In 2019, Children’s Law Center... 

Helped 5,346 children and families.

Reached 1 of every 9 children living in DC’s poorest neighborhoods.

Collaborated on 500+ cases with pro bono attorneys.

Trained 1,627 judges, pediatricians, parents, social workers, youth, pro bono lawyers and caregivers.

Partnered with District agencies, the DC Council and community leaders to find and implement city-wide solutions that benefit all DC kids.

Children’s Law Center fights so every child in DC can grow up with a loving family, good health and a quality education.
LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Today, a toddler with asthma is playing in the bedroom of his new home without the risk that mold in the carpet will send him to the hospital.

In another part of the District, three teenage sisters know their stepdad can continue caring for their medical and education needs following their mother’s death.

And, in yet another DC neighborhood, a boy is finally in school and learning, after the school system excluded him for months – simply because of his disability.

**In a world of uncertainty, there is one thing we know: Together, we can make a difference in the lives of children right here in our own community.**

The need is great. There is much more to be done. That is why we are always looking at how we can think bigger and work smarter.

As you read through highlights from 2019, you’ll learn about our new, innovative funding model that reduces government-funded health care costs; the impact of our cross-cutting teams; and the importance of partnering with – and listening to – our clients and community.

Trauma, resource scarcity and systemic racism create problems that hinder the success of so many children. But with the tenacity of children and their families, the smarts and commitment of my Children’s Law Center colleagues and a strong network of partners and supporters by our side, we have proven time and again that we can solve these problems.

We often say that no child should need a lawyer to access a quality education, prevent treatable health issues from landing them in the hospital or know the love of a supportive family. But too many children do. That is why we are here every day, looking at each problem from multiple angles until we find the right solution.

As I reflect on the past year, one thing is clear: We can’t go it alone. We need a team that includes you, our donors, pro bono attorneys and nonprofit partners. Thanks to you we were able to reach more than 5,000 children and families in 2019; and because of you we will fight to achieve even more in 2020.

With gratitude,

Judith Sandalow,
Executive Director
PUTTING CHILDREN AT THE CENTER: 
OUR TEAMING APPROACH

Children’s Law Center is appointed to represent children on their first day in foster care. We’ve met babies whose parents are struggling with unaddressed depression and addiction. We’ve seen the pain of elementary school children separated from their brothers and sisters. And we have listened to teenagers who have been removed from their homes because they and their mothers were victims of domestic violence.

Every child has unique needs and a distinct history.

But there’s one constant: Our team of guardians ad litem (GAL lawyers), education lawyers, social workers and investigators fight for what is in each child’s best interests.

Living in foster care can be difficult, especially for a child who has faced more traumatic experiences than anyone should encounter in their lifetime. That’s why Children’s Law Center ensures that a holistic support team is available for each child we represent.

Every child has a GAL lawyer and an investigator who work together to build relationships and trust with the child and the adults in the child’s life. We visit the child at home, at school and in their community because we need to know how their world works.

When the court appoints Children’s Law Center to represent a child, our investigators quickly learn what is going on in the child’s life so that the GAL lawyer can advocate in court and with the government for the living situation and supports that are in the child’s best interests. Investigators request and review school, medical and mental health records; inspect the child’s current and potential homes; run criminal record checks for potential caregivers; and meet with teachers about the child’s education needs.

Education lawyers review each child’s school situation to ensure they are in a stable, successful learning environment; and, when the child isn’t, the lawyers work with the parents and school to get the child’s education back on the right path. Social workers assess the more complex issues that impact a child – providing clinical recommendations so that the GAL lawyer can advocate for the right supports and family placement.

The GAL lawyer develops the legal strategy, advocating in and out of court so every child has a stable, loving family and receives the necessary services and supports.

This unique approach allows Children’s Law Center to pull in all the tools, resources and partners we need to support each child today and to provide a foundation for their future success.

“When I first met Kiley and Kira*, I immediately saw how their needs were significant yet so different from one another. I asked Lucy Sgroi, one of our social workers, to assess the girls’ behavioral health needs. Her observation helped me make the case for neurological, educational and psychological evaluations of both children which resulted in stronger therapy and education plans for each child.”

Olabisi Davies
GAL Lawyer

*Children’s Law Center works hard to protect our clients’ confidentiality. The children’s names have been modified. All other details are true.
A child’s wellbeing is always our central focus.

