Celebrating the work of our pro bono attorneys and partners at KIND

KIND envisions a world in which every unaccompanied child on the move has access to legal counsel and has their rights and well-being protected as they migrate alone in search of safety. KIND’s pro bono attorneys and partners help us make this vision a reality. Our pro bono partners make our work possible, and we are grateful for their ongoing support of our organization and the profound impact they have on the lives of the unaccompanied refugee and immigrant children that we serve and protect.

The majority of unaccompanied children in the United States—tens of thousands of children—do not have lawyers. KIND and our pro bono attorneys are working to close this gap. Through their time and dedication, KIND’s pro bono lawyers and partners help us achieve a central part of our mission: ensuring that no child appears in immigration court without high quality legal representation. Our pro bono attorneys come from a wide range of legal fields, law firms, and corporations across the country. Attorneys work directly with child clients, gain valuable courtroom experience, and learn about a unique area of law. They receive training and guidance from KIND throughout a child’s case to ensure the highest quality legal representation for our clients, the children who are the heart of our work.

Importance of Counsel

Immigration judges are 100 times more likely to grant legal relief to unaccompanied children with counsel than to those without.1

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

KIND’s pro bono work at a glance

- **755** PRO BONO PARTNERSHIPS with law firms, corporations, law schools, and bar associations, ensuring high-quality representation for of thousands unaccompanied children in the United States
- **1.2 million** DONATED HOURS with an equivalent value of $671 million from 2009-2021
- **+33,000** CHILDREN REFERRED for legal services since 2009
Pro bono in 2021

KIND’s over 4,700 pro bono attorneys and staff at partner law firms, corporations, law schools, and bar associations donated 143,000 hours of skilled legal assistance to KIND’s clients, totaling $95 million in legal services.

KIND hosted 275 pro bono attorney trainings to help prepare volunteers for immigration cases.

KIND’s pro bono attorneys were part of a team of 150 staff members and volunteers who went to the U.S.-Mexico border to support children being housed at emergency intake sites.

98% success rate for cases in which KIND and its pro bono attorneys represented children through the duration of their proceedings.

KIND pro bono attorneys have also been invaluable in supporting KIND’s family separation work and in representing children taken from their parents at the border during the previous Administration’s Zero Tolerance policy.

In addition to supporting our U.S.-based work, primarily with clients from Central America, KIND’s pro bono attorneys have also been part of KIND’s expanding work in Europe and the UK, helping children apply for asylum, secure residence permits, challenge disputed age determinations, reunify with family, and gain citizenship. In 2021, 928 children from 34 countries were served by 652 lawyers from 56 law firms and three companies.

Pro bono lawyers assisted KIND and our partners in Ireland and France (The Irish Refugee Council, the Immigrant Council of Ireland, and the Alliance des Avocats pour les Droits de l’Homme) in responding to the crisis in Afghanistan, helping unaccompanied children apply for reunification with their family members who were left behind, obtain humanitarian visas, and seek other avenues of protection. They also assisted family members with applications for family reunification.

Testimonials

“My KIND cases have been the most rewarding in my seven years of practicing law. I will never forget my client’s excitement and relief after receiving his green card in the mail. It’s moments like these that prompted me to become an attorney in the first place.”
- PBA, Covington & Burling LLP

“My lawyer would tell me to remain calm, to not be afraid, that she was there to protect me. You could see the affection and care from her. I really appreciate her.”
- KIND client

“I will never forget when I met one of the most important and best people in my life—my KIND lawyer. I’m here today because of her. She never gave up on me, and she helped me to never give up on myself.”
- Hafiz, KIND client

To learn more about KIND’s pro bono attorneys and their work, visit this link.
If you are a law firm or corporation and would like more information about how to get involved, please e-mail probono@supportkind.org.