We envision a world in which children’s rights and well-being are protected as they migrate alone in search of safety.

We will achieve our vision by:

Ensuring that no child appears in immigration court without high quality legal representation;

Advancing laws, policies, and practices that ensure children’s protection and uphold their right to due process and fundamental fairness; and

Promoting in countries of origin, transit, and destination durable solutions to child migration that are grounded in the best interests of the child and ensure that no child is forced to involuntarily migrate.
Reflecting on a Year of Growth & Gravity

It is safe to say that 2020 was a year like no other. The COVID-19 pandemic required us to physically distance while finding ways to strengthen our connections to better serve unaccompanied children on the move, whose journeys were made even more perilous because of the virus. These unparalleled times required unprecedented leadership, and KIND delivered.

While the Trump Administration used the pandemic as an excuse to further eviscerate vital protections for KIND’s clients and the children on the move, KIND met the challenge by expanding our reach, our services, and our staff to better safeguard our clients. We launched KIND Mexico and opened our first official offices outside of the United States to ensure unaccompanied children have access to support throughout their migration journey. We continued to fight to reunify families separated by the Trump Administration, and we doubled down on efforts that will provide the children we serve with access to safe passage, legal counsel, social services, and a brighter future.

As we start 2021, the year before us is presenting new challenges. Unprecedented numbers of children are in need of KIND’s services as the border reopens and children begin to enter the United States in search of safety. KIND is leaning in to make good on our promise to protect them and to fight for policies that ensure their wellbeing. Together, we can ensure that every child has the support and protection they need throughout their migration journey and as they rebuild their lives in safety.

Brad Smith
President & Chief Legal Officer, Microsoft Corporation
Deputy Chair and Board Chair, KIND

Wendy Young
President, KIND

2020 Facts & Figures

$100 Million in Pro Bono Legal Services:
KIND received an estimated $100 million in pro bono services in 2020 and 175,000 donated hours for a total of over $550 million in services and more than 1,035,000 donated hours since 2009.*

95% Success Rate:
95 percent of KIND’s completed cases in 2020 resulted in legal relief.

1,411 Detained Children Served:
KIND served a total of 1,411 detained children with Know Your Rights information and/or legal screenings in 2020.

1,829 New Referred Cases:
1,829 children were referred to KIND in 2020, and more than 22,375 have been referred since 2009.

78 Countries:
KIND has worked with children from 78 countries.

194 Children Helped at Border:
KIND helped 194 children at the U.S.-Mexico border in 2020 and 1,152 children who were impacted by the Migration Protection Protocols (MPP).

1,152 Received Social Services:
KIND assisted 1,152 clients with social services support in 2020.

24 New Partners:
KIND gained 24 new partners in 2020. Overall, we have more than 680 law firm, corporate, bar association, and law school partnerships.

1,035,000 Donated Hours:
KIND worked with 7,079 legal professionals at trainings in 2020, and over $7,536,000 in pro bono services in 2020.

7,079 Trained:
KIND welcomed 7,079 legal professionals at trainings in 2020, and over $7,536,000 in pro bono services in 2020.*

**Includes trainees attending multiple specialized and advanced offerings.

$1 of donor support KIND leverages $7 in pro bono support

*Donated hours and pro bono services in 2020 reflect un-audited numbers.
Beginning in March 2020, the Trump Administration began expelling unaccompanied children from the U.S.-Mexico border, denying them the ability to seek protection in the United States. The administration conducted these expulsions under the guise of COVID-19 to further its enforcement goals, using a little-known public health order which, at the time, public health officials deemed unnecessary. KIND’s legal team along the border, part of newly launched KIND México, provided vital assistance to 150 children facing rapid expulsion, including representation that prevented expulsions, and follow-up with children expelled to their country of origin to provide service referrals. Thanks to our presence in the United States, KIND also provided legal assistance and referrals to a number of these children when they arrived in the United States.

Beyond its advocacy on Capitol Hill, KIND was one of the first groups to raise attention to the fact that Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was holding children who crossed into the United States in hotels, often alone, with the intent of summarily returning them to their home countries without access to counsel or consideration of their asylum claims. KIND pushed for Congressional oversight into this alarming practice and educated the media about the risks it posed to our clients. Public outrage sparked litigation that resulted in the courts forcing ICE to end the practice.

KIND mobilized Congressional, nongovernmental, and grassroots opposition to these expulsions. We led several virtual briefings to update Congressional offices, as well as local and state officials, on the policy’s dangerous impact on migrant children. The Congressional Women’s Working Group on Immigration invited KIND and our client Alejandra Valdez-Rivas to present during an online forum to discuss the expulsions and children’s need for legal representation.

KIND worked with the ACLU on litigation that challenged the expulsion of children under the Title 42 public health order and represented the lead plaintiff in the lawsuit. This litigation brought the policy to a halt in November.

"Trump Administration Changes Rules for Migrant Children During Pandemic" May 22, 2020

“The administration laid out the road map of what their priorities were in 2017. They are using this as a way to finally complete those political goals.”

-Jennifer Peddau, Vice President of Policy and Advocacy, KIND

Beyond its advocacy on Capitol Hill, KIND was one of the first groups to raise attention to the fact that Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was holding children who crossed into the United States in hotels, often alone, with the intent of summarily returning them to their home countries without access to counsel or consideration of their asylum claims. KIND pushed for Congressional oversight into this alarming practice and educated the media about the risks it posed to our clients. Public outrage sparked litigation that resulted in the courts forcing ICE to end the practice.

