



The Center staff (left to right): Garrett Sakimae, Kate Vaughan, Mary Ellen Kearney, Gina Cumbo, Leila Curtis, Bobbe Bridge, Theresa Wea, Kelly Warner-King, Michael Curtis and Cynthia Hobbs.

Nearly 10,000 children are living in foster care in Washington today, most of them removed from their homes because of abuse or neglect.

## We believe...

...that the children and youth of our state deserve systems of welfare and justice that fully support their needs

...that juveniles leaving incarceration should receive the tools to succeed, not set adrift to make it on their own

...that youth of color should have equal access to treatment and support programs, not referred to the juvenile justice system more frequently than white youth

...that foster care should be a blessing, not a risk

...and that a passion for justice and for kids – combined with research, funding, training, information and support – can be the impetus for real and lasting change.

**Together, we can make it happen.**

## Board of Directors

Robert Flenbaugh II, Chair  
Law Office of Robert Flenbaugh II, PLLC  
Justice Bobbe J. Bridge (ret.)  
Ex-Officio  
Maryann Crissey  
Banner Bank  
Bonnie Glenn  
King County Prosecutor's Office  
Hon. Richard Jones  
U.S. District Court, Western WA  
Judge Anne Levinson (ret.)  
Merrily Laytner  
Community Volunteer  
Michele Rosen  
Community Volunteer  
Vickie L. Wallen  
Perkins Coie LLP

## Advisory Council

Janis Avery  
Treehouse  
The Honorable Patricia Clark  
King County Superior Court  
Adam Cornell  
U.S. Attorney's Office,  
Western District of Washington  
Deputy Chief John Diaz  
City of Seattle Police Dept.  
Don Felder  
Casey Family Programs  
Sergio Hernandez  
Freeman School District  
Anne Lee  
TeamChild  
Linda Lillevik  
Carey Lillevik, PLLC  
Laurie Lippold  
Children's Home Society  
Hon. Jeanine Long  
Washington State Senate (ret.)  
Paola Maranan  
The Children's Alliance  
Ruth Massinga  
Casey Family Programs (ret.)  
Mary Ann Murphy  
Partners with Families and Children  
Rita Ryder  
YWCA of Seattle-King-Snohomish  
Mark Sidran  
Washington State Utilities and  
Transportation Commission  
Kelly Stockman Reid  
Washington State CASA  
Jim Theofelis  
Mockingbird Society  
Tess Thomas  
Foster Parent  
Kip Tokuda  
City of Seattle Family & Youth  
Services Division  
Casey Trupin  
Columbia Legal Services  
Sheryl Whitney  
King County Executive's Office

## Thank you to our generous supporters

We are grateful to the foundations, corporations, families and individuals who enable the Center for Children & Youth Justice to work to create better systems, better lives.

### Over \$1,000,000

Jon & Bobbe Bridge

### Over \$500,000

The John D. and Catherine T.  
MacArthur Foundation  
The Bill & Melinda Gates  
Foundation  
The Stuart Foundation

### \$100,000-\$499,000

Policy Research Incorporated/  
National Center for Mental  
Health and Juvenile Justice

### \$5,000-\$15,000

American Bar Association  
Ben Bridge Jewelers  
Herb & Shirley Bridge  
Garvey Schubert Barer  
Home at Last/Pew  
Charitable Trusts  
Michael Curtis & Eric Thom  
Michele & Stan Rosen  
Microsoft

### \$1,001-\$2,500

Edward & Pamela Bridge  
Executive Women Int.,  
Seattle Chapter  
Dorsey & Whitney LLP  
Ellen Dial  
Robert L. Flenbaugh II  
Perkins Coie  
Mary E. Snapp  
Orley Solomon  
Rebecca J. Roe  
Seattle Chocolates  
Williams Kastner

