CENTER FOR
Gender & Refugee
STUDIES
University of California,
Hastings College of the Law

2009
ANNUAL REPORT
The Center for Gender and Refugee Studies (CGRS) works to advance women’s rights through a broad agenda focused on protecting women asylum seekers in the United States, while simultaneously addressing the root causes that force them to flee their home countries.
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Dear Friends,

The victory that the Center for Gender & Refugee Studies (CGRS) secured in the case of Rody Alvarado, a longtime client from Guatemala, brought hope to women asylum seekers across the United States and beyond. Ms. Alvarado fled to the United States in 1995, seeking asylum after suffering ten years of unrestrained brutality at the hands of her husband, in a situation where neither the police nor the courts of her country responded to her pleas for protection. Ms. Alvarado was finally granted asylum in December 2009 by an immigration judge in San Francisco. This triumph came after a legal struggle that lasted 14 years and included certifications—rare in any case—by three different Attorneys General, dating back to Janet Reno.

Notwithstanding this positive development, the absence of official guidance in the form of binding legal precedent or federal law leaves unresolved the question of whether other women who are victims of domestic violence and other human rights violations will qualify for asylum. CGRS has identified numerous cases, essentially identical to that of Rody Alvarado, where government attorneys have argued against asylum for well-deserving refugees, and immigration judges have denied claims based on a perceived lack of guidance.

We believe that, for protection to be assured, the United States needs clear national guidelines—set forth by statutes or regulations—as well as binding administrative and federal court decisions recognizing that asylum is both necessary and appropriate to protect women and girls from domestic violence and similar abuse that is committed with impunity. CGRS continues to dedicate its efforts towards these objectives.

In addition, CGRS remains committed to addressing the root cause of refugee flows—namely the violation of women’s rights in their home countries. Its work in this area includes documenting violations and partnering with in-country organizations to end impunity for violence against women.

All of this work would not be possible without your ongoing support, for which we are tremendously grateful.

With warmest regards,

Karen Musalo
Director
Who We Are and How We Started

The Center for Gender & Refugee Studies (CGRS or the Center) at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law (U.C. Hastings) was founded in 1999, following the landmark legal ruling in Matter of Kasinga. The Kasinga decision established that women and girls who fear female genital cutting (FGC) qualify for refugee status in the United States. Following this decision, Professor Karen Musalo, the lead attorney in the case, received numerous inquiries regarding the availability of asylum for women and girls fleeing FGC and other forms of gender-based violence and persecution.

In response, Professor Musalo launched CGRS to provide expertise and vital resources to attorneys representing asylum seekers and to advance the rights of women and girls by advocating for female asylum seekers in the United States and simultaneously addressing the systemic abuses that cause them to flee their home countries. More than a decade later, CGRS continues to protect the fundamental human rights of refugee women and girls through a multidisciplinary strategy that aims to secure positive administrative and federal court decisions, reflecting the lived reality of women and girls bringing individual gender-based asylum claims, while advancing the overall development of refugee law and policies in the United States and internationally.

Our Programs

1) Training and Technical Assistance for Attorneys

2) Tracking and Monitoring Gender Asylum Decisions and Children’s Cases

3) Impact Litigation and Appellate Advocacy

4) National Policy Advocacy

5) Leadership Development and Student Mentoring

6) Public Education Through Effective Use of the Media

7) International Advocacy and Collaboration
Our Work—
Gender Asylum and the Root Causes of Forced Migration
Training and Technical Assistance for Attorneys

We help attorneys win cases for women and children asylum seekers by providing trainings, expert advice, and materials such as country conditions evidence and expert witness affidavits.

To date, we have provided technical assistance to attorneys in over 4,000 cases, involving issues such as female genital cutting, honor killing, domestic violence, femicide, rape, and forced prostitution. In 2009 alone, CGRS provided technical assistance in 1,199 new and ongoing cases. While focusing on cases advancing gender-based claims, CGRS also assists attorneys in other types of asylum cases that have the potential to affect the broader development of refugee law.

Our attorneys train and present on gender-based persecution issues throughout the United States and abroad, reaching over 12,000 attorneys, government officials, students, and advocates since CGRS was launched.

We serve as sources for articles in major newspapers; we also author articles for publication in immigration periodicals and blogs that educate the public and provide guidance on cutting-edge legal issues.

Legal advisories prepared by CGRS attorneys complement the technical assistance we provide to lawyers on cases nationwide. During 2009 we published a number of new legal advisories, including guidance on domestic violence claims in light of significant policy developments under the Obama Administration.

