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www.chlp.org

COMMUNITY
HEALTH LAW
PROJECT



ANNUAL REPORT



**Fiscal Year
2023**

**48 Years Serving the
Disability Community**

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Letter from the Executive Director



Erika Kerber, Esq.

President/Executive Director

It's been several years since the pandemic and the repercussions of that time are still being felt today. We continue to deal with an increased mental health crisis especially among our youth, and equity gaps among low-income and minority groups have increased. It is therefore more imperative than ever to ensure that the social safety net for our most vulnerable residents continues to expand and grow. And legal and advocacy services such as ours are part of that social safety net.

For over 48 years, we have been steadfast in our mission to protect the rights and entitlements of individuals with disabilities, chronic health conditions, and the frail elderly. Through our legal assistance and advocacy, we have helped thousands of individuals avoid homelessness and maintain housing stability, obtain and preserve necessary public entitlements such as SSI/SSD benefits, ensure healthcare access, promote family safety, and address other needs affecting our clients' ability to live and thrive in their communities.

With the expansion of our existing programs and securing additional grants, we have provided critical legal assistance to more individuals in need. We are also grateful for the medical-legal partnerships we have formed with several healthcare providers to provide true holistic care to patients by embedding attorneys into the healthcare team to address patients' issues proactively so they can focus on their health and recovery.

None of this great work could be accomplished without our stellar staff that goes above and beyond to address the critical legal issues of our clients. It is an honor to lead this organization with this dedicated team.

With much gratitude,

Erika Kerber



Leadership

Ann Marie Burke, Esq.
Chairperson

Ryan S. Carlson, Esq.
Vice-Chairperson

Erika Kerber, Esq.
President/Executive Director

Sean M. Bradley, B.A.
Treasurer

Board of Trustees

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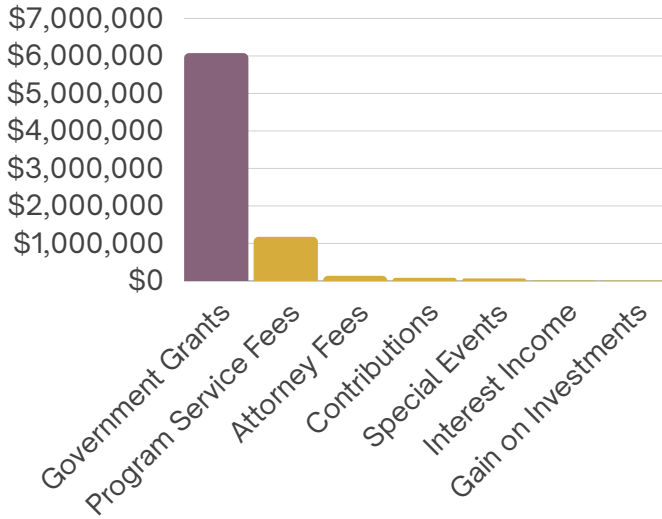
Franklin K. Wyman, Esq., Ph.D.

Mission

To provide legal and advocacy services, training, education, and related activities to persons with disabilities, chronic health conditions and, in certain issues, to organizations representing their interests, with an emphasis on those most vulnerable and needy.

Financial Statement

Revenues & Support



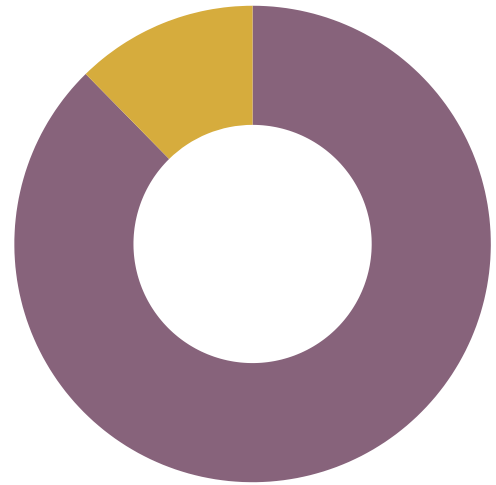
Government Grants: \$6,076,196
Program Service Fees: \$1,176,391
Attorney Fees: \$136,383
Contributions: \$83,089
Special Events: \$66,730
Interest Income: \$12,650
Unrealized Gains: \$8,804

TOTAL REVENUES: \$7,560,243

Expenses

Program Services: \$6,537,605
Support Services: \$921,422
TOTAL EXPENSES: \$7,459,027

Support Services
12.4%



Program Services
87.6%

How Can You Improve a Life?

DONATE

Impact Highlights



The Community Health Law Project continues to grow, allowing us to serve an increasing number of individuals in need. Our expanding resources enhance our ability to provide essential services and support to our community. If you would like to support CHLP’s mission, please visit www.chlp.org.

