

# CGLA

Cabrini Green Legal Aid Clinic | **2006** Annual Report  
(July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006)



# Executive Director's Report

Dear Friends,

Mark called me a number of months ago to ask for help. I was intrigued by this role reversal as I usually find myself reaching out to donors like him for assistance as we deliver free legal services to Chicago's most vulnerable. Mark and his wife Jennifer are people I deeply admire. They live and work in the Lawndale neighborhood of Chicago – a rough part of town – serving as urban missionaries to a community with real needs. During the call, Mark told me about a young man from his youth program who had recently had a run-in with the police. The 18-year-old (who I will call Jerome) was sitting on his porch on a steamy morning in July when four officers approached and questioned him about an incident that had occurred earlier that day. The engagement escalated as Jerome proved uncooperative in answering questions about an event he was uninvolved in and the officers responded with vulgarities and racial epithets. Jerome eventually made a smart comment back to the officers – something akin to “one day I'll be your supervisor” – and immediately found himself being carried behind the house for a beating.

I confess to some skepticism about the described events during my conversation with Mark; that is, until I saw the evidentiary photographs which document Jerome's open bloody cuts, welts and scrapes on his shoulder, buttocks, wrist, cheek, eyelid, neck and back. His muddy clothes are nearly torn off. Jerome was cuffed and then dragged around on the ground. He was struck numerous times. The thrashing was designed to teach a lesson and the officers did not view the Constitution as a constraint. The rogue cops completed their “lesson” by charging Jerome with four counts of aggravated battery and two counts of resisting a police officer. Both victimized and charged by these officers, Jerome was understandably outraged. He was also facing up to five years in prison.

CGLA's criminal defense attorney, John Benson, was assigned to Jerome's case and immediately went to work. After a flurry of interviews, subpoenas, motions and hearings that reflect the zealous advocacy provided by CGLA attorneys on every case, the prosecutor realized that the judge was beginning to understand that the victim was facing charges while the perpetrators were hiding behind their badges. The prosecutor eventually offered a deal allowing Jerome to plead guilty to a misdemeanor with no jail time, a disposition that could be expunged from his record in two years. Although Jerome was initially inclined to reject any deal that placed culpability on him, through the counsel of his attorney and a caring church friend, Jerome eventually accepted it. At least for now, the words “equal justice for all under the law” seemed less insignificant to Jerome.

Soon after we received a note from Mark. He wrote:

I wanted to express our deepest thanks for the work CGLA did on behalf of [Jerome]! It is clear to us that the favorable outcome of his case was due to John's hard work and expertise! We know others at the Clinic worked hard also and we are very grateful.

Our God is a God of justice and mercy. CGLA was born out of a deep passion to pursue these values on behalf of individuals with desperate needs. In fundamental ways, from 1973 to 2006, nothing has changed at CGLA as we labor daily to see the values of justice and mercy take root in lives, families, courthouses and communities.

Then again, in other ways, everything has changed since Chuck Hogren answered God's call 33 years ago. CGLA has matured into a highly respected legal aid organization in the city of Chicago. We are the first and largest Christian legal aid agency in America. Our efforts are now led by 13 talented staff members and 375 exceptional volunteers. We serve more than 3,000 individuals a year in four practice areas – housing, family, criminal defense, and the clearing of criminal records. We address challenges faced by our clients through an integrated social work practice and the yearlong involvement of adult family mentors.

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The report you hold attempts to transparently communicate who we are, what we accomplish, and document how we gather and utilize resources. Allow me to share a few highlights from FY06 at the outset:

### More Clients Served in More Comprehensive Ways

- Provided legal services to 290% more clients. Litigated 61% more cases.
- Served fully 81% of those who came to us for legal assistance, up from 49% in FY05.
- Opened CGLA's Expungement Help Desk at the Daley Center which served 1,312 individuals in its pilot year.
- Launched our new Client Support Services Program, staffed by a full-time social worker, to provide comprehensive care that has a lasting impact on our clients' lives.

### Significant Volunteer Commitment

- Facilitated the work of 375 individuals who provided 8,162 hours of volunteer service. Volunteers served a total of 1,836 clients.
- Increased the involvement of pro bono attorneys by 29%.
- Partnered with 14 major Chicago law firms on a range of volunteer opportunities.

