# **Justice**



# **2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

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





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

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## **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 service, 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.

# 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."



**OUR IMPACT** 

# **BY THE NUMBERS**







# 36,000

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



Criminal Justice System Debt Erased through the Families Over Fees Act



**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:

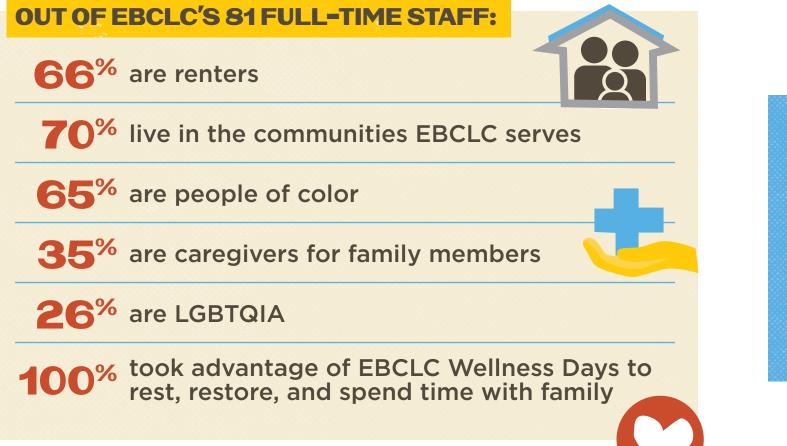


residents housed and represents the nation's longest and strongest COVID-19-related eviction ban.

especially Black and brown people targeted by mass incarceration by eliminating criminal justice system fees.

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

## **WHO WE ARE**



#### MICHELLE NATIVIDAD RODRIGUEZ New Board Member

"If we're going to have success in stabilizing our communities, we have to uplift the efforts of Blackled 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."



## WHO WE ARE: Our Staff



"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."



**SUPPORT** East Bay Community Law Center | 2020 Annual Report 11

#### 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 communitybuilding 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."

hella

Justice

## 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."



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.



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."





WE DO NOT LIVE SINGLE ISSUE LIVES: A CONVERSATION ON RACE, COVID-19, AND EBCLC'S HOLISTIC RECOVERY PLAN



July 9, 2020 11AM - 1PM PST REGISTER: <u>EBCLC-NO-SINGLE-ISSUE-</u> LIVES.EVENTBRITE.COM



#### EBCLC ADVOCACY TO KEEP COMMUNITIES SAFE DURING COVID-19

- Halt evictions to keep families in place
   Allow people to access their public benefits remotely
   Accommodate people who cannot come to traffic court
   Preserve the health and safety of encampment residents
   Pause debt collection through wage garnishments and bank levies
   Stop in-person group meetings for Welfare-to-Work Benefits
   Stop towing vehicles, so sick people don't lose their primary asset
- Reaffirm our Sanctuary City commitment to undocumented people and all immigrants
- $\fbox$  Reduce the number of youth in custody and ensure that youth in custody are cared for

Solution Secured Secured = Work in progress

# 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 decisionmakers, and our movement for change is growing.

#### 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
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 Klein 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 Matza Douglas G. Dillard and Michele S. Dillard Carlson Jing Du Fiona Dulbecco and David Zeltser Robin and Rich Edwards David Epstein Bill Falik and Diana Cohen Feinstein Jeanine Feriancek

Howard F. and Carol Mondry Fine Scott A. Fink and Kathy E. 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-Sarah Krakoff and John Patrick Lane John Langdoc Nate Lawson Laura and Daniel Leaverton Paul Leonard and Amanda

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** Marv 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

Luckel

Stone

Andrew M. Abrams Pearlman Berkelev Rotarv Kim Abrams Endowment Catherine R. Albiston and Marc N. Melnick Christie Blakley Yelena Blank Masha Albrecht William F. Alderman Lauren Brener John Alexander Kay Sneeringer Christine Amatruda and Eb Dale Brodsky American Immigration Gillian N. Brown Lawyers Assoc., Nor Cal Laura Brown Jennifer Anderson **Richard Anderson** Kevin P. Bundy Anonymous (1) Stephen Bundy Anonymous (2) Anonymous (3) Peers Anonymous (4) Erin C. Carroll Don Arbitblit and Jill Suttie Casebeer Samson O. Asiyanbi Holly Babe Faust and Janet Hallie Chertok Mike and Linda Baker Stephen Chien Tracy Clements Gerald and Jane Baldwin Holly M. Baldwin Ramona Collins Leo Beaver Cortes Brien C. Bell Betsy Cotton Peter Benvenutti and Lise

David Brewster and Mary Bruce and Maria Budner Allison Butler and Richard Craig H. and Letitia Douglas Chermak Ernest J. and Cindy S.

