

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



CENTER FOR
**ELDER
LAW &
JUSTICE**

The mission of The Center for Elder Law & Justice is to improve the quality of life for older, disabled and low-income adults through the provision of free civil legal services; primarily in Western New York. Our goal is to use the legal system to ensure that our clients may live independently and with dignity.

LETTER FROM THE CEO

At the Center for Elder Law & Justice (CELJ), we believe in cultivating a sense of community through meeting people where they are and amplifying the voices of those who are most vulnerable. I am proud to report that, after nearly three years of a global health emergency, we were back in the community in full force in 2022, bringing our services directly to 243 outreach events with 10,638 attendees.

At the end of 2021, I promised we would gear up to address the looming eviction crisis. I am happy to share that our housing team has collaborated with other organizations to staff the Attorney of the Morning program in Buffalo City Court, with CELJ providing representation in 716 eviction matters. With more than two years of a pause on evictions in New York, this work is far from over, and we will continue to work with tenants and landlords to provide rental assistance and mediation, assuring that older adults and those with disabilities have safe and secure housing.

We continue to serve as Legal Liaison for the Region 15 New York State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, providing training to ombudsmen volunteers so they may be zealous advocates for residents of nursing homes and adult care facilities. We believe that for-profit nursing homes across New York regularly fail to provide adequate care, most commonly in facilities serving low-income residents. As families gain access to their loved-ones, following the ease of pandemic restrictions, this is a critical moment for low-income people to learn their rights and access legal services. Our dedicated health care advocacy team continues to monitor trends in local nursing homes and represent residents with quality and quantity of care concerns. We believe older adults deserve to age with dignity and receive the highest quality of health care while doing so.

New in 2022, CELJ developed two programs, which we believe will open the door for assisting an even larger number of Western New Yorkers. First, CELJ partnered with the Alzheimer's Association of WNY to provide free civil legal services to individuals, or their caregivers, diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or dementia. The program is an effort to support caregivers who may be struggling with issues such as managing personal health care and property, health insurance coverage, decision-making, and planning for long-term care costs. Second, CELJ partnered with Lifespan of Greater Rochester, to provide monthly financial management services to seniors across WNY. Through the Lifespan program, CELJ will be overseeing a team of volunteers, who will help seniors with tasks such as bill paying, budgeting, checkbook balancing, and managing benefits. The goal is to help people stay independent, living in the community for as long as possible, all while avoiding scams or other forms of exploitation.



This work would not be possible without the generous support of our friends, funders, and partners in government. We remain committed to our mission to improve the quality of life for older, disabled, and low-income adults through the provision of free legal services, and we thank you for doing the same.

- Karen L. Nicolson, Esq.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen L. Nicolson". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a dark purple background.

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DIGNITY UP IN FLAMES



Shane O'Brien, Former Client,
Health Care Advocacy Unit

In the spring, there was a fire inside of Shane O'Brien's home while he was alone. Shane has weekly home care services covered through a Medicaid Managed Long-Term Care Plan, but this particular day, the aide who was scheduled to provide those services did not show up. Due to medical conditions, Shane is unable to open his door on his own, and he could not put out the fire. Luckily, he said, he was able to call a friend who was nearby and helped him extinguish the fire before he got hurt.

After the fire, he asked his insurance to cover an automatic door opener as a medical necessity in case his home caught fire again. The plan said no, telling Shane that in the event of a fire, he should "shelter in place" since he wasn't hurt the first time.

"It was appalling," Shane said, **"When I was told to shelter in place I just felt, how could you possibly tell somebody that's quadriplegic to shelter in place?"** That's when he called CELJ, and our Health Care Advocacy team stepped in to successfully appeal his insurance denial and get coverage for an automatic door opener, ensuring Shane would be able to safely leave his apartment any time, independently. **"[CELJ] gave me that dignity back and the freedom to stay independent in my own home,"** he said, of his experience working with us.

"I can tell you that CELJ is absolutely, 100%, the best place to turn. They know the law. They don't let insurance companies get away with not doing the right thing. They're there for you... they are compassionate for you as a human being."

Scan for More
From Shane:



**Dollar Benefits Received
by Healthcare Clients**

\$3,377,049.73

2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

Cases  18% to All-Time High

5,722 Cases Opened	5,491 Cases Closed	23,278 People Served	
156 Foreclosure	540 MedLaw Partnership	549 Elder Abuse	619 Consumer
650 Health Care		716 Eviction	758 Kinship

