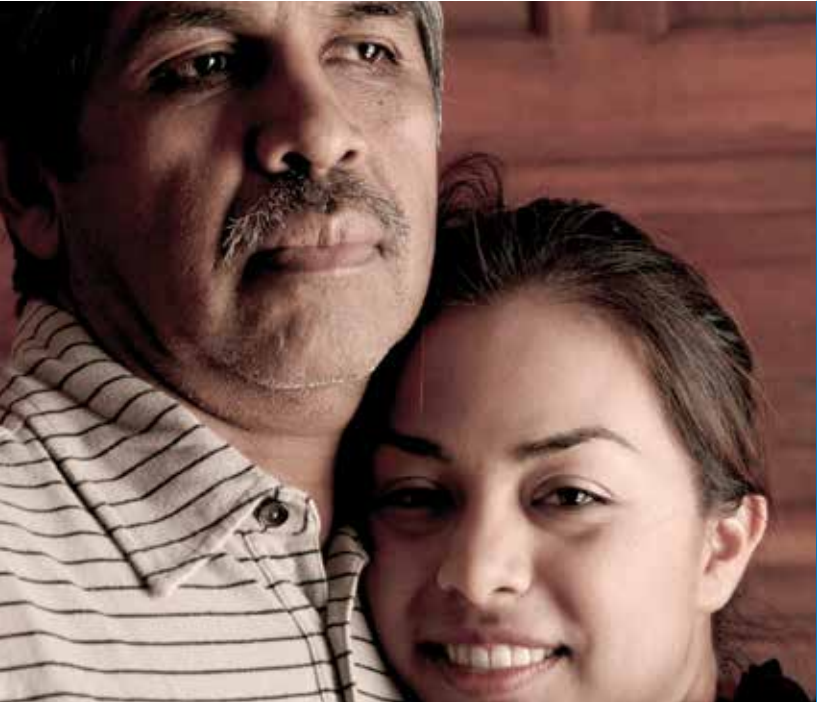




For more than 20 years,  
Children's Law Center  
has been fighting for  
**DC's most vulnerable  
children and families**,  
no matter how daunting the  
family, health or education  
challenges they face.

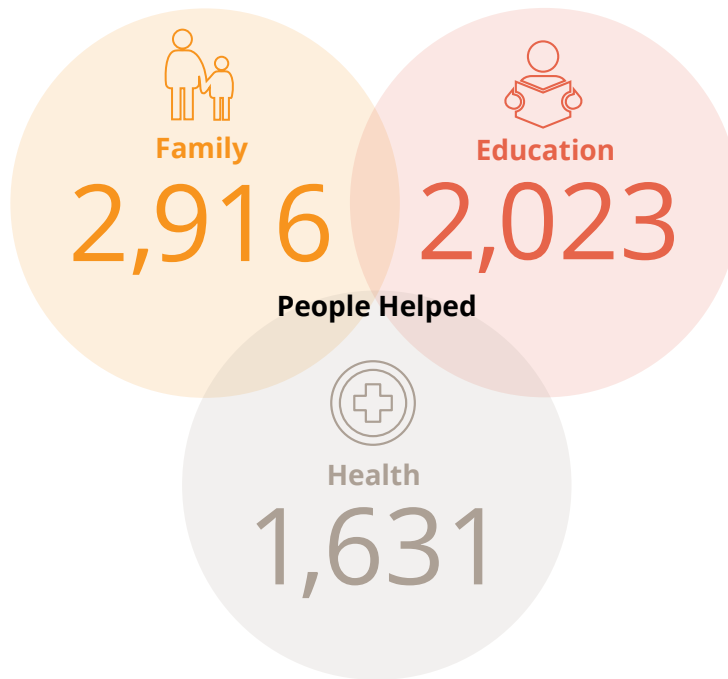


**2016 Annual Report**

Children's Law Center works hard to protect our clients' confidentiality and we have changed the names of all children. In addition, the names and image of the Rodriguez family have been changed. All other details are true.

## Transforming the Lives of DC's Children

Children's Law Center helped **5,500** children and families in 2016



We reached  
**1 of every 9**  
children living in DC's poorest neighborhoods

We trained:  
**1,484**  
judges, pediatricians, parents, social workers, youth, pro bono lawyers and caregivers

### Our policy work delivered real results to thousands of children:



**12,250**  
children who need special  
education services



**16,000**  
children who received  
mental health treatment



**12,000**  
children whose families  
rely on cash assistance

## Fighting – and Winning – for Kids and Families

Imagine a child in trouble. Do you picture a student suspended for disruptive behavior? A toddler left alone by his mother? A teenager who has life-threatening asthma attacks in the middle of the night?

These are among the troubles children in the District face every day.

In the pages of this annual report, you will read about Darren Pegram, Akhil Medley and Laila Rodriguez, who are among the thousands of children and families Children's Law Center fought for in 2016. Our work helped transform their lives.

As you read, you will see the greater threat to these and other DC kids is a school system that is often unresponsive, a foster care system that is broken, health agencies that are overly bureaucratic and immigration laws that are difficult to navigate, harsh and punitive.

