

# COMMUNITY JUSTICE PROJECT

## CJP HIGHLIGHTS

**August 2016**

The Community Justice Project has offices in Harrisburg, Hazleton, Pittsburgh, and Reading. Below are some recent highlights:

### **Pittsburgh Office Enforces Wage & Hour Settlement:**

CJP successfully enforced a settlement agreement in a collective wage and hour case in the Western District of Pennsylvania. The employer, a restaurant chain, had massively underpaid immigrant workers and then failed to follow through on a mediated settlement agreement. All of the workers have now received their settlement awards, even those who no longer reside in the United States. Recently, CJP successfully moved for attorneys' fees in addition to the settled amount.

### **Hazleton Office Aids Domestic Violence Victim in Obtaining Medical Assistance and in Seeking a U-Visa:**

Our Hazleton office is currently representing an undocumented victim of domestic violence in petitioning for a U-Visa, which we anticipate will eventually provide her with lawful status, work authorization, and a path to citizenship. In the meantime, we also assisted her in obtaining emergency medical assistance, which has enabled her to obtain medical treatment for her high risk pregnancy.

### **Reading Office Prevents Deportation of 12-Year Old Child:**

In June, our Reading office for the first time was able to terminate deportation proceedings against a client. Our client, who is only 12 years old, was placed into deportation proceedings when she was caught trying to enter the United States after both her parents died. With no family to care for her in her home country, but several older siblings in the United States, it was the only place for her to go. We identified her as eligible for Special Immigration Juvenile Status, a special status for abused, abandoned and neglected youth, and successfully moved to terminate the deportation proceedings so that she may apply. In the interim, she no longer has to appear before an immigration judge, an anxiety-ridden experience for anyone, much less a young child.

## **SUPPORT OUR WORK**

Over the past several years, CJP's regular sources of support, including IOLTA funds, have been at historically low levels. You and/or your firm's contribution will go a long way in providing effective legal assistance to protect the basic needs and rights of Pennsylvania's poor families and low-wage workers and to assist them in their efforts to become self-sufficient. Please consider making a gift to:

**Community Justice Project, 118 Locust Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101**

Please also consider naming the Community Justice Project for *cy pres* awards/class action residuals.

If you have questions or would like to learn more about CJP, please contact Marielle Macher at [mmacher@cjplaw.org](mailto:mmacher@cjplaw.org) or 717-236-9486, ext. 214.