



## HOW WE'RE CARING FOR IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE CHILDREN IN YOUR COMMUNITY

**KIND's Atlanta** office continues to build its network of partner organizations throughout the state, resulting in numerous client referrals throughout 2020. Federal government offices are reaching out to our office for technical assistance, as **KIND** is the only organization solely dedicated to working with unaccompanied child migrants in **Georgia**. Given the current processing time for immigration relief, long-standing clients are now finally reaching the stage of eligibility for legal permanent residency.

— In a year that presented unprecedented challenges, **KIND's Atlanta** office strengthened its commitment to providing holistic services to unaccompanied minors. As a founding member of the **Atlanta** Social Services Roundtable, the **Atlanta** office helps to educate social service agencies in the metro area on unaccompanied immigrant children and the services they need.

— Since March as the COVID-19 pandemic took hold, **KIND's Atlanta** staff reached out to all clients to do wellness checks and confirm key legal information.

— **KIND's Atlanta** office received a special emergency COVID-19 pandemic assistance grant in late summer aimed at helping **KIND** clients and their families meet basic needs, such as food and other household goods.



**I will never forget listening to one of my KIND clients who had just received approval of his immigration application proudly describe his plans for pursuing an education that would have been unattainable in his home country.**

— **Chrissy Brown-Marshall,**  
*Fish & Richardson*

### MEET David\*

*David fled Guatemala after being abandoned by his father and facing discrimination among his community. When he first came to KIND he always had his head down and would rarely look at his attorney when she spoke to him. At the initial meeting his attorney suggested that he seek counseling, but he refused. After several months of follow up meetings, discussions with his caregiver, and revisiting the topic of counseling, David finally agreed. He is now a completely different kid. He smiles, he's more upbeat, and he makes jokes with his attorney and others at KIND. This was only possible because his attorney committed to revisiting and reevaluating, each time he saw him.*



\* Name changed to protect identity

# FAMILY SEPARATION'S NEW FACE

In 2018, the Trump Administration tore children from their moms' and dads' arms at the U.S. border with no plan to ensure their reunification. **KIND** currently assists over **400 individuals** who were senselessly separated – providing direct representation or mentoring pro bono attorneys who've taken on a case. The **Atlanta** office currently represents 19 individuals who were affected by this cruel policy.

In May, under the guise of the pandemic, ICE imposed a "binary choice" policy that forced parents to choose to remain in prison-like facilities with their children and risk exposure to COVID, or to separate from their children without any assurance of reunification. Parents now face the prospect that ICE could revive that policy at any point. **KIND** released a report in the summer on the continuance of family separations as part of our ongoing efforts to end family detention and separation once and for all.

## KIND'S WORK ACROSS THE COUNTRY

**KIND** is the leading organization working to ensure that no refugee or immigrant child faces immigration court alone. 2020 made a profound impact on **KIND's** work nationwide. We've pivoted to a virtual environment, meeting with child clients via teleconference to ensure their immigration case remains on track and checking in on their overall wellbeing. We continue to fight the Trump Administration against the ongoing attacks on children's safeguards, including family separations now occurring under the guise of COVID. Despite these challenges, **KIND** served **5,375 child clients** in 2020 with the support of 670 pro bono partners. **94% of cases** closed so far this year resulted in positive legal relief.

In a year like no other, despite the harsh environment that refugee and immigrant children face in this country, we've still been able to make great strides in protecting this vulnerable population, both across the country and in **Georgia**. As we've done every day for the past 12 years since we opened our doors, **KIND** continues to provide hope and the promise of a safe future for immigrant and refugee children throughout the U.S.

### STAY IN TOUCH!



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[www.supportkind.org](http://www.supportkind.org)

[@SupportKIND](#)

## GEORGIA

### BY THE NUMBERS

242

CURRENT CLIENTS



61

NEW CLIENTS  
ACCEPTED IN 2020



8,491

IMMIGRANT AND  
REFUGEE CHILDREN  
RELEASED TO  
SPONSORS SINCE 2014

10

STAFF MEMBERS



58

ATTENDEES HOSTED FOR  
TRAININGS IN 2020

38

PRO BONO PARTNERS



86

CLIENTS CONNECTED TO  
SOCIAL SERVICES IN 2020

## THANK YOU

As 2020 has been a trying year for all of us, we at **KIND** are immensely grateful to all our supporters in **Georgia**, who enable us to protect refugee and immigrant children who came to this country for a safe future.

*Thank you for standing with us in our fight;*  
we could not do it without you.