Dear Friends,

Several weeks after the 2016 Presidential election, schools were closed in San Francisco the day before Thanksgiving. We took advantage of the holiday to ask our DACA (Dreamer) clients to come in and talk about their options under the new administration. We all pitched in and I met with several clients. We told them all the same thing—we don’t know what the future holds or how much risk you will experience, but we can completely commit to being with you whatever happens, even if our worst fears come to pass and you end up in deportation proceedings. While the young people I met with were comforted by this promise, they walked into the meeting with strength and resilience far greater than my own in that moment. That day, I was reminded of the lesson I have learned over and over again in my twenty years at Legal Services for Children: our job is not to speak for our clients, but to stand with them as they become their own best advocates.

Two days after the election, thousands of San Francisco High School students took to the streets. When they arrived at City Hall many of our staff went out to cheer them on, but we stood across the street. Our message was clear: we are with you, but this day belongs to you.

2017 promises to be a year of many challenges. A year where our clients will face serious threats to their well-being. We are committed to standing with them every step of the way. We deeply thank all of you for standing with us.

Sincerely,

Abigail Trillin

Legal Services for Children’s (LSC) mission is to provide free representation to children and youth in need of legal assistance to stabilize their lives and realize their full potential. Through a holistic team approach utilizing legal advocacy and social work services, our goal is to empower clients and actively involve them in the critical decisions that impact their lives. LSC uses this model to achieve safety, stability, and educational success with freedom from detention and freedom from deportation for our clients.
Core Programs

Immigration

Thousands of youth make the dangerous trip to the U.S. on their own to escape abuse, neglect, gang and sexual violence, or extreme poverty. The American Bar Association has issued a humanitarian call to action to address the lack of legal representation on behalf of unaccompanied children in removal proceedings. Studies show that it is unlikely that an unrepresented child will prevail in immigration court, even if he or she has a legitimate claim for protection: more than 50% of unrepresented children in immigration court are deported, but 90% of represented youth are not. Children and youth cannot reach their full potential if they live in fear of deportation. LSC provides legal services in immigration cases and for young people being held in Office of Refugee Resettlement detention centers.

Guardianship & Dependency

There are few foster families in San Francisco due to the high cost of living and housing, and youth in San Francisco’s dependency system are languishing in group homes or face placements out of county (SF has the highest rate of out-of-county placements - 60.8% - in the state), away from school, friends, and other support. LSC represents children in guardianship and foster care cases to ensure that they have the stability they need to thrive.

Education

Data clearly show that racial and ethnic minorities experience a disproportionate percentage of school expulsions and suspensions. Access to quality education is tied to the social, physical, and economic health of children, yet it remains deeply stratified along economic, racial, and gender lines. Children of color, children with disabilities, low-income children, and children who have experienced trauma are particularly vulnerable to school exclusion. LSC represents students in expulsion hearings and works with Bay Area school districts to keep kids in school and promote restorative justice and other alternatives to traditional school discipline practices.
LSC By the Numbers

Who We Are

LSC’s attorneys represent children in legal matters that involve immigration, guardianship, dependency (foster care), and education/school discipline. Our social workers provide crisis intervention, case management, counseling, and psychosocial assessments. LSC serves over 1,000 low-income youth in the greater Bay Area each year, the vast majority of whom live well below the poverty line. In addition, LSC provides:

- Information, advice and counsel, and/or referrals through our intake line, weekly drop-in clinics, and other intake venues
- Outreach, trainings and technical assistance for other youth-serving organizations
- Pro bono attorney recruitment, training and mentoring
- Advocacy for systemic policy and practice improvements that strengthen the safety net for at-risk children

LSC’s clients have experienced trauma including abuse at home, abandonment, gang and gender-based violence, homelessness, and perilous journeys to the U.S. that end in incarceration. These youth require significant legal and social interventions to prevent further trauma and promote stability, healing and healthy development.

2016 Impact Metrics:

- 1,153 children or concerned adults LSC met or spoke to on the phone
- 232 new cases opened for representation by LSC attorneys
- 50 new cases opened for representation by LSC-trained pro bono attorneys.
- 289 children screened and counseled in Immigration Detention Centers
- 615 children represented in new and ongoing cases (282 new and 333 ongoing cases)

Concrete benefits secured for clients in 2016:

- 75 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) applications filed
- 100+ Onsite therapy sessions conducted
- 42 Psychosocial Assessments conducted
- 27 Legal Guardianships granted
- 15 School Expulsions avoided
- 62 Employment Authorizations granted

Photovoice Project; “Tree Through Broken Glass,” by Z, 18 years old, Guardianship & Immigration Client
Client Story

Fourteen-year-old Carolina had been abused by her parents and stalked by a 40-year-old man in her native El Salvador. After making the treacherous trip to the U.S. on her own, she was detained in put into removal proceedings. An LSC attorney interviewed her in detention and took her case. Carolina was entitled to immigration relief based on her history of abuse. LSC established Carolina’s cousin as her a legal guardian and secured her legal permanent residence status. Carolina is in therapy, doing well at school, and enjoys cooking and writing.