More than anything else, at-risk children in DC need these institutions to work for them; they need schools, hospitals and government agencies that anticipate as well as address their needs. That's why, in addition to the individual cases we handle on behalf of children each year, Children's Law Center works hard to strengthen key DC institutions. We are alert to every budget cut, policy reform or leadership change that could weaken an institution's ability to help children and families. We press DC leaders to adopt budgets that put children first, fight for policies that address the real needs of our most vulnerable children, and work with government agencies to improve the programs children need to be safe, healthy and learning.

Our policy work amplifies our impact. We provided individual assistance to 5,500 kids and families in 2016, and our vigilance and advocacy benefited tens of thousands.



We couldn't do any of this without the generous support of our donors, the invaluable contributions of our pro bono attorneys, the remarkable work of our talented and tenacious staff and the strategic leadership of our boards.

The coming year will bring unprecedented challenges as the new administration implements its policy agenda. Many of our children have already lost their sense of safety, and the entire city will soon feel the impact. In the face of these turbulent headwinds, your support is more important than ever. Whatever comes our way, Children's Law Center will fight every day to ensure that DC's children continue to thrive.

**Judith Sandalow**  
*Executive Director*

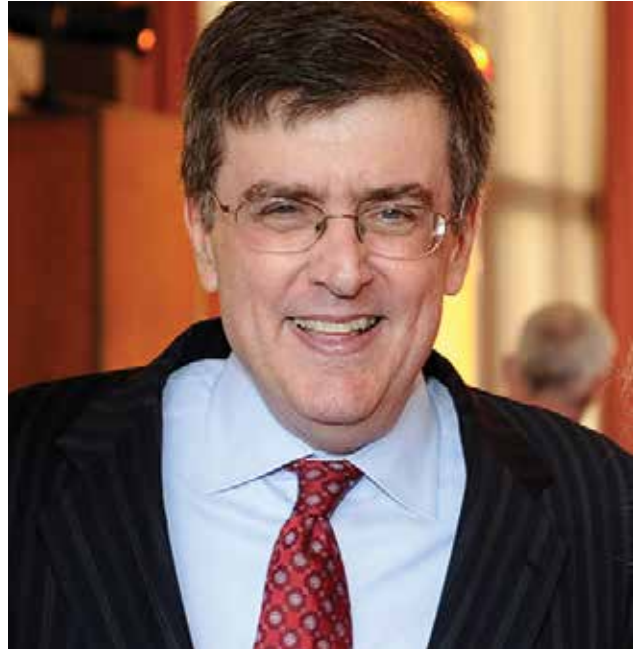
## The Gold Standard

If Children's Law Center was once a well-kept secret, today we are well known as the gold standard for nonprofits. Our talented staff leaves no stone unturned in finding ways to help at-risk kids. Our governing, emeritus and advisory boards are engaged and strategic. Our pro bono attorneys are skilled and committed.

We are immensely proud to be a fixture in the District – a bedrock legal services provider that families, other professionals and institutions count on to make life better for children. And in 2016, we reached 5,500 children and families – more than ever before.

We were able to help more children because of our growing cadre of generous donors, especially members of our Kite Club, who give \$1,500 or more each year. We are also grateful to our friends at the Jones Day Foundation and the Deerbrook Charitable Trust, who stepped forward to fund an expansion of our medical-legal partnership to the Unity Health Clinic in Upper Cardozo. And we are thrilled to be moving into a larger, more functional space, situated closer to the Family Court, in 2017.

In a world that seems to change by the hour, DC's children can soar only if they can count on advocates with the passion, resources, expertise and staying-power to support them over the long term. Thanks to your generosity, Children's Law Center enters its third decade of service to DC's most vulnerable children stronger than ever.



With your continued support, Children's Law Center will be able to maintain and draw on that strength, and help DC's children overcome the challenges they face in 2017 and beyond.

Each of Children's Law Center's committed, passionate board members joins me in thanking you for everything you have done – and everything you will continue to do – to help us keep winning for DC's kids, every single day.

**Theodore D. Segal**

*Chair, Board of Directors*

*"We are immensely proud to be a fixture in the District – a bedrock legal services provider that families, other professionals and institutions count on to make life better for children."*



## Darren and Kenny Pegram

**Growing up in today's world can be hard. Growing up in poverty is even harder.**

Children's Law Center works every day to give DC's kids loving families, good health and a quality education, so they can get the best possible start in life. We know children's problems don't fall into neat legal categories, so we ask the hard questions that help us identify and address all the barriers that may stand in the way of a child's success. It made all the difference for Darren.

### A Loving Parent: The Best Education Advocate of All

Outgoing, clever, insightful, funny – that's how Kenny Pegram describes his son, 7-year-old Darren. But when Darren first came into foster care at age 4, these wonderful qualities were nowhere in sight. His Children's Law Center attorney, Megan Conway, remembers that Darren was clingy and would hug strangers, sometimes calling them Mommy or Daddy.

Darren was also a bundle of energy at school. He frequently ran out of his classroom and once made it across the street and into a corner store before his teacher could catch him.

As soon as a judge appointed Conway to represent Darren, she sprung into action, using every tool available. She reviewed Darren's school and medical records, teamed with his social worker, filed motions to expedite his access to counseling and other supports, and pulled in another Children's Law Center lawyer, D.D. Davis, to address his learning needs.

