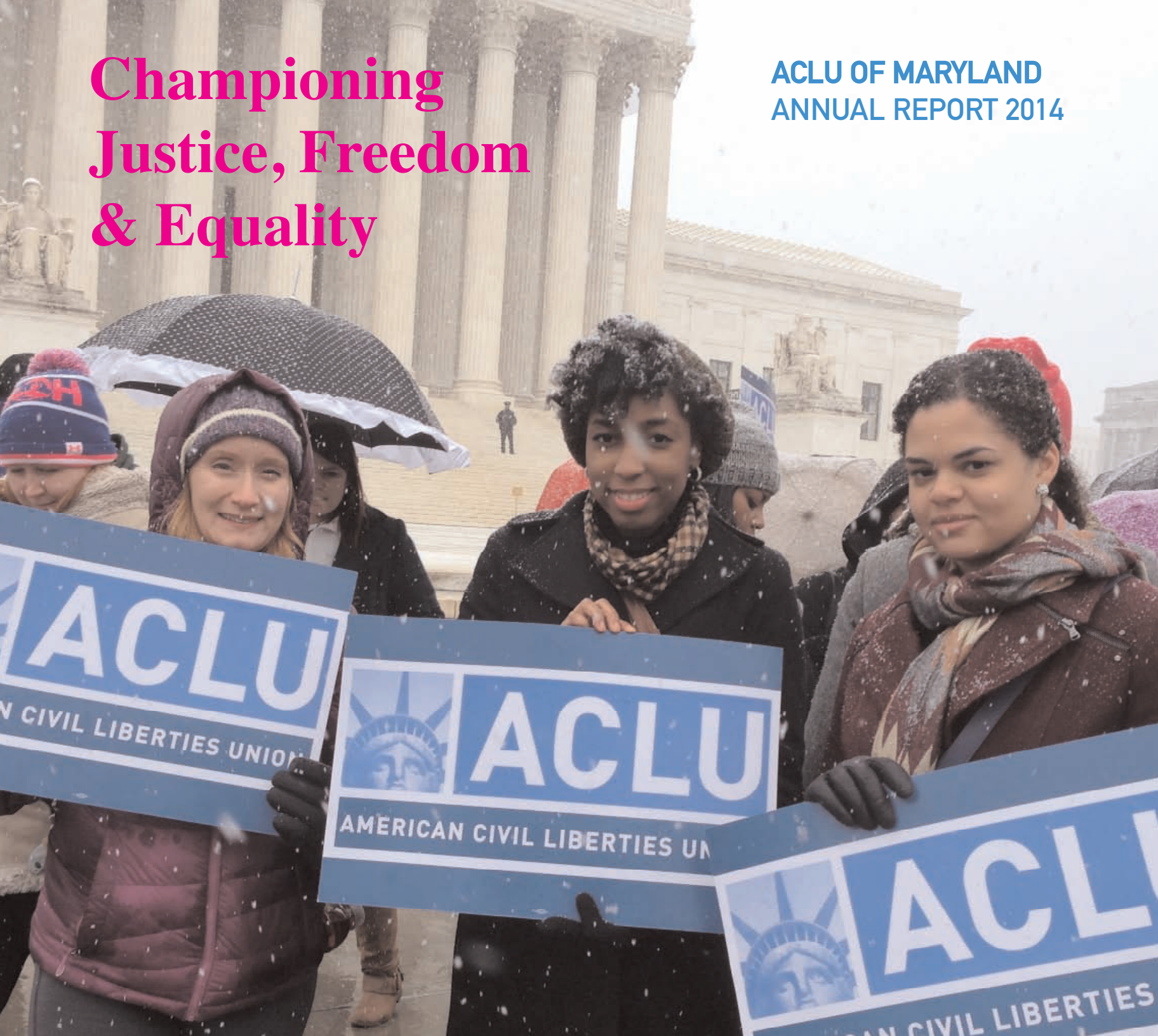


Championing Justice, Freedom & Equality

ACLU OF MARYLAND
ANNUAL REPORT 2014



2014: Championing Justice, Freedom & Equality for the Future

FRONT COVER: ACLU of Maryland staffers Meredith Curtis, Brittany Oliver, and Aisha Springer outside the U.S. Supreme Court for the “Rally for Birth Control.” The justices heard arguments about whether bosses at for-profit companies who, based on their own personal religious beliefs, can refuse to comply with the law that requires health plans to include no-cost coverage for contraceptives.

