



**LEADING THE FIGHT FOR
CHILDREN'S RIGHTS**



Annual Report 2023

CEO MESSAGE



Dear Friends and Supporters,

Throughout 2023, we made significant strides in securing rights for children and expanding our reach to make a tangible difference in their lives. Our mission to fight for the rights of children has been made possible by the invaluable contributions of our partners, sponsors, donors, and grantors. As we make more and more progress securing rights for children and child victims, we are thankful to have our many generous supporters by our side.

CHILD USA continues to lead the nation on statute of limitations (SOL) reform, solidifying its position as the premier resource for advocates, lawyers, and policymakers. Our Annual SOL Tracker is an indispensable tool with its weekly relevant updates. Through comprehensive briefings, expert testimony, and collaborative efforts at both state and national levels, CHILD USA has been instrumental in shaping policy to extend or eliminate SOLs for child sex abuse cases, providing survivors with a pathway to justice and exposing predators.

As we reflect on the past year's accomplishments and look toward the future, I am grateful to each of you who have joined us in this vital cause. In 2024, CHILD USA looks forward to continuing the fight for children's rights as the leading think tank for children through its innovative parsing of legal analysis and social science research to guide the formation of the best laws and policies for child protection. Together, we are building a brighter future for our children, and we will continue to strive for justice, safety, and happiness for every child.

Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to CHILD USA.

Professor Marci A. Hamilton
Founder & CEO



MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD



As the Chairman of the Board for CHILD USA since 2018, I have witnessed firsthand Marci and her team's unwavering dedication to securing justice for survivors of child sexual abuse and advocating for laws to protect children. 2023 marked another significant milestone in CHILD USA's journey as it expands its reach.

Thanks to the generous support of our grantors, sponsors, and donors, CHILD USA will continue to make a difference in the lives of countless survivors and their families and help millions of children by reforming the laws to protect children's rights. We are deeply grateful for your contributions.

Over the past year, CHILD USA has delved deeper into combating online child sexual abuse material (CSAM) at both the state and federal levels. Similarly, significant advancements were made with the CHILD Global SOL initiative. CHILD USA partnered with the Amish Heritage Foundation and the Coalition for Responsible Homeschooling to ensure every child has the right to a quality education. Not every state guarantees this right in its Constitution, but this coalition is educating lawmakers on the facts of educational neglect and the cost to society.

