EAST BAY COMMUNITY LAW CENTER

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

10 years ago during the subprime mortgage crisis, I was a clinical supervisor in East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC)'s Neighborhood Justice Clinic. A majority of my work was focused on supporting African American seniors who had become homeowners despite the challenges of redlining, Jim Crow, and legal employment discrimination. It was an honor to be able to ensure that their final years were not marked by the threat of homelessness.

A decade later, I returned to EBCLC as Executive Director and found myself working within another economic recession — this time, with detrimental health implications and police violence devastating African Americans. COVID-19 has disproportionately devastated Black, Indigenous and other communities of color and fundamentally disrupted the US legal system. In this time of crisis, I am deeply grateful to be leading an organization that values collective wellbeing and heals whole people and whole communities.

While this year has presented many challenges, I am encouraged by the opportunities for change it has created. At the highest level of the US government, a direct and clear approach to ending systemic racism has been named as a top priority. Although we couldn't quite overturn California's racist affirmative action ban at the ballot box this year, our state's large and growing population of Black, Latinx, and other voters of color gives me hope for our future. "Black Lives Matter" and "Trust Black Women" have become mainstream strategies that unify and hold us accountable to our ideals.

As I look to 2021, I know that the work ahead is urgent. We have a window of time to heal and keep the momentum of the national racial justice awakening. I am energized by the new partnerships that have emerged, the long-standing relationships that have evolved, and the incredible investments that have been made to sustain these efforts. Thank you for being on this journey with us.

Onward!

Zoë Melissa Polk,
Executive Director

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Problem 4

Our Approach 5

Message from Our Chair 6

Our Impact 7

Who We Are 9

Connection and Community 13

Thank You 15

Financials 19

EBCLC's racial justice work was featured in the Fall 2020 issue of Berkeley Law's *Transcript* magazine.

Photography by Brittany Hosea-Small and Bethanie Hines

OUR APPROACH

THE PROBLEM

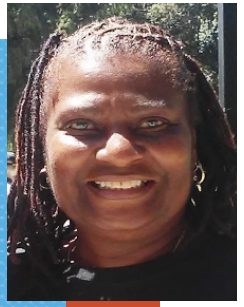
Justice has never been race neutral. Our legal system was designed to uphold structural racism. It does so at the expense of our health, our families and our communities. This must end.

VISION

We envision a California where Black and Indigenous communities, and those at the intersection of multiple oppressions, are positioned to realize thriving, healthy, and dignified lives.

SANDRA JOHNSON

New Board Member



"I proudly joined EBCLC's board this year because, as a former client, I believe in the ability of this organization to help system-impacted people enjoy the healthy, stable futures they deserve."

MISSION

At East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC), we advance racial justice through direct sevice, education and advocacy.

Direct Service: With 8 distinct practice areas driven by leading experts in housing, health, immigration, and more, EBCLC's legal team is trained to resolve intersecting legal challenges caused by poverty and racial injustice.

Education: In partnership with Berkeley Law School, EBCLC boasts a robust clinical education program with 150+ law students annually.

Advocacy: Thanks to statewide policies written and championed by EBCLC advocates, Californians have won millions of dollars in discharged court debt, rock-solid consumer protections, and transformative civil rights for children, workers, and whole communities.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

MICHAEL K. NG
Chair, Board of Directors

"For over 30 years, EBCLC has centered the racial justice value that our collective wellbeing is interdependent on each other. In the midst of all of the challenges of this incredibly difficult year, we have witnessed our value become global reality. Now more than ever, I am grateful for legal services that uplift whole communities, and that ensure housing stability, immigration relief, educational equity, health and welfare, and economic empowerment for our clients. I know that with Zoë's bold leadership, the brilliance and compassion of the staff, and the commitment of our new and longtime board members, we will make transformational social and political shifts in the years ahead. Your support for EBCLC is an investment in this vision."

BY THE NUMBERS

2,285
Families Protected from Eviction and Displacement

$4+ BILLION
Money Kept Safe from Debt Collectors and in Clients' Bank Accounts for Food, Rent, and Basic Needs

36,000
Oakland Students No Longer Policed at School Thanks to Mobilizing In Partnership with **Black Organizing Project**

$16 BILLION
Criminal Justice System Debt Erased through the Families Over Fees Act

72 IDENTITY DOCUMENTS UPDATED TO REFLECT CLIENTS' CORRECT NAME AND GENDER

359 DACA
Applications Filed

149 Law Students Trained as Racial Justice Advocates

KEY VICTORIES 2020

Our three-pronged strategy to impact lasting, systemic change proved even more crucial in the face of this devastating pandemic:

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

Alameda County Eviction Moratorium Ordinance: Keeps approx. **800,000 East Bay residents** housed and represents the nation's longest and strongest COVID-19-related eviction ban.