KIND mobilized Congressional, nongovernmental, and grassroots opposition to these expulsions. We led several virtual briefings to update Congressional offices, as well as local and state officials, on the policy’s dangerous impact on migrant children. The Congressional Women’s Working Group on Immigration invited KIND and our client Alejandra Valdez-Rivas to present during an online forum to discuss the expulsions and children’s need for legal representation.

KIND worked with the ACLU on litigation that challenged the expulsion of children under the Title 42 public health order and represented the lead plaintiff in the lawsuit. This litigation brought the policy to a halt in November.

Leandro’s Story

Leandro was threatened and extorted by gangs and the police in El Salvador. KIND placed Leandro’s case with a pro bono attorney who fought for asylum. KIND also connected him with a job training and placement program, enabling him to earn college credits and to intern. After winning asylum, Leandro enlisted in the U.S. Marines. He said, “I want to show that all people are the same; no matter where you come from, we all want to have a home and be safe. I want to show that people who come to the U.S. from other countries come here to succeed and do good and help others.”

“Shadow Immigration System: Migrant Children Detained In Hotels By Private Contractors” August 20, 2020

“It completely takes them a hundred percent out of all of the special protections that have been put in place in recognition of the vulnerability of unaccompanied children.”

-Jennifer Peddau, Vice President of Policy and Advocacy, KIND

Leandro was threatened and extorted by gangs and the police in El Salvador. KIND placed Leandro’s case with a pro bono attorney who fought for asylum. KIND also connected him with a job training and placement program, enabling him to earn college credits and to intern. After winning asylum, Leandro enlisted in the U.S. Marines. He said, “I want to show that all people are the same; no matter where you come from, we all want to have a home and be safe. I want to show that people who come to the U.S. from other countries come here to succeed and do good and help others.”

“Shadow Immigration System: Migrant Children Detained In Hotels By Private Contractors” August 20, 2020

“It completely takes them a hundred percent out of all of the special protections that have been put in place in recognition of the vulnerability of unaccompanied children.”

-Lisa Frydman, Vice President for International Programs, KIND

Leandro was threatened and extorted by gangs and the police in El Salvador. KIND placed Leandro’s case with a pro bono attorney who fought for asylum. KIND also connected him with a job training and placement program, enabling him to earn college credits and to intern. After winning asylum, Leandro enlisted in the U.S. Marines. He said, “I want to show that all people are the same; no matter where you come from, we all want to have a home and be safe. I want to show that people who come to the U.S. from other countries come here to succeed and do good and help others.”

“Shadow Immigration System: Migrant Children Detained In Hotels By Private Contractors” August 20, 2020

“It completely takes them a hundred percent out of all of the special protections that have been put in place in recognition of the vulnerability of unaccompanied children.”

-Lisa Frydman, Vice President for International Programs, KIND
As was happening throughout society, the COVID crisis changed how KIND conducted our work. To help navigate this challenge for KIND’s pro bono partners, KIND’s attorneys across the nation conducted virtual trainings with partners such as AIG, Amazon, and Microsoft. We provided expert guidance on working with clients remotely and navigating a myriad of logistical challenges stemming from the pandemic. Our attorneys faced inconsistency in court procedures for remote hearings, rescheduling of immigration court cases with little or no notice, lack of rulings on motions, and weekly uncertainty about whether courts would be open and client cases would proceed. Working closely with KIND’s pro bono partners to successfully overcome these obstacles, we ensured that no child’s legal case was compromised, meeting vital deadlines to preserve our clients’ options for protection despite significant operational challenges and roadblocks due to COVID-19.

KIND added 24 new pro bono partners in 2020, bringing our partnerships to over 680 law firms, corporate legal departments, bar associations, and law schools. We also expanded our network of corporate pro bono partners to include JetBlue, Bloomberg LP, Visa, and TIAA-CREF.

KIND honored the contributions of 79 outstanding pro bono attorneys and other volunteers who went above and beyond to help their child clients as part of the National Celebration of Pro Bono Week in October. One honoree, pro bono attorney Christina Brown-Marshall, Fish & Richardson LLP said, “The most moving aspect of working on KIND cases is seeing first-hand the changes this work can make in a child’s life. 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. The opportunity to help make those kinds of changes is incredibly rewarding.”

KIND was awarded the 2020 Corporate Pro Bono Award by the Pro Bono Institute for an innovative collaboration with Amazon, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, and Bet Tzedek Legal Services to provide legal representation to nearly thirty children.
KIND advanced the immigration cases of over 250 parents and children who were impacted by forcible separation, moving them closer to security and healing in the United States, bringing the total number of individuals served by KIND to more than 1,100. Several reunited families won their asylum claims, gaining permanent safety in the United States. We facilitated over 150 damages claims for pain and suffering on behalf of KIND clients irreparably harmed by forced separation, an important step in providing accountability and redress for traumatized families.

KIND screened nearly 200 deported parents for protection needs, solutions, and reunification pathways. KIND placed the cases of deported parents with pro bono counsel to represent them on claims for reunification with their children in the United States. KIND continues to look for solutions for additional parents seeking reunification with their children in the United States, and to advocate for safe, expeditious reunification pathways and legal relief for families after reunification, as well as compensation for their suffering.

