

# Celebrating 15 Years of Justice Through Education and Advocacy

**O**n September 26, 1988, in a store-front office at the corner of Shattuck and Woolsey, the Berkeley Community Law Center opened its doors to serve its first clients. That day was the culmination of two years of work by Boalt Hall law students and their allies. Crucial start-up funding was provided by the San Francisco Foundation, the Koret Foundation, the Durfee Foundation, and the Mary A. Crocker Trust. With a focus on assisting homeless people and others who needed legal help with housing and government benefits issues, the law center was off and running.

Fifteen years later, the East Bay Community Law Center is still on the corner of Shattuck and Woolsey, with the same mission of delivering desperately needed legal services to low-income individuals and families, and providing hands-on community law training to student interns. EBCLC has grown into a thriving center of innovative activity and collaborative work for positive social change in the Bay Area.

In September 2003, we gathered at EBCLC to celebrate the accomplishments of the many volunteers, clients, student interns, staff members, and supporters whose work through the years has made this organization such an important asset in the community. We honored the legacy of founding executive director Bernida Reagan, whose vision and commitment carried EBCLC beyond its first decade and into the new millennium.

Dean Robert Berring from Boalt Hall spoke to the crowd of nearly 200, sharing his perspectives on the growth of EBCLC through the years. Keith Carson from the Alameda County Board of Supervisors brought a proclamation from the County, recognizing EBCLC for the impact we have had in the neighborhoods of the East Bay. Kriss Worthington from the Berkeley City Council read a second proclamation, declaring September 26, 2003 "East Bay Community Law Center Day." EBCLC also received commendations from U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Lee and Wilma Chan, Majority Leader of the California State Assembly, for "being the largest provider of quality legal services for poor people in the East Bay."

## CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF JUSTICE THROUGH EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

**1988**

- Bernida Reagan hired as founding Executive Director
- Berkeley Community Law Center opens its doors September 26
- Budget = \$118,314; staff of 3

**1989**

- Services include Housing and Welfare advocacy
- Loma Prieta Earthquake Relief
- HIV/AIDS Law Project
- Homeless Action Center

**1990**

- Services include Housing and Welfare advocacy
- Loma Prieta Earthquake Relief
- HIV/AIDS Law Project
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**1991**





**1992**

**1993**

**1994**

**1995**

**1996**

**1997**

- Boalt Hall financial support
- Budget = \$460,551; staff of 8
- Tenant Workshops
- HIV/Homeless Outreach Project

- Legal Services Development Collaborative
- Welfare "Reform"
- Community Economic Development
- Swift Report to Boalt Faculty

- Family Care Network
- Name change: East Bay Community Law Center
- Budget = \$924,905; staff of 13
- Family Advocacy and Services Team



**1998**

**1999**

**2000**

**2001**

**2002**

**2003**

- HIV Back-to-Work Initiative
- Low Income Eviction Project
- Bay Area Construction Sector Intervention Collaborative
- AIDS Lanka Project

- Regional Nonprofit Pro Bono Initiative
- UC Chancellor's Award
- Suitcase Clinic Legal Services
- People's Credit Union opens

- Gambrell Professionalism Award
- Loren Miller Award
- HIV Immigration Project
- Budget = \$1,630,043, staff of 21

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# East Bay Community Law Center

## Statement of Financial Position — June 30, 2003

### Assets

Cash	\$462,983
Marketable securities	\$811,883
Grants and contracts receivable	228,468
Prepaid expenses	31,876
Other assets	67,409
Property (less depreciation)	91,430
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,694,049</b>

### Liabilities and Net Assets

Accounts payable	\$71,291
Pension plan contribution payable	34,591
Trust funds payable	25,101
Accrued vacations	67,582
Deferred income	85,354
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$283,919</b>
Unrestricted net assets	1,342,412
Restricted net assets	67,718
	<b>1,410,130</b>

### Total Liabilities and Net Assets

**\$1,694,049**

## Statement of Activities — for the year ending June 30, 2003

### Revenue

Grants and contract support	\$1,298,821
Pass through grants	359,922
Contributions	303,775
Interest income	12,569
Unrealized gain on securities	36,594
Fee awards	45,091
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$2,056,772</b>

### Expenses

Salaries and wages	\$989,412
Benefits and payroll taxes	225,818
Contracted services	202,539
Pass through expenses	359,922
Non-personnel costs	329,666

**Total expenses** **\$2,107,357**

### Change in net assets

**(-\$50,585)**

*Audited financial statements are available upon request.*

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*Ernst & Young, LLP*

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Ed Barnes  
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Sharon Djemal  
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Clinic Legal Services*