Continuing our pioneering practice of partnering with mental health specialists, we began a new collaboration with the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Medical Center to train medical experts on evaluating asylum seekers for signs of torture, trauma, and other abuse. Expert medical evaluations, which are too often unavailable to asylum seekers due to lack of resources, can be crucial evidence in asylum cases. In addition to developing this new effort with UCSF, CGRS continues to work collaboratively with Survivors International and other local groups serving survivors of torture and other human rights violations.

Tracking and Monitoring Gender Asylum Decisions and Children’s Cases

We obtain and provide data on gender-related asylum decisions and children’s cases and decision-making trends that are unavailable from any other source.

By regularly communicating with attorneys and advising them on women’s and children’s cases, we are able to collect and compile information about decisions nationwide. Our database currently contains information on almost 5,000 cases filed over the last ten years.
Impact Litigation and Appellate Advocacy

We represent women in significant cases that will affect the development of gender asylum law nationally, as well as internationally.

In a momentous development—and after a 14-year legal struggle—CGRS’s Guatemalan client, Rody Alvarado, who fled unchecked domestic violence in her home country, was finally granted asylum in December 2009. This decision is having a nationwide impact.

The Center also undertook representation of Ms. L.R., a Mexican woman whose case stands to be another important landmark for the issue of asylum for women fleeing domestic violence. The case has received national media attention since the Obama Administration filed a supplemental brief in the matter in April 2009, signaling a more open position than that of the prior Administration on the issue of granting asylum in cases of gender violence.

CGRS continued its support of other cases with the potential to impact the development of gender asylum law. We filed an amicus brief and coordinated a nationwide campaign in support of the applicant in Matter of A-T-, which will determine whether women subjected to past female genital cutting may qualify for asylum. We continue to be involved in the case, consulting regularly with Ms. A-T.’s legal team.

“Today, I commend Ms. Alvarado on the courage she has demonstrated over many years while seeking protection in the United States. I congratulate her and wish her all the best as she finally experiences true freedom from persecution and the full scope of liberties enjoyed by Americans.”

—Senator Patrick Leahy
National Policy Advocacy

We provide expertise on regulatory and legislative initiatives to expand the rights of refugee women, and we contribute to law and policy on the issue of child refugees.

CGRS contributed a refugee and gender perspective to the national debates on immigration reform. We worked closely with our coalition partners across the United States to draft concept papers and recommendations on crucial changes to asylum policy. These recommendations were provided to members of Congress and key officials in the Obama Administration.

The rights of refugee children remained a top CGRS priority in 2009. We conducted trainings and other outreach related to the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVTPRA) and urged policy changes related to refugee children’s issues. The TVTPRA requires that all asylum cases involving unaccompanied children be handled by asylum officers initially, rather than by immigration judges. The asylum office provides a more protective and appropriate setting for consideration of children’s cases.

CGRS coordinated input with its partners on asylum officer training materials to address proper application of the “one-year bar,” a harsh rule that sharply limits the availability of asylum for persons who do not apply for relief within one year of arriving in the United States. The policy has had an extremely detrimental impact on refugees, who are often too traumatized to be able to apply within a year of arrival and who often also face barriers posed by language differences, lack of knowledge of the law, and fear of governmental authorities.

With the aim of bringing U.S. refugee law into greater compliance with international norms and principles, CGRS is participating in a multi-year initiative headed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The collaboration engages leading asylum experts in a comprehensive review of the U.S. asylum system.
Leadership Development and Student Mentoring

We educate a new generation of attorneys committed to advancing the rights of refugees and women.

This year marked our fifth year providing hands-on experience to law students through our Refugee and Human Rights Clinic. Students represented clients seeking asylum and engaged in human rights projects and fact-finding investigations addressing violence against women and the causes of impunity for such violence. Students also contributed to CGRS’s efforts by serving as law clerks, interns, and volunteers at the Center.

“Having the opportunity to participate in research at the Refugee and Human Rights Clinic was not only a great academic experience, but was also one that allowed me to realize the incredible potential we have as lawyers to help people. There are no limits to being creative when it is about helping people who face different kinds of violations of their human rights. There is nothing better than collaborating with and learning from a dynamic team to accomplish your goals in public interest work.”

—María Juliana Escobar-Gutierrez, Clinic Student

“The clinic was a fantastic and informative experience. Not only did it give me the opportunity to gain valuable, hands-on legal skills, but even more so, it showed how much I can use those legal skills to help others.”

