

JAMES D. WEILL
Food Research and Action Center
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WORK HISTORY

FOOD RESEARCH AND ACTION CENTER, Washington, D.C.

President 1998-Present

- Oversee all work of staff of 35 seeking to end hunger and reduce poverty in the United States through research, public policy advocacy, identification and dissemination of best practices, lobbying regarding safety net programs, outreach and organizing.

THE CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND, Washington, DC

General Counsel and Corporate Secretary 1989-1998
Program Director 1985-1989
Legal Director 1982-1985

- Oversaw corporate legal affairs, litigation, and special projects, publications and campaigns, especially in the areas of child health policy, anti-poverty policy, and violence prevention; engaged in fundraising and media relations.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION OF CHICAGO, Chicago, Illinois

Deputy Director for Federal Litigation 1978-1982
and Special Projects
Director of Federal Litigation 1975-1978
Supervising Attorney, Public 1973-1975
Benefits Units
Staff Attorney 1971-1973
Vista Attorney 1969-1971

- Supervised (1975-1982) all federal litigation of 95 attorneys, including more than 100 federal class actions and eight cases on plenary review in the U.S. Supreme Court;
- Served as lead counsel on selected impact and law reform cases at all levels of the federal court system.
- Supervised twelve specialty and litigation units (welfare, food law, health, prisoner rights, juvenile, women's rights, migrant workers, employment, consumer, handicapped, housing, and immigration).

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

“Hunger in America 2012,” 46 Clearinghouse Review 189 (2012)

“The Federal Government – the Indispensable Player in Redressing Poverty,” 40 Clearinghouse Review 19 (2006)

“A Status Report: Children in the United States,” 24 Journal of Intergroup Relations 4 (1997-1998)

Child Advocacy in the United States, UNICEF International Child Development Centre (1990)

“Advocacy: Linking the Political Forces to Achieve Program Success,” 65 Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine 413 (1989)

Vanishing Dreams: The Growing Economic Plight of America's Young Families, Children's Defense Fund (1988) (co-author).

"Status of Children in the 1980's," 17 Columbia Human Rights Law Review 139 (1986) (co-author).

"Investing in Our Children," 4 Yale Law and Policy Review 331 (1986) (co-author).

Co-authored or supervised and edited all work on dozens of Food Research and Action Center and Children's Defense Fund publications.

Have contributed numerous other articles to legal, children's, anti-hunger and other periodicals.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Chair, Children's Leadership Council, 2013 to present

Chair, Board of Directors, Alliance for Justice, 1995-2007.

Chair, Board of Directors, Alliance for Justice Action Council, 2001 to present.

Board of Directors, National Center for Youth Law, 1989-present.

Member, United States delegation to United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 1993-1997.

Member, Advisory Council, National League of Cities Institute for Youth, Education and Families.

Have served on the boards of: Poverty and Race Research Action Council (founding board); National Clearinghouse for Legal Services (founding board); National Health Law Program; OMB Watch; Generations United; Illinois Civil Liberties Union; Advisory Council

to Calvert Social Investment Fund; Advisory Council to Wider Opportunities for Women.

Member, American Bar Association Working Group on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

RECENT AWARDS

Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice – Patsy Mink Courageous Leadership Award (2013)

Coalition on Human Needs – Human Needs Hero Award (2014)

EDUCATION

Cornell University, B.A., 1967

New York University School of Law, J.D., 1969