

Mobilization for Justice: A Sample of 2018 Victories

A Happy Ending for a Child Abandoned in the Subway



Four years ago the Pearce family saw a news report about a seven-month-old baby abandoned on a New York City subway platform. They quickly recognized the child as the daughter of their 20-year-old, troubled niece. Believing that the child should be raised by family, they contacted MFJ for help to become the baby's foster parents.

After multiple motions and court appearances, MFJ succeeded in having the Pearces certified as the baby's foster parents. The child quickly bonded with the Pearces' own children and thrived. Two years later, the niece died under mysterious circumstances. The Pearces contacted MFJ again, seeking to adopt the child. The adoption was finalized in April 2018. The Pearces are a family of modest means, so MFJ secured a monthly foster care subsidy, later converted to an adoption subsidy, to help them successfully care for the child.

MFJ Restores 94-Year-Old Tenant to His Home

When Brigido returned home to New York from attending the funeral of his two sons in Santo Domingo, he found he had been evicted. GOLES, a Lower East Side housing organization where MFJ holds a monthly legal clinic, helped Brigido file a post-eviction order to show cause since he is unable to read. MFJ Supervising

Attorney Andrew Darcy, who had helped Brigido in 2015 when the landlord had filed similar spurious claims against him, argued in court that the eviction order should be vacated and Brigido restored to his apartment because someone should have been appointed to assist him in the proceeding given his advanced age. The fact Brigido never appeared should have raised questions for the court. The judge subsequently ordered Brigido be restored immediately, and he was handed the new keys to his old apartment that evening.



SI Homeowner Challenges Loan Modification Denial Based on Military Service

When Nationstar, the loan servicer for Ms. R's FHA mortgage, claimed her income was insufficient for a loan modification, she contacted MFJ for help. Although Ms. R's 30-year-old daughter and grandson lived with her, Nationstar refused to count the daughter's military salary as part of the household income because she was stationed elsewhere and frequently deployed overseas. Over the next 18 months, MFJ responded to 11 duplicative requests for documents designed to prevent Ms. R's daughter from being listed as a contributor and appealed two denials. Refusing to take no for an answer, MFJ persisted and eventually prevailed, saving the home for Ms. R and her family.

MFJ Rescues Older Worker from Crushing Debt

Mr. F, a 54-year-old Queens IT worker, fell on construction debris at his office and was rushed to the hospital unconscious. He was hospitalized for three days and lost additional days of work during his recovery. The insurance company alleged that the fall was caused by a seizure and denied his Workers' Compensation claim, leaving him with \$26,000 in medical bills. MFJ represented Mr. F at two hearings, and his claim was approved. But his financial troubles were not over. He subsequently lost his job, while still carrying \$75,000 of debt incurred after Superstorm Sandy and medical bills from a misdiagnosis of cancer. MFJ prepared a bankruptcy petition, which resulted in the discharge of Mr. F's debts in May 2018. He is now debt free and receiving social security disability benefits.

MFJ Expands Special Education Services



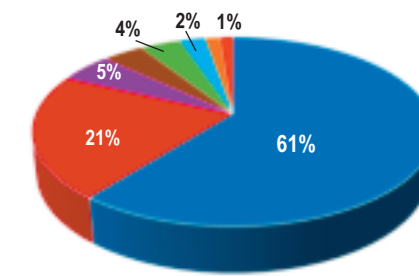
In June 2018, MFJ merged with Partnership for Children's Rights, expanding our capacity to help children with disabilities secure appropriate special education services from the NYC Department of Education.

The new Warren J. Sinsheimer Children's Rights Program is building on PFCR's 20-year history of helping hundreds of children each year secure special education services and public benefits. Low-income families seeking help with special education issues often face other legal problems and they will now be able to access all of the legal services offered by MFJ.

2018 Audited Financial Overview

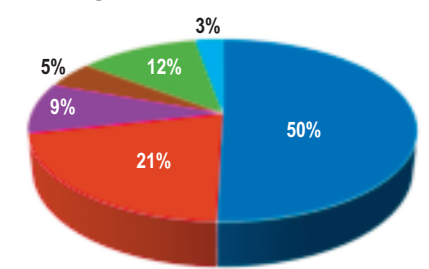
July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Revenue: \$16,311,017



- Government: \$9,890,092
- Merger: \$3,488,071
- Foundations/Corporations: \$812,000
- Individuals: \$641,774
- Special Event: \$635,760
- Donated Services: \$400,000
- Capital Campaign: \$245,983
- Cy Pres/Attorney's Fees/Other: \$197,337

Expenses: \$12,347,003



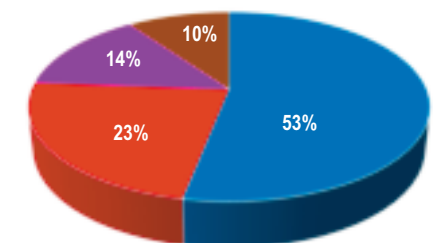
- Housing: \$6,222,095
 - Disability & Aging Rights: \$2,611,314
 - Economic Justice & Immigration: \$1,111,142
 - Children's Rights: \$596,530
 - Administration: \$1,464,643
 - Fundraising: \$341,279
- Net Assets: \$10,698,616

Services to Clients

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

- MFJ handled more than **10,000** cases benefiting more than 25,000 New Yorkers.
- MFJ secured more than **\$14.5 million** in affirmative judgments and savings for low-income New Yorkers.
- MFJ increased its capacity to address children's education needs by merging with Partnership for Children's Rights.
- Some **300 pro bono attorneys** and other volunteers handled more than 2,500 individual cases and class action lawsuits benefiting over 100,000 people.

FY 2018 Cases



- Housing: 53%
- Economic Justice & Immigration: 23%
- Disability & Aging Rights: 14%
- Children's Rights: 10%

Mobilization for Justice

Our mission is to achieve social justice, prioritizing the needs of people who are low-income, disenfranchised or have disabilities. We do this by providing the highest quality direct civil legal assistance, conducting community education and building partnerships, engaging in policy advocacy and bringing impact litigation.

Pro Bono Partners

MFJ salutes the following firms that provide pro bono assistance to our clients:

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Special thanks to our on-site volunteer attorneys:

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Through June 30, 2018

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