

CENTER FOR  
**PUBLIC JUSTICE**  
2023 ANNUAL REPORT



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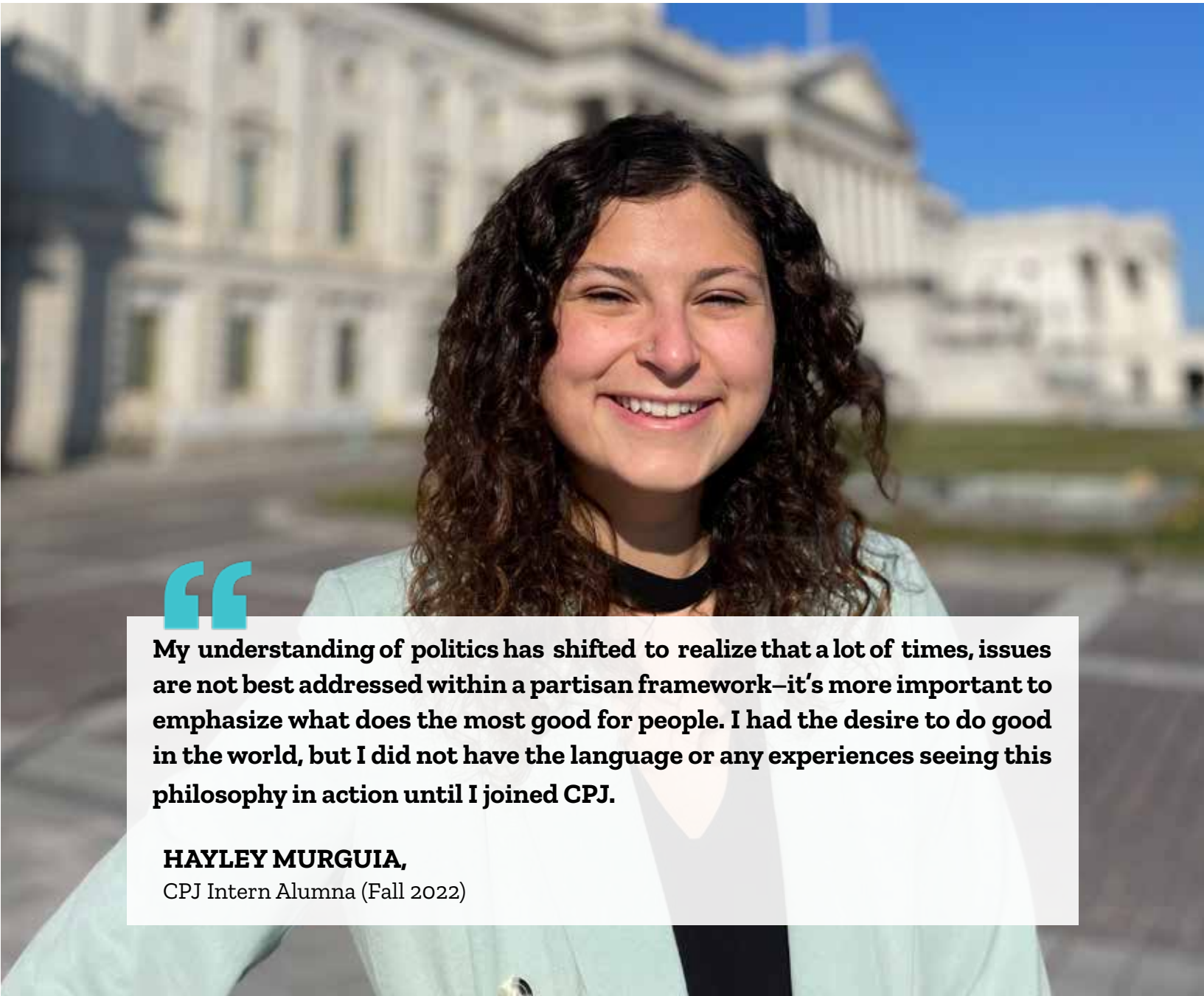
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# OUR PROMISE TO STUDENTS

If you become engaged in the work of the Center for Public Justice, we promise to help you cultivate a more hopeful vision of politics and discover ways your faith makes sense in public and political life.

