

2024

ANNUAL REPORT



TEACHING, INTERPRETING & CHANGING LAW SINCE 1979



The Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) is one of the nation's premier sources for analysis of immigration law and policy, helping to improve access to immigration relief, stability, and family reunification for communities across the United States. In addition, we provide resources for practitioners working on complex issues in immigration law, and we advance immigrant rights through strategies such as policy analysis and advocacy, civic engagement, and capacity-building with legal service providers.

Policy Analysis & Advocacy

We seek progressive reform of immigration laws and policies at the local, state, and federal level.

Naturalization & Civic Engagement

We educate newcomers about their rights and responsibilities in a democratic society, promote the pathway to naturalization, and advocate for increased access to citizenship and naturalization.

Education & Capacity Building

We provide technical legal assistance, trainings, publications, and resources to pro bono and community-based immigration lawyers, defense attorneys, paralegals, and advocates.

Shaping Public Opinion

We support grassroots leadership to bring the voices of immigrants to the public dialogue and policy decisions that affect their lives.

The ILRC has distributed thousands of copies of our 23 manuals and provided legal assistance on more than 8,000 issues to pro bono and nonprofit advocates, as well as public defenders, through our national Attorney of the Day service. Our staff attorneys conducted hundreds of trainings, community meetings, task forces, and workshops. The ILRC also leads meetings and workshops where immigrants are screened for legal options while learning about their rights. Since 2011, the ILRC, as the lead of the New Americans Campaign, has helped more than 671,000 immigrants complete their applications for naturalization.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

The ILRC's legal team holds expertise in:

- Naturalization and citizenship, and the processes of granting or transmitting U.S. citizenship to foreign-born individuals.
- The complex intersection of criminal and immigration law and how the criminal legal system can affect immigration eligibility and status.
- Immigrant post-conviction relief, including clean slate and other record clearance remedies.
- Family-based immigration, which allows close relatives of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents to unify with their loved ones.
- Public charge—a bar to certain forms of immigration status based on receipt of means-based benefits, and how recent public charge rules and policies affect immigrants.
- Special challenges facing immigrant youth, including youth detention and policies regarding unaccompanied minors.
- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), a form of legal relief for youth who have been abused, abandoned, or neglected.
- Defense of immigrants in removal proceedings who, unlike in the criminal court system, are not provided an attorney, and special forms of relief, such as cancellation of removal and asylum, which are only available in immigration court.
- Immigration detention and bond eligibility.
- Asylum for people who come to the United States seeking protection from persecution due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a social group, and related forms of immigration relief such as withholding of removal.
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), temporary relief that provides access to education and employment for young immigrants who were brought to the United States as children.
- U Visas, a form of immigration status for survivors of serious crimes.
- T Visas, a form of immigration status for survivors of trafficking.
- Protections under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) which recognize that undocumented status is often used to trap victims of domestic violence in abusive relationships.
- Temporary Protected Status, which is a temporary protection for nationals of certain countries experiencing humanitarian crises.
- Parole and other temporary forms of immigration status that can be used to address humanitarian crises and achieve family reunification.
- Freedom of Information Act Requests for immigration cases.
- The grounds of inadmissibility and deportability, potential waivers, and how these all factor into eligibility for immigration relief and removal defense.
- Immigration enforcement that is prone to overreach and leaves immigrant communities terrified and unwilling to trust local law enforcement.
- Policy and advocacy efforts throughout the United States with a particular focus on local policy work in Texas, local and state policy work in California, and policy advocacy at the federal level.
- Organizing, a critical component to how community-led change happens in social justice movements to maximize the effectiveness and impact on immigrant rights.
- Know-Your-Rights, an area of community education focused on ensuring immigrants and institutions who serve immigrants make informed decisions if they are approached by immigration authorities.

MESSAGE FROM THE ILRC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We ended 2024 with a feeling of deep uncertainty across the country, particularly in the immigrant rights sector. With the last presidential election looming over our work, the Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) was determined not to be left flat-footed in our response. The ILRC formed a Scenario Planning Working Group to lay the groundwork for the ILRC to plan and prepare for either of the possible 2024 election outcomes. This leadership set us up well to protect immigrant communities and combat whatever the Trump administration promised to do. The work we did in 2024 through this scenario planning process prepared us to fight the relentless onslaught of attacks on immigrant communities in 2025.

During the later stages of 2024, we saw our scenario planning strategy in play, working with key allies and partners to urge government officials to protect key programs, policies, and regulations beneficial to immigrant communities. For example, this work proved successful as DHS extended work permits for 540 days at the end of 2024. This rule keeps hundreds of thousands of immigrants from falling out of the workforce because of processing delays.

We also were immediately prepared with “Know Your Rights” trainings and our staff has presented many trainings since the election. Our Red Cards remain in high demand: since the election we have received over 9 million Red Cards requests, now in 19 languages. However, this fight is far from over. We must come together—community leaders, organizations, and others—to push back against harmful rhetoric and policies that foster division and fear.

In the coming weeks, months, and years, we will continue to work with our partners to advocate for the protection of immigrant communities. We will amplify their voices and ensure that their rights are upheld. And, we cannot do this work alone. We need the support of individuals and organizations who share our commitment to justice and equality. Together, we will build a future where every person in this country, regardless of where they come from, has the opportunity to thrive.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Cohen".

