



CENTER FOR
PUBLIC
JUSTICE

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

*"Serving God by equipping citizens,
developing leaders and shaping
policy, advancing justice for the
transformation of public life."*



CENTER FOR
PUBLIC JUSTICE

LETTER FROM THE CEO

DEAR FRIENDS OF CPJ,

As CPJ begins our 45th year in 2022, I am profoundly grateful for how God has used the faithfulness of the many generations of CPJ's staff, volunteers and friends, to provide exactly what was needed in its due season. Such ardent support has helped CPJ build upon and expand its strong foundation of Christian political thought.

This annual report reflects on a year that began with the unprecedented insurrection on the U.S. Capitol and the prolonged stress of a global pandemic. I am grateful for your prayers, which have constantly reminded us that God is our source of courage and strength as we work for public justice. God has continued to make plain the foundational importance of prayer, enlivening and cultivating the soil from which CPJ's work is planted, grows and bears fruit.

This annual report also testifies to the goodness of God. In a year characterized by increasingly stark political divisions and the troubling fracture of democratic institutions, God has allowed CPJ to uphold the vision of public justice rooted in our understanding of Christ's ultimate just governance. Even amid the daily injustices within our political community, this is the vision towards which CPJ labors and remains confident in God's promises.

CPJ's team continues to be recognized as faithful, trustworthy and committed to excellence as we work to equip citizens, develop leaders and shape policy. Our online gatherings have enabled many more organizations and leaders to participate

than in any year of our history. This year CPJ's team equipped the leaders of nearly 5,000 faith-based organizations. These leaders learned from webinars, coalitions and convenings to navigate the opportunities and challenges that result from our pluralistic society. Nearly 7,000 church leaders and young people benefited from our training on the complexities of being a political disciple, whether that's in their classroom, their church, or their community.

As you will read in these pages, CPJ continues to equip leaders to bridge lines of deep difference. Our team is often thanked for bringing a comprehensive and practical Christian perspective. We are known for embodying respectful yet substantive engagement with those with whom we oftentimes achieve disagreement. In a nation where false ideologies captivate many of our fellow citizens, and where disagreement regularly spills over into violence, there are many reasons for despair. Yet thanks be to God, what the Lord has granted possible for CPJ in 2021 provided many reasons for hope.

Your generous prayer and financial support supplied what was needed to accomplish all that is detailed in this report. We are grateful to God for your partnership that makes this work possible, now and for generations yet to come.



Stephanie Summers
CEO, Center for Public Justice

CPJ's New Brand Identity

The new brand identity and logo marks capture CPJ's work in the public square, firmly held by Christ, pursuing God's good purpose for our political community, and reflecting our commitment to a pluralistic society in which all people and institutions engage one another with a spirit of respect and service.



LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Celebrating 45 Years of CPJ



Jessica Joustra | CPJ Board Chair

What a year it has been! It has been a year marked by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, unexpected natural disasters, social unrest, and more.

And yet despite this year's share of unexpected events and difficulties, I remain deeply optimistic about the Center for Public Justice and our ongoing mission and important work. CPJ remains a leading organization working to help form our political communities by ensuring citizens and leaders collaborate to shape public life for the good of all.

My optimism stems from the continued commitment I've witnessed from my fellow board members, CPJ staff, and CPJ's supporters to meet

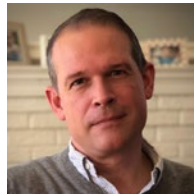
this moment in time by adhering to our commitment to work outside the familiar categories of right and left, conservative and liberal—even when it might seem easier to do so.

The year 2022 marks the 45th anniversary of the Center for Public Justice's founding. From CPJ's beginning, we have been committed to the work of "advancing justice by advocating the proper exercise of government's authority to uphold the common good." In this work, we have experienced much success and many challenges, but by God's grace, we are well positioned to continue equipping citizens and public officeholders to respond to His call to do justice.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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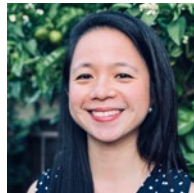
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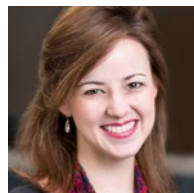
Kathy Pointer
Elder and Co-Pastor
Greater Fellowship Baptist Church
Suitland, Md.



