



**LEGAL SERVICES**  
OF GREATER MIAMI, INC.  
Building a Community of Equal Justice

# 2022 Annual Report

Our mission is to advance economic opportunity and social justice through effective legal advocacy.



# Board of Directors 2022-2023

## OFFICERS

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**D. Porpoise Evans, Esq.**  
Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman

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L.A. Law Firm, P.A.

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**Carolyn Pates**

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Connect Familias FKA  
Little Havana Community Partnership

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Children Enrichment

**Sairy Salazar**  
Head Start/Early Head Start Program

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**Debra Tyler**  
Homeless/Formerly Homeless Forum, Inc.

**Alejandro Uribe, Esq.**  
Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman

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Kenny Nachwalter

**Naomi Wiggins**  
Urgent, Inc.

**Hermine Wilson**  
Network on Disabilities

**Ida Wright**  
Branches

**Donald Yates, Esq.**  
Law Offices of Donald E. Yates

**Laura Zapata-Kim, Esq.**  
Ryder System, Inc.

New board officers and members were officially installed by the Honorable Jacqueline Becerra, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of South Florida at a reception generously hosted by the law firm of Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman, P.L.



Special thank you to our departing board members for their time and support throughout the past years.

**Linda Lott · Barnaby Min**

# Message from Board Chair & Chief Executive Officer



Dear Friends & Supporters:

Last year was a time of great change and growth for our organization as we responded to our community's need for legal assistance. Despite a strong economy and low unemployment rates, many in our community still struggle to access housing, healthcare, food, education, and other essentials.

In 2022, we provided **more than 40,000 hours of legal advocacy for our clients. Housing instability represented 56% of our work**, most of which encompassed eviction cases. We had continued success in 2022, including a significant number of cases where entire buildings were condemned, and we were able to assist tenants to remain stably housed. We also grew our advocacy in new areas: expanding our bankruptcy advocacy to **assist clients achieve financial stability**; representing individuals with property title issues to ensure they can pass their homes to their heirs - a critical element to **building intergenerational wealth**; and finally, we represented unsheltered individuals whose personal property was **destroyed without due process** in a lawsuit against a local municipality. Additionally, to better promote access to assistance and legal literacy, we participated in **187 community outreach events**. I invite you to learn more about our commitment to systemic change, as well as some of our accomplishments through stories featured in this year's Annual Report.

As always, more needs to be done; so, to ensure that we meet the growing demand for assistance, the Board's leadership led an **extensive strategic planning process**, which included Board, staff, and community input. After some reflection, we updated our mission statement to capture our goal of "**advancing economic opportunity and social justice through effective legal advocacy**," which better reflects the focus of our work. We also developed a three-year strategic plan with objectives that will **enhance our advocacy, improve community engagement, and develop innovative delivery models** to meet the community's needs.

Our advocacy and our ability to plan would not be possible without the generous support of both our grantors and donors. We had new grantors support us in expanding our housing advocacy and developing collaborative programs with other community agencies to maximize our impact. Moreover, we **received \$1.4M in donor contributions** to support our advocacy. We are extremely grateful for this investment in our mission and our community.

**The tireless dedication of our team, along with the outstanding leadership and guidance of our Board of Directors and Campaign Committee are central to effect change and bring access to justice for the vulnerable among us.** We recognize this is a collective effort and are grateful for the extraordinary support of our partners and supporters that motivates us to strive for better. We appreciate and value your commitment to **Building a Community of Equal Justice**.