Based on these experiences, KIND provided recommendations to President-Elect Joe Biden as he announced his plans to launch a Family Separation Task Force to address the devastating harm caused by family separation. Much of this guidance reflected policy recommendations contained in KIND’s report marking the 2-year anniversary of the Zero Tolerance Policy, “Family Separation Two Years Later: The Crisis Continues.” This resource chronicled KIND’s work to address the crisis and outlined specific policy steps that could prevent family separation from occurring again.

As the Trump Administration tried to bypass a legally binding settlement agreement that prohibits children from being held in immigration detention for more than 20 days, it presented parents being held in jail-like facilities with their children with a painful choice. It forced them to choose either to remain in these facilities with their children and risk exposure to COVID, or to separate from their children without any assurance of reunification. KIND worked to expose and end this cruel policy, also known as the “binary choice.”

In addition, KIND continued to play an active role in helping search for hundreds of families separated before the Zero Tolerance Policy that the Trump Administration had not previously disclosed. KIND is a member of the Ms. L. steering committee, created as a result of the court order to immediately reunify families the administration had forcibly separated. Ms. L. v. ICE is the ACLU’s class-action challenge to the Trump Administration’s family separation policy. The team also conducted remote legal screenings of newly identified separated parents and children to facilitate their legal representation.

Based on these experiences, KIND provided recommendations to President-Elect Joe Biden as he announced his plans to launch a Family Separation Task Force to address the devasting harm caused by family separation. Much of this guidance reflected policy recommendations contained in KIND’s report marking the 2-year anniversary of the Zero Tolerance Policy, “Family Separation Two Years Later: The Crisis Continues.”

“The ACLU sought out KIND to join the Ms. L. steering committee because of its deep knowledge and experience on the issues. Without KIND’s help throughout this litigation, there likely would be many more families who were still separated.”

-Lee Gelernt, ACLU lead counsel in Ms. L. v. ICE

“Families like this one were torn apart at the border. The U.S. still hasn’t made things right.”

-November 23, 2020

“Advocates are mostly trying to confirm that each child knows where their parent is, and each parent knows where their child is.”

-Christie Turner Herbas, Director of Special Programs, KIND

Championing Protection and the Family First
KIND’s social services team enhances the organization’s ability to provide holistic care to our clients, supplementing legal service delivery with access to services that address their emotional and physical well-being.

KIND’s clients needed our support more than ever before due to COVID-19. KIND’s social services team leveraged existing systems, resources, and relationships with local, national, and international partners to coordinate innovative responses to meet the expanding physical and emotional needs of unaccompanied children. The team distributed emergency funds to clients to supplement basic needs, such as food and rent. KIND also offered socio-emotional support and referrals to local COVID-19 relief programs and intervened during crisis situations stemming from the pandemic. These targeted efforts during an exceptionally challenging year not only helped children’s well-being, but also bolstered individual and community networks that support resilient responses and healing.

1,152 clients received social services support in 2020 including education, housing, food, medical, mental health, and counseling needs.

After being sexually assaulted and fleeing an abusive home, Karla* arrived in the U.S. from Honduras when she was 15 years old and nine months pregnant. Karla was referred to KIND’s Houston office for legal representation. KIND became aware that Karla had an intellectual disability and quickly sought access to social services for her. KIND connected her to counseling and support services at school. Karla was granted asylum and is now living safely with her family. She is enrolled in high school and loves to sing, dance, and attend church with her family.

*Name changed to protect identity.

The team also continued to provide vital support to KIND attorneys and clients, including dozens of separated families suffering ongoing trauma as a result of the Zero Tolerance Policy and the U.S. government’s failure to reunite them. KIND referred clients to mental health services, ensuring that cost and access to transportation was not a barrier to treatment. In addition, the social services team provided KIND staff and pro bono partners with support services, consultations, resource referrals, and training focused on trauma-informed service delivery.

Recognizing the impact of COVID on children traveling alone beyond U.S. borders, KIND worked with a consultant in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, to provide socio-emotional and other support to children, including helping them to find shelter and meet other basic needs.
Teaming Up for Good

KIND found creative ways to keep its clients safe from COVID while still increasing in-house virtual programs, including:

- Therapeutic Art Workshops: In collaboration with partners such as Art Corps, Artolution, and Community Solutions Institute, KIND clients in Atlanta, Boston, Fresno, Newark, New York, and Seattle participated in virtual collaborative groups throughout the year. These virtual workshops offered the opportunity for artistic expression, as well as a safe and therapeutic outlet to help decrease feelings of isolation, stress, and uncertainty heightened by the pandemic.

- Caregiver Training Utilizing Child Parent Relationship Therapy: Clients and their family members participated in virtual interventions to strengthen the child-caregiver relationship and integration into a new family unit after prolonged separation.

- Resource Fairs and Workshops: KIND’s New York office hosted a two-day virtual workshop focused on fostering healthy lifestyles. The workshop included speakers who addressed financial empowerment and security, online engagement and safety, interpersonal relationships and boundaries, nutrition, and physical health.

- KIND facilitated a youth computer coding class in collaboration with Microsoft and UrbanTXT in which clients in Los Angeles received free laptops and programming classes on coding and how to build a website.