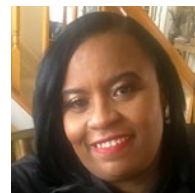
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American Council of Engineering Companies
Rockville, Md.



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Director of Women's Discipleship
Church of God Southwest Region
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Denise Strothers
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Healing Communities USA
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Accounting and Finance Executive
Sedalia, Colo.

ADVANCING CHRISTIAN SCHOLARSHIP

The Hatfield Prize Reports: Christian Scholars Examine the Pandemic's Impact on Three U.S. Regions

Since 2018, CPJ has awarded the Hatfield Prize annually to three student-faculty pairs from institutions that are part of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities to research policies that impact vulnerable children, families, and communities. Named after Senator Mark O. Hatfield, who spoke at CPJ's first conference held on a college campus, the award is made possible through the generous support of the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust and the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

The Hatfield Prize facilitates student-faculty research over the course of a semester and culminates in the publication of three policy reports. It is one of only a few examples of academic research designed to present practical recommendations on how government and civil society organizations including faith-based organizations can and do support human flourishing in communities nationwide.

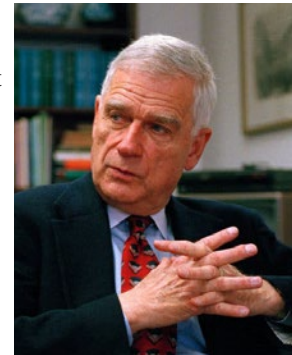
In 2021, Hatfield Prize reports explored how the COVID-19 global pandemic impacted food insecurity, children's health, and the foster care system in several regions of the United States.

In [Relief and Recovery: Addressing COVID-19's Impact on Food Insecurity](#), John Brown University's Seth Billingsley (who has since graduated) and faculty advisor Daniel Bennett, Ph.D., explore COVID-19's impact on food insecurity and propose innovative recommendations for communities navigating the ongoing impact of the pandemic. Billingsley and Bennett conducted their research in the Northwest Arkansas area and discovered how faith communities, government, and other civil society institutions have responded to meet the exacerbated level of need.

In [Children's Health and Well-Being: Recommendations for a Post-Pandemic World](#), Colorado Christian University student Chenyu Lin and faculty advisor Julie Woodman, Ph.D., detail how COVID-19 exacerbated racial and socioeconomic disparities in children's health and underscore the importance of strengthening policies like the Children's Health Insurance Program to ensure that all children have the opportunity to thrive. Lin and Woodman conducted research in Denver, Colo., and the report offers practical recommendations for improving child health outcomes.

In [Towards a Stronger Child Welfare System: The Pandemic's Impact on Foster Families](#), LeTourneau University student Matthew Strong and faculty advisor Mark Moland, DPA, examine COVID-19's impact on the recruitment, retention, and support of foster parents and provide recommendations for how government and civil society can better support foster families post-pandemic. Strong and Moland conducted research in Longview, Texas, and the report offers a compelling snapshot of the experience of foster parents during the pandemic and the impact of isolation from critical systems of support.

[Note: the findings and conclusions presented in The Hatfield Prize reports are those of the authors alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the foundations.]



Sen. Mark O. Hatfield
R-Oregon



Daniel Bennett, Ph.D. | John Brown University

"The Hatfield Prize prioritizes collaborative research between faculty and students, pairing a student's passion with a professor's experience. This, combined with the Center for Public Justice's hands-on engagement, has made for an incredibly enriching experience."

DEVELOPING LEADERS

Political Discipleship—Creating Change In The Public Square

Our nation continues to experience intense political strain and discord among public officials, the electorate, and citizens who are steadily becoming disillusioned. With elections coming up in 2022 it is quite likely that tensions will only escalate.

The Center for Public Justice's Political Discipleship has designed tools to help local civic and/or faith-based groups confront these issues by exploring faithful, Christian citizenship and practicing citizenship together.