—Maya Pri-Tal, Clinic Student

(from back, left) CGRS Associate Director Shawn Roberts, Bettina Schlegel, Kate Mahoney, CGRS Director Karen Musalo, Misha Seay, Ting Chen, and Clinical Teaching Fellow and CGRS Staff Attorney Kim Thuy Seelinger; (from front, left) Jonathan Gast, David Metres, Lisa Hathaway, Menaka Fernando.

(from back, left) Martha Mendizabal, Maya Pri-Tal, Leah Chen Price, Raegan Joern, and CGRS Director Karen Musalo; (from front, left) Clinical Teaching Fellow and CGRS Staff Attorney Kim Thuy Seelinger, Evelyn Levine, Diane Martinez, and Suge Lee.
The dedicated work of Clinic students mentored by Professor Karen Musalo and Clinical Teaching Fellow Kim Thuy Seelinger during the 2008–2009 school year resulted in the following developments:

**Direct legal representation**
- Winning a grant of asylum for a Mongolian woman who had suffered severe domestic violence, extortion, and rape on account of her partial Chinese ethnicity and status as a wife of a KGB-trained government official.
- Winning a grant of asylum for a gay young Mexican man who had suffered death threats and physical assault from federal police due to his sexual orientation and HIV-positive status.
- Winning a grant of asylum for an indigenous Guatemalan woman who fled decades of beatings, rape, strangulation, and knife attacks by her domestic partner.

**Technical assistance and casework for women and girl asylum seekers**
- Developing key expert affidavits addressing gender-based violence in Guinea and child abuse and incest in México for CGRS's casework and technical assistance.
- Preparing an expert witness affidavit on gender-based violence in Honduras, as an outgrowth of our efforts to respond to femicides.

**Post-asylum assistance to former Clinic asylum clients**
- Obtaining a green card for a young Kenyan woman who had escaped FGC and rape by members of the violent Mungiki movement.
- Successfully helping a client from the Ivory Coast bring her son to the U.S. The client had escaped forced marriage and death threats. Though the client had never been able to register the birth of her son due to civil war conditions in Ivory Coast, Clinic students were able to assemble the evidence proving the parental relationship.

**Community outreach**
- Leading information sessions with Guinean, Ivorian, and Malian women on obtaining asylum protection based on FGC, forced marriage, domestic violence, or other forms of gender-related harm.

**Advocacy on the femicides**
- Organizing three events in San Francisco featuring Guatemalan human rights activists to raise awareness of the violent murders of women in Guatemala, including a panel discussion, expert roundtable, and meetings with Congressional staff members.
- Researching the legal systems in El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua, and identifying possible expert witnesses to support the asylum claims of women from these countries.

“My involvement in the clinic reminded me of why I came to law school. The clinic gave me an opportunity to use the knowledge and skills I have gained to make a real difference in someone’s life. This experience has been my best in law school and has really solidified my passion for public interest law.”

—Katelyn Miley Wheeler, Clinic Student
We increase public support for the rights of women and children seeking asylum, while countering negative attitudes towards refugees.

Thoughtful news coverage is instrumental to obtaining support for the protection of refugee women and children. CGRS served as a source or catalyst for articles in dozens of media outlets nationally and internationally, including The New York Times, Washington Post, National Public Radio, KCBS, Guardian, El País, La Stampa, Al Jazeera, and Univisión.
International Advocacy and Collaboration

We build and maintain a network of key international partners to advocate for refugee policies that are consistent with international norms and to address the root causes that force women and girls to flee their home countries.

The refugee laws and policies of nations around the world are based on international treaties that they have ratified. CGRS works with its counterparts in other countries to advocate for consistency in the interpretation and application of these international norms. One of CGRS’s most lasting collaborations has been with Comisión Española de Ayuda al Refugiado (CEAR), Spain’s national refugee assistance organization. In the past, the Center has hosted Spanish refugee lawyers interested in developing greater expertise in gender asylum and in devising strategies to impact national policies in Spain. This contributed to the momentum that led to the passage of a 2007 law in Spain that more effectively addresses the circumstances of women and girls fleeing gender-based persecution. In 2009, at the recommendation of CGRS and with guidance from CGRS’s Director, CEAR began tracking asylum decisions in Spain for the purpose of better evaluating how gender-based claims were being decided. This resulted in CEAR’s recent publication of a book analyzing Spanish court decisions involving asylum claims tied to gender or sexual orientation. The outcome of this aspect of our collaboration with CEAR should help further advance the development of refugee law in Spain and provide a helpful model that may be replicated in other countries where women and girls have sought refuge from persecution and violence.