**D. Porpoise Evans**  
Legal Services Board President

**Monica Vignes-Pitan**  
Legal Services CEO

# Engagement by the Numbers

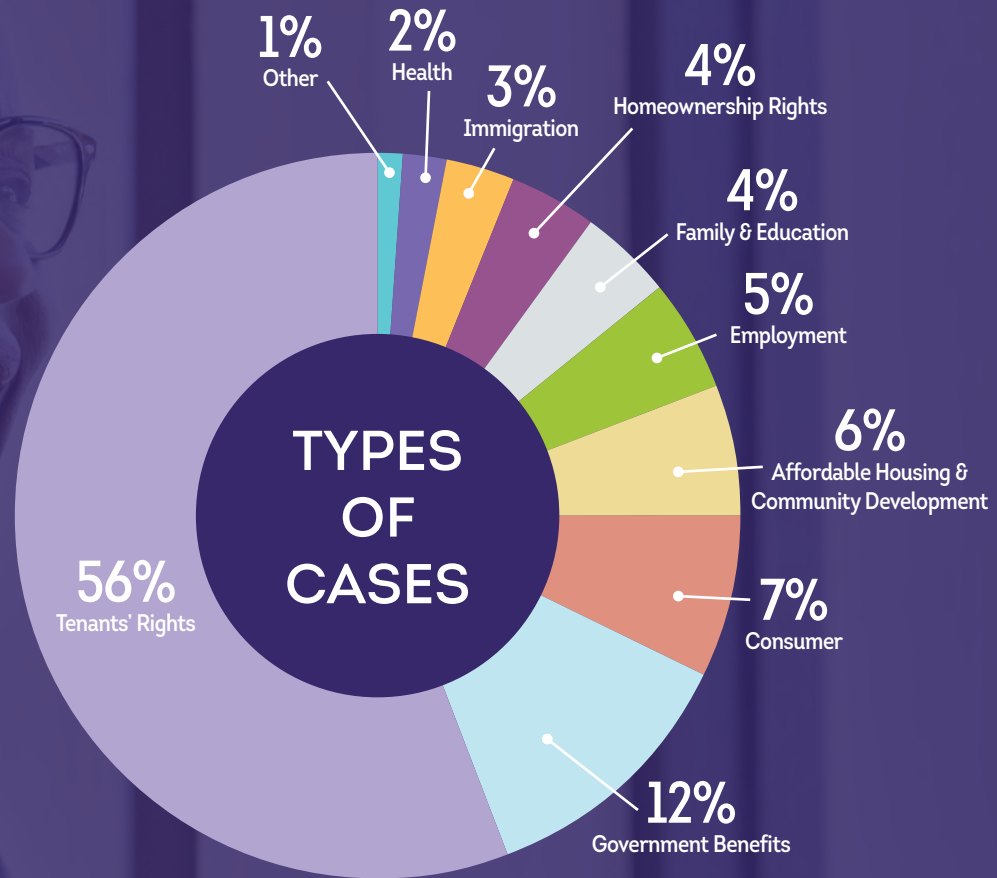
2022:  
AT A  
GLANCE

**22,654**

People Helped

**4,521**

Cases Handled



## 2022 Key Impacts



**\$5,421,488**

Funds Recovered/Avoided  
and Housing Preserved



Protected **424** Families  
from Eviction  
or Foreclosure



Provided Community  
Education to **977**  
Social Service Providers



Recruited **220**  
Pro Bono Volunteers  
to Serve Clients



Hosted/Participated  
in **187** Community  
Outreach Events



Dedicated **40,946**  
Hours to  
Legal Advocacy



# Keeping Families in Their Homes & Safeguarding Tenants' Rights



## Tenants' Rights Unit Takes Systemic Approach with Section 8

Last year, the Legal Services Tenants' Rights Unit ameliorated several systemic issues adversely affecting Section 8 voucher holders in our client community. These were major wins for our clients and our community.

**First, we worked with Miami Dade County's Section 8 Voucher Program to revise a form tenants use when seeking to move.** We successfully illustrated to Section 8 how the form negatively impacted tenants and worked with them to include language that provided greater flexibility and protection for tenants. **Through advocacy in individual cases, we helped clients restore lost vouchers and gave them more time to search for housing.**

**We also worked with Section 8 to improve the notices it sends to landlords when an apartment fails an inspection.** The previous notice contained language which misstated the law and could be used against tenants in court, but now the notice accurately reflects the law and protects tenants from eviction when the landlord does not make repairs.

Finally, we successfully urged Section 8 to **extend the timeline for voucher holders to search for a new unit, which was critical during COVID.** If a family does not find a place to use their Section 8 voucher within 120 days, it expires, and they will no longer have a rental subsidy. Because rents increased by 50% in Miami-Dade, many voucher holders could not find housing they could afford - even using their vouchers. The extended search time helps families keep their Section 8 vouchers. Additionally, we represented several families whose vouchers expired, and Section 8 agreed to reinstate their rental subsidies, thus keeping them safely housed.

## Enforcing Tenants' Rights

We incorporated use of Miami-Dade County's newly minted Tenant Bill of Rights into our eviction defense practice and obtained several favorable rulings based on the new law. In one example, **the City of Miami Beach shut down an apartment building where 55 working families lived due to unsafe conditions caused by the landlord's inaction.** Under the new County ordinance, the landlord was required to provide three months of replacement housing for the displaced tenants. The landlord initially placed the families in a hotel but told the families they must move out early. Legal Services sued the landlord on behalf of the tenant association to ensure the families could remain in the hotel for the entire three-month period. **Immediately after filing the lawsuit, the matter was resolved favorably for the tenant association. This is believed to be the first lawsuit filed under the new Tenant Bill of Rights.**



**56%** OF  
CASES INVOLVED  
LANDLORD/  
TENANT ISSUES



On a systemic level, we **developed strategic partnerships with the Office of Housing Advocacy and Emergency Rental Assistance Program to facilitate the resolution of cases and address problems as they arise.** For this work and for their unwavering commitment to enforcing tenants' rights for clients and the Miami-Dade County population, Legal Services presented the Tenants' Rights Unit the **Alfred Feinberg Memorial Award at the 2022 Pro Bono Awards Ceremony.**

# Removing Legal Barriers to Healthcare & Vital Benefits



## Championing the Rights of Elderly, Holocaust Survivor with Dementia

An **85-year-old Holocaust survivor who suffers from Alzheimer's**, moved into a care facility when she could no longer live independently. She received a notification that her **Supplemental Security Income (SSI) would stop because she receives Holocaust Reparations**. This terrified her family, because **without her SSI, she could not afford to stay in the facility that she desperately needs to get proper personal and medical care**.

