

# THE MARCH CONTINUES



“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



## LETTER FROM **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR**

2016 was a year like no other.

Across our city, state, and nation, individuals and communities were jolted by the hateful, xenophobic rhetoric leading up to the November election and a chilling reminder of a deeply divided America. As the new Administration took the reins, its policy agenda immediately became clear: one that threatens to roll back hard fought civil rights gains in defiance of Constitutional protections that have long shaped our democracy. These imminent threats invoke fear and catastrophic harm for many people living in poverty, communities of color, immigrants, religious minorities, LGBTQ people, and other targeted groups. The “Othering” of so many individuals and communities is not the America in which we believe.

Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights was founded in another turbulent time in our nation’s history to promote the fundamental values of equal justice, respect, and dignity through a powerful partnership with the private bar. As we build a bridge to the future – standing on the shoulders of past civil rights heroes and legal champions - our board, staff, member firms, and pro bono volunteers continue to act on these values each day through an advocacy model that includes a growing number of partnerships with community-based organizations.

Because of the investments Chicago Lawyers’ Committee made in strategic planning during the past two years, we are better equipped with the advocacy tools, staff, and focus to promote and protect civil rights in this new era. With guidance from a new Executive Director and a re-structured Board of Directors, which now includes business professionals and civic leaders, as well as our long-standing champions from the legal community, we unveiled a fresh mission statement and message platform in 2016. Our new mission explicitly focuses on fighting racial disparities and systemic discrimination, and implementing our work through a community lawyering approach. We also have modernized our logo, built a social media presence, and launched a new cutting-edge web site to create a communications hub where our clients, community partners, pro bono attorneys, and staff can connect.

Chicago Lawyers’ Committee is engaged on multiple fronts to fight entrenched systems of discrimination, racism, and economic oppression. The hard reality of widespread discrimination is that there is no hierarchy of hate, and it compels us to continue our long-time legal and policy advocacy in the areas of education equity, housing opportunity, hate crime, community economic development, and voting rights.

“The Othering of so many individuals and communities is not the America in which we believe.”

We also have taken on new advocacy to promote police accountability and reform - critical work for a modern day civil rights organization. The project summaries included in this Report tell the story of the impact of our advocacy.

As we march into the uncertain new world, we are equipped with a stellar staff, a range of new advocacy tools, the steady support of our member firms, a growing network of funders and volunteers, and a keen vision for what is possible when committed people and resources come together in pursuit of a high calling. Chicago Lawyers' Committee is more committed than ever to the unfinished business of our nation's civil rights movement. We continue to believe in the power of the law to uplift and give voice to those individuals, organizations, and communities most impacted by poverty and racial disparity. We look forward to partnering with you to develop community-based solutions and systemic change.

**And we will never stop marching.**



**BONNIE ALLEN**  
Executive Director



**DONNA VOBORNIK**  
Board President

## EDUCATION EQUITY PROJECT



“Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.”

MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

### Disrupting the School to Prison Pipeline; Ensuring Equitable

**Access to Education:** At Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights, we believe that access to free, quality education is a civil right. We believe that the promise of *Brown vs. Board of Education* remains unfulfilled. We believe that only a concerted effort by lawyers, educators, policy-makers, community organizations and community members will shift the culture of punitive school discipline and ensure equitable access for all students. Our Education Equity Project works to disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline. Our legal team protects and promotes access to education by addressing the individual and systemic barriers that disproportionately impact historically-disadvantaged communities. We work in three key areas:

- (1) **Direct Legal Services:** We provide direct legal services to youth at risk of losing access to education due to harsh discipline, re-enrollment barriers, or involvement in the criminal justice system. We train pro bono volunteer attorneys to represent students at expulsion hearings. In addition, we refer families to community-based resources and other support services for expelled youth.
- (2) **Systemic Reform:** We address systemic barriers to education by promoting school policy reform using an explicit racial justice lens. We advocate for better practices in school discipline policies, support the implementation of restorative justice programs, and provide trainings on school-to-prison pipeline issues.
- (3) **Community Empowerment:** We use a community lawyering model to advise community groups, advocate for partnerships, and conduct outreach to parents and students who are affected by the school-to-prison pipeline. This work has led to partnerships such as the [Transforming School Discipline Collaborative](#).

