Our lawyers work side-by-side with pediatricians in health clinics that treat low income families. Together, they find legal remedies to health problems that get in the way of a child’s success, like forcing an insurance company to pay for a new wheelchair so the child who needs it can go to school.

Every child that comes to Children’s Law Center leaves with a more solid foundation of family, health, and education. We provide comprehensive care and focus on the whole child. Our interventions have a lasting impact in the community: we teach parents to advocate for their children, train pediatricians to look for the root causes of their patients’ health problems, and help policymakers find city-wide solutions.

Healthy Together grew from our collaboration with Children’s National Medical Center. One of the first medical-legal partnerships in the country, it has inspired hundreds more.

We need to do more

One in three children in the District of Columbia lives in poverty, leaving them vulnerable to overwhelming health problems. Our attorneys find solutions when medical care isn’t enough. But for every child we see, there are dozens more in need. Across the city, there are clinics with waiting rooms full of children who need our expertise. And we want to help them.

And we need you

Healthy Together is funded through donations from the region’s most generous law firms, corporations, foundations, and philanthropists. Your gift allows Children’s Law Center to help another child, hire another lawyer, partner with a new community health clinic, train more pediatricians, and empower more parents to advocate for their children. You can change the life of a child – and in doing so, impact an entire community.
**Invest in a child**

Seven-year-old Elena’s asthma attacks and twice weekly emergency room visits stopped when Children’s Law Center teamed up with her doctor to sue her landlord and rid her home of mold. Once she was healthy, Elena could attend school regularly and her grades went from D’s to A’s. Most importantly, our intervention may have saved Elena’s life.

**Invest in a family**

With fewer visits to the doctor and hospital, Elena’s mother was able to go back to work. She was proud to be a role model for her children. She also attended a Children’s Law Center training where she learned about her children’s rights and the government’s responsibilities. Empowered with this knowledge, Elena’s mother convinced her son’s school to provide tutoring to help him manage his dyslexia.

**Invest in the community**

The District’s financial health improved along with Elena’s. Ending ER visits saved $30,000 in Medicaid costs over six months. Taxpayers saved $14,000 in welfare benefits the first year Elena’s mother returned to work. With Elena back in school, the city was spared the moral and financial cost of another high school dropout, teen mother, or homeless youth – saving more than $300,000 over Elena’s lifetime.

**Invest in Children’s Law Center**

Children’s Law Center spent $2,000 to help Elena – and saved taxpayers more than $40,000 in just the first year. Helping hundreds of children like Elena each year doesn’t just multiply the savings – it leads to exponential improvements for a child, a family, and the community. Our experience working with so many families allows us to see patterns and stop problems before they start. With pediatricians and policymakers, we can make changes in clinical practice and government policies that put success within reach for all the District’s children.

For more information, contact Development Manager Billy Fettweis at 202-467-4900, ext. 597 or visit childrenslawcenter.org.