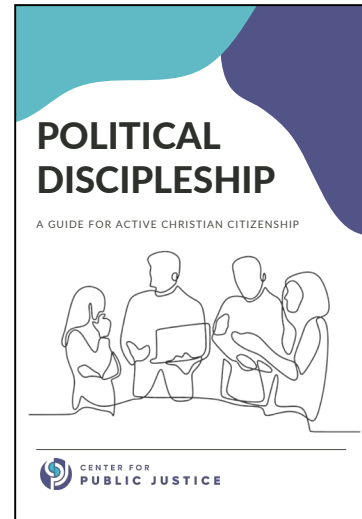
Political Discipleship is a theologically rooted and practically driven 11-week resource for Christian small groups who seek to better love their neighbors through politics. The structure is composed of four parts: gather, purpose, formation and action. To Gather is to begin a small group with members of your community. The Purpose is to learn and practice the basic tools of citizenship through a Biblical vision of justice and flourishing. The Formation involves encountering and applying the Christian public justice framework through group study of an issue that impacts your

community. To take Action is to meet with a public official to address the issue your group is responding to.

Shortly after the January 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol, the Center for Public Justice hosted a Political Discipleship event titled **"Engaging Faithfully in Politics After an Election Year."** CPJ's Families Valued Director Rachel Anderson and CPJ's Shared Justice Program Director Katie Thompson led the discussion.

The event reviewed existing tools, resources, and ways to establish a community for practicing faithful Christian citizenship. A panel discussion explored how the panelists used CPJ's Political Discipleship curriculum to form a community of Christians who are actively seeking the common good in their communities.

In June, CPJ partnered with The Trinity Forum and the American Enterprise Institute's Initiative on Faith and Public Life to present a webinar with renowned scholars Mark Noll, Ph.D. and Vincent Bacote, Ph.D. to discuss **"The Challenge of Christian Nationalism."**



Discussion included approaches Christians can take to understand and confront the origins, ideas, and implications of Christian Nationalism. Drs. Bacote and Noll examined the recent rise of this ideology in the United States and how Christians maintain clarity on the importance of political involvement that doesn't undermine democratic principles and the protection of pluralism.

Real Perspectives



Brittney Drakeford | Prince George's County (Maryland) Dept. of Planning and Ph.D. candidate at University of Maryland

Brittney Drakeford, the co-leader of an intergenerational group in the Maryland and Washington, D.C. metropolitan region, noted that it's hard to know "what...it [looks] like to put our faith into action and be meaningful members of our communities. Political Discipleship guided my church in doing just that."



Dr. Greg Bish | Chief of Staff—Office of the President Houghton College

"One of my takeaways really was, [Political Discipleship] gave us a common language to have a conversation asking, 'What does your faith have to do with politics? And how might those things be brought together?'

"[Another] thing I saw was students who actually moved on to their next year of college still wanted to be involved and would come back to find ways to be involved. And so that was a really powerful piece, just to continue to instill that in others. But as I think about practices, I think, for myself and my students, knowing who your political officials are, and we looked both locally and nationally as part of the fellowship, was really powerful and we did a lot of handwritten letter writing."

SHAPING PUBLIC POLICY

CPJ's Work to Protect All Families

CPJ's Families Valued develops tools and conducts events to promote faith-based advocacy for family-supportive policies. These tools help underscore these policies—such as paid family leave— as pro-family, pro-child and, therefore, pro-life.

Over the past four years, CPJ has articulated a case for why Christians should support paid family leave by developing shared core messages and materials along with leaders representing the largest Christian denominations in the country. Since our initial convenings of a diverse group of Christian leaders who examined family-supportive policies, CPJ has coalesced institutional and individual supporters into a strong and focused coalition. What began as a solo effort has blossomed and now the partnership organizations represent more than 80,000

congregations that have secured consistent coverage of the issue of paid family leave in religious media.

Through outreach, engagement, and training, CPJ continued to equip Christian leaders to play a crucial role in advancing paid family leave for all American households. As a result of the CPJ's work through Families Valued, a diverse group of Christians continue to offer their public support for paid family leave and they regularly engage public office-holders to support these policies.

