# ACTION. ACCESS. PROGRESS.



2015 Annual Report & 2016 Strategy

### "THESE ARE THE TIMES THAT TRY MEN'S SOULS."

- Thomas Paine, The American Crisis.

Written in winter, as our young nation's survival hung in the balance two hundred forty years ago, Thomas Paine's words feel fresh today. Stories of worsening conditions in public schools caused by lack of funding stream in from all corners of the Commonwealth. Children enrolled in Medicaid in Pennsylvania are not getting in to see a dentist. People with disabilities want to work but face unemployment at more than twice the rate of their peers; and people with criminal histories face ongoing barriers to the work force even after resolving their charges. We can't count on the political process to fix the problems because members of the Pennsylvania legislature have insulated themselves from the political process by drawing the election maps to preserve their seats.

It is in these times of darkness that we most need people to challenge these broken systems. The Public Interest Law Center is doing just that. Our small band of lawyers pressures elected officials where change is possible. We call on the courts to require public education funding. We apply vigilance and legal pressure to deter the School District of Philadelphia from taking shortcuts in providing special education services.

And the hard work you support pays dividends: our lawyers and community organizer successfully infuse leadership in our disinvested communities. Last year we helped end the largest urban renewal project in history, which tore apart the diverse, vibrant Eastwick neighborhood; and we are helping to give the community a say in what happens there in the future. Our advice helped Pennsylvania take the first step toward updating our election laws with online voter registration. Our advice, advocacy and lawsuits are helping people with disabilities and criminal histories who want to work.

We are not alone as we tackle these challenges. We gather power and energy from the people around us: clients, pro bono lawyers, coalition partners, volunteers, interns, donors, and our most dedicated and hard-working board of directors. You keep us going.

As another leader said in another time of trial: never, never, never give up. With all of you behind us, we won't.

Sincerely,

R.





Bit for

Brian Feeney Board Chair

### **OUR MISSION**

We use high-impact legal strategies to improve the well-being and life prospects of vulnerable people in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania. Our actions help people remove barriers and secure access to resources that are essential to progressing against poverty.

#### **EDUCATION:**

Ensure all students, regardless of their zip code, the color of their skin, their language, or their abilities, have access to a high-quality public education

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:**

Provide tools for communities to advocate effectively for sustainable and equitable neighborhoods

#### **HEALTH CARE:**

Remove systemic barriers to medical and dental care for people enrolled in Medicaid, especially children

#### EMPLOYMENT:

Help people with criminal records and people with disabilities fight and eliminate employment discrimination

#### HOUSING:

Fight housing discrimination and promote quality, affordable housing for people in the neighborhoods of their choice

#### VOTING:

Protect every citizen's right to vote by modernizing Pennsylvania's election system and challenging discriminatory barriers to the ballot box

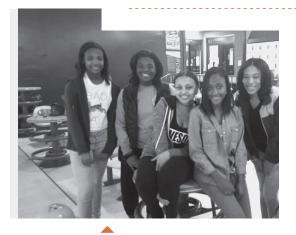
## ACTION

We use targeted legal action to support our clients as they fight for social justice.

In Upper Dublin, PA, the school district's policies discriminate against African-American students. Black students experience significantly higher out-of-school suspension rates and are disproportionately placed in lower-level academic tracks. Since 2008 a group called *Concerned African American Parents* has been working to address this discrimination.

"The district's policies have serious, immediate consequences for our children. Higher suspension rates are putting black students at a severe disadvantage when it comes to college and career prospects."

- DAWN KELLEY, LEADING MEMBER OF CONCERNED AFRICAN AMERICAN PARENTS



Students championed by Concerned African American Parents.

When the school district backpedalled on a promise to eliminate tracking, Concerned African American Parents asked us to help. On their behalf, we prepared and filed complaints with the U.S. Department of Education and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, requesting a full investigation into the district's practices. State Senator Vincent Hughes has stepped in to help as well, urging the agencies to move forward and the school district to make improvements on its own. We will continue this advocacy throughout 2016.

DURING THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR, WHILE JUST 7.3% OF STUDENTS IN THE UPPER DUBLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT WERE BLACK, NEARLY 45% OF OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS WERE ISSUED TO BLACK STUDENTS.

PERECENTAGE OF BLACK STUDENTS

PERCENTAGE OF OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS ISSUED TO BLACK STUDENTS



Michael MacDonald works for UPS. He is deaf and his primary language is American Sign Language (ASL). The Americans with Disabilities Act requires employers like UPS to provide employees with disabilities reasonable accommodations, like ASL interpreters, to give them equal access to the workplace. Michael can do his day-to-day job well without an ASL interpreter, but he needs an interpreter during occasional human resource and other company meetings, for training, tests and to provide safety information. Michael has repeatedly requested an ASL interpreter, but UPS has failed to provide one, even when UPS erroneously laid Michael off. Without an interpreter, Michael had no idea what was happening and did not know whether he would get paid or be able to go back to work

*"I want to do my best at work. But without communication, problems occur. I'm bringing a lawsuit against UPS not just for myself, but to fight for the rights of my other deaf colleagues and counterparts."* 

- MICHAEL MACDONALD

We helped Michael file a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and when that agency did not take action, we filed a federal lawsuit against UPS. Employment discrimination contributes to high unemployment rates among people with disabilities. In 2015, we represented 13 people with disabilities, launched a walk-in clinic, and trained 700 people on these issues.

#### PLANNED GIVING: THE NED WOLF SOCIETY

We invite you to consider how a charitable gift annuity, charitable trust, bequest or other planned gift to the Public Interest Law Center might help you meet your retirement goals while also leaving a legacy of commitment to social justice that will be meaningful to you and your family. We applaud the inaugural member of our Ned Wolf Society, Fred Brenner, for designating a significant bequest. If you are interested in planned giving please contact Jennifer Clarke at jclarke@pubintlaw.org or 215-627-7100 x 222.





IN PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, ONLY 31% OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ARE EMPLOYED.