### Substantially Improved Capacity to Meet Client Need

- Added 3 full-time program staff: a legal director, criminal records attorney, and a social worker. We also added one part-time equivalent to operations.
- Moved into second floor of our building to accommodate program growth.
- Overhauled technology capabilities with a special \$29,000 grant from the Lawyers Trust Fund.
- Finished FY06 in a very strong cash position with significantly increased revenue and expenses, along with a healthy net income.

Thank you, friends, for supporting our important work over the last twelve months. On behalf of the CGLA board and staff, please accept my deepest gratitude. We are daily humbled by your commitment to our mission and your generosity toward our work.



Robert B. Acton  
Executive Director

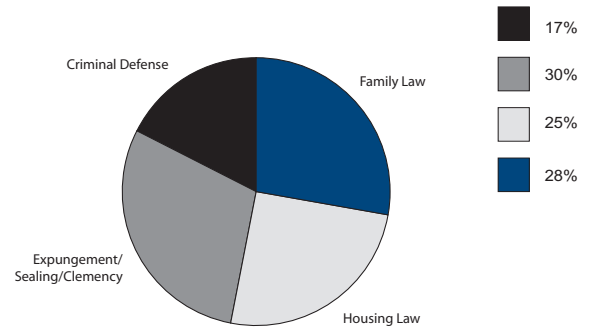


# Case Statistics

For Fiscal Year 2005/2006

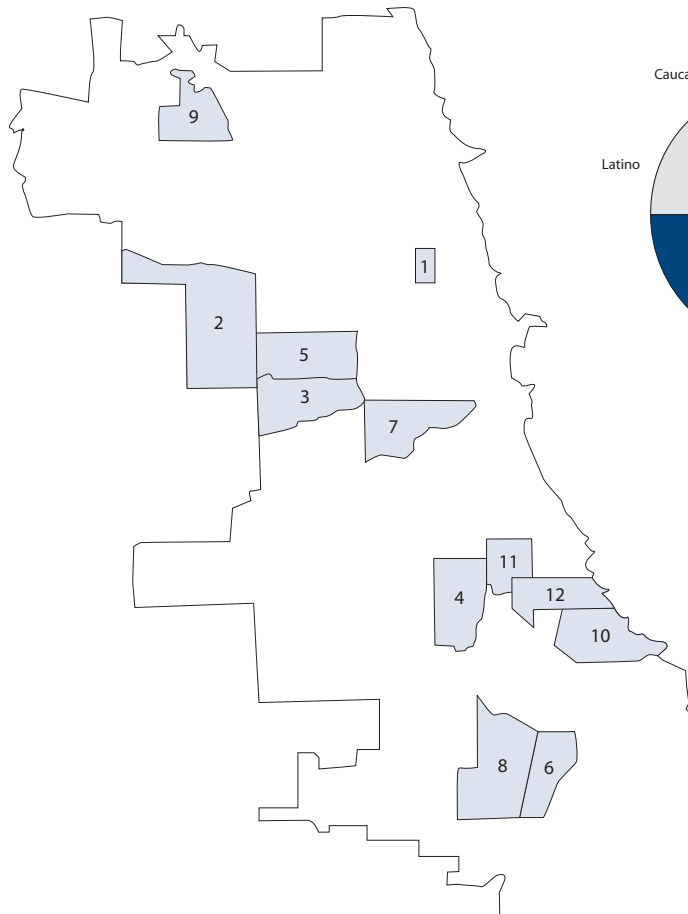
| Program                      | Intakes      | Accepted     | % Accepted |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Family Law                   | 267          | 147          | 55%        |
| Housing Law                  | 200          | 132          | 66%        |
| Expungement/Sealing/Clemency | 216          | 155          | 72%        |
| Criminal Defense             | 256          | 91           | 36%        |
| Help Desk Cases              | 1,312        | 1,312        | 100%       |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>2,261</b> | <b>1,837</b> | <b>81%</b> |

