

FAMM

**20
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ANNUAL
REPORT**

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From the President

I won't beat around the bush: 2018 was a tremendous year for FAMM, and this report shows it. Not only did we achieve some of the greatest advocacy victories in our organization's history, but we also laid the groundwork for even bigger successes down the road.

From the passage of Amendment 11 in Florida to approval of the First Step Act, FAMM was at the crux of the fight for a smarter, fairer criminal justice system. Both of these wins have enormous impact: Amendment 11 changed Florida's constitution to allow for retroactive sentencing reform, and the First Step Act is the most comprehensive federal sentencing and prison reform legislation in a generation.

These accomplishments notwithstanding, I believe 2018 will be remembered for something else: the start of our aggressive effort to organize affected families and individuals to become advocates for reform. FAMM's advocacy has always been informed by the people and families who experience the system firsthand, and 2018 saw that principle taken even further.

In 2018, we assembled a top-notch organizing team to help us inspire these family members to become powerful advocates in their states and communities. My goal is to build a big, noisy army of committed advocates and voters, whom politicians ignore at their peril. If we are successful, we will be able to win even bigger victories than we achieved this year.

If you already support FAMM, thank you. If you are not yet a supporter, please review this report and reach out to me with questions and comments. As always, your participation in our work is vital.

Sincerely,

Kevin A. Ring

FAMM in the States

2018 was a pivotal year for FAMM's state efforts. We won legislation that will benefit thousands and made considerable progress in sentencing reform.

Winning retroactivity in Florida

[FAMM scored one of its greatest victories in the organization's history in 2018 with passage of Amendment 11.](#) Earlier in the year, Florida State Policy Director Greg Newburn spearheaded the effort to convince the Constitution Revision Commission to add the measure to the November ballot. The amendment passed with 62 percent of the vote. Amendment 11 changed the constitution's savings clause, allowing the legislature to make sentencing reforms retroactive. Because of this change, Florida can now take measures to address its overincarceration problem.

Stopping mandatory sentences in Pennsylvania

Since 2015, FAMM has played a leading role in preventing the reinstatement of gun and drug related mandatory minimum sentences in Pennsylvania. We were successful again in the 2017-2018 legislative session. As a result of this success, average drug sentences continue to fall, along with the crime and incarceration rates.

Promoting reform in Missouri

FAMM helped lawmakers draft and advance a "safety valve" exception to the state's habitual offender mandatory minimum sentences and educated lawmakers and the public about the need to pass the reform. The reform passed the House of Representatives unanimously, but the session ended before it could get a vote in the Senate. We anticipate a repeat effort to pass this reform in 2019.

Championing mercy in New York

[FAMM and the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers announced the formation of a new state clemency project designed to recruit, train, and provide resource support to pro bono attorneys who will assist state prisoners to submit petitions to have their sentences commuted.](#) New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo was the first governor to seek our assistance. By the end of 2018, we had recruited and trained 200 pro bono attorneys and submitted roughly 70 petitions to the governor for consideration.



Panel at our standing room only briefing on sentencing reform in the First Step Act
Left to right: Kevin Ring, Shon Hopwood, Mandy Richards, Kenneth Polite, Stephanie Nodd, John Malcolm

2018 Federal Efforts

FAMM helped pass the most comprehensive federal criminal justice reform in a generation. The law, known as the [First Step Act](#), contained longtime FAMM initiatives, including provisions to eliminate the so-called stacking of mandatory penalties for gun crimes, finally apply the 2010 crack reforms retroactively, and expand the drug safety valve. The bill also included recommendations from [FAMM's 2017 prison reform report](#). The new law will transform the compassionate release program by giving prisoners the right to appeal denials in federal court, keep incarcerated loved ones closer to their families, increase the amount of good time people can earn, and send more people straight to home confinement.

In 2018, FAMM successfully blocked some terribly misguided proposals and nominations put forward in congress. Most notably, we stopped "Kate's Law" a bill that creates a five-year mandatory minimum sentence for people who are convicted of illegal reentry. The proposal would have increased the federal prison population by 60,000 people in the first five years alone.