Client Sheila Armstrong and her two sons were honored at our 2015 annual event. [Photo credit: Chris Kendig]

Pennsylvania public schools are forced to rely heavily on local property taxes because the state does not pay its fair share of school funding. This results in Pennsylvania having the widest funding gap between wealthy and poor school districts in the country. Hundreds of thousands of children in low-wealth communities do not receive the quality education they need to become productive members of our society.

In 2015 we advanced our lawsuit against state officials for failing to uphold their constitutional responsibility to maintain and support, "a thorough and efficient system of public education" for all students. Together with the *Education Law Center–Pennsylvania* and *O'Melveny & Myers LLP*, we represent seven families, six school districts, *the NAACP Pennsylvania State Conference*, and the *Pennsylvania Association of Rural and Small Schools*.

"There has been racial discrimination in the way schools are funded for over 20 years. My boys are two of the hundreds of thousands of students throughout the state that lack basic educational supports and services – functioning school libraries, up-to-date textbooks and curriculum materials, reasonable class sizes, guidance counselors, school nurses – the list goes on. But there is hope! The lawyers and staff at the Law Center are providing hope to families like me because they are fighting for fair funding for my boys and the students of Pennsylvania. And I am hopeful that the justice we are fighting for will answer this mother's prayer of just wanting what is right for my boys."

> - SHEILA ARMSTRONG, PARENT CLIENT IN WILLIAM PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL., V. PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, ET AL.

\_\_\_\_\_

In March 2015, the Commonwealth Court heard oral argument on the government officials' claim that matters involving school funding are political and the courts cannot intervene. After the Commonwealth Court agreed with the government officials, we appealed to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Oral argument is expected in 2016. In addition to litigation, we helped The *Campaign for Fair Education Funding* develop a recommended school funding formula. State legislators used our formula as a model to create their own formula. We are working with The Campaign to activate the public to pressure legislators to adopt the formula. Visit www.fairfundingpa.org to join our advocacy efforts.



The Campaign for Fair Education Funding, a statewide coalition of community, school, advocacy, business and labor groups, rallies hundreds in Harrisburg to advocate for fair funding.



Marc Kitchens is a father of three who had a steady job with a software company. He built a strong track record at the company, having been promoted to a supervisory role just nine months after he was hired. When his company was bought by a global firm, the new firm invited him to stay on and apply for a higher-ranking job. But after the new firm conducted a background check and found a five-year-old, unrelated drug charge, they fired Marc, disregarding his positive work history.

"I paid my debt to society for a previous mistake and I did everything the right way. I got my affairs in order, started school, and got a steady job. I started at the lowest possible position and worked hard, earned promotions, and got great recommendations from company executives. But at the end of the day, all of that didn't matter, and it was really unfair that I was let go because of my past record."

- MARC KITCHENS



20% OF ADULTS IN PHILADELPHIA HAVE A CRIMINAL RECORD THAT COULD AFFECT THEIR ABILITY TO GET A JOB. Pennsylvania law protects people like Marc from being disqualified from a job because of arrests that do not lead to convictions or convictions that are unrelated to the job at hand. In partnership with *Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity*, we helped Marc negotiate with the new firm and secure a settlement agreement that included financial compensation and a commitment to change its hiring policies. This is our third successful recent case on behalf of people with criminal records.

## ACCESS

Building on nearly five decades of experience, our collaborative legal strategies improve our clients' access to essential resources.

Only 9 states will not offer basic voting updates by 2016: Alabama, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia

It's time to update PA's elections:

Keystone

Voting should be easy and convenient and every citizen should have equal access to the ballot box. Instead, in Pennsylvania, voters face basic barriers to the polls and voter turnout is at an all-time low. Working people and voters with disabilities can't always make it to the polls on Election Day. New voters and longtime voters who move can easily miss the 30-day voter registration deadline.

In 2015 we helped found *Keystone Votes*, a statewide coalition working to secure proven improvements to our election system such as optional voting by mail, same-day voter registration, and in-person early voting. We also provided legal expertise to the Pennsylvania Department of State on the Department's plan to roll out online voter registration. Nearly 100,000 applications have been filed through the online system since it launched in October 2015.

#### **2015 ANNUAL EVENT**

Together with 200 of our closest friends, we honored and celebrated long-time board member H. Laddie Montague, Jr. and our clients in the school funding lawsuit at our annual event. Generous donors, including our Board of Directors and Host Committee, raised \$329,000 to support our work. [Photo credit: Chris Kendig]









## edikasyon education educación edikasyon

### education

Barbara Galarza is the mother of a 10th-grade student with ADHD enrolled in the School District of Philadelphia. Ms. Galarza reads and speaks Spanish only. However, when District personnel discussed her child's special education needs with her, the District refused to give her important documents in her native language. As a result, Ms. Galarza could not review a psychologist's report before an in-person education planning meeting, and she belatedly learned that her child had been diagnosed with an intellectual disability. When she needed to talk to school staff about her child's math class, the District left her in the dark without a translator.

"The school wouldn't give me information in Spanish; they didn't seem to care. I couldn't understand what the District was telling me. They did not help me or my child so that she could do well in school."

– BARBARA GALARZA (TRANSLATED BY LAW CENTER VOLUNTEER)

We are working to help families like Barbara's gain access to the fundamental interpretation and translation services they need to participate in their children's education. In August 2015, we partnered with the *Education Law Center–Pennsylvania* and *Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP* to file a federal lawsuit challenging the District's failure to provide interpretation and translation to more than 25,000 families in Philadelphia who do not speak English as their primary language. This case is now moving through court.



Soil Generation members at a coalition meeting.

As part of our Garden Justice Legal Initiative, we helped found and currently support Soil Generation, a grassroots coalition of activist gardeners, farmers and community groups that uses organizing, advocacy and education to create a city in which all communities, particularly low-income, immigrant and communities of color, have access to wholesome, local foods and safe and vibrant neighborhoods. Soil Generation has been instrumental in shaping city policies, specifically for the implementation of Philadelphia's new Land Bank, to value urban agriculture as an appropriate end-use for some of the estimated 40,000 vacant lots in the city.