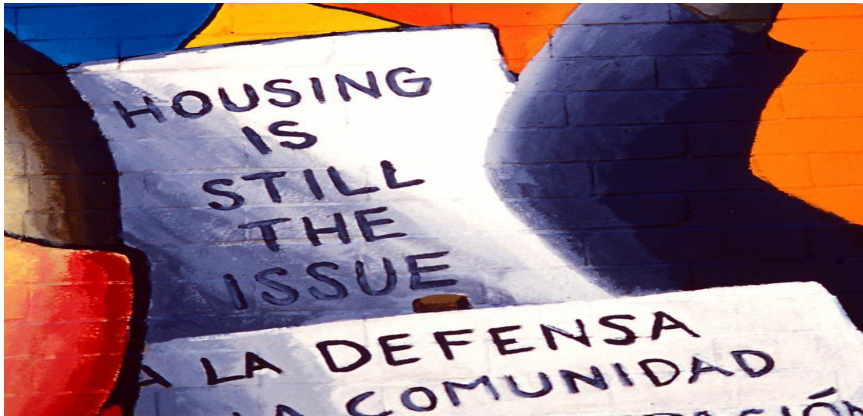
**Client Story:** With less than four months until graduation, an African-American high school senior who was suspended and referred for expulsion for his alleged involvement in a senior prank reached out to our Education Equity Project for legal support. After the hearing the Board decided to expel him for almost two years. This decision, along with the school’s failure to place

him in an alternative school setting, put the student’s future and upcoming college plans in jeopardy. Pro bono attorney Bide Akande of Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen, along with our staff attorneys, Aditi Singh and Jessica Schneider, advocated on the student’s behalf in the expulsion hearing and the Board meeting and eventually challenged the decision in circuit court. Because of our advocacy, the School District agreed to not expel the student and allowed him to recover the credits. He enrolled in college in the fall and was featured in the video debuted at the 2016 Chicago Lawyers’ Committee annual event, which he also attended.

**Policy Victory:** In September of 2016, Public Act 99-0456/SB 100 went into effect requiring schools throughout the state to make substantive changes in their approach to school discipline. Our Education Equity Project worked closely with schools to meet these new legal requirements and to develop implementation strategies that result in improved policies and practices. We also partnered with parents, students and community organizations to deliver trainings on implicit bias, as well as a Know Your Rights module. These efforts promise to change punitive school discipline policies across our state and to improve educational opportunities for all children.

**Community Work:** The Transforming School Discipline Collaborative (TSDC) is an interdisciplinary team of attorneys, school psychologists, policy advocates and community partners dedicated to supporting districts and schools in implementing equitable and non-exclusionary discipline practices. Bringing legal expertise and training skills to TSDC, our Education Equity Project works with partner agencies to produce various materials that support administrators in their work to change the culture of school discipline. We helped develop a Model Code of Conduct and a Toolkit for Transformation. We developed a website to house these resources so that they are easily accessible for administrators across the state. In the fall of 2016, with support from the Kellogg Foundation, we hired a Project Coordinator to support TSDC work and to coordinate its ten member organizations.

## FAIR HOUSING PROJECT



“We believe that housing is a power platform to spark great opportunities in people’s lives and help them achieve the American dream.”

JULIAN CASTRO

**Fighting to End Housing Discrimination; Expanding Fair Housing in Metropolitan Chicago:** We combat housing discrimination by investigating complaints of discrimination throughout Chicago, educating people about fair housing rights and obligations, providing pro bono legal services to individuals and communities affected by housing discrimination, and advocating for policies that affirmatively further fair housing.

