

EAST BAY
CHILDREN'S
LAW OFFICES®

Celebrating 15 Years!

Children
should be
seen and
heard.®



2024 Impact Report

Celebrating 15 Years!

There are so many unforgettable moments when you represent a child. Someone at East Bay Children's Law Offices (EBCLO)—or maybe several of us—looked into the eyes of every face you see in this report and shared a moment with them. Actually, dozens of moments. Happy moments, terrifying moments, empowering moments, and mundane moments.

I'll never forget when a young client with autism was too scared to enter the courthouse because the uniformed deputies triggered traumatic memories of the police arresting his mother a few days earlier. It was Christmas Eve. Eventually he made it as far as the hallway, though never into the courtroom itself. I gave him a teddy bear as I sat on the floor near him and explained who I was and where we were. I later learned that he carried that bear everywhere for months.

I'll never forget when Jeremy wrote my name in Japanese at a restaurant in Hanover, NH, when I visited him as a college freshman at Dartmouth where he had begun to study Japanese. Or when his Japanese mother gifted me a friendship bracelet when I ran into her on the street back in Berkeley. Now Jeremy lives and works in Japan.

It's these moments—big and small—that speak to the importance of the relationships that everyone at EBCLO creates with clients starting on day one. Since EBCLO opened its doors 15 years ago, we have come to know 11,460 children and youth. It's impossible to even fathom how many moments we have shared with them. Every single moment is a call to action on behalf of a child for everyone at EBCLO who shared it.

With your help, we will continue to share moments and gain inspiration to empower children to be seen and heard inside the courtroom and out. We hope their stories inspire you too.


Thank you for listening,



Kristin Mateer
Co-Founder/Executive Director




1,705
total clients
served in 2023



These moments speak to the
importance of the relationships that
everyone at EBCLO creates with
clients starting on day one.



77,169
miles driven in
the last year
to see clients in all
programs



11,460
clients served
since 2009

15 Years of Helping Hands

By Lakota, age 26

EBCLO CLIENT 2011-2019

This year, I had the honor of being invited by EBCLO to create a mural for their space. For the design, I envisioned a tree where, instead of traditional leaves, people would dip their hands in paint and imprint them on the branches, symbolizing the leaves. The concept came to me as I reflected on the profound impact EBCLO had on my life as a former foster youth. I wanted the mural to represent the countless hands that helped shape my journey. My hope is that as EBCLO staff walk by the mural, they'll be reminded that while they may feel like just one small leaf on a vast tree, they are, in fact, part of something much greater—an essential and interconnected community working together to change lives.

Lakota is a Communications Coordinator at a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting individuals impacted by domestic violence and human trafficking. She manages various communication strategies, including social media and outreach, to raise awareness and engage the community.



EBCLO'S 2024 DEI STATEMENT

We understand that laws are not colorblind. We recognize that we must work to dismantle structural racism and implicit and explicit bias that leads to disproportionality and disparate legal outcomes for BIPOC and LGBTQ+ children in Alameda County. We work to remedy these structural inequities, and to ensure that each client is treated with the respect and care they deserve. We honor our clients' stories, heritage, culture, and traditions and ensure they are seen and heard throughout the process. We value diverse lived experiences, backgrounds and perspectives. EBCLO strives to reflect the East Bay community in its staff, leadership and Board of Directors.



Programs

DEPENDENCY ADVOCACY PROGRAM

EBCLO is the primary provider of court-appointed legal representation for Alameda County's youth experiencing foster care. When a family is brought into juvenile court with allegations of abuse, neglect or abandonment, EBCLO is appointed. We help children navigate the juvenile court system and relentlessly advocate on their behalf. Our goal is to support children in safely returning to their homes.

250

children's cases closed because children were safely home with their parents in 2023

59

youth completed extended foster care in 2023

85

children adopted in 2023

2,177

visits with clients in their home or community over the last year

4,132

dependency hearings

73

legal guardianships established for children in 2023

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Jessica, age 21

EBCLO CLIENT 2020-2024

Signed a lease and moved into her very first apartment with a Foster Youth to Independence voucher!

MOVING ON UP!

Autumn, age 24

EBCLO CLIENT 2011-2020

Pursuing a Master's in International Education Management and Leadership in New York.

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER



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. The court appoints EBCLO based on our expertise in providing vigorous and holistic representation to children through our ability to connect children and their caregivers to community resources.



