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"You never get used to seeing children and families who are in desperate need," said Molly Maynard, the Children's Law Project Attorney at Pisgah Legal Services. "We are their advocates and their voices in a legal system they don't understand and shouldn't have to navigate alone."

When Poverty Is "Normal" for Kids

DID YOU KNOW THAT PISGAH LEGAL SERVICES HELPED 5,516 LOW-INCOME CHILDREN LAST YEAR IN COMMUNITIES ACROSS WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA?



Marian Wright Edelman comes to Asheville as the keynote speaker for the Poverty Forum on Wednesday, October 5th.

Find out more at
www.pisgahlegal.org.

For children whose families come to Pisgah Legal Services in search of help, it's "normal" to know you could be evicted from your home at any time. It's "normal" to not have enough food to eat or money to pay the power bill. It's "normal" to witness domestic violence and to live with the worry that things may not ever get better.

For children growing up in poverty across our mountain region, "normal" everyday life is fraught with instability, insecurity, fear and uncertainty.

There are legal remedies that can change the lives of these children, such as:

- Five-year-old "Emmett," who struggles with severe autism and whose health care was wrongfully terminated.
- "Janie," a 10-year-old whose father threatens to kill her mother if they leave.
- A family of seven that must sleep in one room of a rented trailer because the landlord refuses to repair the heat.

On October 5th, PLS' annual forum will focus on **Ending Child Poverty Now**.

(Continued on page 2)



NEW Location - More Tickets Now Available!

PISGAH LEGAL'S 6TH ANNUAL POVERTY FORUM

ENDING CHILD POVERTY NOW

with Marian Wright Edelman

President & Founder, Children's Defense Fund

October 5, 2016

Thomas Wolfe Auditorium, US Cellular Ctr, Asheville

5:30 pm Reception/ 7:00 pm Forum

Tickets: \$15/person for the forum alone.

Due to limited supply of forum+reception tickets (\$50/person), please contact Betsy Ellis to inquire about availability.

Purchase tickets online at www.pisgahlegal.org, use the enclosed envelope or call Betsy Ellis: 210.3444.

Social Justice Activist/Icon Is Keynote for Forum

Join us on **October 5th**, for a special evening with Marian Wright Edelman, the keynote speaker for Pisgah Legal's 6th Annual Poverty Forum. **NOTE: The Forum has been moved to the Thomas Wolfe Auditorium at the US Cellular Center to accommodate the high demand for tickets.**

About Marian Wright Edelman

Marian Wright Edelman, Founder and President of the Children's Defense Fund, has been an advocate for disadvantaged Americans for her entire professional life.

A graduate of Spelman College and Yale Law School, Edelman was the first black woman admitted to the Mississippi Bar and directed the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund office in Jackson, Mississippi.

She has received many awards and honorary degrees including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award.

Ending Child Poverty Now

At this year's forum, Edelman will discuss the results of a new study, "Ending Child Poverty Now," which states that by making modest investments in existing programs, the nation could reduce child poverty by 60% and lift 6.6 million children out of poverty.

"A nation that does not stand for its children does not stand for anything and will not stand tall in the future."

– Marian Wright Edelman

The Problem

- The U.S. has the second highest child poverty rate among 35 industrialized countries.

- A child in the U.S. has a 1 in 5

chance of being poor.

- Approximately 25% of children in Pisgah Legal's six-county WNC service area live below the federal poverty line.

- **80% of families living in poverty face crushing civil legal problems and need an advocate like Pisgah Legal.**

Join us for this community conversation and learn what we can do as individuals, and together, to address child poverty.

***Your gift to
Pisgah Legal helps
children by...***



stopping child abuse
and family violence



preventing
homelessness and
stabilizing housing



securing health care
and benefits for children
with disabilities



obtaining resources:
child support, food assistance,
and housing subsidies

Please give today
at pisgahlegal.org.

