

Community Christian Legal Aid

Gratitude Report 2024



COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID

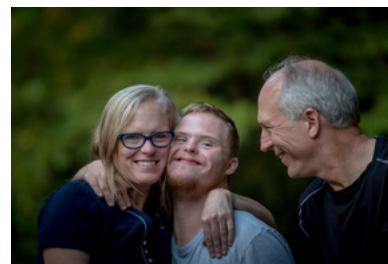


TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
- 2. ABOUT US**
- 3. YEAR IN REVIEW**
- 4. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**
- 5. DONOR SPOTLIGHT**
- 6. IMPACT STORIES**
- 7. PARTNER RECOGNITION**
- 8. LOOKING AHEAD**
- 9. CONTACT INFORMATION**



LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we continue our mission to provide access to justice for those in need, we are excited to share the growth and impact of our work. In 2024, we expanded our program offerings to include **targeted will clinics**, ensuring that vulnerable individuals and families can secure their legacies and protect their loved ones. Our **community outreach has also grown**, with increased **speaking engagements** designed to educate the public on critical legal issues. Most notably, we successfully held our **first legal aid clinic and outreach via town hall format in Harris County**, extending our reach beyond Montgomery County to serve even more individuals in need.



With this growth, however, comes new challenges. The demand for our services continues to rise, particularly among **kinship families**—relatives stepping in to care for children when parents are unable to do so. These families face unique legal hurdles, and we are committed to helping them navigate complex guardianship and custody issues. As we take on more clients, it's important we strengthen our financial basis so we can continue to support our neighbors in need. Your contributions, whether it be with monetary donations or volunteering with your legal skills, allow us to expand our reach, serve more families, and continue providing essential legal aid to those who need it most. Thank you for standing with us as we work to make justice accessible for all.

With gratitude,
Deborah Hubbs,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Deborah Hubbs', written over a white background.

Founder and President



ABOUT US

Mission Statement

Bringing justice to our community through civil legal services as a way of demonstrating Christ's love.

Vision Statement

Propelled by God's heart for justice, we seek to connect our neighbors, all of whom bear God's image, with legal advocates who understand our call to make justice accessible.

History

Founded in 2019, Community Christian Legal Aid provides access to justice through pro bono legal services in the Greater Houston area.

Legal Matters We Handle

Kinship adoption, family law, guardianship, estate planning, protective orders, debt defense and consumer protection.

Board of Directors

Patrick O'Hara, Board Chair

O'Hara Law Firm

Janet Black

AON

Deborah Hubbs, Founder & President

Amos McDonald

Southside Bank

Wade Henderson, Treasurer

CW Henderson Electric

Angela Bullock

BCBH Law

Marissa Rahn, Secretary

Marissa S. Rahn, Attorney at Law

Judith Tyler

Attorney, retired

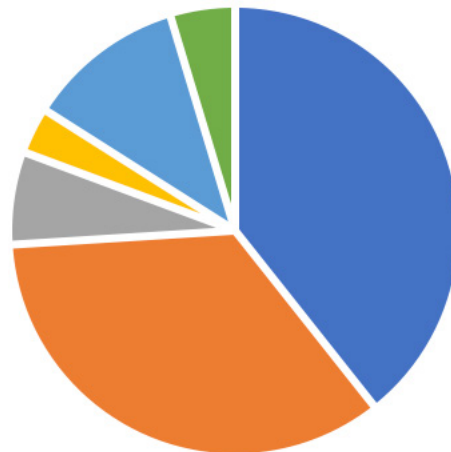


YEAR IN REVIEW

Key Achievements:

- CCLA increased its direct legal representation of clients providing more direct support, particularly strengthening in areas of limited legal representation and coaching services in family law cases.
- CCLA provided 150 neighbors with legal services.
- Provided over **1000 hours** of pro bono legal services to clients with a value of over **\$335,000.00**.
- Doubled our volunteer attorney base primarily through offering targeted clinics in estate planning, a vital area of need for the elderly in our community.
- Increased our family law bench of volunteer in Montgomery County.
- CCLA launched its first legal aid clinic in Harris County.
- Launched a town hall initiative to better inform the community of their legal rights in areas of consumer protection, handling creditors, estate planning and divorce.

Legal Matters



• Family Law • Wills & Probate • Debt • Other • Guardianship • Kinship



PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS



- CCLA partnered with **The Women's Home** in Houston to educate clients on key legal issues in family law and estate planning.
- Collaborated with the **Christian Legal Society, Houston Chapter** to host a Will-A-Thon at **Forge for Families** in Houston, providing vital estate planning services. This initiative is supported by a grant from the **Texas Bar Foundation**, enabling CCLA to host Will-A-Thon clinics throughout 2025.
- Partnered with **Angel Reach** to offer estate planning for kinship families.
- Participated as a speaker at the **Texas Families Raising Grandchildren** conference at St. John's Downtown, further advancing our mission to support families through legal education and advocacy.

PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS

- Partnered with **St. Isidore** at the Harvest Bistro to hold legal clinics for Veterans.
- Held 9 legal clinics at **The Woodlands Methodist Church**.
- CCLA engaged in national and local advocacy efforts by speaking at the Christian Legal Society – Houston Chapter and the National CLS Conference, encouraging attorneys to provide pro bono legal services to support low-income families nationwide.



VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS

- Jenise Jackson hosted a free CLE on estate planning on behalf of CCLA for attorneys who committed to volunteering at its Will-A-Thon clinics.
- In 2024, 48 volunteer attorneys contributed over 1,000 hours of service, making a meaningful impact on the community!
- CCLA held its first Attorney Thank You Event in Houston at The Lumbar. We are proud of our legal community for committing to make a difference in the Greater Houston area. We could not do this work without our wonderful volunteers!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Martha Musselman

Martha graduated from South Texas College of Law in 2000. A single mother navigating her way through law school while going through a difficult divorce, Martha discovered a natural affinity for family law. She went to work for **Mike Stocker**, a prominent local family law attorney who had successfully represented her in her divorce case, and excelled in her law practice.

Martha eventually retired from practicing law, but she continues to use her knowledge, skills and compassion as a family law practitioner by listening and providing legal advice to clients at the legal clinics. Together with her husband of 25 years, Jim, a law professor at South Texas College of Law, Martha was one of the clinic's first volunteers and has volunteered consistently for 7 years, even willing to assist via Zoom when she is out of town. Martha excels at listening and providing compassionate counsel to clients navigating the family court system. We are grateful for Martha and the many ways she cares for our neighbors in need!



2024 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Support and Revenue

Contributions	\$134,597
Grants	\$12,000
Program Revenue	\$5,000
Contributed Services	\$268,176
Total Support and Revenue	\$419,773

Functional Expenses

Program Services	\$134,597
Management & General	\$12,000
Fundraising	\$5,000
Total Expenses	\$438,427

Change in Net Assets (18,654)

2024 Ending Bank Balance \$128,315.44



DONOR SPOTLIGHT



At Community Christian Legal Aid (CCLA), we are incredibly blessed to have Judith “Judy” Tyler as a dedicated supporter, volunteer, and advocate. A retired attorney, Judy brings not only her legal expertise but also her deep compassion for those in need.

Judy began her career as an engineer at ExxonMobil, where she met her husband, Bruce. After the birth of her first child she changed career paths, going back to law school and graduating from Pepperdine Law School. She then had stints working as an attorney for Sidley & Austin and ExxonMobil and was an adjunct professor at Pepperdine. However, her husband’s career required numerous transfers and with 3 children her focus again took a different turn. Her journey took her across the globe, raising a family while embracing various types of service and leadership in every community she touched.

Today, Judy is an integral part of CCLA, giving generously of her time and resources. She serves on the CCLA Board of Directors and helps with fundraising and ensuring that our mission continues to thrive. Whether she is assisting at our legal clinics, or rallying support, Judy’s dedication is remarkable.

Thank you, Judy, for being a beacon of generosity and service. Your impact is felt every day at CCLA!

IMPACT STORIES

Standing Up for Justice: Stories of Empowerment

“Help, my wife didn’t show up with my daughter at our pick-up location.”

Luke (*name changed*) was frantic. He had driven from Houston to Porter to pick up his daughter, only to find that her mother was nowhere to be found. A hardworking father, Luke was doing everything he could to provide for his child—working extra hours to pay child support on time and saving to continue his education.

Desperate for help, he came to CCLA, seeking guidance on filing a **Motion to Enforce**. Over several months, our team coached him through the legal process, preparing him to represent himself in court. The odds were stacked against him. Opposing him was a **board-certified family law attorney**, hired by the child’s grandparents. The child’s mother had financial resources—Luke did not.

Yet, Luke stood his ground and won. Not only was he granted visitation, but the court also awarded him make-up time for the days he had unfairly missed with his child.

Six months later, we received a heartfelt message from Luke:

“Merry Christmas and thank you so much for everything.”

Another client came to CCLA seeking guidance in her **divorce case**. She and her husband had been sharing 50/50 custody of their daughters, but now he was fighting for **sole managing conservatorship**. She was terrified—he had bullied her before, and now he was represented by an aggressive attorney known for refusing to settle.

With CCLA’s **support and strategic coaching**, she arranged a **mediation** with her husband’s attorney. She walked in anxious, but she walked out victorious—securing **exactly what she wanted** for her and her children.

These stories are why we do what we do. Because of your generosity, parents like Luke and others facing overwhelming legal battles **find their voice, fight for their rights, and reclaim their future.**



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



United Way of Greater Houston



ANGEL REACH
CHANGING LIVES. FOSTERING HOPE.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

 MesotheliomaGuide



THE
LYMBAR
KITCHEN + COCKTAILS



MARISSA S. RAHN

ATTORNEY AT LAW



LOOKING AHEAD

Goals for 2025

Thanks to our generous new partnership with the **United Way of Greater Houston**, CCLA is expanding its clinic offerings. Our first new location will be in northern Harris County at **Faithbridge Church**. We are also launching targeted estate planning clinics, made possible by a generous grant from the **Texas Bar Foundation**.

Ways to Get Involved

There are many opportunities to volunteer! With regular clinics in The Woodlands at **The Woodlands Methodist Church**, a weekday office at The United Way, and a new location in northern Harris County at Faithbridge Church, attorneys and paralegals have multiple ways to contribute. Will clinics offer a flexible option, requiring less than 10 hours for clinic time and will preparation. In addition, we are always happy when non-lawyers volunteer to help distribute information to the community by serving at our booth at local events, providing snacks at our clinics, as well as volunteering on our annual fundraising event committee.



1600 Lake Front Circle, Suite 236
The Woodlands, TX 77380
(713) 586-9212
www.cclegalaid.org

Thank you to all who support our mission and make justice accessible to those in need.