"The coalition has provided me with a means to stay abreast of the hard work being done by sister and brother gardeners in communities throughout Philly and south Jersey. Soil Generation is one of the few explicitly food-sovereignty focused community groups that is attempting to address the race, class and power issues that meet in our work as growers. Through challenges along the way, all the members have stayed committed to farming, working, praying and playing through it."

- CHRIS BOLDEN-NEWSOME, SOIL GENERATION MEMBER

Together with Soil Generation, we spent 2015 making sure gardeners and farmers have access to legal information about land tenure, so that they can become self-advocates. We trained 380 gardeners on how to gain legal access to vacant land, created a "train-the-trainers" curriculum and used it to train 27 advocates to conduct their own vacant land trainings and developed a comprehensive vacant land toolkit. We also helped 38 gardens on the pathway to legal access to land through direct representation and consultations.

10



Staff attorney Benjamin Geffen participates in oral argument in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in Medicaid Right-to-Know lawsuit.



AN ESTIMATED 59% OF MEDICAID-ENROLLED CHILDREN DO NOT SEE A DENTIST IN ANY GIVEN YEAR

Pennsylvania ranks 35<sup>th</sup> in the nation when it comes to providing preventive dental care to children enrolled in Medicaid. An estimated 59% of Medicaid-eligible children do not see a dentist in any given year, even though we know preventive dental care dramatically improves overall health.

We also know, from our decades of litigation in other states, that one factor in these low treatment rates is the low level of reimbursement paid to dentists by the state and insurance companies for treating kids enrolled in Medicaid. For this reason, we have been pressing for public release of dental reimbursement rates under Pennsylvania's Right-to-Know Law. When the state and insurance companies refused to make records revealing these rates public, even though they show how taxpayer dollars are spent, we sued. In 2015, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled largely in our favor, noting that the public has the right to see and scrutinize how billions of dollars in taxpayer funds flow from the state to private insurance companies to operate the state's Medicaid program. The only data that the Court did not order disclosed were rates paid to dentists by insurance subcontractors, but only because state officials had failed to oversee how these state funds were spent. We are now working to secure and analyze these data.

#### ART SHOW

John F. Kennedy.

We partnered with Community Integrated Services' Art/Works program to turn our office into an art gallery and display work made by artists with disabilities including Deborah Miller, Jaither West, Bob Billbrough and Woodley White.



Artist Jaither West shows board member Paul Saint-Antoine his painting of President





Artwork by Jaither West

Staff and guests at exhibit opening

## PROGRESS

*Our legal strategies work. We drive lasting change.* 

In December 2015, following three years of advocacy and partnership, we helped residents in the Eastwick neighborhood in southwest Philadelphia bring an end to the largest urban renewal project in history, gain back public control of 135-acres of land and pave the way for the first community-based planning process.

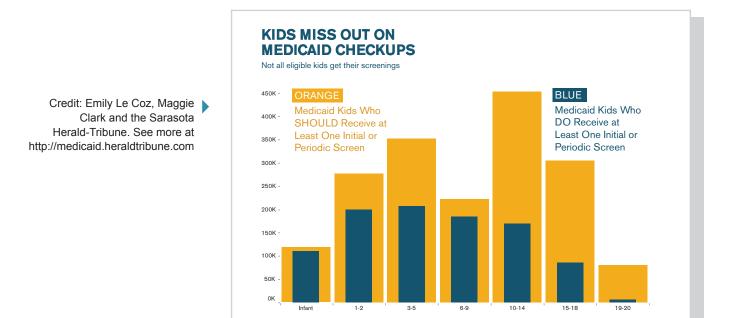
"On behalf of the Eastwick Friends & Neighbors Coalition, we extend our deepest gratitude to the Public Interest Law Center for their stellar legal counsel, dedication and commitment toward helping to influence the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority's (PRA) decision to end the Korman Corporation's option to 135 acres of land in Eastwick. "

-TERRY A. WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT, EASTWICK FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS COALITION AND JOANNE GRAHAM, CHAIR, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE, EASTWICK FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS COALITION

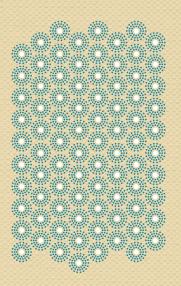
Eastwick residents live with the legacy of the nation's largest urban renewal project, which displaced over 8,000 people. They continue to struggle with the impacts of decades of disinvestment, recent school closures and chronic and increasing flooding risks. In 2012, residents learned that Korman Residential was going to turn 135-acres of green space in their neighborhood into unwanted housing and parking that residents feared would exacerbate flooding and threaten the nearby John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge. Residents formed the *Eastwick Friends & Neighbors Coalition (EFNC)*, and, with our help, showed up in force at a City Council hearing and persuaded City Councilman Kenyatta Johnson to withdraw the bills that would have allowed for the development. In partnership with *Dechert LLP*, we worked with EFNC to build relationships with city officials, holding them accountable to working with resident leaders to understand and meet the community's needs. We are now working with EFNC, city agencies and elected officials to envision Eastwick's first planning process in over fifty years.



Eastwick Friends & Neighbors Coalition members and staff attorney Amy Laura Cahn celebrate their awards from the Bread & Roses Community Fund. [Photo credit: Cut + Paste Photo Booth and Bread & Roses Community Fund] We sued the state of Florida for failing to provide medical and dental care to 1.9 million children enrolled in Medicaid, and we won. After 10 years and more than 90 days of trial, the court found Florida's Medicaid system neglects children, fails to provide preventative medical and dental care to one-third of eligible children, creates insurmountable bureaucratic hurdles and uses an enrollment system that failed to capture a quarter of a million additional eligible children. Together with *Boies, Schiller & Flexner, LLP*, we secured a settlement agreement with Florida health officials under which state agencies agree to significantly improve access to health care for kids from low-income families and kids with disabilities.