But Conway knew that all her work to give Darren the right education and mental health supports would only take him so far. She needed to fill the big emotional hole in Darren's heart.

That's where Pegram came in. Conway advocated that Darren be placed with a foster family that could adopt him and, luckily, Pegram was available.



Kenny and Darren Pegram



## Measuring Results Improves Practice

*Children's Law Center measures the impact of our legal interventions to ensure that our advocacy makes a long-term difference in children's lives. Our evaluation reveals that children are twice as likely to be learning, healthy and safe two years after we help them if we have coached their parents or caregivers on how to be strong advocates. In 2016, we turned this learning into action: Now we explicitly coach all of our adult clients to be good advocates – just like Kenny Pegram.*

Darren has flourished in his care. Conway says Pegram has become “a solid, stable rock” for Darren and recalls a social worker describing him as Darren’s “emotional safe space.”

Pegram had all the love in the world to share with Darren, but he wasn’t sure how to fight for Darren at school. So Conway and Davis included him at every step as they advocated for play therapy, requested a psychiatric evaluation, developed an individualized education plan and worked to get Darren a dedicated aide during the school day.

Not only did the extra support help Darren, but along the way Conway and Davis taught Pegram how to be a first-rate advocate for his son. Recently, when Darren misbehaved at his after-school program, Pegram put the strategies he learned from Children’s Law Center into practice. “I had to give them different alternatives as to how they might have to handle him because, no, we’re not going to blame the 7-year-old,” Pegram says.

His advocacy worked. Staff changes were made and now things are running smoothly.

But even as Darren learned to trust Pegram, he still missed his mother and worried he would never see her again. Pegram told Darren his mother would always be part of their family, saying “I can’t wait to meet your mom and give her a big, old hug.” And he made good on that promise. Today, Darren visits with his mother, knowing he can love her while coming to understand that she can’t provide the safety and security of his “rock.”

Pegram’s adoption of Darren was finalized on National Adoption Day. Looking ahead, Pegram sees a future in which Darren can put his clever mind to use. But, whatever path Darren chooses, Pegram knows he will grow up with no doubt about one thing: “He will always know that I’m here for him and my family’s here for him.”

*“He will always know that I’m here for him...”*

— **Kenny Pegram**

## Akhil and Ellen Medley

Sometimes a skilled legal advocate can help turn life around for a family at risk. Children's Law Center has created a **powerful community of savvy, experienced attorneys** who know how to fight for children – no matter how complex their situations or how urgent their needs. **DC's largest nonprofit legal services provider**, Children's Law Center is a fixture in DC, providing support to vulnerable families for more than 20 years. Here's how Children's Law Center helped Ellen and Akhil.

### Breaking the Cycle of Neglect

"Without Children's Law Center, I wouldn't have Akhil."

Ellen Medley spent her childhood in foster care. She had "a lot of lawyers." She can't remember any of their names.

But when Medley's son, Akhil, went into foster care, the judge appointed Jess Kurtz from Children's Law Center to look out for his best interests – giving Medley the chance to see what a tenacious, caring lawyer can accomplish.

Kurtz realized immediately that Akhil wasn't safe with Medley while she was using drugs. But Kurtz also saw that she had good parenting skills and was determined to protect her son from her drug use. So Kurtz advocated for Medley to participate in Family Treatment Court, a program for mothers whose substance abuse problems have led to allegations of child abuse or neglect.

"I had a very tough love phone call with Ellen," Kurtz says. "I told her she had to step up, and she did."

"It was a big wake-up call for me," Medley remembers.

Like many children in foster care, Akhil had serious developmental delays. Although he was more than a year old, he couldn't walk, talk or eat soft foods.



Ellen and Akhil Medley





*“Initially we provided gifts for children in foster care. Over time we learned more about Children’s Law Center. While a holiday gift can brighten a child’s day or week, advocating for a stable home, safe housing and educational accommodations has a more significant impact on a child’s life, so we became year-round donors!”*

**— George Giamas and Julie Roberts**

From the start, Kurtz fought for early intervention services, such as speech and occupational therapy, so Akhil could catch up. Once Medley was stable in treatment, Kurtz included her in meetings so she could learn to advocate for Akhil herself. It worked. When home-based services weren’t intensive enough, Medley secured a hard-to-get spot at a full-time child care program for children with special needs.

When Medley graduated from the Family Treatment Court program, she regained custody of Akhil. Now that she is drug-free, she has become the mother that Kurtz knew she could be. Akhil’s speech therapist gave Medley tricks to get Akhil to talk more at home. She’s using them, and Akhil surprises her with all he’s learning. He can walk, repeat everything she says and is learning sign language.

To make Akhil’s first Christmas at home with his mother special, he participated in Children’s Law Center’s Holiday Hope Drive. Akhil received a LeapPad and a toy car – and Medley received a \$200 gift card that she used to buy groceries and clothes. The gifts meant as much to Medley as they did to Akhil.

The best gift of all, however, is what Children’s Law Center did to help Medley break the cycle of abuse and neglect, and to give Akhil a chance to grow up with a loving mother who can fight for the education and health care he needs.



