



GEORGIA APPLESEED

Center for Law & Justice

Moving into our second decade: JUSTICE TO THE CORE

In Fiscal Year 2015, Georgia Appleseed...

- Harnessed the energy and talents of members of Georgia's professional community, receiving pro bono hours totaling a value of \$671,487.
- Secured net income of \$286,446 for FY15 (primarily restricted funds raised in FY15 for expenditure in FY16 for the new Georgia Heirs Property Law Center).
- Started incubating Georgia's first law center focused on the legal representation of low and moderate income owners of heirs property.
- Launched a major collaboration to train volunteers to represent foster care students facing long term suspension or expulsion from school.
- Embraced a bold goal for addressing "race, law enforcement and the law" through law and policy reform.
- Continued its juvenile justice initiative as a lead partner in JUSTGeorgia.
- Celebrated its 10th Anniversary!

Mission: to increase justice in Georgia through law and policy reform.

Vision: a Georgia where the voices of poor people, children and marginalized people are heard, and where injustices that no one should endure are resolved.

FY15 Financial Snapshot

(See the current 990 online at www.GaAppleseed.org)

Revenues and Support

- Contributions and Grants: \$773,857
- Contributed Services: \$671,487
- Contributed Facilities: \$51,166
- Fundraising and Events: \$154,400
- Other Revenue: \$1,205

**Total Revenues and Support:
\$1,652,115**

Expenses

- Program: \$989,010
- General and Administrative: \$138,069
- Fundraising: \$238,590*

– Georgia Appleseed was grateful for the pro bono development services of Good Thinking Atlanta (GTA) that led to a new logo, tagline, website and informational video in recognition of Georgia Appleseed's 10th Anniversary. The total value of GTA's donated design and creative services was \$129,100 (or about 54% of the overall Fundraising expense in FY15).

Total Expenses: \$1,365,669

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FY15 Project/Initiative Highlights

Georgia Heirs Property Law Center

FY15 included the beginning of the incubation of the Georgia Heirs Property Law Center, to **help heirs property owners in rural and urban settings protect their asset and unlock its economic potential.** The first staff member, Skipper StipeMaas, J.D., was hired in late FY15 to lead the GHPLC through incubation with Georgia Appleseed and, eventually, to independent status, anticipated to be in early 2017.

Representation of Students in Foster Care at School Discipline Tribunals

The Student Tribunal/Foster Child Representation Project, a collaboration with the Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services and the Georgia Office of the Child Advocate, was launched in pilot format in FY15. Under the leadership of Georgia Appleseed's Young Professionals Council (YPC), more than 130 volunteer attorneys (to date) have been trained to **represent foster children facing school disciplinary hearings.**

Race, Law Enforcement & The Law

In the Spring of 2015, Georgia Appleseed and lead pro bono law firm, Nelson Mullins, conducted extensive legal research and began a process designed to seek the views of community members throughout Georgia—law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, defense lawyers, neighborhood associations, faith leaders, political leaders, nonprofits and others—to help in assessing the nature of police-community relations in our state and to **seek recommendations for changes to law as well as policies and practices that could improve or enhance them.**

Disaster Practice Rule Goes Into Effect

Georgia Appleseed's research and advocacy played a significant role in the Georgia Supreme Court's adoption of the Disaster Practice Rule in Georgia, which went into effect in February 2015. This rule provides **authorization for lawyers from other states who are not admitted to practice in Georgia to provide pro bono services in Georgia under the supervision of a legal services organization following the declaration of a major disaster** in Georgia or elsewhere which creates a high demand for such services in this state. In addition, when a disaster strikes, **displaced out of state lawyers from an impacted locale would be allowed temporarily to carry on their practice in Georgia.** Both categories of practice by out-of-state lawyers are subject to several limitations.

Celebrated our 10th Anniversary!

We were honored to have the guidance of Good Thinking Atlanta and its collaborators to create an impactful video about our work titled "Uncommon Wisdom" that was presented at the 2015 Good Apple Awards & Auction event. As well, **Good Thinking Atlanta created our new logo, tag line and conducted a complete overhaul of our website in FY15.** To see the new look, go to www.GaAppleseed.org.

FY15 SUPPORT – Including Restricted Grant Awards*, Cy Pres, and Individual Donors

\$40,000 & Up:

Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation*
Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation*
Columbus Office of Crime Prevention*
The Sapelo Foundation*
Zeist Foundation*

\$25,000-\$30,000

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\$15,000-\$24,999

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\$5000-\$9,999

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Synovus Foundation
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\$1,000-\$2,499

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