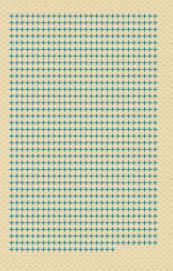
#### **THOUGHT LEADERS**



WE REACHED OVER **4,200** PEOPLE THROUGH **84** EVENTS AND PRESENTATIONS.



THE PRESS PUBLISHED OUR WORK OR TURNED TO US FOR QUOTES 154 TIMES.



WE BROKE THE **1,000** MARK FOR FOLLOWERS ON BOTH TWITTER AND FACEBOOK.

13



Parents Tim Allen, Robin Roberts and Christianne Kapps, Councilwoman Helen Gym, and Media Mobilizing Project's Bryan Mercer join staff attorneys Amy Laura Cahn and Ben Geffen for a press conference in December 2015. We helped Philadelphia parents hold state education officials accountable to investigate claims that state budget cuts led to serious gaps in the courses available to children in the School District of Philadelphia. In 2015 in response to a decision by the Commonwealth Court, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) found four schools had failed to offer the state-mandated curricula and ordered the school district to create corrective action plans. We are now working with state officials to develop an easy-to-navigate and transparent process for parents to file future complaints and for the Department to investigate them.

"The lawsuit represents the investment of parents and communities to ensure that our children receive the thorough and efficient education mandated by the Pennsylvania Constitution. We are excited and energized that PDE is hearing our parent voices and seems to be working in a direction to address and investigate our concerns. And, we are grateful that through this work parents have a further recourse to affect the educational system for their children."

- ROBIN ROBERTS, PARENT PLAINTIFF

Robin Roberts has three children enrolled in the School District of Philadelphia. One of her sons is gifted, but at the start of the 2013-2014 school year, the District eliminated his school's gifted program, leaving him without challenging, enriching work for the last two years. With help from partners like Parents United for Public Education, City Councilwomen Maria Quinones-Sanchez and Helen Gym, and others, we helped parents like Robin from 90 schools file more than 800 complaints with the Pennsylvania Department of Education. This was the first time parents widely used a state regulation to file such complaints. When the Department failed to respond, we filed suit, resulting in a favorable decision from the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court. The Court found that the Department had a responsibility to investigate allegations of curriculum deficiencies. In 2016 we will continue to support parents in holding the state accountable for addressing gaps in schools' curricula.

14

#### **2016 PROGRAM GOALS**

Secure adequate and fair funding for public education in Pennsylvania	Take legal action to pressure the School District of Philadelphia to provide adequate nursing coverage, translation and interpretation services and special education services	Press state officials to ensure appropriate delivery of early intervention services for young children with disabilities
Increase the number of people with disabilities in supported workplaces and design legal strategies to abolish sub-minimum-wage sheltered workshops	Increase public awareness of, and compliance with, state law prohibiting use of criminal background checks in hiring	Improve rates at which Pennsylvania children enrolled in Medicaid see a dentist
Secure remedy for Florida's failure to provide medical and dental care to children enrolled in Medicaid	Contribute to public policies which value long-term preservation of gardens and farms and access to healthy, affordable, and culturally appropriate food	Develop leadership in low wealth, minority and immigrant communities around self-determination and land access
Support Eastwick Friends & Neighbors Coalition in environmental justice efforts and planning process	Update Pennsylvania's election laws	Launch housing project to represent disadvantaged communities against housing discrimination
	Finalize and adopt a new strategic plan	

#### **PRO BONO VOLUNTEERS**

Dechert LLP attorneys Barton Winokur, Susan Nieto and Olu Onafowora contributed significantly to our work in Eastwick over the last three years.



"Our team has a tremendous partnership with the Law Center and its clients. When we started working with the Eastwick Friends & Neighbors Coalition a few years ago, the community felt as though the odds were stacked against them and that powerful forces were going to stand in their way of influencing what gets built in their neighborhood. It felt like a quixotic quest. Staff attorney Amy Laura Cahn did a great job getting us fully involved, and together with this incredible group of people, we began to generate the belief that we could win, and we did. Now, we attend most every community meeting and we remain a real part of the community's work. If you can't get excited about working with people in a community who care about their neighborhood, what can you get excited about?" – Barton Winokur



"It has been a privilege and a delight to work with the Public Interest Law Center, and in particular Amy Laura Cahn, as co-counsel to Eastwick Friends & Neighbors Coalition (EFNC). I have been inspired by the dedication of the members of EFNC and Amy Laura, and it has been incredibly rewarding to help facilitate a community advocacy effort that is changing outcomes for an entire neighborhood. The Law Center has played a crucial role in EFNC's accomplishments and we at Dechert are honored to be part of the EFNC team." – Susan Nieto



Partnering with the Public Interest Law Center afforded me the rare opportunity to do good for my community while honing my legal skills. I look back very fondly on my experience and greatly look forward to future partnership opportunities." – Olumide Onafowora

O'Melveny & Myers LLP attorneys Brad Elias and Matthew Sheehan are part of the pro bono team leading our school funding lawsuit.



"It has been a privilege to work with the Public Interest Law Center, and Jennifer Clarke and Michael Churchill in particular. Their dedication to improving Pennsylvania's public education system is inspiring, and their knowledge and experience has been invaluable. While there are many hurdles ahead, I look forward to continuing our efforts to fix a broken and unjust system. Regardless of the outcome, it is comforting to know that the Law Center will continue to fight for the rights of Pennsylvania school children. It is a fight that I have been proud to join." – Brad Elias



"As the son of a high school teacher, I strongly believe that the key to a better life is through education. I became involved with the Law Center because they share this same philosophy, representing individuals and entities in the school funding litigation that seeks to provide the opportunity for all children across the Commonwealth to achieve success by having a quality education." – Matthew Sheehan

#### **PRO BONO VOLUNTEERS**

Baker & Hostetler LLP Jeffry Duffy Carl Hittinger

Berger & Montague, P.C. Nick Urban

#### **Blank Rome LLP**

Kevin J. Baum Ed Chang Thomas Chapman Molly Crane Joe Finkelstein Carol Gershon Joe McFalls Kathy Ochroch Kevin Rakowski Peter J. Soloff