Her family turned to Legal Services for help, and we **filed a Request for Reconsideration showing reparations payments are to be excluded from unearned income**. Shortly thereafter, the **Social Security Administration granted the appeal and reinstated her much-needed SSI benefits**.



**30%** OF CLIENTS SERVED WERE SENIORS

## Tax Appeal Saves Single Mother Thousands

**At a crossroads and with two small children in tow, our client made the difficult decision to get a divorce**. Neither she nor her husband could afford continuing mortgage payments on their own, so they decided to sell their only major asset for a clean break. After the home was sold, our client was shocked when she received mail from the Internal Revenue Service, citing a **2019 Notice of Deficiency for taxes and penalties totaling \$135,000 related to proceeds of the sale**.

Legal Services represented her and filed an appeal to the Tax Court. Ultimately, we proved she owned and occupied the home for the requisite two-year period before the home was sold and was therefore entitled to an exclusion for up to \$250,000 of the gain. **This favorable outcome resulted in a zero-tax deficiency and zero penalties**. As a single working mom, it would have been nearly impossible for her to pay off this erroneous amount after meeting her basic needs. Now, she may turn the page on this chapter, and her life and finances are back on track.



**34%** OF CLIENTS WE REPRESENT ARE FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

## Prevail in Veteran's Disability Claim for PTSD

A Navy veteran, now in his mid-50's and disabled, sought assistance with increasing his limited income through public benefits. Legal Services filed a claim for Veterans Affairs (VA) compensation benefits for his Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and prevailed on his behalf when the VA **granted him service-connected disability benefits for his PTSD as 100% disabling**. As such, **he was awarded over \$57,000 in retroactive benefits, and his monthly compensation was increased from \$150 to \$3,300 per month**.

This outcome will ensure his self-sufficiency and will improve his long-term financial stability.



SERVED **421** VETERANS WITH A VARIETY OF LEGAL ISSUES

## After Five Years Advocating for Low-income Widow, She Finally Gets Survivor's Benefits

A 70-year-old widow living in Key West on an annual fixed income of less than \$11,000 contacted us in 2017 after the Social Security Administration (SSA) **denied her survivor's benefits**. After her estranged husband accidentally passed away, SSA erroneously presumed they were divorced. Legal Services filed an appeal claiming her right to a survivor benefit, which SSA denied and a judge further affirmed. However, the fight was not over. Legal Services appealed to the Appeals Council which remanded the matter for another hearing. Ultimately, the judge overturned the wrongful benefit denial and found in our client's favor. **In 2022, five years after the initial denial, she received a retroactive payment of more than \$73,000 and began receiving monthly survivor's benefits, nearly doubling her monthly income**. This zealous advocacy across multiple forums **resulted not only in a life-changing payout, but a lifetime monthly benefit as well**.



**61%** OF HOUSEHOLDS SERVED WERE HEADED BY WOMEN

# Fighting to Protect Low-Income Consumers' Most Valuable Asset: Their Homes



In the past year, Legal Services has litigated and protected consumers' rights from garnishment to ruined credit to repossession, but none more important than fighting to keep consumers in their homes.

**Protecting Home from Foreclosure:** An elderly and disabled widow sought our assistance after she received a letter threatening to foreclose on her reverse mortgage if she did not pay \$100,000 in 30 days. The lender asserted default because the lender claimed she no longer lived in the home, which is a basis to foreclose a reverse mortgage. We defended our client in the foreclosure suit by showing she lived in the home. **Ultimately, the lender voluntarily dismissed the foreclosure suit.** This advocacy protected our client from the wrongful loss of her home.

**Filing Bankruptcy Saves Home:** Our client is a father who sought assistance after being sued in state court for the foreclosure of his mobile home. We filed Chapter 13 bankruptcy, in which our client proposed to pay the creditor's lien on his mobile home at a reduced interest rate and pay back rent owed to the mobile home park. The client successfully completed his bankruptcy plan. As a result, **the bankruptcy court deemed the lien on his home paid in full, and our client became current on his lot rent.** This assistance gave the family a fresh start and peace of mind knowing he could remain in his home where he belongs.



HANDLED  
**114** HOME-  
OWNERSHIP  
CASES

## Equity and Economic Development

### Increased Tax Savings for Nonprofits Generate Long-Term Benefits

Legal Services applied for charitable and affordable housing property tax exemptions on behalf of several Miami nonprofits that are building affordable housing and providing other supportive services critical to the low-income communities of Miami. **Because of Legal Services' assistance, these nonprofits are saving approximately \$130,000 annually, which they can now reinvest into their charitable programs and affordable housing.** This provides support for the development and growth of these nonprofits to carry out their mission and to continue to play an important role in our community.



