



UNWAVERING

Friends,

Over the course of my ten years of service on the EBCLC board, it has been a privilege to watch the organization grow in stature and prominence to become a national example of holistic service delivery, community-centered policy advocacy, and exceptional clinical legal education. Governmental, academic and philanthropic leaders continue to look to EBCLC for expertise on policy, on innovative service delivery models, and on convening cross-sector collaborations.

EBCLC's growth and expansion is timely. The crush of injustice right now can be overwhelming, but we keep fighting. We open our doors every day to welcome clients at risk of being displaced from their homes, schools, and community. We keep fighting for access to justice, for an equitable community, for a community where everyone belongs.

The stakes are high, and our resolve is solid. 2020 will bring a new chapter of leadership to EBCLC. At the start of the year, we will welcome Zoë Polk to be the organization's fourth executive director in its 31-year history.

Since 2011, Zoë has been the Deputy Director and Lead Policy Advisor at the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, one of the most prominent municipal civil rights organizations in the United States. In that capacity, Zoë advised the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors, and more than 80 City departments on how to implement a systemic pivot from race-neutral policies that have failed Black and Brown communities to strategies that prioritize racial equity.

As we welcome our new leader, our longstanding values will continue to guide everything we do. EBCLC's mission—to promote justice and build a community that is more secure, productive, healthy, and hopeful—has remained unchanged since the organization's creation in 1988, and is reaffirmed through its continuing work.

Today, this mission is more urgent than ever. The urgency also requires deep reflection on how we do our best to deliver the promise of that mission as our shared future unfolds.

Please know how grateful we are for your partnership and solidarity.

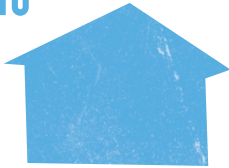
Michael Ng, Chair
EBCLC Board of Directors



SOCIAL JUSTICE BY-THE-NUMBERS

Here's what we achieved together in 2019.

HOUSING



3,495 threats to housing security met with robust advocacy

HEALTH & WELFARE



438 medical challenges addressed with legal solutions

CLEAN SLATE



1,364 barriers to employment, civic participation, and successful reentry removed

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC JUSTICE



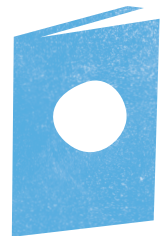
125 client-partners supported in forming businesses, non-profits, and movements

CONSUMER JUSTICE



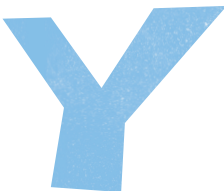
\$3,190,556 of debt discharged and returned to clients' pockets

IMMIGRATION



1,425 next steps taken towards permanent security

EDUCATION ADVOCACY & YOUTH DEFENSE



228 trap-doors to the prison pipeline slammed shut

CLINICAL TEACHING



134 principled law and social work students trained to pick up the mantle of justice

POLICY



\$1,724 in your bank account protected from debt collectors thanks to SB-616's statewide levy reform

HOW EBCLC BUILT SECURITY FOR OUR COMMUNITY THIS YEAR

As the Bay Area struggled with an escalating housing and homelessness crisis, we answered a rallying cry from activists and advocates: Housing is a Human Right. But the human right to “housing” goes far beyond our basic need for shelter. Our blueprint to build the Beloved Community starts with our commitment to true security, equity, and belonging; through schools that allow children to feel safe and thrive, meaningful work opportunities, and relief from displacement, deportation, and debt. In partnership with our supporters and allies, we made great strides towards building this community in 2019:

- With rents rising everywhere, **we ramped up our protections of people in rent-controlled housing**. Parents of newborns on fixed incomes, seniors taking on custody of grandkids, domestic violence survivors, and elders with dementia all came to us facing targeted landlord harassment and discriminatory eviction this year, and we successfully defended their right to keep a home for their families.
- Hateful rhetoric and fear-mongering executive orders have deterred undocumented people from seeking the legal help they need- and most can't afford to hire attorneys to help with the complex process of filing for immigration remedies. To overcome these barriers, **we're meeting families where they are — at schools, campuses, and health centers** — and providing children and young adults from kindergarten to college with legal protection through DACA, asylum, U-visas, and more.
- The same incarcerated firefighters protecting California from natural disasters are almost always blocked from entering this career after their release from prison. **We drafted AB-1211** to reform occupational licensing laws in our state and help formerly incarcerated people pursue family-sustaining careers as firefighters or EMTs, and we're gearing up to get it over the finish line next year.