We also work closely with birth parents, grandparents, foster parents, teachers, siblings and others who provide the child with significant support. The team works together to achieve our goal for each child: a stable family, good health and quality education.

ONE TEAM’S TIRELESS ADVOCACY TO REUNIFY A FAMILY

“Since mom was working hard to address her substance abuse issue, I knew Olabisi needed current records to make an informed recommendation to the court. Before each hearing, I collected progress notes from family members’ therapy sessions, gathered medical records and received updates on each child’s attendance and grades.”

Christina Moss
Investigator

“Thanks to Olabisi’s tenacious advocacy, three children have been reunited with their mom. She, Lucy and Christina collaborated seamlessly – each bringing their professional expertise to ultimately achieve what was in the best interests of the children.”

Kim Daulton
Director of Social Work
MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIPS IMPROVE HEALTH AND REDUCE COSTS

Willie, an 8th grader, couldn’t read when his pediatrician referred him to Children’s Law Center. Today he is a high school graduate.

Another child, King, was hospitalized multiple times until Children’s Law Center took his family’s landlord to housing court. Today his asthma is under control, and he hasn’t been hospitalized in over a year.

These are just two of the nearly 16,000 children and families that we’ve reached since launching Healthy Together, our medical-legal partnership.

Children’s Law Center has more than this anecdotal evidence to prove our legal intervention makes a difference. For more than a decade, we have formally assessed Healthy Together’s impact. Through interviews with former clients, we confirmed time and again that children are healthier and learning, staying out of the hospital and achieving in school because of our legal assistance.

This year, our research confirmed that Healthy Together has a valuable secondary result: In addition to improving children’s health, we also reduce health care costs – saving the government millions of dollars in Medicaid costs.

Uncovering the Data

To determine Medicaid savings, Children’s Law Center first needed to navigate HIPAA, the complex federal health privacy law. With pro bono support from Ropes & Gray LLP, Children’s Law Center became HIPAA-compliant and entered into data-sharing agreements with Children’s National and two managed care organizations, AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia and Health Services for Children with Special Needs, Inc. We also turned to The Advisory Board Company (now Optum) for its expertise on the business of health care.

Children’s Law Center analyzed hundreds of thousands of insurance claims, comparing health care usage from up to two years before the medical-legal partnership’s assistance to up to two years after.

“It has been a privilege for Ropes & Gray to represent Children’s Law Center and we are proud of the result, a cutting edge contract that can be a model for medical-legal partnerships across the country.”

David C. Djaha
Managing Partner, Ropes & Gray LLP

Groundbreaking Results Show Reduced Costs

The results of our analysis were astounding. Our medical-legal partnership has improved children’s health and reduced the costs of medical care – by a staggering $14.1 million over the past three years alone!

Take, for example, the typical costs for asthma-related emergency room visits, hospitalizations and other medical supports. For a child in DC, these costs can range from a few hundred dollars to tens of thousands of dollars. When we successfully advocate for a landlord to fix poor housing conditions, a child’s asthma improves. As a result, the child stays out of the hospital and emergency room.

Based on our research, each successful intervention reduces government-funded health care costs by an average of $10,000 during the first 18 months.1 For the 10% of children with the most significant health issues, the average costs spiked to $60,000.

Improving the Health of More Children

We first used this research to negotiate a contract with AmeriHealth Caritas DC so that we could continue this life-saving work. Ropes & Gray guided us through the maze of Medicaid regulations, and we negotiated the first contract of its kind in the nation.

Next, Holly Stevens, PhD, our director of learning and evaluation, and Tracy Goodman, our Healthy Together director, presented our research findings at the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership Summit and RISE National Summit on Social Determinants of Health, so that medical-legal partnerships around the country could benefit from this model.

Moving forward, we will use the findings to show the DC mayor and DC Council that money invested in improving housing conditions is not only good for children’s health, it will also reduce government health care costs.

A New Home for One AmeriHealth Client

“I wish I met you sooner.” These are the heartfelt words that Ms. Janice Holt* shared with Children’s Law Center lawyer Caroline Wick.

Two years earlier, Ms. Holt and her 1-year-old-son Dylan had just moved into a new apartment. He was happy, healthy and starting to say his first words. But at 15 months old, Dylan had his first of what would eventually be six febrile seizures over the course of the following year. Ms. Holt and Dylan went to the ER nearly ten times. He was hospitalized twice.

As more seizures happened, the doctors asked all the right questions, including: “Is there mold in your home?” Each time Ms. Holt said she hadn’t seen anything, and nothing smelled like mold or mildew.