- As students across the nation returned to school via remote learning, KIND’s social services team organized back-to-school supplies distribution in Newark and Houston, and bought laptops for children so they could access classes remotely.

Celeste’s Story

Celeste*, from Honduras, had only been together with her mother for three days after a 10-year separation when she went to school for the first time in the United States. School has always been important to Celeste. “I have always wanted to get good grades. I was worried about how I would do that being here and without speaking English,” she said. But she did it — and then some. She graduated high school with honors and is in her second year of college on a full-ride scholarship, pursuing a political science and pre-law degree.

*Name changed to protect identity.

Placing the Client at the Center

KIND’s technology team continues to improve and expand our use of technology to facilitate communications among our clients, their pro bono lawyers, and KIND staff, a necessary step to ensure cases proceed smoothly, and clients can access vital services, regardless of distance. The innovative use of technology is particularly important for clients living in remote areas, far from KIND’s offices and their pro bono attorneys. For example, this is the case in our San Francisco office where many clients live hundreds of miles away in the Central Valley, far from their pro bono attorneys and other services. Amid COVID-19, KIND’s proven ability to harness the power of technology helped us better adapt to the many challenges of serving our clients during a pandemic.

In further efforts to bridge the divide made even more challenging by necessary social distancing, KIND’s technology team deployed cell phones across five of our offices to clients who are particularly vulnerable, isolated, or lack support. The phones include applications to help clients connect with their attorneys more easily. Clients can also better protect their privacy with a phone of their own.

In 2020, KIND unveiled a new Pro Bono Portal in our Seattle office. The portal provides access to important mentoring information, trainings, case documentation, and forms. The site, which has already been visited thousands of times, builds on the success of KIND’s portal in San Francisco, which we continue to improve and update. The team is starting to work on a portal for our Houston office to facilitate the work of our pro bono attorneys in Houston.
Forging Paths to a Brighter Future

Blueprint to Restore Protection

Drawing on our direct experience serving thousands of children across their migration journey, KIND published a policy blueprint detailing how the Biden Administration can restore and expand safeguards and protection mechanisms for these children. The blueprint includes over 80 recommendations that would help realize a vision in which every migrant child’s rights and well-being are protected.

KIND deepened our work at the city, county, and state levels to encourage policies that can improve our client’s daily lives. Collaborating both with policymakers and local immigrant and children’s rights advocates, our priorities included: the creation and maintenance of local funding for legal and social services for unaccompanied children; assistance for children and families impacted by COVID-19; protecting the confidentiality of children’s information; ensuring due process rights in state courts; and working with state agencies to provide oversight of conditions in federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) facilities in which unaccompanied children are housed.

“Congress passes vital funds to address causes of migration, child welfare at border”
January 09, 2020

“KIND will continue to work with Congress and across the U.S. government to ensure that every child on the move is treated like a child and is protected by policies that reflect our nation’s commitment to keeping kids safe.”

Jennifer Podkul, Vice President of Policy and Advocacy, KIND

Expanding KIND’s Advocacy & Policy Reach

KIND responded to a cascade of harmful regulatory proposals touching on nearly every aspect of unaccompanied children’s immigration law, as well as their ability to access protection in the United States. KIND joined more than 88,000 organizations and individuals in submitting public comments strongly opposing changes that would decimate the U.S. asylum system. KIND similarly opposed proposals that fast-track children’s deportation hearings at the expense of due process and those that dramatically increased filing fees.

KIND 2020 Annual Report

Curtailing Regulatory Attacks

KIND responded to a cascade of harmful regulatory proposals touching on nearly every aspect of unaccompanied children’s immigration law, as well as their ability to access protection in the United States. KIND joined more than 88,000 organizations and individuals in submitting public comments strongly opposing changes that would decimate the U.S. asylum system. KIND similarly opposed proposals that fast-track children’s deportation hearings at the expense of due process and those that dramatically increased filing fees.
Litigating to Uphold Children’s Rights

KIND’s growing impact litigation portfolio supports lawsuits against government agencies to ensure respect for unaccompanied children’s rights under the Constitution and U.S. law.

KIND and our partner organizations are representing a group of young asylum applicants challenging U.S. Customs and Immigration Services (USCIS)’s unlawful attempt to deny unaccompanied children the ability to present their asylum cases in a non-adversarial setting. The litigation resulted in a preliminary injunction in 2019 that the court expanded in late 2020. We continue to work on enforcing the injunction and obtaining a final judgment.

We also filed an amicus brief supporting a federal appeal on the standards for evaluating a child’s asylum claim. In addition, we joined other amicus briefs in appeals on the removal of children applying for protection who were abused, abandoned, or neglected; language access in immigration court; and the “Migrant Protection Protocols” that force asylum seekers to wait in Mexico until their cases are heard.

KIND organized amicus briefs in several cases challenging USCIS’s proposed regulations to charge enormously higher fees, limit fee waivers, and limit employment authorization for children and other applicants for humanitarian relief. The United States is only one of two countries that charges fees for the right to pursue asylum. We did similar work to challenge a regulation that would eliminate asylum eligibility for anyone crossing the border other than at a port of entry.

KIND is also a plaintiff in a challenge to the Department of Justice’s effort to increase the cost of immigration appeals and other motions by over 800 percent. A preliminary injunction was ordered in January 2021.