Nora Wallace, student, and Hewot Shankute, Community Economic Justice Clinic Staff Attorney and Clinical Supervisor, talk to community members at a town hall discussion. Photo credit: Brittany Hosea-Small



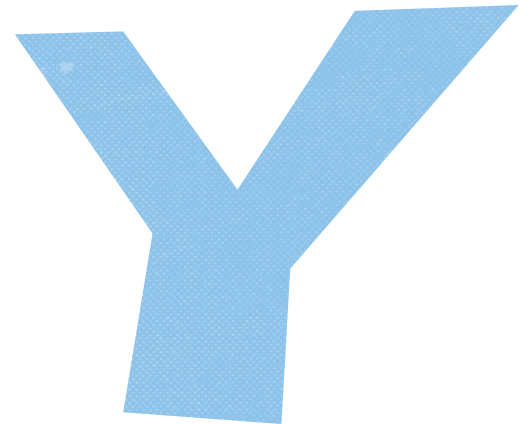


Sharon Djemal, Consumer Justice Clinic Director, advises Courtney Weber, former Lutheran Volunteer.



Samira Seraji, student, gives a presentation on preserving affordable housing. Photo Credit: Brittany Hosea-Small

- After three years of tenacious advocacy in the California legislature, **we passed SB-616, setting aside \$1,724 in each person's account that can't be touched by a debt collector's levy** to prevent families from experiencing financial crises.
- When parents of sick kids, seniors with disabilities, and transgender people needing treatment were denied their public benefits, we stood by their side. **Our successful appeals brought in thousands of dollars in back-pay and stable, ongoing income** to take families from crisis to security and health.
- We know that strapping ankle monitors on kids just makes them more likely to get stuck in jail, isolates them from their school friends, and creates rifts within their families. That's why **we hosted the first-ever convening on GPS monitoring of youth** to discuss the real effects of this dangerous surveillance technology and strategize the next steps in abolishing it.
- As movement lawyers walking in step with our neighbors, **we provided technical assistance to the community organizers leading campaigns for change.** Through research, legal consultations, and base-mobilization, we built capacity for principled activists fighting on the frontlines for affordable housing, equitable schools, and restorative justice.



Thank you for all of the ways you've built a Beloved Community with us.

“COMMUNITY COLLEGE WAS THE MISSING PIECE.”



Mindy Phillips, Immigration Program Deputy Director, and Ramon Becerra-Alcantar, Immigration Program Paralegal, provide on-campus screening services to undocumented community college students.

Ramon Becerra-Alcantar, paralegal for EBCLC’s Immigration Program, was living in Oakland when he got his first job at a grocery store. The hiring process went smoothly for him. He began training and had already been working for a few days when he received a call from the store management questioning the status of his work authorization after running a background check. “They said there was a mistake with my social security and that I should come in to fix it,” said Ramon.

He knew then that he would never be able to return to the job.

“I was afraid to go back to pick up the check they owed me for training,” said Ramon.

Before President Obama’s 2012 executive order called DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) provided administrative relief to undocumented immigrants who arrived in the United States as children, Ramon was one of thousands of young people who did not have work authorization, nor protection from deportation. He knew his employment options were limited.

Eventually, Ramon found a job at a restaurant where he worked ‘under the table’.

“It was hard to see how workers were treated. The owner knew that (the employees) did not have authorization to work and he took advantage of that. I knew I couldn’t do certain things. I feared getting fired because I was undocumented and it was going to be hard to find a job that didn’t do a background check,” said Ramon.

After living through these experiences, Ramon knew that he had to make a change. He decided then that he wanted to pursue a career in the immigration legal field. Today, he’s spearheading a pilot project to expand access to immigration legal services in Oakland.

[Read more about Ramon’s experience serving undocumented students on the campus he once called home...](#)

FIGHTING TO CARE: ONE WOMAN'S BATTLE TO PRACTICE EMERGENCY MEDICINE



EBCLC's Clean Slate Clinic.
Photo Credit: Bethanie Hines Photography

In February 2019, EBCLC's Clean Slate Clinic celebrated a direct service victory for AC, a client facing deeply unfair obstacles to attaining her dream career as an EMT. In California, almost 30% of careers are regulated by occupational licensing boards, and people with criminal records face significant barriers in licensure. In 2020, EBCLC will ramp up our advocacy to reform occupational licensing and challenge the criminalization of poverty. We are working towards a California in which everyone has a fair shot at a good job.*

On her last visit to EBCLC to drop off a box of celebratory donuts, AC checked her watch a few times while chatting with her attorney. She couldn't risk running late for her job interview that afternoon - not after all she had been through to secure it.