We handle housing discrimination cases of all kinds—those based on race, ethnic origin, disability, familial status, gender, sexual orientation, and other bases. Recently, we have handled numerous claims based on the renter’s source of income. Housing Choice Vouchers, formerly called Section 8, are federal subsidies for low-income families, older adults, and people with disabilities. Chicago outlawed source of income discrimination over twelve years ago, and Cook County followed suit in 2013. However, our testing in Chicago reveals that housing providers discriminate against tenants based on voucher status 32% of the time. Housing Choice Voucher discrimination contributes to ongoing segregation in Cook County by keeping qualified renters, most of whom are African-American, out of areas of opportunity with access to better schools, jobs, and other amenities.

### Project Highlights

**Client Story:** Latonya E. and her three children - 12-year-old twins Travon and Tyriana and 8-year-old Tyshon - had spent almost a decade living in East Garfield Park. But when Latonya decided the time had come to find a new home in a safer neighborhood with better schools for her children, she faced an obstacle she didn’t expect: discrimination based on her source of income. Latonya works as a security supervisor at a large security company, and for eleven years she had been a voucher holder. Housing Choice Vouchers enable low-income families to rent quality housing in the private market and to move away from the high-poverty, high-crime neighborhoods where they are often concentrated and into wealthier communities with better schools and economic resources.

Latonya asked about a single-family unit for rent in Belmont Gardens. The real estate agent who returned her email

responded quickly to ask when Latonya would come by to see the home. But when Latonya informed him that she was a voucher holder, he told her that the landlord of the unit would not be interested in renting to her, citing “delays due to inspections and additional costs and bad credit of the applicants which makes her think that they will not take care of the unit.” He added: *It’s not discrimination if a landlord wants clients with good credit.* But according to laws in Chicago and Cook County, it is illegal to refuse to rent or sell to anyone based on their source of income. The Chicago Fair Housing Ordinance does not require landlords to accept all applicants with vouchers; they must decide whether to rent to voucher holders based on other qualifications and to treat them equally with other tenants after renting to them. And in this case, Latonya never got a chance to apply and the real estate agent didn’t check her credit, even though he had cited her credit as a reason for rejecting her.

With the assistance of the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee, Latonya filed a source of income discrimination complaint at the Chicago Commission on Human Relations. She hopes that a positive outcome that will impact the way other voucher holders are treated in Chicago. She has moved to a new apartment using her voucher, and she is hopeful for the future. Easier commutes to work and to school are a huge help, and she has peace of mind knowing her children are safer living away from the violence that plagued her old neighborhood.

## THE LAW PROJECT



“We are challenged to rid our nation and the world of poverty.”

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

**Providing Help to Nonprofits and Small Businesses; Offering Hope for Chicago Communities:** The Law Project helps to build, strengthen and support community-based organizations that are focused on economic development and the delivery of social services to residents of Chicago’s low-income communities. Volunteers from Chicago’s top law firms and our staff attorneys provide nonprofit leaders and small businesses owners with the knowledge and resources they need to get started, run effective programs and services, and spur economic development. By providing a wide range of transactional legal assistance and promoting home ownership, The Law Project helps to transform low-income and under-resourced areas into centers of economic development and community renewal.

*Project Accomplishments:* In 2015, The Law Project provided transactional legal assistance to 114 nonprofits on 155 different legal matters, and in 2016 to 125 different nonprofits with 181 legal matters concerning economic development, community development, and social services. During the same two-year period, we served 67 low-income entrepreneurs with 71 legal matters concerning the start-up or operation of an operating small businesses. Our attorneys assisted 75 first-time low-income home buyers with purchase issues, and 11 homebuyers with post-purchase issues. Each year, our volunteer attorneys provided over 19,000 hours of service, valued at close to \$5,000,000. Their legal work included corporate and tax matters, real estate, employment law, contracts, and finance and assisting first time home buyers in preparing wills. In addition to specific nonprofit project representation, The Law Project’s volunteers wrote articles on business law issues and manuals, and led educational and training workshops for our clients.