ASSISTED  
**268** SMALL  
BUSINESSES &  
NONPROFITS

### Stabilizing & Building Wealth in Black Communities

Miami Gardens touts one of the highest rates of Black homeownership in the county. Homeownership has long been used as a means of building intergenerational wealth. While home values have increased, disrepair can threaten the accumulation of familial wealth and exacerbate the wealth gap. We are currently representing a defunct homeowners association located in Miami Gardens that needs assistance in ensuring the upkeep of its community. The lack of maintenance has depressed values and led to serious safety concerns for the residents. **We are assisting homeowners to re-form the homeowner's association, to become self-sufficient, to ensure the continuity of its operations, and to aid in the beautification of their community—ultimately resulting in the continued accumulation of wealth in our Black communities.**

Further south, Goulds and Coconut Grove are key to Miami's Black history. Coconut Grove is heralded as Miami's oldest neighborhood, predating Miami's incorporation. Goulds was settled in the 1900s by homesteaders and was one of the few areas that African Americans were able to purchase homes. Both neighborhoods now find themselves the targets of developers seeking approval of projects that could alter the character of their communities through the rezoning process. **We represent resident and community organizations in both neighborhoods to ensure that local governments consider the community's interests in the rezoning process.**



# Fundraising Highlights

## 13th Annual Heart of Giving Celebration & Judicial Reception Recognizes Distinguished Honorees



Pictured above: Monica Vignes-Pitan, Legal Services CEO, stands with event honorees, Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Judge Nushin G. Sayfie, and Judge Michael A. Hanzman, who were presented with certificates of commendation by Morris Copeland, Miami-Dade County Chief Community Services Officer.

**Sally Heyman** of the Miami-Dade County Commission, both leaders who recognize the importance of access to justice and how critical it is to ensure their constituents can enforce their legal rights.

Thanks to **more than 75 sponsors and countless supporters**, we were able to continue this annual tradition, **raising nearly \$155,000** toward our mission.

There was incredible excitement and energy as over 300 members of the legal and business community gathered at the 13th Annual Heart of Giving Celebration and Judicial Reception in the Miami Design District after a two-year in-person hiatus due to the pandemic. We presented the following three exemplary leaders with the **2022 Equal Justice Judicial Leadership Awards for their outstanding contributions to the pursuit of justice:**

- The **Honorable Cecilia M. Altonaga**, Chief United States District Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida
- The **Honorable Michael A. Hanzman**, Circuit Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court
- The **Honorable Nushin G. Sayfie**, Chief Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court

In addition, we presented the **2022 Equal Justice Public Service Awards to Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Commissioner**



## Another Record-Breaking Give Miami Day

For the second year in a row, we had a record-breaking Give Miami Day, raising **\$85,098 from 209 donors!** We kicked off the campaign via Facebook Live with board member Loreal Arscott, Monica Vignes-Pitan, and Senior Attorney Guerby Noel. These three shared more about Legal Services' advocacy and impact. Thanks to an outpouring of community support, the campaign saw a **2% increase in funds with a 16% increase in donors.** These gifts are mission-critical and go directly to changing the lives of our neighbors who need it most.

## Cocktails Under the Stars Makes Successful Debut

Wealth management firm **Evensky & Katz/Foldes** pledged a **\$10,000 gift and committed to sponsoring annual fundraisers** for the next three years. The first *Cocktails Under the Stars* was a **stunning, well-attended event raising awareness, as well as funds totaling about \$12,000** through gifts, raffles, and proceeds from the silent auction. We are extremely grateful for this partnership and to the host committee members who made it a success. A special thank you to David Evensky and Campaign Committee Member, Marcos Segreara.



## Young Professionals Council is LIVE and Making a Difference



The Young Professionals Council excitedly resumed in-person meetings and events. They **gathered for a Rum Master Class, packed spring break boxes for client families, and hosted the first in-person Conversations with Leaders** featuring The Honorable Laurel M. Isicoff, Chief Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of FL, among other initiatives. Throughout the year, they raise funds to provide grocery gift cards for clients. Notably, the Council's participation in Give Miami Day brought in over **\$5,000** of the total raised.





## Special Acknowledgments



A big thank you to **White & Case** for their gift of **\$35,000** in honor of the 35th anniversary of its Miami office. We express sincere gratitude to Legal Services Campaign Committee Member **Raoul Cantero** for his ongoing support. The firm is a Diamond level donor in our Leadership Circle.

**Miami-Dade County Commissioner Eileen Higgins** awarded Legal Services a multi-year grant of **\$200,000** to represent the residents of District 5 in eviction prevention matters. The Commissioner understands the challenges faced by her constituents and these funds provide them greater access to legal advocates and promotes their housing stability.