1,317 Power of Attorney, Health Care Proxy,
and Wills Cases

1,331 Calls to Statewide Legal
Advice Helpline

243 Outreach Events

With **10,638** Attendees

280,435 TV/Radio Impressions

63,869

New Website Users

130,295

Pageviews

Our Services Saved Taxpayers Across New York State

\$2,296,080.00

We Helped Our Clients Recover or Save

\$10,627,443.73

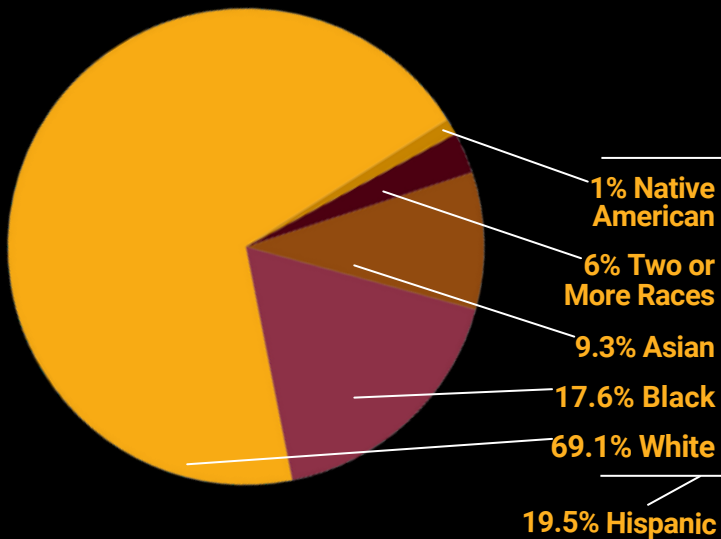
50 Years or Older

73%

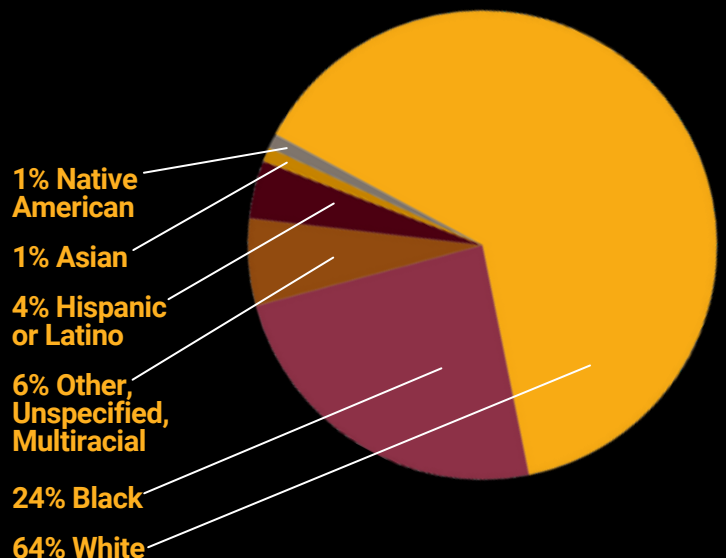
200% Poverty Level or Below

87%

NYS Demographics



Clients Served



FINANCIALS

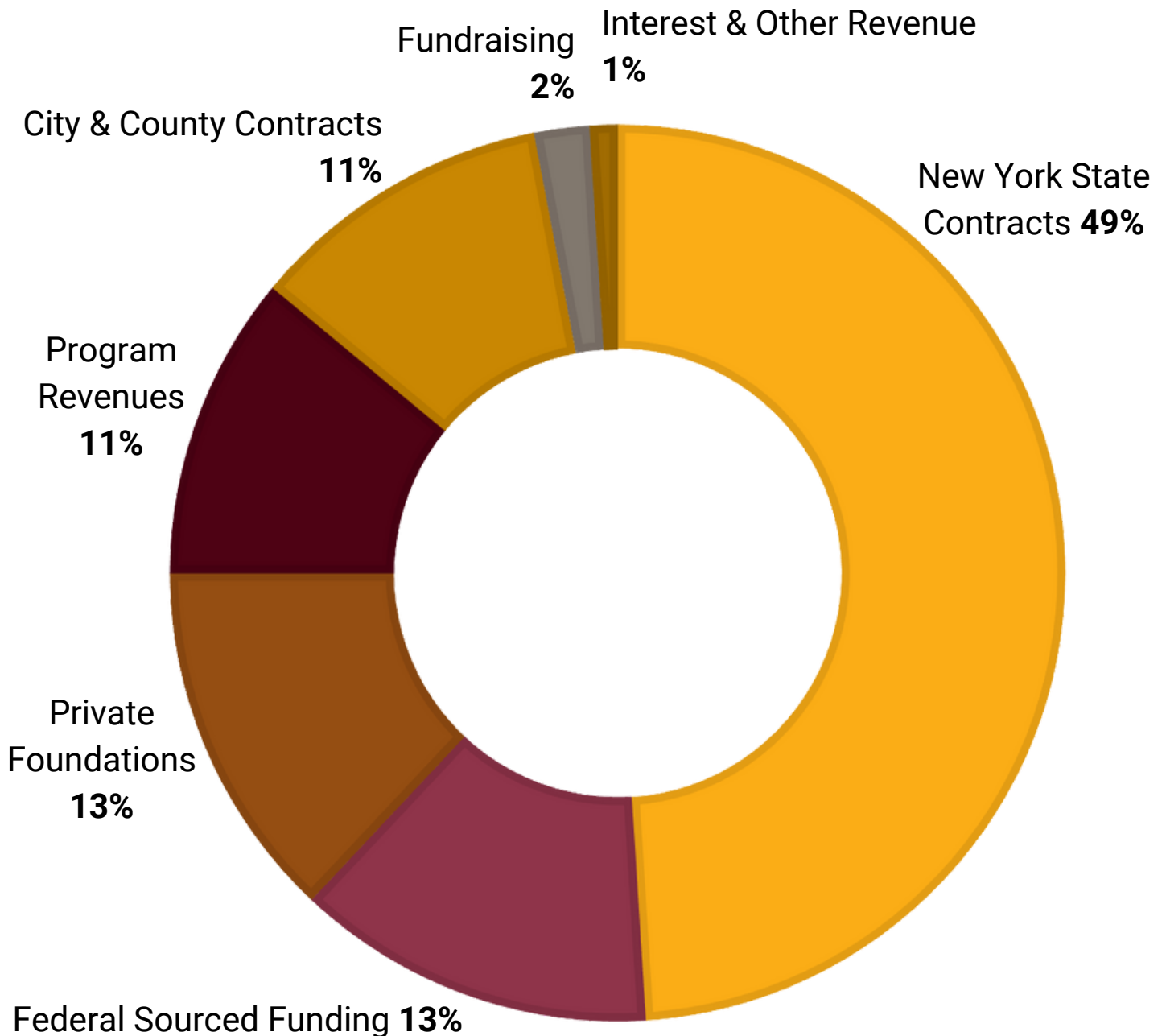
Year Ending December 31, 2022



CENTER FOR
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2022 REVENUES

Total: \$7,076,193*



* Revenue may be restricted by the funder/donor

FINANCIALS

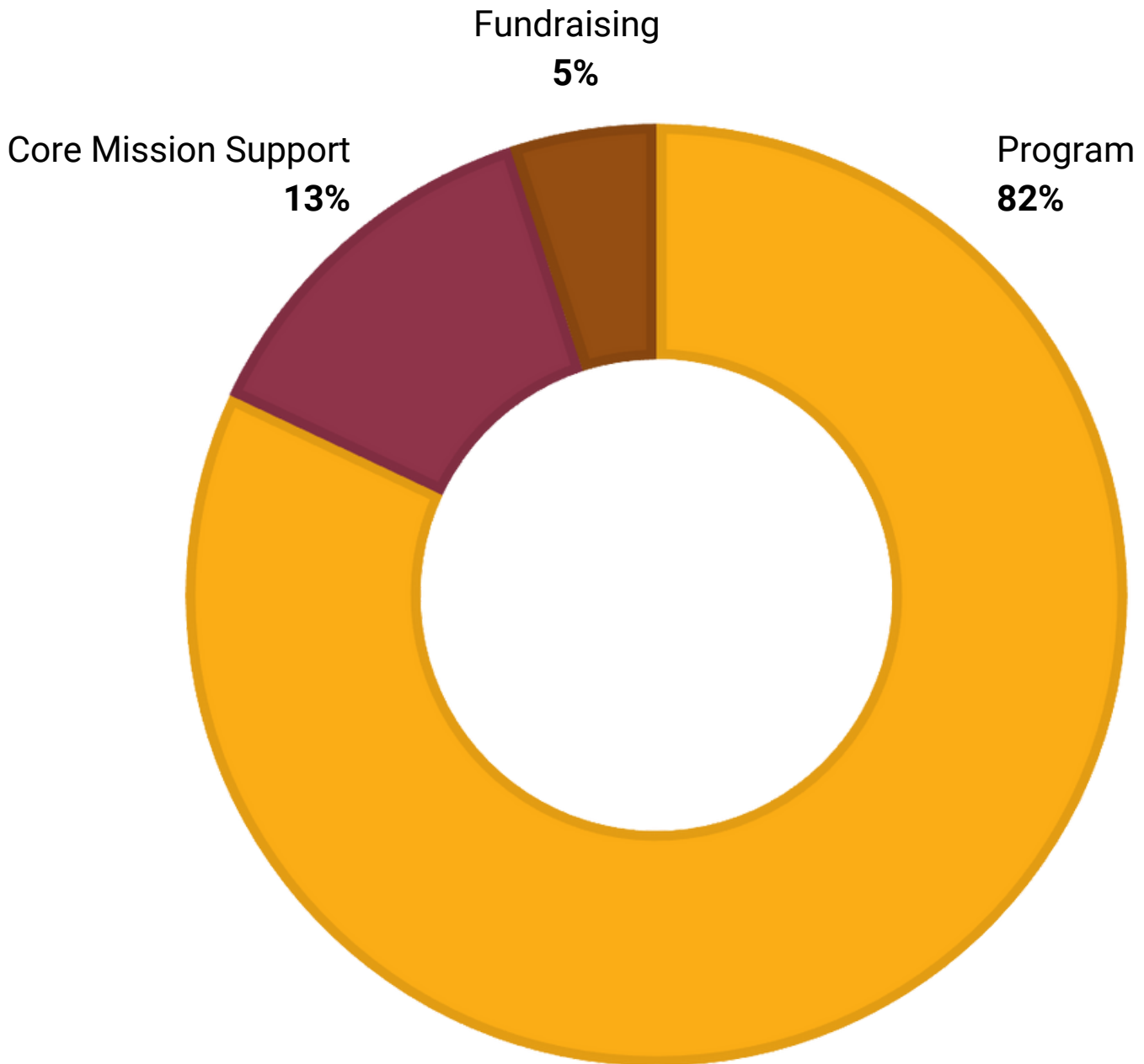
Year Ending December 31, 2022

2022 EXPENSES

Total: \$6,726,079



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New Position Highlight: Impact Litigation Director Kevin Quinn, Esq.



1. What is Impact Litigation?

Impact Litigation is the process of using the legal system to bring about large-scale institutional and systemic change. I believe that Impact Litigation also carries an educational component, so the public is aware of their rights and can be a strong advocate for themselves as well.

The goal of bringing Impact Litigation is to not benefit just one particular client, but a population as a whole. It is my goal to use Impact Litigation to make whole those who have already been harmed, while also preventing others from suffering similar injustices in the future.

2. What is the purpose of the Impact Litigation Director position?