CGRS continues to address the root causes of female refugee flows—namely, violence against women, committed with impunity. In particular, CGRS has focused on the extreme manifestation of such violence—the killings of women because they are women, commonly referred to as “femicides.” We began our research of this phenomenon and the larger problem of violence against women in Guatemala and have since our expanded our work in this area to México, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua.
Highlights from 2009
Victory for Rody Alvarado

GRS achieved a significant victory in the case of Rody Alvarado, our longtime client from Guatemala. Ms. Alvarado fled her homeland to escape over a decade of severe domestic violence at the hands of her husband, a member of the Guatemalan military. Her case has been the focal point for the national debate on the right to asylum for refugee women and girls fleeing gender-based persecution, and has consequently been covered extensively in the national and international press. The issue of asylum for Ms. Alvarado was so controversial that her case remained unresolved for 14 years, during which time her claim was considered by three different Attorneys General—Janet Reno, John Ashcroft, and Michael Mukasey. CGRS continued to litigate the case during the past year, submitting updated evidence and legal arguments in August 2009. In a victory that will have important ramifications for other refugee women and girls nationwide, our efforts culminated in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) agreeing in October 2009 that Ms. Alvarado should be granted asylum. A decision granting her asylum was issued by the presiding immigration judge on December 10, 2009. Despite this win, much work remains to ensure that other women fleeing domestic violence and other types of gender-based persecution are protected.
Making the Case for Ms. L.R.

The Obama Administration’s openness to protecting victims of gender violence contributed significantly to CGRS’s success in the final stages of Rody Alvarado’s case. The Administration articulated its approach to cases like that of Ms. Alvarado in an April 2009 brief filed by DHS in the case of L.R., a victim of domestic violence from México. The case is of such significance to the development of gender asylum claims that it garnered a front page article in the New York Times on July 16, 2009.

Ms. L.R. and her two sons fled their homeland after suffering years of brutal violence at the hands of the boys’ father. An immigration judge in San Francisco originally denied Ms. L.R.’s case, which her original attorneys appealed to the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). During the last year of the Bush Administration, DHS attorneys filed a brief before the BIA, defending the immigration judge’s decision that such claims for asylum could not be legally recognized. Following the change in administrations, however, DHS filed a supplemental brief with the BIA, changing its position and stating that women like L.R. could in fact satisfy the refugee definition if they met certain clearly defined criteria. DHS asked that the case be sent back to the immigration judge to permit Ms. L.R. to submit additional evidence related to the criteria that DHS identified in its brief. CGRS, along with pro bono co-counsel Simona Agnolucci of Howard Rice, has assumed responsibility for representing Ms. L.R. and her two sons. During the latter part of 2009 and continuing into 2010, Ms. L.R.’s case was a primary focus for CGRS.

Targeting the Root Causes of Female Refugee Flows—the Femicides

CGRS continues to address the root causes of women’s forced migration. Since 2006, CGRS has investigated violence against women and gender-motivated killings in Guatemala. In 2009, CGRS completed its third report on the femicides in Guatemala, which was later published in the Hastings Women’s Law Journal. The report examines the causes of violence and femicides in Guatemala, reviews the existing law and its application, and analyzes the impact of the Ley Contra el Femicidio y otras Formas de Violencia contra la Mujer (the Law against Femicide and Other Forms of Violence Against Women) which was passed by the Guatemalan Congress in April 2008.

In addition, we collaborated with our Guatemala-based partners, the Myrna Mack Foundation and the Network for No Violence Against Women/Red de No Violencia contra la Mujer, to host a series of public education and advocacy events in San Francisco. Students from the Hastings Refugee and Human Rights Clinic played an important role in organizing these outreach efforts. A panel discussion raised awareness of the violent murders of women in Guatemala, with presentations by Carmen Aída Ibarra Morán and Mónica María Leonardo Segura of the Myrna Mack Foundation and Hilda Morales Trujillo, a Guatemalan lawyer, women’s rights activist, designated expert to the Organization of American States’ Monitoring Body for the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará, and Amnesty International Ambassador of Conscience. The panelists shared compelling testimonies about the levels of violence against women in Guatemala and recommendations on how to end impunity. The next day, participants in an experts’ roundtable discussed strategies to counter impunity, including the use of more advanced forensic methods for the investigation and prosecution of femicides. During their visit, CGRS’s partners from Guatemala, Center attorneys, and Clinic students met with Congressional staff to share ideas about how U.S. foreign policy can be used to pressure Guatemala to address problems of violence against women and impunity.

