



# News & Updates

April 2024

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## Call for Nominations

CHLP is currently accepting nominations for the [2024 Ann Klein Advocate Awards](#) and Mike Lione Accessibility Award. These awards are given to a group of select individuals and organizations, nominated by the public, who have performed exemplary work as advocates for people living with disabilities and/or vulnerable populations. These awards will be given out at the 36th Annual Ann Klein Advocate Awards dinner on October 24th.

# Success Stories

**Our 8-year-old client was diagnosed with a rare congenital disorder that requires 24/7 care and specific medical equipment to sustain her daily activities.**

When she outgrew her medical equipment, her insurance denied coverage for size-appropriate medical equipment.

**Hasib Haque**, staff attorney at the Community Health Law Project's Neptune office, stepped in and filed an appeal on her behalf, and represented her in an administrative action that reversed the insurance company's decision and awarded her the medical equipment that she needs.



CHLP congratulates **Erika Kerber**, our President/Executive Director, on her 20 year anniversary working at CHLP. To quote Erika, "It's been an honor and privilege to be working at CHLP with the most dedicated individuals who go above and beyond to fight for the rights of those who are less fortunate. I look forward to the next twenty plus years at this wonderful organization."



## Big Moves

We are excited to share that **Sean Benoit** is CHLP's new Director of Litigation. Sean joined CHLP in 2019 as a Staff Attorney before becoming Managing Attorney of our Elizabeth office in December 2021. Prior to joining CHLP, Sean spent nine years as a legal advocate for individuals with disabilities, focusing specifically on helping children and families

**Sean Benoit**  
*Director of Litigation*



**Sarah Webb**  
*Managing Attorney  
Elizabeth Office*

with special education legal issues. Sean also served his community as an elected Councilman in the Borough of Garwood from January 2019 through December 2021. Sean holds a Juris Doctorate from Rutgers Law School and a Bachelor of Arts from Boston College.

Moving into Sean's post as Managing Attorney of the Elizabeth office is **Sarah Webb**, coming from our Bloomfield office where she has been a staff attorney since 2019. Before joining CHLP, Sarah advocated for the rights of people living with mental health disabilities institutionalized in psychiatric hospitals and jails while at Law Foundation of Silicon Valley. She also litigated class action employment cases as a civil rights fellow at the firm Goldstein, Borgen, Dardarian & Ho; and served as a law clerk to Judge Richard A. Paez of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. She is a graduate of Dartmouth College and the University of California, Berkeley School of Law.

Congratulations to Sean and Sarah!

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## CHLP in the Community

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**Rebecca Kolas, Managing Attorney of the Community Health Law Project's Shore Area Main Office in Neptune, was a presenter at Career Day at Toms River High School North.** The purpose of the event was to introduce high school students to a variety of career paths to guide them in making informed decisions about their future. Rebecca spoke about the Law Project and the valuable work that we do at a non-

profit law firm. More than 700 students and nearly 50 speakers participated.



CHLP offers a wide range of trainings for consumers and professionals free of charge thanks to the support of our state funders. CHLP conducts trainings in the areas of housing, foreclosure, Medicaid, Social Security, special education, guardianship and much more. Call or email CHLP today to find out more and to schedule your next training with us!

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Community Health Law Project | 185 Valley Street, South Orange, NJ 07079

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