### **Holiday Hope Drive**

*The Medleys were among the hundreds of families that benefited from our Holiday Hope Drive last year. Donors like Julie Roberts and George Giamas (above) provided toys, books, clothing and groceries to many of Children’s Law Center’s clients to help spread cheer during the holiday season – an especially difficult time for our children and families.*

## Laila and Carlos Rodriguez

**Health care** and **immigration** are two of the most fraught, challenging issues facing the nation. Without question, that's true for DC, too. Navigating those two systems is complex, high-stakes and almost impossible for lay people to manage. Without a skilled advocate, steep medical bills and vulnerable immigration status could have derailed life for Laila and her uncle, Carlos, but Children's Law Center stepped in.

### Looking Beyond the Symptoms

When a child struggles with asthma, most parents don't think to call a lawyer. So Children's Law Center teams with pediatricians across the District, training them to recognize when a lawyer can be a life-saver.

That's how Carlos Rodriguez and his niece, Laila, came to Children's Law Center.

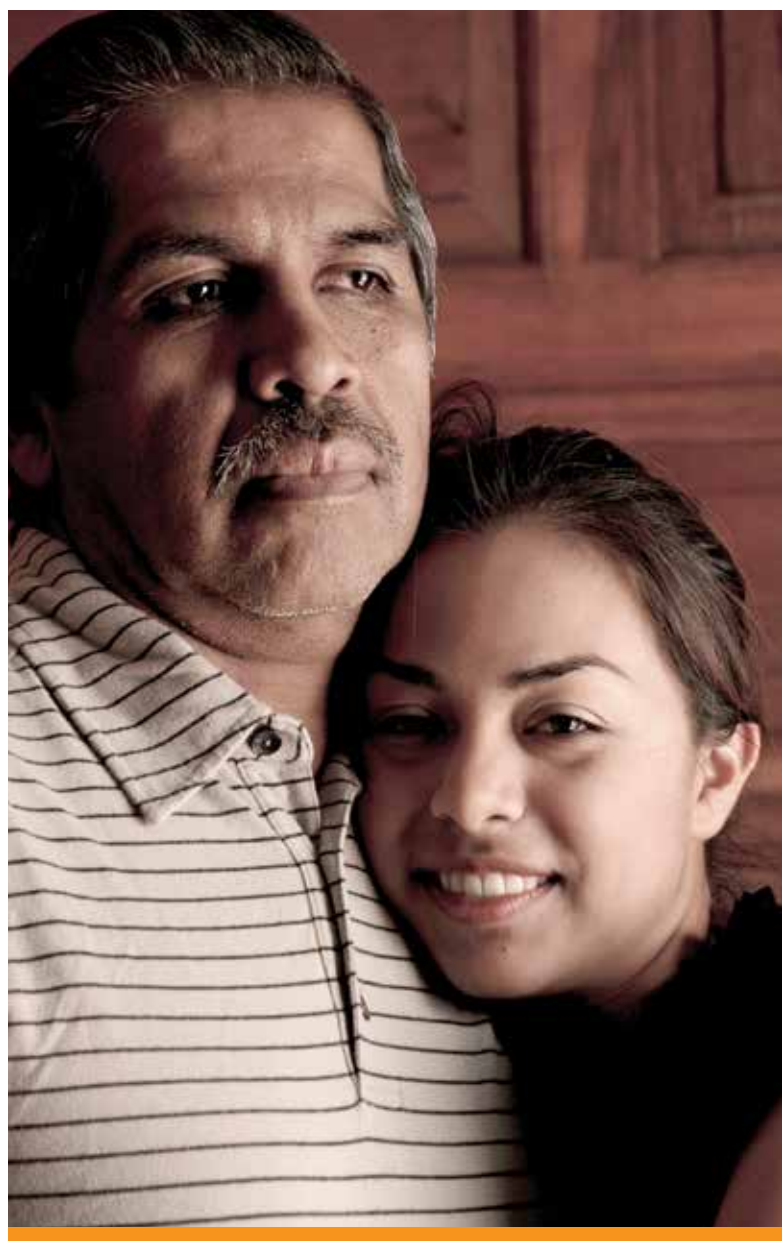
Rodriguez, who works in school maintenance, faced \$12,000 in hospital bills resulting from Laila's emergency care for life-threatening asthma. He couldn't pay the bills and worried about the debt collection agencies.

Rodriguez has cared for Laila ever since her grandmother passed away several years ago. Her grandmother brought Laila to the United States from El Salvador when Laila was 9 years old, after Laila's father murdered her mother. He is serving a 30-year prison sentence.

Since arriving in DC, Laila has become a good student who loves to learn. But her asthma has persisted and, with it, trips to hospital emergency rooms when she cannot breathe.

Because of the unpaid bills, Rodriguez has to decide during every asthma attack if it is serious enough to warrant an expensive trip to the hospital.

A social worker knew Children's Law Center has a lawyer onsite at Mary's Center, a local health





## Expanding to Upper Cardozo

*Through our medical-legal partnership, Children's Law Center uses legal advocacy to address the root causes of children's health problems. Thanks to a 2016 commitment from the Jones Day Foundation and Deerbrook Charitable Trust, we expanded our partnership to Unity Health Clinic in Upper Cardozo, which serves low-income families in a predominantly Latino community. Staff attorney Adrian Alvarez works on-site as a member of the medical team.*

clinic, and urged Rodriguez to call. He did, and attorneys Kathy Zeisel and Thayer Hardwick got involved, negotiating with the hospital to get Laila's bill reduced to just \$100. They also got her Medicaid coverage reinstated so future bills would be paid.

