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joins all

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**ENDING POVERTY
INVESTING IN JUSTICE**

who seek
justice

2017
Annual Report

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

June 2017

*“The only genuine elite is the elite of those men and women who gave their lives to justice and charity.”
~ Sargent Shriver*

I am pleased to present this 2016-2017 Annual Report on behalf of the Greater Hartford Legal Aid Foundation (GHLAF), the independent fundraising arm of Greater Hartford Legal Aid (GHLA). Your support for GHLA helps assure fairness for all in our justice system, regardless of how much money they have. Many people in our community need a lawyer in order to meet their very basic needs for safety, shelter, food, health care, education and basic subsistence. GHLA serves people with very low incomes—less than \$30,240 for a family of four.

The pages that follow honor our vibrant partnership with those who support our mission—you, foundations and other funders, and government and community leaders. As sufficient and steady funding for legal aid remains a challenge, support from the GHLA Foundation provides crucial stability that helps to preserve staffing and service levels. **We are proud to report we raised a total of \$419,267.**

The Foundation extends special thanks to United Technologies Corporation and its attorneys, who gave so generously. UTC’s remarkable total was over \$170,000, with 100% of UTC’s Connecticut-based attorneys making gifts. The Foundation owes enormous gratitude for the tremendous generosity of UTC and its attorneys.

Also, we want to highlight and thank the attorneys of Shipman & Goodwin for their extraordinary gift of \$40,000, and the attorneys of Robinson+Cole for their outstanding gift of \$34,000. Finally, profound thanks to our Board members for the work you provide throughout the Campaign season to secure the firm and corporate donations, and for your personal contributions.

As Board President I have been honored to experience directly our donors’ generosity of spirit and the extraordinary commitment demonstrated by our staff and all our supporters. You are, to paraphrase the words of Sargent Shriver above, truly elite through your support of access to justice for the neediest in our community. As GHLA marches forward into its second century of advocacy for the poor, the GHLA Foundation is launching initiatives to broaden the base of financial and in-kind support for GHLA. Not only have we worked to increase the number of attorneys who support GHLA through individual giving, in July 2017 we will hold GHLAF’s inaugural benefit gala, featuring Senator Richard Blumenthal as our keynote speaker. Thank you for the many ways you help secure a stable financial foundation for GHLA so these critical services remain available to our neighbors in the Greater Hartford area for many years to come.

Please visit our website at www.ghla.org to read more about the impact of our work and how we meet the ongoing challenges of poverty and unequal access to justice.

Very truly yours,



Ricardo Anzaldúa
Board President

Your Support Changes Lives

GHLA advocates for the safety and financial independence of victims of domestic violence

Ms. A was a teenager when she met her husband. His abuse included burning Ms. A. with hot coffee and sexually assaulting her. To stop the violence and protect her child, GHLA obtained a restraining order. Court ordered custody and financial support made it possible for Ms. A and her child to live independently, no longer subject to the control of an abusive husband and father.

GHLA gets students with disabilities the education they need, to stay in school and succeed

T is a middle school student who is severely dyslexic and had been held back twice. GHLA's advocacy secured comprehensive reading and neuropsychological evaluations which led to specialized reading tutoring. Since starting his tutoring, T's grades went up, he made the honor roll, and was voted by his peers to be "Most Improved Student."

“The people at Greater Hartford Legal Aid treated me with respect and dignity. They gave me hope and strength to move on with my life.”



From left to right:

Alan Lieberman, Shipman & Goodwin; Patrick Fahey, Shipman & Goodwin, GHLA Foundation Treasurer; Vaughan Finn, Shipman & Goodwin; Morgan Rueckert, Shipman & Goodwin, GHLA Board; Jamey Bell, GHLA Executive Director; Matthew Wax-Krell, GHLA President

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justice to be served
and for GHLA’s clients,
our poorest residents,
to have their rights
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