Dear Members and Supporters:

The national ACLU will turn 100 years old in 2020. Since 1920, the ACLU has promoted equality, protected our liberties, and defended justice for all. As we enter our second century, the ACLU boasts a strong affiliate presence in every state, including Maryland. But the recent mid-term elections have upped the ante.

The early years. From 1920 to the sixties the ACLU changed the social and political landscape with legal victories in front of receptive judges who felt constitutionally bound to protect racial, ethnic, religious, and political minorities from majority rule. But in the 1970's the courts grew less protective of civil rights and liberties. The ACLU sought additional redress from the legislative branch and increasingly engaged the public.

This year saw a sea change in the legislative landscape. An overwhelming number of legislative bodies swung toward even more restrictions on voting rights and reproductive rights, government policies that confine the poorest children to dangerous inner city neighborhoods, a lack of due process that sends immigrant children back to the violence they fled, structural racism that results in a cradle to prison pipeline, and executive branch surveillance that is out of control. The midterm election results are both a bellwether of the legislative battles to come and a call to action for the ACLU: We must speak to the hearts and minds of the electorate, including those who brought the elected officials to power.

These times call for bold new steps. To counter well-funded civil liberties opponents, the ACLU needs to be as nimble in launching non-partisan public policy campaigns as we are in the courts and in our legislative efforts. The ACLU of Maryland aims to change hearts and minds on the public policies that matter most. We aim to address the legacy of slavery within the criminal justice, education, and government subsidized housing systems. We aim to reform the immigration system by ending unnecessary, inhumane, and costly detention of immigrants. And we aim to create a 21st Century Fourth Amendment that protects personal privacy and First Amendment freedoms of expression, association, and inquiry.

Our ACLU of Maryland goals complement the six following goals at the heart of the National ACLU's audacious plan:

1. End mass incarceration
2. Establish a 21st century 4th Amendment
3. Reform the U.S. immigration system
4. Ensure an easy and equal right to vote for every citizen
5. Lift the scarlet letter from abortion
6. Achieve formal equality for LGBT people.

To this end, the ACLU and its affiliates are launching a Centennial Capital Campaign. We are excited. Our campaign work between now and the celebratory 100th birthday party includes rallying the troops—members, supporters, boards and staffers. The Capital Campaign will be unique in that every state affiliate and every supporter will contribute to it. It will be historic in size and significance.

We look forward to your partnership. Your principles, resolve, and generosity have made this moment of opportunity possible for the ACLU. Now, let us press forward across the nation, in the face of an extremely challenging climate, emphatically embracing the most consequential civil rights and civil liberties issues of our time.

Coleman Bazelon, Board President
Susan Goering, Executive Director



Solidarity rally for protestors in Ferguson, MO. Photo by Flickr user nefermedia: [flickr.com/photos/nefermedia/14741378017/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/nefermedia/14741378017/)



Mass criminalization and incarceration are hurting America. The ACLU of Maryland is challenging police practices rooted in structural racism that contribute to discriminatory harassment, such as police militarization, 'stopping and frisking' of minorities, arrest and incarceration within communities of color, police militarization, and enforcement of counterproductive drug laws. We are working to reform Maryland's longstanding practice of denying parole to individuals who have demonstrated their rehabilitation for offenses committed as youth. We are speaking out for human rights right here at home by advocating for an end to the barbaric practice of solitary confinement, beginning with individuals who suffer from serious mental illness. And in the wake of the police killing of unarmed teenager Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO, the ACLU of Maryland is actively reaching out and responding to communities clamoring to know their rights when interacting with police. Our new "Know Your Rights" program is empowering people across the state.

