

Community Christian Legal Aid

Gratitude Report 2025

Providing civil justice for our neighbors in need, rooted in faith.



COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID

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LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

What a remarkable year 2025 has been. When I look back at everything our team, our volunteers, and our partners have accomplished together, I am filled with deep gratitude and awe at what God has done.

In 2025, we served 299 neighbors with legal services—nearly double the 150 we helped in 2024. Our pro bono attorney hours nearly tripled, jumping from 1,000 to 2,655 hours.

What makes this growth even more extraordinary is that we accomplished it with just 34 dedicated volunteers, and with our newly hired Director of Legal Operations, Audrey Juranek, who only joined us in September. To have achieved so much with a lean team is a testament to the commitment and caliber of every person who has invested in this mission. We expanded our geographic reach this year by launching new legal aid clinics at Agape Development and introducing an annual wills clinic in September at the North Montgomery County Community Center. This new clinic was created with our community partner, Community Assistance Center, in partnership with The Woodlands and Montgomery County Bar Associations, and is generously sponsored by Hopkins Centrich. We are also thrilled to welcome the United Way of Greater Houston as a valued new partner, whose support has been transformative in helping us extend our reach.

Our Derby Day for Justice Gala was a landmark event—we raised more funds than ever before, a powerful sign of the community's belief in our mission. Each dollar raised directly translates into legal help for a neighbor in need.

Behind every statistic is a human story—a grandmother fighting for her grandchild, a young mother securing safety for her children, an elderly widow navigating the legal system to care for her son. These are the people we exist to serve. Thank you for standing with us. Because of you, justice is not just a word—it is a reality for hundreds of families in our community.

With deep gratitude,



*Deborah Hubbs,
Founder and President*



ABOUT US

Mission Statement

Providing civil justice for our neighbors in need, rooted in faith.

Vision Statement

Propelled by Jesus's heart for justice, we recognize the image of God in every neighbor. We strive to make justice accessible by connecting those in need with advocates who answer the call to serve.

History

Community Christian Legal Aid held its first legal aid clinic on July 14, 2018, and has since grown to provide access to justice through pro bono legal services across 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



STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Welcome, Audrey Juranek

In September 2025, Community Christian Legal Aid welcomed Audrey Juranek as our Director of Legal Operations. Audrey's arrival has been a true gift to our organization—her expertise, dedication, and heart for the mission have helped us keep pace with the significant increase in demand for our services. Despite joining us for only the final four months of the year, her impact on the quality and reach of our work has been immediate and profound. We are so grateful to have her on our team.



YEAR IN REVIEW

299

Individuals Served
up from 150 in 2024

2,655

Pro Bono Hours
up from 1,000 in 2024

34

Dedicated Volunteers

Key Achievements:

- CCLA served 299 neighbors with legal services in 2025—nearly double the 150 individuals helped in 2024.
- Pro bono hours nearly tripled, rising from 1,000 to 2,655 hours.
- Provided legal clinics in numerous locations, including new clinics at Agape Development and the North Montgomery County Community Center.
- Launched an annual estate planning legal clinic at North Montgomery County Community Center in September, in partnership with The Woodlands and Montgomery County Bar Associations, generously sponsored by Hopkins Centrich.
- Continued to strengthen our legal representation in family law, guardianship, kinship adoption, and estate planning.
- Hired Audrey Juranek as Director of Legal Operations in September, significantly increasing our capacity to serve clients.
- Received a grant from the Christian Legal Aid Network to fund technology and equipment, strengthening our infrastructure and capacity to serve clients effectively
- Welcomed the United Way of Greater Houston as a new community partner, expanding our network and resources.
- Held our Derby Day for Justice Gala, raising more funds than any previous year—a milestone that reflects our community's growing commitment to access to justice.



PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS

- Continued regular legal aid clinics at The Woodlands Methodist Church, providing ongoing access to justice for Montgomery County residents.
- Held a legal aid clinic at Agape Development, reaching new neighbors in underserved areas.
- Launched a new legal clinic at the North Montgomery County Community Center in September 2025, in partnership with The Woodlands and Montgomery County Bar Associations and sponsored by Hopkins Centrich.
- Continued our partnership with the United Way of Greater Houston, offering legal services at their weekday office location.
- Hosted a Wills Clinic and a Legal Town Hall Day at The Women’s Home in Houston, educating residents on key legal issues in family law, consumer debt, and estate planning—empowering women navigating some of the most difficult circumstances of their lives.



PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS

- Founder and President Deborah Hubbs spoke at Mercy House Global, sharing insight on legal empowerment strategies for women who have been rescued from human trafficking—addressing legal barriers, protective orders, and pathways to stability and safety.
- Hosted an Estate Planning CLE in June, made possible through the generous contribution of Carissa Peterson of the Strong Law Firm, providing attorneys with continuing legal education credit while deepening our bench of estate planning volunteers.



VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS

In 2025, 34 dedicated attorneys and paralegals provided 2,655 hours of pro bono legal services—nearly triple the hours from the year before. While our volunteer numbers were smaller than in 2024 (largely due to the conclusion of the Houston wills clinic), the depth of commitment from each attorney and volunteer was extraordinary. Our team accomplished more with fewer hands, a true testament to the quality, dedication, and compassion of every attorney who gave their time to this mission.

Notably, our newly hired Director of Legal Operations joined only in September, yet Audrey's contributions during those final four months helped sustain quality and momentum as we served a historic number of clients. We are immensely proud of and grateful for every member of our volunteer and staff family.



2025 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

SUPPORT AND REVENUE	
Contributions	\$33,826.30
Grants	\$89,243.18
Program Revenues	\$5,000.00
Gifts In Kind (Rent)	\$11,701.25
Contributed Services (Attorneys and Paralegals)	\$180,175.00
Contributed Services (Marketing)	\$18,875.00
Fundraising Event Revenue Received	\$239,751.40
Total Support and Revenue	\$578,572.13
FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES	
Program Services	\$169,890.42
Contributed Program Services (Attorneys & Paralegals)	\$180,175.00
Management & General	\$66,313.14
Contributed Marketing Services	\$18,875.00
Fundraising	\$61,836.48
Total Expenses	\$497,090.04
Change in Net Assets	\$81,482.09
2025 Ending Bank Balance	\$209,078.57



DERBY DAY FOR JUSTICE GALA

A Record-Breaking Year

Our 2025 **Derby Day for Justice Gala** was our most successful fundraising event to date. The evening brought together community members, supporters, partners, and volunteers in celebration of our shared commitment to justice—and the results were extraordinary. We raised more money than at any previous gala, a milestone that will directly fund expanded legal services for our neighbors in need. Thank you to every sponsor, donor, and attendee who made this evening possible.



IMPACT STORIES

Standing Up for Justice: Stories of Empowerment

A Grandmother's Love

Tammy has the kind of love that doesn't quit.

At 50, she spends her days working hard on a warehouse floor, the kind of woman who shows up, does the work, and never complains. But when unimaginable tragedy struck her family, Tammy didn't just show up. She opened her arms and her home to her young grandson without a second thought.

Tammy's daughter was murdered by a family member, a grief no mother should ever have to carry. And yet, in the depths of that devastation, Tammy's first instinct was to protect her grandson. To make sure that in the wreckage of the worst thing imaginable, this little boy would still know he was loved and wanted.

She came to CCLA seeking custody. She wanted to honor her daughter's memory by preserving her name on her grandson's birth certificate so she chose a custody order instead of adoption. In the middle of her own grief, she was still thinking about legacy, about making sure her grandson would always carry a piece of his mother with him.

Our team was honored to walk alongside her. With care and diligence, we navigated the legal process together, making sure this devoted grandmother had every tool she needed to protect the little boy she loves.

Today, Tammy has the legal standing to care for and protect her grandson fully. He is safe. He is loved. He is wanted. At the most fundamental level, every child deserves to know those three things in their bones and because of Tammy, he does. And he is exactly where he belongs, in the arms of his grandmother, growing up knowing his mother's name.

Some cases remind us why this work matters. Tammy's is one of them.

IMPACT STORIES

A Sister's Devotion

Some people carry burdens that would buckle most adults, and they carry them quietly, without complaint, simply because someone has to.

Jo was one of those people.

At an age when many young women are still figuring out who they are, Jo had already become the backbone of her family. Working 70 hours a week, she paid the rent, kept the lights on, and put food on the table, all while managing significant student loan debt she had taken on in pursuit of a better future. When her mother passed away after a battle with cancer, Jo didn't just grieve. She stepped up, covering the funeral expenses herself, refusing to let her mother's final chapter be defined by financial hardship.

And through all of it, she was also raising her teenage sibling, who has autism. Not because a court told her to. Not because it was easy. But because that's who Jo is.

With no father in the picture, he had long since walked away, Jo became the sole source of stability, love, and security in her sibling's life. Every long shift, every sacrificed weekend, every dollar stretched thin was an act of devotion.

So when a doctor suggested she pursue full legal guardianship, a costly and complex legal process, the weight of that news was immense. Jo had already given everything she had. The idea of navigating a guardianship proceeding, with legal fees she simply couldn't afford, felt like being asked to run a marathon after already carrying someone on her back for miles.