### \$250-\$1,000

Kimberly Ambrose  
Linda Boggs  
Richard Borish  
Bill Bowman  
Dan Bridge  
Ann Carey  
C. Kent & Sandra Carlson  
City of Seattle -  
Combined Charities  
Eileen Concannon  
Donald Covey  
Maryann & Sten Crissey  
Carolyn R. Dimmick  
Linda Ebberson  
Mary Fairhurst  
Alden Garrett  
Richard Greaves  
Kenneth Hamm  
Michael Heavey  
Bruce Heller  
Cohen & Iaria  
Charles Gemberling  
Carol Harris  
Harris & Smith Public Affairs  
Richard Hopp  
Faith Ireland  
Ronald Knox  
Merrily Laytner  
Rosemarie Warren LeMoine  
Judy Maleng  
Brendan Mangan  
Tracy Marsh  
Ruth Massinga  
Microsoft Matching Gifts  
Program  
Marsha Pechman  
Penelope C. Percy  
Carolyn Pinkett

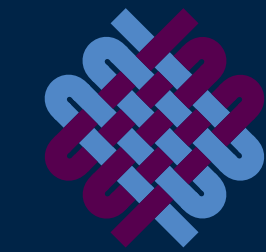
Bruce Pym  
Diane E. Schultheis  
Seattle Foundation  
Julie Shapiro  
Mark Sidran  
Kay Smith-Blum  
Nanette Sullins  
Leslie Wagner & Ed Curtis  
Mary Wechsler

### \$50-\$200

Susan Amini  
Mary Ann Andersen  
Janis Avery  
David Beard  
Barbara Boivin  
Ben Bridge Store 57 - Maui  
Anne Bryson-Beane  
Katherine Stelter Belisle  
Lucy Berliner  
Rebecca Bogard  
Marlene Boone  
Timothy Bradshaw  
Susan Brown  
Mary Brucker  
Lisa Brummel  
Brian Buckley  
Juli Bunting  
Timothy Burkart  
Julio Carranza  
Betty Carter  
Margaret Casey  
Jean Chaback  
Carmen Tsuboi Chan  
George Cheung  
Lisa Chick  
Mark Chow  
Daniel Clark  
Patricia Clark  
Ann Cockrill  
Adam & Whitney Cornell  
Stephanie Cox  
Elinor Cromwell  
Gina L. Cumbo  
Carol Cummings  
Linda Dagg  
Anne Daly  
Patrick D'Amelio  
Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP  
Dianne C. Digel  
Pat Dixon  
Lea Vaughn Dobel  
Sue Donaldson  
Joan Dubuque  
Tom Dunne  
Gayatri Eassey  
Stephen Ellis  
Diana Erickson  
Beverly H. Exe  
Kimberly Exe  
Karen Falkingham  
Donald Felder  
Bruce Heller  
First Choice Health  
Deborah Fleck  
Alan Wallace/Deb Fontz  
Fox Bowman  
Duarte, PLLC  
Andrew Friedman  
Darcie Furlan  
Jose Gaitan  
Michael Gedeon  
David Gee  
Melinda Giovengo  
Bonnie Glenn  
Julia Gold  
Carol Gown  
Rebecca Graham  
Janet Gray  
Verna Griffin  
Cathy Hall

Laird Harris  
Leah Harris  
Michele Hasson  
Michael Hayden  
Christie Hedman  
Catherine A. Hennessey  
Jana Heyd  
Hollis Hill  
Bruce Hilyer  
John Hoerster  
George Holzapfel  
Claire Hur  
Laura Inveen  
Lori Larcom Irwin  
Tim Jaasko-Fisher  
Ross Jacobson  
Barbara A. Johnston  
Richard Jones  
Debora Juarez  
Ruth Kagi  
John Keegan  
Jo Ann Kelly  
Phyllis Kenney  
Tanya Kim  
Jeanne Kohl-Welles  
Ruthann Kurose  
LaVerne Lamoureaux  
Mark Larson  
Robert Lasnik  
J. Robert Leach  
Steven Leahy  
Anne Lee  
Anne Levinson  
Jan Levy  
Laurie Lippold  
Thurman Lowans  
Jeanne R. Luplow  
Barbara Mack  
Scott MacCreedy  
Charles Maduell  
Sharon Maeda  
Sheila Magnano  
Peter Maier  
Jill Malat  
Mark Maleng  
Leesa Manion  
Paola Maranan  
Nell McCaw  
Le Roy McCullough  
Susan McIntosh  
Karin Mellskog  
M. Janice Michels  
Teresa Moore  
Salvador Mungia  
Vincent Nastos  
Teresa Nelson  
Kathleen O'Connor  
Mari Offenbecher  
Katherine Page  
Gena Palm  
Allan Panitch  
Laura Paskin  
Robert O. Passmore  
Michael Piraino