2

kinds of policing

Too often there is one kind to serve and protect the white community and another to criminalize and control the black community.

Historical racial inequality is deeply embedded Maryland's institutions. For example, African American families ended up in the worst neighborhoods not by choice, but because of decades-old government policies, public investments, and market dynamics. Today residents there are still cut off from public services, public safety, wealth and genuine participation in both the larger economy and democratic institutions.

The ACLU aims to break the cycle of structural isolation and its poverty. So we advocate for sufficient state school funding based on where the poorest children live around the state. This spring our work also netted a \$1 billion school construction plan for decrepit Baltimore school buildings. And to make sure children get the support they need, we helped pass new student discipline regulations to end counterproductive and racially biased zero-tolerance policies.

On parallel track, ACLU also helps give poor families the option of moving to areas of opportunity in the larger Baltimore region. So far 2,600 families have used mobility vouchers to move to areas with safer streets, better schools, healthier environments, and job opportunities. To increase affordable housing in opportunity areas, the ACLU is working to change government housing policies that kept low-income children from living in higher performing school districts.

50th

VS.

21st

School proficiency rank of schools
white children vs. poor black children

more
\$1 bil-

Build Schools.
Build Neighborhoods.
www.transformbaltimore.org

ools attended by poor
children in Maryland.



PICTURED: Jessica Duff and Joanne recently married in Virginia, along with their child, courtesy of the ACLU of Virginia.

A photograph of a couple sitting at a table in a tent. The couple is seen from the back, looking out a large arched window at a green landscape. The tent has a white interior and a large arched window. The couple is sitting at a table with a black tablecloth. There are white chairs around the table. A bottle of wine and some snacks are on the table. The background shows a green landscape through the window.

30

states

plus D.C allow same-sex couples to marry.

2014 has been a watershed year for marriage equality. Now, nearly 30 states plus D.C. allow same-sex couples to marry, including Maryland. That means nearly 40 percent of the American population lives in a freedom-to-marry state. For the ACLU, the fight for equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people is about creating an America free of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. This means an America where LGBT people can live openly; where their LGBT identities, relationships, and families are respected; and where there is fair treatment on the job and in schools, housing, public places, health care, and government programs. Across the country, the ACLU is working in the courts and state legislatures to advance equality. Here in Maryland, we helped pass the Fairness for All Marylanders Act. This new, and long-sought for law places gender identity in all our anti-discrimination laws, ensuring that transgender individuals too are not discriminated against in public accommodations, housing or employment.

1986

When
Privacy
phones
world

Maryland calls itself the Free State. But are we really? We are being watched. Today, Marylanders can scarcely go anywhere without creating a trail of digital information that pinpoints their whereabouts at all times, day after day. Our cell phones, computers, and even automobiles capture and store information not only for us, but also for law enforcement. Too often law enforcement has been able to access this information without justifying to a court why the information is needed, and without our knowledge that information about our lives has been compiled and stored by the state and shared with other agencies. The ACLU of Maryland has won significant victories requiring that police get warrants based on probable cause before using cell phones to track our location or accessing our emails, texts, and social media messages. But technology development continues to outstrip privacy laws. Constant vigilance is the key to freedom.

Photo by Flickr user Johan Larsson:
[flickr.com/photos/johanl/6358946399/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/johanl/6358946399/)



**the Electronic Communications
Privacy Act was enacted. Long before smart
phones, cloud computing, Facebook, or the
Internet, the wide web even were invented.**



Most Americans support immigration reform, yet federal political stalemate is forcing states and localities to lead the way in re-establishing just and humane treatment for new Americans. The ACLU of Maryland is at the forefront of ending the unnecessary, inhumane, and costly detention of immigrants and of ensuring that their civil rights are protected. We advocate for legal representation for unaccompanied minors fleeing violence in Central America. We work to ensure that our communities can trust police by ending the pipeline from local law enforcement to immigration deportation proceedings. As a result of our work, most immigrants in Maryland now live in counties that refuse to detain individuals for ICE without a judicial warrant. And we intend to mount a legal challenge to the practice of detaining aspiring citizens indefinitely and without a bond hearing while they pursue their cases in immigration court.