#### Boies Schiller & Flexner LLP

Andrew Adler Carl E. Goldfarb Lauren F. Louis Thomas McCawley Pascual Oliu Joshua Riley Stuart H. Singer

#### **Covington & Burling LLP**

Jonathan Cloar Rachel Fried Grant Johnson Jeffrey Lerner

#### **Dechert LLP**

Richard Berkman Susan Nieto Olumide Onafowora Catherine Wigglesworth Barton Winokur

#### DLA Piper US LLP

Lesli Esposito Justin Kerner

#### **Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP**

Michael Daly Molly Flynn Katie Garayoa Chanda Miller Aviva Reinfeld Meredith Reinhardt Paul Saint-Antoine

#### **Duane Morris LLP**

Michael J. McCalley Katharine Christian McGee

#### **Education Law Center-**

Pennsylvania Deborah Gordon Klehr Cheryl Kleiman David Lapp Maura McInerney

Harkins Cunningham LLP John Harkins, Jr.

#### Kawalski, Fletcher & Kirkpatrick, P.C. Taylor Fletcher

#### Kessler Topaz Meltzer & Check, LLP

David Bocian Josh D'Ancona Monique Myatt Galloway Matthew Goldstein Kim Justice Meredith Lambert Georgia Pham Lee Rudy Robin Winchester Andrew Zivitz Langer, Grogan & Diver P.C. Irv Ackelsberg

Law Office of Benjamin J. Hinerfeld Benjamin J. Hinerfeld

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law Ray McClain Hallie Ryan

Levine Sullivan Koch & Schulz, LLP Paul Safier

#### McCarter & English, LLP

Glenn Callahan Katelyn Gillece Danielle Karcich

#### Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP

Dana Becker John Lavelle, Jr. Glen Rectenwald K. Catherine Roney

#### O'Melveny & Myers LLP

Erin P. Andrews Courtney Byrd Stephanie Drotar Brad Elias Nathanael Everhart McAllister Jimbo Aparna Joshi Lynsey Ramos Matthew J. Sheehan

#### Pennsylvania Client Assistance Program Stephen S. Pennington

Pennsylvania Land Trust Association Andrew Loza

#### Pepper Hamilton LLP Hedya Aryani

Christopher Moran Eric Rothschild

#### Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity

Michael Hardiman Michael Lee

#### Rosenn Jenkins & Greenwald LLP Howard Levinson

Saul Ewing LLP Brittany McCabe Ned Rahn

Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP Joyce Sun

Tucker Law Group, LLC Joe Tucker

#### White and Williams LLP

Primitivo Cruz Thomas Fiddler Kimberly Havener Jonathan Klein Daryn Rush

Willig, Williams and Davidson Ryan Hancock

#### Solo Practitioners and Others

Dana Bazelon Lawrence Berger Jennifer McIntyre Bharati Sharma-Patel

#### **INTERNS & VOLUNTEERS**

55 interns and volunteers donated 5330 hours in 2015, expanding our capacity to help more people.



Spring 2015 Interns



Summer 2015 Interns

#### **INSTITUTIONAL & INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS**

#### INDIVIDUALS

#### \$10,000+

Richard Berkman and Toni Seidl William and Anne Ewing Paul and Susan Saint-Antoine

#### \$5,000-\$9,999

Alexandra Edsall and Robert Victor Alisa Field and Alan Sandals Kenneth Frazier Ellen and Steven Friedell/ Reaching Agreement ADR LLC Ellen Meriwether and Steven Goldfield David and Gayle Smith Karen Jackson Vaughn Phillip and Suzy Wilson

#### \$2,500-\$4,999

Anonymous David and Jodi Caputo Thomas Chapin Abbi Cohen and Thomas O'Connell Joseph and Elizabeth Fay **Brian Feeney** Anthony Gay Jeffrey Golan and Frances Vilella-Velez Lea and Claude Knight Kathleen Meriwether and **Thomas Mahoney Bruce Molholt** In honor of Jerome Balter H. Laddie Montague, Jr. Arthur and Douglas Newbold **Richard and Nancy** Pasquier Eric and Jill Green Rothschild Pam and Tony Schneider Michael Scott and Robin Hauner Flora Barth Wolf

#### \$1,000-\$2,499

18

Anonymous Theodore and Barbara Aronson David Atkinson Richard and Eileen Bazelon David Berney Wilson Brown III J. Gordon Cooney Betsy and Bob Fiebach Amy Ginensky and Andrew Rogoff Michael Hanrahan **Donald and Harriet** Joseph Jeffrey McCarron Jeffrey Moller Carlos Montoya and Elizabeth McManus Benjamin and Meta Neilson Carl Tobey and Kim Oxholm Jon and Karen Richter Joseph Rieser Sherrie Savett Marian Schneider and George Cotsarelis Patricia and Stephen Segal Colby and Shannon Smith Rayman Solomon Lane Taylor

#### \$500-\$999

Harris Bock Paul Bonney Joseph Bruni Henry and Anna Bryan Amy Laura Cahn Gary and Gail Cantor In honor of H. Laddie Montague, Jr. Lee Casper Jennifer Clarke and Alan Barstow Thomas and Robin Clarke Joan Duvall-Flynn Rachel Gallegos and Michael McCarthy Nancy Gellman In honor of H. Laddie Montague, Jr. James Giles Wendy and Richard Glazer Ruthanne Gordon and John Burroughs In honor of H. Laddie Montague, Jr. Deborah Gross and Stuart Kurtz F. John Hagele and Patricia Hunt Joan Kim H. Ronald Klasko Margaret Larson Thomas Lee Michael Lehr and Linda Pennington Roberta Liebenberg

Mimi and Jim McKenzie Maureen O'Leary **Nicole Perkins** Lara Price **Christopher Ritchie** Jeffrey and Carol Lee Savery William and Sharon Schwarze Jenai St. Hill Thomas and Mollie Suddath Joseph and Bernadette Tate Stella Tsai and Paul McCarthy James Weygandt Abigail Wolf and Jonathan Weiss Judy Yun

