

## SCLC Supporters Get Things Done

SCLC has various opportunities for paralegals, lawyers, law students, and anyone else interested supporting Seattle's civil legal aid community. We're grateful for each volunteer on our team, and hope that you'll consider joining us! Below are some ways you can become involved during 2016.

### MAY 3: GiveBIG

SCLC is participating in Seattle Foundation's 24-hour, online give-athon. Check our website on May 3 and GiveBIG!



### NOVEMBER: LOL for SCLC!

Our annual fundraising event uses a light mood for discussing a serious mission. We convene at the Triple Door for stand-up comedy, food, and fundraising— and we wouldn't be able to make it happen without volunteers.



Email [info@seattlecommlaw.org](mailto:info@seattlecommlaw.org) to find out how you can help.

*Become a Sustaining Donor Today*



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Seattle, WA 98122

[www.seattlecommlaw.org](http://www.seattlecommlaw.org)  
206.686.7252

Volunteer  
Of the Year  
**Joan Fairbanks,**  
Volunteer Attorney

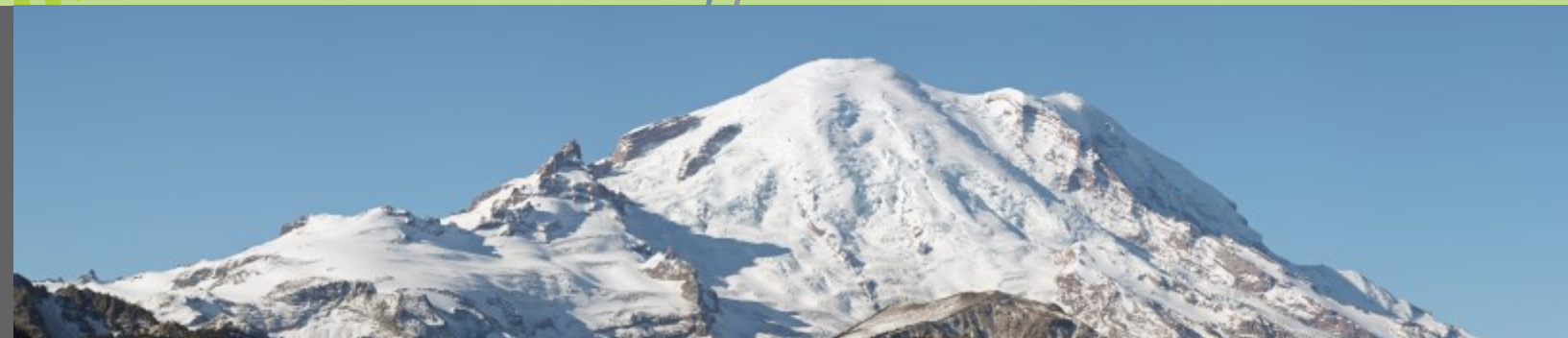
THANK  
YOU  
JOAN!

# ANNUAL REPORT



The SCLC is so lucky to have Joan Fairbanks as a volunteer attorney! Joan has been committed to SCLC's Disabled Homeless Advocacy Project since February 2015, and has dedicated her legal career to improving the delivery of civil legal aid to low income, vulnerable members of our community. Joan has spent the past year helping a formerly homeless client navigate the disability application process, and has advocated for the client at every step. SCLC is deeply grateful for Joan's commitment to our clients, and we proudly recognize her as our *Volunteer of the Year*.

**VOLUNTEER AT SCLC!**  
[info@seattlecommlaw.org](mailto:info@seattlecommlaw.org)



## Letter from Executive Director, Alex Doolittle

Dear Supporters of SCLC,

2015 was a year full of success for the projects, clients, and overall health of the Seattle Community Law Center. More than 90% of the people we served this year defined the outcome of their legal struggle as "successful."

A client, Willie Holmes, exemplified this success when speaking at 2015's LOL for SCLC fundraiser. Mr. Holmes claimed that the legal support he received from SCLC was essential for staying off the street, and that in his deepest moment of doubt, the service of our staff and volunteers saved his life.

His message was a resonant way to give back to our organization, and with the support of our community of donors, we raised more than \$60,000 in one night—making the 2015 LOL for SCLC our most successful fundraiser to date. This support and mutual passion fuels our work, and when addressing big issues of stable housing, access to Medicaid & Medicare, debt relief, and economic stability (at least \$733/month to live on), our donors make big outcomes possible.