589

clients since
program began
in 2010



55

children
served in 2023

17

guardianships
established
in 2023

5

children reunited
with their parents
in 2023



**WHERE
ARE THEY
NOW?**



Kalani, age 26

EBCLO CLIENT 2012-2018

Assisting patients as a
medial case manager in the East Bay.

BRIDGING THE GAP

COMMUNITY-BASED ADVOCACY FOR RESOURCES AND EDUCATION (CARE) PROGRAM

CARE uses a trauma-informed approach to address the needs of children and youth beyond the four walls of the courtroom. CARE provides intensive and individualized client support through specialist attorneys and social workers to maximize positive outcomes for our clients. CARE includes:



→ Education Advocacy Program

The Education Advocacy Program (EAP) is designed to reduce the educational achievement gap often experienced by youth in foster care, with a program goal to disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline. In addition to EBCLO's direct advocacy amplifying youth's voices in school, we recruit and train other trusted adults to hold educational rights for clients whose parents or foster parents cannot. The EAP prioritizes school stability, access special education, school discipline defense, and high school graduation.

100%

of youth referred for expulsion were not expelled

3

state compliance complaints

56

IEP meetings and 24 other school meetings attended



→ Crossover Youth Advocacy Program

The Crossover Youth Advocacy Program encompasses direct services and policy advocacy for populations of youth experiencing both the foster care and juvenile justice system. Since 2013, EBCLO has provided specialty advocacy to prevent youth "crossing over" from foster care into the juvenile justice system. EBCLO recognizes we serve many youth who have been victimized through commercial or sexual exploitation and require trauma informed advocacy.

38

visits to youth in custody

5

youth complete probation with records sealed

170

delinquency court hearings

16

youth and young adults not charged after arrest due to EBCLO advocacy

→ Strong Beginnings Program

The Strong Beginnings Program ensures that young children (ages 0–5) receive vital services to address mental health, health, education and developmental challenges that can interfere with their social-emotional and educational development. Our objectives are to break the cradle-to-prison pipeline by meeting their needs as early as possible so our clients are more likely to succeed in school and in life.

37

babies born with positive toxicology screens were served

38

0–5 year olds screened for developmental issues

47%

were below normal developmental stage and required further services

79

Help Me Grow assessments were reviewed



“By assessing our clients early and connecting them to resources, we can help assure that they reach kindergarten ready to learn. And I can personally reassure caregivers that early intervention works because it worked for my son who is now succeeding in kindergarten.”

—TATIANA SMITH,
STRONG BEGINNINGS
SOCIAL WORKER





Stephanie Aguayo

Carol Barnett

Regan Bradley-Brown

CJ Connolly

Larita Cortez

Christie DeGuzman

Nikki Garcia

Lovena Henry

Tenisha Lewis

Ginger Lewis Dole

Ashley Lotti

Kristin Mateer

Sarah McElhinney

Angelina Nilssen

Dr. Lynnā McPhatter-Harris

Jess Meeks

Terry Parks

Kim Rhody

Anthony Rodriguez

Roxanne Romell

Tatiana Smith

Amy Spierling

Alix Vadot

Abby Williams

Kristin Windley

Emily Zia

EBCLO Awarded State Bar Gold DEI Leadership Seal

The DEI Leadership Seal recognizes legal employers with California attorneys that commit to and implement research-driven actions that further workplace diversity, equity, and inclusion. Organizations in the gold tier implement 9 out of 10 identified action items. EBCLO is proud to have achieved gold status in our initial application having been actively implementing many of the action items for several years.



444
new EBCLO
clients in
2023

Board of Directors



Kristin Mateer
Executive Director



Jennifer Lee
Board President



Charmaine Wong
Board Secretary



Chip Conradi
Board Treasurer



Gabrielle Alexander



Samuel Carter



Julie Grijalva



James Isbester



Reichi Lee



Greg Roberts



Janelle Sampana



Katherine Steadwell



EBCLO's mural took root at a 15th anniversary reunion of staff, board members, interns, and volunteers in May. It will continue to grow as EBCLO grows!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Samuel, age 32

EBCLO CLIENT
2009-2012

EBCLO BOARD OF
DIRECTORS
2020-PRESENT

Teaching and coaching
at an Oakland charter
school and parenting a
wonderful little boy.