Children's Law Center knows a child's well-being requires security in all areas of her life – family, health and education. And Zeisel realized Laila's well-being was at risk in two additional ways. First, her uncle did not have legal custody of her and, thus, would be hampered in securing quality health care for Laila. Second, and perhaps more importantly, although Rodriguez is a U.S. citizen, Laila did not have legal immigration status. Without it, she was subject to deportation and could not participate in DC's summer teen jobs program and would not be able to secure financial aid for college or a job.

Zeisel knew that if Rodriguez filed for custody, it would help Laila qualify for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), a first step toward permanent legal status. So she filed a case in family court and got the necessary custody order needed to pursue SIJS. Children's Law Center then connected Laila to a lawyer who is working to get her permanent status and a Social Security card of her own.

Today, Laila is a studious 15-year-old who thrives at a public charter school. In her spare time, she loves to make pupusas for her family and friends.

Rodriguez's goal for his niece? The chance to own a house, which represents the security he lacked growing up poor and without an education in El Salvador. With Laila's medical bills resolved and her immigration status being addressed, Rodriguez is helping her make this dream a reality, starting with a high school diploma and a college degree.



Kathy Zeisel, a senior supervising attorney, onsite at a clinic with our Healthy Together medical-legal partnership



## Policy

Children’s Law Center **builds its policy agenda** from the real-world experiences of the **5,500 children and families** we assist each year. Together with in-depth legal analysis, thoughtful strategy and thorough research on best practices, we use these experiences to drive our work as we partner with policymakers, government leaders and allies to improve policies, practices and laws that impact the District’s children.

### Our top policy priorities:

- **Education.** We work to ensure children with special needs and children in foster care get the education they need to succeed in school and in life.
- **Health.** Experts estimate that as many as 20,000 of the District’s children need mental health care, and thousands get no care at all. We work to get high quality services to children sooner by increasing funding and breaking down bureaucratic barriers that prevent children from getting care.
- **Family.** We advocate to improve DC’s child welfare system so more children can remain safely with their parents and relatives, foster children and their caregivers get the support they need and older foster youth have the opportunity to be successful and independent.



Damon King, senior policy attorney, testifying before the DC Council at an oversight hearing

### We had tremendous victories in 2016:

- ✓ More than 12,000 children were faced with the prospect of having no cash support because District law threatened to eliminate welfare benefits (called TANF or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) to their families. Children’s Law Center joined forces with the DC Fiscal Policy Institute to lead a coalition that preserved these benefits and secured a commitment from Mayor Muriel Bowser to develop a humane TANF policy in 2017.
- ✓ 2,000 infants and toddlers in DC have developmental delays that threaten their well-being. Children’s Law Center secured the funding needed to continue to provide early intervention services for half of these children – the ones with the most significant delays. We also secured a commitment that the remaining children will get these services by 2018, preventing a planned four-year delay in expanding these essential services.





✓ Foster youth don't have parents to help them prepare for college and careers. Children's Law Center convinced DC's child welfare agency to begin working with foster youth in middle school (rather than waiting until 11th grade) to give them the tools they need to prepare for their futures – and then secured the funding from the DC Council that allowed the agency to hire the needed staff.

Our policy work is as varied as the needs of the District's children. In 2016, Children's Law Center testified at the DC Council more than 30 times on a range of issues including education, immigration, health, housing, foster parenting, transportation, child sex trafficking and more. Just ask councilmembers about our testimony and they are likely to tell you about our expertise, our solution-oriented approach – and our extensive endnotes!

We also meet regularly with the leaders of key government agencies, work closely with agency staff and partner with allies in several influential coalitions.

Perhaps most importantly, we are pragmatic and goal-oriented, with proven ability to adjust to the ever-shifting political landscape. When the 2016 election results made clear that we should expect dramatic changes to federal policy and budget, we began working with DC's top officials to determine what the impact will be on the city's low-income children. We are planning for the day when federal funding for basic necessities like food, housing and child care is cut, and DC has to replace federal dollars that once provided basic services to its low-income families. That will be a key focus of Children's Law Center's policy work in 2017.

*"We haven't always agreed, but your comments and testimony are specific and thought out."*

— **Phil Mendelson**, DC Council Chair

## Pro Bono

*"If this was the only case I ever handled, the whole process of getting my law degree would be worth it. I changed someone's life."*

— **Matthew J. Holt**, Associate, Latham & Watkins LLP

## A Win for Children and for Lawyers

Every day, Children's Law Center takes calls about children at risk. Judges seek counsel to protect a child's best interests during a high-conflict custody dispute. Pediatricians raise concerns that a child's dangerous outbursts result from learning disabilities or that a child's uncontrolled asthma is caused by deplorable housing conditions. Social workers want to facilitate adoptions. Parents and grandparents fear for a child who isn't learning or who is living in an unsafe situation. Without a lawyer, the caller can't navigate the legal labyrinth in order to protect a child and unlock her or his potential.

There aren't enough hours in the day for Children's Law Center's 100-person staff of lawyers, social workers and investigators to assist every child in need.