Family Justice Center Opens

CENTER CONSOLIDATES SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT AND CHILD ABUSE, AND INCLUDES FREE LEGAL AID

Opening this August, the Buncombe County Family Justice Center (FJC) is a new resource where victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child and elder abuse can get the help they desperately need.

The Center, located at 35 Woodfin Street in Asheville, includes law enforcement, governmental agencies, and nonprofits so that comprehensive services are available under one roof.

Pisgah Legal Services is pleased to have staff located on-site at the FJC and to coordinate our work to help victims of abuse with Helpmate, Our Voice, the Asheville Police Department, Buncombe County Sheriff's Office, and other partners. Through this collaboration Pisgah Legal is helping to significantly improve services to victims and to take steps to reduce domestic violence.



Pisgah Legal Attorney Julia Horrocks (left) and Legal Assistant Liz Allen work on-site at the new Family Justice Center.



Taking a Stand Against Domestic Violence

Did you know that approximately one-third of the work that Pisgah Legal Services does each year is devoted to ending domestic violence in WNC?

Pisgah Legal is a part of the “eNOugh” public education campaign aimed at increasing awareness about domestic violence in Buncombe County. Visit www.pisgahlegal.org for more information.

IN MEMORIAM



Dr. Don C. Locke
(1943 - 2016)

“Don Locke was a true gentleman scholar, a retired professor at UNC Asheville, intrinsically involved in his community and a staunch advocate for justice.

From day one of his tenure as PLS' Board Chairman he dug in, providing leadership that sustained the organization during a very difficult period, right after the Great Recession, when the need for Pisgah's services was enormous and our commitment to meeting them was quite daunting.

Don brought a cheerful attitude to very serious work that impacted the lives of thousands of people.

He taught me so much about public service. I miss him every day.”

– NC Senator
Terry Van Duyen

DON'S FRIEND,
FORMER PLS BOARD CHAIR,
AND LONG-TIME SUPPORTER
OF PISGAH LEGAL SERVICES



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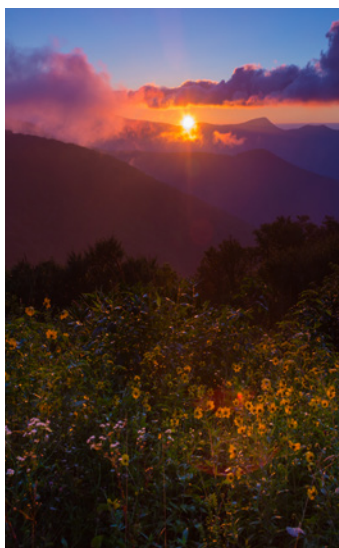


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“A lot of people are waiting for Martin Luther King or Mahatma Gandhi to come back, but they are gone. We are it. It is up to us. It is up to you.”
– Marian Wright Edelman

Justice...Thanks to You

LEAVE YOUR LEGACY AND HELP GENERATIONS TO COME



We need your help to continue the fight for justice for low-income people in our region. Please consider making a gift to Pisgah Legal Services' Endowment Fund and leave your legacy of caring.

You can make a bequest, a tax-free gift from your IRA or 401K or a cash gift. Legacy giving can provide you with income and/or tax savings.

**Please make your legacy gift
to Pisgah Legal Services today!**

Call Executive Director Jim Barrett at (828) 210-3408
or visit www.pisgahlegal.org to learn more.

Henderson Gifts Matched!

*Special Ways You Can Show Your Support
in Henderson County*

A group of generous Henderson County donors is challenging other residents to make a gift to Pisgah Legal Services. Through the *Caring for Our Community Gift Challenge*, this group will match donations from Henderson County dollar-for-dollar up to \$40,000. You can double your gift's impact! Last year, PLS helped 2,500 Henderson County residents in crisis with your support.

And did you know that you can own one of the hand-crafted bears in Hendersonville and support Pisgah Legal Services too?



Thanks to the Henderson County Bar Association, the “City Pride” bear will be auctioned on Oct.21 with proceeds benefiting Pisgah Legal. Visit www.pisgahlegal.org for more pictures and details.