The organizations called for paid leave policies that

- guarantee paid parental and family leave
- support paid time off for illness, recovery and care-giving
- protect pregnant women and young children

Advocating for Faith-Inclusive Family Care

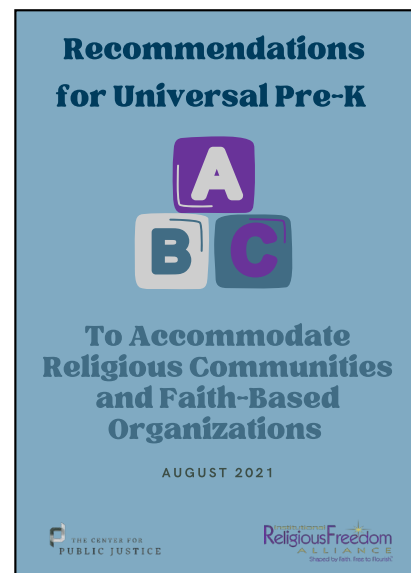
In “Should Christians Cheer Biden’s Plan for Families?”, the May 5, 2021 episode of Christianity Today’s “Quick to Listen” podcast, CPJ’s Families Valued Director Rachel Anderson detailed how a mandate to provide paid parental leave, universal pre-K, and help low-income families with child care would benefit the entire country.

Among the matters discussed are “why paid family leave has not been embraced in America, why so many churches are involved in early childhood education, and why family policy critics often take contrary positions on parents working or not.”

CPJ also published its first e-book this year titled [Recommendations for Federal Policy for Universal Pre-K That Accommodates Religious Communities and Faith-Based Organizations](#).

The Center for Public Justice released a policy white paper concerning a challenge to institutional religious

freedom for the Administration to address. At issue is how to include faith-based organizations in the expanded federal funding for existing child care and new universal Pre-K programs. As of this writing, the Center for Public Justice, and many other faith-based organizations and religious denominations, support the intent of the Administration to provide federal funding to subsidize child care and pre-kindergarten programs for more families. We have worked with the Administration and Congress to demonstrate that many American families strongly desire that these programs be compatible with and build on their respective families’ religious beliefs and practices. CPJ has interfaced with Congress to ask for changes to several provisions to proposed legislation that would inhibit or prevent many faith-based providers from participating in these federally subsidized services.



SHAPING PUBLIC POLICY

CPJ Confronts Injustice in the Juvenile Probation System

The Center for Public Justice is a longstanding advocate for reforming the nation's juvenile justice system. CPJ calls for faith-based organizations, government and civil society to apply principles of public justice to foster structural and legal changes in the juvenile justice system.

The goal is to transform the juvenile justice system in such a way that honors the dignity of youth and their families, is more effective at keeping youth in their communities, and that advances racial equity. The participation of faith-based organizations and houses of worship – institutions that know the needs of their communities best – is essential to effective and holistic reform.

One area of the juvenile justice system CPJ has identified as particularly needing reform is juvenile probation. More than two-thirds of young people who are formally processed in the juvenile justice system are put on probation. The court proceedings and the sentences disrupt the lives of teenagers, take them out of school, and make it harder for them to navigate the world and overcome challenges they may be facing because of factors that are beyond their control. Every year, approximately half a million youth are sentenced to juvenile probation, despite the fact that more than half of those youths were never found delinquent by a court of law. Studies show that the system also disproportionately punishes people of color.

This year, CPJ held pivotal events focusing on juvenile probation reform. In January 2021, CPJ hosted its Opportunity for Transformation: The Role of Faith in Juvenile Probation Reform half-day convening of more than 50 national and local faith leaders, clergy, Christian academics, and Christian professionals in juvenile justice. The convening was emceed by CPJ Juvenile Justice Fellow

Yasmine Arrington and was designed to educate faith leaders about juvenile probation, the need for reform, and the role of families and community-based organizations, including faith-based organizations, in a juvenile probation system that is more effective and equitable.

Following the convening, CPJ designed a toolkit that was shared with attendees. The toolkit holds invaluable resources including a guide for where to start engaging in juvenile probation reform in the local community, and tips for faith leaders who would like to host an educational event at their church.

In the month of June, the Center for Public Justice produced a series of five articles and four Instagram Live seminars that featured interviews with experts and faith-leaders in the field. The experts interviewed include Justin Giboney, co-founder and president of the AND Campaign; Eugene Schneeberg, Director for the Every Youth Every Facility Coalition; and Patrice Wedderburn, a former assistant attorney general in the public safety division with the D.C. Office of the Attorney General.

The experts and articles produced provided crucial information on issues that need to be resolved to reform our juvenile probation system.

CPJ's future convenings on this issue will focus on stories of transformation, as well as the role of faith-based organizations and houses of worship when implementing juvenile probation reform strategies.