For this reason, we built a network of more than 500 pro bono attorneys from the District's top law firms, corporations and government agencies. Although their primary

expertise may be intellectual property, mergers and acquisitions or commercial litigation, they partner with us to make the District more safe and just for all its children.

Children's Law Center arms each pro bono attorney with the training and support needed to win. Pro bono lawyers have access to an online compendium of world-class legal materials and an experienced Children's Law Center attorney who is available to mentor them, strategize about legal theory and provide critical information about local practice.

In 2016, pro bono lawyers transformed the lives of hundreds of children and families — while also helping themselves. Well more than half of our pro bono lawyers say the experience improved their client counseling, negotiation and litigation skills — and many report that their work with Children's Law Center resulted in their first hug from a client.

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## Zach's Family United

Zach's mother abandoned him shortly after his birth. His paternal grandparents gained shared custody and raised him until he was 6 years old. Concerned that Zach's grandmother was physically and emotionally abusive toward Zach, his grandfather removed him from the family's

home and sought sole legal custody. The judge asked Children's Law Center to find a lawyer to represent Zach's best interests in the custody proceeding. Latham associate Matthew Holt agreed to take the matter on a pro bono basis.



## 2016 Children's Pro Bono Champion

*A team from Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP after receiving their award at the 2016 Helping Children Soar Benefit.*

Holt's thorough investigation led to a shocking discovery: Zach's father, Isaiah Spencer, never intended to relinquish full custody to Zach's grandparents. But, without help from a lawyer, he had inadvertently given up custody to his parents while in court trying to get Zach covered under his parents' health insurance. It was a devastating loss, made more painful when Spencer had to relocate to Florida with Zach's younger brother and could not take Zach with him. After moving away, Spencer worried about Zach night and day, often breaking into tears when he talked about his son and how he wished he still had custody.

Holt quickly determined it was in Zach's best interest to be reunited with his father. He turned to his Children's Law Center mentor, Diane Weinroth, to help craft a legal strategy. With her guidance and with support from colleagues at Latham, Holt argued that Spencer had not knowingly consented to his parents taking custody of Zach and that custody should be returned to Spencer. Spencer's father, Zach's grandfather, supported the motion.

The judge agreed. Zach is being reunited with his father and younger brother. And his grandfather can continue playing the most fun role of all, doting grandfather.



Zach with his younger brother

## 2016 Pro Bono Partners

*“Children’s Law Center is a top-notch organization with knowledgeable, dedicated and passionate staff. You can’t go wrong partnering with Children’s Law Center on pro bono cases.”*

— **J. Andrew Keyes**, Partner, Williams & Connolly LLP

Law Office of Abebe & Associates	Federal Government Pro Bono Program	Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP
The Advisory Board Company	Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner LLP	Pepper Hamilton LLP
Aetna	Fish & Richardson P.C.	Perkins Coie LLP
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP	Freddie Mac	Pierce Atwood LLP
Allen & Overy LLP	Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson LLP	Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
Altria Group	Frommer, Lawrence & Haug LLP	Irene Price
American University Washington College of Law	General Electric Company	Proskauer Rose LLP
Arce Stark Law LLC	Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP	Reed Smith LLP
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Allison Bauer	Hunton & Williams LLP	Patricia Spicer
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BuckleySandler LLP	K&L Gates LLP	Steptoe & Johnson LLP
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Natasha Cenatus	Kellogg, Huber, Hansen, Todd, Evans & Figel, PLLC	Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP
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Clifford Chance US LLP	Kirkland & Ellis LLP	Yuka Taylor
Columbus School of Law at Catholic University of America	Krauthamer Stahl	Law Offices of Nicole Tuchinda
Cooley LLP	Latham & Watkins LLP	University of the District of Columbia, David A. Clarke School of Law
Covington & Burling LLP	Mindy Leon	Van Ness Feldman LLP
Crowell & Moring LLP	Lowenstein Sandler LLP	Venable LLP
Curtis, Mallet, Provost, Colt, Mosle	Howard Marguiles	Verizon
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Delaney McKinney LLP	McDermott Will & Emery LLP	Wiley Rein LLP
Deloitte	Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP	Williams & Connolly LLP
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DLA Piper	Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP	Sumeera Younis
Dodd Legal LLC	Northrop Grumman Corporation	
Law Offices of Edward J. Elder	Paul Hastings LLP	
Ernst & Young LLP		



## Champions for Children

### 2016 Champions for Children Award Winners

The record-breaking 2016 Champions for Children campaign raised more than \$1 million from more than 30 law firms and corporations represented on our Advisory Board. These funds will allow us to help more than 1,300 children and families. Children’s Law Center recognizes the generosity of three law firms with total 2016 annual giving that exceeded that of their peers. Because of the generosity of the Champions for Children firms, many more at-risk children in DC will have a top-notch lawyer to secure safe housing, special education services and loving, permanent families.



David DiBari

**C L I F F O R D  
C H A N C E**

1-99 attorneys in the DC office

Thanks to support from Clifford Chance, we connect students to educational experts familiar with the best ways to get kids on track to learn in a time when so many District children face obstacles to education.



Joanne L. Zimolzak

**DENTONS**

100-249 attorneys in the DC office

Dentons’ continued leadership gives Children’s Law Center the flexibility to handle a wide range of legal matters to help children. Dentons is a leader in the fight against human trafficking, and Children’s Law Center represents children who have been exploited right here in DC.



