

The background of the entire page is a vibrant, multi-layered watercolor rainbow. The colors transition from yellow and orange at the top, through green, blue, and purple, to red and pink at the bottom. The brushstrokes are visible, giving it a soft, artistic feel.

COMMUNITY LAW CENTER

2017
ANNUAL REPORT

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends,

Thanks to your generous support, Community Law Center has been serving the legal needs of neighborhoods and nonprofits in Maryland for over 30 years!

Community Law Center was founded in 1986 by a group of lawyers and community organizers who saw the need for residents in Baltimore City to band together and advocate effectively for their neighborhoods. We are proud to have stayed true to our mission to provide free legal services to community and nonprofit organizations throughout Maryland. We remain Maryland's only legal services organization dedicated solely to strengthening neighborhoods and the nonprofit sector.

In 2017, our staff attorneys and pro bono attorneys opened 232 new cases and closed 414 cases for community associations, grassroots organizations, and nonprofits in Maryland. Our work helps to build the social and economic strength of low-income communities that lack the financial resources to pay for private legal representation.

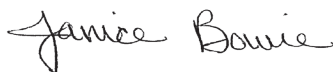
Community Law Center's legal staff also offers a wide range of educational opportunities to build the capacity of our nonprofit sector to be effective and efficient organizations. A total of 368 community leaders attended our monthly workshops, 5-part capacity building training series, and brief advice legal clinics in 2017. They learned to strengthen their nonprofit's capacity and neighborhood's abilities to maintain their corporate and tax-exempt status, properly manage their organizations, and to have their voices heard.

On behalf of our Board, staff, and clients, we thank you for the role you have played over the past year, and we hope you will continue to support our work.

With tremendous gratitude,



Kristine Dunkerton, Esq.
Executive Director



Janice V. Bowie, PhD, MPH
Chair, Board of Directors

LEGAL SERVICES FOR NEIGHBORHOODS & NONPROFITS

Community Law Center helps to create viable and strong community associations in Baltimore.

Inez Robb is President of the Sandtown Winchester Condo Association and the Western District Community Relations Council. Both organizations help to make improvements in the Sandtown Winchester neighborhood. But when they needed help, they didn't know where to begin.

Community Law Center helps to make these complicated processes accessible. Our lawyers answered Ms. Robb's questions about the nuts and bolts of running nonprofit organizations. Both organizations have gone on to help maintain property in Sandtown Winchester and help residents work together - and with the police - to reduce crime.

Community leaders like Ms. Robb are critical to the growth and safety of our community.

"Community Law Center is the best! Every minute spent explained important information that can be used to improve our neighborhood association. Community Law Center is a tremendous resource for improving and assisting neighborhood associations."

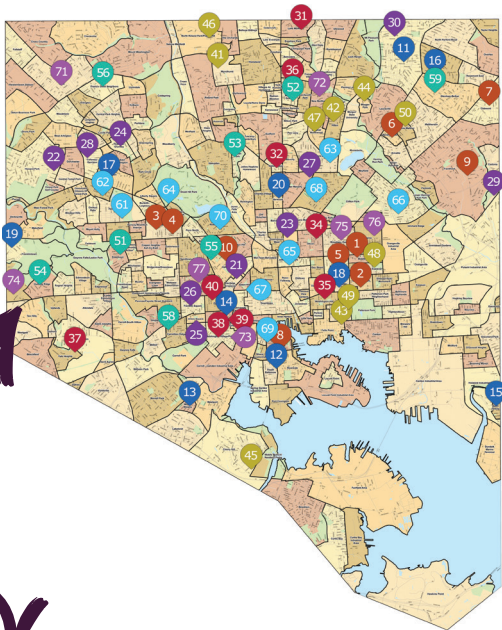
– Betty Cherniak,
Glen Neighborhood
Improvement Association



Inez Robb and Major Briscoe, Western District, Baltimore City Police

WORKSHOPS & CLINICS

Neighborhoods that have participated in Community Law Center's 5-part capacity building training.