James R. Marsh, Esq.
Chairman of the Board



JAMES MARSH
Chairman of the Board



ISSUES & IMPACT

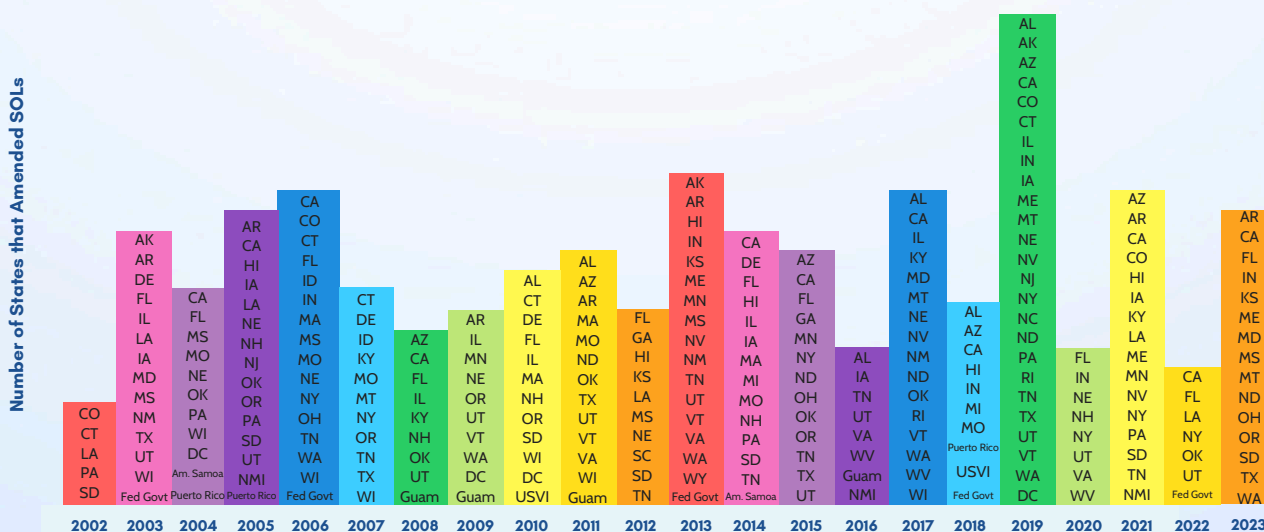
CHILDUSA

The Sean P. McIlmail Statute of Limitations Research Institute



The Sean P. McIlmail Institute of SOL Reform made significant strides in 2023, demonstrating our relentless advocacy and strategic legislative efforts. The Legal team submitted testimony 45 times, contributing to enacting new SOL reform laws in 15 states, often providing repeated testimonies as bills advanced through various committees. In 2023, 38 states and the federal government introduced SOL reform bills, with 20 aimed at eliminating the criminal SOL, 18 to extend the criminal SOL, 26 to eliminate the civil SOL, 16 to extend the civil SOL, and 21 window/revival laws. Among the major successes, 15 states saw the implementation of new SOL reform laws, including 2 that eliminated the criminal SOL, 6 that extended the criminal SOL, 5 that eliminated the civil SOL, 5 that extended the civil SOL, and 4 that introduced civil window/revival provisions. The Institute's dedicated efforts have significantly advanced the protection of children's rights through comprehensive statute of limitation reforms.

2002 - 2023 Pace of Change Civil & Criminal SOL Reform Laws for Child Sex Abuse



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CHILDUSA
LEADING THE FIGHT FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS



Federal Legislation



CHILD USA has been making considerable strides in advancing the civil rights of children through advocating for federal legislation since 2016. In 2022, CHILD USA, together with its sister organization, CHILD USAAdvocacy, worked with federal lawmakers to draft and enact laws that will better protect children throughout the country.

Eliminating Limits to Justice for Child Sex Abuse Victims Act of 2022



CHILD USA played an integral role in the successful passage of Federal legislation that eliminates the civil statute of limitation for over a dozen federal child sex abuse-related offenses, including sex trafficking of children, sexual abuse of a minor, and sexual exploitation of children. Now victims of these heinous crimes will be able to come forward when they are ready.

Bankruptcy Law Reform



CHILD USA led the way in 2022 with a groundbreaking proposal to make federal Bankruptcy law safer and more effective for child victims. The Norton Journal for Bankruptcy Law and Practice published our social science and legal insights into the problem in two articles. Overall, the reforms CHILD USA is advocating for in the bankruptcy system would provide victims with a voice and more influence in holding the institutions that allowed their abuse accountable.

ISSUES & IMPACT

Title IX



CHILD USA's Legal Department engages in meticulous research and analysis through which they were able to identify the shortcomings in the existing Title IX framework and the urgent need for legislative change. In 2022, the Legal Department served as a resource and partner for federal lawmakers in the fight to amend Title IX to ensure equal access to justice for all victims of sexual assault, regardless of geographic borders. Additionally, in 2022, the legal team provided amicus support on two groundbreaking Title IX cases against Ohio State University for their role in covering-up decades of abuse by denounced university physician Richard Strauss. Our expertise and research enabled us to educate the courts about the functional and systemic obstacles that victims face when seeking to hold their schools accountable for enabling abuse.

Online Exploitation & Abuse



CHILD USA's Legal team works tirelessly to educate state and federal lawmakers and the public about the dangers of online child exploitation and abuse and the pressing need for legislative action to protect victims by holding service providers accountable for facilitating the spread of child sexual abuse materials on their platforms. CHILD USA consulted on and endorsed several successful bills to increase penalties for CSAM offenses and expand the crimes subject to criminal or civil liability at the federal level. Our Legal team also testified on the EARN IT Act. It provided amicus support on cases against some of the biggest names in tech, including Twitter, Reddit, Snapchat, and most recently, Google in the case *Gonzales v. Google* before the United States Supreme Court. In 2023, we drafted bill language and secured support for CSAM legislation, enhancing existing bills and partnering with other organizations to address big tech accountability.