## SHAPING FUTURE LEADERS CPJ'S INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

At the Center for Public Justice, we view the internship experience as a valuable time to equip talented, young professionals with a deeper understanding of God's design for work, civic life, and their calling. Our goal is to develop interns spiritually and to give them the skills and tools they need to positively impact their communities and advance public justice.



**My understanding of politics has shifted to realize that a lot of times, issues are not best addressed within a partisan framework—it's more important to emphasize what does the most good for people. I had the desire to do good in the world, but I did not have the language or any experiences seeing this philosophy in action until I joined CPJ.**

**HAYLEY MURGUIA,**  
CPJ Intern Alumna (Fall 2022)



# OUR PROMISE TO ACADEMICS

If you become engaged in the work of the Center for Public Justice with your compatible area of expertise, we promise to help you connect your Christian scholarly insights with significant contemporary public issues.

## TRANSFORMATIVE SCHOLARSHIP THE 2023 HATFIELD PRIZE REPORTS

September saw the release of the 2023 Hatfield Prize Reports. Awarded annually to three student-faculty pairs, the Hatfield Prize integrates faith with academic scholarship, addressing today's pressing societal challenges through a public justice framework that acknowledges the distinct roles of government and civil society.

The research focuses on Rockwood, Oregon, East Texas, and West Michigan, delving into public policies related to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), human trafficking prevention and response, and prison education programs.



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HATFIELD PRIZE RESEARCH AWARD AND READ THIS YEAR'S REPORTS.



**The way that CPJ advocates, in a non-partisan way, yet touching on key concerns for the public, is a way forward in our divisive political climate. Deep theological undertones are noted in how CPJ advocates for dignity and respect across the political divide. We need this type of engagement in our world today and I am proud to be associated with the work of CPJ.**

**GREG BURCH, Ph.D.,**

Associate Professor and Chair of the Global Studies Program at Multnomah University, 2023 Hatfield Prize Recipient



## ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION CPJ WORKSHOPS AT THE CCO JUBILEE CONFERENCE

Over Presidents' Day weekend, part of the CPJ team traveled to Pittsburgh, PA to participate in the annual Jubilee Conference hosted by the Coalition for Christian Outreach (CCO). Jubilee is designed to immerse college students in the great narrative of God's Kingdom, from the creation of the world to the hope of its restoration. CPJ partnered with the CCO to host three different workshops engaging students on questions of civic presence and advocacy.



"Loving Your Neighbor Through Advocacy" panelists pose for a photo after their workshop. From left to right: Madi Allen, Vincent Bacote, Khadija Garrison Adams, and Stephanie Summers.



WATCH THE RECORDINGS OF THE 2023 JUBILEE CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS HOSTED BY CPJ.

## ENGAGING PERSPECTIVES CPJ HOSTS CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL SCHOLARS' SYMPOSIUM

CPJ hosted the Christian Legal Society's Annual Scholars' Symposium on the topic of "Testing the Merits of Common Good Constitutionalism." CPJ Fellow Michelle Kirtley and Stanley Carlson-Thies, Senior Director of CPJ's Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance, were joined by Villanova University's Professor of Law and Religion and Director of the Eleanor H. McCullen Center for Law, Religion and Public Policy, Michael Moreland, J.D. The symposium offered law professors, students, lawyers, and judges an opportunity to engage in an in-depth discussion about Christian perspectives on the law.

The discussion gave strong attention to principled pluralism. Panelists also highlighted how classical liberalism does not give sufficient protections to institutions or to civil society—yet it is through civil society institutions such as churches, schools, and charities that people of faith can advance—via persuasion, example, and prayer—the biblical norms that are good for everyone.



**I value CPJ's uncompromising desire to stay prudentially grounded in the eye of the storm instead of finding shelter toward political extremes on questions of community and justice.**

**ANTON SORKIN,**

Director of Law Student Ministries at the Christian Legal Society



# OUR PROMISE TO POLICYMAKERS

If you become engaged in the work of the Center for Public Justice, we promise to offer you a faith-based, nonpartisan framework that is hopeful and non-reactive, allowing you to better carry out your high calling to public service.