94 percent

Of unaccompanied child migrant who w
had no counsel during deportation proc



t

ere ordered removed
eedings

Unaccompanied immigrant child detained by U.S.
Customs and Border Protection at the South
Texas border. Photo by U.S. government.

Maryland is one of 3 states with the most people who waited in voting lines for more than

1 hour

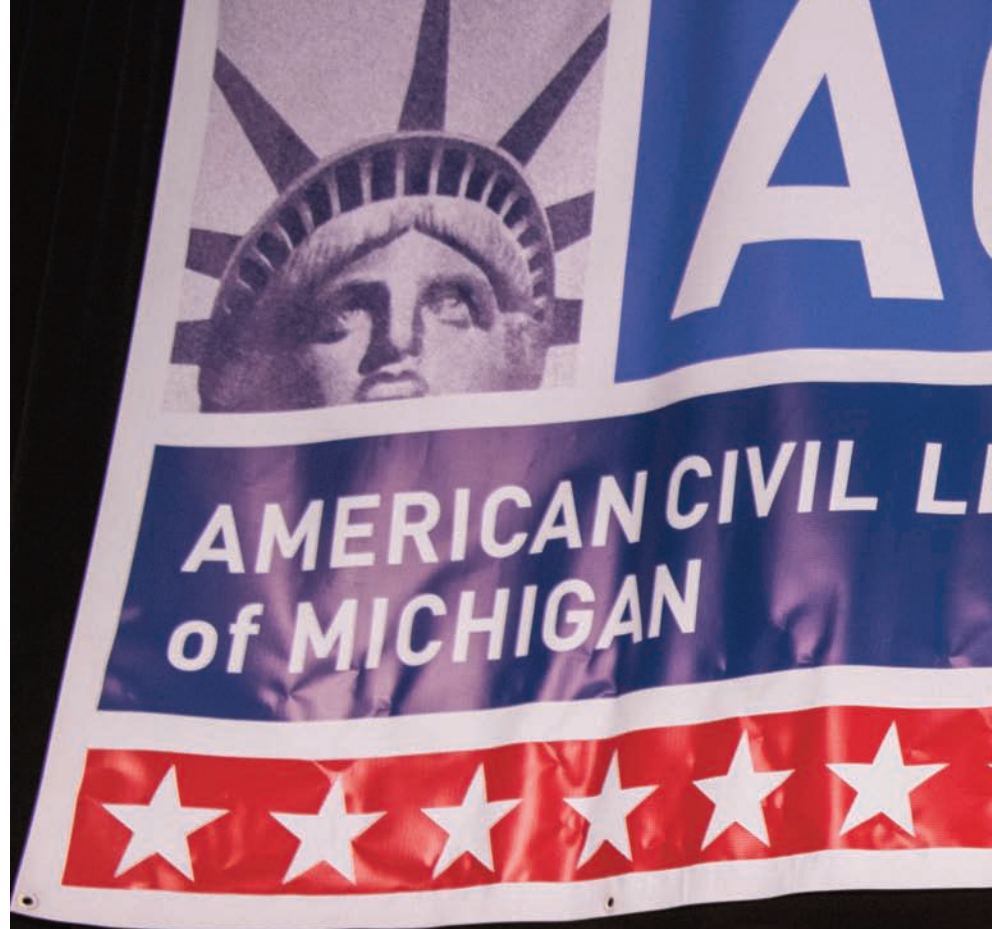
When the Voting Rights Act was passed nearly 50 years ago, poll taxes and literacy tests were being used to prevent African Americans and other racial and language minorities from voting. The record-breaking turnout in the 2008 presidential election, especially of minorities, spurred a new onslaught of voter suppression efforts, such as photo identification requirements, reducing early voting days, systematic purges of registered voters, challenges to student voters as nonresidents, and unfounded allegations of voter fraud. Here in Maryland, the ACLU has fended off such attacks. And we have helped to pass same-day voter registration and early voting. In litigation spanning three decades, the ACLU won cases allowing African-American candidates to win election to local government offices across the Eastern Shore. This spring, we capped that legacy when the ACLU—along with the NAACP—persuaded Salisbury to restructure its municipal election system, providing for fairer, more diverse representation on Salisbury's City Council.



