



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy
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2023 IMPACT

JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2023

We believe that every child deserves justice in the courtroom, access to the classroom, and restoration in the community.

To that end, the James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy served 11% more cases than in years prior to address our community's need for integrated, holistic legal, mental health and restorative services.

YOUTH & EMERGING ADULT CRIMINAL DEFENSE

109 young people caught in the criminal legal system received advocacy support from our attorneys, ensuring due process of law for **22 children** and **87 emerging adults**.

SCHOOL-BASED CIVIL LEGAL CLINIC

133 families of school-aged children received assistance with civil legal matters - including evictions, public benefit denials, guardianship, and more.

EDUCATION ADVOCACY PROGRAM

110 active educational cases were taken on, helping students progress toward their individualized education goals, obtaining services for students with special needs and/or disabilities, and advocating for students facing school exclusion/disciplinary issues.

CRIMINAL RECORD RELIEF PRACTICE

875 individuals were supported in expunging and/or sealing their records, removing barriers to employment, housing and education.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

130 individuals facing legal challenges received integrated mental health support - including case management, crisis intervention and trauma-informed therapy.

ROGER PASCAL RESTORATIVE JUSTICE INITIATIVE

1,343 community members engaged in safety circles, community circles, and trainings to facilitate reparative conversations and embed more restorative practices in our community.



Evanston Restorative Justice Week Proclamation



Veteran Record Relief

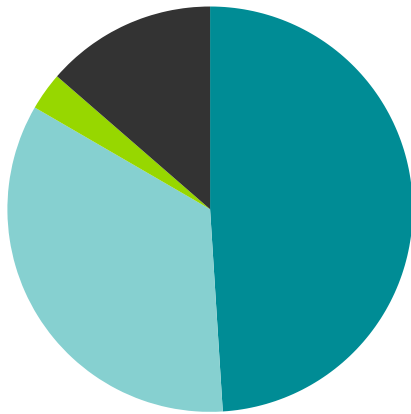


Community Peace Builders

FY2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

June 2022 - June 2023
Totals rounded to the nearest \$1

INCOME
\$2,029,226



CONTRIBUTED INCOME
\$1,278,197

- **Individuals (49%)**
\$626,322
- **Foundations (34%)**
\$439,250
- **Special Events (14%)**
\$174,089
- **Corporations (3%)**
\$38,536

 **OTHER INCOME**
\$2,225

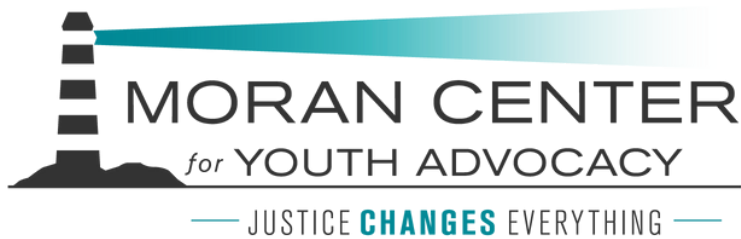


GOVERNMENT SERVICE AGREEMENTS
\$748,803

EXPENSES
\$1,754,368

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salaries, Taxes & Benefits
\$1,329,605 • Occupancy
\$108,774 • Professional Fees & Consultants
\$92,976 • Special Events
\$56,696 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insurance
\$39,834 • Office Equip., Supplies & Misc.
\$35,651 • Communications
\$19,452 • Development / Fundraising
\$15,896 • Computers & Software
\$13,874 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Client Support
\$13,595 • Transportation & Travel
\$13,338 • Continuing Education & Professional Development
\$6,228 • Bank & Service Fees
\$4,206 |
|--|---|---|

NET INCOME \$274,858



OUR PARTNERS

All programs at the James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy are accessible and free of charge to our clients thanks to contributed support from our community.

Visit moran-center.org/donors for our full list of 2023 donors.