Anne Preston  
Q LAW  
Tracy Radwan  
Sue Rahr  
Joseph Rehberger  
Kristin Relyea  
Kelly Stockman Reid  
Mike Reiss  
Jean Rietschel  
R. Omar Riojas  
Nancy Roberts-Brown  
Mark Rowley  
Judith M. Runstad  
M. Lynn Ryder  
Rita Ryder  
Yoshiko Saheki  
Bruce & Becky Sakimae  
Naomi Sanchez  
Sara Sandford  
Daniel Satterberg  
Don Scaramastra  
Ann Schindler  
Shari Schindler  
Howard Schneiderman  
Kenneth Schubert, Jr.  
Shelly Shapiro  
Patty Shelley  
Richard Simkins  
Dianne Smith  
Mariane C. Spearman  
John M. Steel  
Debra Stephens  
Kyana Stephens  
Denise Stiffarm  
Diane Stokke  
Michele Storms  
Alan Sugiyama  
Jim Theofelis  
Therapeutic Health  
Services  
Suzanne Thomas  
Tess Thomas  
Anthony Todaro  
Kip Tokuda  
Casey Trupin  
Eric Trupin  
Remy Trupin  
Joyce Vail  
Kathleen Van Olst  
Kate Vaughan  
Velma Veloria  
Valerie Villacin  
Vickie Wallen  
Mike Wampold  
Laura Wells  
William Wells  
Margaret West  
Edward White  
Sheryl Whitney  
Linda Mason Wilgis  
Diane Yen-Mei Wong  
Ruth Woo  
George Yeannakis  
Joan Yoshitomi



center for  
**CHILDREN & YOUTH**  
JUSTICE

## Our Mission

The Center's mission is to advance justice for and enhance the lives of children and youth through juvenile justice, child welfare, and related systems reform.

## Better Systems. Better Lives.

### A progress report 2006 - 2008

Dear friends, supporters and colleagues,

Out of all the nation's kids, there is only one group that we as a community are obliged to call our own. These are the system kids – those whose care is financed by our taxes, those whose lives are in our hands and those whom we, as caretakers of the public systems of child welfare and juvenile justice, have been failing for far too long.

Recognizing our responsibility to these kids, the Center for Children & Youth Justice was founded in 2006. We responded to the critical need for an organization whose sole mission was to reform the systems themselves. An organization that would work toward the well-being of children and youth, not just their safety... for permanence, not just place holding... for data-driven outcomes, not just crisis-driven reactions... for high standards of excellence, not just whatever's "good enough." An organization to bring people together across systems and institutions to find those programs that work and then share them, replicate them, embed them in the institutional fabric and build the political will to sustain them.

For the past three years, the Center has worked toward a singular goal of ensuring that when children come into contact with the foster care and juvenile justice systems, their lives are better as a result.

And what an active three years it's been. We are proud to share this progress report with you to outline the impact we already are making to advance our mission. We are enormously grateful to you for your support and encouragement as we strive to create better systems, better lives. With your help, that day will come.