Since 1970, it has been the mission of CELJ to improve the quality of life for older, disabled, and low-income adults through the provision of free legal services. It is our goal to use the legal system to ensure that our clients may live independently and with dignity. I am very excited to further this goal in this new position by bringing affirmative litigation with the goal of instituting systemic change for the benefit of our neighbors throughout Western New York. Through this program, we will seek to bring large-scale benefits to our clients in the areas of housing, health care, consumer protection, kinship care, and more.

3. How has your experience prepared you for this position?

It has been a privilege advocating to prevent homelessness and maintain financial stability for thousands of clients in my 10-plus years at CELJ. My experience handling these cases has helped to identify large-scale injustices, such as addressing tenants living in deplorable living conditions, as well as individuals being harassed by medical providers and debt collectors through illegal practices. Through this new position, I plan to utilize my knowledge and skills from providing individual representation, to working with our Western New Yorker neighbors to provide large-scale, systemic change.

About Kevin

Kevin Quinn previously served as the Supervising Attorney of CELJ's Housing and Consumer units after joining CELJ as a Staff Attorney a decade ago. He represented clients in evictions and in rem tax foreclosures, as well as homeowners in Buffalo City Housing Court in response to housing code violations. Kevin is a member of the Erie County and New York State Bar Associations. He graduated from Niagara University in 2007 and the Thomas M. Cooley School of Law in Lansing, Michigan in 2010.

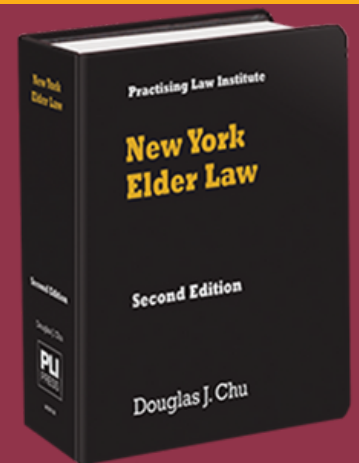
Long Term Care Resident Advocacy & Policy Unit 2022 Highlights

CELJ's **Long Term Care Resident Advocacy & Policy** unit's primary focus is **nursing home and adult care facility residents** and working to **educate our community and lawmakers** to advocate for the health care needs of Western New Yorkers.