KIND’s policy and legal experts filed declarations supporting litigation across the country, including on the treatment of children in ORR detention and USCIS’s policy of arbitrarily rejecting applications due to minor mistakes.

Erica’s Story

Erica* fled violence to come to the U.S. from Central America when she was 15. “When I met my KIND attorney for the first time, I couldn’t believe it when she told me they’d be offering me legal assistance pro bono,” Erica said. “I felt so lucky and fortunate. When we went to court, I never felt alone because I had a KIND representative by my side to help me with my case.”

Erica is now in college with a full scholarship. She is studying business and would someday like to work in data analysis. “I just love numbers,” she said.

*Name changed to protect identity.

KIND’s pro bono law firm partners ensure that KIND’s expertise in representing unaccompanied children is shared with courts considering critical litigation challenging unfair or unlawful government policies. These firms have represented KIND pro bono as an amicus curiae, plaintiff, or co-counsel in fighting for children’s rights:

- Cozen O’Connor LLP
- Crowell & Moring LLP
- DLA Piper LLP
- Greenberg Traurig LLP
- Latham &Watkins LLP
- Law Office of Joshua M. Daniels
- Lowenstein Sandler LLP
- Milbank LLP
- Munger Tolles & Olson LLP
- Paul Hastings LLP
- Perkins Coie LLP
- Quinn Emanuel LLP

KIND 2020 Annual Report

Forging Paths to a Brighter Future

Erica’s Story

Erica* fled violence to come to the U.S. from Central America when she was 15. “When I met my KIND attorney for the first time, I couldn’t believe it when she told me they’d be offering me legal assistance pro bono,” Erica said. “I felt so lucky and fortunate. When we went to court, I never felt alone because I had a KIND representative by my side to help me with my case.”

Erica is now in college with a full scholarship. She is studying business and would someday like to work in data analysis. “I just love numbers,” she said.

*Name changed to protect identity.
KIND worked alongside partner Derechos Humanos Integrales en Acción (DHIA) to defend the rights of migrant children at the U.S.-Mexico border.

**Leading the Way Beyond Borders**

We launched KIND México in 2020 to respond to the needs of unaccompanied children in Mexico and at the U.S.-Mexico border and to ensure that their rights are respected at every stage of their journey to seek safety. KIND has seen first-hand how children face grave dangers when their basic rights are ignored.

In addition to helping children facing illegal expulsions at the border by providing representation, as well as referrals to children expelled to their home country, KIND México conducted legal orientations for children, shared information about their rights, and coordinated cross-border legal and social services to help promote their protection.

**Alejandro’s Story**

KIND helped 17-year-old Alejandro* from El Salvador who had tried to enter the United States to seek U.S. protection from gang violence but was expelled back into Mexico and placed in the custody of Mexican authorities. KIND worked with a partner in Ciudad Juarez and Mexican officials to support Alejandro’s case and help him navigate his legal options. Days before his 18th birthday, Alejandro was able to seek protection in the United States.

KIND México achieved a remarkable outcome for two children who were in shelters in Tijuana for several months after fleeing threats in their home countries in Central America. Coordinating with Mexican authorities and the UN Refugee Agency, KIND helped them seek legal protection in the United States. Both are now represented by attorneys from KIND’s Los Angeles office.

*Name changed to protect identity.

KIND México achieved a remarkable outcome for two children who were in shelters in Tijuana for several months after fleeing threats in their home countries in Central America. Coordinating with Mexican authorities and the UN Refugee Agency, KIND helped them seek legal protection in the United States. Both are now represented by attorneys from KIND’s Los Angeles office.

KIND México trained over 575 individuals from government agencies in Mexico and international and non-governmental organizations on the U.S. legal system and U.S. protections for unaccompanied children. The office also advocated for laws and policies that strengthened children’s rights on both sides of the border, supported cases and practices that advanced child protection, and worked closely with Mexican child welfare agencies on the cases of children in their custody. We submitted an amicus brief to Mexico’s Supreme Court in the first-ever case before the high court on the right of unaccompanied children to counsel.

We also monitored conditions unaccompanied children face on Mexico’s southern and northern borders and shared recommendations with U.S. and Mexican stakeholders.

“I am proud to support such a wonderful organization. Your dedication to serving immigrant and refugee children is crucial during these difficult times. Thank you for everything that you do!”

- KIND Donor, Wyoming

KIND México trained over 575 individuals from government agencies in Mexico and international and non-governmental organizations on the U.S. legal system and U.S. protections for unaccompanied children. The office also advocated for laws and policies that strengthened children’s rights on both sides of the border, supported cases and practices that advanced child protection, and worked closely with Mexican child welfare agencies on the cases of children in their custody. We submitted an amicus brief to Mexico’s Supreme Court in the first-ever case before the high court on the right of unaccompanied children to counsel.

We also monitored conditions unaccompanied children face on Mexico’s southern and northern borders and shared recommendations with U.S. and Mexican stakeholders.

*KIND 2020 Annual Report*
Preventing Gender-based Violence

Gender-based violence (GBV) is one of the main factors driving child migration from Central America, and lockdown measures resulting from COVID-19 only increased children’s vulnerability to GBV. Through the Gender and Migration Initiative (GMI), KIND, alongside partner organizations in Guatemala and Honduras, adapted to the new context to continue our efforts to raise awareness of GBV, prevent and address violence against children, and strengthen local support networks for survivors.