Linda Tam  
*Supervising Attorney, HIV/AIDS*

Chauniqua Young  
*Administrative Assistant &  
Volunteer Coordinator*

# Credits

Jonathon Marley, Jeff Selbin  
*Writing & Project Management*

ZesTop Design  
*Concept, Design & Production*

Jim Block, Jonathon Marley  
*Photography*

Autumn Press  
*Printing*

# East Bay Community Law Center

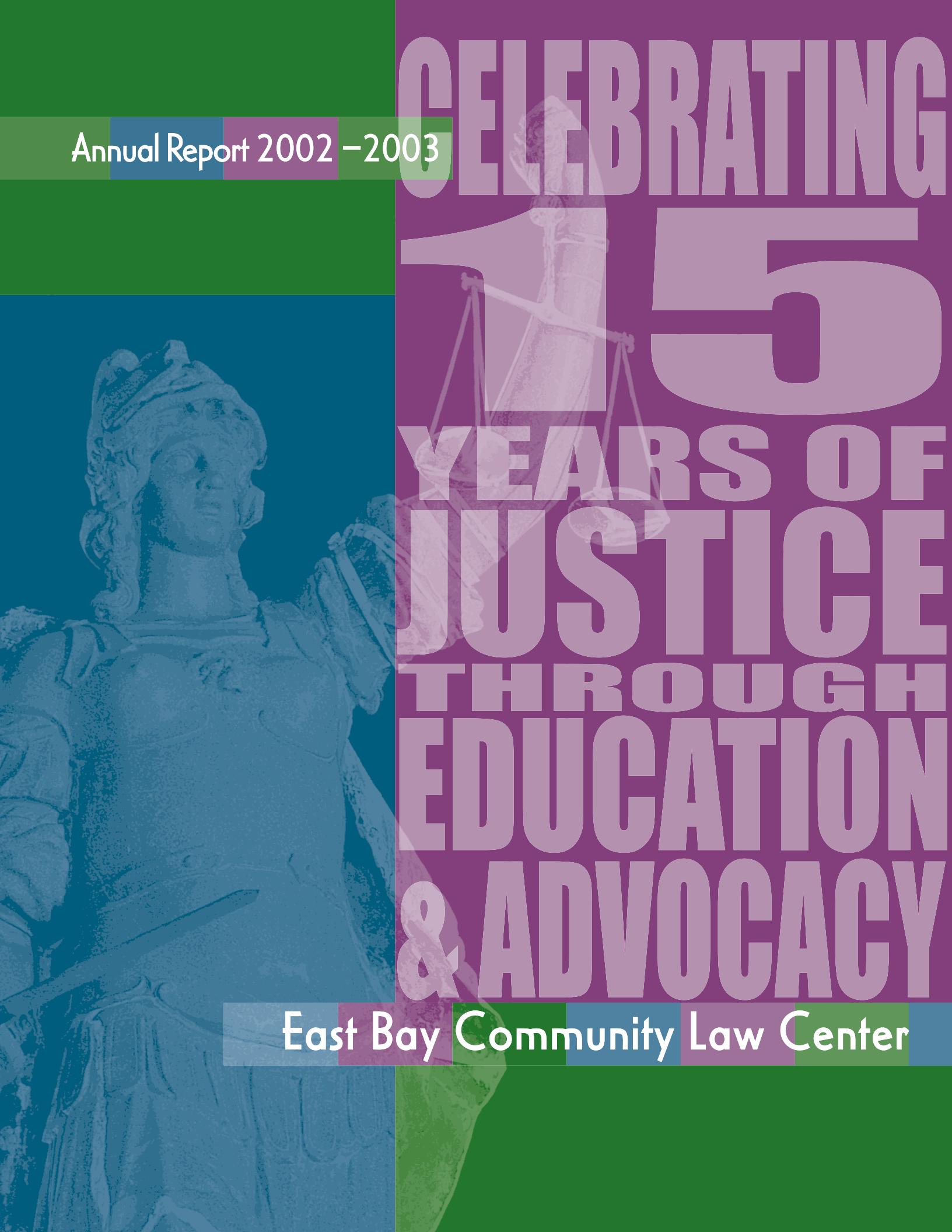
3130 Shattuck Avenue

Berkeley, CA 94705

tel: 510.548.4040

fax: 510.548.2566

[www.ebclc.org](http://www.ebclc.org)



Annual Report 2002–2003

# CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF JUSTICE THROUGH EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

East Bay Community Law Center



# Dear Friends,



We are delighted to share this Annual Report with you, especially as we celebrate an important milestone in EBCLC's history. It was 15 years ago this fall that students from Boalt Hall School of Law realized their vision of establishing a community-based law office. The Berkeley Community Law Center opened its doors on September 26, 1988, with the dual service-learning mission of assisting low-income clients while offering clinical training to law students.

The beginnings were modest. A bare-bones budget and donated supplies – including a single typewriter – supported a storefront office and a staff of three: Executive Director Bernida Reagan; Staff Attorney and Berkeley Law Foundation Fellow Brad Adams; and Office Manager Millie Johnson. The rest, as they say, is history, and the on-going legacy is remarkable.

With the hard work of staff, students, Boalt faculty and board members, and the incredible support of many individuals and institutions, EBCLC has grown to become the largest provider of free legal services in the East Bay. In fact, since 1988, we have served more than 20,000 low-income clients with legal matters directly affecting their income, shelter, health care and economic development. Thousands of others have received education, information, or referrals to help meet their critical needs.

EBCLC also has played a central role in preparing and inspiring the next generation of social justice lawyers. During the past 15 years, more than 600 law students have interned in EBCLC's nationally-recognized clinical program, receiving high-quality training and mentoring under the supervision of our staff attorneys. Many hundreds of other students and volunteers have participated in one or more of our community outreach, education, and service programs.

There is little time to rest on our accomplishments. The challenges ahead are substantial, both for the client community and for our ability to meet their needs. We will rely on your help and support more than ever as we strive to make our community more healthy, secure, productive, and hopeful.

With kind gratitude and warm regards,

Jeff Selbin  
*Executive Director*

Deborah Moss-West  
*Deputy Director*

Michael Loeb  
*Chair, Board of Directors*



## Mission Statement

A core value of our society is equal access to justice, yet the complex nature of the legal system limits such access, especially for people in poverty and those faced with language and cultural barriers. Equal access is also limited by the lack of availability of well-trained legal advocates for poor people. EBCLC addresses these issues by

- providing desperately needed legal services to low-income individuals, families, and community groups, and
- offering hands-on clinical education to law students to make these future legal practitioners aware of and skilled in addressing the needs of poor communities.

As the largest provider of free legal services in the East Bay, our goal is to make the lives of community members more healthy, secure, productive, and hopeful.