In 2022, under the supervision of Supervising Attorney Lindsay Heckler, this team provided **11 trainings statewide to the New York State Long Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP)**, and 15 in-services to Region 15 LTCOP, ensuring that resident advocates are trained to spot issues with **insurance, discharge/transfer, elder abuse, and more**. They **provided an additional 13 presentations to community partners** such as the Long Term Care Community Coalition, the New York State and Erie County Bar Associations, family and resident councils, and others.



Supervising Attorney Lindsay Heckler provided a major contribution to the Practising Law Institute by drafting **Chapter 5, Nursing Homes**, of its new book, **New York Elder Law, Second Edition**, which practitioners across the state look to for expertise.



The unit also met with Legislators in both the Assembly and Senate urging them to support bill A196/S1576 which related to **violations of safety conditions in adult care facilities**. The bill would provide important consumer protections to residents and their families and deter the worst abuses in facilities that put residents' health and safety at risk.

Other advocacy included signing on to a letter addressing the New York State Department of Legal Affairs urging **to protect the rights of residents with diminished capacity** in discharge hearings.

Staff Attorney Bria Lewis submitted a comment to the New York State Department of Health regarding the proposed Amendment of state regulations governing admission and retention standards for adult care facilities. In part, Ms. Lewis asserted that:



“[the] positive proposed amendments are undercut by added provisions that single out people with mobility impairments and people who use wheelchairs as a primary mode of ambulating. Stating specific requirements for retention and admission of people with mobility impairments is discriminatory on its face. Additionally, these provisions do not comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) and Fair Housing Act.”