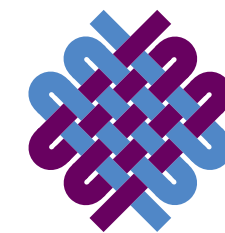
Sincerely,  
*Bobbe J. Bridge*  
Bobbe J. Bridge  
Founding President and CEO



*Robert Flenbaugh II*  
Robert Flenbaugh II  
Board Chair



We strive for accuracy in our donor lists and regret any errors or omissions. The Center is a 501(C)(3) charitable organization.



center for  
**CHILDREN & YOUTH**  
JUSTICE | Better systems. Better lives.®

615 2nd Avenue, Suite 275  
Seattle, WA 98104  
206.696.7503  
info@ccyj.org  
www.ccyj.org

# CHILDREN & YOUTH

## Models for Change

In our first full year of existence as a non-profit organization, we were selected to manage a \$10 million grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, leading its Models for Change juvenile justice reform initiative in Washington. We are now working at the grassroots level in six counties – Benton, Franklin, Clark, King, Pierce and Spokane – to help legal system professionals, community leaders, parents, youth and citizens identify and implement ways to improve their juvenile justice systems.

These Models for Change efforts are aimed at deterring juvenile crime on three fronts: law enforcement to ensure just punishment and community safety; early intervention to make a juvenile's first brush with the law the last; and prevention with a focus on rebuilding and empowering social institutions that have traditionally instilled values and set boundaries for young people.

An expansion of the Models for Change initiative, the Mental Health Juvenile Justice Action Network places additional emphasis on youth with mental health issues. One Network project – designed by the Center in collaboration with the Pasco School District and Lutheran Community Services – is under way at three Pasco middle schools, where truant and misbehaving youth are diverted to mental health and community services instead of being referred to the juvenile court. In partnership with several other states, we also are providing training to juvenile justice system staff in adolescent brain development and mental health issues.

## Supporting Early Connections

One of our most promising efforts for long-term child welfare reform, this project involves families with infants and toddlers referred to the Norm Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent for child abuse and neglect. Working with an infant

mental health therapist, families address the unique mental health and relationship needs of their young children.

The program teaches parents, who themselves may have been abused or otherwise had no positive parenting models, to nurture and bond with their children and respond accordingly to their needs. At the same time, the program addresses parents' individual mental health or substance abuse issues. The result is that young children will return home sooner and be less likely to return to foster care.

In addition to providing child-parent therapy services, Supporting Early Connections provides training to professionals in the justice, child welfare and mental health systems on how to better meet the needs of young children and their families.

Funded by a grant from the Stuart Foundation, the project is a collaborative effort between the Center, Navos (a community mental health provider), King County Superior Court, parents' attorneys, the State Attorney General's Office, the Department of Social and Health Services, the King County CASA program and infant mental health experts Dr. Sheri Hill and Dr. JoAnne Solchany.

*"Too often, great programs offering effective services do not have stable funding sources, so they disappear after grant money runs out. With Supporting Early Connections, child-parent therapy can be paid for by the child's medical coupon. This way, children and parents can continue to get critical mental health services to rebuild and nurture their relationships long after the initial phase of implementation is completed. Child-parent therapy will become part of the existing system of services that supports families involved in the child welfare system."*

**Cathy Cruickshank,**  
Washington State Assistant  
Attorney General



One in three children will remain in foster care for more than two years. One in six will live in three different foster homes – all within the first year.

## Lawyers Fostering Independence

Research shows that three years after leaving care, one in every four former foster youth have no high school diploma or GED, half are unemployed, one in five have been homeless and one in three have been incarcerated. They leave care with no options for legal advocacy in civil matters – such as education, housing, benefits or domestic relations – that may arise during their involvement in the child welfare system or immediately after they leave the system.

### Independent, safe and 'headed in the right direction'

After aging out of foster care at 18, Feltima Ferguson worked hard to make a life for herself and her baby, but threats and abuse by the father of her son threatened to unravel her fragile independence. She needed legal help, but with no money and no family, she didn't know where to turn. Then she found out about the Center's Lawyers Fostering Independence program.