Distribution of Caseload in Program Areas

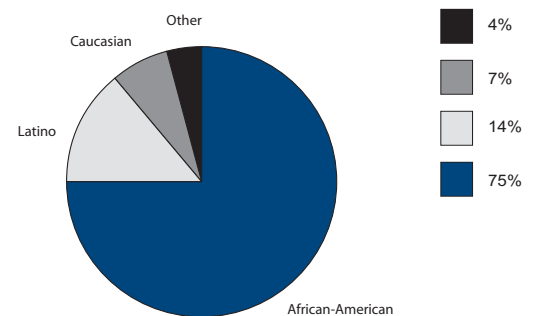


List of Top Neighborhoods Served

1. Cabrini Green
2. Austin
3. Lawndale
4. Englewood
5. Garfield Park
6. Pullman
7. Pilsen
8. Roseland
9. Jefferson Park
10. South Shore
11. Washington Park
12. Woodlawn



Client Demographics

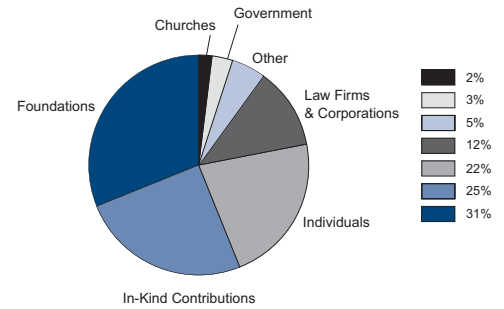


# Financial Summary

## For Fiscal Year 2005/2006

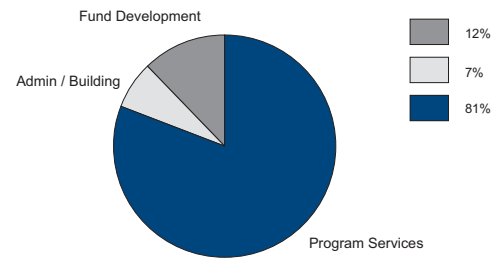
| Revenue                  | FY 2004        | FY 2005        | FY 2006          |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Individuals              | 176,699        | 195,279        | 238,670          |
| Foundations              | 212,876        | 226,258        | 338,262          |
| Law Firms & Corporations | 25,906         | 66,312         | 130,582          |
| Churches                 | 16,420         | 18,460         | 24,445           |
| Government               | 31,500         | 30,750         | 29,250           |
| In-Kind Contributions    | 273,208        | 280,552        | 278,505          |
| Other Income             | 53,287         | 47,315         | 57,514           |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>     | <b>789,896</b> | <b>864,926</b> | <b>1,097,228</b> |

### FY 2006 Revenue Sources

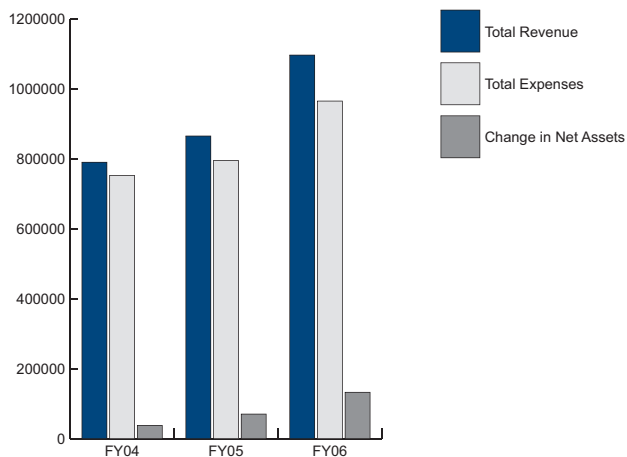


| Expenses                    | FY 2004        | FY 2005        | FY 2006        |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Program Services            | 600,209        | 646,370        | 773,338        |
| Admin/Building              | 73,691         | 62,033         | 71,283         |
| Fund Development            | 78,258         | 86,364         | 120,179        |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>       | <b>752,158</b> | <b>794,767</b> | <b>964,800</b> |
| <b>Change in Net Assets</b> | <b>37,738</b>  | <b>70,159</b>  | <b>132,428</b> |

### FY 2006 Revenue Expenses



### Comparison: Last Three Fiscal Years



Board members: John Adams, Rob Acton, Christian Kennitz, Ed Mason, and Posh Charles

# Funding

## For Fiscal Year 2005/2006

A host of generous individuals and organizations enable us to serve the “poorest of the poor” in Chicago. Thank you for your ongoing partnership with us!