In total, more than **20 public comments and letters** were submitted to state and federal administrative entities with the focus of improving the health and quality of care of older adults across the state.

To keep up with the robust work of this team, CELJ launched a **Policy Advocacy Center** on our website. Visit to see their latest advocacy, share a personal story, or access resources.

Policy Advocacy



**ELDER
LAW
LEARN**

CELJ also launched a YouTube channel called **Elder Law Learn**, for nursing home resident rights. Topics in 2022 included medication safety, discharge rights, and one video about how to pay for nursing home care that reached **23,000 views**.

YouTube



(Scan with Smartphone)

NEW GRANT FUNDING

\$600,000	<u>Neighborhood Legal Services/ Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance</u>
\$325,000	<u>Lifespan of Greater Rochester</u>
\$185,551	<u>John R. Oishei Children's Hospital of Buffalo</u>
\$154,000	<u>Judges and Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert</u>
\$140,000	<u>ECMC Foundation</u>
\$125,000	<u>Erie County CARES Act funds</u>
\$64,000	<u>Alzheimer's Association/ NYS Dept. of Health</u>
\$15,000	<u>Catholic Family Center</u>

Note: funding cycles vary and may exceed calendar year

NEW COLLABORATIONS

New Partnership with Alzheimer's Association

Through the Western New York Alzheimer's Disease Caregiver Support Initiative ("The Initiative") funded by the New York State Dept. of Health, The Center for Elder Law & Justice partners with Alzheimer's Association of WNY and eight county Offices for the Aging to aid caregivers of people living with Alzheimer's disease or dementia.

Alzheimer's disease is the nation's largest under-recognized public health crisis, as well as the nation's costliest disease. This degenerative brain disease is the sixth-leading cause of death in America and the only one among the top ten that cannot be prevented, cured, or even slowed. The unfortunate reality is that 1 in 3 older adults die of Alzheimer's disease or another form of dementia. Caregiver supports like The Initiative have proven successful in keeping people living with Alzheimer's disease and dementia at home, where they live longer and happier lives.

The Initiative will provide free legal services and education to caregivers on topics including housing, health coverage, income maintenance, employment, consumer matters, scam avoidance, family issues, and more.



Western New York Chapter

However, the most common legal issue referred has been for assistance with advanced planning and the preparation and execution of important legal documents such as Powers of Attorney, Health Care Proxies, Last Wills and Testaments, and Burial Directives. Such documents are vital to ensuring caregivers can fulfill their duty to take care of their loved ones who are facing dementia, Alzheimer's disease, and other cognitive impairments. **This program places emphasis on reaching at-risk, marginalized, and historically underserved caregivers, especially those residing in rural areas.**

Rural households face economic challenges such as higher poverty rates, lower median incomes, transportation and healthcare access barriers, and are more likely to live in counties with concentrated poverty. These social and economic disadvantages contribute to higher rates of chronic disease, including Alzheimer's disease and dementia. **Caregivers interested in legal services or further information may contact (716) 853-3087, Ext. 265.**

For other caregiving supports, Alzheimer's Association of WNY provides a comprehensive continuum of community-based programs and services to those impacted by Alzheimer's Disease and dementia including a 24/7 Helpline, individualized care consultations, support groups, education programs, and safety and early-stage engagement services. Approximately 3,200 Western New Yorkers participate annually in these programs. The Alzheimer's Association of WNY may be reached at **1-800-272-3900** and the Helpline may be reached at **1-800-272-3900**.

LIFESPAN FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



**Staff Attorney
Amy Gathings**



**Supervising Social
Worker Kathy Kanaley**



**Bookkeeper
Susi Kozody**

Partnering with Lifespan of Greater Rochester, CELJ has launched the **Financial Management Volunteer Assistance Program** in Niagara County, with plans to expand through Western New York in the future. This new program will link volunteers with older adults who **need help with budgeting, bill paying, managing debt, and other financial wellness services**. Volunteers will meet with their assigned client approximately once per month in their home to review their mail, bills, and discuss any budgeting concerns. The program's goal is to bolster the economic security of older adults and **empower older adults to remain living in their own homes and in their own communities with dignity for as long as possible**. The program will also focus on scam and elder abuse prevention. Our first volunteer training will be held in April 2023 and we will begin serving clients very shortly after.

Volunteers will be trained in how to spot signs of abuse and how to educate clients to avoid scams. Volunteers receive extensive training and support from our staff, including an orientation session and monthly trainings on relevant topics. This program can be reached at **1-800-316-5103** or via email at **budgethelp@elderjusticenyc.org**.



Housing

The last few years have been full of uncertainty for those who were unable to afford their housing costs during the public health emergency caused by Covid-19. There was a temporary moratorium on evictions in New York State which prohibited landlords from filing in court until January 15, 2022. With the eviction crisis looming, we saw an increase in cases of unlawful actions taken by landlords in an attempt to evict renters.

