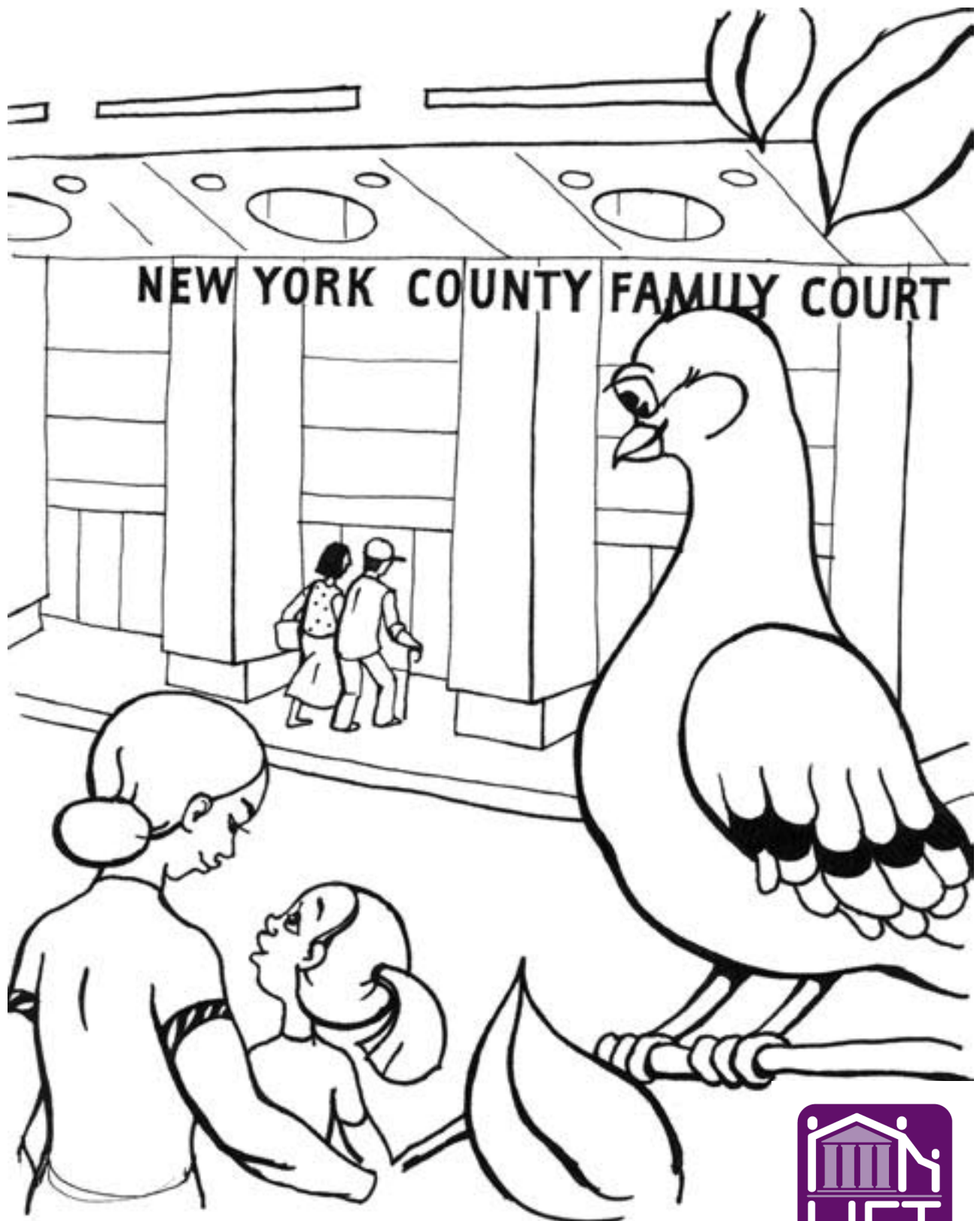


Pat the Pigeon Goes to Family Court



Pat the Pigeon Goes to Family Court

By Melissa M. Beck, Executive Director, LIFT & Lisa K. Poris, Director of Legal Programs, LIFT