#### \$1-\$499

Quincy and Zelia Abbot Coleen Abbott David Abernethy and Phyllis Simon Robert Abramowitz and Susan Stewart Marilyn Ackelsberg In honor of Daniel Urevick-Ackelsberg Peter and Christine Ackourey Elisa Advani John Agner Gaetan and Kathy McCarthy Alfano Andre and Shalean Allen **Evelyn Alloy** Charles and Susan **Dentzer Alston** In honor of Jennifer Clarke Anonymous (3) Jerold Aronson Bill and Chris Babcock Sarah Bailey Jerry and Ruth Balter Maureen Barden and David Othmer Valerie Baron and Ari Gerstman John and Alexandra Barstow Mira Baylson and Hal Morra **Donald Bean Edward Beitz** Leonard Bernstein Michael Berry Elliot and Lisa Berton Leonard and Doris Berton Valerie Berton

Susan Bickel **Judith Bines** Craig Blackman Henry Blanco White **Edward Boehner** Arnie and Linda Borish In memory of Bernard Borish Christopher and Wendy Born James Boudreau Keir Bradford-Grev Bonnie Brier and Bruce Rosenfield Juliet Brodie John and Patricia Browne Steven and Lisa Bryer Tracy Burke and Steve Zack Marjorie Cahn Lauren Carella Steve Chawaga and Laurie Novo Lawrence Cohen Marsha Cohen Pauline Cohen **Robert Cohen** Jason Colon **Robbin Cook** Robert and Charlene Cooney In honor of Barbara Ransom **Caitlin Coslett** In honor of H. Laddie Montague, Jr. **Eric Cramer** Marian Dalke Frank and Tina Daly In honor of Michael Churchill Lyn Davis In memory of Alan J. Davis **Maurice Davis** Carl and Constance Dellmuth Peter Deutsch Samuel and Miriam Diamond Mark and Tobey Dichter Alison and Stephanie DiCiurcio In honor of Alison DiCiurcio Jane Downey Erin Duffy Robert and Caroline Ebby In honor of Eric Rothschild Stefan Ellis Perri Evanson Leonard and Helen Evelev A. Richard and Deborah Feldman Albert Feldman Bogale and Yodit Fesseha **Dianne Coady Fisher** Carol Fixman and Stephen Kobrin Howard and Lynne Flaxman Molly Flynn Anika Forrest Jason Fortenberry **Elizabeth Fortune Elizabeth Fox** Carl Fridy Katie Garayoa Alex Geisinger and Jane Scarpellino Virginia Gibson Matthew Glazer Susan Gobreski Mary Lemann Goldman Paul Douglas and Deborah Goodell Hugh Gordon Seth Goren **Chad Gottschlich** Marshall Greenberg and Adelaide Sugarman **Catherine Greenstein** Barbara and Matthew Grimaldi Lexie Guistwhite Glenn Gundersen Matthew and Louise Gutt Helen Gym and Bret Flaherty **Stephen Hamilton Michele Hangley** Kevin Harden, Jr. Tonya Harris Keiko Hayakawa Leslie Hayes and Norman Gross Lauren Higgins **Benjamin Hinerfeld** Hillel Hoffmann and Sharon Webber Mary Howard Tim and Anne Hunter Michael and Kim Hynes Lisa Isaacs Shauna Itri and Daniel Miller In honor of H. Laddie Montague, Jr. Renard and Crystal Jackson Frederic Jacoby Joseph James Leonard and Arlene Jarett **Colette Johnston** Michael Kane and Alison Schwartz In honor of H. Laddie Montague, Jr. Jennifer Kates and Daniel

Urevick-Ackelsberg Heather Keafer Tyrone Keller Meghan Kelley Trevor and Dawn Kelley Lisa Kelly Doris and Richard Kessler Cecily Kihn Kimberly Litman Kimmel Debra Klebanoff and Jim Smith Deborah Gordon Klehr Alan Klein Andrew Klein Rebekah Klein Kathleen Kline Elizabeth Kozart Isador and Myra Kranzel In memory of Robert Wolf Seth Kreimer Kenneth Kulak and Katherine Hovde Jon and Kelly Lambiras In honor of H. Laddie Montague, Jr. Jim and Gloria Landis Henry and Leah Langsam David Lapp Robert and Leslie LaRocca Dale and Patricia Larrimore Matthew Laver Lora Lavin **Timothy Law** Tina Lawson Susan Leo In honor of H. Laddie Montague, Jr. Joe and Virginia Leonard Howard and Susan Levinson Annette S. and Morton P. Levitt Stephen and Melissa Lewicki Wendy Lewis and Daniel Mueller Philip and Elsa Lichtenberg Marian Lindberg In honor of Jennifer Clarke Laura Little Jennifer Lowman Clarice Lowy In honor of Jerome Balter Patricia Luczak Joseph and Lynn Manko Karen and Neil Mara Aaron Marks Jerome and Hazel McGriff Maura McInerney John and Kathleen McKeever

Michael McKeever Robert McKinstry Aneesh and Rashmi Mehta **Eleanor Merrick** James and Sandra Meyer Lucas Michelen Joanne Miles Ellen Milgrim Chanda Miller Kathleen Milsark Lorraine Minnite Allan and Sandy Molotsky **Yvonne Montgomery** Martha Morse Harry Moseley Ryan Mulderrig Jack and Barbara Nagel Michael Nairn Alison and Alexander Nalle Kenneth Oakes Seth Oltman Theodore and Irene Oslick Jeffrey Osterwise In honor of H. Laddie Montague, Jr. Albert Parker Wendy Parker Mary Platt Jacob Polakoff In honor of H. Laddie Montague, Jr. Edward and Mary Posner Anne Bowen Poulin **Gerald Provencal** Lara Putnam and Douglas Wible Kenneth and Sandra Racowski Joan Rainer In memory of G. **Bradley Rainer** Barbara Ransom Melissa Rasman and **Thomas Hurley** Amanda Reed Tanya Regli Aviva Reinfeld Curtis Reitz and Judith Renzulli **Reott Family** David Richman and Janet Perry Estelle Richman Hershel Richman Sarah Ricks and Thomas Dolgenos Leonard Rieser Noah Robbins Carl Roberts Scott Robinson Anne Rollins Joseph Ronan Keith and Silvia Rosenn Harold Rosenthal