That's when CCLA stepped in.

After careful consultation, CCLA determined that a Supported Decision-Making Agreement was the right path, a less burdensome, more empowering alternative to guardianship. Our team took the time to explain exactly what a Supported Decision-



IMPACT STORIES

Making Agreement was, why it was the better option for their situation, and then prepared the agreement itself. Jo learned that her sibling is fully capable of making decisions with her loving support at her side, and that full guardianship wasn't just unnecessary, it wasn't the right fit for who they are to each other.

Jo didn't need a court to define what she and her sibling already had. She just needed someone to see the full picture, walk her through her options, and hand her a solution she could actually carry.

For a young woman who has already given so much, that guidance made all the difference.

A Mother's Perseverance

At 74 years old, Debbie had earned the right to rest. Instead, she found herself doing what mothers do best: fighting for her child.

When her middle-aged son Sully suffered a severe traumatic brain injury in a motorcycle accident, Debbie didn't hesitate. Unable to communicate or care for himself, Sully needed someone in his corner, and Debbie made sure that person was her. She stepped into the role with the same fierce, quiet determination that had carried her through a lifetime of showing up for the people she loved.

But love alone wasn't enough. Debbie needed legal authority to make decisions for her son, and the road to get there had already cost her dearly. A prior temporary guardianship had drained \$17,000 from her savings, money she had spent a lifetime building. For a woman in her seventies on a fixed income, that wasn't just a financial loss. It was devastating.

Still, she pressed on. Because Sully needed her.

Debbie came to CCLA seeking help to obtain permanent guardianship, and our team met her determination with the care and diligence her situation demanded. We guided her through every step of the process, making sure this tireless mother wasn't navigating it alone.



IMPACT STORIES

Today, Debbie has the permanent legal authority she fought so hard to secure. She can speak for Sully, advocate for his care, and make sure he receives everything his mother knows he deserves.

At 74, Debbie is still showing up. And thanks to CCLA, she now has the legal standing to make it count.

These stories are why we do what we do. Because of your generosity, families facing overwhelming legal battles find their voice, fight for their rights, and reclaim their futures.



PARTNER RECOGNITION

None of our work would be possible without the generous support of our community partners. We are deeply grateful to every organization and individual who has invested in justice alongside us.



United Way of Greater Houston



PARTNER RECOGNITION



Excellent Business Technology Solutions



PARTNER RECOGNITION

Volunteer Spotlight & Champion of Justice Award: **Byron Davis**

This year, we are proud to honor Byron Davis as the recipient of CCLA's Champion of Justice Award. Byron's dedication to our mission has been extraordinary—he consistently shows up for our clients with both legal excellence and genuine compassion. His commitment to ensuring that those without means have access to quality legal consultations embodies everything this award stands for. Byron is not just a volunteer; he is a champion for every neighbor who walks through our doors seeking help. We are deeply grateful for his service and proud to recognize him for this well-deserved honor.

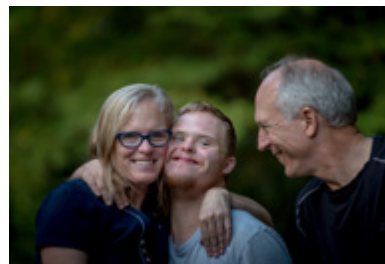


LOOKING AHEAD

Goals for 2026

Building on the momentum of 2025, CCLA is committed to deepening our impact and expanding our reach in 2026. With our expanded clinic network—including The Woodlands Methodist Church, Agape Development, the North Montgomery County Community Center, and the United Way of Greater Houston—we are better positioned than ever to meet the growing demand for civil legal services in our community.

- Grow our volunteer attorney network and deepen relationships with bar associations across the region.
- Launch a monthly legal aid clinic in Harris County, extending our reach to serve more neighbors across the Greater Houston area.
- Increase community engagement and outreach so that more neighbors in need are aware of our services and know where to turn for help.
- Invest in the development of our staff and volunteers to maintain the quality of our legal services as demand continues to grow.
- Build our financial base to sustain long-term growth and continue serving neighbors who cannot afford legal representation.



LOOKING AHEAD

Ways to Get Involved

There are many ways to support the mission of Community Christian Legal Aid:

- Volunteer as an attorney or paralegal at one of our regular clinics in The Woodlands, North Montgomery County, or Houston.
- Participate in our will clinics and estate planning events, which require fewer than 10 hours of commitment.
- Volunteer at community outreach events, distributing legal education materials and connecting neighbors with resources.
- Join our annual fundraising event committee and help make events like the Derby Day for Justice Gala a success.
- Make a financial contribution at www.cclegalaid.org—every dollar directly funds access to justice for our neighbors.



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