GMI reached 474 children, families, teachers, and community leaders in 2020 through GBV prevention and response programming, and thousands more through outreach activities.

With support from KIND, our partner organizations in Guatemala and Honduras engaged participants in virtual and physically distanced programming, and shared GBV prevention and support services information through local radio and social media that reached about 60,000 people. These messages were disseminated in indigenous languages in Guatemala.

Children and youth participated in virtual and socially distanced prevention programming on key issues such as economic empowerment for adolescent girls and GBV prevention, as well as virtual campaigns on preventing gender-based bullying and harassment. Girls and young women affected by or at risk of GBV received individual psychosocial support either virtually or in-person following physical distancing measures.

KIND also engaged in GBV-focused advocacy, including successfully advocating for $25 million in foreign assistance funding to combat sexual and gender-based violence in northern Central America in the FY2021 Congressional Appropriations budget.

Providing Vital Services to Returning Children

KIND’s reintegration program worked with 111 unaccompanied and separated children in 2020, despite strict COVID-19 lockdowns that made reunification extremely challenging. To date, the program has assisted more than 2,000 individuals. Services included screenings, needs assessments, and pre-departure planning, which KIND and partner civil society organizations in Guatemala and Honduras adapted amid the pandemic to include telephonic and video support. KIND’s partners also helped children enroll in school and families access medical and mental health services.

Our partners helped reunified families find ways to support themselves—an essential part of successful reintegration programming—by exploring opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship, including developing small-business loan projects.

We supported high-need cases, including those of children under five years old; children who experienced years-long detention in the United States; children in U.S. protective custody, and those with histories of abuse, chronic illness, homelessness, or lacked family support in their country of origin. We provided vital information for traumatized parents and caregivers, developed safety plans for children, and offered ongoing psychosocial support and interventions.

Our partners helped reunified families find ways to support themselves—an essential part of successful reintegration programming—by exploring opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship, including developing small-business loan projects.

KIND and our partners also helped children enroll in school and families access medical and mental health services.

Central America

Sending Aid in Times of Crisis

KIND and our partners provided emergency assistance to families and children in need due to the pandemic and hurricanes Eta and Iota. More than 230 families and 1,500 individuals received food assistance and hygiene kits with KIND support.
Meeting Children’s Legal Needs in Europe

KIND and Belgian partner Child Circle released a briefing paper on recommendations for protecting unaccompanied children at European Union borders. We also issued a report that details our joint vision on how to advance the protection of unaccompanied children in Europe by strengthening legal assistance which reflects the experience of KIND’s partners in Europe.

Belgium

KIND and AADH trained pro bono lawyers to assist children in their applications for international protection and family reunification, and helping them exercise their rights to residence, housing, and healthcare. Twenty-four pro bono partner law firms have helped 102 children.

France

ELIL works with a range of pro bono lawyers and Greek immigration lawyers to help children reunify with family elsewhere in Europe and challenge incorrect age determinations. To date, 294 children have been assisted with the help of 131 pro bono lawyers.

Greece

ELIL and AADH trained pro bono lawyers to assist children in their applications for international protection and family reunification, and helping them exercise their rights to residence, housing, and healthcare. Twenty-four pro bono partner law firms have helped 102 children.

Ireland

By training pro bono lawyers to guide children through the family reunification process, ICI and IRC in Ireland addressed a growing gap in legal services that is currently not covered by government legal aid. So far, 32 children have been assisted with family reunification by 44 lawyers from five law firms and corporate pro bono partners.

United Kingdom

Thousands of undocumented children in the United Kingdom are eligible for British citizenship and the security it offers, but they have no way to access it. Kids in Need of Defense UK further increased its capacity to help these children in 2020, taking on more cases than ever before and providing more workshops than in any previous year despite the many challenges of COVID-19. Joining the Migrant and Refugee Children’s Legal Unit within the Islington Law Centre in London, JustRight Scotland, Coram Children’s Legal Centre, and Central England Law Centre, we welcomed Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit. In addition, four more law firms signed on to the partnership. Demonstrating strong commitment among its pro bono partners, Kids in Need of Defense UK took on 240 cases, provided assistance to more than 272 adults and 505 children; and trained 349 lawyers across 22 offices. These achievements are laying the groundwork for the protection of even greater numbers of vulnerable children in the years to come.
KIND continued to create opportunities for clients to share their migration experiences through a range of artistic mediums and to provide training on storytelling, videography, art, audio, writing, advocacy, and public speaking.

Before COVID, clients learned about art as a way to express personal stories and received training in painting by a Los Angeles artist. A client shared her story at a public education event, saying, “I realize that not everyone gets the opportunity to share their story, and I feel so lucky to be among you and be able to make an impact. My message to you is, if I can do it, you can, too.” We also organized a radio workshop in Boston with Zumix, a youth radio network, during which the studio director gave a tour and conducted a training on audio. A client recorded a short radio segment which the station aired.

During the pandemic, KIND partner Imagination Stage taught clients virtually about crafting stories using stop motion animation. Voices participants learned about storyboarding and creating visuals and characters through clay. Clients created short videos about aspects of their stories, including narratives about family reunification and LGBTQ issues.