Mitchell S. Ettinger

**Skadden**  
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP  
& Affiliates

250+ attorneys in the DC office

Skadden’s continued, generous support has meant that more than 100 children in DC, this past year alone, are healthier. Skadden provided the resources necessary to leverage the law to combat one of the highest rates of asthma in the country.

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\*Board term ended in 2016.



Board Treasurer Melissa Wiley and board members Elizabeth Bausch and Justin Gray discuss challenges facing DC's children and families

*"My team and I pick up the phone several times a week to seek the strategic advice and expert help of our more than 80 governing, emeritus and advisory board members. There isn't a more generous, committed group anywhere."*

— **Judith Sandalow**, Executive Director

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— **Leslie (and Paul) Kiernan**

*The Kiernans are among 170 Kite Club members in 2016, up from 127 in 2015.*

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## Living with Scarcity

More than 100 Children’s Law Center partners, including donors, pediatricians, government leaders and other allies, gathered at NPR Headquarters for a lesson on how scarcity – of time, money and resources – affects our most vulnerable children and families.

The evening started with a lecture from Eldar Shafir, co-author of *Scarcity: The New Science of Having Less and How it Defines Our Lives* and a dialog with Shankar Vedantam, host of NPR’s Hidden Brain. Shafir wove together wide-ranging research on behavioral science to help the audience understand how much our circumstances influence us all. Shafir got the audience of high-powered professionals to laugh in recognition of the impractical ways they manage their own busy lives, and then deftly showed that people living in poverty manage their lack of money in the same way busy professionals manage – or fail to manage – their scarce time.

To turn learning into action, the conversation continued at a small dinner at which Laura Zeilinger, Director of the DC Department of Human Services, and Tanya Royster, Director of the DC Department of Behavioral Health, joined Shafir and Children’s Law Center Executive Director Judith Sandalow to discuss the ways applying the *Scarcity* principles could improve government policies and programs.

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*Senior Attorney*

Britt Curtis

*Appellate Paralegal*

Ketayoun Darvich-Kodjouri\*

*Communications Director*

Kim Daulton

*Director of Social Work*

D.D. Davis

*Supervising Attorney*

Lauren DeAnna

*Social Worker*

Lynne DeSarbo\*

*Supervising Attorney*

Nancy Drane\*

*Pro Bono Director*

Aubrey Edwards-Luce

*Staff Attorney*

Lane Falcon

*Development Manager*

Allie Federoff

*Staff Attorney*

Billy Fettweis\*

*Development Manager*

Sarah Flohre

*Supervising Attorney*

Jessie Forsythe

*Supervising Attorney*

Jophie Frumin\*

*Investigator*

Hahva Gallagher

*Social Worker*

Corinne Gammon

*Development Associate*

Daniel Gestal\*

*Investigator*

Bonnie Goldberg\*

*Development Associate*

Rebecca Goldfrank

*Families First Director*

Tracy Goodman

*Healthy Together Director*

Christy Graham\*

*Senior Attorney*

Allison Green

*Senior Supervising Attorney*

Marissa Gunn

*Supervising Attorney*

Lauren Birzon Harriman

*Senior Attorney*

Diondra Hicks

*Covington & Burling Loaned Paralegal*

Chandler Hill

*Legal Assistant*



Staff at the 2016 Helping Children Soar Benefit



Marcia Hollingsworth  
*Staff Attorney*

Mollie Jackson  
*Investigator*

Erica Kaufman  
*Director of Corporate Philanthropy*

Damon King  
*Senior Attorney*

Jessica Kleinman  
*Staff Attorney*

Ryan Kool\*  
*Social Worker*

Bridget Koza  
*Senior Attorney*

Jonathan Krell  
*Senior Attorney*

Beth Kurtz  
*Staff Attorney*

Jessica Kurtz  
*Supervising Attorney*

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Lori Leibowitz\*  
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Ivan Linero  
*Financial Manager*

Melanie Lister  
*Staff Attorney*

Buck Logan  
*Special Counsel*

Victoria Lynch-Draper\*  
*Pillsbury Fellow*

Emily Madden  
*Brief Service Attorney & Senior Attorney*

Gabrielle Mulnick Majewski  
*Guardian ad Litem Education  
Project Manager*

Jennifer Masi  
*Pro Bono Director*

Lacey Mason  
*Communications Manager*

Katherine L. McGiffin  
*Staff Attorney*

Megan McQuiddy\*  
*Staff Attorney*

Laura Meyer  
*Development Assistant*

James Miller  
*Investigator*

Tyra Moore  
*Senior Clinical Social Worker*

Jennifer Morris  
*Director, Guardian ad Litem Program*

Cara Morse  
*Staff Attorney*

Renee Murphy  
*Senior Attorney*

Diana Newmark  
*Staff Attorney*

David Parker\*  
*Covington & Burling Loaned Associate*

Alyssa Patzoldt\*  
*Guardian ad Litem Education  
Project Manager*

Katherine Piggott-Tooke  
*Supervising Attorney*

Kristen Pisani-Jacques  
*Deputy Director, Guardian ad  
Litem Program*

Eliza Presson\*  
*Staff Attorney*

Molly Prothero  
*Investigator*

Beraly Rivera  
*Investigator*

Lee Robbins  
*Staff Attorney*

Charles Ross  
*Advocate*

Molly Rothschild  
*Pro Bono and Intake Assistant*

Naïké Savain  
*Staff Attorney*

Paul Schuble  
*IT Assistant*

Dulce Segura  
*Investigator*

Abraham Sisson  
*Senior Attorney*

Diana Sisson  
*Equal Justice Works Fellow & Staff Attorney*

Amy Smith  
*Senior Attorney*

Allen Snyder  
*Special Counsel*

Anna Snyder\*  
*Social Worker*

Chelsea Spade  
*Social Worker*

Kate Stanford\*  
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Holly Stevens  
*Evaluation and Strategic Learning Specialist*