Daniel and Fave Ross Lee and Caryn Rudy Louis S. and Carolyn C. Rulli Leanne Rush **Daniel Safer** Michael Salmanson **Robert Sanders** Adam and Stephanie Saunders Michael Schaedle Adam Schott Nina Segre and Frank Furstenberg Joe and Liz Serritella Carolyn Shaner In honor of Michael Berton Stephen Shapiro Bharati Sharma-Patel Matthew Sheehan **Denis Sheils Reginald Shuford** Lisa Sica Barbara Siegel **Christiana Signs** Robert Silverman and Randi Leavitt In honor of Eric Rothschild Maria Sisto Brian and Kees Smith **Monique Smith** David Solomon Shelly Solomon Edmund and Nancy Spaeth Jeremy Spiegel Hannah Spielberg Victoria Steiger and Laurie Olin John Stevens Patricia and Stephen Stewart Seymour and Janet Stotland **Stephen Strahs Gregory Sturges** Cassandra Summers **David Surbeck** Michael Temin and Anne Hearn Patrice Temple-West In memory of Patrick F.E. Temple-West Georgee Thevervelil Marc Topaz Garrett Trego Nancy Trexler Michael Trudgeon Elizabeth Useem Witold Walczak **Elliot Weinbaum** Debra Weiner

#### **INSTITUTIONAL & INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS (CONTINUED)**

Marsha Weinraub In honor of Jennifer Clarke **Jacqueline Weiss** Miriam Weizenbaum Frank and Barbara Welsh In honor of Bessie Dewar's and Alex Welsh's 5th wedding anniversary F. John White David and Betsy Wice Thomas and Kathleen Wilkinson **David Williams** Gretchen Wisehart David Yanoff and Gabriella Romani Shelly Yanoff and Gerald Kaufman David and Lauren Zeitlin Tom and Jackie Zemaitis Noa Zilbering Andrew Zivitz Kendall Zylstra

#### INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

#### \$30,000+

Kessler Topaz Meltzer & Check, LLP Pennsylvania IOLTA Board The Philadelphia Foundation

#### \$20,000-\$29,999

Berger & Montague, P.C. Merck Family Fund Pepper Hamilton LLP United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey William Penn Foundation

#### \$10,000-\$19,999

Chimicles & Tikellis LLP Cozen O'Connor Dechert LLP Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP Philadelphia Bar Foundation The Leo and Peggy Pierce Family Foundation The McLean Contributionship

#### \$5.000-\$9.999

Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, PC Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation Covington & Burling LLP Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP Ellen and Steven Friedell/ **Reaching Agreement** ADR LLC Grant & Eisenhofer P.A. Greenberg Traurig, LLP Hangley Aronchick Segal Pudlin & Schiller Johnson & Johnson McCarter & English, LLP Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP Reed Smith LLP Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP The Allen Hilles Fund The Bennett Family Foundation White and Williams LLP

#### \$2,500-\$4,999

Blank Rome LLP Cafferty Clobes Meriwether & Sprengel LLP Comcast Console Law Offices, LLC **DLA Piper** Duffy + Partners Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC Ernst & Young **Exelon Business Services** Company Kline & Specter, P.C. Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin, P.C. Rust Consulting, Inc Sierra Club, Pennsylvania Chapter Silverman Kendall, LLC The Shelter Foundation

#### \$1,000-\$2,499

Bread & Roses Community Fund Caroselli, Beachler, McTiernan & Coleman, L.L.C. Climate & Urban Systems Partnership at The Franklin Institute Fox Rothschild LLP **Golkow Technologies** Harkins Cunningham LLP Huntington National Bank Joseph Trautwein & Associates, LLC Levin, Fishbein, Sedran & Berman Littler Mendelson P.C. Martin Law Pond Lehocky Stern Giordano Shook Hardy & Bacon L.L.P. Stevens & Lee Swartz Campbell LLC **Union Benevolent** Association

#### \$1-\$999

Abelson Legal Search Amazon.com, Inc. Anonymous Begley Law Group, PC Benjamin's Desk LLC Christie Sullivan & Young PC Cohen, Placitella & Roth, P.C. Faruqi & Faruqi, LLP Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia In honor of H. Laddie Montague, Jr. Kairys, Rudovsky, Messing & Feinberg LLP LawSuit Funding Solutions, LLC Microsoft Mill Creek Capital Advisors Patrick Lynch Group, LLC QVC Saul Ewing LLP Steve Harvey Law LLC The Duckworth Group Merrill Lynch Veritext Legal Solutions Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker

#### DONORS OF IN-KIND GOODS AND SERVICES

Nicholas Chimicles Hangley Aronchick Segal Pudlin & Schiller Kenneth and Sandra Racowski Reliable Copy Services, Inc. Ricoh USA Paul and Susan Saint-Antoine The Legal Intelligencer

This list recognizes donors who gave to the Law Center for the 2015 campaign year. Every effort was made to ensure accuracy. Contact Barb Grimaldi with questions or concerns at 267-546-1304.

#### **2015 AWARDS**



Advisory Board member Dean JoAnne Epps presents Jennifer Clarke and the Law Center with The Barristers' Association of Philadelphia's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award for Outstanding Service to the Community.



Staff attorney Benjamin Geffen joins pro bono attorneys Stuart Singer, Carl Goldfarb and Joshua Riley from Boies Schiller & Flexner LLP, and Dr. Tommy Schechtman in receiving the Child Health Advocate Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics for their work on behalf of children in Florida.



Amy Laura Cahn was recognized by Grid Magazine as one of "10 Philadelphians making change by empowering others" and she received the Young Alumni Award from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. [Photo credit: Mark Likosky]



Executive director Jennifer Clarke receives the Edwin D. Wolf Award, named after the Law Center's founder, from the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.