STATEWIDE LEGISLATION

Families Over Fees Act/AB 1869: Brings widespread economic relief to **39 million Californians**, especially Black and brown people targeted by mass incarceration by eliminating criminal justice system fees.

HIGH-IMPACT COURT CASES

Sanchez v. Caltrans: Wins **$5.5 million** for people living in homeless encampments whose property was destroyed and protects them from future sweeps.

WHO WE ARE

OUT OF EBCLC'S 81 FULL-TIME STAFF:

66% are renters

70% live in the communities EBCLC serves

65% are people of color

35% are caregivers for family members

26% are LGBTQIA

100% took advantage of EBCLC Wellness Days to rest, restore, and spend time with family

MICHELLE NATIVIDAD RODRIGUEZ

New Board Member

"If we're going to have success in stabilizing our communities, we have to uplift the efforts of Black-led organizations such as EBCLC that are on the ground doing the work. I'm proud to join the board at this moment as we lean into and prioritize our racial justice roots."

THEO CUISON

Director, Immigration Practice

"While most courts closed this year in response to COVID-19, immigration courts have remained open, and despite the danger, our staff and students have shown up to make the case for our clients' humanity in deportation proceedings, affirmative asylum interviews, defensive asylum hearings, and other interactions with the Department of Homeland Security."

TANYA LOFTIN

Administrative Assistant

"Now that COVID-19 has moved us to remote services, our phone lines are our clients' lifelines, and the fact that people going through the toughest times in their lives have entrusted EBCLC with their issues means so much to me and the rest of the administrative team."

ALEX FAY

Student, Clean Slate Clinic

"The urgent problems of policing and police funding go hand in hand with racist systems of court and municipal debt. EBCLC's Clean Slate Clinic has given me skills to advocate for racial justice and the decriminalization of poverty."

ANYA KU

Law Clerk at U.S. District Court,
Northern District of California

"My real-world experience from EBCLC was one of the reasons I got my clerkship, and now I see why: More than just technical lawyering expertise, I gained communication, management, and community-building skills that I apply every day. Knowing first-hand how the outcomes of cases can affect people takes my work from intellectual stimulation to an avenue for meaningful change."

WHO WE ARE: Our Student Board Members

KENNEDY ROSE
Student Board Member

"In my work fighting displacement and protecting the health and dignity of transgender clients, I've so admired the unique connectedness between EBCLC and the surrounding community."

STEPHANIE TILDEN
Student Board Member

"I have found it deeply motivating to join the board this year and to give back to an organization that does so much to train the next generation of public interest lawyers."

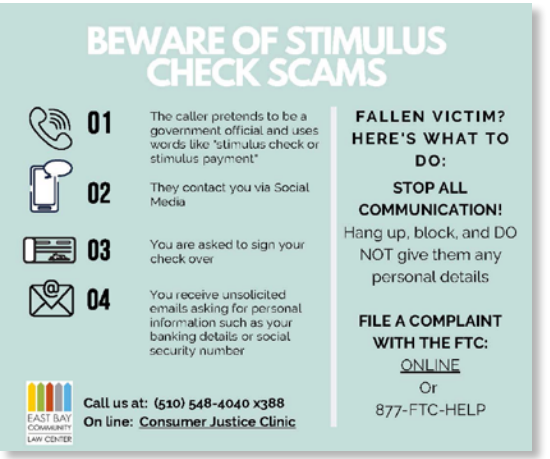
ELLEN IVENS-DURAN
Student Board Member

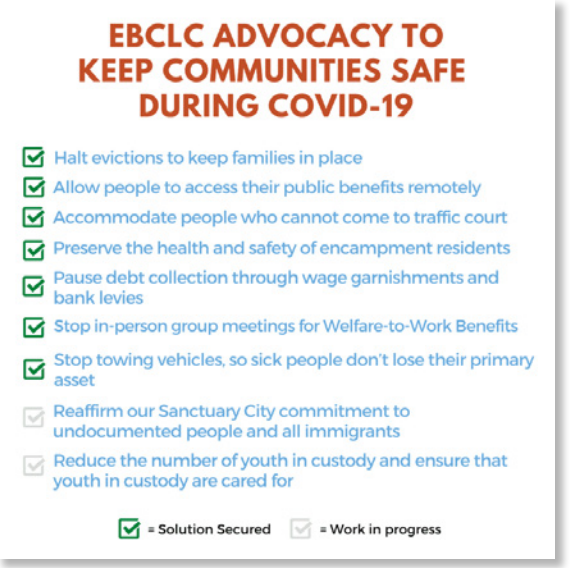
"My work with EBCLC's Health & Welfare Clinic and the Education, Defense, & Justice for Youth team has cemented my desire to pursue a career in public defense."

CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

With your help, EBCLC opened its digital doors this year to keep our community empowered and informed, hold elected officials accountable, amplify our policy solutions and celebrate our brilliant students.

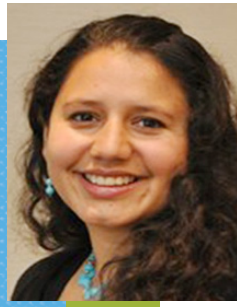
6,885 **of you engaged with us on digital platforms this year.**





JESSICA BUENDIA

New Board Member



"By investing in EBCLC, our partners in philanthropy, government, and the corporate sector have an opportunity to advance real innovation at a moment when the status quo model of service delivery just won't cut it anymore."

IN THE NEWS

EBCLC's innovative racial justice lawyering strategies were featured in major publications all over the country this year. Thanks to your support, our message has reached thousands of readers, our ideas have influenced key decision-makers, and our movement for change is growing.

CAL MATTERS

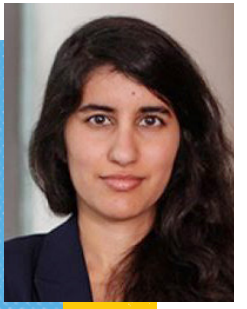
THE APPEAL

FAST COMPANY

VICE

CBSN BAY AREA

SF Chronicle



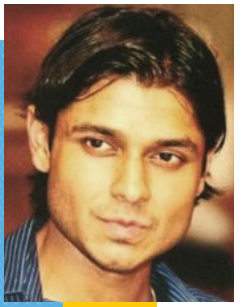
EASHA ANAND

New Board Member

"After interning at EBCLC as a student, I'm proud to now leverage my position as a board member to ensure that today's Berkeley Law students are equipped with the crucial skills I gained, and that racial and social justice continue to be prioritized by the law school."

THANK YOU

Our work is possible because of your investment. We extend deep appreciation to the following individuals, foundations, law firms, and businesses who contributed to EBCLC between July 1, 2019 and October 15, 2020.



SNEH RAO
New Board Member

"In a year of unprecedented challenge, EBCLC staff have delivered significant policy victories that will benefit marginalized Californians for generations to come."

LEADERSHIP

Akonadi Foundation
Paul M. Angell Family Foundation
Caroline D. Avery
Chan Zuckerberg Initiative
Crankstart Foundation
East Bay Community Foundation
Firedoll Foundation
Gilead Sciences, Inc
Walter & Elise Haas Fund
Hedco Foundation
Henry L. Hecht
Kaiser Permanente
Kazan McClain Partners' Foundation
Kelson Foundation
Left Tilt Fund
Loud Hound Foundation
San Francisco Foundation
Y & H Soda Foundation
Sunlight Giving

CHAMPIONS

Denise Abrams and David Harrington
Ancestry
Anonymous (1)
Anonymous (2)
Anonymous (3)
Bigglesworth Family Foundation
Elizabeth J. Cabraser and Marguerite Longtin
Quinn Delaney and Wayne Jordan
Robert Deutsch and Donna Terazawa
Edelson PC
Fish Arm Fund
Inner Sunset Community Advocates
Michael S. Kwun and Sigrid Anderson-Kwun
Leonard Carder LLP
Felicia and Marc Lewinstein
Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP
Michael Loeb
Daven G. and Karen K. Lowhurst
Craig Martin and Karen Scarr
Tim and Camilla McCalmont
David McClain and Merilyn Wong
James R. and Elena Meehan
Samuel R. Miller and Maude Pervere
Morrison & Foerster Foundation
Michael Ng and Mikal Condon
pH Foundation
Sisouvanh Phouthavong
Harry L. and Helen M. Rust Charitable Foundation
Salinas Law Group
Joel Sanders and Carol Bieri
Andrew Z. Shagrin and Segolene Finet
Shartsis Friese LLP
Maureen Sheehy and Steve Catton
Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Craig Silverstein and Mary Obelnicki
Tycko & Zavareei
vanLöbenSels/RembeRock Foundation
Kathy and Bob Vizas
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati Foundation
Steve Zieff and Elaine Leitner

