

BY THE NUMBERS



+6,300

Current open caseload



93%

success rate in achieving legal relief for our clients whose cases closed in 2019



+800

separated individuals received legal assistance from KIND



660

children connected to critical social services



+1,800

individuals reached through sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) prevention programming in Guatemala & Honduras



4,759

pro bono attorneys trained to represent children in immigration court



644

pro bono partnerships with law firms, corporations, law schools, and bar associations

Over 80,000 children who arrived alone in the U.S., searching for a safe future, were apprehended by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in 2019, the highest annual number to date. Despite threats and harsh policies implemented by the Trump Administration against this vulnerable population, KIND grew our national and international presence and continued to protect children on the move.

Thanks to your support, thousands of immigrant and refugee children are now safe.

Sam's Story



Sam* fled his home in El Salvador for the U.S. to escape gang members and police officers who were harassing and extorting him.

KIND matched him with a pro bono attorney who helped him gain legal status. Eager to learn, in his first two years of high school, Sam earned entry into the National Honor Society and has excelled in learning English and Portuguese. KIND referred Sam to Year Up, which provides students with college-level courses and a 6-month internship where he interned at the Federal Reserve of Boston. Sam was chosen as a speaker at Year Up's graduation in July 2019. He said, **"There was no future in El Salvador. I was only just trying to get by, and to protect myself from the gang. But now, I have people supporting me, helping me earn an education, and set long-term goals."**

**Name and photo changed to protect identity*

KIND'S IMPACT IN 2019

Protecting Families at the Border

KIND provided free legal assistance to **over 800** separated individuals and helped deported parents connect with their children. To assist children seeking asylum in the U.S. but stranded in Mexico, we provided legal orientations to children alone, accompanied particularly vulnerable children to ports of entry, ensured continuity of service for children who reached the U.S., and built local capacity to better protect children.



Over 800 separated children and parents have been helped by KIND.

Legal Services: The First Step in Protection

Despite an increasingly complex landscape for children's immigration law, we achieved a positive legal outcome for 93 percent of cases completed in 2019. KIND's 10 field offices increased their open and active cases by 8 percent to more than **6,300**. We closed out the year with **644** pro bono partners who worked tirelessly to provide our children with high-quality legal representation. KIND trained over **4,700** volunteers on asylum, special immigrant juvenile status, and social service issues.

Each child with legal representation means a child protected and on the path to safety – **children with lawyers are 5 times more likely to be granted protection.** As we enter our second decade, we celebrate our child clients who fled violence and abuse and are now safe. They are attending college, accepting job offers, joining the military, and have hopeful futures.

Policy and Advocacy: Advancing Solutions

KIND fought back legislative threats to longstanding safeguards for unaccompanied children and successfully advocated for continued funding for legal services. With the influx of children arriving at the border alone, and reports of unsafe conditions in detention facilities at the border, policymakers became increasingly aware of the need for legislation and oversight to protect these children. KIND provided technical assistance to several congressional committees on the treatment of children in federal immigration custody and ways to prevent the separation of families.



Social Services: The Basis for Holistic Care

Most KIND clients endured trauma before and during their journey to safety. KIND is helping them process their trauma through play and expressive arts therapy. In Newark, a pilot play therapy initiative helped traumatized children share their feelings using toys. In collaboration with Artolution, which works with at-risk youth to engage in collaborative artmaking, KIND clients in New York City and Washington, DC created public murals and dance performances, fostering a sense of community and a safe space. We also addressed the myriad of issues that our children face in their new homes – access to basic services, crisis intervention, education, housing, mental health, and vocational resources.

International Programs: Addressing Root Causes

To combat the root causes of migration from Central America, KIND provided family reunification services, SGBV prevention programs, and legal and social services assistance in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador.

KIND's Child Migrant Return and Reintegration Program assisted **130** children returning to their home countries, including many young children who had been forcibly separated from their parents in the U.S. The average age of returning children we worked with fell to 6 years old from a previous average age of **14 ½**. Working with local partners in Guatemala, KIND helped each child reunify safely and find alternatives to remigration.

Through our Gender and Migration Initiative, KIND and partners in Guatemala and Honduras increased SGBV prevention programming and support to survivors, reaching over 1,800 individuals via workshops and trainings. Programming included SGBV prevention for students, leadership and empowerment for adolescent girls, sexual abuse prevention training for teachers, and care for LGBTQI children who experienced trauma. **Over 400** girls and boys participated in workshops on SGBV prevention, healthy relationships, and migrant rights.