"It's just surreal," AC said, shaking her head and thinking back on the years of struggle and advocacy that had brought her to this point. In 2016, AC started working as a wheelchair attendant for a private ambulance company. Her supervisors quickly singled her out to take on greater responsibilities and even tapped her to train new hires and design new safety procedures. She seemed an obvious candidate to promote to an EMT position, but there was one thing holding her back: a years-old conviction that blocked her from registering for an occupational license.

As an undergrad, AC had studied nursing. But after narrowly avoiding a medical emergency of her own, she was inspired by care providers who work on the frontlines. She first obtained a license and practiced as an EMT while living in New York. After moving, she was initially awarded an ambulance driver's certificate from the California DMV but lost it a few months later when her bag was stolen. When she went to get it replaced, the agency balked, citing her conviction record to argue that she never should have been issued it in the first place. It was the first of many hurdles AC would eventually need to clear.

[Read what happened next in AC's challenging and triumphant journey to overcome the obstacles to EMT licensure...](#)

*Client identity masked for privacy.

EBCLC IN THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR: TEAMING UP WITH ROBERT REICH AND W. KAMAU BELL ON "A TALE OF TWO TICKETS"

Last summer, advocates across the state came together to launch Debt Free Justice California (DFJC), a coalition with the goal of ending the criminalization of poverty. As one of EBCLC's first contributions, Clean Slate Clinic advocates Brandon Greene and Theresa Zhen authored a [widely-read *whitepaper*](#) that persuaded our Board of Supervisors to pass an ordinance making Alameda County just the second municipality in the nation to abolish adult criminal justice system fees, clearing the debts of almost 100,000 people.

In 2019, we worked closely with the office of State Senator Holly Mitchell to help draft SB-144, the "Families Over Fees" Act, which would eliminate criminal justice system fees statewide. We also collaborated with Robert Reich and W. Kamau Bell on "A Tale of Two Tickets", directed by award-winning filmmaker Jacob Kornbluth and produced by Inequality Media. This video takes us deep into the cascade of life-altering consequences that can arise from a simple traffic ticket, and highlights the racial disparities baked into our criminal justice system.

"A Tale of Two Tickets" put our movement on the map, racking up half a million views and winning a "Shorty Social Good Award" for best social justice-related social media and digital advocacy efforts. Check it out below and let's rally together to ramp up this fight in 2020.



[Click here to watch "A Tale of Two Tickets"](#)

SPECIAL HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

Each year, our dedicated advocates and law students work together to advance a more equitable community. We are grateful for the special recognition of these efforts received in 2019.



Daniel Faessler, EBCLC Health & Welfare Clinic, Staff Attorney and Clinical Supervisor

Berkeley Law's 2019 Kathi Pugh Award for Exceptional Mentorship

This spring, Daniel took home an honor named for one of EBCLC's co-founders and bestowed upon just one clinician per year. From launching the Name and Gender Change Workshop (NGCW), a drop-in clinic providing transgender clients with free legal services to update their identification documents, to representing clients in discrimination cases, and creating a space of community for transgender law students, Daniel's life's work is to bring justice to the forefront. [Read more about Daniel's work as a Health and Welfare advocate...](#)



Nirali Beri, Berkeley Law Class of 2019 and EBCLC Housing Clinic Alum

Berkeley Law's 2019 Brian M. Sax Prize for Excellence in Clinical Advocacy

In Nirali's second year, she was tapped to lead EBCLC's Tenants' Rights Workshop. As a Housing Clinic student, she successfully took on complex cases, including ensuring that an elderly woman with a disability was able to stay in her home by drafting a writ filed against a local housing authority. Nirali is now a Tenants' Rights Legal Fellow at Centro Legal de la Raza.



Hannah Flanery, Berkeley Law Class of 2019 and EBCLC Housing Clinic Alum

Berkeley Law's 2019 Brian M. Sax Honorable Mention for Excellence in Clinical Advocacy

After Hannah attempted to settle a case and was met with a refusal from the landlord's attorney, she volunteered to represent the tenant at trial. The next day, she took first chair in the trial and won - something that no student in the Housing Clinic's history has ever done! Hannah is now a Staff Attorney at Legal Assistance to the Elderly, Inc.



