



Ending Poverty, Advocating for RACIAL, GENDER, AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

GHLA attorneys work to improve the circumstances for people living in poverty and to strengthen our community. We increase safety from violence, preserve housing, stabilize income, improve health, and expand educational opportunity. We understand that more people of color and women live in poverty because of structural racism and sexism, and that bias can reduce options and opportunities. To address the harm, we focus on priorities and strategies that advance equity, reduce poverty and grow opportunity.





Through community legal education helped **5700** people

Advanced the rights of **1000** more through

systemic advocacy

Thank you so much for all of your efforts in helping me and my family through this extremely hard time. I'm glad things were able to be worked out outside of court. – GHLA Client







Civil legal remedies offer important safety options for victims living in poverty, and an alternative to criminal legal system responses.

SAFETY

Launched the **Domestic Violence Restraining Order Project** in Hartford's Family court, the state's busiest restraining order docket. GHLA's lawyers coordinate with Interval House domestic violence program to address the complex legal, family and safety issues of domestic violence victims.

Attained a no contact Restraining Order for a client whose partner, following their breakup, shot at her home and threatened to kill her and her family.



Launched Greater Hartford's Eviction Right to Counsel Program, as part of the Statewide Eviction Right to Counsel program (CT-RTC)– serving 60% more lowincome tenants facing eviction than the pre-pandemic average. Across the state 69% of CT-RTC clients statewide identified as female, and more than 75% of CT-RTC clients identified as people of color.

Helped a survivor of domestic violence who works as a home health aide and raises four children on her own to keep her apartment and her Section 8 housing subsidy.



Government benefits are limited and can be difficult to access for some who need them. GHLA's advocacy resolves access issues for eligible individuals and works systemically to expand access and increase these essential resources.

Restored SNAP benefits for a three-generation household after they were all stricken with COVID and could not document the son's last date of work at a fast food restaurant.

Attained a significant change in the Temporary Family Assistance program standards– from a regional "standard of need" (SON) to a statewide eligibility standard tied to the federal poverty level (FPL), in partnership with the statewide legal aid network– resulting in increased cash benefits for all very low-income people in the program.





Assisted a 12 year old non-binary student with a history of being bullied, family loss, school avoidance, and trauma, in attaining a diagnostic placement at a clinical therapeutic school.

Advocated successfully to change the laws and program structures to make Connecticut's technical schools system more welcoming and supportive of students with disabilities.



Obtained a pardon of a criminal record for a single mother of two – getting a pardon will allow her to get her RN license after she finishes nursing school.

Obtained a pardon for a middle-aged man, who can now become a full-time firefighter in the town where he is on training/provisional status.



Provided legal advice and crucial information to clients and community partners at sites across Greater Hartford including Enfield Social Services Department, Hands on Hartford, Hartford Police Department Homeless Outreach Van, Hartford Public Library, Manchester Community College, Mi Casa Family Services/Hispanic Health Council, Open Hearth Shelter, and South Street Church.

I cannot begin to thank you all enough. I am so overwhelmed by your kindness and help. I can never repay you giving me my life back. – **Pardon Client**

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GHLA is honored to have the generous support of individuals, law firms, corporations and other donors. These donors are listed in the following GHLA Foundation Campaign Report.



Letter from THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

June 2023

Again in 2022 the GHLA Foundation supported GHLA lawyers' skilled, high-impact anti-poverty advocacy. Your generosity helped change the lives of people with no other recourse – increasing safety from violence, preventing homelessness, stabilizing income supports, improving health, and growing educational and employment opportunity.

The pages that follow honor our vital partnership with lawyers, law firms and corporations who support access to justice. Over the period covered by this report, January – December 2022, we are proud to report we raised a near-record total of \$471,975.

The Foundation extends special thanks to **Raytheon Technologies Corporation** and its attorneys for their extraordinary commitment. RTX's remarkable 2022 total was \$181,336 with 100% of RTX's Connecticut-based attorneys making gifts. Also, we want to highlight and thank **Robinson & Cole** for its outstanding gift of \$34,000, and **Shipman & Goodwin** for its generous contribution of \$30,000. Finally, our sincere thanks to our Board members for your work throughout the Campaign season to secure law firm and corporate donations, and for your personal financial contributions.

The GHLA Foundation supports flexible and much-needed advocacy for a large and diverse population of low-income people across greater Hartford. As we continue to broaden the base of financial and in-kind support for this crucial work, we thank you for your role in providing *opportunity, fairness and a way out of poverty* for GHLA's clients.

Very truly yours,

Jacky R. Comm

Zachary R. Osborne RTX Attorney & GHLAF Board President

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End poverty. Advocate for justice.

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