FamilyKind

Impact Report 2025



Strengthening Families, One Step at a Time.

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2025 AT FAMILYKIND

Dear Friends and Supporters:

2025 has been an extraordinarily successful year for FamilyKind, one in which it has strengthened its purpose by continuing to deliver an expanded menu of critical services to families in transition due to separation or divorce. It has endeavored to meet its goal of easing the stress felt by families…especially children during the transition. Toward that end, FamilyKind has continued its parenting education classes and mediation services, all of which are conducted by highly qualified professionals.

FamilyKind's success has been driven by a highly motivated core staff, talented consultants, a dedicated Board of Directors, and generous friends who have enabled an expanded scope of services and success in fundraising. In fact, the financial success of FamilyKind's annual gala in 2025 has created a foundation for expanding its reach and serving more families in distress.

As FamilyKind looks ahead, it is well-positioned to build on this momentum. With its solid foundation, dedicated team, and supportive community, FamilyKind will continue to deliver hope, guidance and strength to families who need it most.

Thank you for your continued valuable support.

With gratitude,

Saralee Evans, Chair













WHAT WE DO: PROGRAM HIGLIGHTS



Special Needs Parenting Project
Supporting parents of children with diverse needs

The Special Needs Parenting Project uses a holistic approach to address social isolation and the unique needs of families with children who have disabilities. It fosters an inclusive, culturally sensitive environment for peer interaction, encourages compassionate connections, and cultivates a sense of belonging. Families can choose personalized sessions with experts to ensure their specific needs, related to their child's disabilities, are met.



Build Robots, Build Bonds
A unique two-generational robotics class

This program provides educational services for economically disadvantaged families, focusing on STEAM and parenting education. The course offers concurrent classes for children and parents, culminating in inter-generational discussions. Robotics instruction is delivered by Robofun's experienced educators and parenting support is provided by credentialed parenting educators.

FAMILYKIND CORE SERVICES



PARENTING EDUCATION

Helping parents understand the complexities and challenges that they and their children experience by providing them with research-based, culturally responsive information and practical strategies.



MEDIATION SERVICES

Our professional mediators help couples navigate the issues of parenting time, support, and equitable distribution. This process gives adults tools with which to handle various situations that may arise in the future.



PARENTING COORDINATION (PC)

Parenting Coordinators provide high-conflict parents with tools, methods and recommendations to establish effective co-parenting strategies so that their children can thrive.

MEDIATION MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

A FamilyKind Professional Program



FamilyKind provides the FamilyKind Mediation Mentorship Program (MMP), an intensive training designed to give mediators the tools and support they need to open a private practice and to provide high-quality mediation services throughout New York State.

The purpose of the program is to provide newly-trained mediators, or those who have been mediating for some time but who wish to improve their skills, with hands-on experience observing and co-mediating cases with an experienced family and divorce mediator. Each participant will be paired with a highly qualified Mentor and will also be part of an enriched educational and practical environment.

To learn more To learn more, click on the button below to download our flyer.

DOWNLOAD

"Guiding emerging mediators as they develop their process skills, ethical frameworks, and professional confidence reinforces the collaborative values at the heart of our field".

"I found the experience of working with a practicing divorce attorney/mediator to be very instructive. I learned a lot".

"It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to mentor a starting mediator, help them with establishing a practice and jointly brainstorm about challenges and rewards of mediation".

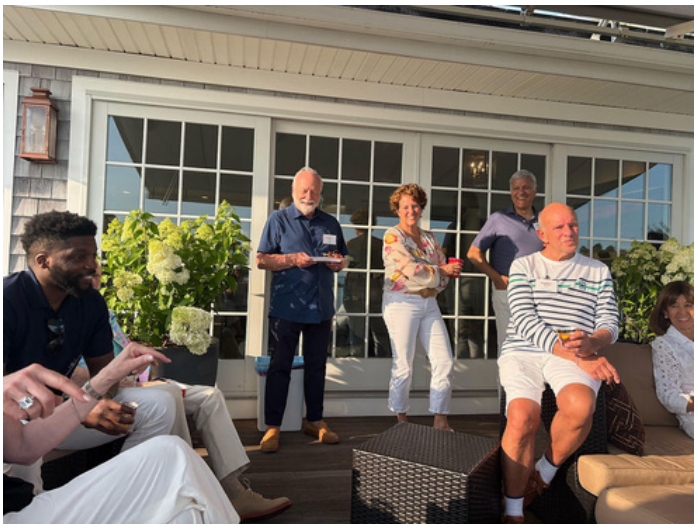
A WONDERFUL YEAR OF EVENTS:
Community Building Events



This year, our non-profit organization hosted two vibrant occasions that brought together individuals who share a deep passion for supporting families and fostering community growth. Unlike typical fundraising events, these gatherings were designed to encourage meaningful connections among attendees, offering a space for like-minded individuals to engage in dialogue and exchange ideas.