HIGHLIGHTS

45

PIECES OF TESTIMONY SUBMITTED TO LAWMAKERS



38

STATES & FEDERAL REFORM BILLS INTRODUCED



15

STATES ENACTED NEW SOL REFORM LAWS



CHILD USA TEAM



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James R. Marsh, Esq.
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Board Member

BANKRUPTCY REFORM

In 2023, CHILD USA focused on addressing the exploitation of the federal bankruptcy system by organizations accused of child sex abuse, such as the Catholic Church, USA Gymnastics, and the Boy Scouts of America. Despite progress in SOL reform enabling victims to seek justice, many organizations have evaded accountability by filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, thereby minimizing victim payouts and preventing further litigation under window legislation. This misuse not only undermines the SOL reforms but also perpetuates trauma for survivors. CHILD USA convened roundtables with bankruptcy experts to identify shortcomings and proposed four critical reforms to the Federal Bankruptcy Code to ensure victims' fairness and dignity. These efforts underscore CHILD USA's commitment to protecting children's rights and advocating for systemic reforms that uphold accountability and justice.

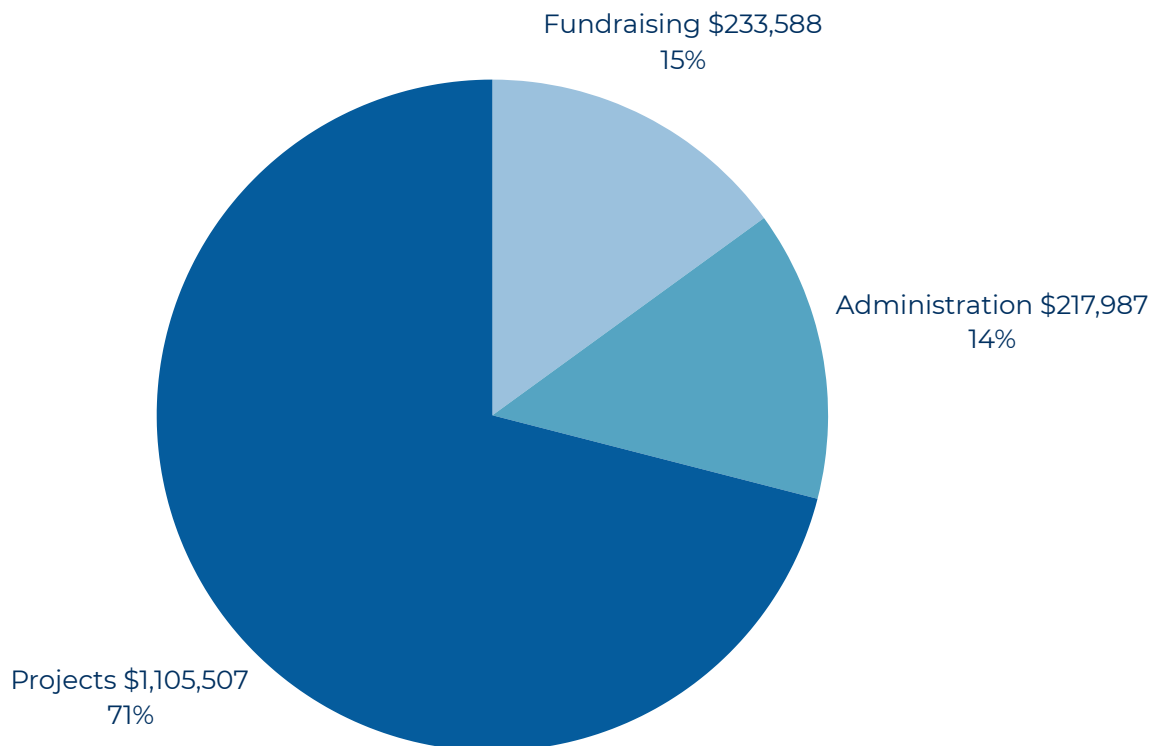
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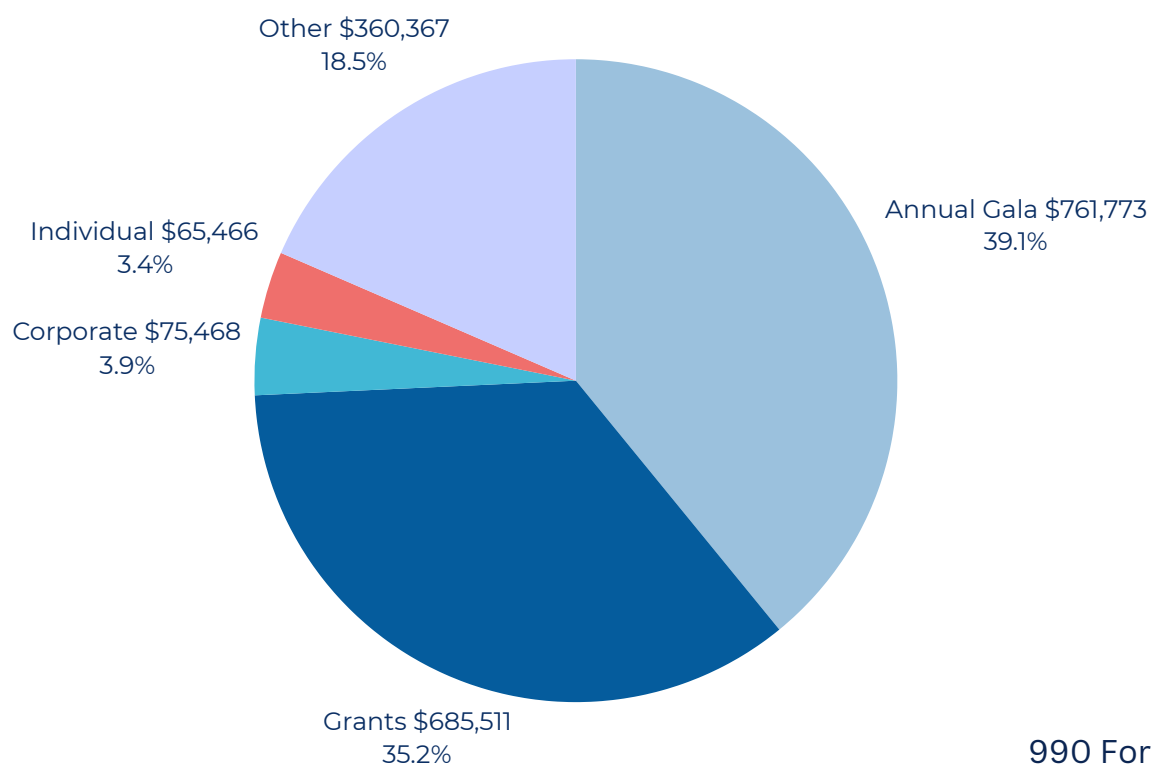