One day, Dylan’s alphabet playmat was wet. Ms. Holt lifted it up and saw big black dots. She pulled back the carpet and, there it was: Three different colors of mold – black, white, gray.

“I never knew you couldn’t see mold,” she confessed. “The apartment was very clean. Fresh paint, new carpets.”

When Dylan’s doctor heard about the mold, he immediately referred Ms. Holt to Children’s Law Center. Caroline and investigator Justin Abbasi visited the Holt family. The landlord heard about the referral and hastily fixed the bedroom floor issues before they arrived, but Caroline and Justin also saw signs of water damage everywhere – cracks in the walls, bubbling and peeling paint. It was clear the issues that impacted Dylan’s health persisted.

With a lawyer by her side, Ms. Holt was able to finally get the landlord to recognize the extensive problems in the apartment. The landlord agreed to allow the Holt family to move out before the end of their lease.

It’s been more than a year since Dylan’s last seizure. Now, in his new bedroom, Dylan loves building Lego towers without the fear of what might be growing under his floor.

*Children’s Law Center works hard to protect our clients’ confidentiality. The family members’ names have been modified based on the client’s request. All other details are true.
THE NEED FOR MEANINGFUL PARENT PARTICIPATION

For several years, we passed the baton inside Children’s Law Center – from trial attorneys to policy staff to our communications team to our appellate program. Our goal? To ensure children with disabilities would benefit from their parents’ engagement in their education. This year, we won the relay race.

Children learn best when parents participate in their education. This is particularly true for children with disabilities, because their education program must be tailored to their unique learning needs, and parents know their children best. It is why family engagement is at the core of our special education advocacy and why it’s woven into local and federal law.

Sometimes it takes specific expertise to determine whether a classroom is meeting the needs of a child with a disability. Parents may send experts to observe their child in school to secure the information necessary to make decisions about their child’s education.

When parents and schools disagree about whether a classroom or program is meeting the child’s needs, one option is that parents may go to court to resolve the dispute. The educational expert’s testimony is critical to the parents’ ability to persuade the hearing officer or judge.

Advocating for Fair School Observations

Our race began in 2012. Children’s Law Center’s education lawyers identified the school system’s objection to having parents and their experts observe children in class as a major barrier to securing needed special education supports. At that time, DC Public Schools (DCPS) had a vague policy that each school implemented differently.

Our early attempts to challenge DCPS’s observation policy through individual cases were unsuccessful so we decided to improve the law instead.

In 2014 and 2015, our policy and communications teams picked up the baton – ensuring the right to parent observation was included in DC’s landmark special education legislation: the 2014 Student Rights Act.

A Win for DC’s Special Education Students

But the race wasn’t over. DCPS interpreted the new law in a way that still prevented parents from using their own experts to advocate before a judge. This time our appellate team worked with our trial lawyers to identify a case we could appeal to federal court. Together, they found a family who had only been allowed to send an education consultant to observe their child in the classroom if the family signed an agreement that prohibited the expert from testifying later.

In July 2019, we finally crossed the finish line. The judge agreed with Children’s Law Center that DCPS’s reading of the law was incorrect:

> “The undersigned finds that the Student Rights Act’s plain language and legislative history support a finding that the [hearing officer determination] placed an unlawful burden on the [parent] by requiring her expert to sign a non-disclosure agreement prior to observing her child, and that this prevented her from fully participating in his IEP’s meeting.”

Deborah A. Robinson
United States Magistrate Judge

The court’s opinion is a big win for the District’s special education students – giving parents a stronger opportunity to meaningfully participate in their children’s education.

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*We always provide clients the option to change their name or use initials when sharing their story. Names in this story have not been changed.

2 Children’s Law Center is proud to work with many kinds of families. We use the term “parents” to represent all adults who can legally make decisions about a child’s education, including foster parents, grandparents, relatives and other important adults in a child’s life.

3 Individualized Education Program
The moment Ms. Woodson held her son Donnoven, she knew she’d do anything to fight for his future. What she didn’t know is just how much fighting she’d have to do.

Donnoven was born six weeks early. At four months old, his mom knew something wasn’t right. “He wasn’t turning over, he wasn’t crawling,” she recalled.

The pediatrician ignored her concerns, saying Donnoven would hit his milestones in time. Ms. Woodson later learned her son had a rare birth defect that impaired his development. During his first three years of life, her son underwent multiple surgeries.

