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NYS Senate

### **MOBILIZATION FOR JUSTICE**

Our mission is to achieve justice for all. MFJ prioritizes the needs of people who are low-income, disenfranchised, or have disabilities as they struggle to overcome the effects of social injustice and systemic racism. We provide the highest-quality free, direct civil legal assistance, conduct community education and build partnerships, engage in policy advocacy, and bring impact litigation. MFJ also promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion in our workplace, and understands the need to eliminate all racial disparities to achieve justice for all.

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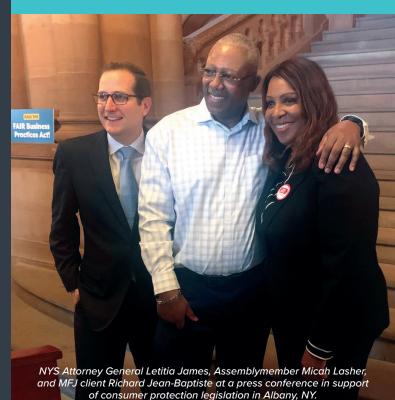
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## **2025** YEAR-END REPORT



MOBILIZATION FOR

Main Office: 100 William Street, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10038 | 212,417,3700 Bronx Office: 424 East 147th Street, 3rd Floor, Bronx, NY 10455 | 212.417.3800 Email: info@mfjlegal.org | Website: mobilizationforjustice.org

CELEBRATING **60+ YEARS** OF MOBILIZING FOR JUSTICE!

## **MOBILIZATION FOR JUSTICE VICTORIES – THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT!**

### **Workplace Justice Project & Housing Assistance**

A 66-year-old superintendent of a Manhattan apartment building was fired from his job without notice. He was told to immediately vacate the apartment he shared



with his wife who has disabilities and their daughter. He contacted MFJ's Workplace Justice Project, which found he was likely subject to age discrimination. And based on MFJ's review of his payroll records, he was also improperly paid by the building owner in violation of New York Labor Law. MFJ's housing

attorneys stepped in and were able to delay the client's eviction for over a year, during which time the family did not have to pay rent. Thanks to MFJ, the client won a settlement giving him time to find housing for himself and his family, as well as a substantial monetary payment. Good thing he called MFJ!

### **Children's Medical Legal Partnership**

F., a teenager entering high school, was referred to MFJ's Children's Medical Legal Partnerships Project by Harlem Hospital. She had complex learning and social-emotional challenges, and had spent several years in a small, specialized classroom setting but struggled with severe anxiety and self-esteem issues. When transitioning to high school, the Department of Education (DOE) offered her a seat at a school where she had previously experienced an acute emotional episode. Despite having a well-documented need for a small, nurturing environment with individualized life skills training and emotional support, she was next offered a seat in a large school unable to meet her special needs. With the support of her MFJ attorney, F.'s case proceeded to a hearing, where the officer

ordered the DOE to place her in a small, non-public school capable of meeting her academic and social-emotional needs. F. was awarded over 1,000 hours of behavioral therapy as well.

### **Immigration Asylum Case**

MFJ client KP fled Honduras with her daughter in 2016 due to both intimate partner and family violence, which exacerbated mental health conditions which could not be treated in her home country. MFJ helped them file for asylum in Immigration Court, and also helped KP to seek mental health services. Numerous delays and rescheduled hearings due to the Covid pandemic exacerbated KP's anxiety. However, in January 2025, KP testified successfully for her and her daughter in their asylum hearing. They were granted asylum by the Immigration Judge, and now KP's daughter is able to attend university. KP now lives peacefully knowing that she and her daughter are protected from ever having to return to Honduras.