## BRIDGING FAITH & POLITICS

### THE CIVITAS FELLOWSHIP FOR CONGRESSIONAL STAFF

In Spring 2023, CPJ introduced the Civitas Fellowship for Congressional Staff. Civitas is a four-month Christian leadership program that equips early-career congressional staffers with the tools and skills needed to approach public policy and service. A primary objective is to inspire young policymakers toward fostering a more hopeful, engaged, and just civic presence on Capitol Hill. To date, 26 early-career congressional staffers have taken part in our bipartisan, bicameral program.



[LEARN MORE ABOUT CIVITAS.](#)



**Sometimes, Christians go to work on Capitol Hill, and they aren't sure how to reconcile their faith with their work. Through the readings and discussions, Civitas gave me and my class language and concepts for understanding how to bring the gospel and the political into conversation.**

**JONATHAN MOORE,**  
Congressional Staffer, Civitas Fellow (Spring 2023)



**For decades, CPJ has been a Biblically-grounded voice of reason inside the nation's capital. We especially appreciate CPJ's teamwork in promoting and protecting religious freedom in all three branches of government. Hours of advocacy on Capitol Hill when bills are being drafted; accurate and nuanced comments to correct federal regulations proposed by the executive agencies or the White House; convening many allied groups regularly to discuss new concerns and opportunities.**

**STEVE MCFARLAND,**  
Director at the Center for Law and Religious Freedom of the Christian Legal Society



## PURSuing COMMON GROUND HOW RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IS VITAL FOR THE COMMON GOOD

In March, CPJ's Stanley Carlson-Thies and Emily Crouch presented at a Faith & Law Friday lunch forum. Faith and Law is a nonprofit organization that equips congressional staffers to better understand the intersection of faith and public policy.

Among the questions the panel addressed were:

*When it comes to religious freedom, should Christians support diversity or are there any limits to religious freedom? If so, what are those limits and how do we determine them in a diverse society?*



LISTEN TO THE RECORDING.

## EMPOWERING FAMILIES ADVOCACY FOR MATERNAL HEALTH & FAMILY SUPPORT

In May, the Texas Senate voted favorably on HB12, a bill that assures Medicaid coverage for mothers for the full 12-months after pregnancy. In the months prior, CPJ's Families Valued program, Texas-based faith-based organizations and people of faith spoke out.

Recognizing the profound connection between the health of mothers and the well-being of their babies, this legislation holds paramount importance in safeguarding the lives of both women and children. The link between family flourishing and maternal health is both inherent and beautiful.

Amidst these efforts, it remains critical to address the broader landscape of family support. In the United States, paid family leave is not guaranteed for parents and caregivers, reaching only 23% of the workforce.

Honoring motherhood means building a common life in which all families are supported in their irreplaceable work. This includes health care and time to care for loved ones. CPJ has been honored to share policy recommendations with advocates, policymakers and friends and will continue to do so as states and federal lawmakers take up issues of family support in 2024.





# OUR PROMISE TO CITIZENS & COMMUNITIES

If you get involved with CPJ, we promise to equip you with a more hopeful vision of politics and with tools for engaging your community. Along the way, you will be encouraged by stories of Christian citizens and their communities working together for the common good, which will inspire you to cast a hopeful vision of politics for you and your community.

## SETTING A TABLE WHERE FAMILIES FLOURISH

In 2023, CPJ's Families Valued program centered its theme on envisioning a future where families can live abundantly.



**Working with the staff of the Center for Public Justice was a joy for two reasons. First, their passion for the dignity of all people is evident not only in their outward-facing work of implementing policies that promote wholeness in families, but also in their support of one another and even me as a guest. Humility and excellence are evident in what they do. Second, I appreciate their strong support for and acknowledgment of the wisdom and experiences of women of color.**

**SHARIFA STEVENS,**

Writer and Speaker, featured in CPJ's October 2023 Families Valued Community Call



## COMMUNITY CALLS

Throughout the year, we invited advocates to a series of community calls and text studies titled "Setting a Table Where Families Flourish." These conversations delved into the Psalmist's abundant vision and discussed practical implications for our current day, including our goal of building a common life where all families have more than enough support and resources.