FAMM was also active at the U.S. Supreme Court. We filed a brief in the case [Rosales-Mireles v. United States](#), in which we argued that an error in calculating the sentencing guidelines is an error that must be addressed by resentencing the defendant, even if no one noticed the error when it occurred. We said the court must correct the mistake, even if the sentence imposed falls within the correct guideline range. The Supreme Court agreed with our position in a vote of 7 to 2.



FAMM General Counsel Mary Price at our compassionate release report launch in Harrisburg, Pa.

Compassionate Release Initiative

In June FAMM released [Everywhere and Nowhere](#), a first-of-its-kind report, which provides detailed information on the compassionate release laws, policies, and processes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The report is being used by advocates, lawyers, and families in the states. We released the report at a public event in Harrisburg, Pa.

This effort was part of our recently launched Campaign for Compassionate Release, an initiative supported by more than 30 criminal justice, health care, and religious organizations from across the ideological spectrum. The short-term goal of the campaign is to get more low-risk, high-cost offenders out of prison early. Our longer-term goal is to begin a larger discussion about what types of individuals are serving such lengthy sentences and whether public safety requires their continued incarceration.

Organizing and Community Building

FAMM is committed to creating and sustaining nationwide change to our sentencing and prison policies through engagement, education, and advocacy. To this end, we hired a national director of organizing and community engagement and a digital organizing director in 2018. These new team members helped us launch our national FAMM Advocates Program, through which our supporters will gain the tools needed to become action-oriented advocates equipped and empowered to engage with lawmakers and the public powerful advocates for in support of criminal justice reform.

We saw the power of affected family advocates during the fight for the First Step Act. To build support for the bill, FAMM brought more than 75 affected families to Washington, D.C., for a rally and lobby day, organized a national #WeNeed60 votes call-in day, and held a briefing that included affected family members and policy experts. We also met with dozens of lawmakers and staff to educate them on federal sentencing and prison policy

FAMM also hired two organizers in Pennsylvania who are helping to build an army of affected family members who can serve as advocates for various reform priorities.



Kendall and Kennadi Williams at our Families for Justice Reform Now rally in front of the U.S. Capitol



Family advocates at our Families for Justice Reform rally

2018 Communications and Media Highlights

FAMM in the Media

Our policy team members continued to serve as subject matter experts on criminal justice issues for news organizations such as the Wall Street Journal, AP, the Washington Post, the New York Times, Rolling Stone, and more.



Online Communications and Social Media Outreach

FAMM's reach on social media grew in 2018. Our monthly website views and Facebook and Twitter followers all increased. We also created two support-based Facebook groups. FAMMilies in Action is a general support and advocacy group with nearly 3,000 members, 84 percent of whom are active and engage with us on a daily basis. FAMMilies for Compassionate Release is a support and educational group devoted to people who want to learn more about compassionate release at the federal and state levels.



FAMM's Director of Family Outreach & Storytelling, Ann Espuelas, leading a storytelling workshop

Prisoner Profiles/Storytelling

FAMM Storytelling took off in some new directions in 2018, and finished up the year heading in even more. As is true every year, we produced several of our traditional Prisoner Profile stories to support FAMM's advocacy work. Additionally, in keeping with FAMM's new focus on organizing, our storytelling team produced several stories about affected families who have become advocates for reform. We produced 21 new written profiles in all, and our case research expanded into working closely with families to best reflect their experiences.

FAMM Storytelling also began producing a new category, "Success on the Inside" stories, with the goal of further altering society's perceptions of prisoners by humanizing them. Our work in 2018 left FAMM Storytelling poised to grow and more effectively change hearts and minds about criminal justice through story.

