

Ensuring the Protection of Children Alone in Their Search for Safety

Unaccompanied children around the world are searching for safety, fleeing violence and persecution from which their governments cannot protect them. No matter what their country of origin or reason for migration, these children need our help to pursue a safer future.

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.

Our Clients

Leandro's Journey

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.

"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

Our impact since
KIND's founding
in 2008

+30,000

children referred to KIND
for legal services

80

countries represented
among KIND clients

+5,400

KIND clients assisted
with social services
support

95%

average success rate for
cases where we represented
children through the duration
of their proceedings

Our Work

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 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 remigration. 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.

Our Offices

United States

Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, El Paso, Fresno, Hartford, Houston, Jacksonville, Los Angeles, Newark, New York, Northern Virginia, Orlando, San Francisco, Seattle, Washington, DC

Mexico

Juarez, Mexico City, Tijuana, Tapachula

Global

Central America, Europe, Mexico, United Kingdom, United States



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

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

Migrant children at the U.S.-Mexico Border searching for safety.
Photos (front and back) Brett Gundlock, 2022