[LISTEN TO THE COMMUNITY CALL RECORDINGS.](#)



**CPJ has provided me with practical steps to engage with politics that make change happen. Political involvement can feel like a behemoth of a thing, but to be able to very practically see how I can jump on a call with other faith leaders and senators in a way that changes their vote, that is empowering. I was able to see that when you approach advocacy in a very careful and practical way, with community, lives are changed.**

**KENDALL VANDERSLICE,**

Baker, Writer, and Speaker, featured in CPJ's March 2023 Families Valued Community Call





# OUR PROMISE TO FAITH-BASED LEADERS

If you become engaged with the Center for Public Justice, we promise to serve you and your congregation in understanding how engaging with public policy is part of the calling of the body of Christ and teach you how to engage with public policy in a nonpartisan, unifying way.



**CPJ's Equipping Ministries Fellowship has given us tools, training, and, above all, the confidence to know that everything we have been called to do in our communities is supported by a group of brothers and sisters who believe in and invest in this honorable calling, which is to serve one another.**

**OSMAN PICHOLA,**

Pastor, Equipping Ministries Fellowship Cohort Member

## PASTOR OSMAN'S IMPACTFUL MINISTRY JOURNEY

### WITH CPJ'S EQUIPPING MINISTRY FELLOWSHIP

CPJ's Equipping Ministries Fellowship equips pastors of Hispanic-led congregations with knowledge and resources about important public policies and topics such as institutional religious freedom and organizational best practices. Pastor Osman Pichola participated in the first EMF cohort in San Antonio, Texas. He pastors a small church in the area seeking to serve their community. He was unexpectedly called one evening to help receive bus loads of asylum seekers who arrived in their neighborhood in need of food, clothing, medical care, and transportation. Within hours, his church members fed 300 people and helped them on their way. In an effort to meet the overwhelming and immediate needs, Pastor Osman reached out to other congregations and local nonprofits to create partnerships for additional help.

Because of what Pastor Osman learned through CPJ's Equipping Ministries Fellowship about how to partner with the government without fear of reprisal, the church partnered with the local government, providing resources to serve the humanitarian needs of their neighbors.



**CPJ has a dynamic network across our country as it reaches inward to those of us doing the work out here and pulls us together so that we might hear and learn from one another.**

**REVEREND ANN HELMKE,**

Faith Liaison for the City of San Antonio in the Department of Human Services

## UNDERSTANDING FAITH-BASED CHILD CARE

### CPJ'S ONGOING RESEARCH & THE 26TH ANNUAL KUYPER LECTURE

CPJ Fellow Rachel Hope Anderson has led our research to broaden the understanding of child care policy by focusing on a specific segment of the child care ecosystem: faith-based child care providers. This research provides fresh perspectives, offering alternatives to conventional views that position child care primarily as a rival to the nuclear family, a remediation effort, or merely infrastructure.

CPJ held our 26th Annual Kuyper Lecture on Capitol Hill in November, titled "Who's Caring for Children?" Rachel Anderson delved into the pluralistic child care ecosystem in the U.S., the valuable contributions of faith-based providers, and the critical role of caregivers in our communities.



**WATCH THE RECORDING OF THE 2023 KUYPER LECTURE: "WHO'S CARING FOR CHILDREN?"**

## REIMAGINING YOUTH JUSTICE

### HOW FAITH-BASED LEADERS CAN GET INVOLVED

In collaboration with Community Connections for Youth (CCFY), CPJ has developed a toolkit designed to empower individuals of faith to advocate for justice-involved youth. This resource, launched in November during the fourth CPJ juvenile justice convening, serves as a tool for advocacy, encouraging churches, small groups, and people of faith to actively engage in the pursuit of positive change for the benefit of children and families entangled in the justice system.



**ACCESS THE TOOLKIT.**



2023 Kuyper Lecture



**Having a resource that addresses the issues tethered to the juvenile justice system and provides a biblical framework for the faith community to mobilize around is groundbreaking.**

**BELINDA RAMOS,**

Executive Director at Community Connections for Youth

# OUR PROMISE TO DONORS

If you become engaged with the Center for Public Justice, we invite you to join us in fulfilling our mission by contributing to CPJ in ways that are meaningful to you and our work in response to God's lead.

**Double your gift as we introduce a \$1 million endowment goal launched by a \$500,000 matching grant!**

This gift is an amazing blessing and provision of God's grace. It reflects the deep commitment and support of you, our partners, who have walked with CPJ from its beginning until now. We are deeply grateful for this opportunity and invite you to be part of it.