### Foundations

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Amicus Foundation                          | \$45,000 |
| United Way of Metropolitan Chicago         | \$37,000 |
| Illinois Equal Justice Foundation          | \$32,000 |
| Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois             | \$32,000 |
| Chicago Bar Foundation                     | \$30,800 |
| Public Welfare Foundation                  | \$25,000 |
| Tyndale House Foundation                   | \$20,000 |
| Polk Bros. Foundation                      | \$20,000 |
| John R. Housby Foundation                  | \$12,500 |
| Chicago Area Foundation for Legal Services | \$10,000 |
| The Field Foundation of Illinois           | \$10,000 |
| Morrow Charitable Trust                    | \$7,500  |
| Barney II (Bill & Sabra Reichardt)         | \$7,500  |
| Illinois Bar Foundation                    | \$7,000  |
| Out of the Box Foundation                  | \$5,000  |

### Churches

|                              |         |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Old Saint Patrick's Church   | \$7,500 |
| Fourth Presbyterian Church   | \$5,500 |
| College Church in Wheaton    | \$5,400 |
| Grace Lutheran Church        | \$2,500 |
| LaSalle Street Church        | \$2,400 |
| Winnetka Presbyterian Church | \$500   |
| Church of the Three Crosses  | \$480   |

### Law Firms

|                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP    | \$55,260 |
| Sidley Austin LLP               | \$10,000 |
| Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP      | \$7,500  |
| Jones Day LLP                   | \$5,500  |
| Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione LLP | \$5,000  |
| Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP      | \$5,000  |
| Hoogendoorn & Talbot LLP        | \$4,400  |
| Winston & Strawn LLP            | \$3,000  |
| Jenner & Block LLP              | \$2,500  |
| Kirkland & Ellis LLP            | \$2,500  |
| Chapman & Cutler LLP            | \$2,000  |
| Holland & Knight LLP            | \$1,000  |

### Corporations

|                                    |         |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| Hewitt Associates Foundation       | \$5,000 |
| Gateway                            | \$3,500 |
| UBS                                | \$2,500 |
| Lisa M. Dietlin & Associates, Inc. | \$1,800 |
| A & J Construction                 | \$1,000 |
| Chicago Bears Football Club        | \$1,000 |
| Forensicon, Inc.                   | \$1,000 |
| Golden Triangle                    | \$1,000 |
| C2 Publishing                      | \$750   |

### Matching Gifts

|                              |         |
|------------------------------|---------|
| PepsiCo Inc.                 | \$1,500 |
| Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP | \$1,000 |
| People's Energy              | \$1,000 |
| Altria                       | \$250   |
| The Chicago Community Trust  | \$200   |
| Fannie Mae Foundation        | \$50    |

### Government

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| City of Chicago, Department of Housing | \$29,250 |
|--|----------|

### In-Kind Contributors

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| Jenner & Block LLP              |
| Jones Day LLP                   |
| Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP      |
| Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP    |
| M. Connolly Resource Management |
| Cate Northup                    |
| Quantum Advertising & Design    |
| Jeremy Sartori                  |
| Sidley Austin LLP               |
| Winston & Strawn LLP            |

# List of Contributors

## For Fiscal Year 2005/2006

### **CGLA Leadership Society**

#### **\$10,000+**

Donald & Jo Ann Soderquist  
Daniel & Mary Wilkening  
Anonymous

#### **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

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Carol Childs & Peter House  
Charles & Isabel Hughes  
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Richard & Claudia Kapnick  
John & Dawn Koch  
Ed & Ann Mason  
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James & Dale Riemersma  
Terry & Laura Truax  
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#### **\$1,000 - \$4,999**

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Mark Wight  
Sarah Wolman & Ken Levine  
William Wortel  
Jeffrey Wright  
Laura & Harold Wright  
James York  
Lawrence & Carol Zeller  
Judith Zink  
Adam & Sarah Zylstra  
Anonymous



# Volunteers

## For Fiscal Year 2005/2006

CGLA continues to rely on our dedicated volunteers to enable us to develop new programs and reach even more clients. This year, 375 volunteers gave of their time and talents, enabling us to continue providing the best quality legal assistance to those who need it most.