Staff receive the 2015 Juanita Jackson Mitchell, Esquire Award at the NAACP National Convention.



Staff attorney Amy Laura Cahn receives the Bread & Roses Community Fund's Trailblazer Award from disability rights lawyer Steve Gold. [Photo credit: Bread & Roses Community Fund]



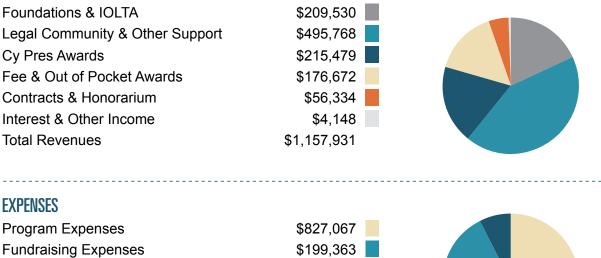
Michael Churchill celebrates with family and friends after receiving the Philadelphia Bar Foundation Award for his more than 40 years of service as a public interest lawyer.

#### **FINANCIALS**

January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015

#### SUMMARY OF REVENUE & EXPENSES\*

#### REVENUE



Program Expenses	φο21,001	
Fundraising Expenses	\$199,363	
General Expenses	\$81,898	
Total Expenses	\$1,108,328	

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Current Assets	\$592,533
Fixed Assets (net of depreciation)	\$25,596
Total Assets	\$618,129
Current Liabilities	\$5,006
Prior Year Net Assets	\$563,521
Current Year Change	\$49,603
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$618,129
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$391,701
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$120,410
Permanently Restricted Net Assets	\$101,011

\*These are unaudited statements. Audited financial reports will be available on our website after June 30, 2016. Not included are recognized contributions in professional services.

#### **STAFF**



Jennifer R. Clarke Executive Director



Kirtrina Baxter Community Organizer, Garden Justice Legal Initiative



Michael Berton Development & Communications Associate



LaTrice Brooks Director of Administration



Amy Laura Cahn Director, Garden Justice Legal Initiative



Michael Churchill Of Counsel



Julie Foster Independence Foundation Fellow



Benjamin Geffen Staff Attorney



Barbara M. Grimaldi Director of Development & Communications



Mary Howard Legal Secretary



Lisa R. Sica Director of Finance



Dan Urevick-Ackelsberg Staff Attorney



United Way Building, 2nd Floor 1709 Benjamin Franklin Parkway Philadelphia, PA 19103

215-627-7100

NONPROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID PHILADELPHIA, PA PERMIT NO. 7086

#### www.pubintlaw.org

@PubIntLawCtr facebook.com/publicinterestlawcenter www.linkedin.com/company/public-interest-law-center

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Brian T. Feeney, Chair Greenberg Traurig LLP

Lea D. Knight, Vice Chair J&J Consumer

Ellen S. Friedell, Treasurer Reaching Agreement ADR LLC

Marc A. Topaz, Secretary Kessler Topaz Meltzer & Check, LLP

David Caputo Kline & Specter

Thomas M. Chapin Mill Creek Capital Advisors, LLC

Nicholas E. Chimicles Chimicles & Tikellis LLP

Abbi L. Cohen Dechert LLP

Alexandra T. Edsall

Rachel Gallegos Steve Harvey Law LLC

Anthony Gay PECO/Exelon

Matthew Glazer Cozen O'Connor

Michael J. Hynes Hynes Keller & Hernandez, LLP

Donald K. Joseph

Michael McKeever KML Law Group, P.C.

Aneesh A. Mehta Microsoft Ellen Meriwether Cafferty, Clobes, Meriwether & Sprengel LLP Jeffrev S. Moller

Blank Rome LLP H. Laddie Montague, Jr.

Berger & Montague, P.C.

Carlos Montoya Philadelphia 76ers

Richard P. Pasquier Tronox Alkali

Kenneth Racowski Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC

Eric J. Rothschild Pepper Hamilton LLP

Paul H. Saint-Antoine Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP

Alan M. Sandals Sandals & Associates, P.C.

Colby Smith Morgan, Lewis & Bockius

David Smith Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis

Jenai St. Hill Hewlett Packard Enterprise

Karen J. Vaughn Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia

Phillip E. Wilson, Jr. Hangley Aronchick Segal Pudlin & Schiller

Judy Yun AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals

#### EX OFFICIO

Gaeton Alfano Chancellor, Philadelphia Bar Association

Keir Bradford-Grey Defender Association of Philadelphia

Deborah Gross Chancellor-Elect, Philadelphia Bar Association

Kevin Harden, Jr. Barristers' Association of Philadelphia

John Huh Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Pennsylvania

Erin Lamb Young Lawyers Division, Philadelphia Bar Association

Mary F. Platt Vice Chancellor, Philadelphia Bar Association

Veronica A. Torrejon Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania

#### ADVISORY BOARD

H. Robert Fiebach, Chair Cozen O'Connor

Mark Aronchick Hangley Aronchick Segal Pudlin & Schiller

Renee Chenault-Fattah

Dean Roger Dennis Earle Mack School of Law at Drexel University Dean JoAnne Epps Temple University Beasley School of Law

Richard Z. Freemann Freemann Law Offices

Monique Myatt Galloway Kessler Topaz Meltzer & Check, LLP

Honorable James T. Giles Pepper Hamilton LLP

George Gordon Dechert LLP

Stacy Hawkins Rutgers Law School

Ernest E. Jones Econsult Solutions

Michael L. Lehr Greenberg Traurig LLP

Honorable Timothy K. Lewis Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis, LLP

Arthur E. Newbold, IV Dechert LLP

Albert P. Parker, II General Counsel Legal Advisors, LLC

Michael H. Reed Pepper Hamilton LLP

Sister Mary Scullion Project H.O.M.E.

Ralph Smith Annie E. Casey Foundation

Rayman L. Solomon Rutgers Law School

Charles F. Thomson Thomson Communication