Financials

Income

- CT Bar: 38.6%
- DMHAS: 58.4%
- Misc Income: 3%

Expenses

- General Advocacy: 79%
- Fundraising: 1.8%
- M & G: 19.2%

Supporters

- DMHAS
- CBF
- Travelers Championship
- Amazon Smile
- Network for Good
- PayPal Giving Fund
- Town Fair Tire Foundation
- Community Action Foundation
- Benevity

Advocates, Inc.
Community Health Charities
Everyone who has supported our mission

Board of Directors

Karen DeMeola, Chair
Daniela Giordano, Vice Chair
Sarah Gallagher, Treasurer
Benita Toussaint, Secretary
Cynthia Barlow
Alan Bowie, Jr.
Eliot Gersten
Rachel Soboslai
Jessica Standish

Net Assets: $608,796

Annual Report
7/1/2021 - 6/30/2022

1-877-402-2299
www.clrp.org
CTLegalRightsProject
@CTLegalRights
CLRP has continued to advocate for change to the systems that influence our clients’ lives. During the 2022 legislative session, the legislature unanimously passed, and the Governor signed, a bill focused on Whiting Forensic Hospital. A significant factor in the passage of the bill was the public hearing testimony of [number] of hospital residents. CLRP’s participation in the patient-staff steering committees at Whiting and Dutcher meant that people knew what to do to participate in the legislative process and wanted to get involved; one client’s testimony won the Keep The Promise Coalition’s award for most memorable legislative testimony.

Although CLRP was not a participating provider in Connecticut’s Right to Counsel program, we continued to represent tenants in eviction actions when lease violation allegations related to disability-based behavior. Sometimes cases were successfully resolved by requesting a reasonable accommodation of the client’s disability. Others required negotiations resulting in stipulated agreements that enabled the client to stay housed and eventual withdrawal of the court case. Others resulted in decisions in favor of CLRP’s client after trial. CLRP serves clients who are unable to get representation elsewhere. On more than one occasion, we provided legal services to a client who was rejected by other legal services providers. Shelter is a basic need, and the inability to maintain that has a detrimental impact on one’s mental health. When CLRP is able to assist a client in accessing or maintaining their housing, we are helping to support that client in maintaining their recovery.

CLRP continues to challenge probate court actions that result in the deprivation of the rights of our clients. In coordination with Probate Court Administration and the Connecticut Bar Foundation Fellows, CLRP invited Professor Jasmine Harris of the University of Pennsylvania to kick off a series of events exploring conservatorship in Connecticut. CLRP is part of the Supported Decision-Making Coalition of Connecticut, which released a manual about SDM as a means of promoting independence for people with disabilities. CLRP coordination with court-appointed attorneys in a number of individual cases resulted in probate court decisions denying facility petitions for involuntary medication, civil commitment, and involuntary conservatorships of person and estate. These clients were able to keep their legal rights to make their own choices about their treatment and their lives. CLRP has brought actions to challenge the actions of court-appointed conservators; judgment obtained in our client’s favor will eventually result in money being returned to our client.

CLRP’s talented and dedicated staff could not do our important and necessary work without the generous financial support of our funders and our donors. We thank you for your support of our mission.

**From the Desk of the Executive Director**

**Kathy Flaherty**

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**BY THE NUMBERS**

Of the 549 clients served:

- **201** clients were helped in housing. 98% of all housing clients maintained or had access to housing after representation from CLRP.
- **156** clients maintained ability to keep self-sufficiency or self determination.
- **192** clients were represented on inpatient legal issues
- CLRP conducted outreach to **1,371** individuals.
- CLRP connected **156** callers to other resources.

**CLRP STAFF**

Kathy Flaherty, Esq., Executive Director
Kirk Lowry, Esq., Legal Director
Rosemary Marino, Business Manager
Joanne Bilger
Lisa Grandjean
Karyl Lee Hall, Esq.
Maren Klawiter, Esq.
Annette Medero
Helen Mehm
Adelina Santiago
Gina Teixeira, Esq.
Sally Zanger, Esq.