### Client Spotlight: Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GAGDC)

Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation Executive Director Carlos Nelson called The Law Project in a panic. His organization, long a beacon of hope in the low-income Auburn-Gresham community, had been listed, along with three of its sub-grantees, in a 2016 Illinois Audit Report as owing thousands of dollars in unspent funds to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. Nelson knew the Audit Report

was erroneous; his agency’s Fiscal Manager had documented all expenditures and worked to ensure compliance with all regulations. But ICJIA demanded return of money that Nelson’s organization did not have. Nelson called Jody Adler, an old friend and The Law Project’s Executive Director. Jody Adler contacted Yates French, a 34-year old partner at Kirkland & Ellis, who agreed to take on Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation as a pro bono client. It took Yates French many hours of work, including two rounds of litigation—not a usual feature of The Law Project’ transactional work—before a Cook County Circuit Court ruled that in our client’s favor, and cleared the organization of any wrong-doing. Carlos Nelson and Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation continue doing what they do best: Offering hope and economic opportunity to the community.



“Not only are we receiving services that we could not possibly afford, but through your services we are empowered to challenge those entities that have more resources and are inherently more powerful. You give us equal ground,” says Tanya Nelson, Fiscal Contracts Manager, pictured here with Carlos Nelson, Executive Director at Greater Auburn-Gresham Community Development Center.

## VOTING RIGHTS PROJECT



“All we wanted to be was ordinary citizens.”

MEDGAR EVERS

### Election Protection; Expanding Voter Access

The Voting Rights Project of Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights prevents, reduces, and eliminates barriers to voting for communities of color and low-income residents of Illinois. In 2016, Chicago Lawyers' Committee expanded this project to include a focus on civic empowerment, including access to democratic institutions and processes beyond voting.

*Accomplishments:* Working with the national Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, DLA Piper, Kirkland and Ellis LLP, and numerous organizations representing communities of color, our Voting Rights Project led the local team for Election Protection, the nation's largest nonpartisan voter protection coalition. We trained and deployed over 300 volunteer lawyers who answered over 1000 calls to the Chicago call center of the 866-OUR-VOTE hotline and monitored hundreds of polling places throughout Chicago and suburban counties. We also conducted outreach to diverse communities to disseminate know-your-rights materials, including new publications on Election Day Registration and Voting Rights Act language access. For 2016 Election Protection, our volunteer attorneys provided over 2,300 hours of service.

**Policy Advocacy and Litigation:** Data and stories from Election Protection drive our community engagement, policy, advocacy, and litigation work. Our Voting Rights Project was an instrumental part of passing Election Day Registration into law in Illinois in 2015 and fought for the preservation of Election Day Registration following a legal challenge in federal court weeks before the 2016 general election, which paved the way for over 100,000 Illinois voters using the tool to register and vote on November 8 in all counties in the state. Our Voting Rights Project initiatives are based on community input, ranging from improving access for voters in pretrial detention to providing civil rights perspectives on policies such as automatic voter registration and redistricting reform. In 2015, we filed suit challenging partisan gerrymandering by the Wisconsin legislature, and *Whitford v. Gill* is now headed to the United States Supreme Court.

**Voter Spotlight:** On November 8, 2016, a homeless individual called 866-OUR-VOTE needing assistance, as he was staying temporarily with a friend but did not have any official



“As the day wore on, almost as every hour went by, the process became more and more satisfying and I really felt like, you know what, I am making a difference here. There was a feeling at the end of the day that this was a very very valuable and worthwhile endeavor, experience and role that I played today [...] We make a difference inside those precincts.”