To help address the backlog of eviction proceedings, our housing team collaborated with other organizations to staff the Attorney of the Morning program in Buffalo City Court along with the Erie County Hub Court, providing advice and representation to hundreds of individuals with tenant housing matters.

\$1,424,743.28 Dollar Benefits For Housing Clients

Legal Clinics

The New York State Office of Victims Services (OVS) provides critical services and support to crime victims and their families, including funding for the provision of free legal services. After the Buffalo community experienced a horrific act of racially motivated terror on May 14, 2022, OVS sought to provide support to those directly impacted. Through OVS funding provided to Child & Family Services, **five Buffalo-based legal services providers have teamed up to plan a series of free legal clinics which will begin in 2023.** The clinics will be hosted by Child & Family Services at the Buffalo United Resiliency Center located at 1140 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14028 on a monthly basis with ten total clinics planned for 2023. The Center for Elder Law & Justice has committed to **presenting “Know Your Rights” legal presentations on topics including benefits, healthcare, eviction, and foreclosure, and will assist throughout the series, that began in February 2023.** For more information on the clinic schedule and registration, please contact Alyssa Bergsten at abergsten@cfsbny.org.



540 Cases Worked On

\$1,479,608.80

**Dollar Benefits Received
by MedLaw Clients**

In 2022, the MedLaw Partnership of WNY expanded to include John R. Oishei Children's Hospital of Buffalo. Through this expansion, the MedLaw Partnership serves not only the main in-patient hospital, but also the numerous Oishei children's out-patient clinics situated throughout Erie County. Social workers, clinicians and other members of the patient's health care team are trained to identify health-harming social-legal issues affecting the family and to make referrals through the Partnership. This partnership marks the first of its kind in Western New York, **specifically targeting the pediatric population in an attempt to address legal issues that impact children and their families.**

Studies have shown that having a medical legal partnership in a children's health care setting can contribute to a decrease in hospitalization as it can help address acute legal needs such as securing paid time off from work to care for a child as well as possible causes of health issues like unhealthy housing conditions. Since its launch, the most common referrals through the MedLaw Partnership at Oishei have been housing insecurity, employment rights, and custodial or family stability issues.



Housed at Oishei is our new Staff Attorney, Jennifer Hilburger.

The MedLaw Partnership of WNY is made possible by the **Judges & Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert (JALBCA)** , **Kaleida Health Foundation**, **The Children's Hospital of Buffalo Foundation**, and **The ECMC Foundation**.



WNY Coalition Pooled Trusts

PUT YOUR TRUST IN US

**Benefit Loss Avoidance
for Pooled Trust Clients**

\$4,138,201.74

For over a decade, the Western New York Coalition Pooled Trusts (The Pooled Trust) has been helping individuals age in place by securing eligibility for Medicaid services in community settings while maintaining access to the majority of their income and assets. The Pooled Trust is a collaboration between CELJ, People Inc, and Key Bank.



This tool allows disabled individuals to save a majority of their income and assets that **they normally have to sacrifice** in order to qualify for Medicaid (or sometimes SSI). These funds, known as a spenddown, are the "price," that individuals who almost qualify for public benefits must pay to the state in order to meet the income limit. By joining our trust, **our clients avoid losing benefit funds** that they would otherwise have to pay.

Those saved funds can be used on anything for the sole benefit of the Pooled Trust client. It's not difficult to imagine the difference it can make in someone's life to retain those funds.

www.wnypooledtrust.org

1-866-362-5081

PROBONO PROGRAM

Update from Amanda Warner, Esq.
Director of Pro Bono Programs



Surrogate's Court Help Center

The Surrogate's Court Help Center is nearing its third full year of operating as a phone based consultation program, and continues to be a valuable resource for low income clients, who often face mobility and transportation issues, inflexible work schedules, and lack of paid leave as barriers to seeking legal assistance.

In 2023, we plan to more actively promote the program throughout the 8th Judicial District, to **provide more services to residents outside of Erie County**, as well as recruit attorneys throughout the District to volunteer for the program. We also hope to revisit the possibility of bringing back in-person consultations at Erie County Surrogate's Court in some capacity.

17 pro bono attorneys provided consultations to **235 clients** through the program in 2022, cumulatively donating **117 pro bono hours**.

Wills Clinic

In October 2022, CELJ participated in the **Wills and Estate Planning Workshop** hosted by New York State Assembly Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes. This workshop is an annual community program held in partnership with the Center for Elder Law & Justice, Western New York Law Center, Neighborhood Legal Services, and other participating attorneys. The primary goal is to assist residents of Assembly District 141 in need of wills, powers of attorney and health care proxies, in order to **help plan for the future and protect generational wealth such as home ownership, personal assets, and other possessions**. These services are provided to the clients at no cost. 27 Clients were assisted through the 2022 workshop.