Each event was infused with a spirit of collaboration and unity, underscoring our commitment to building a supportive and expansive network.



Through these get-togethers, we not only celebrated the shared mission of helping families but also strengthened the bonds within our community, where people enjoyed themselves, paving the way for future collaborations and initiatives.

A WONDERFUL YEAR OF EVENTS:
The FamilyKind Gala

The FamilyKind Gala held in April of this year was a resounding success, bringing together a community united by a shared commitment to supporting families in need.





This unforgettable evening honored three distinguished professionals in the family legal services community, celebrating their invaluable contributions and dedication. Guests had an enjoyable and fun time, with spirited bidding during the live auction. Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of our attendees, we raised record-breaking funds that will significantly impact countless families.

We extend our sincere appreciation to everyone who joined us in this celebration of kindness and community spirit, making a real difference in the lives of those we serve. Your support is truly invaluable.





Join us on March 10th for our 2026 Gala! CLICK HERE

A WONDERFUL YEAR OF EVENTS:
Gala Honorees



The Honorable Sondra M. Miller Award

THE HONORABLE RICHARD DOLLINGER (Ret.)

Former Judge, New York State Court of Claims, Seventh Judicial District as an acting Supreme Court Justice in the matrimonial part.



FamilyKind Service Award

BOB COHEN, ESQ.

One of America's leading matrimonial lawyers. Forbes lists Bob as one of the 200 most important lawyers in America.

Partner, Cohen Clair Lans Greifer & Simpson, LLP



Tziporah Pronman Mediation Award

AMY CARRON DAY, ESQ.

Family and divorce mediator and Collaborative attorney in New York for over 30 years.

Partner, Day Law and Mediation

About Sondra M. Miller and Tziporah Pronman

Hon. Sondra M. Miller

Sondra M. Miller '53 was a pioneering member of the first Harvard Law School class to admit women and served as a New York judge for an impressive 22 years. Throughout her distinguished career, she worked on the Family Court, Supreme Court, and Appellate Division in New York, dedicating her efforts to improving the legal system. She had a particular focus on enhancing the legal landscape for children, families, and women in law, advocating for their rights and interests. Always a champion of parenting education for divorcing and separating parents throughout New York State, she emphasized the importance of informed co-parenting to foster the well-being of children during family transitions.

Tziporah Pronman

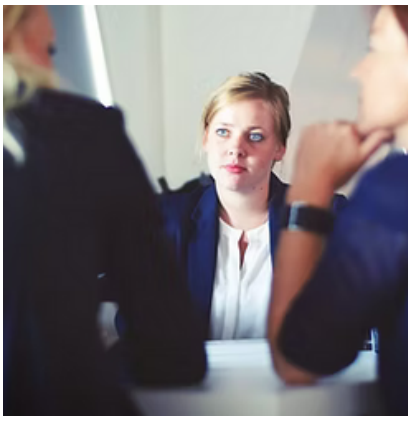
Tziporah Pronman was a skilled mediator and team member at FamilyKind, dedicated to assisting families in need of quality services. She served as Mediation Manager for the New York State Unified Court System in Brooklyn and Manhattan, with over 15 years of leadership in community development and youth initiatives. Tziporah directed programs like the Parents Count Program and Jamaica Homebase Homeless Prevention Services. A board member of ICERM and a volunteer at OU Israel, she also wrote *Golden Threads of Wisdom*, aimed at providing new insights into family contexts.

OUR 2025 IMPACT

This year, FamilyKind made significant progress in our commitment to enhancing our organizational capabilities. By strategically adding talented individuals to our team, we have fortified our ability to deliver exceptional client services, foster meaningful community engagement, and drive successful fundraising initiatives. This bolstered staffing has not only improved our operational efficiency but also amplified our overall impact, allowing us to better serve our mission and reach new heights in community support and outreach.



