

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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July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

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NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene
NYC Human Resources Administration
NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development
NYC Department of Youth and Community Development
NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission
NYC Council Members
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NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal
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Advocacy & Legal Services Since 1963

2023 YEAR-END REPORT

Celebrating 60 Years of Service



KCLP clients Alex Hunter and adoptive father Raenell Hunter

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MOBILIZATION FOR JUSTICE VICTORIES – THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT!

The Immigration Law Project Protects a Political Refugee



MFJ attorney Ana Lazo represented Ms. V in an asylum hearing in Immigration Court. Ms. V is from Venezuela and worked as an accountant with the Ministry of the Interior. Due to political beliefs that differed from the current Chavez/Maduro regime, and her refusal to falsify official government reports, she suffered harassment, physical assault, and verbal abuse from her employer, a state-controlled agency. Fearing for her life, Ms. V left Venezuela and migrated to the United States to seek refuge from political persecution. Ana successfully navigated the case in Immigration Court and was able to achieve a full asylum grant, which will allow Ms. V to apply for Lawful Permanent Resident status in one year and then full U.S. citizenship in five years from the date of the asylum approval. Great work Ana!

The Kinship Care Law Project saves a Ukrainian child from orphanhood

Ms. D, a Ukrainian native, contacted KCLP seeking help obtaining custody of her autistic grandson. The child's mother passed away from heart disease, leaving him an orphan. Ms. D was his only relative able to care for him, and had helped raise and care for him prior to his mother's death. Within months of filing the custody petition, the Russian invasion began. Soon thereafter, Ms. D's husband, who lived back in Ukraine, also died. A few months later, Ms. D was awarded sole custody of her grandson, giving her

one less worry after so many devastating losses. MFJ also identified additional ways to support Ms. D, helping her obtain back payments of Social Security Insurance for her grandson, after the agency cruelly terminated his benefits after his mother passed away.

MFJ and partners win NYS cash assistance for asylum-seekers and others

Thanks to MFJ advocacy, New York State recently expanded eligibility for Safety Net Assistance—a critical state emergency cash benefit—to non-citizen applicants of various statuses, including asylum and temporary protected status, among others. This huge effort involved MFJ's Special Litigation Project, Immigration Law Project, and Housing practice, together with co-counsel Sanford Heisler Sharp LLP. While New York State has long made this benefit accessible to those granted asylum and others, it barred eligibility for those who had applied and were waiting for a decision from the federal government about their status. But the federal government's increasingly long backlog has asylum-seekers waiting when they are most financially vulnerable since they cannot work legally or receive federal benefits. MFJ focused our advocacy on this interim waiting period of extreme distress. Other groups, including The Legal Aid Society and NYLAG, were also engaged in parallel advocacy, and we celebrated this policy win together.

Fighting discrimination in the workplace

The Workplace Justice Project represented Ms. H, a Black client who faced race and gender discrimination



in the workplace and filed a complaint with the New York City Human Rights Commission in 2015. While the Commission's Law Enforcement Bureau took five years to investigate the case before ultimately issuing a "Notice of Probable Cause," the matter continued to languish in the agency during the pandemic. The case was finally resolved through a conciliation agreement which required the employer to pay our client back wages, attorney's fees, and civil penalties, complete supervisor training, and update its policies to be compliant with current law. Ms. H has since decided to further her education and is currently pursuing a college degree.

DOE to fund the entire tuition requested for a student's program

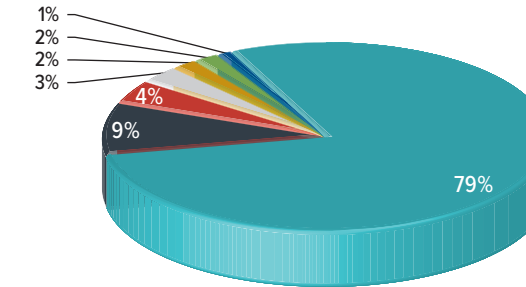
It is rare for our Children's Rights Project to wage battles at the appellate level because we routinely win our cases during administrative hearings, before they get to court. This is best for our clients, as the appellate body that reviews these hearing decisions (the "SRO") is known to often rubber stamp the findings of the hearing officer. In the fall of 2022, however, we received an unfavorable hearing decision that was incorrect for many reasons. MFJ attorney Matthew Bedrick was undaunted and turned his focus to an appeal.

In a few weeks, Matthew crafted a balanced and forceful set of arguments, steadfast in his conviction that the case had been decided wrongly against the client—an eight-year-old child whose hard-won placement in the first school that had ever truly met his educational needs was now in jeopardy. Matt's hard work paid off; the SRO found in the child's favor, writing that the hearing officer had "left out important aspects of the evidence" and ordered the Department of Education to fund the entire requested tuition for the student's program. Thanks to skillful lawyering and commitment, there is one more child in New York City receiving the education they deserve. Well done, Matthew!

Financial Overview FY 2023

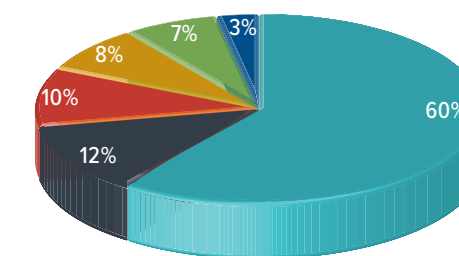
July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Revenue: \$25,495,768



- Government **\$20,074,546**
- PPP Loan Forgiveness **\$2,304,596**
- Special Events **\$1,044,710**
- Unrestricted Contributions **\$800,816**
- Restricted Contributions **\$550,000**
- Attorney Fees **\$516,178**
- Training Fees & Misc. **\$204,922**

Expenses: \$23,730,654

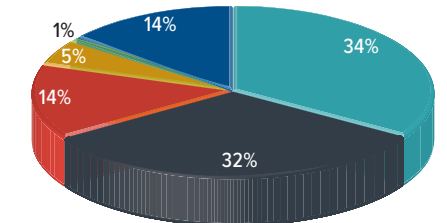


- Housing & HIV **\$14,331,004**
- Disability & Aging Rights **\$2,745,375**
- Economic Justice **\$2,433,693**
- Children's Rights **\$1,773,853**
- Administration **\$1,654,840**
- Fundraising **\$791,889**

Client Profiles and Services FY 2023

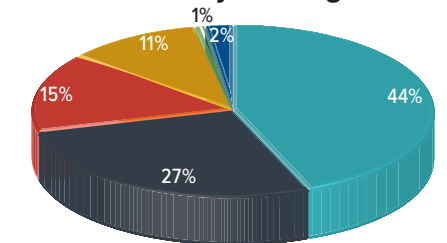
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Cases by Race



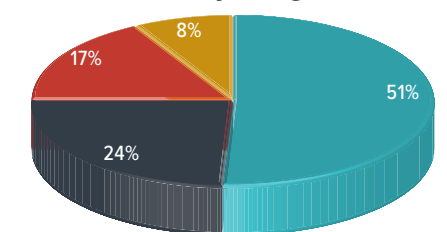
- Black & African Descent
- Latinx
- White
- Asian
- Indigenous
- Miscellaneous/No Answer

Cases by Borough



- The Bronx
- Manhattan
- Brooklyn
- Queens
- Staten Island
- Outside NYC

Cases by Program



- Housing
- Economic Justice
- Disability & Aging Rights
- Children & Families