“My experience with LSC has been full of happiness and thanks to the help of LSC I felt protected.” -LSC Client

“They became my family and support me in every way they can. Now I can make big decisions and be free.” -LSC Client
Financial Overview

Legal Services for Children Year Ended June 30, 2016 (Expenses)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>$4,367,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; General</td>
<td>$203,597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$315,026</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Amount: $4,886,521

Legal Services for Children Year Ended June 30, 2016 (Cash revenue and support)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>$1,170,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Grants &amp; Contracts</td>
<td>$679,233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Event Contributions</td>
<td>$436,274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earned Income</td>
<td>$115,330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Amount: $2,401,497

Legal Services for Children Year Ended June 30, 2016 (including donated services)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>$1,170,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Grants &amp; Contracts</td>
<td>$679,233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Event Contributions</td>
<td>$436,274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donate Services, Pro-Bono</td>
<td>$2,471,948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earned Income</td>
<td>$115,330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Amount: $4,873,445
LSC recruits, trains, and coordinates a panel of more than 100 attorneys throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. The attorney panel represents youth on a pro bono basis in guardianship, school discipline, and immigration cases. Last year, panel members handled 85 cases and collectively contributed $2,471,948 of in-kind service.

Baker McKenzie
Amanda Kottke
Bianca Lansdown
Mark Roche
Christina Wong
Keith Wurster
Clyde & Co
Aishlin Cook
Paulette Donsavage
Coblentz Patch Duffy & Bass LLP
Lyndsey Marcelino
Cooley LLP
Max Bernstein
Alyssa Chen
Nathaniel Cooper
Kelly Fabian
Celia de Pentheny O’Kelly
Kathlyn Querubin
Monique Sherman
Cynthia Smuzynska
Whitty Samvichian
Maryam Toossi
Davis Wright & Tremaine LLP
Allison Davis
Jake Freed
Kelly Gorton
Nicole Guintoli
Vidhya Prabhakaran
DLA Piper
Eduardo Blanco
Lynn Cadwalader
Michael Giambona
Nelson Lam
Victoria Lee
Karen Marchiano
Olga Slobodyanyuk
Aja Wynn-Grant
Brent Yamashita
Yana Zubareva
Duane Morris LLP
Maxine Bayley
Lisa Spiegel
Family Law Group, LLP
Morgan Cox
Fallon, Bixby Cheng & Lee, Inc.
Julia Marquez
Fenwick & West LLP
Hilarie Atkinson
Julie Park
Will L. Pierog
Fox Rothschild LLP
Talia Saypoff
Gibson Dunn
Kelsey Helland
Jonathan Swisher
Haley Nelson & Heilbrun, LLP
Sarah Heilbrun
Jewell Stewart & Pratt PC
Christopher Beckerson
Jennifer Carr
Wendy Stewart
Jones Day
Benjamin Craven
Peter Julian
Jason McDonell
Blake Pulliam
Jessica Wilkes
Keker, Van Nest & Peters LLP
Simona Agnolucci
Jo W. Golub
Christopher Kearney
Erik Meyer
Eduardo Santacana
Tamara Sherman
James R. Slaughter
Nikki Vo
Latham & Watkins LLP
Ashley Bauer
James Chang
Shannon Lankenau
Sarah Ray
Vanessa Wu
Law Offices of S. Chandler Visher
Deborah de Lambert
Law Offices of Fellom & Solorio
Amelia Berthelsen
Law Office of Robert B. Jobe
Morgan Russell
Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP
Lori Dolqueist
Kelly Knudson
Craig Miller
Christopher Rheinheimer
Stephanie Roesser
Lenard Weiss
Grace Yang
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
Theodore Dayno
Dustin Elliott
Andrea Fitanides
Christina MacDougall
Kevin Papay
Moscone Embridge & Otis LLP
Jodie Smith
Matthew Yan
Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP
Joshua Meltzer
Usha Vance
National Center for Youth Law
Francis Guzman
Nixon Peabody LLP
Carolyn Collins
Rachel L. Conn
Aldo Ibarra
Ronald Lopez
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Andrew Kim
Photovoice Project

The client photographs in this report are part of a photovoice project conducted by LSC. Photovoice is a community-based participatory research method where participants document and share personal experiences through photography. LSC facilitated a group of eight current and former clients who met for six weeks, received digital cameras, and responded to these themes: What was my life like before I got involved with LSC?, What was it like to work with LSC?, What is my life like now?, And, What will my life look like in the future? The photographs are on exhibit at LSC’s office and are available to view by appointment.

Collage of photographs by participants of LSC’s photovoice project, 2017

We would like to thank our funding partners and donors!

All lists include financial support between July 2015 and December 2016. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, please accept our apology and notify us about any errors or omissions.