"These kids want to be successful, but legal problems get in their way," says Perkins Coie Community Service Fellow Kate Vaughn, who developed the program for the Center. "With the help of pro-bono counsel, we can remove those barriers."

Some 50 attorneys have already volunteered to participate in this unique project, which will serve as a model for similar

programs nationwide. Family law attorney Stacy Heard is the pro bono counsel who is helping Feltima file a parenting plan, an order of child support, and a permanent protection order to keep the young mother and her son safe.

"These young people are all alone, with no anchor and no one to help them, often in situations where they are trying to raise their own children as teen parents," says Stacy. "Helping them become successful adults is so rewarding."

Feltima, who is working and has her own apartment, plans to attend Green River Community College to pursue a degree in social work. She wants to work with foster youth.

"I'm finally able to stand up for myself," she says. "My life is going in the right direction."



Feltima Ferguson with family law attorney, Stacy Heard.

Our Lawyers Fostering Independence project – developed and implemented thanks to the Perkins Coie Community Service Fellowship program – recruits, trains and retains a cadre of King County attorneys to provide pro bono civil legal services to youth aging out of the foster care system. The program is aimed at helping former foster kids resolve civil legal issues that threaten their ability to succeed.

For example, many of the approximately 250 youth who transition out of foster care each year in King County face some kind of legal problem that makes it difficult for them to secure stable housing and employment. Recent research points out that a quarter of foster youth have had their identities stolen by relatives, while half of the young women are already mothers. Many have juvenile convictions for misdemeanor assaults and other "survival crimes" during their time in foster care.

Nearly 50 attorneys have already

volunteered to participate in this unique project, which will serve as a model for similar programs nationwide. In addition to providing pro bono civil legal help, Lawyers Fostering Independence also provides transitioning youth with training and materials to empower them to advocate for themselves.

The program is a partnership with the American Bar Association and its Bar-Youth Empowerment Project. The ABA selected Washington as one of two state pilot sites nationwide based on the strength of the Center's presence in promoting statewide systemic reform.

## Highly Vulnerable Youth: Promoting Positive Outcomes

A 2006 grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation resulted in the Center's "Pathways to Success" report, which recommends 11 proven and promising programs aimed at preventing at-risk youth from entering the juvenile justice system or producing better outcomes for youth already in the system. In 2008, a second grant from the Foundation allows us to evaluate the success of two of those programs – Team-Child and New Start Stay in School – in working with highly vulnerable youth facing cultural and language barriers.

Partnering with TeamChild and New Start PathNet, the project expands school engagement services for Latino youth in Benton, Franklin and King Counties. The nonprofit TeamChild provides civil legal aid and support for at-risk and adjudicated youth. New Start PathNet is a collaborative community-based approach that focuses on education, job training and care management to prevent youth from dropping out of school.

## Child Welfare Meta-Analysis

The Center has developed a comprehensive, categorized, searchable database of nearly 2,000 recommendations from 256 reports issued over the past 10 years by government panels, nonprofit organizations, task forces, etc., regarding the child welfare system. The goal of the project is to encourage action on viable recommendations and to improve accountability for follow-through.

## Other Center Initiatives

We also lead the work of the Washington State Becca Task Force, Supreme Court Commission on Children in Foster Care, and are focusing on the issues of at-risk youth in military families as well as children caught in circumstances of domestic violence and child maltreatment.

Foster kids experience much higher rates of homelessness, unemployment and substance abuse as adults than other kids – and more post-traumatic stress disorder than combat veterans.



## The Norm Maleng Advocate for Youth Award

Named in honor of the late King County Prosecuting Attorney and founding member of the Center's Board of Directors, the award honors those who show exemplary leadership, dedication and commitment to the youth and families of Washington State. The Center presented the first annual award in May 2008 to the Maleng family and was accepted by Prosecutor Maleng's wife, Judy, and son, Mark.



On any given day, youth of color account for approximately 45% of Washington's juvenile justice population. This is almost twice the proportion of youth of color in our state.