2018 Prisoner Profiles:

[Veda Ajamu](#)

[Lisa Andrews](#)

[Oliver Bailey](#)

[Amber Carlson](#)

[Jacqueline Cooney](#)

[Debra Cupp](#)

[Michael Daniels](#)

[Connie Farris](#)

[Morgan Godvin](#)

[Edna Harris](#)

[Paul Houser](#)

[Adam Kubinski](#)

[Kenny Kubinski](#)

[Jorge Maldonado](#)

[Michael Monsivais](#)

[Francie Portnoy](#)

[Rufus Rochell](#)

[Robert Shipp](#)

[Kenneth "Graham" Stanley](#)

[Stephanie Troy](#)

[Ainsley Woods](#)

[Chris Young](#)

2018 Success Stories:

[Morgan Godvin](#)

[Kenny Kubinski](#)

[Jorge Maldonado](#)

[Michael Monsivais](#)

[Robert Shipp](#)

Family Perspectives:

[Veda Ajamu](#)

[Oliver Bailey](#)

[Jacqueline Cooney](#)

[Debra Cupp](#)

[Michael Daniels](#)

[Edna Harris](#)

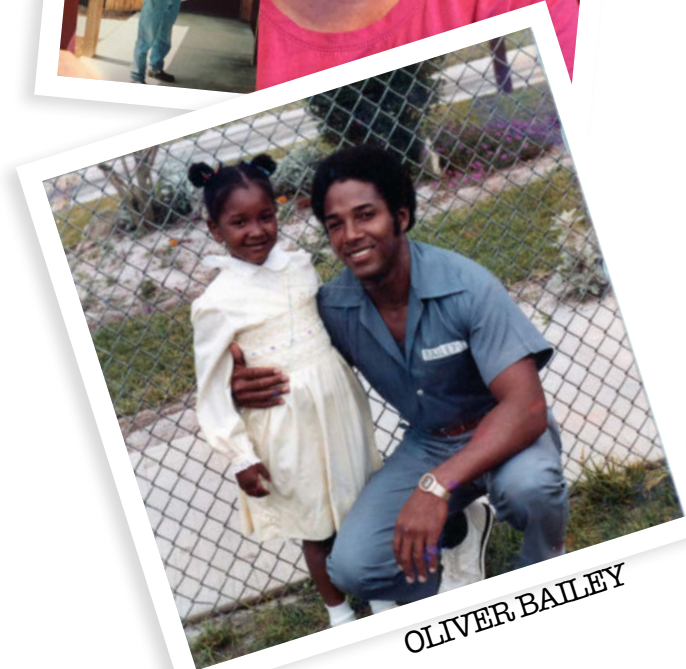
[Adam Kubinski](#)

[Francie Portnoy](#)

[Ainsley Woods](#)