- Russell E. Levine, Election Protection volunteer, Partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP

documentation or mail tying him to that friend's address, though the friend had agreed to receive the voter's mail there. When the voter arrived at the polling place, the poll workers were not familiar with the relevant parts of the election code. Working with the voter, the friend, and the poll worker over the phone, an Election Protection worker provided the poll worker with the relevant law and crafted language for the affidavit that permitted the voter to register and vote. This story shows how tools like Election Day Registration benefit populations such as homeless voters while empowering poll workers to maintain the security and integrity of our elections.

## POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY COLLABORATIVE



**Addressing the Intersection of Racial Justice and Community Safety:** In January of 2016, in the aftermath of the release of the videotape showing teenager Laquan McDonald being shot to death by police officers, Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights convened a meeting of more than twenty civil rights and community organizations to discuss a collective response to the unfolding crisis in our city. What resulted was the Police Accountability Collaborative, a coalition of leading civil rights and policy advocacy organizations including the ACLU of Illinois, BPI, Chicago Council of Lawyers, Chicago Justice Project, Community Renewal Society, Chicago Urban League, Cook County Public Defender's Office, and the Shriver Center. The Chicago Lawyers' Committee has continued to play a vital leadership role in organizing joint actions by the Collaborative to promote police accountability and transparency to improve police practices and restore trust between police and the communities they serve.

Over the course of 2016, as Police Accountability Task Force (PATF) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) conducted separate investigations into the patterns and practices of the Chicago Police Department, the Collaborative's advocacy pointed both groups toward recommendations for data driven, evidence based policies.

Over the summer, Collaborative members met with representatives of the Mayor's office to push for more community input and to make substantive recommendations to improve the Civilian Office of Police Accountability COPA ordinance. The ordinance that was finally adopted by City Council in October included significant improvements.

In 2017, the DOJ released the findings of its yearlong investigation, confirming that police officers routinely violate the constitutional rights of Chicago residents and are rarely held accountable. In fact, many of the DOJ's recommendations overlap with the PATF report. Yet the new administration made clear that there would be no consent decree and no federal mandate to enforce the critical policy changes needed at the Chicago Police Department. In response, the Collaborative is ramping up calls for local ownership of the reform process and focusing on transparency, accountability, and performance measures. We have expanded our communications through a web site ([www.chicagopoliceaccountability.org](http://www.chicagopoliceaccountability.org)) and social media campaigns (@ChiPoliceCollab).

## SETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



### Ending Legal Disputes through Settlement

**Program Summary:** Through the Settlement Assistance Program, Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights matches volunteer attorneys with pro se plaintiffs in order to settle their federal court cases without trial. The judges and magistrate judges of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois send cases to the Settlement Assistance Program when the parties have asked for a settlement conference or when the judge has determined that one is appropriate. The volunteer does not prepare the case for trial; rather, the lawyer's duties are limited to working with the plaintiff, analyzing the case, developing a strategy to settle the case, and representing the plaintiff at a settlement conference with the judge. The Court refers a broad variety of cases to the Settlement Assistance Program--employment discrimination (all bases), prisoners' constitutional rights (medical care, conditions of confinement, safety and excessive force), fair debt collection, predatory lending and a raft of other types of cases.

**Program Results:** During calendar year 2016, the Settlement Assistance Program accepted sixty-six referrals from the Court, and took sixty-seven cases to settlement conference during the same period. We enjoyed the participation of seventy-six unique attorneys from a wide variety of law firms, ranging from some of Chicago's largest and most prestigious to small firms and solo practitioners. The variety of participating firms is a testament to the Chicago legal community's commitment to providing services pro bono, and to the attractiveness of these discrete limited assignments. The willingness of attorneys to step up enables the Court to refer a greater number of cases for resolution. The breadth of participation also shows that the Settlement Assistance Program is an effective way of spreading the duty to increase access to justice for our neediest.



