The mission of East Bay Children’s Law Offices is to protect and defend the rights of children and youth through holistic, vigorous and compassionate legal advocacy. EBCLO strives to provide a voice for children in and out of the courtroom and to promote positive outcomes for our clients.
Since opening our doors in 2009, we have represented almost 9,000 children at more than 50,000 hearings and have made them feel heard, understood and fought for at what was probably the lowest point in their young lives. We have been in their homes, met their families, become a part of their team and watched them grow up.

In this report, we look not only at what we have accomplished in the last year, but also what we have accomplished in the last 10 years. We profile two amazing young adults who were our clients 10 years ago.

Tiffany emancipated from the system when she was 18—her 18th birthday pre-dated Extended Foster Care which now allows youth to stay in the system until they are 21. Jeremy emancipated at age 21. Both are great success stories, and we are lucky to remain connected to them.

Not all of our clients are there yet. We continue to represent 20 young adults who were our clients 10 years ago and remain our clients today. That’s too much time in foster care. All of our clients’ needs are complex and extend far beyond the court process. The trauma they have experienced is real. Our advocacy must be driven by their reality.

Empower us to empower the children.
Community-based Advocacy for Resources and Education (CARE)

Children and youth who become involved in the court system have more than likely experienced trauma and have a wide variety of needs outside of court. CARE encapsulates EBCLO’s specialty legal services as well as its advocacy beyond the courtroom.

Dependency Advocacy Program

EBCLO is the primary provider of court appointed legal representation for Alameda County’s foster youth. When a family is brought into juvenile court with allegations of abuse, neglect or abandonment, EBCLO is appointed from the very start to help children navigate the process and give their wishes and needs a strong and urgent voice in an overwhelming and complicated juvenile court process. Our goal is, first and foremost, to have children safely returned to their homes. When that can’t happen, our goal is that children be with relatives and/or achieve alternative permanency through the establishment of a legal guardianship or adoption.

Probate Guardianship Counsel for Children Program

When someone who is not a parent seeks custody of a child, an extensive process through the Probate Court ensues. EBCLO is appointed by the court in the most complicated probate guardianship cases for its expertise in providing vigorous and holistic representation to children and connecting children and their caregivers to community resources.

Education Advocacy Program

EBCLO concentrates on four main areas of education advocacy proven to most significantly improve outcomes for children—school stability, special education, school discipline and high school graduation.

Strong Beginnings Program

In 2018, EBCLO introduced a strategic concentration on the developmental needs of our infant, toddler and preschooler clients. By conducting developmental assessments and triggering early intervention services, EBCLO will enhance the school readiness of our youngest clients.

Mental Health Advocacy Program

EBCLO’s clients with the highest mental health needs receive expert advocacy both in juvenile court as well as during psychiatric hospitalizations. The program also provides enhanced services to youth facing criminal charges as well as youth who have been commercially or sexually exploited.

Advocacy at 110 K-12 school meetings

199 0-5 year-old children screened for developmental issues

Advocacy at 83 early education meetings
In 10 years, we have served 8,260 dependency clients
▷ 3,289 children were reunified with their parents
▷ 1,126 were placed in legal guardianships
▷ 1007 were adopted

In 10 years, we have served 372 clients in probate guardianships
▷ 174 guardianships granted
▷ 44 children reunified with their parents

Jeremy didn’t have a birth certificate, and EBCLO requested and obtained his out-of-state birth certificate.

2009

In November 2012, EBCLO intervened when Jeremy was wrongfully suspended from school.

2012

In May 2013, Jeremy graduated from high school.

2013

In August 2015, Jeremy’s juvenile court case was dismissed right before his junior year of college.

2015

In June 2017, Jeremy graduated from Dartmouth College and then moved to Japan.

2017

Today Jeremy is an Assistant Language Teacher teaching English to Japanese youth.

2019

Thanks to the unconditional love and support I received from East Bay Children’s Law Office through my lawyer, I was able to reach heights that I could have only dreamed of reaching had she not been there.

— Jeremy
In March 2009, Tiffany's son Josiah was born. At the time, Tiffany commuted from a foster home in Richmond to high school in Union City.

In July, EBCLO took over Tiffany's representation from the Public Defender.

In June 2010, Tiffany graduated from high school.

Two months later, Tiffany emancipated from the foster care system.

In June 2013, Tiffany graduated from Chabot College.

In June 2019, Tiffany's son Trey was born.

In June, Tiffany moved to Atlanta.

“Foster care has shown me a whole other side of life that I sometimes wish I didn't have to experience. Instead of dwelling on the hardships that I've endured while in the system, I've learned to grow from them.”

— Tiffany
OUR PEOPLE

EBCLO STAFF

Lauren Aguirre
Liz Aleman
Collin Baker
Carol Barnett
Regan Bradley
Larita Cortez
Christie deGuzman
Haley Fagan
Lisa Friedman
Nikki Garcia
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Photo above: EBCLO staff at the Juvenile Justice Center on March 18, 2019. By Megan Small Photography
**OUR NUMBERS**

**SUPPORT & REVENUE**
- Government Contracts: $1,936,020
- Individual & Event Donations: $116,737
- Foundation & Corporate Grants: $370,204
- In-Kind & Miscellaneous Income: $31,314
- Fees for Services: $272,434

**EXPENSES**
- General & Administrative Expenses: $239,426
- Program Expenses: $1,938,680
- Fundraising: $104,810

**OUR CLIENTS**
- 2,091 children served in all programs in 2018
- 333 kids returned to their parents in 2018
- 88 adoptions finalized in 2018
- 135 guardianships granted in 2018

**OUR CLIENTS AGES**
- 29% 0-5
- 21.5% 6-11
- 28% 12-17
- 21.5% 18-21

Our new address is:
80 Swan Way, #300, Oakland, CA 94621

WE’RE MOVING JANUARY 1!
**Justice Circle ($50,000+)**
- Kaiser Permanente
- Younger Family Fund

**Founders Circle ($25,000+)**
- Equal Justice Works (The Clorox Company and Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP)
- Help for Children
- Walter S. Johnson Foundation
- Thomas J. Long Foundation
- United Parents
- Bernard E. & Alba Witkin Charitable Foundation

**Leadership Circle ($10,000+)**
- Margaret Hand & John Hartog
- Quest Foundation/HEDCO Foundation
- Jennifer & Steve Roop
- Sky Ranch Foundation
- van Loben Sels/RembeRock Foundation

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- Chester Day
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- Warren & Karen Bird
- Brian Blalock
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- Kirkland & Ellis Foundation
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- The Morrison & Foerster Foundation

**Questions, Comments, or Concerns?**
- Ying Chen
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- Carolyn George & Gregory Slatoff
- Teresa Green
- Carrie Guthrie & Kathy Passmore
- Tom Hahn & Robin Phipps
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- Richard & Evelyn Heckman
- Troy & Jennifer Holme
- Douglas Horst & Maureen Phillips

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- Al & Tracy Brandi
- Eugenia Amador
- George & Laurel Arroyo
- Wendy Bomberg
- Bob & Carol Brooks
- Melinda Leong Capozzi

**THANK YOU**
Jaime Dadej
Georgia Cassel
Mike Chae & Whitney Gabriel
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Cyndy Chueh
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