When Ms. Woodson tried to enroll Donnoven in pre-kindergarten, DCPS told her it wasn’t necessary for him to attend. Ms. Woodson worried that DCPS had already given up on her son. That’s when she met Children’s Law Center.

Her Children’s Law Center team successfully advocated to get Donnoven in school. Then, a few years later, DCPS wanted to move Donnoven to a new elementary school – a school Ms. Woodson worried wouldn’t challenge Donnoven enough to learn. She believed DCPS was underestimating his potential and not seeing his strengths.

Children’s Law Center lawyer, Sarah Flohre, jumped back in.

“Working with Sarah was such a relief. I knew I wasn’t alone,” Ms. Woodson recalled. “She would say to me – ‘Ms. Woodson, let me do that. That’s what I’m here for.’”

Children’s Law Center filed in court to keep Donnoven in school with his typically developing peers and to increase services to help him communicate. But the battle was far from over. Flohre and Donnoven’s mom knew he could achieve even more, but they needed the family’s education consultant to observe Donnoven in his classroom.

DCPS agreed but only if Donnoven’s mom signed paperwork prohibiting the consultant from testifying about what the expert observed.

“DCPS’s actions were a direct violation of the 2014 Student Rights Act that CLC had worked so hard to pass,” said Melissa Colangelo, Children’s Law Center appellate project manager. “Sarah filed a due process complaint challenging the decision and lost, but it was from that loss that we achieved an even greater outcome.”

Children’s Law Center filed an appeal in District Court and won. For Ms. Woodson, the victory is more than just a legal one: Donnoven is learning at a school he loves.
IMPROVING OUTCOMES

ACTIVELY LISTENING TO CLIENTS AND THE COMMUNITY

At Children’s Law Center, we know how important it is to have our clients lead their representation. They know what is best for themselves and their families; our job, like that of any good lawyer, is to use our legal skills to help our clients reach their goals.

For almost a decade, we have tracked how well we have done in accomplishing our clients’ legal goals. We have even checked in with many clients two years later to make sure that our legal victory continues to translate into success for them. In short, are their children still healthy and learning?

What was missing from our self-evaluation was direct feedback from our clients about their experience. So, we asked them. Through listening sessions and surveys, we collected feedback from our clients as well as from parents who may someday need our assistance. We asked them to tell us what we do well, how we could improve and what barriers they faced securing legal assistance.

We’ve received important feedback about the difficulties our clients face staying involved in their case when they are juggling a long list of responsibilities with too few resources and limited support. Many of our clients have limited transportation, inflexible job schedules and fewer ways to communicate quickly and easily. We’ve also heard smart suggestions about how to explain complex legal information more simply and how to stay in touch more effectively when clients have only intermittent access to Wi-Fi.

Many of our clients have had negative experiences with lawyers, government agencies and other service providers. They are understandably skeptical when it comes to trusting their child’s future to a lawyer they don’t know.

We are using the feedback we heard to improve our services. For example, we heard that parents of children with uncontrolled asthma are often exhausted and overwhelmed by caring for their children. Before they are willing or able to work with a lawyer to improve the housing conditions that are exacerbating the asthma, they want to understand how their investment of time will help achieve positive results. We now hold initial meetings in clients’ homes and include both the lawyer and either an investigator or family outreach worker. This is convenient for our clients and, most importantly, gives them a chance to see how committed the Children’s Law Center legal team is to them.

We respect the time and thought our clients put into providing feedback. We are working to share back with them the ways their input has changed our practice. We plan to expand our use of feedback as a mechanism to be better partners with our clients and to improve our services.

“Whenever I share suggestions, I always wonder if they matter. Then, Children’s Law Center told me that because of my suggestion, they’re already doing things at the initial client meeting differently. It made me realize that they are listening to what I have to say.”

Tiara Cuthbertson
Former client and asthma advocate

“It is so rare for nonprofits to listen to the people they serve, implement those suggestions, and share how those ideas made an impact. I’m proud Children’s Law Center is leading the way – both soliciting feedback and taking the important step to integrate their input into our work.”

Elizabeth Bausch
Children’s Law Center Board Secretary
“I came to Children’s Law Center because I was committed to children and education. I’ve since come to see that health and family are inseparable from a child’s success.”