Cindy Pan, Berkeley Law Class of 2019 and EBCLC Consumer Justice Clinic Alum

Clinical Legal Education Association's 2019 Berkeley Law Outstanding Clinical Student Award

During her time at EBCLC, Cindy engaged in research that contributed significantly to the Contractors State Licensing Board's and District Attorney's investigations into a high-profile fraud case. Her work with the Consumer Justice Clinic spanned from student loan debt to credit reporting to credit card discharges. Cindy is now an Associate at WilmerHale.

[Read more about the work of our outstanding students...](#)

THANK YOU!

Our work is possible because of the generosity of our beloved community of supporters. We extend deep appreciation to the following individuals, foundations, law firms, and businesses who contributed to EBCLC between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019.

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FY2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

Your dedicated financial support has enabled EBCLC to continue to experience steady growth and sustain a strong stance against unprecedented political, economic, and social attacks on our communities.

Thanks to multiyear funding commitments from key institutional funders, as well as from our individual donors, we have been able to continue our defense of human dignity and a community where everyone belongs. From helping families remain housed to finding relief for undocumented community members to securing transformative policy reforms that will benefit Californians for generations to come, we remain firm in our commitment to serving our community and seeding the field of law, public policy, and advocacy with principled new leaders.

EBCLC needs to remain well-resourced to stay the course over the long haul. In the years ahead, we will look back with pride on our collective efforts, when together we threw our all into the fight to defend our values of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusivity.

You have the sincere gratitude of all of us at EBCLC for your steadfast investment in our work.

The graphs that follow reflect data from our most recent audited financial statements for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.



Left: Manny Cruz, Legal Services Receptionist, Angela Smith, Director of Operations, and Tamura Rosby, Administrative Assistant, greet Troy Bassett, Finance Manager.

Right: Donzahniya Pitre, Administrative Assistant, helps clients by phone.

Photo credit: Bethanie Hines Photography

Statement of Financial Position

Assets	FY2019	FY2018
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,125,310	\$1,102,892
Cash held in trust	\$516,849	\$379,699
Investments	\$1,609,792	\$1,551,746
Grants and pledges receivable	\$953,337	\$766,203
Prepaid Expenses	\$70,878	\$116,488
Total Current Assets	\$4,276,166	\$3,917,028
Property and equipment, net	\$1,635,678	\$1,686,902
Deposits	\$29,328	\$31,302
Total Assets	\$5,941,172	\$5,635,232
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$183,923	\$167,424
Accrued vacation	\$300,110	\$258,056
Deferred revenue	\$199,232	\$213,436
Client trust accounts	\$516,849	\$379,699
Total Liabilities	\$1,200,114	\$1,018,615
Net assets		
Without donor restrictions	\$3,967,635	\$3,682,662
With donor restrictions	\$773,423	\$933,955
Total Net Assets	\$4,741,058	\$4,616,617
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$5,941,172	\$5,635,232



Pedro Viramontes, Housing Clinic Staff Attorney and Clinical Supervisor, and Meghan Gordon, Housing Clinic Director, in Alameda County housing court on settlement day. Photo credit: Adriana Oyarzun Photography.

Statement of Activities

Without Donor Restrictions With Donor Restrictions Total

Support and Revenue

Support

Government Awards	\$2,813,127		\$2,813,127
Foundation and community grants	\$74,000	\$1,793,721	\$1,867,721
Contributions	\$1,860,513	\$447,303	\$2,307,816
Special event, net	\$212,244		\$212,244
Total Support	\$4,959,884	\$2,241,024	\$7,200,908

Revenue

Affiliation Agreement	\$1,011,627		\$1,011,627
Attorney fees and costs	\$150,191		\$150,191
Investment activity, net	\$58,035		\$58,035
Other	\$19,253		\$19,253
Total Revenue	\$1,239,106		\$1,239,106

Support provided by expiring time and purpose restrictions	\$2,401,556	-\$2,401,556	
Total Support and Revenue	\$8,600,546	-\$160,532	\$8,440,014

Expenses

Program	\$6,582,928		\$6,582,928
Management and general	\$1,121,222		\$1,121,222
Fundraising	\$611,423		\$611,423
Total Expenses	\$8,315,573		\$8,315,573

Change in Net Assets	\$284,973	-\$160,532	\$124,441
Net Assets, beginning of year	\$3,682,662	\$933,955	\$4,616,617
Net Assets, end of year	\$3,967,635	\$773,423	\$4,741,058