We also expanded our efforts to address the femicides in México and other countries of Central America. In our work with a regional coalition, CGRS completed research on best practices and model protocols for investigating and prosecuting violence against women. CGRS has also begun the process of evaluating gender-related criminal justice practices in México, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua.
On October 15, 2009, CGRS held its ten-year anniversary celebration. The evening’s festivities featured the special appearances of two incredibly brave women whose names are synonymous with advances in gender asylum—Fauziya Kassindja Tijani (Matter of Kasinga) and Rody Alvarado (Matter of R-A-). Another distinguished guest, Justice Harry Low, former presiding Justice of the California Court of Appeal, spoke of his admiration for CGRS’s work. The Center also honored four individuals who have been integral to our efforts and to victories for refugee women and girls: Congresswoman and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and her staff member Harriet Ishimoto; Denise Abrams (CGRS Advisory Board member) and her law firm, Kazan, McClain, Lyons, Greenwood & Harley, PLC; Ray Lifchez (husband of the late peace activist, poet, and CGRS supporter, Judith Stronach); and Ana Reyes (CGRS pro bono attorney and partner of Williams & Connolly LLP). We also recognized the many pro bono attorneys, former staff, law clerks, interns, and volunteers whose contributions have sustained CGRS over the past decade.
GRS’s work on high impact cases has been strengthened by its collaboration with dedicated and skilled pro bono counsel. This year, we honor Simona Agnolucci and her firm, Howard, Rice, Nemerovski, Canady, Falk & Rabkin, PLC, for their commitment to refugees and women’s human rights. Simona’s litigation practice focuses on both appellate litigation in state and federal courts and on securities and financial services litigation. Simona has served as co-counsel with CGRS on the domestic violence asylum case Matter of L-R-. She represents L.R.’s two children and, along with CGRS attorneys, co-drafted a joint brief that the clients submitted to the immigration court in March 2010. In addition, Simona has served CGRS in 2008 in its work on Matter of Jalloh, a FGC asylum case that is pending before the Board of Immigration Appeals. Simona drafted the highly persuasive appellate brief in Jalloh, in which CGRS argued that a young woman, who was subjected to FGC against her will and who was then forced by threats of death to perform FGC on another young woman, is not a “persecutor of others” and is therefore entitled to asylum.

Beyond her work with CGRS, Simona has represented immigrants both in immigration court and before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. In 2008, she secured asylum for a Central American refugee and her five daughters, who endured and eventually fled severe domestic and family violence. On the day of President Obama’s inauguration, Simona published a piece in the Daily Journal reflecting on her victory and encouraging the new Administration to adopt regulations recognizing domestic violence as a basis for asylum. She wrote: “My client had the good fortune of winning her asylum case, but many women in her situation are not so lucky. Because the law in the area of domestic violence based asylum cases is in flux, immigration judges retain enormous discretion in deciding the future of immigrants who have survived domestic abuse. The law should not be so arbitrary. It should instead protect those women whose governments cannot, or will not, do so.” (Daily Journal, January 20, 2009.)

Simona also worked on the appellate team that secured custody for a woman who had raised children in a same-sex partnership in Kulstad v. Maniaci. Along with the American Civil Liberties Union, Simona and one of her colleagues represented Ms. Kulstad pro bono before the Montana Supreme Court, and ultimately vindicated her right to parent the children that she had raised with her domestic partner.

Howard Rice has a long and rich tradition of involvement in pro bono legal work, including representing numerous asylum seekers, fighting discrimination in high schools, and defending the civil rights of prisoners. In 2009, the firm received one of The National Law Journal’s annual Pro Bono Awards for its work representing the City and County of San Francisco and Mayor Gavin Newsom in opposing the State’s ban on same-sex marriage. The Firm also has received awards for pro bono work from California Rural Legal Assistance and from the American Civil Liberties Union.
2009 Judith Stronach Women’s Human Rights Fellowship

We are tremendously grateful to the late peace activist, philanthropist, and longtime Berkeley resident, Judith Lee Stronach. CGRS’s legal efforts on behalf of women and children asylum seekers resonated with Judith when she first learned of the Center’s work shortly after its founding. CGRS was later the beneficiary of a generous bequest left by Judith in 2004.

In her memory, CGRS established the Judith Stronach Women’s Rights Fellowship. Each year, CGRS recognizes one or more law students whose backgrounds, idealism, and commitment to women’s rights exemplify Judith’s dedication to nonviolence, social justice, and the empowerment of women and refugees.

