Protecting the most vulnerable

Our mission is to serve as the primary source of legal assistance for detained immigrants (adults and children) in the Washington metropolitan area and to strengthen and support the work of our Coalition members. CAIR Coalition brings together community groups, pro bono attorneys, volunteers, and immigrants from the District of Columbia, Virginia and Maryland to work together to ensure that all immigrants are treated with fairness, dignity and respect for their human and civil rights.
Dear CAIR Coalition friends and supporters,

While being in immigration detention is never easy for anyone, it is especially difficult for certain particularly vulnerable populations such as immigrants suffering from severe mental illness and unaccompanied immigrant children. The lack of a right to counsel in immigration court proceedings exacerbates the situation as immigrants who would not be considered competent to proceed on their own in other legal settings are forced to go it alone in immigration court.

In 2011, CAIR Coalition responded to the needs of these two vulnerable groups of immigrant detainees in several different ways. First, we launched our “Disability Representation Initiative” with the assistance of an Equal Justice Works Fellow, sponsored by the law firm McDermott Will & Emery, to better defend the rights of detained immigrants with serious mental health issues. Second, we partnered with law firms with offices in other cities to help insure continuity of pro bono legal assistance for detained children who are transferred to facilities outside of Virginia. Third, we partnered with George Mason University’s School of Social Work to become an official site placement for their graduate social work students. Each semester, CAIR Coalition now has a social work intern to assist with post-release planning for vulnerable immigrants to insure that they are linked-up with needed housing and social services upon their release from detention.

The hallmark of CAIR Coalition’s work and the key to our ability to assist hundreds of immigrants each year with a small staff and a modest budget are our partnerships with law firms, law schools and other educational and community-based organizations. We are most grateful for all the ways in which our friends and supporters have helped to sustain us in 2011, whether through in-kind support or much needed financial contributions.

Thank you for caring about the immigrant community, especially those who are most vulnerable to having their rights violated. We look forward to your continued collaboration and support in the coming year.

With much gratitude,

JONATHAN M. FEE, ESQ.
Chair, Board of Directors

KATHRYN M. DOAN, ESQ.
Executive Director
Legal Assistance and Other Types of Direct Assistance

- Conducted 85 jail visits to detained immigrant adults in Virginia and Maryland, providing general legal orientations and information about how best to proceed with their immigration cases.
- Assisted 106 unaccompanied immigrant children ages 13 to 17 at two juvenile facilities in Virginia.
- Screened 988 detained immigrant adults to determine if they qualified for an immigration benefit.
- Secured pro bono legal assistance for 48 detained immigrants.
- Assisted 40 asylum seekers with their credible/reasonable fear interviews.
- Provided 37 pro se workshops covering a variety of topics including deportation defense and asylum.
- In partnership with the DC Bar Pro Bono Program’s Immigration Clinic, provided 79 non-detained immigrants with brief advice and counsel.
- Participated in the Board of Immigration Appeals Pro Bono Project.
- Created post-release housing and social services plans for eight immigrants.

Education and Training

- Conducted eight trainings for attorneys and law students on detention issues.
- Created two comic-book-style pamphlets for the children served by our Detained Children’s Program to help them better understand certain forms of relief.

Advocacy and Coalition Building

- Participated in a U.S. Department of Justice conference on international aspects of indigent defense issues and advocated for government funding of legal counsel for vulnerable immigrant detainees.
- Continued participation in a national non-governmental working group advising the Department of Homeland Security on detention reform issues.
- Collaborated with the Arlington Asylum Office and the Washington District Office of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to address case-specific issues and policy concerns of Coalition members.
- Convened members of the private immigration bar and the non-profit community to address issues of concern to the immigrant community in monthly meetings.
Legal Assistance and Representation

CAIR Coalition’s Adult Detention Program provides legal orientations, individual consultations and pro bono representation to immigrants detained in jails in Maryland and Virginia. At some facilities we also offer pro se workshops. In addition, we assist arriving asylum seekers with their credible fear interviews at the Arlington Asylum Office and participate in the Board of Immigration Appeals Pro Bono Project which identifies pro se litigants who could benefit from pro bono counsel at the appeal stage.

