportive services to veterans and their families.

## A Night of Thanks from Veteran's Haven North

LSNWJ was recognized and received the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs/Veteran's Haven North's Challenge Coin for our dedication and service to the veterans at Veteran's Haven North.



# 20th Anniversary



Thanks to All Who Joined in  
our 20th Anniversary  
Celebration!

- 20 Years of Equal Justice
- 4 experienced legacy programs
- Merger into one efficient program
- Serving 5 counties
  - Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Sussex, Warren

## Awards Presented:

Advocate of Justice Award:  
Christopher Walsh, Esq., Gibbons P.C.

Champion of Justice Award:  
Sylvia A. Ayler, Esq., Merck

## Lifetime Achievement:

Gerald R. Brennan, Esq.  
Richard A. Mastro, Esq.  
Elizabeth Szabo, Esq.

The event was held at the Madison Hotel in Morristown and was supported by volunteers, sponsors, the Board of Trustees and staff.

Supporting Access to Justice

MARY ELLEN KOSCS-FLEMING, Esq. (President) – Joined the Board 2008  
Merck Office of the General Counsel (ret.); Appointed by: Hunterdon County Bar Association

DIANE S. MARGOLIN, Esq. (Vice President) – Joined the Board 2003-2005; 2009  
Margolin & Neuner; Appointed by: Warren County Bar Association

PATRICK T. COLLINS, Esq. (Past President) – Joined the Board 2003  
Norris McLaughlin; Appointed by: Somerset County Bar Association

JANE A. HERCHENRODER, Esq. – Joined the Board 2003  
Law Office of Jane A. Herchenroder; Appointed by: Somerset County Bar Association

JULY MYERS – Joined the Board 2022  
Appointed by: Good News Home for Women

SHARON SMALL – Joined the Board 2022  
Appointed by: Garden State Bar Association

JANET WALTON – Joined the Board 2009  
Appointed by: Franklin Township Library

KEVIN KU, Esq. – Joined the Board 2022  
Lyons & Associates; Appointed by: Morris County Bar Association

ERIN BUCHALTER (Secretary) – Joined the Board 2018  
Appointed by: SAFE in Hunterdon

MARK HONTZ (Treasurer) – Joined the Board 2019  
Hollander Strelzik Pasculli Hinkes Vandenberg & Hontz, LLC  
Appointed by: Sussex County Bar Association

PATRICIA CISTARO – Joined the Board 2021  
Cistaro Law, LLC; Appointed by: Morris County Bar Association

SAMANTHA LEVALLEY – Joined the Board 2021  
Appointed by: Project Self- Sufficiency

VERNE JOHNSON – Joined the Board 2022  
Appointed by: Raritan Valley Community College

JOHN PIERCE, Esq. – Joined the Board 2021  
Cordell Law; Appointed by: Warren County Bar Association

BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES  
2023





## Legal Services of Northwest Jersey

### Staff Leadership

Michael L. Wojcik,  
Chief Executive Officer

Kevin Morrissey,  
Chief Financial Officer

Sharon J. L. Yoo,  
Chief Operating Officer,  
Director of Pro Bono

Nana Abena A. Osafo  
Human Resources  
Director,  
Managing Attorney

Scott Dranoff,  
Managing Attorney,  
Morris County

Melissa Kiefer,  
Community Health Team  
Leader

Luisa A. Fuentes,  
Managing Attorney,  
Morris Family Justice Center

Theresa A. Kist,  
Access Team Leader

Alisa Grossman,  
Managing Attorney,  
Hunterdon County

Richard A. Mastro,  
Consumer Team Leader

Grace E. Kelly  
Managing Attorney,  
Warren County  
Family Team Leader

David M. Saltzman,  
Housing Team Leader

Victoria Reiners,  
Managing Attorney,  
Sussex County

Andrea L. Strack,  
Public Entitlements Team  
Leader

Colleen Cunningham,  
Autonomy Team Leader

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90 E. Main St., Somerville, NJ 08876  
(908) 231-0840



18 Church Street, Newton, NJ 07860  
(973) 383-7400

91 Front Street, Belvidere, NJ 07823  
(908) 475-2010



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