Creighton Magid
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* Board term ended in 2019

Special thanks to Rochelle-Leigh Rosenberg (Crowell & Moring LLP) and Allison D. Pugsley (Hogan Lovells US LLP) for their assistance with the advisory board.
Through our Champions for Children Campaign, law firms and corporations challenge themselves, their corporate contacts, associates, partners, vendors and staff to raise critical funds for Children’s Law Center. These generous contributions strengthen families and ensure positive health and education outcomes for DC children. While all participants are Champions for Children, our 2019 campaign winners are:

**BATES WHITE**

Charles H. Mullin
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**Miller & Chevalier**

Kathryn Cameron Atkinson
Chair
Champion among firms with 1-99 attorneys in the DC office

**MAYER BROWN**

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Champion among firms with 100-249 attorneys in the DC office

**LATHAM & WATKINS**

Michael G. Egge
Managing Partner | Washington, DC Office
Champion among firms with 250+ attorneys in the DC office
For 14-year-old Destiny*, her journey to a quality education was anything but straightforward. Luckily, her path crossed with pro bono attorney Rebecca Hekman at the right time.

Destiny and her sisters were triplets born prematurely with a range of disabilities. While others may have only seen limitations, Destiny’s mom, Shirley Monroe, and her stepdad, Tyrone Wright, knew their daughters deserved every opportunity.

When Destiny started middle school in DC Public Schools in 2016, she began experiencing seizures. Her parents grew concerned: What if she had a seizure when no one was there to help? They requested a dedicated aide to protect Destiny in the event of an episode, but the school refused. That’s when they turned to Children’s Law Center.

Rebecca, associate litigator at Clifford Chance US LLP, heard about the opportunity through Children’s Law Center’s pro bono program and immediately stepped in to help. Despite this being Rebecca’s first special education case, she knew she had the unflagging support of her firm and Children’s Law Center to advocate fiercely for Destiny.

Rebecca convinced the school to provide funding for an independent neuro-psychological evaluation, which revealed the significant extent to which Destiny had fallen behind due to inadequate support for her intellectual disability. It also underscored the need for a dedicated aide. Next, Rebecca entered Destiny in the DC school lottery to find a school that better fit her needs. Destiny was accepted into Friendship Public Charter Schools’ program for middle school students with intellectual disabilities and was later provided a 1:1 aide.

Rebecca reflects, “Having access to an aide was a gamechanger for Destiny – she finally had the attention and support she needed to do well.”

Rebecca stayed involved – securing compensatory education funding from DC Public Schools to support tutoring, attending every Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting and working with the family to ensure Destiny had what she needed to make academic progress and develop adaptive life skills.

Tragically, in April 2019, Destiny’s mom passed away.

“It was just devastating,” Rebecca shares. “But Tyrone is a saint. He is committed to his girls, attending every education meeting and just making it work.”

When Tyrone reached out to Rebecca for assistance in gaining custody of Destiny and her sisters, she and Clifford Chance didn’t hesitate to help.

“Working with Rebecca was great,” remembers Tyrone. “I knew that I could call her, any time, day or night, and she would be there to help.”

Rebecca’s help was critical: Destiny was then in eighth grade and about to transition into high school. Tyrone did not have the legal rights to make educational decisions for her.

After consulting Children’s Law Center pro bono mentors Kathy Zeisel and Diane Weinroth, Rebecca took on the family law case as well and helped Tyrone file for custody. A judge granted the order, allowing Tyrone to make crucial educational and medical decisions for his daughters. Destiny is now enrolled at Friendship Collegiate Academy and continues to make progress.

“None of this would have been possible without the support of Children’s Law Center, particularly Kathy and Diane’s mentorship,” says Rebecca. “It has been incredibly rewarding both to contribute to the community and to work on a matter that directly impacts a family’s life.”

Through twists, turns and tragedy, Rebecca never gave up – because Shirley and Tyrone never stopped fighting.

*We always provide clients the option to change their name or use initials when sharing their story. Names in this story have not been changed.
The DC area’s top law firms, government lawyers and in-house legal departments turn to Children’s Law Center for meaningful pro bono opportunities. Our partners know that in exchange for their time, they will be given world-class mentorship, training and materials that will set them up for success. Many lawyers attest that taking a Children’s Law Center pro bono case both develops their skills and touches their hearts – because our cases are life-changing.

Thank you to the following pro bono partners who – because of their tenacious advocacy – help us reach more of our neighbors in need:

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“When someone says ‘premier nonprofit,’ Children’s Law Center is one of the first names that comes to mind. Accenture is proud to partner with an organization that focuses on making authentic and lasting change for children.”