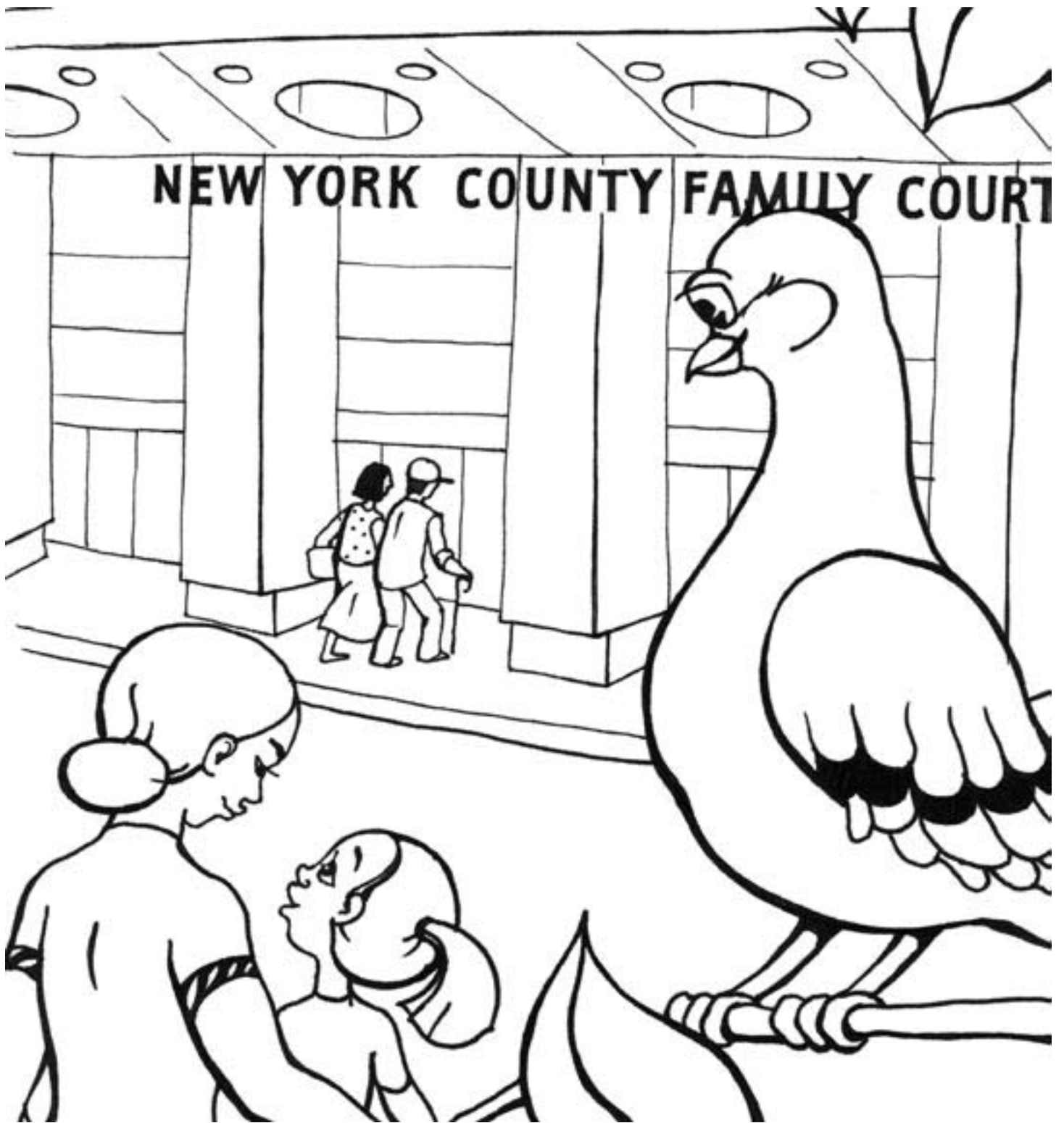
Art by Julia Reich Design | juliareichdesign.com

Acknowledgements

LIFT would like to thank Leslie A. Abbey, Esq. and Amy Appleman, for their invaluable help in reviewing the story. LIFT would also like to thank the New York City Council for their ongoing support of our services, and specifically for the creation and distribution of this coloring book.