Outgoing **Miami-Dade County Commissioners Jose "Pepe" Diaz** and **Sally Heyman** showed high praise for Legal Services. Chairman Diaz made a generous gift of **\$25,000** in honor of his longstanding involvement with Legal Services. A long-time supporter, Commissioner Heyman, allocated funds to 22 causes she believes in, and we were honored to be one of them, receiving **\$20,000** in support.

## Campaign Committee

We are grateful to the Campaign Committee, a group of prominent leaders, for their philanthropic contributions and community leadership. Thanks to their tireless work, we exceeded this year's fundraising goal by **13%**.

### Campaign Committee Co-Chairs

**Brigid Cech Samole**  
**Jason Kellogg**  
**Lilly Ann Sanchez**

### Campaign Committee Members

Scott L. Baena  
 Elizabeth S. Baker  
 William S. Berk  
 Michael E. Brand  
 Jennifer Stearns Buttrick  
 Carlos J. Canino  
 Raoul G. Cantero  
 Karen Cespedes  
 Kendall B. Coffey  
 Sherril Colombo  
 Xavier I. Cortada  
 Jeffrey B. Crockett  
 Jose Cuneo  
 Allison R. Day  
 Ramon de Legorburu

Jesika Diaz Munar  
 Michael P. Elkin  
 D. Porpoise Evans  
 Richard S. Fechter  
 Wifredo Ferrer  
 Jennifer E. Fine  
 David M. Gersten  
 Jordi Guso  
 Steven Hadjiligiou  
 George Haj  
 Lance A. Harke  
 Dan Humphrey  
 Alexander Jimenez  
 Marcos D. Jiménez  
 Michael Jimenez

Thomas R. Julin  
 Michael Kaczka  
 Alan J. Kluger  
 Leslie J. Lott  
 George G. Mahfood  
 Marilee A. Mark  
 Michelle Martinez-Reyes  
 John W. McLuskey  
 Gustavo Membiela  
 Brian Miller  
 Michael T. Moore  
 Hung Nguyen  
 Tracy Nichols  
 Christopher A. Noel  
 Joseph Pack

Robert L. Parks  
 Darrell Payne  
 Mey-Ling Perez  
 Richard A. Pollack  
 Craig V. Rasile  
 Mark F. Raymond  
 Stephen F. Rosenthal  
 Lauri Waldman Ross  
 Marcos A. Segrera  
 Paul A. Shelowitz  
 Jason B. Sherry  
 John K. Shubin  
 Bradley H. Stein  
 Stanley H. Wakshlag  
 Stephen N. Zack



The Community Outreach Sub-Committee hosted the annual **Business Breakfast Panel** on cryptocurrency and its impact on our community. Pictured above: **Jason Kellogg**, Chair of Community Outreach and **Monica Vignes-Pitan**, Legal Services CEO, with panelists **Francesca de Quesada Covey**, Tech Innovation Advisor, Miami-Dade County and **Alpen Sheth, Ph.D.**, Senior Principal, Head of Policy & Research, Borderless Capital, and moderator **Matt Haggman**, EVP, Opportunity Miami, Miami-Dade Beacon Council.

# Celebrating Our Pro Bono Partners

## Protecting an Elderly Victim through Pro Bono Partnership

At 92 years old, our client planned to reside in his home of over 40 years, safe and sound, for the rest of his life. However, as is far too common for seniors, he was **completely devastated when a relative involuntarily displaced him from his home and moved him into a nursing facility**. The State Attorney's office referred the matter to Legal Services who filed an **action to quiet title** to determine the lawful ownership of his property. Then, Legal Services sought the assistance of **pro bono counsel, Arturo Armand, Esq. of Armand & Dieguez, P.A.**, to co-counsel and represent the client. Ultimately, we were **successful in obtaining compensation for our client, so he could find a new home** and leave the nursing facility.

**Armand** expressed that providing *"pro bono assistance to underserved members of our community, who might otherwise go without needed legal representation, is a deeply satisfying experience on both a professional and personal level. I am glad we were able to make such a huge difference for our client."*

### PRO BONO IMPACT: By the Numbers



**220**  
Pro Bono  
Volunteers



**2,147** Hours  
of Pro Bono  
Service Provided



**252** Clients  
Assisted through  
Pro Bono



At our annual Pro Bono Celebration, Legal Services along with **special guest speaker, The Honorable Bronwyn C. Miller, Third District Court of Appeal**, proudly presented the **2022 Equal Justice Awards** to the following in recognition of their extraordinary commitment to equal justice:

### Champions for Justice Award

Holland & Knight Team:  
Jose Casal, Esq. · Daniel Hanlon, Esq. ·  
Elena Otero, Esq. · Kristen Jimenez

### Clinic Volunteer Award

Jessica Lin, Esq.

### Community Partner Award

St. Thomas University  
College of Law's Tax Clinic

### Impact Award

The Business Law Section of The Florida Bar

### Large Firm Award

Nelson Mullins

### Partners for Equal Justice Award

Albert B. Maggio, Jr., Esq., CRGO Law

### Small Firm Award

Kahn & Resnik P.L.