Attorney Emeritus Program

CELJ is fortunate to have a core group of dedicated volunteers who have committed to working with us through the New York State Unified Court System's Attorney Emeritus Program over the past several years. This program is open to attorneys 55 years of age and older who have practiced for a minimum of ten years. In exchange for their commitment to devote 60 hours of pro bono to a legal services agency over their 2 year reporting cycle, retired attorneys in the AEP program can have their biannual CLE requirement and registration fees waived. AEP attorneys still engaged in the active practice of law must continue to meet the CLE and registration requirements, but may earn up to 15 CLE credits through pro bono time per reporting cycle (rather than the maximum of 10 credits through pro bono normally permitted).

In 2022, CELJ welcomed legal services veteran attorney Eileen Katz to its AEP roster. Prior to retiring, Eileen worked as a Staff Attorney at Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc. in Buffalo, New York for over 30 years. Since joining us in May, Eileen has volunteered in our office on the Senior Legal Advice Helpline nearly every week, donating over 90 hours to the program in 2022.



**Volunteer Eileen
Katz**

In total, in 2022, CELJ's AEP volunteers devoted **over 356 hours** to assisting clients and providing organizational support through our full scope pro bono program, Surrogate's Court Help Center and Senior Legal Advice Helpline.

We are looking forward to expanding our AEP roster in 2023 with the addition of remote volunteer opportunities through the Senior Legal Advice Helpline, which will allow retired attorneys from across the state to fulfill their biannual hourly commitment with CELJ.

2022 Virtual Elder Law Day Summer Series

In 2022, CELJ and the Erie County Department of Social Services (ECDSS) hosted their third **Virtual Elder Law Day Summer Series**. Historically, prior to 2020, Elder Law Day was a very popular day-long event hosted by CELJ and ECDSS that gave seniors and their caregivers a chance to attend presentations, meet with community vendors and receive free one-on-one attorney consultations.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, CELJ and ECDSS adapted the one-day event into a virtual presentation series in 2020, 2021 and 2022, offering weekly online webinars on legal issues affecting older adults to assist them in making informed choices about their health, financial well-being, and long term health care needs.

From July 12 to August 10, 2022, 204 participants tuned into the series, which featured the following presenters, **who shared their knowledge and expertise on a range of topics**, including basic estate planning, nursing home rights, eviction proceedings, ageism, IRA distributions, guardianship, alternative dispute resolution, Medicaid planning, scam detection and prevention and long term care planning and asset protection:

Kelsey Burch	Bria Lewis, Esq.	Christopher Phillips, Esq.
F. Alexander Fehrman, Esq.	Brad Loliger, Esq.	Erin Riker, Esq.
Elizabeth Fox-Solomon, Esq.	Ann Monroe	Jamie Smith, Esq.
Krista Gottlieb, Esq.	Hon Acea M. Mosey	Valerie Stanek, Esq.
Linda Grear, Esq.	Robert Neil, Esq.	Judy N. Cuzzacrea Wagner, Esq.
Vikram Jagadish, Esq.	Bridget O'Connell, Esq.	

CELJ is excited to report that **live, in person Elder Law Day** will return in June 2023! Stay tuned for more detail on the return of this highly anticipated event.

Pro Bono Impact

Through CELJ in 2022, across all pro bono programs, both limited and full scope, a total of

33 Attorneys Performed Over

531 Hours of Pro Bono Service

CELJ would like to thank the following Pro Bono Volunteers who contributed toward this substantial commitment:

Arthur Baumeister
Charles Beinhauer
Steve Bengart
Terrie Benson Murray
Lucy Berkman
Benjamin Cranston
Joshua Dubs
Thadeus Dziekonski
George Faust
Robert Feldman
Henry Gartner

Kathleen Garvey
Garry Graber
Jane Harrington
Nina Juncewicz
Eileen Katz
Elaina Monte
Nicole Mutignani
Jay Organek
Jessica Peraza
George Riedel
Edward Robinson

Barbara Schaus
Daniel Schaus
Amanda Scott
Daniel Shonn
Jamie Smith
Tom Steffan
Tyler Treehouse
Frank Vavonese
Mary Virginia
Ruth Wiseman
Michael Wrona

To find out more about how you and your law firm can get involved in the impactful and rewarding work highlighted above, or to explore new pro bono opportunities, please contact Amanda Warner, Director of Pro Bono Programs, at (716) 853-3087 ext. 241 or awarner@elderjusticenyny.org.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Kelly Barrett Sarama, Jesslyn Holbrook, and Sarah Duval named Super Lawyers® Rising Stars by Thomas Reuters.



CEO **Karen L. Nicolson, Esq.** was appointed by **Governor Kathy Hochul** to the stakeholder advisory committee of New York State's Master Plan for Aging Council. Nicolson is one of 28 statewide experts who will help guide the development of the state's first-ever Master Plan for Aging, which aims to empower older New Yorkers so they may live healthy, fulfilling lives while aging with dignity and independence.