## HATE CRIME PROJECT



“Eastward and westward storms are breaking--great, ugly whirlwinds of hatred and blood and cruelty. I will not believe them inevitable.”

W.E.B. DU BOIS

### Hate Crime Project Tackles Dramatic Rise in Bias Incidents

After an election cycle steeped in hateful and xenophobic rhetoric, we find ourselves in a new era that is both frightening and unpredictable. Incendiary political posturing seems to have unleashed an epidemic of hate incidents and hate crimes. In Illinois, we have witnessed a dramatic surge in hate crimes against Muslims, Jews, immigrants, refugees, LGBTQ people, people with disabilities, and people of color. Hate crimes against Muslims alone increased by 67% between 2015 and 2016. The real figures are likely much higher due to under-reporting.

In response to this scourge of hate incidents and hate crime, Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights revamped and relaunched our Hate Crime Project in 2016. We are implementing a comprehensive strategy that will address hate incidents and hate crime on many levels. While we are acting quickly, we want to act the right way—working with communities affected by hate, rather than imposing solutions from outside. To that end, our efforts will be guided by community input and feedback.

On December 19, 2016, we convened a group of community group leaders to discuss hate speech and hate crimes. During this poignant and powerful event, our community partners stressed that many targeted individuals have come to see hate speech and hate crimes as part of their burden in this country; they have “normalized” regular incidents of bias. They often do not want to report incidents, never mind press charges, due to their immigration status, lack of trust of police, fear of retribution, fear of not being taken seriously, and fear of engaging in protracted court proceedings. This cannot be the way things are. We will not “believe [these events] inevitable.” As civil rights advocates, we must find new and better ways to tackle racism, xenophobia, and other forms of intolerance and hate. We have a long history of providing strong legal representation and advocacy for victims of hate. In 2017-2018, we are expanding upon our legacy of civil legal representation for victims of hate.

Our multi-pronged approach includes:

- (1) **Community-Based Lawyering.** We are working with community-based partner organizations, K-12 schools, colleges and universities, to conduct broad outreach and education, and disseminate information that increases

knowledge, awareness and identification of hate speech and hate crimes.

- (2) **Targeted Trainings:** We are conducting Know Your Rights trainings on hate speech and hate crimes to Muslim, immigrant, African American, Latino, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ, and other targeted communities. Trainings include both direct Know-Your-Rights trainings for community members and Train-the-Trainer events to build community organizations' capacity to deliver their own trainings.
- (3) **Mobilizing Pro Bono Resources:** We will conduct trainings for volunteer attorneys to develop capacity for quick response around hate incidents, including providing support in the criminal process; providing legal representation in civil lawsuits for compensatory and punitive damages to punish and deter hate crimes; and building awareness within legal community of issues facing vulnerable communities.
- (4) **Administrative Advocacy:** We are building relationships and continuing work with local, city and state officials, including Chicago Commission on Human Relations, the Cook County and other State's Attorney's Offices, police departments, Cook County Sheriff's Office, and Illinois Attorney General's Office of Civil Rights to coordinate hate speech/hate incident reporting and response.
- (5) **Sound Policy Formulation:** We are working with community groups to identify issues and formulate key policy recommendations that we will pursue during the year, most likely on ways of improving safety and confidentiality concerns about reporting, improving hate crime legislation in Illinois, and developing best practices for supporting individual victims and community organizations.

Our Hate Crime Project continues to be part of our efforts to root out and dismantle deeply entrenched systems of discrimination and racism. In the constantly changing and unpredictable environment of 2017, we must infuse resources into affected communities.

## MEDIA MENTIONS

### **11/8/2016** [Volunteers dedicate day to voting rights, Chicago Daily Law Bulletin](#)

“There are so many things that can go wrong from the time that a voter tries to register to vote to the time that they cast their ballot,” Cortazar said. “There can be technological issues, there can be just human error in the administration of the voter rolls, there can be intimidation at the polling place, there can be language problems, problems with disabilities.”

