



PROTECTING CHILDREN, PROVIDING SUPPORT, PROMOTING CHANGE

## Annual Report January 1 to December 31, 2016

### Program Accomplishments

Child Justice was established as a not-for-profit 501(c) 3 organization in April 2013. Child Justice provides free legal services provided at no cost to the client for financially stressed protective parents of children who have been abused, neglected, or witnessed domestic violence.

#### *In 2016, Child Justice:*

- ⚖ Received 18 intake forms from prospective clients.
- ⚖ Accepted 13 new cases, including appeals.
- ⚖ Had 58 active cases, some of which were also under appeal.
- ⚖ Assembled 29 legal teams to provide pro bono legal services to our clients.
- ⚖ Helped 33 children be with safe parents who have ongoing pro bono legal representation and support.

#### *Child Justice provided these additional services in 2016:*

- ⚖ **200 Consults** in addition to the cases in which we were actively involved, we consulted with staff or clients in other cases, providing expert advice and support.
- ⚖ **28 Court Watches for 17 cases.** Our presence in court helps clients and their attorneys feel supported. In addition, the judge is aware of being observed by a knowledgeable professional who is taking notes. We also debrief afterwards with attorneys who value this opportunity because of the years of experience of our Executive Director and board.
- ⚖ **5 Amicus Curiae Briefs.** Child Justice submitted five briefs in appellate courts to support abused children and their protective parents.

**Why Child Justice?** Because protecting abused children offers them not only immediate safety, but also a chance to reclaim their lives and be healthy, happy, productive members of society. Heartwarming victories underscore how important our work is – even if success sometimes takes years. Our Founder, Eileen King, has worked with abused children since 1995.

#### **Board of Directors**

- Sue Ann Berlin, Chair
- Daniel R. Campos, MBA, Vice Chair
- Jessie Brown, Esq., Secretary
- Cynthia B. Whittle, Treasurer
- Shelley Rubin, LICSW, Past Board Chair
- Tim Goodman
- Alfred J. Clark, Jr.
- Col. Craig B. Hanford, USA Retired
- Ann Hamilton Hoyer
- Shannon M. Rohn, Esq.

#### **Staff**

- Eileen King, Founder and Executive Director
- Paul Griffin, Esq. Legal Director
- Alexandra Sandacz, Esq. Staff Attorney
- Michele Banks, Administrative Assistant

### MISSION

To protect and advocate for children who have been abused or witnessed domestic violence, to support them and their protective parents, and to promote change through community outreach, education, and policy recommendations.

### Financial Information

Year ending 12/31/2016

#### **Income**

Fund Balance (2015)	\$ 65,273.00
Contributions & Grants	<u>\$876,655.00*</u>
Total	\$941,928.00

\*\$750,000.00 is a restricted 5-year grant

#### **Expenses**

Program 80%	\$181,587.20
Administrative 10%	\$ 22,698.40
Fundraising 10%	<u>\$ 22,698.40</u>
Total	\$226,984.00

Net assets/fund balance at end of year  
\$719,944.00\* with \$675,000.00 restricted

Annual IRS 990 Report is available on our website  
at: [www.child-justice.org](http://www.child-justice.org)

#### **We would gratefully like to acknowledge and thank:**

All the generous individual donors who help support the mission of Child Justice.

The Attorneys who provided pro bono hours amounting to an astonishing 6,352 hours of free legal services and \$3,254,275.01 in free legal fees; of which \$1,866,267.50 helped to support legal service needs of our Maryland clients.

The Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention for partial funding for our Maryland clients with a two-year *Victims of Crime Assistance (VOCA)* grant that began on October 1, 2016.

An anonymous donor for funding the Legal Director's position for five years.

### Enormous Need

Each year, family courts sentence 58,000 children in this country to live with abusive, negligent or predatory parents.

A childhood scarred by trauma often means a future marked by depression, risky behavior and continued victimization.