CHILD USA played a crucial role in shaping the STOP CSAM Act, a landmark bill aimed at safeguarding children from sexual exploitation and abuse. While supportive of its core objectives, CHILD USA recognized severe flaws in an earlier version of the bill that could have had detrimental unintended consequences, particularly for victims of abuse and survivors of child sexual exploitation. Through their advocacy and expertise, CHILD USA worked diligently to ensure that the STOP CSAM Act's final version prioritized the protection of children and the rights of victims. The decision to withdraw support from an unfavorable iteration of the bill during a critical hearing, where figures like Zuckerberg were expected to testify, was instrumental in prompting revisions that addressed these concerns. Ultimately, CHILD USA's advocacy helped shape legislation that strengthens protections for child victims and supports a more equitable and effective framework for combating child sexual abuse online and offline.

FINANCIALS

2023 Expenses



2023 Revenues



990 Form 2022



DONORS & GRANTORS

CHILD USA would like to thank the following donors and grantors for their generous contribution to our groundbreaking work in 2023. Because of you, our vision for safe and happy children will become a reality.



\$50,000+

Oak Foundation
Pfau, Cochran, Vertetis, Amala PLLC
Together for Girls
Virginia Commonwealth University & CDC
The McIlmail Family
Marsh Law Firm
Corsiglia, McMahon & Allard PLLC
Jennifer Freeman Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

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Jeff Anderson & Associates PA	VIP Products Corporation
Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones	White Law PLLC
Prof. Marci Hamilton and Peter C. Kuzma	

\$10,000 - \$24,999

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