Managed **over 550 inquiries** providing support to individuals during vulnerable times to ensure they receive tailored care



Expertly assisted **220 individuals** through mediation and parenting coordiation



Guided **500+ parents & caregivers** through parent education services



We have positively impacted **over 500 children** by supporting their parents, focusing on child-centered approaches during separations to prioritize children's needs and well-being.

Projected numbers utilizing data collected as of November 15th 2025.

We advocate for accessible parenting education to ensure all parents have the support needed for their children's wellbeing, collaborating with communities and institutions to break down access barriers. Empowered parents create nurturing environments, leading to healthier, happier future generations where children thrive. We are excited to build on our momentum and are grateful for your contributions which have played a pivotal role in this success.

MEET THE CORE FAMILY



Lesley Ann Friedland
Founder and
Executive Director



Naz Madani
Chief Operations
Officer



Isabella Rodriguez
Director of Service
Impact and
Consultant
Success



Stephanie Jones
Director of
Parenting Education



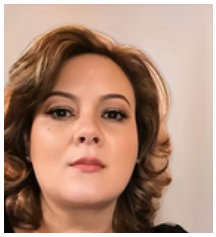
Tausifa Haque
Client Services
Specialist



Isabelle Yeterian Wallace
Marketing and
Communications
Specialist



Bill Drewes
Strategic Advisor -
Partnerships &
Community
Engagement



Claudia Londono
Manager of Finance

What makes you passionate about working for FamilyKind?

"I give my time, energy and gifts to FamilyKind because I believe every family deserves a chance to be a family, whether they are living in different households, raising children alone or simply not able to cope with the everyday stress of parenting".



Barbara Mellor
Development and
Strategic Fundraising
Manager

GLOBAL NEWS ROUNDUP

FamilyKind aims to transform the cultural narrative surrounding divorce. Throughout the year, we share news and opinion articles that illuminate the intricacies of contemporary family dynamics.

Here are some highlights from our monthly summaries.
Click on each title to read the full articles.

January

It's Not 'Divorce Month.' It's 'Starting to Think About Divorce Month.'

Amy Polacko
Ms. Magazine
January 8, 2025

February

Universal truths about marriage and divorce

Susan Spencer
CBS News
February 16, 2025

March

How Many Legal Parents Can a Child Have? The Dutch are Asking the Question

Mark Smith
The Guardian
March 17, 2025

April

What Is Birdnesting? This Divorced Couple's Custody Arrangement Is Being Called 'Genius'

Rachel Paula Abrahamson
Today
April 9, 2025

May

Divorce Is Not A Dirty Word

Dear Daughter Series
BBC
May 9, 2025

June

What I Wish Parents Knew About Social Media

Laura Edelson
Edited by Megha Satyanarayana,
Scientific American
June 16, 2025

July

Balancing Mental and Physical Health of a Parent Against Children's Safety

Patricia Fersch
Forbes
July 25 2025

August

What's Behind The Trend of So-Called 'Gray Divorces'?

Alisa Chang and Brittany Luse
NPR
August 21, 2025

September

8 Phrases to Help Your Relationship Thrive

Catherine Pearson
The New York Times
September 12, 2025

October

8 facts about divorce in the United States

Jake Hays
Pew Research
October 16, 2025

November

How women over 30 are rewriting the single mom narrative in America

Pallavi Gogoi, Janet W. Lee
NPR
November 17, 2025

December

Quiet divorce: why people are checking out of their marriage emotionally – without telling their partner

The Guardian
November 29, 2025

HOW YOU CAN HELP



Donate

Help make our high quality services and classes accessible to families who cannot afford it.

DONATE

WAYS TO DONATE

- Gift by **check**, send your check payable to "FamilyKind" to FamilyKind, 26 Broadway, 3rd Fl, New York, NY 10004.
- **Bank/ACH** transfer or a gift of stock or securities, email accounting@familykind.org.
- Gift from your **Donor Advised Fund (DAF)** or charitable fund, recommend a grant referencing our Federal Tax ID (#45-4636528).
- Taking distributions from an IRA, request a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** directly to FamilyKind. If you are age 73+, you may be able to avoid income tax on unused Required **Minimum Distributions (RMDs)**.*
- Remember FamilyKind in your will — one line can make a lasting difference.
- Make a donation in honor or memory of someone special.