In 2017, **368** community leaders participated in our workshops, trainings, and brief legal advice clinics.



In 2017, **171** people attended *How To Start and Maintain a Nonprofit Organization* workshop.

All trainings are taught by attorneys who understand the law and how it impacts our clients. We keep costs low and offer several free sessions at libraries around the state to ensure that every organization that needs the information is able to access it.

"The Community Law Center's workshop, *How to Start and Maintain a Nonprofit*, was very valuable. I felt confident that I received the most current, accurate information available, and the trainer presented it in a clear and concise manner. I consider it time well-spent."

– Kristen Mitchell, Market Center Merchants Association

PRO BONO ATTORNEYS

The Pro Bono Program matches our panel of 590 volunteer attorneys with community and nonprofit organizations throughout Maryland to provide the legal assistance they need to achieve their missions. The following attorneys represented clients in 2017.

Thor Alden	Philip Hinkle	George Rose
Stanley Alpert	Peter Ivanick	Jason Rose
Hirsh Ament	Ronald Jackson	Jeremy Rountree
Sheila Anderson	Robin Jacobs	Stephen Rourke
Ngozi Ayebae	Megan Johnson	Robert Ruben
Keir Bancroft	Toyya Kelley	Michael Rufkahr
Kevin Barker	Ryan Kennedy	Kimberly Saxon
John Beck	Parag Khandhar	Robyn Scates
Pouyan Bohloul	Denice Ko	Stephen Selden
Kathryn Bradley	Ari Kodeck	David Shafer
Sam Burum	Jimi Kolawole	Jody Shaw
Tony Chan	Steven Kolias	Michael Sheehan
Brian Chappell	Sharon Kroupa	Michael Sherman
Steve Cohen	Jaime Lee	Dan Skowronski
Joseph (Jeb) Cook	Michael Lehmann	Tracy Steedman
MyEsha Craddock	Dismas ("Diz") Locaria	Gabriel Steele
Ryan Dickson	Ronald Maltz	Michael Stein
Michael Dietz	Michael Mannes	Neal Strum
John Dougherty	Daren Margolis	Tiffanie Tam
Jonathan Elefant	William (Bill) McComas	Alyce Thompson
Michael Floissac	Daniel Mendelsohn	Kate Titford
Michael Francel	Razvan Miutescu	Patrick Turley
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Eric Hawkins	Thomas Pilkerton III	Owen Williams
Jeffrey (Jeff) Hayes	Emily Portanova	Cheryle Wilson
Christopher Heagy	George Ritchie	Michelle Winbush
	Ashley Rodriguez	Aaron Withrow



PRO BONO HIGHLIGHT NANCY URIZAR

Community Law Center represents the unique needs and challenges of Baltimore's neighborhoods.

Nancy Urizar, Esq. a pro-bono attorney from Womble, Bond, Dickinson, LLC, provided pro bono legal assistance through Community Law Center to assist residents in Baltimore to create a community association that conducts business in Spanish. Working together, they translated documents and conducted training sessions on how to start, run, and maintain a community organization.

FINANCIALS

Revenues, gains and other support:

Public support:

Contributions	\$381,633
Contributed professional fees	\$470,403

\$852,036

Special events less direct costs	\$6,824
Grants from governmental agencies	\$211,306

Other revenue:

Fees	\$25,468
Miscellaneous	\$1,478

\$26,946

Total revenues, gains and other support **\$1,097,112**

Expenses:

Program services –

Legal assistance to communities & nonprofits	\$932,121
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Supporting services:

Management and General	\$ 141,209
Fundraising	\$14,838

Total supporting services \$156,047

Total expenses **\$1,088,168**

Change in net assets	\$8,944
Net assets – start of year	\$212,024
Net assets – end of year	\$220,968

“Your guidance was a life saver! I often comment on Facebook that Community Law Center has been a major, positive factor in Windsor Hills. Hopefully in the coming year, we will be able to donate to CLC.” Windsor Hills Neighborhood Association

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