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. Del orme Melinda Derish and Cassius Scott Sharon Diemal 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

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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.)**

#### **CY PRES**

Lisa Hirsch	Niall and Eve Ly
Cameron L. Holland	John Marsland
Joan and David Hollinger	Susan Mayer
Art B. and Edna Hom	Derek T. McDon
Chris Hoofnagle	Sabrina McGrav
Grant E. Huebner	Ted Mermin and
Cesar J. Icasiano	Polsky
Polly and Greg Ikonen	David Mitchell
Jessica Intrator	Hezla and Paree Mohamed
Thomas and Barbara Job	Noel and Penny
Kathleen and Mark Jones	Ann O'Leary
Eli Khan	Zachary Palchic
Manel Kappagoda and Wallace Whittier	Tom Peckham
Mary Kappagoda	Lester Pedrazzi
Amanda M. Karl	Mike and Suzan Pietrykowski
Kareem M. Kazkaz	Linda and Ewar
Kevin Khurana	Roey Rahmil
Shelley Klop	Yocelin Ramirez
Jeffrey Kosbie	Nani Ratnawati
Jennifer Kuenster and George Miers	Bernida Reagar Head
Nicholas M. Lampros	Alex Reese
Levy Vinick Burrell Hyams LLP	Amy Resner and
Wendy Lilliedoll	Lee
Measue Liotta	William C. Reuto S. Major

vnch nald w d Claudia ed v Nellis ck ini nne n Purkiss z Fernandez n and James d William ter and Ruth

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 Stever Lowenthal Boodrookas Alvarez & Smith LLP Lisa Stockholm

Nicholas A. Stratton

Joshua Su Stephen D. Sugarman and Karen I. Carlson Ryan Sun Fleanor 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

Altshuler Berzon LLP **Bailev & 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	1,331,269	953,337
Prepaid Expenses	115,503	70,878
Total Current Assets	5,287,814	4,276,166
Property and Equipment, Net	1,586,186	1,635,678
Deposits	29,328	29,328
Total Assets	6,903,328	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	516,817	199,232
Client Trust Accounts	345,725	516,849
Loans and Other Liabilities	135,149	-
Total Liabilities	1,518,595	1,200,114
Net Assets		
Without Donor Restrictions	4,094,228	3,967,635
With Donor Restrictions	1,290,505	773,423
Total Net Assets	5,384,733	4,741,058
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	6,903,328	5,941,172

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	
Support and Revenue				
Support				Attorneys Investment Fees & Costs Activity, Net
Government Awards	5,132,139	-	5,132,139	Fees & Costs Activity, Net <b>0.7</b> % <b>0.4</b> % Other
Foundation and Community Grants	829,084	1,829,594	2,658,678	0.1%
Contributions	872,561	86,970	959,531	Affiliation
Total Support	6,833,784	1,916,564	8,750,348	Agreement
Revenue				Contributions 10.6 <sup>%</sup> Government
Affiliation Agreement	1,053,133	-	1,053,133	9.7 <sup>%</sup> Awards
Attorney Fees and Costs	70,206	-	70,206	<b>51.7</b> %
Investment Activity, Net	39,874	-	39,874	PERCENTAGE OF
Other	13,695	-	13,695	TOTAL SUPPORT
Total Revenue	1,176,908	-	1,176,908	AND REVENUE
Support provided by expiring time and purpose restrictions	1,913,578	(1,924,176)	-	26.8%
Total Support and Revenue	9,924,270	(7,612)	9,927,256	Foundations & Community
Expenses				Grants
Program	7,722,793	-	7,732,846	
Management and General	1,535,899	-	1,536,444	
Fundraising	538,986	-	538,986	
Total Expenses	9,797,678	-	9,808,276	
Change in Net Assets	126,593	(7,612)	118,980	
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	3,967,635	773,423	4,741,058	
Net Assets, End of Year	4,094,228	765,811	4,860,038	



## EBCLC.ORC/SUPPORT-US

EAST BAY COMMUNITY

# JUSTICE THROUGH **EDUCATION & ADVOCACY**