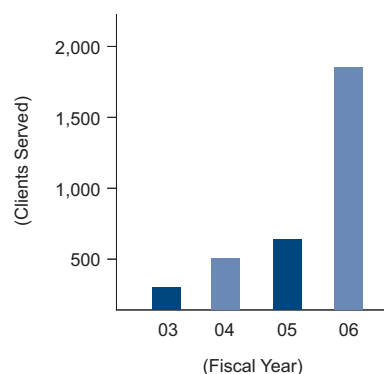
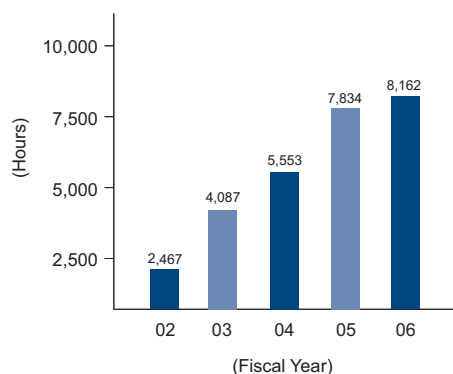
## Valuable Partners

CGLA volunteers contributed \$278,505 in pro bono service in Fiscal Year 2005/2006.

Additionally, CGLA volunteers gave a record \$27,888 in financial contributions to CGLA, demonstrating greater investment in all aspects of the Clinic. As a group that is intimately connected to our work and witnesses first-hand the great need for the services we provide, the financial contributions of our volunteers are deeply encouraging.

## Record Hours Contributed Touching More Lives

With the addition of the Expungement Help Desk at the Daley Center as a volunteer opportunity, volunteers were able to touch increasing numbers of clients and potential clients. In FY06, 375 volunteers directly served 1,836 individuals over the course of 8,162 hours of pro bono service.



# 2006 Volunteers of the Year



Volunteer Coordinator Elizabeth Shelleby, Regina Bryan, Rob Felker, Dale Riemersma, and Executive Director Rob Acton

## Attorney Volunteer of the Year

As a new attorney, Regina Bryan came to CGLA looking for an opportunity to advocate for the needs of low-income residents of Chicago. Believing strongly in the mission of CGLA, she plunged into her role as a clinic volunteer, and quickly became involved in nearly every volunteer opportunity CGLA offers. Regina regularly conducted intake interviews, met with clients at the Expungement Help Desk at the Daley Center, and assisted with and handled Clinic cases. Giving over 118 hours of volunteer service to CGLA and our clients in FY 2006, Regina's contribution to the Clinic was extraordinary. A most trusted and committed volunteer, Regina quickly became an integral part of our work. Regina was hired as a full-time staff attorney in October of 2006.

## Law Student Volunteer of the Year

Rob Felker began his time at CGLA as a family law intern in the fall of 2004. A dedicated intern, Rob took it upon himself to do legal research and think about creative ways to resolve cases. He finished his internship in August of 2005, but continued to volunteer at CGLA throughout the school year. His fluency in Spanish and understanding of both family law

and working with clients living in poverty allowed him to take the lead on many cases. By his third year of law school, Rob had several clients whose cases he handled as a 711 law student under the supervision of CGLA's director of family law. He dedicated a staggering 350 hours of volunteer time in FY 2006 alone.

## Community Volunteer of the Year

Dale Riemersma started volunteering at CGLA in November of 2005. A long time member of LaSalle Street Church, Dale was already a strong believer in the work of CGLA. Upon starting her time with us, she demonstrated immediate enthusiasm and willingness to help in any way we saw fit. This servant's attitude has led Dale to tackle one of the most challenging volunteer opportunities at the Clinic, serving as a telephone intake specialist. Perhaps Dale's greatest contribution to CGLA, however, is her incredible spirit. She brings outsized optimism and a caring spirit to the Clinic each time she walks through the door, and is always quick to offer a smile and an encouraging word to staff, fellow volunteers, and clients alike. Dale devoted over 114 hours of volunteer service in FY 2006.

