

**THE 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
GOOD APPLE AWARD RECEPTION**

**NOVEMBER 13, 2025  
WINTHROP CENTER IN DOWNTOWN BOSTON**



**JAMES PARKER**  
General Counsel & SVP, the Boston Celtics  
*Good Apple Award*



*Also presenting these inaugural awards:*

**URSULA FURI-PERRY**  
*Community Leadership Award*



**ROPES & GRAY**  
*Pro Bono Award*



# SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE

*Celebrate the good with us!*



**Massachusetts  
Appleseed**  
Center for Law & Justice



## WHO WE ARE

**MA Appleseed's mission is to promote equal rights and opportunities for Massachusetts residents by developing and advocating for systemic solutions to social justice issues. We focus on three key policy areas: access to justice, educational justice, and youth homelessness.**

Inequitable laws and policies perpetuate systemic racism, deny justice, cause preventable trauma in our communities, and create barriers that can be impossible to overcome. Marginalized community members are often denied their legal rights and opportunities because of these barriers. As a result, they can continue to face poverty and upheaval by the very institutions meant to provide a way out – our courts, schools, and government agencies. Our projects seek systems-level change so all families and youth can exercise their legal rights, build pathways out of crisis, and thrive. We respond to emerging and enduring inequities and address an array of complex issues, such as self-representation in the civil justice system, language access for immigrant families, the school-to-prison pipeline, and youth homelessness.

## RECENT VICTORIES

- We investigated the harm cell phone bans at courthouses cause civil litigants who cannot afford an attorney and **successfully advocated for the elimination of these unjust bans.**
- We **successfully advocated for \$165.5 million in state funding for an unprecedented investment in our court system** that will ensure working families can solve their civil legal problems and achieve a fair outcome – whether they can afford an attorney or not.
- We're **co-leading the Mass Speaks Coalition and have mobilized community members to send more than 600 letters to policymakers urging action** so hundreds of thousands of immigrant and limited English proficient families can access the services and information they need to stay safe, healthy, and stable.
- **With coalition partners, we successfully advocated for the passage of the CROWN Act to ban discrimination against natural hairstyles** and prevent the over-policing of Black and brown girls as young as five years old.
- We **published the Massachusetts Homeless Youth Handbook, a comprehensive online know-your-rights guide for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness** created with pro bono and community partners.





## PUBLICATIONS

- **Court-Based Self-Help Centers: National Survey Findings, Recommendations, and Best Practices** (2023)
- **"I Just Want to Learn": Girls of Color and the School-to-Prison Pipeline in Massachusetts** (2022)
- **You're Still Muted: Access to Justice Barriers in Massachusetts' Virtual Small Claims Court** (2022)
- **Homeless Youth Handbook** (2021)
- **Families Torn Apart: Language-Based Discrimination at the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families** (2021)
- **Protecting Girls of Color from the School-to-Prison Pipeline** (2020)
- **Turning on the Lights: How the Massachusetts Trial Court Could Deploy a Virtual Court Service Center to Assist Self-Represented Litigants** (2019)

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS

### Recent Pro Bono Partners

Baker McKenzie | Boston Scientific | Edgeworth Economics | Liberty Mutual | Mintz | Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP | Ropes & Gray | Wilmer Hale

### Key Coalitions

Mass Speaks Coalition | Language Access Coalition | Massachusetts Homeless Youth Legal Network | Chapter 222 Coalition | Courts Language Access Working Group

### Academic & Law School Partners

Boston College Law School | Harvard University & Law School | Northeastern University School of Law | Suffolk University Law School | Tufts University | Western New England University School of Law



**Massachusetts  
APPLESEED** | Center for  
Law & Justice

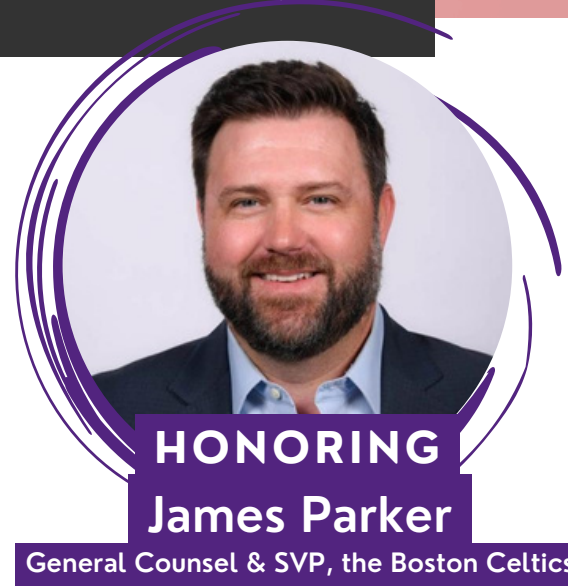
77 Franklin Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02110  
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# *The Good Apple Award Reception*

## The Awards

The Massachusetts Appleseed Board of Directors has named **James Parker, SVP, General Counsel of the Boston Celtics**, as the 17<sup>th</sup> recipient of the Good Apple Award.

Awardees exemplify the important role the legal community has in creating profound and positive change. Past awardees have included: Elaine Steward of The Boston Red Sox, Karen Morton of Liberty Mutual, Bob Rivers of Eastern Bank, Senator William “Mo” Coward previously of GE, and other outstanding leaders.