Copyright © 2008 by Legal Information for Families Today (LIFT).

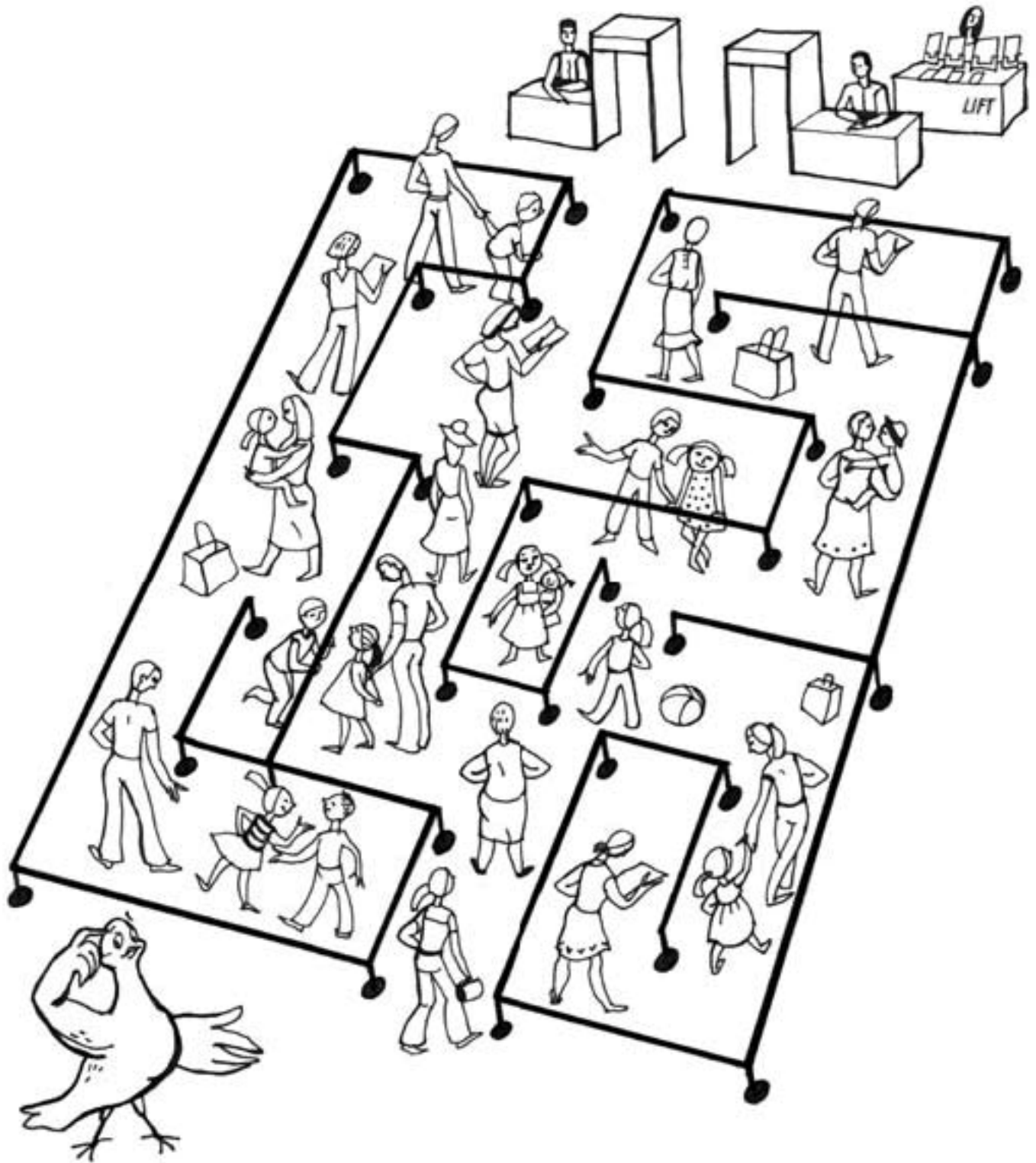
www.LIFTonline.org
Hotline: 212-343-1122



Meet Pat the Pigeon. Pat lives in the park across from Family Court.