The following Stronach Fellows contributed valuable research and other legal skills to CGRS during 2009:

**Kimberly Crawford**

Kimberly Jinsook Crawford is a third-year law student at University of San Diego School of Law, where her studies have focused on criminal litigation. Prior to law school, Kimberly worked with the Orange County Superior Court and the Los Angeles District Attorney’s Office. She discovered a love for immigration law during her three years at Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy LLP. While in law school, Kimberly interned with the Department of Justice, Executive Office for Immigration Review, in Los Angeles, California. During her fellowship at CGRS, Kimberly conducted research on a number of issues, including the one-year bar and asylum relief in cases involving honor-killing claims. She has also interned with the San Diego Office of the Primary Public Defender in the Felony Crimes Division and the American Bar Association Immigration Justice Project. Kimberly continues to be an active leader in the San Diego legal community, both on and off campus. She hopes to dedicate her legal career to advocacy in the areas of homelessness, immigration, and public defense.

**Evelyn Levine**

Evelyn (Evie) Levine is a third year law student at U.C. Hastings College of the Law. After having lived in Ciudad Juárez, México, where her work addressed the femicides in northern Mexico, she became interested in being a policy-maker and advocate for women’s human rights and the rights of asylum seekers. While in law school, she represented clients seeking asylum and other immigration relief based on domestic violence, sexual orientation, HIV status, and various other grounds. At CGRS, she helped update the record for Matter of R-A- by researching country conditions, which supported the legal arguments in the case. After law school, she plans to engage in direct representation of clients for several years and then move into the policy-making arena. When she is not working, Evie enjoys hiking, biking, and cooking.

**Sonya Sultan-Khan**

Sonya Sultan-Khan is an August 2009 graduate of Northeastern University School of Law and a former visiting student at U.C. Hastings College of the Law. Born and raised in Trinidad and Tobago, Sonya completed a law degree at the University of the West Indies and practiced law in Trinidad prior to relocating to the United States. During her fellowship at CGRS, Sonya analyzed the record in Matter of L-R- and prepared a detailed record summary of the case. Her work was used by the CGRS legal team and pro bono counsel to develop additional evidence and craft legal arguments for the brief in the L-R- case. While at Northeastern, Sonya worked with immigrants and asylum seekers at the International Institute of Boston, served as a judicial extern for the Honorable Judith Dein, U.S. District Court (D. Mass.), and was a summer associate at Hinckley, Allen & Snyder LLP. After her graduation, Sonya worked at CGRS as a graduate research fellow.
Special Appreciation

GRS also wishes to recognize the following law firms and individuals who provided invaluable support to CGRS’s work on behalf of refugee women and children during 2009:

- **Buchalter Nemer**, with particular thanks to Special Counsel **Suhi Koizumi** and Senior Counsel **Kim Arnone**, for funding work on the cases of Rody Alvarado and Ms. L.R.

- **Kazan, McClain, Abrams, Lyons, Greenwood & Harley, PLC** for ongoing and dedicated support of CGRS and the clinical teaching fellow in our Refugee and Human Rights Clinic.

- **Pamela Levin** for underwriting CGRS’s Tenth Anniversary Celebration.

- **Jayne Fleming**, **Pro Bono Counsel at Reed Smith LLP** and a member of CGRS’s Advisory Board, for her leadership in championing the rights of refugees. Jayne’s work on behalf of asylum-seekers was recently featured in Women Legal magazine and the National Law Journal.

![Photo by John Seelinger](image)

Law Clerks, Interns, and Volunteers

In 2009, as in past years, a committed team of law clerks, interns, and volunteers contributed their time and skills to those whom CGRS serves.

**Law Clerks**
- Shuting Chen
- Elisabeth Pellegrin
- Morgan Weibel

**Interns and Volunteers**
- Katie Bryant
- Sangita Devaskar
- Hannah Efron
- Adam Golub
- Rohini Gupta
- Talib Jabbar
- Mariana Jones
- Sheyda Joolharzadeh
- Harlinah Katz Lopez
- Kelsey Kofford
- Elizabeth McCullough-Sandén
- Celeste Peifer
- Lisa Uvarova
- Marieke van Buuren
GRS’s work and the impact it had in 2009 was made possible by the generous contributions of our donors. While we have endeavored to list everyone here, we apologize to anyone we missed. Thank you to all who have so generously donated to CGRS. We are grateful for your support!

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