Michael J. Cammarota
Managing Director, Senior Director of Legal Services, Global Transactions, Accenture LLP

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- Williams & Connolly LLP

Hali Kerr (left) and Isabel Treichel (right) continue Covington & Burling’s 19 years of “loaning” associates and paralegals to Children’s Law Center to represent children and caregivers.

“...We are privileged to partner with Children’s Law Center, one of the best non-profits for kids in the Nation’s capital. Not only does Children’s Law Center share Dentons’ commitment as the world’s largest law firm to making communities stronger and healthier, but we also know that a gift to CLC is an investment in our future.”

Mike McNamara
Chief Executive Officer, Dentons US LLP

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$10,000 - $14,999
Accenture LLP
Arent Fox LLP*
CBRE
Children’s National Health System
Clark Enterprises, Inc.
Clifford Chance US LLP
Cooley LLP
Delta Star, Inc.
The Dorsey & Whitney Foundation
Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP*
Locke Lord LLP
Marsh Law Firm PLLC
The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Inc.
Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP*
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP*
Sworkit
Walker & Dunlop
WilmerHale*

$5,000 - $9,999
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP*
Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC
Consilio
Deka Immobilien Global
Feldesman Tucker Leifer Fidell LLP
Fragomen Worldwide
FTI Consulting, Inc.
Gensler
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Goulston & Storrs PC
HITT Contracting Inc.
Holland & Knight LLP
Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP
Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP*
Kiernan PLLC
Lowenstein Sandler LLP*
McLarty Companies
Miller & Chevalier Chartered*
Optum
Pepper Hamilton LLP
Raffa Financial Services, Inc.
Thomson Reuters
White & Case LLP
Wiley Rein LLP
Wilkinson Walsh + Eskovitz LLP
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati Foundation
Winston & Strawn LLP

$3,000 - $4,999
Alliant Insurance Services
Buckley LLP*
CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield
Citi Private Bank
Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP
DLA Piper*
Dykema Gossett PLLC
Evermay Wealth Management, LLC
Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
Fannie Mae
Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP
KLDiscovey
Linklaters LLP
Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
Seasons Culinary Services, Inc.
SunTrust Foundation

* These firms participate in the DC Access to Justice Commission’s Raising the Bar in DC Campaign.
Thank you to the 2019 members of our Kite Club, Children’s Law Center’s most generous individual and family foundation donors. You provide the support that allows us to work day in and day out with DC’s most vulnerable children, and you ensure Children’s Law Center remains a strong, anchor institution.

$500,000+
Diana and Stephen Goldberg*

$250,000 - $499,999
The Andrew and Julie Klingenstein Family Fund*
MAJIC Vermont Foundation

$100,000 - $249,999
Elizabeth and Justin Bausch*
Evan Miller and Nancy Hedin*
Page and Howard Smith*

$25,000 - $49,999
Vicki and Michael Foster
Manu Gayatrinath and Anthony Cruz
Wendy and Fred Goldberg
Lois & Richard England Family Foundation
Creighton and Vicky Magid
Theodore D. Segal and Joyce Wasserstein

$20,000 - $24,999
Jim Bodner and Victoria Greenfield
Jule Cahill Crider and Greg Crider
Fred and Jill Klein
Charles F. (Rick) Rule

$10,000 - $19,999
Cindy and Mark Aron*
Beaverdale Foundation
John T. Bentivoglio
Brian V. Breheny and Pedro Lay
Nancy and Fritz Chockley
David and Martha Dantzic
Mitch and Carrie Ettinger
The Hanley Foundation DC
Sachiko Kuno
Dan Masur and Sherry Rhodes
The Nord Family Foundation
Anthony and Dale Pappas
Ina and Terrance Sandalow
Nancy and Simon Sidamon-Eristoff

Katie and Dick Snowdon
Daniel Volchok and Kathleen Keller

$5,000 – $9,999
Anonymous
Virginia Anthony
The Bajaj Family
Nathaniel and Lee Beers
Jeff Brennan and Debbie Feinstein
Miguel Browne and Silvija Strikis
Tom and Kristy Bulleit
Jill Caiazzo
Anne P. Davis
Joyce Deroy and Warren King
Alice and Clint Fisher
Elizabeth and Michael Galvin
J. Beth and Roland Goss
Stephanie P. Hales and Thomas L. Devlin
Steven and Carla Heger
The Honorable Gladys Kessler (Ret.)
Courtenay and Michael Labson
Claire M. Maddox
Robert Musselewhite
John M. Nannes
Jane and Thad Paul
Alan and Miriam Pemberton
Thomas Pheasant and Juan Carlos Rincones
Judith Sandalow
Lila and Brendan Sullivan
Keith and Geetha Waehrer
Melissa Wiley
Kathie and Mike Williams