ADVOCATES

Geraldine Alexis

Michelle Wilde Anderson and Sade Borghei

Katie Lubin Benson and Josh Benson

Bet Tzedek Legal Services

Anne Bloom

Lora Blum

Geoff A. Boehm

Mehrnaz Boroumand-Smith and Brian Smith

Justin A. Bosl

Walt Brown

Peter and Priscilla Carson

Jim Chanin

Denyse Clancy

Tim and Sandy Cremin

Mark Del Monte

Douglas G. Dillard and Michele S. Dillard

Jing Du

Fiona Dulbecco and David Zeltser

Robin and Rich Edwards

David Epstein

Bill Falik and Diana Cohen

Jeanine Feriancek

Howard F. and Carol Mondry Fine

Scott A. Fink and Kathy E. Klein

Sarah G. Flanagan

Vanessa Franks

Stan and Mary Friedman

Gibbs Law Group

GJEL Accident Attorneys

Hon. Yvonne Gonzalez and Matt Rogers

Gordon Greenwood

Joseph Gross and Carol Brosgart, M.D.

Janet B. Halbach

E. Venessa Henlon

Mark Hsieh and Crystal Sun

Jay and Karen Kelekian-Matza

Sarah Krakoff and John Carlson

Patrick Lane

John Langdoc

Nate Lawson

Laura and Daniel Leaverton

Paul Leonard and Amanda Feinstein

Zahavah Levine and Jeff Meyer

Monique E. Liburd

Maximos Lih

Alexis Loeb

Alexander M.R. Lyon

Russ Maurer

Saira Mohamed and Nels Bangerter

Philip Monrad and Molly Sullivan

Roger Myers and Erin McCormick

Mary Newman

OakCare Medical Group, Inc.

Ted Pelletier

Victoria Plaut and Robert Bartlett

Dave Pogrel and Chalita Photikoe

Kathi Pugh and Josh Maddox

Dan Purcell and Heather Hanly

Penny Righthand

Roisman Henel + Adams LLP

Rosen, Bien, Galvan & Grunfeld LLP

Yongki Ruslim and Sylviana Chandra

Michael Samuel and Jane Martin

Joe Satterley

David and Beth Sawi

Elisa and Michael Schenkman

Nate Shafroth

Linda Shih and Daniel Clifford

Shulwell Family Charitable Fund

Yaroslav Sochynsky

Tirien Steinbach

Ethan Stone

Tim Stroshane and Jan Ambrosini

The Benjamin Family Fund

The Dale and Max W. Berger Foundation

Tiffany R. Thomas

Tiffany Hideko Eng Fund

Douglas Tilden

Steven M. Tindall and Jocelin K. Saks

Robert Walker

R.C. Wong

Jerett T. Yan

Sam Yun

Zahn Foundation

Zelle LLP

LUAN HUYNH

New Board Member

"As a former attorney in EBCLC's Health & Welfare Clinic, I was thrilled to return to EBCLC as a board member this year. There is no limit to the systemic impact we can achieve by centering the voices of our clients in progressive policy change advocacy."

FRIENDS

Andrew M. Abrams

Kim Abrams

Catherine R. Albiston and Marc N. Melnick

Masha Albrecht

William F. Alderman

John Alexander

Christine Amatruda and Eb Luckel

American Immigration Lawyers Assoc., Nor Cal

Jennifer Anderson

Richard Anderson

Anonymous (1)

Anonymous (2)

Anonymous (3)

Anonymous (4)