“JUSTICE RENEWS” EVENT SPONSORS

Many thanks to our *Justice Renews* sponsors and underwriters, who helped us present our first event benefit concert, *Mavis Staples: A Concert for Justice!*

Hagerty Consulting, Conagra Brands Inc., David and Julie Cutter, Grimm-Grady Family Foundation, Lindsey Levin Labkon and Adam Labkon, Jon and Kathi Samuels, Vistria Group, Laura Tucker and Pete Giangreco, Monahan Law Group, LLC, ArentFox Schiff, Kirkland & Ellis, Walgreens, Oakton College, Endeavor Health (Northshore University HealthSystem), and Chip Peters and Cindy Wilson

JAMES B. MORAN GIVING CIRCLE

The James B. Moran Giving Circle recognizes donors who commit to sustaining the Moran Center through renewed annual giving of \$1,500 or greater.

These champions of justice include:

the Reinhardt and Shirley Jahn Foundation, Kenneth and Lucy Lehman, the Dove Foundation, Eleanor and William Revelle, the CrysdaHL Foundation, Michal Heifetz-Golden and Craig Golden, Charles Devlin and Clare Keenan, the Arnold Simonsen Family Charitable Foundation, Stacey and Jon Michelin, Julie and Peter Fleps, Patricia Gladden, David and Julie Cutter, Katherine Masur and Peter Slevin, Susan and Paul Brenner, Stacey and Neill Jakobe, Rob and Carrie Andalman, Jerry Esrick, Laura Tucker and Pete Giangreco, Betsy Lehman, Jennifer Moran, David and Lori Soglin, Venita Fields, Marea Brichta, Larry Jones and Susan Knight, Robert Lipman, Barbara and Bruce Mitchell, and Michael and Barbara Slubowski.

EVANSTON COLLECTIVE

The Moran Center partners with Evanston's youth and family agencies in “The Collective,” a collaborative initiative to design a restorative, relationship-based, youth-centered network of social service nonprofits, launched through support from Evanston Cradle to Career.

Members of The Collective include The City of Evanston's Youth & Young Adult Division, Connections for the Homeless, Curt's Café, Erie Family Health Centers, Infant Welfare Society of Evanston, PEER Services, Youth Job Center, and Youth & Opportunity United (Y.O.U.)

OUR TEAM



ANDREW BALDWIN
Manager Of Foundations & Government Relations



ANDY FROELICH
Attorney, Education Advocacy Program



ANNE BRODY-ELOVIC
Paralegal, Criminal Record Relief Program



BRITTANY SIMONS
Licensed Clinical Social Worker



CHLOE REYES
Licensed Clinic Social Worker



CONI BENITEZ
Mental Health Counselor



DONNA MASINI
Program Support Analyst



EBONY STEWART
Office Manager



ELI CHAIDEZ
Development Associate



EMERIC MAZIBUKO
Restorative Justice Coordinator



INA SILVERGLEID
Attorney, Criminal Record Relief Program



KEVIN GRIGSBY
Attorney, School-Based Civil Legal Clinic



KRISTEN KENNARD
Deputy Director / Director Of Social Work Services



LUCA GUACCI
Managing Attorney, Education Advocacy Program



MEGAN MCCLUNG
Managing Attorney, School-Based Civil Legal Clinic



PAM CYTRYNBAUM
Restorative Justice Manager



PATRICK KEENAN-DEVLIN
Executive Director & Youth Defense Attorney



RACHEL J. SOLOMON
Director Of Development & Communications; Press Contact



SARAH FRUDDEN
Attorney, Education Advocacy Program



SHIRLEY KUZMANIC-GALAN
Director Of Operations



TOM VERDUN
Director Of Legal Services; Adult Criminal And Expungement Attorney

Pictured: Full-time and part-time staff at time of publication (2024)

Special thanks to the pro bono attorneys, Community Peace Builders, and volunteers supporting our work to build a more restorative community.

GOVERNING BOARD

David Soglin, Chair
Patricia Gladden, Secretary
Charles Peters, Treasurer

Ann K. Adams	Venita Fields
Carey Bartell	Tiffini Holmes
Jeffrey Bergman	Kathy Lyons
Marea Brichta	Stacey Sherr Michelon
David Cutter	Jennifer G. Moran
Janet Alexander Davis	Krenice Roseman Ramsey
Jared Davis	Jonathan Samuels
Jerald P. Esrick	Hank Thompson



ANNUAL REPORT NARRATIVE (CY2023)

The James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy (“Moran Center”) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Evanston, Illinois providing a free lifeline of integrated legal, mental health, and restorative services to youth and families.