IN THE NEWS

Throughout 2022, many of our leaders at CELJ lent their expertise to news stories with local and statewide reach. Here are the headlines:

"Nurse-staffing levels in NY nursing homes rank among the worst in the country, report finds" Crain's New York Business, **Lindsay Heckler, Esq.** (also picked up in the Utica Observer-Dispatch and Herkimer Times Telegram)

"How troubled Syracuse nursing home fed \$60 million into its owner's corporate web" Syracuse Post-Standard, **Lindsay Heckler, Esq.**

"New York State budget expands Medicaid eligibility for older adults" WBFO, **Kelly Barrett Sarama, Esq.**

Nursing homes helped bring down Cuomo. How has Hochul handled them?”
WBFO, **Lindsay Heckler, Esq.**

“Weekends are a nursing home danger zone. A Syracuse home’s staffing is among NY’s worst” Syracuse Post-Standard, **Lindsay Heckler, Esq.**

“Hospital's new COVID support group: 'It can change lives,' patient says”
WGRZ Channel 2, **Kathy Kanaley**

“Syracuse nursing home slammed for medication mix-up that lands resident in emergency room” Syracuse Post-Standard, **Lindsay Heckler, Esq.**

“Buffalo: 3.4 million available in rental assistance as eviction moratorium set to expire” Niagara Frontier Publications, **Center for Elder Law & Justice** recommended by the Buffalo Urban Renewal Agency for legal assistance

“Money, Not Study, For Nursing Home Oversight; Advocates Urge \$20M In State Budget for Ombudsman Program” Harlem World Magazine, **Karen Nicolson, Esq.**

“Buffalo’s Black older adults face their own share of health, economy inequities”
WBFO, **Karen Nicolson, Esq.**

“‘Aging is primarily a women’s issue’: Women face longer lives, less retirement savings” WBFO, **Kelly Barrett Sarama, Esq.**

“Center for Elder Law & Justice working to help combat elder abuse across NY”
Spectrum News 1, **Kelsie Abbt**

“Healthcare through a Legal Lens” Noggins and Neurons Podcast, **Rachel Baldassaro, Esq.** and **Kelly Barrett Sarama, Esq.**

WNY Tonight with Tammie Lee, live broadcast appearance by **Bradley Loliger, Esq.** to discuss Family Guardianship Support Project

Women’s Health with Dr. Catherine Collins, radio show appearance by **Rachel Baldassaro, Esq.** to discuss MedLaw and how legal issues can become health issues

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thank you to our board of directors, who dedicate their time and expertise to further our missions!

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Francine Ciccia
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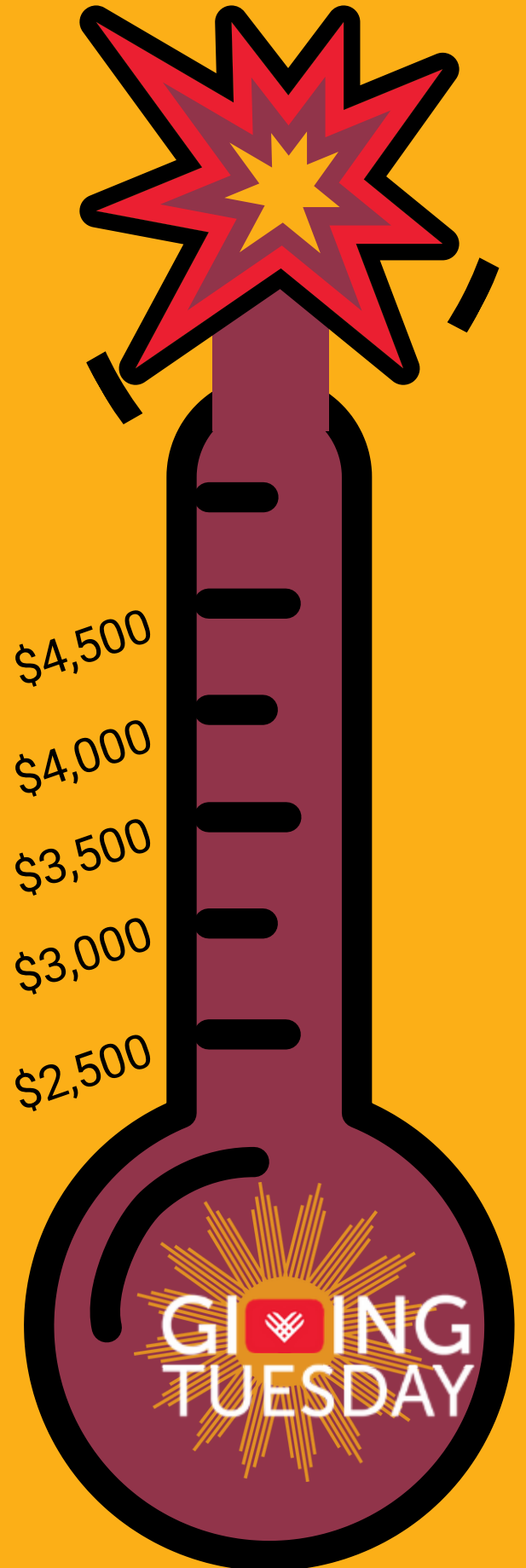


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