$3,000 – $4,999
Meagan and John Barkett
Chiquita and M. Allyn Brooks-LaSure
Steven Cline and Christopher Bolck
Dorothy and Joseph Conti
Evan and Amanda Farber
Jonathan Franklin and Sharon Bradford Franklin
Andrew Greenfield

Lisa Greenman and Paul Leder
Laura and Rob Griffen
Shira M. Helstrom
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Jason Licht and Kathryn Love
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Alison and Michael Nadel
Chris Pernin
Don and Olwen Pongrace
Timothy W. Riffe
Jessica Rosenbaum
Rachel and Paul Sheridan
Brian Shook and Derek Thomas
Linda and Steuart Thomesen
The Zerhouni Family Charitable Foundation
Joanne L. Zimolzak and Eric Sampson

“We appreciate the importance and impact of the work done by Children’s Law Center. We hope that through personal engagement, including pro bono efforts and financial contributions, more people will empower CLC to meaningfully assist the District’s children who are most in need.”

Mitch & Carrie Ettinger
$1,500 - $2,999
Anonymous (3)
Jessica C. Abrahams
Allison L. Alexander and Gregory B. Coleman
Diane Ambler and Ethan Grossman
Kady Ashley
Bill and Olivia Baker
James H. Barker
Stephanie and Joel Bell
Paul R. Berger
Will Berger
Charles Berk
Benjamin Berman
Bruce Bochner and Jacqueline Schaffer
Meredith L. Boylan
Shirley Brandman and Howard Shapiro
Jim and Marian Brodsky
Jennifer and Branden Brough
David Brown
Erin Brown Jones
Cory and Rachel Capps
Blair Adams Carty
Jeffrey Chenard
Barton Clark
Cheryl Coe
Ronald Coenen Jr.
Erin Collier and Nhan Nguyen
H. Guy Collier and Catherine Colyer
Paul and Ana Collins
Theresa and Frank Connolly
Theresa M. Coughlin
Dina and Wayne Curtis
Nathaniel Custer and Daniela Bailey
Karen M. Dale
Christopher Davies and Stephanie Martz
David Della Rocca
David DeRamus and Rosemary Regis
Victor J. Desantis
A. Patrick Doyle and Elizabeth Downes
David Edwards and Jacqueline Holmes
Heidi Eitel and Brian Yourish
Joseph and Jane Farrell
Ales Filipi
Heather Fine
Miriam Fisher
Sean M. FitzGerald and Maria Jose Brando Vernaza
Marc and Phyllis Fleischaker
Scott Forchheimer
Ruth Friedman
Natasha Gianvecchio
Charlotte Gillingham
Benjamin Gitterman
Carolyn Gleason
Adam C. Goldstein
Joel and Rebecca Green
Douglas Greenburg
Michael J. Gridley
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Tom Hanusik
Nancy Hendry and Bill Baer
Henry E. Niles Foundation
Anthony Herman and Deborah A. Wilson
Karen Herrling and Dan Porterfield
Shagufa Hossain
Jessica Hough and Raina Brubaker
The Hy and Myra Shapiro Foundation
Everett Johnson
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Alan and Liz Kopin
Judith Korn
Brian Kawalski
Ed Lazere and Suzanne Griffith
Brenda Lee and Scott Neuman
Michael D. Mann and Carol Saltzman
Nikki McArthur
Jim and Marilyn McCullough
Stacey and Jay McEvy
Franklin McLarty
J.B. and Kate Meek
Nicole and Joshua Mintz
Leakhenia Mom-Price
Ronald Morgan
Stephanie Mueller
Pamela and Byrne Murphy
Kenneth Noyes and Ignacio Morales-Villarreal
Jessica Nyman and Zac Childers
Brian O’Connell
Lucy and David Ordoobadi
Katherine Pappas and Craig Goldstein
Thomas Papson and Toby Singer
Elizabeth Park
Ruth and Stephen Pollak
Emily and Marc Porter
Julia and Jonathan Post
Allison and Christopher Pugsley
Abid Qureshi
James Rocap
Rochelle-Leigh Rosenberg and Daniel Ben-Zadok
Bruce and Lori Laitman Rosenblum
Simone E. Ross
Kathryn Ruemmler
Nicole Saharsky
James Sandman and Elizabeth Mullin
Janice Schneider
Hena Schommer and Carolyn Lindley
Nathan Seltzer and Megan Quinlan
Patrick and Karoline Shannon
Benjamin and Sarah Shapiro
Lynda Guild Simpson and Richard A. Simpson
Amy and Michael Sklair
Eric Sonnenschein
Lori and Ben Soto
Evan and Anne Tager
Stephen J. Teach and Elizabeth B. Jewett
Jennifer Van Driesen
Hillary Webber and Eric Conn
Jeannette Wick
Jeremiah Wolsk
Chris Wright and Becky Troth
Margaret Zwisler
* Children Can’t Wait Fund donors (see inside back cover).
(Legacy Society members who have named Children’s Law Center in their estate plan.