A second juvenile probation convening will be held in January 2022 and it will focus on how faith-based organizations can impact the juvenile probation system through diversion strategies and credible messenger mentoring.

Articles from the Transforming Juvenile Probation Series

- [**From Punishment to Restoration: Opportunities for Juvenile Probation Reform**](#) by Josh Seiersen
- [**It's Time for Christians to Lead on Juvenile Probation Reform: An Interview with Justin Giboney**](#) by Justin Giboney and Katie Thompson
- [**Transforming Juvenile Probation Series: A Conversation with Derrell Frazier with Yasmine Arrington**](#)
- [**A Better Way Forward: How Diversion Programs Offer Youth Opportunities for Success**](#) by Elizabeth Miller
- [**Transforming Juvenile Probation Series: A Conversation with Patrice Wedderburn with Yasmine Arrington**](#)
- [**How Two Counties Are Leading the Way in Juvenile Probation Transformation**](#) by Esther Lagerwey

SHAPING PUBLIC POLICY

Advocating for Institutional Religious Freedom

The Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. President George W. Bush launched this vital reorientation of government in 2001 to implement the federal government's commitment to "enlist, equip, enable, empower, and expand the work of faith-based and other community organizations" to improve service to people in need.

In 2020, IRFA's founder and senior director, Dr. Stanley Carlson-Thies, a former OFBCI staff member, advised both presidential campaigns and, ultimately the Biden administration, about the importance of renewing a strong Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. He also advised the Biden administration on the opportunities and challenges that the faith-based initiative faces.

The Biden administration is the fifth presidential administration CPJ has advised by offering training for incoming officials about the faith-based initiative. The training features bipartisan participation by previous appointees who held these roles. The training's design ensures the incoming appointees understand the bipartisan nature of the faith-based initiative and that they grasp the importance of maintaining this approach instead of remaking the initiative in a partisan manner.

Following the June 2021 Supreme Court ruling in the *Fulton vs. Philadelphia* case on faith-based foster care, the Center for Public Justice partnered with the Christian Alliance For Orphans to present a webinar for faith-based providers of foster and adoption services. The webinar provided a real-time understanding of the ruling's implications, as well as an understanding of the opportunities faith-based providers have to support this complex public policy issue in our pluralistic society.

CPJ affirms the Court's ruling, which upholds our longstanding commitment to the equal treatment of faith-based providers of foster and adoption services. However, the decision does not specifically state how our nation should simultaneously protect the rights of all parties involved in disputes like those underlying this case. While the Court's ruling is a welcome development for religious freedom, Congress still must resolve the many uncertainties that exist at the intersection of religious freedom and LGBT rights. CPJ has worked for six years to develop and encourage Congress to pass the Fairness for All Act (H.R. 1440). One aspect of the Fairness for All legislation outlines an innovative solution for our diverse society ensuring the government would treat all foster and adoption providers equally.



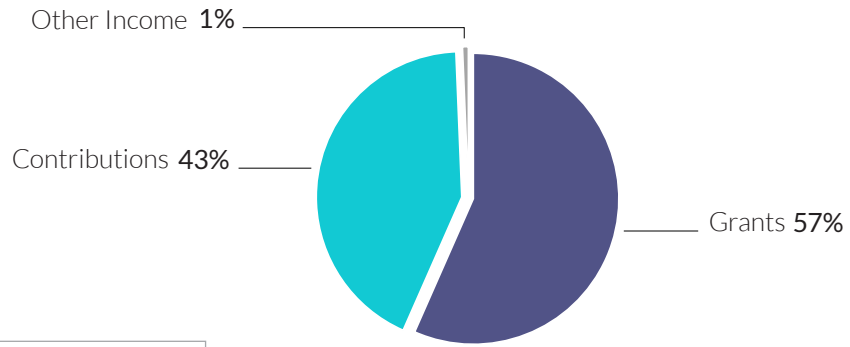
Jedd Medefind | President, Christian Alliance for Orphans

CPJ is a rare pairing of head and heart, offering both incisive public policy and a distinctive Christian witness.

I'm very grateful for CPJ's influence through the Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance and many other invaluable projects and programs, which honor Christ in both the quality and the character of their public engagement.