### **Kinship Care Law Project**

Mr. P contacted MFJ's Kinship Care Law Project seeking quardianship for his young niece, Felicia. MFJ found that Felicia was undocumented, but could be eligible for special juvenile immigrant status (SIJS). Mr. P has been Felicia's primary caretaker since she came to the United States in 2021. Felicia emigrated due to a lack of educational and work prospects in Guatemala, and because her family could no longer provide for her after her father died. Felicia bravely crossed the border as an unaccompanied minor and was released into Mr. P's care after being detained at an immigration facility. Mr. P provided emotional support to make Felicia feel safe in his home, enrolling her in school and obtaining health insurance so she could see a doctor. Mr. P provides Felicia with a loving home, furniture, clothing, food, and toiletries. MFJ swiftly filed a quardianship petition and special findings motion in Queens County Family Court. The Court ruled in January 2025 that it would be in Felicia's best interest to grant the quardianship application until her 21st birthday. The Court also signed the proposed SIJS order, giving Felicia a path towards obtaining legal status.

## **Housing Project**

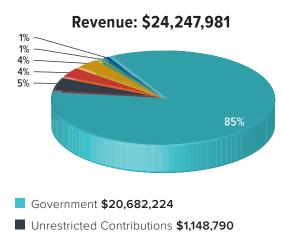
Mr. R is a 26-year-old MFJ client whose family was evicted from their apartment. He has an extensive history of trauma, including seeing his father murder his mother, separation from his biological family as a child, four years of street homelessness as a teenager, and living in shelters for two years with his son. He also has difficulty securing jobs due to his history of criminal justice involvement and his mental health disability. After discovering that Mr. R has a history of mental illness and that he received incorrect information from social service agencies about his eligibility for housing subsidy programs, MFJ represented Mr. R in the eviction case. MFJ was able to help him secure a subsidized apartment with individualized supportive services for his young family. MFJ also connected him with mental health treatment services, conducted a rapid psychological evaluation and submitted an application for supportive housing. Bringing both our advocacy and social work skills to bear, we were able to help Mr. R secure a lease to a supportive housing unit for his family very quickly.

## **Consumer Rights Project**

Mr. B is a 68-year-old Queens resident who works for the MTA. After caring for his aging mother and advocating for her removal from a nursing home with poor conditions, she passed away. While mourning her death, the nursing home filed a possibly retaliatory lawsuit against him. They claimed without evidence that he had access to his mother's money and had used it inappropriately. While he took care of his mother and her physical ailments, she oversaw her own finances and maintained her independence throughout her life. Facing a large judgment, Mr. B had nowhere to turn. Luckily, he called MFJ's Consumer Rights Project hotline, and an attorney guided him through the legal process. MFJ ultimately represented him and got the case dismissed on summary judgment. Each stage of the lawsuit forced Mr. B to relive the difficult experience of losing his mother, as well as the poor conditions she had suffered. Mr. B spoke about his experience in May, alongside NY Attorney General Letitia James, in advocating for New York to join 43 other states in banning such harmful practices.

## **Financial Overview** FY 2025

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025



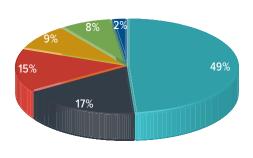
Attorney Fees **\$1,079,269** 

Restricted Grants \$1.004.186

Interest **\$191,170** 

Training Fees & Misc. \$142,342

## Expenses: \$25,118,398



Housing & HIV **\$12,351,112** 

■ Disability & Aging Rights \$4,300,823

Children's Rights \$3,665,064

Economic Justice \$2.358.089

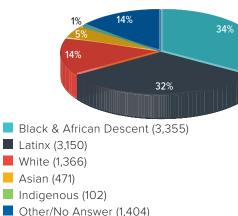
Administration \$1.950.579

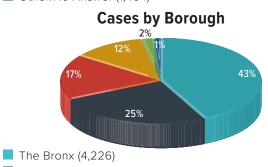
Fundraising **\$492,731** 

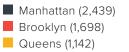
## **Client Profiles and Services** FY 2025

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

## Cases by Race

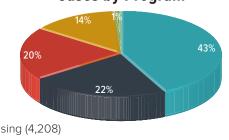






Staten Island (202)

### Outside NYC (141) **Cases by Program**



Housing (4,208)

■ Disability & Aging Rights (2,189) Economic Justice (2,018)

Children's Rights (1,397)

Other (36)