



## Ensuring The Protection Of Children Alone In Their Search For Safety

Unaccompanied children around the world are fleeing violence and persecution from which their countries cannot protect them and are searching for safety.

Most unaccompanied children in the U.S. come from Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala – three of the most dangerous countries in the world.

**They need our help.**

**IMMIGRATION JUDGES ARE  
100 TIMES MORE LIKELY  
TO GRANT LEGAL RELIEF TO  
UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN THAN  
TO THOSE WITHOUT.<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Congressional Research Service, Unaccompanied Alien Children: An Overview, at 17, Sept. 1, 2021.

### Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) HQ

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   @supportkind  
#WeAreKIND

### Our Vision



A world in which children's rights and well-being are protected as they migrate alone in search of safety.

### Our Mission



Ensure that no child appears in immigration court without high quality legal representation.



Advance laws, policies, and practices that ensure children's protection and uphold their right to due process and fundamental fairness.



Promote 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.

### KIND's 12 Offices in the U.S.

Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Houston, Los Angeles, Newark, New York, San Francisco, Fresno, Seattle, Washington, DC, and Northern Virginia.

### KIND's 4 Offices in Mexico

Juarez, Tijuana, Tapachula, and Mexico City

### KIND Global

Mexico, Central America, Europe, United Kingdom

## In Action

### LEGAL SERVICES

**KIND** provides pro bono representation and other legal services to detained and released unaccompanied children in deportation proceedings. We ensure that they have a fair chance to access U.S. protection and that they know their legal rights so they can make informed decisions about their future. Our dedicated team trains and mentors our pro bono attorneys throughout their cases to ensure high-quality representation.

### POLICY AND ADVOCACY

**KIND** promotes the fair and appropriate treatment of unaccompanied children. We educate policymakers about the factors that force children to migrate alone, barriers that prevent them from fairly accessing U.S. protection, and the dangers they may face if returned to their home countries. We engage with federal agencies, Members of Congress, and other policymakers to support policies that protect children throughout their journey.

### SOCIAL SERVICES

Our Social Services team helps **KIND** clients across the United States adjust to a new country, language, home, and community, and to address the trauma that most have experienced in their home countries. We connect clients and their caretakers with essential medical care, mental health care, educational opportunities, and crisis intervention to ensure their well-being and safety.

### INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

**KIND** works in Mexico, Central America, the United Kingdom, and across Europe to ensure the safety and well-being of children alone throughout their migration journey. We help children returning to Guatemala and Honduras reintegrate successfully into their communities, and provide services to provide alternatives to re-migration. We support gender-based violence prevention programming for young people in high migration areas in Central America. We are also working on the U.S.-Mexico border to ensure children alone have access to protection.



**+29,000** CHILDREN REFERRED TO KIND SINCE 2009



**KIND HAS WORKED WITH CHILDREN FROM 78 COUNTRIES**



**99%** SUCCESS RATE FOR CASES IN WHICH WERE REPRESENTED CHILDREN THROUGH THE DURATION OF THEIR PROCEEDINGS IN 2021



**728** PARTNER LAW FIRMS, CORPORATIONS, LAW SCHOOLS, AND BAR ASSOCIATIONS



**+1,300** KIND CLIENTS WERE ASSISTED WITH SOCIAL SERVICES SUPPORT IN 2021



**+600** CHILDREN FROM GUATEMALA AND HONDURAS HELPED THROUGH KIND'S RETURN/REINTEGRATION PROJECT



**\$570** RECEIVED PRO BONO SERVICES FROM 2009-2020



**+4,500** ACTIVE PRO BONO ATTORNEYS WORKING ON KIND CASES

### Leandro's Story

Leandro\* fled to the U.S. when he was 15 years old after being threatened and extorted by gangs and the police in El Salvador. **KIND** fought for his asylum case and successfully helped him gain U.S. protection. Leandro went on to take college courses and enlisted with the U.S. Marines. He said,

***"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."***

\*name changed to protect identity