We are honored to share some of the milestones and accomplishments in our 42nd year serving our community, achieved in no small measure thanks to partnership with our community of donors, foundation and corporate funders, and government support. Visit moran-center.org/donors to meet our full donor community.

SUMMARY

This year, we saw increasing numbers of families juggling multiple challenges related to liberty, educational access, and basic needs: maintaining safe and affordable housing, addressing family conflict, accessing public benefits, and reorganizing their lives to stay safe and well. Calendar Year (CY2023) saw our implementation of a new triage intake model to provide our attorneys with more time to directly support clients while addressing our growing number of intake calls, particularly for our Criminal Record Relief Practice.

When comparing CY2022 to CY2023 across all of our practice areas at the Moran Center – legal, mental health, and restorative justice services – we saw the demand for our services significantly increase. In CY2023, we managed an **11% increase in both clients and cases**. We project an additional **20% increase** in both cases and clients in CY2024.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The following report highlights the Moran Center's impactful services to meet the critical needs of disinvested youth and families during the CY2023. We are pleased to share stories highlighting our mission impact this year and have changed the identifying information of our clients to honor confidentiality.



ANNUAL REPORT NARRATIVE (CY2023)

Youth & Emerging Adult Criminal Defense Practice

Our attorneys advocate for children and emerging adults caught in the criminal legal system – ensuring due process of law. In CY2023, the Moran Center counseled **22 children** and **87 emerging adults**, **totaling 109 young people altogether**, zealously advocating for legal outcomes that keep our clients from being defined by their worst mistakes.

WHEN FEWER CASES MEANS PROGRESS...

In 2012, the Moran Center managed 60-80 juvenile delinquency matters at any given time - including cannabis possession, battery, and retail theft cases. Today, these low-level offenses have been diverted away from the criminal legal system and only more serious cases are being litigated in the juvenile delinquency system.

This local trend reflects national, state, and regional trends - however, Evanston's rate of juvenile prosecution has fallen faster than other surrounding communities. This systemic change is directly attributable to the Moran Center's advocacy in developing local off-ramps from the system. In CY2023, the Moran Center defended 22 children compared to 188 in CY13.

Criminal Record Relief Practice

Our legal professionals remediate eligible criminal records, removing barriers to employment, housing, and education. In CY2023, we served **875** individuals – representing a **32%** increase over CY2022. During CY2024, we aim to serve more than **950** individuals in clearing their criminal records. We will achieve this objective with recent staffing changes: shifting our paralegal position from a contractual part-time position to a permanent, nearly full-time position and hiring an additional full-time Criminal Record Relief Attorney.

"They did a great job with both my adult and juvenile record expungements. Thank you for your help... Highly recommend them to anyone needing assistance with their criminal records." - Anya, client



ANNUAL REPORT NARRATIVE (CY2023)

Mental Health Services

Our mental health professionals and Licensed Clinical Social Workers provide case management, crisis intervention, and trauma-informed therapy to foster clients' emotional health and resilience. During CY2023, the Moran Center provided wraparound services to **130 individuals**. Anticipating greater demand for comprehensive therapeutic and case management services, we forecast to serve **150** individuals, including **300** family members, in CY24. To serve this anticipated number of individuals and families, we hired a fourth full-time Mental Health Professional in November 2023.

PABLO'S STORY

Pablo first began working with the Moran Center through a community-based restorative justice program as a high school junior. In this program, Pablo discovered that unprocessed childhood trauma was impacting his behaviors and worldview. A young migrant from Mexico, Pablo moved to the U.S. to escape the extreme physical and emotional abuse he endured as a child. Sadly, after arriving in the U.S. Pablo's living plans fell through, rendering him without a home. He eventually moved in with his sister, which came with explicit terms: Pablo could only live under her roof if he raised himself and his nephew.

To say Pablo is responsible would be an understatement. He maintained a job from age 15 and was a committed caretaker for his nephew. Yet despite Pablo's tenacity, it became clear that the steps toward taking responsibility for his self-care and growth could not be taken alone. He began case management and therapy with a Moran Center social worker he trusted from the community-based restorative justice group.