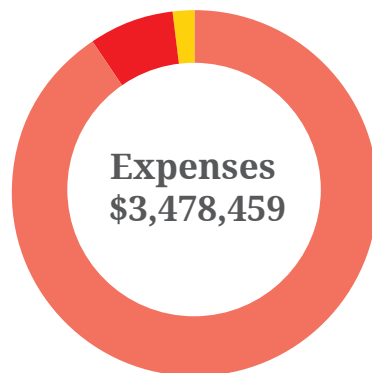
Supporters

Donations received October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024

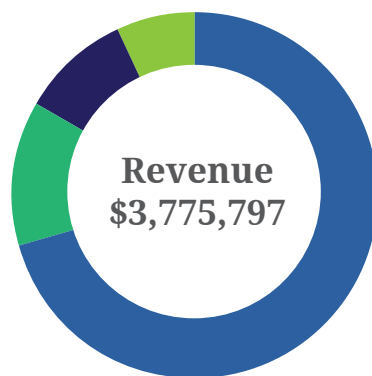
Anonymous	Leanna & Jason Castello	Liz Dunn & Kathy Phillips	Marty Hales & Jim McKerrow	Kevin & Sue Kelly
Margaret Alducin	George Chadwick	Moirra Duvernay	Matthew & Brenna Hall	Daniel Kim & Charmaine Wong
Sue Alexander	Kyle & Faye Champlin	East Bay Trust & Estates Lawyers	Dawn Hallsten & Don Mateer	Jacqueline King
America's Best Local Charities	Roger Chan	Danielle Eldridge	Margaret Hand & John Hartog	Devin Kinyon & Matthew Tanouye
John & Jody Atkins	John Chang	Barby & Yank Eppinger	Mary Bridget Hart	Janet Kleyn
David Baer & Jing Lin	Kristin Charipar	Equinix	Jane Heckman	Andreas Koeberl
Gordon Baranco	Charities Aid Foundation America	Jennifer Eskenazi	Tom Heckman & Kristin Mateer	Korpita Family Foundation
Chris Barry	Joe Chen	Haley Fagan	Margaret Hill	Paul Kotapish & Shivaun McDonald
Beneficial State Bank Foundation	Ying Chen	Jerry Feitelberg	Katherine Hockett	Suzan Kotch
Benevity Community Impact Fund	Yenju Chen & Glen Screechfield	Eleanor Ferris	Lois & Paul Hofmann	Tiffany Kwong
Gail Bereola	Lisa-Anne Cheung	Firedoll Foundation	Scott Hofmeister & Brian Wong	Paige L
Bernard E. & Alba Witkin Charitable Foundation	Child Molestation Research & Prevention Institute	Stuart Flashman & Jacqueline Richter	Jessica Hsiang Ng	Remelym Laguicao
Warren & Karen Bird	Simona & Florin Chitu	John Ford & Abigail Williams	Claire Huebler	Julia Lakes
Kellie Blumin	Amy Cipolla-Stickles	Theresa & Tahd Frentzel	Jeffrey Huebler	Sarah Landis
Dean Boerner & Gabby Vanacore	Hilary Clark	Yukie Fujimoto	Maggie Hunter	Scott Larsen & Shelly Sheppard
Wendy Bomberg	Diana Cline	Tim Gearhart & Mercedes Nateghian	In-N-Out Burger Foundation	Winnie & David Lau
Kristen Boney & Doug McBride	Sue Cody	Delbert Gee	Jamie Isbester	Phil Layzer & Georgie Price
Gloria Bradley	Carolyn & Curt Coleman	Margo George & Catherine Karrass	Jennifer Jacobsen	Jennifer Lee
Al & Traci Brandi	Katherine Congelton & Camron Hassanzadeh	Alison Gilliam	Gail Jefferson	Patti Lee
Lily Brewer	Chip & Becky Conradi	Kelley Gin	Chelsea Ji	Reichi Lee & Daniel Newbold
Alys Briggs	Judy & Peter Coy	Craig & Teresa Gleason	Kimberly Johnson	Tali Levy & Lee Zimmerman
Tami Brothers	Marty Craddock	Alba Gonzalez	The June & Julian Foss Foundation	Andrew & Nancy Lewis
Joanne Brown & Paul Rockett	Brenda Dabney	Sue Granzella	Kaiser Permanente's Northern California Community Benefit Programs	Debbie Lindemann
Constance Bryan	Judy Davison	Daniel Green	Kyoji & Addie Kanae	Willie Lott
Sharon & Jamie Burke	Freda Dawana	Shelby Greenia	Chuck Kapelke & Cindy Miner	Bernice Lu
George & Nancy Buth	Sarah DeLong	The Greg Smith Charitable Fund	Karen Katz & Peter Seidl	William MacMorran
Michele Button	Tushar Desai	Jaclyn Gross	Linda Kazares & Peter Meeks	David Madson
Tony Canini & Isa Howard	Joe & Gregg DiGiacomo	Carrie Guthrie & Kathy Passmore	Matt Kellogg & Julia Kripke	Anne Mania
Jackie Care & Chris High	Shannon Donohoe & Brad Whalen	Tom Hahn & Robin Phipps		Marian, Inc.
Phil Caruthers & Margaret LaFrance	Sunil Dua			Shelly Mazer
Cecilia Castellanos				James McElhinney
				Susan McElhinney