Jess Sucherman  
*Training Supervisor*

Taylor Sutton  
*Investigator*

Lisa Swanson  
*Brief Service Staff Attorney*

Hillie Teller\*  
*Investigator*

Miriam Thorne  
*Investigator*

Jani Tillery  
*Senior Attorney*

Sophie Vick  
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Michael Villafranca  
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Aida Vindell  
*Staff Attorney*

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Caroline Wick  
*Staff Attorney*

Eva Wood  
*Office Manager*

Ashley Young  
*Supervising Attorney*

Kathy Zeisel  
*Senior Supervising Attorney*

Dennis Zittier  
*IT Associate*

\*Indicates staff who left during 2016.

## 2016 Financial Statement

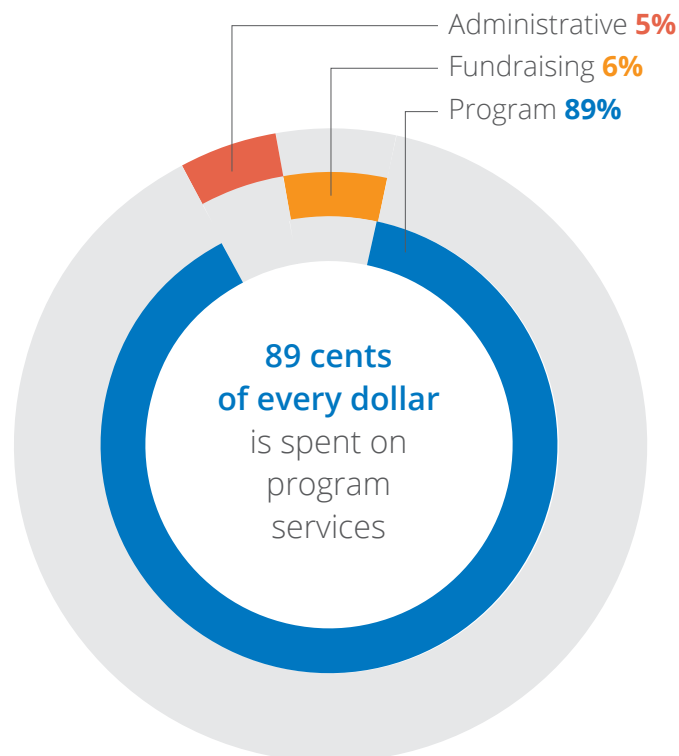
Covers FY 2016 (Oct. 1, 2015-Sept. 30, 2016)

### Revenue & Support

DC Court Contractual Service	\$6,254,301
Grants	\$1,537,214
Contributions	\$2,016,127
Donated Goods & Services	\$254,077
Other Income	\$33,517
<b>Total Revenue &amp; Support</b>	<b>\$10,095,236</b>

### Expenses

Total Legal Programs	\$8,036,389
General and Administrative	\$489,770
Fundraising	\$551,464
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$9,077,623</b>



Children's Law Center fights so **every child in DC** can grow up with a **loving family, good health and a quality education**. Judges, pediatricians and families turn to us to be the voice for children who are abused or neglected, who aren't learning in school, or who have health problems that can't be solved by medicine alone.



**Family.** Children thrive when they are in loving, stable homes but, in DC today, thousands of children are abused, neglected or threatened by family violence and conflict. Judges appoint us to advocate for children in foster care or shield kids from conflict during bitter parental disputes. When parents cannot safely care for their children, we help grandparents and other caring adults step in to give them safe homes through adoption, custody or guardianship.



**Health.** Sometimes poor health can't be solved without legal advocacy that fixes unsafe housing or secures the health or mental health care a child needs. Children's Law Center partners with Children's National, Mary's Center and Unity Health Care to put our lawyers side-by-side with pediatricians at health clinics across the District, so we can find and fix the root causes of children's poor health.



**Education.** Quality education is a building block for success, but too many DC schools are failing children. We help children start school ready to learn by fighting to give infants and toddlers the early intervention they need to address developmental delays. We help families advocate for the special supports children with disabilities need to learn. We address the root causes of truancy and suspensions so children are in class learning every day. And we fight so children in foster care can stay with trusted adults in the schools they know.

With **100 staff members** and **hundreds of pro bono lawyers**, Children's Law Center reaches **one out of every nine children in DC's poorest neighborhoods** – 5,500 children and families this year. We multiply this impact by advocating for city-wide solutions that benefit all children.



501 3rd Street, NW, 8th Floor  
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(202) 467-4900

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