KIND client Alejandra Valdez-Rivas wrote an op-ed about her experiences as an unaccompanied child that was published by PopSugar. She and her KIND pro bono attorney were also profiled by Complex Magazine.

KIND President Wendy Young discussed key challenges facing unaccompanied children with Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton as part of the launch of KIND’s “5 Under 5” online video series in which KIND speaks with notable guests about five of the most important issues impacting immigrant and refugee children in under five minutes. Young and Clinton talked about asylum, family separation, legal representation, the U.S.-Mexico border, and how children can be better protected in a new administration.

KIND 2020 virtual celebration, “A Journey Towards Hope,” was held online in July and featured a conversation among KIND Board Chair Brad Smith, MSNBC’s Jacob Soboroff, and author Sonia Nazario on the impact of U.S. immigration policies on unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children. Questions were submitted by KIND supporters and clients. Chefs Mary Sue Milliken and Susan Feniger shared custom recipes. A special performance of the song “What’s Going On,” by award-winning soloist Nova Payton that featured The American Pops Orchestra closed the event.

“I so appreciate the work you are doing to put a kinder, more compassionate face on what America truly can be.”

-KIND Donor, California

Nathan and Isaac raised over $400 for KIND through their neighborhood hot cocoa stand.

KIND is profoundly grateful for the support and compassion individuals, foundations, and institutional funders provided throughout 2020. In addition to addressing the pressing needs of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are thankful for their continued concern for social justice and ensuring our child clients had access to legal representation.

KIND thanks both new and long-time partners who voiced their confidence and commitment through the support of KIND’s holistic programming and new international initiatives.

KIND’s 2020 Annual Report
On #GivingTuesdayNOW, a global day of giving in May focused on addressing the needs caused by the pandemic, hundreds of compassionate individuals joined KIND to provide food, personal hygiene and school supplies, access to mental and physical healthcare, and other vital resources to our child clients and their families.

As our lives shifted from in-person gatherings to virtual events, our supporters were not short on creativity in bringing together caring individuals to raise awareness and funds for KIND.

### KINDly Boogie
KIND participated in our very first DJ event on Twitch. Dozens of people from across the country danced for a good cause in the comfort of their own homes.

### Virtual Oboe Recital
Danny, an oboist from Texas, organized a virtual concert to celebrate the joys and challenges of life, as well as to support KIND’s response to the family separation crisis.

### National Hispanic Heritage Month Cookbook Fundraiser
In celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month, Reed Smith LLP created a cookbook with UNIDOS Hispanic and Latinx members and fundraised for KIND. Employees who donated to the campaign received a copy of the cookbook.

### Season of Giving Campaign
Smokeball, a legal software company based in Chicago, donated to KIND each time they gave a demo of their product during the end of the year giving season. They also raised cash donations and included a fundraising widget in their email signatures.

A Special Thanks to:

- Azie Tesfai
- V. formerly known as Eve Ensler
- Jodie Sweetin
- Bridget Regan
- Jenna Fischer
- Alysia Reiner

for lending their support to KIND on social media.
“Thank you for contributing to a better world and fighting against injustice. Everyone family you are reuniting is a little win for more love and compassion in this cruel place. You are doing a very important task in this world!”

-KIND Donors, Maryland

This donation is from my kids ages 11, 8, and 6, who saved money for their allowance to help children in need.”

-KIND Donor, Canada

$2,500–$4,999
Anonymous (14)
AILA Washington State Chapter
Whatcom Community Foundation
Westchester Community Foundation
Phyllis and Michael Wells
Deborah Wald
VSC Consulting Service Inc
Anne Weisberg and PD Villarreal
Three Princesses Fund
Gillien Todd and Kingsley Taft
swrve
The Stephen Colbert Americone Dream Fund
Jerry Silbert
Rockford Sansom
Henry Winkler
Philips and Michael Wells
Westchester Community Foundation
Wheatcott Community Foundation
Winkley Foundation

Partners

Alibino Pharma, Inc.
American International Group, Inc.
Amazon, Inc.
American Express Company
APOC Worldwide
AT&T Corporation
Avon Products
Baltimore Gas & Electric Company
Baker Hughes Incorporated
Bank of America Corporation
BB&T Corporation
BD
Bechtol Corporation
BG North America, LLC
Bechtel Corporation
BBVA Compass Bancshares, Inc.
Bank of America Corporation
Baker Hughes Incorporated
Banc of America Securities, Inc.
BD
Becton Dickinson
Berkley Corporation
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Inc.
BNF Mellon - Pernod
Boston Scientific
Calix, Inc.
Carnival Corporation
Chevron Corporation
Cisco Systems
Cigna Corporation
Cigna Corporation
Citizens Financial Group
The Clorox Company
The Coca-Cola Company
Consolidated Edison, Inc.
Cone Energy
Credit Karma
Credit Suisse Group AG
Danaher Corporation
Del E. Webb
Delta Air Lines, Inc.
Delta Dental of Colorado
Diageo North America, Inc.
Dish/Dash
Dunk & Brands, Inc.
Dun & Bradstreet, Inc.