Don Arbitblit and Jill Suttie

Samson O. Asiyanbi

Holly Babe Faust and Janet Stone

Mike and Linda Baker

Gerald and Jane Baldwin

Holly M. Baldwin

Leo Beaver

Brien C. Bell

Peter Benvenutti and Lise Pearlman

Berkeley Rotary Endowment

Christie Blakley

Yelena Blank

Lauren Brener

David Brewster and Mary Kay Sneeringer

Dale Brodsky

Gillian N. Brown

Laura Brown

Bruce and Maria Budner

Kevin P. Bundy

Stephen Bundy

Allison Butler and Richard Peers

Erin C. Carroll

Craig H. and Letitia Casebeer

Douglas Chermak

Hallie Chertok

Stephen Chien

Tracy Clements

Ramona Collins

Ernest J. and Cindy S. Cortes

Betsy Cotton

Christopher S. and Lynn J. Crook

Gilberto and Teresita Cuison

Greg Cummings and Claudia Huenchuleo

Linda M. Dardarian and Terrance M. Carroll

Bren Darrow and Erin Liotta

David & Lucille Packard Foundation

Chester Day

Christine L. DeLorme

Melinda Derish and Cassius Scott

Sharon Djemal and Peter Rukin

Connor Dolan

George Donaldson and Julie A. Waugh

Cynthia Dorfman

Kenneth and June Eng

David H. Fallek

Mark R. and Nadia K. Feeser

Carolyn Ferlin

Frank Fernandez and Carmen Flores

James M. Finberg and Melanie Piech

Paul D. Fogel and Yvette Chalom

Rachel A. Foodman

David S. Gast

Amber and Andrew Getz

Michael Ginther and James O'Donnell

Jon Givner

Hannah Gogel

Kristina Goldenberg

Peter and Sandi Goldsmith

Gabriel Gonzales

John C. Good and Janet E. Arnesty

Hayley Goodson

Wallace Gorell

Gretchen Groggel Ralston

Alexis Harrington

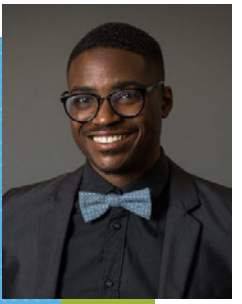
Les and Linda Hausrath

Matthew B. Henjum

Gustavo Hernandez Aguilar

James Heslin

Gail Hillebrand and Hugh Barroll



SAXON CROPPER-SYKES

New Board Member

"EBCLC's educational model instills in its graduates a deep commitment to social justice advocacy, and provides us with a powerful community of partners, our fellow alums, to help us mobilize change in our respective legal fields."

FRIENDS (CONT.)

Lisa Hirsch
Cameron L. Holland
Joan and David Hollinger
Art B. and Edna Hom
Chris Hoofnagle
Grant E. Huebner
Cesar J. Icasiano
Polly and Greg Ikonen
Jessica Intrator
Thomas and Barbara Job
Kathleen and Mark Jones
Eli Khan
Manel Kappagoda and Wallace Whittier
Mary Kappagoda
Amanda M. Karl
Kareem M. Kazkaz
Kevin Khurana
Shelley Klop
Jeffrey Kosbie
Jennifer Kuenster and George Miers
Nicholas M. Lampros
Levy Vinick Burrell Hyams LLP
Wendy Lilliedoll
Measue Liotta
Niall and Eve Lynch
John Marsland
Susan Mayer
Derek T. McDonald
Sabrina McGraw
Ted Mermin and Claudia Polsky
David Mitchell
Hezla and Pareed Mohamed
Noel and Penny Nellis
Ann O'Leary
Zachary Palchick
Tom Peckham
Lester Pedrazzini
Mike and Suzanne Pietrykowski
Linda and Ewan Purkiss
Roey Rahmil
Yocelin Ramirez Fernandez
Nani Ratnawati
Bernida Reagan and James Head
Alex Reese
Amy Resner and William Lee
William C. Reuter and Ruth S. Major
Tom and Rebecca Riley
Margot A. Rosenberg
David A. Rosenfeld and Shirley A. Woo
Daniel Rossi
Andrea Roth
Shannon Ryan
Daniel Schneider
Daniel Schulman
Barry Schwartz
J. Sepulveda
Scott and Karen Shorr
Marjorie and Jim Shultz
Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP
Eric Siegel and Suzy Logan
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom
Adam Slote
Christina Spaulding and Jonathan Simon
Karen Stevenson and Bill McClave
Steyer Lowenthal Boodrookas Alvarez & Smith LLP
Lisa Stockholm
Nicholas A. Stratton
Joshua Su
Stephen D. Sugarman and Karen I. Carlson
Ryan Sun
Eleanor Swift
David Tian
Hon. John M. True, III and Hon. Claudia A. Wilken
Jennifer Tsai
Michael Tubach and Amrita Singhal
Vincent Vadot
Pamela Van Heuit
Villegas Carrera, Inc.
Deborah Wald
Kate Weisburd
Mark Whatley and Danuta Zaroda
Susan Whitman and Mark Gergen
Spencer Witte
Jason C. Wright
Anders Yang
Chauniqua Young

CY PRES

Altshuler Berzon LLP
Bailey & Glasser LLP
Crosner Legal
Gibbs Law Group
Girard Sharp LLP
JND Legal Administration
Leonard Carder LLP
Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP
Schneider Wallace Cottrell Konecky LLP
Sears Consumer Protection and Education Fund
Andrew H. Wolff