# List of Volunteers

## 50 Hours or More

Regina Bryan  
Theresa Buskey  
Anjan Chatterji  
Cindy Engvall  
Joan Escoto  
Robert Felker  
John Griffith  
Micah Hamstra  
Kelly Kennedy  
Andrew Kim  
John Knopic  
Brian LaBenne  
Jane Lambshead  
Julie Larson  
Joseph Lombardo  
Marisa Nachman  
Cate Northup  
Dale Riemersma  
Sandy Reed  
Frank Schneider  
Juanita Tyson

## 25 to 49 Hours

Jim Archer  
Adam Brown  
Patty Cronin  
Dan Deacon  
Sarah Donovan  
Mary Anne Emerick  
Margaret Esp  
Connie Farmer  
Hannah Garst  
Max Green  
Devona Hazelwood  
Stephen Hsu  
Jacqueline Johnson  
Tara Meadows  
Adam Poe  
Emilie Pratico  
Jazmine Preston-O'Neill  
Brad Richards  
Heather Sauber  
Dick Sawdey  
Yolanda Simmons  
Jed Untereker  
Hsiang-Ling Wee  
Stu Weg  
Betsy Wilson

## 10 to 24 Hours

Ryan Andrews  
Robert Augenlicht  
Sarah Baum  
Heather Benno  
Charlie Branda  
Annie Buth  
Ami Campbell

Jennifer Carlson  
Aaron Churchill  
Matthew Clarke  
Nancy Datres  
Misha Desai  
Lauren Dies  
Lindsay Drecoll  
Bethany Dudley  
Paul Freehling  
Rayne Galbraith  
Annabel Garcia  
Vinny Gauri  
Jude Geiger  
Jonathan Goldman  
Brian Greene  
Jenny Gribble  
Matthew Haiduk  
Oletha Hall  
Betsy Haws  
Seth Herkowitz  
Camille Hicks  
Bryan Jones  
Bobbie Kelly  
Shahzad Khan  
Annemarie E. Kill  
Julian Kirshner  
Kris Kolky  
Kristen Lukaszak  
Eric Maciolek  
Susy Masih  
Kristine McKinney  
Michelle Miller  
Annika Mitchell  
Rashad Morgan  
Simone Moseley  
Adil Musabji  
Christopher Nadeau  
Anne Nelson  
Lindsay Nemirow  
Michael Nitido  
Kaitlyn Pascale  
Joel Roberson  
Biron Ross  
Jeremy Sartori  
Brad Sauer  
Kathryn Scanland  
Jessica Schreiber  
Sarah Scopel  
Melanie Sillas  
Sarah Simonson  
Sam and Jessica Sohl-Darrigrand  
Samantha Stevens  
JaLyn Sweeney  
Jenny Theis  
Lorraine Tong  
Sammie L. Turner  
Beth Wade  
Margaret Wakelin

Kendra Ward  
Betsy Widup  
Candice Wiers  
Jessica Wilson  
Aaron Zubler

## 1 to 9 Hours

Ilsa Akbar  
Ron Alkalay  
Brian Appel  
David Ashamalla  
Brian Axelrad  
Gerald P. Baggot  
Rebecca Bailey  
Stacey Baker  
Richard Balind  
Scott Barfuss  
Earleata Benton  
Barak Berman  
Sandy Bilus  
Julie Bisbee  
Nathaniel Blair  
Molly Boren  
Tim Bratton  
Terry Brennan  
Summer Brown  
Pam Bullock  
Valerie Calhoun  
Ellisa Cholapranee  
Christina Coleman  
Arnoldo Concepcion  
Elizabeth Cook  
Julia Copeland  
Thomas Davis  
Simon Deery  
Maria DeHowitt  
Bonnie Denslow  
Daniel Derechin  
Jessa DeSimone  
Lisa M. Dietlin  
Bryan Duplechain  
Steve Flores  
Jennifer Flory  
Alysha Frankel  
Robin Freeman  
Koh Fujimoto  
Lisa Furchtgott  
Miriam Geraghty  
Tom Gianturco  
Amy Ginger  
Nicholas Golem  
Brianne Gruszka  
Tracey Guerin  
Sandra Guerrero  
Marissa Gurdian  
Maher Haddad  
Jamie Haney  
Michael Hannigan