The Helping Children Soar Benefit at the Kennedy Center Roof Terrace Restaurant brings together new and long-time supporters like Catherine Wooley, Page Smith and Katie Snowdon.)
$500 – $1,499
Anonymous (3)
Robert and Elena Allbritton
James and Masako Armstrong
David Barrett
James Barrett
Aaron Bartell and Talia Dubovi
Deborah Baum
Peter Baumbusch
Bruce and Deborah Berman
Alan Berube and Cristina Boccuti
Marcia and Donald Bisenius
William Blumenthal
Tracey Braun and Chris McIsaac
Rick Bress
Karen and Nicholas Bruni
William and Patty Carrington
Kevin Chambers
Lorraine Charlton
Mark Chopko
Nick Christakos
Donald Clarke
Dawn Crowell
Rob and Teri Culbertson
Ronald and Jessica Dabrowski
Mysti Degani
Nicholas Denovio
Adam and Ginger Di Vincenzo
Ona Alston Dosunmu
Karen and Jon Dubrow
Joanna Edgell
Keith Egan
Michael and April Egge
Laura Ellsworth
Eugene Elrod
Karen K. Epstein
Julie Farkas and Seth Goldman
Lisa Fastenberg and David Rabinowitz
Adam Finn and Laura Hillstrom
Ari Fitzgerald
Kermit and Christine Fruechte
Tracey Fung

Former Children’s Law Center client Keisha Hale shares her journey as a foster child during our 2019 Helping Children Soar Benefit.
October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019

**REVENUE AND SUPPORT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DC Court Contractual Service</td>
<td>$5,772,953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$1,825,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-year Grants*</td>
<td>$850,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$1,748,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated Goods &amp; Services</td>
<td>$465,534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>$32,005</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,693,878</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Can’t Wait Fund*</td>
<td>$942,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**EXPENSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Legal Programs</td>
<td>$8,139,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and Administrative</td>
<td>$914,751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$627,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,681,615</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Includes multi-year pledges that will be paid through FY23.

84 cents of every dollar is spent on program services
CHILDREN CAN’T WAIT FUND

Staff and Donors Put Children First

Our financial statement on the preceding page reflects the nearly $2 million loss of federal funding that Children’s Law Center sustained in fiscal year 2019. What it doesn’t show is how that reduction impacted our staff and the children and families we serve.

Children’s Law Center came together in response to the funding cut with one guiding principal: continue to help as many DC children as possible secure the foundation of family, health and education they need to thrive. To do this, we took several short-term steps. First, staff gave up their annual raises. Second, we developed as lean a budget as possible. Ultimately, we made hard choices about eliminating positions and laying off staff. Despite these efforts, the size of the funding reduction meant we reached several hundred fewer children than we did in 2018.

Throughout 2019 the generosity and commitment of our donors* gave us confidence to focus on our mission with renewed fervor. Increased and expanded support from new and longstanding donors alike allowed us to reinvest in our greatest asset—our staff. Although the sharp decrease in federal funding has continued for a second year, we have found ways to expand our impact. With no certainty that the federal funding will ever be restored, a group of donors, led by Diana & Stephen Goldberg, has begun to build the Children Can’t Wait Fund to help us remain a stable, anchor institution—one that will continue to have a profound impact on our children and our community.

Creighton Magid,
Board Chair

*Indicates Children Can’t Wait Fund donors on pages 14 & 16.