Voters wait in a long line in Baltimore City in 2008.



The ACLU of Maryland is a partner in the national ACLU plan to make America truly pro-choice. Abortion must be brought into insurance coverage, hospitals, popular culture, and conversation. We must double the number of states where abortion is safe, legal, accessible, and not under attack. Thankfully, here in Maryland we have been able to keep fighting back efforts to limit women's reproductive freedom. This year, for example, we helped beat back a 20-week abortion ban that was soundly defeated in the state legislature. And coverage for abortions and family planning continues to be protected under Medicaid in Maryland.



Over 300

Anti-abortion bills were pushed
in state legislatures last year



Tamesha Means challenged the United States Conference of Bishops after being refused appropriate medical care, due to religious directives, when she was experiencing a miscarriage and went to the only hospital in her county. Photo courtesy of the ACLU of Michigan.

2013-2014 FINANCIAL REPORT

ACLU OF MARYLAND FOUNDATION SUPPORT & REVENUE

Contributions	\$497,179
Restricted Foundation Grants	\$1,242,500
Bequests	\$502
Court Awarded Attorney Fees	\$605,127
In-Kind Legal Contributions	\$927,367
Investment Income and Other	\$105,531
Transfer from Reserves	(\$7,040)
Total	\$3,371,166

EXPENSES

Program Services	\$2,920,249
Fundraising	\$219,206
Management and General	\$231,711
Total	\$3,371,166

ACLU OF MARYLAND SUPPORT & REVENUE

Membership	\$252,881
Contributions	\$3,500
Restricted Grants	\$3,920
Bequests	\$1,065
Investment Income and Other	\$225,716
Transfer to Reserves	(\$464,812)
Total	\$22,270

EXPENSES

Program Services	\$18,587
Fundraising	\$1,675
Management and General	\$2,008
Total	\$22,270

Make a Gift

A contribution to the ACLU of Maryland is a powerful action. It ensures the defense of justice, liberty, and the freedoms guaranteed by THE BILL OF RIGHTS. You support it. We defend it.

The ACLU of Maryland comprises two organizations:

■ Gifts to the **American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland** qualify for ACLU membership and for support of our legislative work, including the lobbying of the Maryland State Legislature and of Congress. These gifts are not tax deductible. To make an online membership donation, please go to: aclu-md.org and click, "BECOME A MEMBER."

■ Gifts to the **American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland Foundation** support our litigation, public education, and non-legislative advocacy programs. These gifts are tax deductible. To make an online Foundation donation please go to: aclu-md.org and click, DONATE NOW.

To donate via mail, please make your check payable to American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland or American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland Foundation and send to:
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Baltimore, MD 21211-1995.

To give a gift of stock via DTC transfer, please ask your broker to send securities to our Foundation account (30A121398) at T. Rowe Price, DTC #0443

or to our Union account (30Q051390) at T. Rowe Price, DTC #0443. Please contact the ACLU of Maryland office (410-889-8550 x126) to advise us of your gift.

Leave a Lasting Legacy

Join a special group of ACLU of Maryland supporters who have included the ACLU in their estate plans, thus ensuring the future of our work. For more information contact Susan L. Morseth (information below).

For information about additional giving opportunities, please contact Susan L. Morseth, Director of Philanthropy, at 410-889-8550 x126, 443-985-6888, morseth@aclu-md.org.

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The ACLU of Maryland is grateful for the foresight of its DeSilver Legacy Society members. Their future bequests or life income gifts will help ensure that the ACLU will continue to serve as the nation's frontline defender of the Bill of Rights through the years to come.

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