Tricia Hartsell  
Celona Hayes  
Louis Hellebusch  
Patricia Hempel  
Whitney Henschel  
Beatriz Hernandez  
Matt Hernandez  
Dan Hetzel  
Trang Hoang  
Elizabeth Holladay  
Victoria Holland  
David Holtermann  
Tracey Lamont Holtshirley  
Hsienjan Huang  
Charles Hughes  
Emily Inskeep  
Marc E. Johnson  
Josh Jubelirer  
Jonathan Karelitz  
Cherish Keller  
Max Kelln  
Carli Kierny  
Diana Kifarkis  
Elan Kleis  
David Kraut  
Kari Krusmark  
Sapna Lalmalani  
Grant Lee  
Jenny Lee  
Serena Lee  
Meagan Legear  
Justin Leinenweber  
Daniel Lev  
Miguel L'Heureux  
Adam Lindsley  
Margaret Loiselle  
Dana Luke  
David Machemer  
Samantha Malusky  
Jeanne Marsh  
Michaelene Martin  
Shonda Maupin  
Vera McDonnell  
Timothy McGrory  
Sibyl Medie  
Deborah Melton  
Tim Melton  
Christina Morrison  
Julia Murray  
Tony Neuhoff  
John New  
Ann O'Connell  
Deborah Osei-Agyeman  
Stephanie Parson  
William Patterson  
Megan Pfister  
Suresh Pillai  
Matt Pinkham

Rebecca Piper  
Cober Plucker  
Catherine Pollina  
Tiffany Redding  
Reginald Rhyne  
Amanda Rome  
Sean Romero  
Jonathan Rosemeyer  
Courtney Rosen  
Dan Rosen  
Emma Salustro  
Wayne Samuel  
Brandi Sanders  
Kristin Sanders  
David Saunders  
Andres Sawicki  
Kingsley Sawyers  
Heidi Schmid  
Eric Schwab  
Susannah Schwarz  
Puja Singh  
Matt Smith  
Toni-Marie Spera  
Erica Stanmar  
Michael Sterling  
Keely Stewart  
Megan Sulok  
Kate Swit  
Mary Szudarek  
Mike Tatman  
Jeremy M. Taylor  
Benjamin A. Thelen  
Derrick Thompson  
Jennifer Todd  
Al Turco  
Rachel Vander Griend  
Ryan H. Vann  
Sandra Vasher  
Jennifer L. Vaughn  
Gretchen Vetter  
Jessica Walker  
Carol Wallace  
William Walther  
Li-Chung Wang  
Andrew Warmus  
Rachel Warnick  
Andrew Weiss  
Andrea Wells  
Matt Wernz  
Jayne Westendorp-Holland  
Christina White  
Gretchen Widmer  
Sean Wieber  
Rob Wilcox  
Shermon P. Williams  
Erinne Willrich  
Lauren Wojtowicz  
Susan Wyse

# Governance

## For Fiscal Year 2005/2006

CGLA is governed by an independent Board of Directors that meets six times per year. Board members receive no monetary compensation. Board terms are three years.

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CGLA's Advisory Board members are interpreters and promoters of the organization among member constituencies and the public. Members advise and assist the Executive Director and Board of Directors in matters concerning CGLA's services and relationships between CGLA and the community.

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|                   | Timothy Melton, Jones Day LLP                               |
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## CGLA Staff

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Darryl Apperton, *Director of Family Law Program*  
John Benson, *Director of Criminal Defense Program*  
Regina Bryan, *Staff Attorney*  
Maggie Devany, *Operations Manager / Development Officer*  
Andy Dougherty, *Director of Housing Law Program*  
Christine Farrell, *Legal Director*  
Beth Johnson, *Director of Criminal Records Program*  
Dierdre Johnson, *Client Specialist*  
Joyce Lucas, *Social Worker*  
Elizabeth Shelleby, *Volunteer Coordinator*  
Tim Wallace, *Director of Development*

## CGLA Interns

Lauren Anderson, Hannah Benton, Kari Beyer, Megan Brady,  
Jennifer Echenique, Saraid Gamboa, TiShaunda Jamison,  
Anne Jaspers, Michelle Kaplan, Tricia Kemling, Clare Lora,  
Brad Richards, Jill Roberts, Melissa Schmidt, Matt Wernz, Andrew Yoder

Special thanks to Christine Kim and McDermott Will & Emery LLP for in-kind design.