**Consult your own tax advisor about your circumstances.*

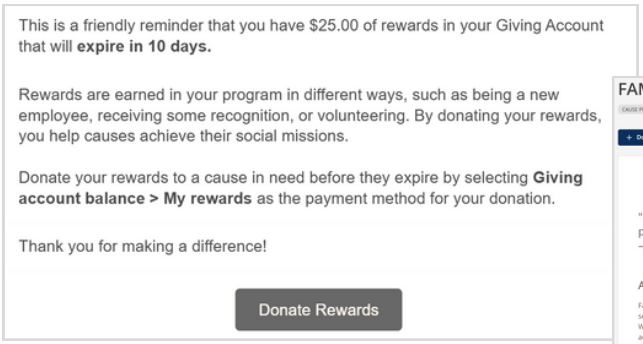
FamilyKind is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. For more information, and copies of our financial statements, email info@familykind.org.

OTHER WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE

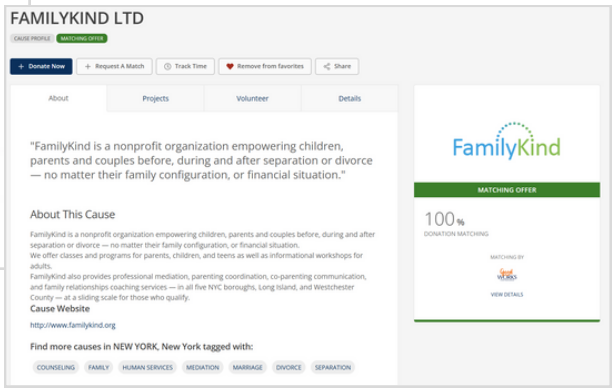


There are numerous impactful ways to support FamilyKind's mission beyond direct donations. Spreading the word through social media or community events amplifies awareness. Exploring these avenues makes you an essential part of advancing FamilyKind's mission to strengthen family connections.

Workplace & Community Giving:



Ask your employer to add a listing with FamilyKind's EIN and match process — your gift could be doubled or even tripled!





Encourage colleagues and friends to dedicate their birthday fundraisers to FamilyKind. Create a campaign link on your Facebook, Instagram, or LinkedIn page to celebrate a company milestone or birthday by giving back.

Add a FamilyKind donation QR code to flyers, slides, or email signatures.

Events & Experiences:

Attend FamilyKind's 2026 Fundraising Gala: Buy tickets to FamilyKind's 2026 Gala and turn a night out into a real impact for families. Invite friends, family, partners, and colleagues to join you and make it your annual "give back together" tradition.

Digital & Creative Engagement:

- Record a short video about how FamilyKind helped you and inspire others to give.
- Know someone, a group, or organization that can help further FamilyKind's Mission and Reach, please do the introductions! We are all about connecting!

OUR BOARD

Hon. Saralee Evans (Ret.), Chair

Karla Valdez Hernandez, Vice Chair

Jennifer Safian, Secretary

Jeffrey Vincent, Treasurer

Lesley Ann Friedland, Executive Director

Barbara Adler

Latoya C. Conner

Patricia Ann Fersch

Hon. Douglas Hoffman (Ret.)

Michael Prentis Knuff

Sunita Kurra

Dee Dee Mozeleski

Teresa Ombres

Maurice Robinson

Asia Scarlett-Jones

Elise Visco

John Yacos















"Having been a non-custodial parent for 18 years, FamilyKind's mission truly resonates with me. I am proud and excited to serve with a group of such talented and dedicated individuals as we continue to expand our outreach to families experiencing divorce and separation."

Jeffrey Vincent, Incoming Board Chair

INSTITUTIONAL & FOUNDATIONAL SUPPORTERS

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML) Foundation

Assemblymember Linda B. Rosenthal (Assembly District 67)

BoardLead

Council Member Gale Brewer (District 6)

J. Carlo Cannell Fund of the Community Foundation of Teton Valley

The New York Bar Foundation

New York City Council

New York City Department of Youth & Community Development

The New York Community Trust

New York Women's Bar Association

Primary Co-working space

Queens Long Island Community Services

Westchester Women’s Bar Association