This year, the Board will also confer two additional awards to those who personify MA Appleseed's commitment to public service, fairness, and social justice. **Ropes & Gray** will receive the inaugural Pro Bono Award. **Ursula Furi-Perry** will receive the inaugural Community Leadership Award.

## The Reception

You will gather with members of business, legal, and nonprofit communities to celebrate those who go above and beyond in public service, including law firm partners, corporate counsel, legal aid attorneys, advocates, and many others. This year's event will be held at **The Collective**, a newly opened and innovative venue located in the **Winthrop Center on Devonshire Street in downtown Boston**.

The Good Apple Award Reception provides core funding for MA Appleseed's groundbreaking research, advocacy, and community support, ensuring we can respond to urgent needs and seize opportunities for action. As our projects continue to gain momentum and we enter a period of growth, the fundraising goal of this event is **\$300,000**, primarily through sponsorships.



Marissa Leonce (Converse Inc.), Paula Anderson (Shearman & Sterling LLP), Natasha Tidwell (Hogan Lovells), and Robin Walker (Casebia) attend the 2018 reception



Deborah J. Manus (Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP), Sara J. Shanahan (Sherin and Lodgen LLP), and others attend the 2019 reception



Ana Cruz and Jacquelynne J. Bowman from Greater Boston Legal Services join us for the 2018 reception

# SPONSORSHIP

## Champion | \$25,000

- 10 tickets to VIP Reception & Main Program
- Opportunity to share recorded video message or written message to or about honoree during event promotion
- Full-page color ad in digital event program
- Special recognition during speaking program
- Prominent inclusion on sponsor list displayed during event
- Prominent logo placement on event marketing materials
- Featured mention in MA Appleseed's press release
- Spotlight recognition in MA Appleseed's e-news and social media with 1-2 sentences of firm/company commitment to social justice and public service
- Logo and link to firm/company website on MA Appleseed's website for one year
- *Interested in other custom benefits? Contact Toni @ [tonitroop@gmail.com](mailto:tonitroop@gmail.com) to discuss your needs.*

## Sustainer | \$15,000

- 8 tickets to VIP Reception & Main Program
- Opportunity to share recorded video message or written message to or about honoree during event promotion
- Full-page color ad in digital event program
- Recognition during speaking program
- Included on sponsor list displayed during event
- Listed on event marketing materials
- Mention in MA Appleseed's press release
- Recognition in MA Appleseed's e-news and social media
- Logo and link to firm/company website on MA Appleseed's website for one year

## Benefactor | \$10,000

- 4 tickets to VIP Reception & Main Program
- Half-page color ad in digital event program
- Recognition during speaking program
- Included on sponsor list displayed during event
- Listed on event marketing materials
- Recognition in MA Appleseed's e-news and social media
- Logo on MA Appleseed's website for one year

## Patron | \$7,500

- 2 tickets to VIP Reception
- 5 tickets to Main Program
- Half-page color ad in digital event program
- Included on sponsor list displayed during event
- Listed on event marketing materials
- Recognition in MA Appleseed's social media
- Listed on MA Appleseed's website for one year

## Friend | \$5,000

- 2 tickets to VIP reception
- 4 tickets to Main Program
- Half-page color ad in digital event program
- Included on sponsor list displayed during event
- Listed on event marketing materials
- Listed on MA Appleseed's website for one year

## Supporter | \$2,500

- 2 tickets to Main Program
- Mention in digital event program
- Included on sponsor list displayed during event
- Listed on MA Appleseed's website for one year

## Partner | \$1,000

- 1 ticket to Main Program
- Mention in digital event program

**Complete the next page  
to confirm your support!**

# yes!

I want to sponsor The 2025 Good Apple Award Reception at the following level:



- ☐ **Champion** | \$25,000    ☐ **Benefactor** | \$10,000    ☐ **Friend** | \$5,000    ☐ **Partner** | \$1,000  
☐ **Sustainer** | \$15,000    ☐ **Patron** | \$7,500    ☐ **Supporter** | \$2,500

## **Event Information**

**Date:** Thursday, November 13, 2025

**Location:** The Collective @ Winthrop Center, 250 Devonshire Street, Boston

**Time:** Pre-reception at 5:30 PM. Main Program from 6:00 to 8:00 PM

## **Contact Information**

**Name:**

**Firm/Company:**

**Address:**

**City:**

**State:**

**Zip:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

**Website:**

**Please indicate how you want to be listed on event materials:**

## **Payment**

- ☐ A check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ is in the mail.

*Please make checks payable to "Massachusetts Appleseed" and mail to 77 Franklin Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02110.*

- ☐ We will make our payment through ACH/Wire transfer.

*Email Ranjini Govender at [ranjini@massappleseed.org](mailto:ranjini@massappleseed.org) to request MA Appleseed's ACH information.*



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Center for Law & Justice

Please return this completed form to MA Appleseed Center for Law and Justice.

**Questions?** Contact Toni Troop, Good Apple Event Coordinator  
| [toni@massappleseed.org](mailto:toni@massappleseed.org) | 617-212-7571

This donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.