GROWTH SNAPSHOT

4,364

Residents Served

4.2%

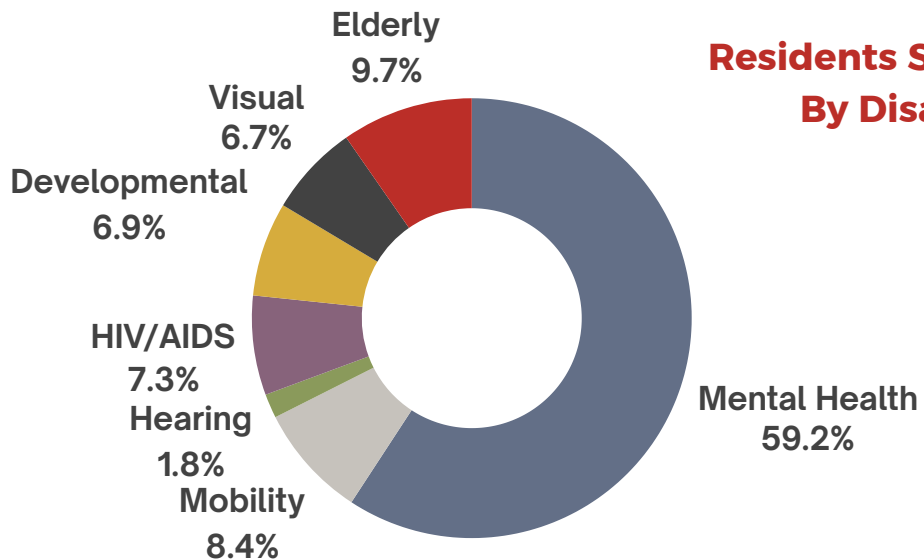
Year on Year Increase

9%

Funding Increase Year on Year

“For we are leaders of inclusiveness and community, of love, equity, and justice.”

Judy Heumann



Residents Served By Disability

Examples of Success Stories

8 Year Old Girl Receives New Medical Equipment

A dedicated staff attorney at the CHLP's Neptune office recently significantly impacted the life of an 8-year-old girl. This young client was diagnosed with a rare congenital disorder requiring constant care and specialized medical equipment to support her daily activities. However, when she outgrew her equipment, her insurance company refused to cover the new, size-appropriate gear she needed. Undeterred, our attorney took action. He filed an appeal and represented the girl in an administrative hearing, fighting tirelessly on her behalf. Thanks to these efforts, the insurance company's decision was overturned, and the girl received the essential medical equipment she needed.

Woman Takes Over Her Deceased Mother's Lease

Our Bloomfield office recently helped an Essex County resident facing a difficult situation after her mother passed away without a will. Since she wasn't on the lease, she was worried the landlord would make her leave. Additionally, the security deposit was still in her mother's name. Our attorney stepped in and the client was appointed as the legal administrator of her mother's estate, allowing her to negotiate with the landlord. Thanks to these efforts, the landlord allowed her to stay and transferred the security deposit to her name.

Visually Impaired Man Becomes a Poll Worker

CHLP's Westmont office recently helped a client who faced job discrimination due to his visual impairment. Our client, who receives services from the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, was turned down by the County Board of Elections (BOE) to serve as a poll worker, despite meeting all the state requirements. CHLP staff did extensive research and found that the BOE had violated the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination by rejecting him without offering reasonable accommodations. We explained this law to the BOE, leading them to reverse their decision. They invited our client to a poll worker training session and provided information on the available accommodations. This outcome was a significant victory for our client, ensuring his right to work without discrimination.

36TH ANNUAL

Ann Klein

ADVOCATE AWARDS

RECEPTION & AWARDS PRESENTATION

Please join us as we honor those who have made extraordinary contributions to improving the lives of people with disabilities.

Honoring

THE 2024 ANN KLEIN
ADVOCATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Maria Fischer, Esq.

Hinkle Prior & Fischer, P.C.

Steve Setteducati, CEO

New Concepts for Living

Dr. Peggy Swarbrick, FAOTA

Wellness Institute Director,
Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey
Professor, Rutgers University Graduate School
of Applied and Professional Psychology

THE 2024 MIKE LIONE
ACCESSIBILITY AWARD RECIPIENT

Eric LeGrand

Motivational Speaker, Entrepreneur,
Sports Analyst, Philanthropist & Author

**FOR TICKETS, SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, AND DIGITAL ADS,
PLEASE VISIT:**

www.chlp.org/awards-dinner-information



New Grants & Programs

NJ Bar Foundation Co-Sponsorship Award

Legal Assistance and Education to Promote Housing Stability

CHLP received a New Jersey State Bar Foundation (NJSBF) cosponsorship grant to provide direct legal services to tenants with disabilities throughout the State. Legal assistance will include advice and representation for residents with housing-related issues such as substantial rent increases, habitability concerns, housing subsidy issues, housing discrimination, and other issues that affect housing stability.

DCA Comprehensive Eviction Defense and Diversion Program

CHLP received funding from the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to continue the Comprehensive Eviction Defense and Diversion (CEDD) Program statewide. Launched in January 2023, the CEDD program helps low-income renters facing eviction due to rising housing costs and the end of pandemic-era tenant protections. The program offers free housing support, financial aid, and legal services. CHLP will serve as a legal assistance provider in all 15 court vicinages across the state.

Senior Save Navigator Program

CHLP received funding from the NJ Division on Aging Services to help low-income seniors and individuals with disabilities in Atlantic County apply for the NJSave program. NJSave is an application that helps low-income seniors and individuals with disabilities save money on Medicare premiums, prescription costs, and other living expenses. CHLP navigators will reach out to the community, assist with gathering necessary documents, complete applications, and follow up with the state to determine eligibility.

Our Funders



NEW JERSEY HUMAN SERVICES



State of New Jersey



NEW JERSEY HUMAN SERVICES



Support Our Work

DONATE

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