Through his counseling sessions, Pablo processed past traumas and navigated complex, adult systems. Pablo received holistic support from the Moran Center, as a Criminal Record Relief attorney helped him expunge a minor offense from his record and he obtained his driver's license with support from the School-Based Civil Legal Clinic. With these new foundations in place, Pablo could focus on academics - he graduated from high school and just completed his first year of college as a full-time student. Pablo now wants to go to law school!



ANNUAL REPORT NARRATIVE (CY2023)

Education Advocacy Program (EAP)

Our attorneys represent students with special needs in obtaining the services they need to make progress in school; advocate for students facing school exclusion; and equip students and caregivers with the knowledge and tools to advocate for their child's educational rights. The EAP had **110** active educational matters in CY2023, a 10% increase from the year prior. Of the students engaged with the EAP, **100%** achieved their legal objectives of increasing or improving educational services, making progress toward IEP (Individualized Education Plan) goals, improving school attendance, and/or reducing school disciplinary actions.

In CY2023, we increased our network of collaborators, aiding in our attorneys' abilities to better advocate for their clients. Several new collaborations include Women Helping Others, Redwood Literacy, and MIND Chicago. Each new connection allows us to offer higher-quality representation and wraparound support for our clients. In CY24, the EAP will prioritize deepening their knowledge of post-secondary transition planning for high school students with IEPs.

ALEX'S STORY

Alex's guardian reached out to the Moran Center's EAP to address the bullying they were experiencing at school. It was clear that Alex needed a different school environment. Additionally, the EAP discovered numerous instances of Alex's educational rights having been violated. With the assistance of the Moran Center's EAP Team - following a year-long legal battle before connecting with the Moran Center - Alex transitioned to a therapeutic day school where they are now receiving more structured, individualized attention. The Moran Center additionally secured \$70,000 in compensatory educational services for Alex from the school. Without the advocacy and representation by the Moran Center, Alex would have been unable to afford the individualized services they so desperately needed to succeed in school.



ANNUAL REPORT NARRATIVE (CY2023)

School-Based Civil Legal Clinic (SBCLC)

Attorneys stabilize low-income families challenged by civil legal issues such as evictions, public benefit denials, guardianship/conservatorship needs, etc. so that children can stay in our community and on track in school. The SBCLC assisted **133** families in CY2023. We anticipate the need for civil legal assistance to rise further with increasing rental costs and limited affordable housing options in Evanston. Our goal next year is to serve **200** families.

MARK'S STORY

When Mark, a father of two, injured his foot, he lost his job and fell behind on rent. He and his daughters were facing eviction, which challenged his ability to keep his daughters in school and housed. SBCLC attorneys attempted to help Mark obtain emergency rental assistance; however, the landlord was initially uncooperative. Ultimately, the SBCLC advocated for the landlord to waive more than \$20,000 in back rent, agree to seal the eviction, and secure ample time for Mark and his family to move out, paving a clear path for Mark to secure housing in the future.

The SBCLC was also able to assist Mark in obtaining a default divorce to provide more possibilities for living arrangements for him and his daughters. Mark shared that he would like to either move to Canada in search of better employment or return to Mexico to live near family. However, his school-aged daughters would both need passports to leave the U.S. Unfortunately, Mark's wife lives outside of the country and is unable to provide an affidavit or enter into an agreed court order granting Mark full rights to apply for passports on behalf of his children. Having secured a default divorce, Mark now has the authority to secure passports for his daughters and explore various living arrangements.

The SBCLC was also able to assist Mark in reviewing his current residential lease in Waukegan while he explores future housing opportunities for his family in Evanston. By referring Mark's case to Wraparound Evanston, Mark's daughters have been allowed to finish out the current academic year in Evanston, having been classified as homeless students under the McKinney-Vento Act, with Evanston/Skokie School District 65 paying for the daughters' transportation costs to and from Waukegan.

With our Wraparound Evanston service partner, Connections for the Homeless, we are actively working to secure housing for Mark and his family in Evanston so that Mark's daughters might be able to maintain their current schooling arrangement long-term. With the help of Moran Center attorneys, Mark now has more control and a hopeful outlook for his and his daughters' living arrangements, and a team of advocates in his corner to support his family arrangement, future housing, and his children's access to the classroom.