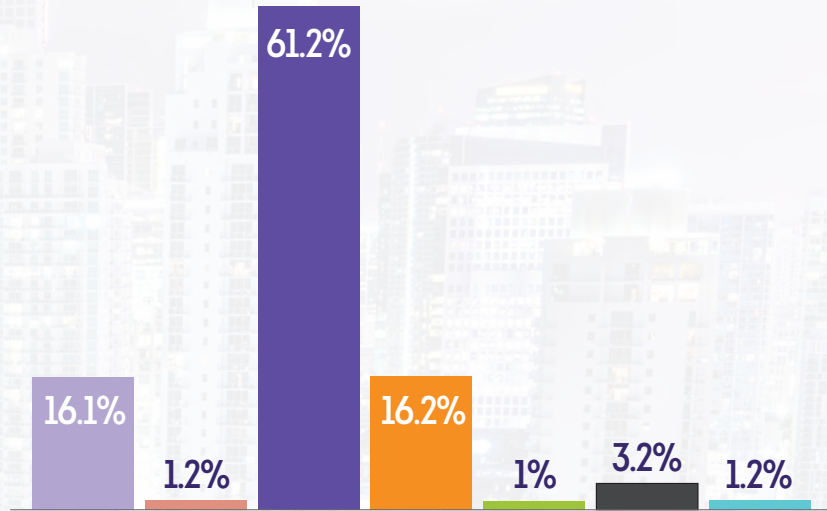
We congratulate these exemplary honorees and all our volunteers for their dedicated service and outstanding work that improves the lives of the most vulnerable in our community.