Every day Pat watches grandmas, grandpas, moms, dads, and kids go inside the court. Today, Judge Friendly is going to give Pat a tour of Family Court.

Pat is excited.



Pat flies across the street and gets in line with all of the families.

Inside, everyone is waiting to go through the arches, called metal detectors.

Court officers, who dress all in blue, use the metal detectors to make sure everyone inside the court is safe.

Can you help Pat to the metal detector?



- | | | | | |
|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| 1. | 4. | 7. | 10. | 13. |
| 2. | 5. | 8. | 11. | 14. |
| 3. | 6. | 9. | 12. | 15. |

Judge Friendly told Pat to meet her at the blue table with lots of helpful things on it to read.

It is called the LIFT Education and Information Site.

While Pat waits, Pat talks to the person who works at LIFT.

She gives Pat a coloring book and crayons.

Can you help put LIFT's materials in alphabetical order?



Judge Friendly arrives wearing a black robe.

“I’ve never seen you in a costume before,” says Pat.

“This isn’t a costume,” says the Judge.

“All judges wear this at work so everyone in the courtroom knows who we are.”

Connect the dots to form Judge Friendly’s robe.



Together, Pat and Judge Friendly ride the elevator upstairs to a big room with benches. Lots and lots of people are waiting.

“It is hard to wait,” says Judge Friendly.

“There are many families here, so we hope that everyone brings something to read or quiet puzzles to work on.”

What 10 things don't belong in this picture?



In the waiting room, Pat talks to a boy and a girl who are there with their grandma.
The children tell Pat that they are waiting to see their lawyer.
Their lawyer is named Karen.
She is called a law guardian.
Karen works for the children.



Judge Friendly then brings Pat into a courtroom. Inside there are court officers, a judge, and a person sitting behind a machine – she is writing down everything that is being said. She is called a court reporter. Sometimes she is not there and a different machine records what people say instead.

Because grandma speaks Spanish, there is also a woman who speaks both English and Spanish. She is translating what everybody says word for word. She is called an interpreter.



“Wow,” says Pat, “There are a lot more people in the courtroom than I ever could have imagined.”

“Yes, there are,” replies Judge Friendly.

“It takes a lot of people to make sure that everyone is treated fairly.

That’s what Family Court is all about.”

Board of Directors

Stephen McGrath, *President*
Martha W. King, *Vice President*
Timothy W. Reeves, CPA., *Treasurer*
Liberty Aldrich, Esq., *Secretary*
Leslie A. Abbey, Esq.
Peter L. Braus
Karen A. Greenstein, Esq.
Karen Fisher Gutheil, Esq.
Tanya M. Jaeger de Foras, Esq.
Taleah Esperanza Jennings, Esq.
Lawrence N. Lavine
Nicole Berlin Marra, Esq.
Robert Palatnick
Anthony D. Schlesinger, Esq.

Staff

Melissa M. Beck, Esq., *Executive Director*
Stephanie Hazelkorn, Esq., *Director of Legal Programs*
Lisa K. Poris, Esq., *Director of Policy, Education & Training*
Ruth L. Vega, *Deputy Director*

Christine Hammill Cregan, LMSW, Esq., *Social Worker*
Marisol J. Duran, *Program Associate*
Vanessa Theresa Jarvis, *Senior EI Site Coordinator*
Liv Johanson, *Development Assistant*
Brooke Lombardo, *Program Associate*
Connie Ma, LMSW, *Social Worker*
James M. Miller, *Communications & Development Coordinator*
Leslie Peña, *Senior Program Associate*
Luisa Pérez, *Program Associate*
Liana Silva, *EI Site Coordinator*
Jennie Stephens-Romero, *EI Site Coordinator*

Thanks for visiting!



Hotline: (212) 343-1122

www.LIFTonline.org