ANNUAL REPORT NARRATIVE (CY2023)

Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative (RPRJI)

The Moran Center advocates for restorative practices and principles throughout the community, as well as provides training in restorative practices to school personnel, other social service agencies, and community members. The Moran Center continues to support the City of Evanston's Juvenile Administrative Hearings, an off-ramp for children with low-level offenses to avoid arrest and court involvement.

During CY2023, the Moran Center's Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative engaged **1,343** individuals in community circles, community trainings, and safety circles, representing a 340% increase over the previous year. We are well underway in establishing our Community Peace Builder program, hiring and training residents, including those impacted by the criminal legal system to serve as restorative justice facilitators and building upon our efforts in facilitating reparative conversations and offering community-based training sessions.

The Moran Center engaged the Evanston community through in-person circles and online surveys from late 2022 through Summer 2023, asking questions like *"What is community? What is safety? What do you need to be safe? What does a community - our community - need to be safe? What are ways community members can hold each other accountable when we harm each other?"* Input was collected from hundreds of participants in Evanston exploring topics of safety and community accountability to inform future focal areas of the RPRJI.

COMMUNITY PEACE BUILDERS

In Fall 2022, the Moran Center expanded the capacity and community reach of our RPRJI with the hiring of Restorative Justice Coordinator Emeric Mazibuko. Over the past year, our Restorative Justice staff developed and trained the "Community Peace Builders," a cohort of Black Evanstonians (including three elders, in their 80s, who are renowned local leaders.)

The Community Peace Builders are trained in-depth in restorative practice and circle keeping: learning this philosophy to repair harms caused by interpersonal, communal, and institutional violence; stem future youth violence; and transform youth systems to be more just, equitable, and peaceful.

James B Moran Center for Youth Advocacy
July 2022 through June 2023

Cash Basis

	TOTAL	
	FY23 Actual	FY23 Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
41000 · Contributed Inc		
41100 · Individuals	626,321.97	612,355.91
41200 · Foundations	439,250.00	500,000.00
41300 · Corporations	38,536.27	
41700 · Special Events	174,088.85	200,000.00
Total 41000 · Contributed Inc	1,278,197.09	1,312,355.91
42000 · Earned Inc		
42200 · Government Service Agreements		
42270 · ICJIA	185,427.77	0.00
42260 · IEJF	81,433.05	118,444.00
42250 · Access to Justice	121,954.51	109,856.00
42240 · Cook County	194,988.01	125,000.00
42210 · CDBG	155,000.00	50,000.00
42220 · Cert of Rehab	10,000.00	30,000.00
42230 · Mental Health Board	0.00	75,000.00
Total 42200 · Government Service Agreements	748,803.34	508,300.00
Total 42000 · Earned Inc	748,803.34	508,300.00
43000 · Other Inc	2,225.38	
Total Income	2,029,225.81	1,820,655.91
Gross Profit	2,029,225.81	1,820,655.91
Expense		
51000 · Salaries, Taxes & Benefits	1,329,604.60	1,392,174.82
52000 · Professional Fees/ Consultants	92,976.45	76,100.00
53000 · Client Support	13,594.58	10,500.00
54000 · Supplies	2,317.67	3,000.00
55000 · Computer/Software	13,874.08	15,038.00
56000 · Occupancy	108,773.84	105,000.00
57000 · Office Equipment	5,456.40	3,000.00
59000 · Communications	19,452.19	26,970.00
60000 · Postage/Delivery	2,390.95	2,500.00
61000 · Copying & Printing	1,851.67	1,560.00
62000 · Development / Fundraising	15,895.96	36,500.00
63000 · Special Event Exp	56,695.52	70,000.00
64000 · Transportation & Travel	13,337.84	15,800.00
65000 · Continuing Ed/Staff Train/Dev	6,228.83	6,000.00
66000 · Insurance	39,833.92	26,999.33
67000 · Other Office Exp	27,877.34	23,513.76
68000 · Bank & Service Fees	4,205.87	6,000.00
Total Expense	1,754,367.71	1,820,655.91
Net Ordinary Income	274,858.10	0.00
Net Income	274,858.10	0.00