Donors

Mara A. Cohen and Allan T. Marks
Mary F. Miller
Reene Chen and Patrick Mitchell
Sara Murray
National Financial Services
Andrew Obus
Omniyar Network Fund, Inc.
Andrew Paciorek
Shirley and Eric Paley
Nika Parham
Perkins Coie LLP
Perry Eing
Paul Playford
Nancy and Henry Pollard
Patricia Prince
Karen Ray
Red Hat, Inc.
Andrew H. Rosenbaum
Rockfield Sanders
Jerry Silbert
The Stephen-Coburn Americas Dream Fund
service
Glen Todd and Kingsley Taft
Three Princesses Fund
Anne Weinberg and PD Villarreal
VSC Consulting Service Inc
Deborah Wald
Phyllis and Michael Wells
Westchester Community Foundation
Wheatcott Community Foundation
Winkley Foundation

Partners

eBay
Edison Electric Institute
Energy Investors Organization
Enverroc, Inc.
Epoxy Powder Solutions
ESPI
Eton Ventures
Exelon-Constellation Energy
Exxon Mobil Corporation
Fairchild Pipeline Technologies, Inc.
First Republic Bank
Fox Broadcasting Company, Inc.
Genesys Energy
Generac Power Systems
Gensler
General Electric
GE Capital
GE Idea Works
German Surgical Construction, LLC
Géode Sciences, Inc.
Goldman Sachs
Google Inc.
GoPro, Inc.
Hess Corporation
ICM Partners
IHS Markit
ING Investment Management
Intel Corporation
JetBlue Airways
Jones Lang Saville & Cie
Key Health Medical Solutions
Lions Inc.
Loew Insurance Group
Marriott Oil Company
McKinsey & Company
Merc & Co., Inc.

Corporative Legal Department Partners

Microsoft Corporation
Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC
National Geographic Partners
National Oilwell Varco
NSD Universal Media, LLC
Netflix, Inc.
NFL
Nickelodeon
NPR, Inc.
Oklahoma Capital Management, L.P.
Occidental Petroleum Corporation
OceanFirst Financial, Inc.
Panatoliski Exploration Company
Piper & Whitley
Premier Blue Cross
Premier Gamarle - Gamele
Prudential Financial, Inc.
Pulver Consulting Group, Inc.
PVR Corp
Rainforest Technologies Corporation
Salesforce.com, inc.
Samuel L. J.
Santander Bank
SCI Shared Resources, LLC
Sempra Energy
Silicon Capital LLC
Southern California Edison Company
Square, Inc.
Staabergens Greer
Starbucks Corporation
Stripes
Sunnova Energy Corporation
The Common Application
The Hartford
The Walt Disney Company
TIAA-CREF
Theobald Boulton
Toast, Inc.
Total S.A.
### Partners

- White & Case LLP
- Whiteford Taylor & Preston LLP
- Williams & Connolly LLP
- Williams, Kastner & Gibbs PLLC
- Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP
- Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP
- Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati PC
- Winston & Strawn LLP
- Wolfson & Bernazzani, PLLC
- Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, LLP
- Womble Bond Lassen LLP
- Y & O LLP
- Zarela, Esq., P.C.
- Zuckerman Spaeder LLP

### Law Schools and Universities

- Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University
- Boston College Law School
- Boston University School of Law
- Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America
- Chapman University
- City University of New York School of Law
- Columbia University
- Columbia University School of Law
- Emory University School of Law
- Barnard Child Law and Policy Center
- Fordham University School of Law
- Georgia State University School of Law
- George Washington University Law School
- Georgetown University Law Center

### Bar Associations

- American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers
- American Bar Association
- American Immigration Lawyers Association
- Association of Corporate Counsel
- Baltimore City Bar Association
- Brooklyn Bar Association
- California Bar Association
- California State Bar Association
- Central City Bar Association
- Chicago Bar Association
- Connecticut Bar Association
- Delaware Bar Association
- D.C. Bar Association
- District of Columbia Bar
- District of Columbia Court of Appeals
- Eastern District of New York Bar Association
- Georgia State Bar Association
- Hartford Lawyers’ Association
- Illinois State Bar Association
- Indiana Bar Association
- Iowa Bar Association
- Kansas Bar Association
- Kentucky Bar Association
- Maine Bar Association
- Maryland State Bar Association
- Massachusetts Bar Association
- Maryland State Bar Association
- Michigan State Bar Association
- Minnesota State Bar Association
- Missouri Bar Association
- Montana Bar Association
- Nebraska Bar Association
- Nevada Bar Association
- New Jersey State Bar Association
- New Mexico Bar Association
- New York State Bar Association
- North Carolina Bar Association
- North Dakota Bar Association
- Ohio State Bar Association
- Oklahoma Bar Association
- Oregon State Bar Association
- Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Rhode Island Bar Association
- South Carolina Bar Association
- South Dakota Bar Association
- Tennessee Bar Association
- Texas Bar Association
- Utah State Bar Association
- Virginia Bar Association
- Washington Bar Association
- West Virginia Bar Association
- Wisconsin Bar Association

### 2020 Financials

#### Revenue

- **95%** Donated Legal Services
- **7%** Government
- **5%** Foundations
- **3%** Individuals
- **3%** Other

#### Expenses

- **33%** Legal Services
- **32%** Gen/Admin
- **11%** Regional
- **4%** Public outreach (advocacy and communications)
- **3%** Pro Bono

#### Legal Services

- **11%** From 2009-2020

#### Pro Bono Totals

- **1,035,000 pro bono hours**
- **$550 million**

#### *2020 numbers are un-audited*