CPJ BY THE NUMBERS

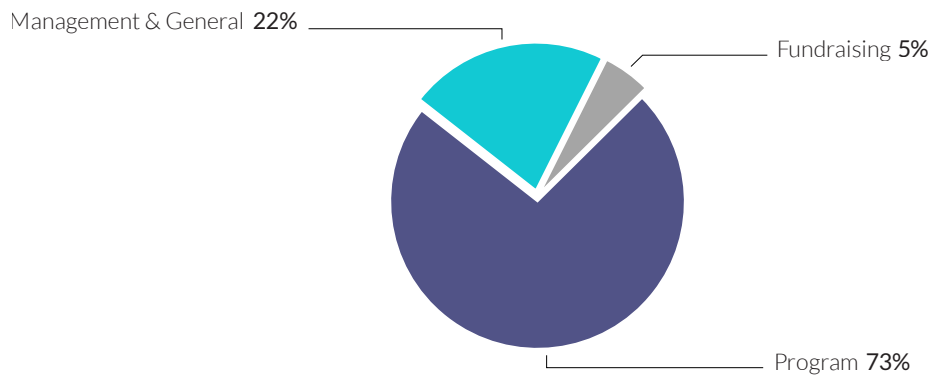
FISCAL YEAR 2021 REVENUE SOURCES



Grants	1,619,985	56.6%
Contributions	1,223,405	42.7%
Other Income	<u>18,572</u>	<u>0.6%</u>
	2,861,962	100.0%

- Grants
- Contributions
- Other Income

FISCAL YEAR 2021 EXPENSES



Program	913,868	73.0%
Management & General	273,169	21.8%
Fundraising	<u>64,680</u>	<u>5.2%</u>
	1,251,897	100.0%

- Program
- Management & General
- Fundraising

FOUR WAYS TO DONATE TO CPJ

We Are Deeply Committed To Stewarding Donations With Integrity And Purpose

There are four ways to donate to the Center for Public Justice to equip citizens, develop leaders and shape policy.

1. Donate by Check, Credit/Debit Card, or Electronic Funds Transfer

Please use the enclosed remit slip and envelope. You may also donate online at www.cpjustice.org/give.

2. Donate Securities

Many donors prefer to make donations of appreciated stocks, bonds, and mutual funds when considering a donation of \$1,000 or more. To donate gifts of securities, please instruct your bank or broker to transfer the securities from your account to CPJ's account. The broker for the Center for Public Justice is

RBC Wealth Management
1906 Towne Center Boulevard, Suite 375
Annapolis, MD 21401
Phone: 410-573-6715.
Broker contact is Lauran Palmer
DTC Number: 0235
Center for Public Justice Account Number: 350-19104.

Please ask your bank or broker to notify RBC of your name when making your donation. To donate closely held stock or mutual funds please contact CPJ directly.

3. Donate Through an IRA Charitable Rollover

You may be looking for a way to make a big difference to help further CPJ's mission. If you are age 72 or older you may also be interested in a way to decrease the income and taxes from your IRA withdrawals. An IRA charitable rollover is a great way you can help continue CPJ's work and satisfy your required minimum distribution for the year and avoid taxes on transfers of up to \$100,000. An IRA Charitable rollover also reduces your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions. Please contact your IRA plan administrator to make a donation from your IRA to CPJ. Your IRA funds will be directly transferred to CPJ. Please note that IRA charitable rollover gifts do not qualify as a charitable deduction.

4. Plan Your Legacy Donation

You can increase the impact of your donation to CPJ by arranging for non-cash assets or cash donations made in your will. All donors to CPJ are eligible to receive free estate planning services through our partnership with the Barnabas Foundation. To take advantage of this opportunity, contact CPJ directly to be connected to a Christian estate planner or to receive a copy of CPJ's endowment policy for your review.

Contact CPJ's Operations Assistant, Oliver Mead at oliver.mead@cpjustice.org or call 202-695-2667.



The **2021 Annual Report of the Center for Public Justice** has been produced in compliance with the Standards for Excellence®: An Ethics and Accountability Code for the Nonprofit Sector.

The Standards for Excellence Institute is a program of Maryland Nonprofits that is a national initiative established to promote the highest standards of ethics, effectiveness, and accountability in nonprofit governance, management, and operations.

The Standards for Excellence Institute | 1500 Union Avenue, Suite 2500 Baltimore, MD 21211

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