When a person can afford to house, feed, and clothe themselves, it reduces their dependency on the costly administrative and emergency services of our local governments, and empowers them to support their peers.

With your help in 2016, we hope to hold and build upon this momentum. It will be a year of capacity building for SCLC, and we continue to depend on your help. We continue to face the facts of a growing justice gap—particularly for those individuals who suffer from income stability, or are among King County's homeless population (which grew alarmingly in 2015.)

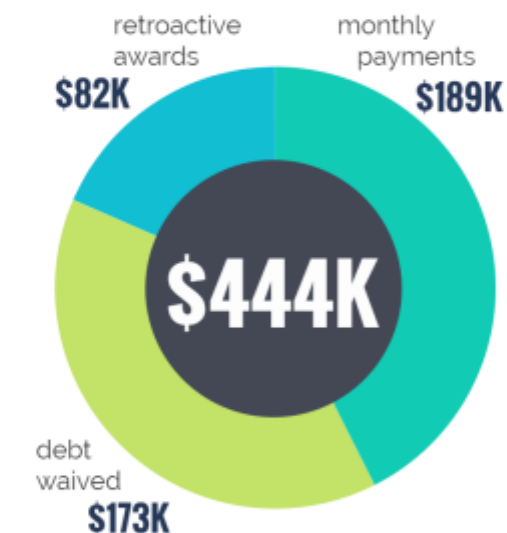
Please join us in our mission to improve Seattle one life at a time. If you're not yet involved in SCLC, please give me a call at 206-686-7252 x104, or email me at [alex@seattlecommlaw.org](mailto:alex@seattlecommlaw.org).

Alex Doolittle, JD, Executive Director since 2009

### Clients served by SCLC



### Funds awarded to SCLC clients in 2015



[www.seattlecommlaw.org](http://www.seattlecommlaw.org)



# SCLC is a Growing Community // 2015 Stats



Thank you for becoming part of the community that is SCLC, and for helping to amplify the voices of our clients. Last year, our community volunteered over 2500 hours to help SCLC deliver on its mission, and we are a stronger and more diverse organization than ever before. Thank you for making it possible!

## SCLC Staff // Stronger than Ever



In 2016, SCLC has rebuilt a small, strong team, that conscientiously supports our social movement through case management, client representation, communication, and volunteer engagement. With two attorneys, one paralegal, and the help of many dedicated volunteers, we are serving more than 1000 people per year who have an urgent need for legal representation. Fueled by a thirst for justice, our team takes their work to the streets of Seattle through partnerships with community agencies (shelters and libraries,) and does so with personal vigor, conviction, patience, and grace. They take care of themselves and each other, and they build trust by observing and communicating with their clients each expectation and boundary they encounter. More than anything, they are fantastic advocates for justice, and the assemblage of this team has been SCLC's most important accomplishment of the past year.

## SCLC Board // The Long Game

It has been my pleasure to sit on the SCLC board of directors since 2011. When I became chair in 2015, SCLC had reaffirmed its commitment to supporting community members, and ensuring that people with physical and mental disabilities have access to financial stability. I know that our community wants to take action, and make positive outcomes possible for our city's most vulnerable inhabitants. SCLC's advocacy produces the outcomes that I want to see in my community: increased financial and housing stability for my neighbors; improved access to mental health treatment; and a healthier community of individuals, overall. This is a mission I call home, and it's a mission that you can call home, too.



Maryann Nelson, Board Chair since 2015

We have recently initiated a three-year strategic plan that will further open our doors to the community at large, and will focus on three overarching themes:

- (1) improving our ability to support those who volunteer for SCLC;
- (2) heightening awareness in our community about people with physical and mental disabilities who are facing the risks and realities of homelessness;
- (3) increasing organizational opportunities to expand our capacity for good in King County.

# Partnerships for Greater Impact



KCBA: King County Bar Association  
DESC: Downtown Emergency Service Center

...  
SCLC meets clients where they are already receiving services or in a location convenient for them.  
...

"I am extremely grateful for your kindness in helping me. You restore my faith in the world."  
-SCLC Client

...

## 2015 Financials