2023 Financials

JANUARY 1–
DECEMBER 31



Programs: \$3,151,505
General and Administrative: \$263,406
Development: \$63,548



Government Contracts: \$2,670,224
Foundation Grants and Corporate and Individual Donations: \$481,709
Program Service Fees: \$362,222
Other Income: \$261,642

Marta McLeod
Susan & Scott McNealy
Raymond & Reiko Mitsuda
Marie Moore
The Morris Stulsaf Foundation
Deborah Moss-West
Jennifer Mullin
Ann Naffziger
Tara Narayanan
Lorie Nathan & Arthur Ruda
Angelina Nilssen
Virginia Nunez
Oakland Literacy Coalition
Oakland Rotary Club
Brendon O'Neill
Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe
Mark & Christi Osborne

Mike Pagni
Liz Park Tran
Parkside Advisors
Jane Pennebaker
Sandy Perry
Judith & C. David Peterson
Dominique Pinkney
Spencer & Margot Platt
Maria Ponce
Quest Foundation/HEDCO Foundation
Cristina Quiñónez
CJ & Carol Ralph
Norbert & Cathy Ralph
Brigitte Rapatz
Alan Rath
Michael Rawson
Kim Rhody
Richard A. Zappala Family Foundation

Ginni Ring
Evelyn Ringel Barnett
Emily Rodgers
Heidi & Dave Rogers
Kate Rome
Jennifer & Steve Roop
Patti Russo
Cathy Sakimura
Janelle Sampana
Fred Schnider
Sheri Schoenberg & Richard Soroko
Daniel Senter
Seyfarth Shaw Charitable Foundation
Rob & Viv Shaw
Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
Neil & Kathy Siegel
Sarah Simmons
Sky Ranch Foundation

Timothy & Lucy Smallsreed
Stacey Stacey Weiss
Katherine Steadwell
Tamara Steele
Larry & Sandi Stein
Roberta Stewart
The Stocker Foundation
Peggy Stone
Todd Sulzinger
Tom Surh
David & Robin Sweet
Ticket to Dream Foundation
Joanna & Ryan Trammell
Leo Treggiari
Trucker Huss
John True
Grace Tsai
Mary Tunnell
Trudy Tyler

United Parents OAC
van Löben Sels/RembeRock Foundation
Sarah Vaona
Michelle Wagner
Deborah Wald
Gerald Wallace
Susan Walsh
Emily Walters
Elizabeth Waring
Kit Weigman & Naomi Wortis
Zev Weinberg
Vicky Wilkins
William G. Gilmore Foundation
Helen Wong
Kachun Wong
Greg Worthington
YEI Engineers, Inc.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



THEN



NOW

Andrew, age 30

EBCLO CLIENT 2009-2015

Driving long haul truck routes, parenting a beautiful little boy with another baby boy on the way!

ON THE ROAD AGAIN!



THEN



NOW

MarteonaAlaya, age 31

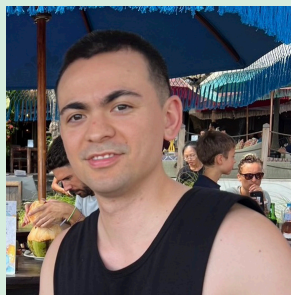
EBCLO CLIENT 2009-2013

Following her passion to cook and create and adding to the menus at vacation destination resorts near you!

YES, CHEF!



THEN



NOW

Jeremy, age 30

EBCLO CLIENT 2009-2015

Teaching English in rural Japan and traveling and creating social media content in his spare time!

KONNICHIWA FROM JAPAN!



NOW

MOM'S THE WORD!

Mecca, age 23

EBCLO CLIENT 2011-2022

In the inaugural cohort of Alameda County's guaranteed income program for youth emancipating from foster care and parenting two beautiful little girls!

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.



EAST BAY
CHILDREN'S
LAW OFFICES®

ebclo.org



Scan here to make
a donation