*Thank you for making us #ProBonoStrong!*



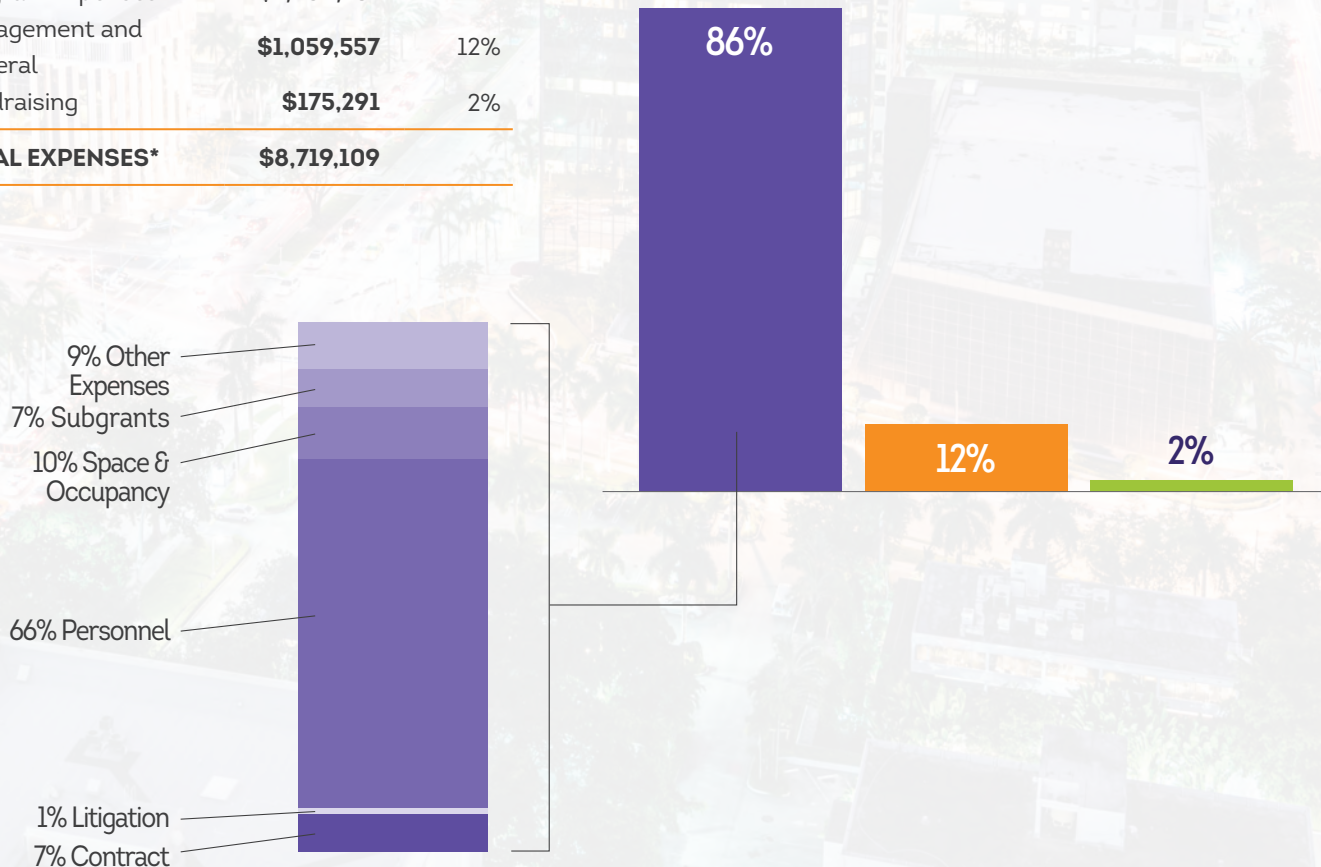
# 2021 REVENUE

Contributions	<b>\$1,406,960</b>	16.1%
LSC Support	<b>\$108,925</b>	1.2%
Public Grants	<b>\$5,355,991</b>	61.2%
Private Grants	<b>\$1,418,415</b>	16.2%
Rental Income	<b>\$87,930</b>	1.0%
Program Fees	<b>\$276,188</b>	3.2%
Other Income	<b>\$103,968</b>	1.2%
<b>TOTAL REVENUE*</b>	<b>\$8,758,378</b>	



# 2021 EXPENSES

Program Expenses	<b>\$7,484,261</b>	86%
Management and General	<b>\$1,059,557</b>	12%
Fundraising	<b>\$175,291</b>	2%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES*</b>	<b>\$8,719,109</b>	



\*Preaudit numbers

## Leadership Circle

Our work is made possible through the generous support of our donors.

### BLUE DIAMOND \$100,000 +

Edie Laquer Foundation –  
*Endowed Women & Children's  
Rights Attorney Chair*  
Harke Clasby & Bushman –  
*Social Justice Fellowship in  
Honor of Nancy T. Clasby*  
Holland & Knight  
Jacqueline Allee Smith –  
*Jacqueline and Chesterfield  
Smith Fellows Program*  
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler  
Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.

### DIAMOND \$50,000-\$99,999

The Fine & Greenwald Foundation  
Helliwell Family Foundation – *In  
Memory of Paul L. E. Helliwell, Esq.*  
Ryder System, Inc.  
White & Case  
Yavitz Cypen Foundation – *Harry  
& Irving Cypen Tax Fellowship*

### GOLD \$25,000-\$49,999

Akerman LLP  
Berger Singerman LLP  
Bilzin Sumberg Baena Price &  
Axelrod LLP  
Coffey Burlington, PL  
Cole, Scott & Kissane, P.A.  
Genovese Joblove & Battista

Gunster  
Hunton Andrews Kurth  
Kluger Kaplan Silverman Katzen  
& Levine, PL  
Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton  
McDermott Will & Emery  
McLuskey, McDonald & Hughes  
Ross & Girten  
Ver Ploeg & Marino  
Weiss Serota Helfman Cole &  
Bierman

### SILVER \$10,000-\$24,999

Honorable A. Leo Adderly  
AXS Law Group  
Dolan Dobrinsky Rosenblum  
Bluestein  
Evensky & Katz/Foldes Wealth  
Management  
Greenberg Traurig  
Hamilton Miller & Birthisel  
Harper Meyer Perez Hagen  
O'Connor Albert Dribin  
& DeLuca  
Heffler Claims Group –  
*Cy Pres Award*  
Commissioner Sally A. Heyman,  
District 4 Office  
Kevin & Yolonda Jacobs  
JP Morgan  
Kaufman|Rossin –  
*Accounting Fellowship*

Kenny Nachwalter, P.A.  
Leon Cosgrove  
Levine Kellogg Lehman  
Schneider + Grossman  
Meland Budwick, P.A.  
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner &  
Smith, Inc. – *Cy Pres Award*  
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius  
The Moskowitz Law Firm  
Nelson Mullins  
Peckar & Abramson  
Podhurst Orseck  
Rivero Mestre  
Steve Sonberg  
Winston & Strawn  
William J. & Tina Rosenberg  
Foundation

### BRONZE \$5,000-\$9,999

A to Z Injury Law  
Scott L. Baena  
Berk, Merchant, & Sims, PLC  
Berkowitz Pollack Brant  
Advisors + CPAs  
Boies Schiller Flexner  
Karen Brooks  
Buckner, Shifrin, Etter, Dugan  
& Bradfute  
Day Pitney  
First Horizon Bank  
The Honorable Mary Jo Francis

Gamba & Herrera Trial Lawyers  
Gelber Schacter Greenberg, P.A.  
Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani  
Grove Bank & Trust  
Gwen S. Cherry Black Women  
Lawyers Association  
The Jill & Neil Berman  
Philanthropic Fund  
Dr. Alma Kadragic  
Lott & Fischer, PL  
The LS Law Firm  
The Morrison & Foerster  
Foundation  
Moore & Company, P.A.  
Pack Law  
Peacock Foundation  
Darrell & Debbie Payne  
Patricia Redmond  
The Rogow Family Fund at  
Vanguard Charitable  
Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr  
Sequor Law  
Shubin & Bass, P.A.  
Jacqueline Simkin  
TD Bank  
Chuck & Karen Throckmorton –  
*In Honor of Robert & Virginia  
Peterson, and Charles &  
Barbara Throckmorton*  
Stanley Wakshlag  
Wicker Smith  
Wiseheart Foundation

Donor levels reflect cumulative giving for the Campaign period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022.