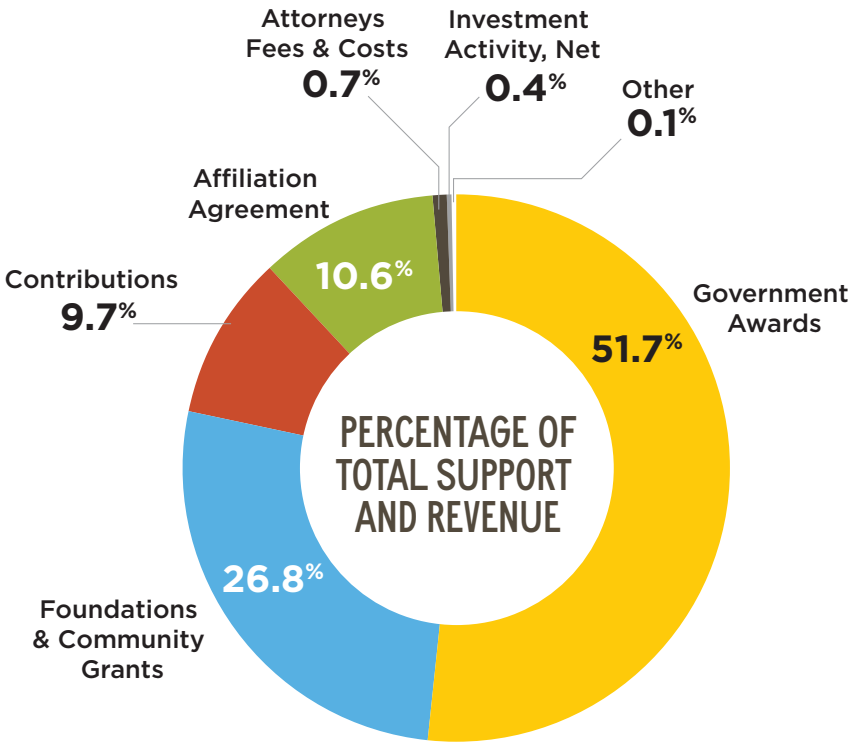
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets	FY2020	FY2019
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,852,305	1,125,310
Cash Held in Trust	346,318	516,849
Investments	1,642,419	1,609,792
Grants and Pledges Receivable	921,269	953,337
Prepaid Expenses	115,503	70,878
Total Current Assets	4,877,814	4,276,166
Property and Equipment, Net	1,586,186	1,635,678
Deposits	29,328	29,328
Total Assets	**6,493,328**	**5,941,172**

Liabilities and Net Assets	FY2020	FY2019
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	81,147	183,923
Accrued Vacation	439,757	300,110
Deferred Revenue	620,913	199,232
Client Trust Accounts	345,725	516,849
Loans and Other Liabilities	145,748	-
Total Liabilities	1,633,290	1,200,114
Net Assets		
Without Donor Restrictions	4,094,227	3,967,635
With Donor Restrictions	765,811	773,423
Total Net Assets	4,860,038	4,741,058
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	**6,493,328**	**5,941,172**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Support and Revenue			
Support			
Government Awards	5,132,139	-	5,132,139
Foundation and Community Grants	829,084	1,829,594	2,658,678
Contributions	872,561	86,970	959,531
Total Support	**6,833,784**	**1,916,564**	**8,750,348**
Revenue			
Affiliation Agreement	1,053,133	-	1,053,133
Attorney Fees and Costs	70,206	-	70,206
Investment Activity, Net	39,874	-	39,874
Other	13,695	-	13,695
Total Revenue	**1,176,908**	**-**	**1,176,908**
Support provided by expiring time and purpose restrictions	1,924,176	(1,924,176)	-
Total Support and Revenue	**9,934,868**	**(7,612)**	**9,927,256**
Expenses			
Program	7,732,846	-	7,732,846
Management and General	1,536,444	-	1,536,444
Fundraising	538,986	-	538,986
Total Expenses	**9,808,276**	**-**	**9,808,276**
Change in Net Assets	126,592	(7,612)	118,980
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	3,967,635	773,423	4,741,058
Net Assets, End of Year	**4,094,227**	**765,811**	**4,860,038**



EAST BAY
COMMUNITY
LAW CENTER

JUSTICE THROUGH
EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

EBCLC.ORG/SUPPORT-US