The new Public Justice Endowment Fund reflects the long-term planning and fiscal responsibility of CPJ's leadership team and long-time partners who have opened this opportunity to us. We envision a future with open doors for program expansion and a continued determination to follow God's lead on new paths.

In order to access the benefits of the endowment, CPJ must raise an additional \$500,000 that will be matched dollar-for-dollar.

The fund's core remains intact and grows, and its investment income will also generate a self-sustaining income stream. This will help relieve immediate fundraising pressure while enhancing organizational stability in times of economic downturn.

With a five-year window to reach that goal, we are well on our way with \$300,000 already pledged. It is important to note that any funds not matched may be lost to CPJ, so please consider making an extra gift above and beyond your annual contribution to build the endowment fund.



**The values of my heart line up with the values of the Center for Public Justice, and I view my support of this organization as a way to be a responsible citizen. Has there ever been a more critical time to promote a well-framed perspective for understanding modern culture, the role of government, and appropriate conduct in the public realm?**

**Terry Woodnorth, CPJ Trustee, with his wife, Lorene Recker-Woodnorth**

## GIVE TO THE ENDOWMENT

Pledges must be legally enforceable and payable within 10 years or, if payable at death, must be pledged by an individual 70 years old or older, or by a married couple at the death of the survivor, neither being under 70 years old at the time of the pledge. The current estimated value of a planned gift will be used as the match amount.

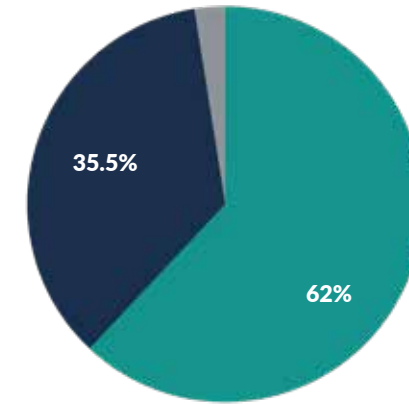
Gifts of cash, stock, appreciated assets, grants from DAFs, and qualified charitable distributions from an IRA can be made to the endowment and will be matched. The estimated current value of the gift will be used as the match amount.

# FY23 STEWARDSHIP

We are fully committed to stewarding every gift with integrity and the purpose for which it was given. Thank you for trusting us with this responsibility. Your generosity makes the work of CPJ possible.

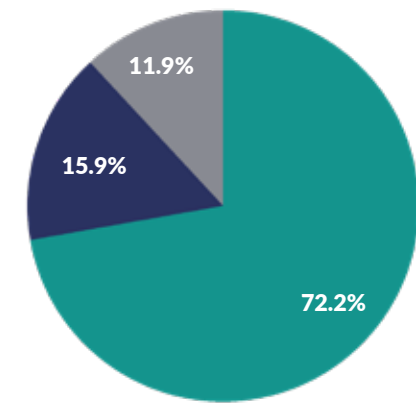
## Fiscal Year 2023 Revenue Sources:

GRANTS: (62%)  
CONTRIBUTIONS: (35.5%)  
OTHER INCOME: (2.5%)  
TOTAL: (100.0%)



## Fiscal Year 2023 Expenses:

PROGRAMS: (72.2%)  
MANAGEMENT & GENERAL: (15.9%)  
FUNDRAISING: (11.9%)  
TOTAL: (100.0%)



**Our total FY 2023 budgeted activity was \$2.3 million.**

Your gifts encourage growth. Thank you!

All donors to CPJ are eligible to receive free estate planning services through our partnership with the Barnabas Foundation.

Non-cash gifts such as personal property, appreciated securities/stock, retirement funds, life insurance policies, and business interests can be donated to CPJ.

Qualified participants can give from their IRA or an employee match program.



The Public Justice Legacy Circle has been created to honor those who help make long-term ministry possible with a planned gift. You will be welcomed into the legacy circle when a gift is made to CPJ in your will or estate plan. Would you consider a gift to CPJ in your will or trust? Please let us know if you would like more information about how to make a gift or if you have any questions.

Questions? Contact Dawn Brotherton, Director of Development at (202) 695-2667



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