## Chesterfield Smith Society

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US Legal Support

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\*Sustainers

Donor Levels Reflect Annual Gifts for the Period Beginning December 1, 2021. Pledges and Gifts as of 12/31/2022. Every effort has been made to ensure this listing is complete and accurate. If errors or omissions have occurred, please accept our apologies and call 305-438-2513 to report corrections. Thank you!

**For more information on how you can become a supporter, please contact: [MVignesPitan@legalservicesmiami.org](mailto:MVignesPitan@legalservicesmiami.org)**



## THE LEGACY SOCIETY

The Legacy Society promotes the economic stability of our most vulnerable neighbors and builds a stronger community for generations to come. Members of The Legacy Society align their passion with their resolve to build a community of equal justice through their planned gift. These planned gifts may support the overall work of Legal Services or may be restricted to a concentration of interest to the donor such as tenants' rights or access to healthcare.

## We Thank Our Pioneer Members for Paving the Way!

- Jacqueline Allee Smith\*
- Edie Laquer
- Marcia K. Cypen

\*Realized gift

“...It is my honor to make a legacy gift, ensuring that their great work continues into the future.”  
—Edie Laquer



SCAN TO GIVE

# Invest in a Community of Equal Justice

## Annual Giving:

### Chesterfield Smith Society

The Chesterfield Smith Society recognizes annual support while celebrating the legacy of the great Chesterfield Smith (1917-2003), a lifelong advocate for access to justice. Smith encouraged all lawyers to “do good by doing right” - by providing pro bono legal services and supporting organizations that work to ensure that all persons have access to justice in our civil legal system without regard to their ability to pay.

**Giving levels range from \$350 to \$4,999.**

### Cryptocurrency & Stock Gifts

Legal Services accepts both cryptocurrency and stock gifts, giving our supporters even more ways to make a difference. Both avenues allow for easy, tax-efficient transfers that lead to immediate impact. Cryptocurrency gifts can be made on our website. Stock gifts can be made by contacting Jennifer Geeker, CFRE at [jgeeker@legalservicesmiami.org](mailto:jgeeker@legalservicesmiami.org) or 305-438-3824.

### Event Sponsors

Legal Services Event Sponsors are a distinguished group of supporters from the business, legal and civic community. In addition to recognition at the event, they are showcased on the Legal Services website, social media, and in our print media which reaches more than 5,000 people.

**Sponsorship levels range from \$750 to \$10,000.**

### Sustainers

Our Sustainers are those who make monthly recurring gifts, contributing to a sustainable community with their year-round support for our legal advocacy. Monthly gifts allow for life-changing work, all while saving time and resources, and increasing your impact. Becoming a Sustainer is as simple as setting up a recurring gift online.

**The minimum monthly contribution is \$10.**

## Young Professionals Council

The Legal Services Young Professionals Council's mission is to advance access to equal justice by connecting young professionals through community involvement, service, and philanthropy. The Council serves as active ambassadors in the community, volunteers time and services, raises funds for clients in need, and hosts various events.

**There is a suggested annual contribution of \$100.**

## Major Giving:

### The Leadership Circle

The Leadership Circle recognizes sustained giving over a three-year period. Members of the Leadership Circle have made a substantial commitment to sustaining the highest quality cutting-edge legal services as the needs of our community continue to grow. They are recognized online through the Legal Services website and social media channels, promoted through a Daily Business Review ad announcing their support, and on Legal Services print and electronic newsletters.

**Giving levels range from \$5,000-\$100,000.**

## Planned Giving:

### Legacy Society

The Legacy Society recognizes donors who make charitable bequests to Legal Services in their will or living trust, ensuring that we may continue to break down the barriers of poverty for the most vulnerable in our community well into the future. Legacy Society donors connect their compassion and concern to their financial and estate planning in order to transform the future for someone in need.

## Pro Bono:

### Volunteer Opportunities

With over 500,000 low-income individuals and families in our community, the need for free legal services cannot be met by Legal Services staff alone. Pro bono resources are critical to supplement the work we do and to help address the many unmet legal needs. Legal Services welcomes pro bono assistance from law firms, individual attorneys, law students, and other volunteers, and provides the necessary training and mentoring to support those volunteers.

**For more information on how you can become a supporter, please contact: [MViguesPitan@legalservicesmiami.org](mailto:MViguesPitan@legalservicesmiami.org)**





## Special Thanks to Our Major Grantors



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