In addition, CAIR Coalition partners with the DC Bar Pro Bono Program to provide brief immigration advice and referrals to low-income DC residents. We also assist detainees who have won release with post-release needs, such as housing and social service referrals.

CAIR Coalition’s Detained Children’s Program provides legal services to unaccompanied immigrant children ages 13 to 17 detained at two juvenile facilities in Virginia. Like the adult program, these services include group legal orientations, individual intakes and pro bono placement of cases for children who have a defense to deportation, which could include asylum or a special immigration juvenile visa which is available to children who have been abused, abandoned or neglected.

Education and Training

CAIR Coalition is committed to increasing the number of pro bono attorneys trained to represent detained immigrants. CAIR Coalition staff offer frequent trainings at local law firms on issues related to detention and deportation. CAIR Coalition also partners with other non-profit organizations to provide trainings for the local immigrant community.

In the fall of 2011, CAIR Coalition launched its Disability Representation Initiative focused on increasing representation for detained immigrants suffering from severe mental illness. This initiative will include revising CAIR Coalition’s seminal manual on representing immigrants with mental illness that is currently in use around the country, and creating a training curriculum for pro bono attorneys nationwide based on the revised manual.

Advocacy and Coalition Building

CAIR Coalition advocates for the rights of both detained and non-detained immigrants in collaboration with, and on behalf of, our Coalition partners. We participate in regular liaison meetings with representatives from USCIS, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and the Executive Office for Immigration Review (immigration court) to raise case-specific and policy-related concerns on behalf of our partner organizations. CAIR Coalition also collaborates with national advocacy groups on issues relating to detention and removal, with a special focus on improving the treatment of detained immigrants suffering from mental illness.

CASE STUDY

Abandoned by her mother in Mexico, VC was brought to the United States by a stepsister who forced her to do household chores and provide child care for the stepsister’s children. If she complained, she was beaten. This forced servitude continued for several years until the stepsister kicked VC out of the house when she was 15 after an argument. Her stepsister’s boyfriend offered to take her in. With nowhere to turn, VC accepted. Several days later, this man drugged and raped VC. Deeply ashamed, VC kept the rape a secret for nearly a year. VC was eventually detained by ICE and placed in the Shenandoah Juvenile Detention Center in Virginia, which is where CAIR Coalition staff first met her. CAIR Coalition placed her case with a pro bono attorney who is helping her to get legal permanent residence in the United States through a special immigrant juvenile visa.

Thanks to CAIR Coalition, VC finally has hope for a better future.
Statement of Financial Position
Fiscal Year End December 31, 2011

ASSETS FY 2011
Cash and Cash Equivalents $122,616
Contributions Receivable 50,000
Furniture and Equipment, Net 2,318
Other Assets 63,595
TOTAL ASSETS $238,529

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS
Accounts Payable $8,932
Accrued Salary and Vacation 8,257
Deferred Revenue 6,500
TOTAL LIABILITIES $23,689

NET ASSETS
Net Assets, Beginning of Period $74,471
Change in Net Assets 140,369
TOTAL NET ASSETS $214,840
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS $238,529

REVENUE AND SUPPORT
Grants and Contributions $743,275
Donated Services 4,959,550
Membership and Other Income 4,070
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT $5,706,895

EXPENSES
Program Services $5,401,816
Support Services
Fundraising 47,755
Management and General 116,955
TOTAL EXPENSES $5,566,526
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS $140,369
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD $74,471
NET ASSETS, END OF PERIOD $214,840

DONATING TO CAIR COALITION IS A GREAT RETURN ON YOUR INVESTMENT: With a small staff and a modest budget, CAIR Coalition leveraged nearly $5,000,000 in pro bono legal assistance in 2011. Every dollar invested in CAIR Coalition leveraged an additional $6.63 to support critical efforts to insure that immigrants are treated with fairness, dignity and respect for their human and civil rights.
$50,000+
Morton K. and Jane Blaustein Foundation
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Vera Institute of Justice

$20,000-$49,999
Eugene and Agnes Meyer Foundation
The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation

$10,000-$19,999
Alston & Bird LLP
Arnold & Porter LLP
DC Bar Foundation
Ellen Look and Tony Cavalieri
Equal Justice Works
Hispanic Bar Association of DC
Lutheran Immigration Refugee Service/Presbyterian Church (USA)

$2,500-$9,999
William and Helen Ackerman
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Cooley LLP
Covington & Burling LLP
Crowell & Moring LLP
Duane Morris
Fried Frank
Jones Day
Karen Grisez.
McDermott Will & Emery
Morgan Lewis
Sidley Austin LLP
Steptoe & Johnson LLP
WilmerHale

$1,000-$2,499
Laura Alexander
Massimo Calabresi and Margaret Emery
Jon and Joan Fee
Christopher Herrling
Mark Hetfield
Hogan Lovells
Robert and Kristin Keeling
Karen Nathan
Navigant Consulting Inc.
Robert Nicholas
Laura Parcher
Todd Pilcher and Tasneem Hussain
Kristine Pirnia and Mark Thompson
Estelle Rodgers
Proskauer Rose
Tracy Roman
Wendy Sherman and Bruce Stokes
Stanford Public Interest Law Foundation
Troutman Sanders LLP
White & Case

$500-$999
Andres Benach and Mona Luddy
Kathy and Dan Clark
Jason Denby
Dyer Immigration Law Group, PC
Joseph Figini
Ethan Grossman
Samir Kanani
Julie McEnvoy
Robert and Patricia Mueller
Law Office of David R. Saffold
Vincent Van Panhuys
Lawrence Rosenberg
Lawrence Schneider
Denyse Sabagh
Walter Tejada
Carolyn Waller

$100-$499
Vanessa Allyn
Jaime Winthuysen Aparisi
AYUDA
Bakker DeLaCruz
Sarah Bazzi
Benjamin Sachs
Jonathan Brammer
Bromberg, Kohler Maya & Maschler, PLLC
Daniel Bruner
Catholic Charities of Baltimore
Catholic Immigration Service, Inc.
Challa Law Offices PLC
Clare Cherkasky
Timothy Choate
Cyndy Ramirez Clark
Noah Clements
David Cleveland
Tara Coleman
Eric Conn
Jennifer Cook
Thomas Cullen
Cyrus D Metha & Assocs, PLLC
Molly Daniels
Sinclair Davis
Robert Doan
John Duchelle
Dzubow, Sarapu & Pilcher, PLLC
Paul Feira
Ronald Flagg
Roberta Freedman
Bill Frelick
Melissa Frisk
Garfield Law Group LLP
Michael Geller
Joe Gorin
George Grandison
Grossman Law, LLC
Natasha Guinan
Jeffrey Gumbinner
Christopher Hansen
Karla Harr
Haynes Immigration Law Firm
Hispanic Committee of Virginia
Susan Hoffman
Susan Jacobson
Thomas Johnson
Tom Johnson
Robert Jucaem
Justice for Our Neighbors – UMCOR
Jackie Kammerman
“I have always believed that God sends angels to my life when I need them... CAIR Coalition it is the best and most helpful immigration organization there is.”

— High school honors student and former immigration detainee

2011 Pro Bono Partners

(Law firms that have taken cases or assisted with jail visits)

Alston & Bird LLP
Akin Gump Straus Hauer & Feld LLP
Arent Fox
Arnold & Porter LLP
Crowell & Moring LLP
Cooley LLP
Covington & Burling LLP
Dickstein Shapiro LLP
DLA Piper
EichlerWright PLC
Fried Frank
Jones Day
K&L Gates LLP
Law Office of Jason Jin Huh
Law Office of LaToya Bell
Law Office of Mathew Rau
McDermott Will and Emery
McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP
Mintz Levin
Morgan Lewis
O’Melveny and Myers LLP
Paul Hastings
Pillsbury
Porter Wright
Ropes and Gray
Sidley Austen LLP
Steptoe & Johnson LLP
White & Case
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McDermott Will & Emery
Rhoi Kaima Wangila
The Ark Foundation of Africa

*Affiliations as of 12/31/2011

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Deena Cowans
AVODAH Jewish Service Corps. Legal Assistant/
Adult Detention Program

Working to ensure all immigrants are treated with fairness,
dignity and respect for their human and civil rights.