DEBRA CUPP

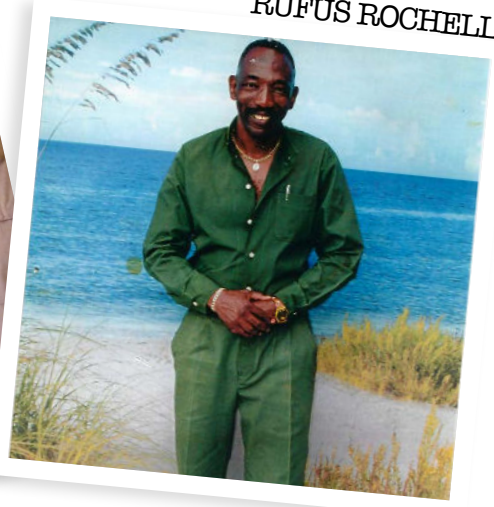


OLIVER BAILEY

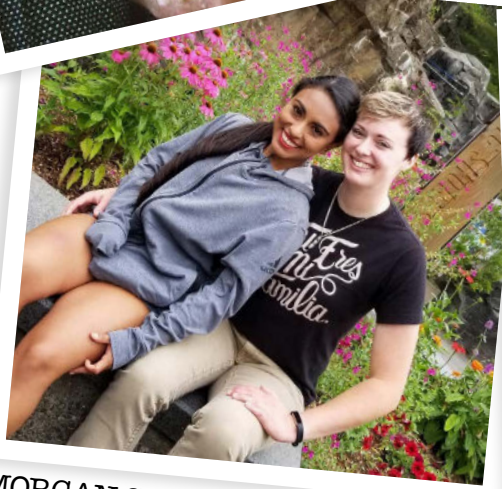
KENNY KUBINSKI



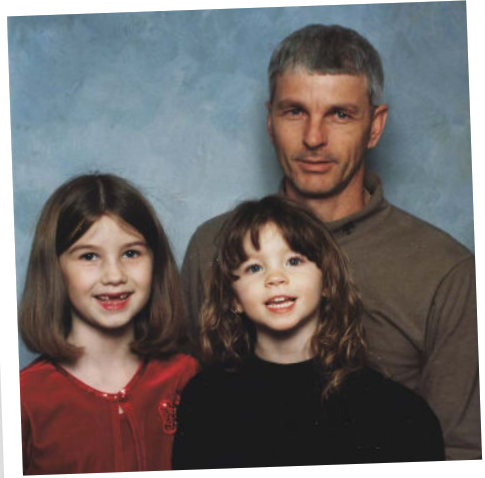
RUFUS ROCHELL



MORGAN GODVIN



PAUL HOUSER





Author James Forman signing his book, *Locking Up Our Own*, after a FAMM-hosted panel in Washington, D.C., at which he spoke.

Multimedia/Video Production

FAMM's award-winning, in-house multimedia production services produce outstanding videos at prices way below industry standard. In this "age of video," FAMM videos are crafted to recruit new affected family advocates, engage legislators, and change hearts and minds.

2018 Videos

Profiles:

[*"I Want to Be That Voice"*](#)

[*"Veda Ajamu: Warrior for Justice"*](#) (Winner of the 2019 Communicator Award of Excellence for Individual Activism)

[*"Matthew Davis: A Prayer for Compassion"*](#)



Kevin Ring with FAMM guests at a screening of the film "Survivors Guide to Prison"
Left to right: Martha Kamber, Steve Devore, Matthew Cooke, Busta Rhymes, Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, Kevin Ring, Gina Belafonte

Events:

[FAMM's Families for Justice Reform Rally](#)
[James Forman: Fighting for Criminal Justice](#)
[Busta Rhymes on FAMM](#)

Membership:

["Boots on the Ground"](#) (Winner of the 2019 Gold Telly Award in the category of Not for Profit)

Explainers:

["Compassionate Release: Not a Right or Left Issue"](#)

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Financials

Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,484,166
Investment in securities	\$1,015,084
Accrued interest receivable	6,700
Grants and pledges receivables	\$1,417,500
Other receivables	\$1,114
Other receivables	\$60,000
Prepaid expenses	\$34,354
Total Current Assets	\$4,018,918

Property & Equipment—at cost

Furniture	\$3,495
Equipment	\$101,213
Software	\$20,067
Less: accumulated depreciation	\$(74,779)
Property and Equipment	\$49,996

Other Assets

Security deposit	\$16,668
Total Other Assets	\$16,668
Total Assets	\$4,085,582

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$101,411
Payroll liabilities	\$25,422
Federal and state income taxes	\$2,694
Deferred rent	\$13,045
Total current liabilities	\$142,572

Net Assets

Undesignated	\$698,843
Designated by Board	\$990,000
Total unrestricted net assets	\$1,688,843
Purpose restrictions	\$1,125,000
Time-restricted for future periods	\$1,129,167
Temporarily restricted net assets	\$2,254,167
Total net assets	\$3,943,010
Total Liability and net assets	\$4,085,582

Financials

Revenue

■ Foundation grants \$2,923,333 (68%)	■ Interest income \$19,388 (0%)
■ Individual contributions \$1,054,020 (25%)	■ Other income \$14,149 (0%)
■ In-kind donations \$261,761 (6%)	



Total revenue: \$4,272,651

Expenses by Program

■ Public Education: \$1,602,591 (51%)
■ State and regional programs: \$878,610 (28%)
■ Federal Advocacy: \$678,270 (21%)



Total program expenses: \$3,159,471

Expenses

■ Program: \$3,159,471 (90%)
■ Fundraising: \$213,840 (6%)
■ General and administration: \$126,197 (4%)



Total expenses: \$3,499,508



TEAM





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