



December 13, 2019

Contact:

Alejandra Lopez  
The Legal Aid Society  
[ailopez@legal-aid.org](mailto:ailopez@legal-aid.org)  
(917) 294-9348

## **The Legal Aid Society Hosts 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Party for Homeless and Other Vulnerable Children**

### *Toys and Donations Were Distributed to Over 500 Children and Their Families*

(New York, NY)—The Legal Aid Society's 36<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Party for Homeless and Other Vulnerable Children was held on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at Synod Hall on the grounds of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. The event marks the 36<sup>th</sup> year that the organization has hosted the party for some 500 children and their families who are or have been homeless, and who are struggling to make ends meet. For many of these children, The Legal Aid Society holiday party is the only source of holiday gifts.

“As the homeless crisis reaches a record high in New York City, we are proud to open our doors and welcome any family in need during this holiday season,” said **Janet Sabel, CEO and Attorney-in-Chief of The Legal Aid Society**. “As the city’s institutional legal provider serving low-income communities for over 140 years, we know that having access to stable, safe, and affordable housing is the cornerstone of maintaining a basic quality of life. We will continue to fight in our communities, courts, and legislature, to help ensure that our clients and all New Yorkers have a home to sleep in.”

Across New York City, there are nearly 80,000 people experiencing homelessness and 114,000 school-aged children living in shelters or “doubled-up” in apartments—a crisis without precedent in the city’s history. Experts predict that the crisis will continue to expand unless urgent action is taken by lawmakers. The Legal Aid Society has played an instrumental

role in helping homeless families through direct legal representation and legislative advocacy. To learn more, visit [LegalAidNYC.org/Homeless Rights Project](https://www.LegalAidNYC.org/HomelessRightsProject).

Special thanks to the following firms whose outstanding donations of toys, books, games and volunteers made it possible for the children and their families to enjoy the happiness of the holiday season: Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP; Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP; Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP; Hughes, Hubbard & Reed LLP; Milbank LLP; Morvillo, Abramowitz, Grand, Iason & Anello PC; Penguin Random House; Sullivan & Cromwell LLP; Travelers; Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz; and Winston & Strawn LLP. Terri and Richard Kim donated hundreds of items for arts and crafts.

For event photos, visit <https://www.flickr.com/photos/lasny/albums/72157712187797237>.

###

*The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For over 140 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. <https://www.legalaidnyc.org>*