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Changemakers Mixer



Did you miss our end-of-the-summer soirée "A Mixer for Change-Makers" in August?

We had a great, diverse turnout by enthusiastic young professionals in LA! Check out pictures [here](#).

LACLJ Welcomes All-Star Cast of Advocates



Welcome Aboard! — We are excited to announce the newest members of the LACLJ family. Our Board of Directors recently welcomed three new members: Todd Maron of Tesla Motors; Melanie Mandles of Wasser, Cooperman & Carter; and Randall Jackson of Kendall Brill & Klieger. We also have two new staff members: Veronica Saucedo, a Senior Attorney, and Miles Fuller, a Sidley Austin fellow who will be with us for six weeks. **Click [here](#) to get to know LACLJ's newest champions!**

Visit LACLJ's website to meet the rest of our team: [Board of Directors](#) and [Staff](#).

DOJ awards grant to help young sexual assault survivors

The Department of Justice's (DOJ) Office on Violence Against Women recently approved a three-year \$500,000 grant for LACLJ to provide legal services and advocacy to young survivors of sexual assault. This will expand LACLJ's existing [Teen/LA](#) program, which provides specialized legal services to teens and young parents ages 14 to 24. LACLJ will work with partners [Violence Intervention Program](#) (VIP) at LAC+USC Medical Center and [East Los Angeles Women's Center](#) (ELAWC) to support the most vulnerable population for sexual assault.

FordHarrison LLP directs cy pres funds to LACLJ



FordHarrison attorney Michelle Abidoye with LACLJ's Executive Director Hellen Hong.

In August, [FordHarrison LLP](#) directed a \$27,000 cy pres award to the Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice (LACLJ). Cy pres awards are residual settlement funds in class action suits that may be donated to non-profit organizations. Michelle Abidoye, attorney at FordHarrison, recommended LACLJ as the cy pres recipient. These funds will immediately be used to support LACLJ's immigration work that helps families stay together and achieve economic stability. If you are interested in learning more about how you can direct cy pres award to LACLJ, please contact Hellen Hong at hellen@lajl.org. Thank you to Michelle Abidoye and FordHarrison for their support of essential legal services to low-income families in Los Angeles.

DACA high school graduate finds job and opportunity

Last fall, you helped us raise \$15,000 through our "Hope for Youth!" campaign. The funds allowed LACLJ to help teens and their families understand the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) application process — helping the most vulnerable youth have greater opportunities for work and education. To date, at least five of our clients' applications have been approved, changing the lives of teens like Dominic:

Dominic, a 17-year-old high school senior, lived in the United States since he was four years old. His family built a life for him here, where he went to school, made friends and had a daughter. However, he and his mother were also living in constant fear of deportation. This made Dominic's post-high school plans unclear. He wanted to apply for DACA so that he could get a part-time job to save money to go to college and provide for his daughter. Shortly after graduating high school, he learned that his DACA application was approved! Today, he is now able to work, and his job allows him not only to help support his daughter but also to pursue his dreams of having a meaningful career. Dominic recently registered for classes and will be attending college this fall. His mother said that LACLJ offered guidance and support that they needed to apply for DACA with confidence.

For more client stories, click [here](#).

Juliet Arganaraz leaves a 13-year legacy of service



After 13 years at LACLJ, **Juliet Arganaraz's** last day as Director of Administration was on September 20. During her time at LACLJ, Juliet also served as Interim Executive Director. Most of you have met her at events, as she worked behind the scenes to make sure things always ran smoothly. We are sad to see her go and will miss her greatly, but we are excited for her as she embarks on an exciting new endeavor. Juliet will continue her advocacy in the social justice field as the new Director of Finance and Administration at Inner City Law Center. **Thank you for your many years of hard work and dedication, Juliet!**

Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice

1241 S. Soto Street, Suite 102, Los Angeles, CA 90023

Phone (323) 980-3500 // Email: info@lajl.org