

# Protecting the most vulnerable

ANNUAL REPORT

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,





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.

# Our 2011 Coalition members and partners included:

American University's Washington College of Law | AYUDA | Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) | CASA de Maryland | Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services | Catholic University's Columbus School of Law | Eastern Mennonite University | Hogar Hispano Immigration Services | Catholic Immigration Service | Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC) | Department of Homeland Security's NGO Enforcement Working Goup | Department of Homeland Security's Office on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Working Group | Detention Watch Network | District of Columbia Bar | George Mason University | Georgetown Law Center | George Washington University School of Law | Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) | Human Rights First | Human Rights Watch | University of Virginia School of Law | Just Neighbors Ministry | Legal Aid Justice Center | Legal Services of Northern Virginia | Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services | National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild | Northern Virginia Family Service | Presbyterian Church (USA) | Tahirih Justice Center | The College of William and Mary | Justice for our Neighbors | University of the District of Columbia's David A. Clarke School of Law | Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights & Urban Affairs | Whitman-Walker Clinic | Women Empowered Against Violence (WEAVE) | World Relief

#### Legal Assistance and Representation

**C** AIR 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**

C AIR 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**

C AIR 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

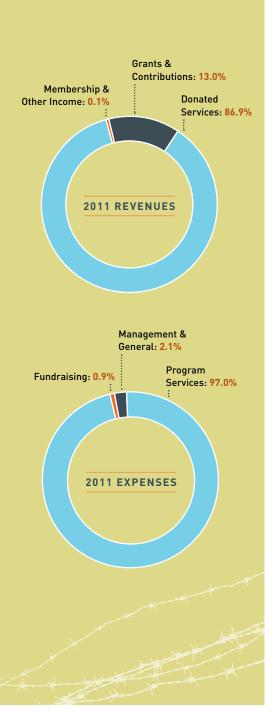
Abandoned by her mother in Mexico, VC was brought to the United States by a stepsister who forced her to do household chores and provide child care for the stepsister's children. If she complained, she was beaten. This forced servitude continued for several years until the stepsister kicked VC out of 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.

**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.

### Statement of Financial Position Fiscal Year End December 31, 2011

ASSETS	FY 2011
Cash and Cash Equivalents Contributions Receivable	\$122,616 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 Support Services	\$5,401,816
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



Financials

#### \$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 Panhuvs 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 Juceam Justice for Our Neighbors – UMCOR Jackie Kammerman

Keler and Kershow Amy Kurtz Priscilla Labovitz Katie Lane Law Office of Elena Hung, PLLC Law Office of Michael Alexei, PLLC Law Office of Elizabeth R. Campbell Law Office of Luis A Gonzalez, PLLC Law Offices of Jay S Marks PC Elliott and Judith Lichtman Thomas Lowery Maggio & Kattar John Mahler Ricky Malik Marks Calderon Derwin & Racine PLC Toni Maschler Carmen McLean James Merklinger Elliott Milstein Robert Minnich Montagut & Sobral Matt Morley Carolyn Morris Christopher Murphy John Nader Kathy Ng Sarah Nicholas Northern Virginia Ethical Society Brittney Nystrom Kerry O'Brien Brenda Oliver Bart Oosterveld

Reed Owen Lisa Pinter Poarch Van Doren Robert and Marcia Prichard Thomas Ragland Maria de Lorento Rodriquez Mathew Roessing Ann Romig Cecilia Saad Carla Saenz and John Tisdale Ravi Sawhney Ronald Schechter Philip Schrag Jo Ann Scott Bobby Jo Shannon Alexander Sierck David Spooner Tiffany Sun The Clements Firm Thomas H Tousley Paul Virtue Rhoi Wangila Michael Ward Beth Werlin Nadine Wettstein Carol Wolchok Aaron Wredberg Christopher Wright

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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Rhoi Kaima Wangila The Ark Foundation of Africa

\*Affiliations as of 12/31/2011

# **CAIR Coalition Staff**

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Stephen Dekovich, Esq. Equal Justice Works Fellow/Mental Health Project

Liana Montecinos Legal Assistant/Detained Children's Program

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



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