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### **12/14/2016** [What you can do about the post-election surge in hate crimes, WBEZ Worldview](#)

The Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights has formed a coalition of professionals and stakeholders to protect communities from harassment and hate crimes.

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### **1/2/2017** [Bomb Threat made against Lake Zurich Community Center, Leaders Respond, Windy City Media Group](#)

“What makes Chicago strong is its racial and ethnic diversity. Caucasians, African Americans, and Latinos each make up roughly a third of our city’s residents, and our Asian-American and Arab-American communities are growing,” said Bonnie Allen, Executive Director of the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights. “Hatred and intolerance will not thrive here. Our legal team stands ready to act on these threats, and our civic and elected leaders must come together to provide support and protect vulnerable people from hate crimes. These incidents are often underreported and they are intended to send a message and perpetuate fear. We cannot give any ground to bigotry and intolerance in our city.”

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### **1/27/2017** [Witness a hate crime? Here’s how to intervene, Chicago Tribune](#)

“Hate crimes are significantly underreported, especially in already marginalized and fearful communities,” says Betsy Shuman-Moore, director of Fair Housing and Hate Crimes Projects with the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. “Victims may face a language barrier and lack knowledge about the law; they may be skeptical and distrustful of the response of the criminal justice system and the courts; and, especially, undocumented immigrants may not want to risk their status.”

### **2/17/2017** [Defending Civil Rights In Chicago Today, Comcast Newsmakers](#)



### **3/2/2017** [In the Loop: Immigration & a Climate of Fear, PBS Chicago](#)



### **3/23/2017** [As hate crimes increase, Bruce Rauner should do more, Chicago Sun Times](#)

“As the director of the Hate Crime Project at the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights, I can remember when Muslims became targets of a wave of ugly hate crimes after the Sept. 11 attacks.”

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### **4/19/2017** [Local groups meet with community to discuss Obama Library, Hyde Park Herald](#)

Allegra Cira Fischer, staff attorney for the Law Project of Chicago Lawyer’s Committee for Civil Rights law, said a CBA could protect residents from displacement and exploitation. “It’s a legally enforceable contract it’s not a memorandum of understanding...a community benefits agreement is a private contract that would give the community the opportunity to enforce the contract to hold those entities accountable for their promises the community.”

# FINANCIAL REPORT

The Chicago Lawyers' Committee's financial report reflects a broadening of support from a greater variety of sources.

Member law firm contributions remain one of the chief sources of support for the Chicago Lawyers' Committee. Chicago area foundations also responded affirmatively and generously to requests for support for the broad range of civil rights programs supported by the Chicago Lawyers' Committee.

	2016	2015
<b>REVENUE</b>		
<b>Public Support</b>		
Law Firm Contributions	290,525	298,125
Foundation Grants	111,627	220,167
Government Grants	335,812	374,746
Individuals	34,437	46,051
Fundraising Events (net)	142,590	122,031
Released from Restriction	817,351	555,341
	<b>1,732,342</b>	<b>1,616,461</b>
<b>Other Support</b>		
Court Awards, Attorney Fees	87,541	61,087
Fee for Services	93,349	99,659
Investment Gains/ (Losses)	\$ (21,159)	17,140
Interest and Dividends	13,712	14,792
Miscellaneous	1,800	2,000
	<b>175,243</b>	<b>194,667</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>1,907,585</b>	<b>1,811,138</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Program Services	1,557,914	1,620,293
Management, Fundraising and General	463,247	428,664
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,021,161</b>	<b>2,048,957</b>
Change in Net Assets	\$ (112,576)	\$ (237,818)
Net-Assets- Beginning of Year	673,034	910,852
Net-Assets- End of Year	559,457	673,034

## LAW FIRM INVOLVEMENT

## FAIR HOUSING PROJECT

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Matthew Cohen  
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 Phil Vincent Giglio  
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 David Brigleb  
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