Eric Cohen
Executive Director

2024 FINANCIAL POSITION

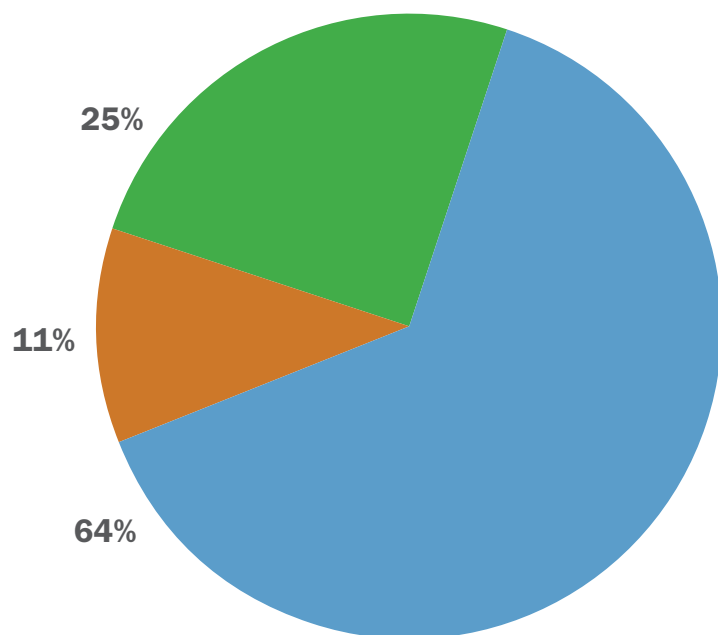
The ILRC continues to grow as an organization impacting policies and communities across the country. In 2024, the ILRC spent 84 cents of every dollar raised on program delivery and 16 cents of every dollar was spent on administration and fundraising. For reference, nonprofit organizations target spending 75 cents or more on program delivery each year, which is considered a best practice across the industry.

The ILRC continued its regranting program in 2024. The ILRC regrants approximately half of its program budget to partner organizations in the field. It is one of the ways that we fulfill our mission to build the immigration legal and immigrant rights fields. While many know of our technical assistance and training programs, regranting funds is another way to support and bolster partners with the resources they need to provide direct legal services and other support for immigrant communities. In 2024, the ILRC supported the work of nearly 60 partner organizations, including grassroots and community-based groups, with more than \$6.5M distributed in regrants.

Cash and Investments	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	40,354,861
Current Grants Receivable	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	6,278,250
Other Current Assets	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	502,513
Long-term Grants Receivable	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	685,338
Net Property and Equipment	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	192,685
All Other Assets	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	575,042
TOTAL ASSETS	○●○●○●○●○●○●○●○●○	\$	48,588,689
Available for Operations	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	17,538,509
Board-designated Reserves	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	7,600,000
Temporarily Restricted	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	13,600,683
TOTAL NET ASSETS	○●○●○●○●○●○●○●○●○	\$	38,739,192
Payables and Accrued Expenses	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	903,473
Current Re-Grants Payable	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	2,239,551
Accrued Vacation	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	703,679
Other Liabilities	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	6,002,794
Loan Payable	●●●●●●●●●●	\$	0
TOTAL LIABILITIES	○●○●○●○●○●○●○●○●○	\$	9,849,497

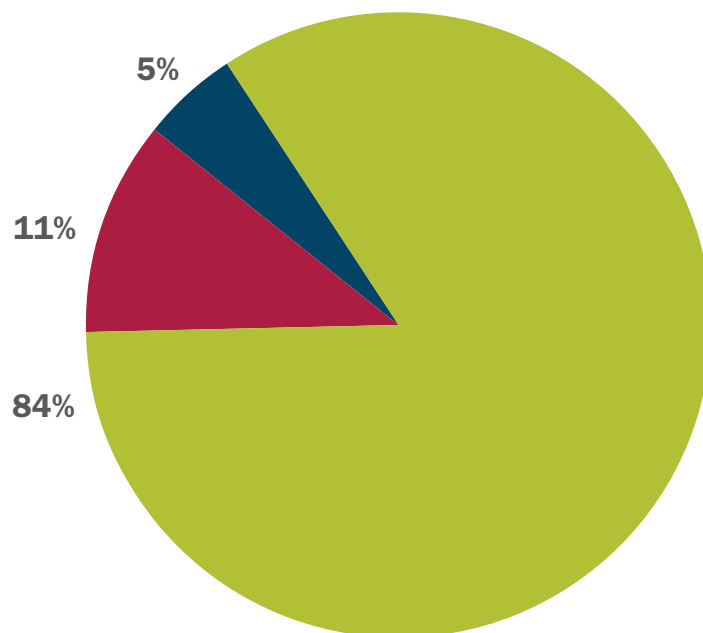
Donations and Revenue

- Grants — \$11,014,787
- Individuals, Events, & Other — \$4,367,875
- Fees for Services — \$1,813,880



Expenses

- Program Delivery — \$18,749,701
- Management & General — \$2,510,128
- Fundraising — \$1,075,584



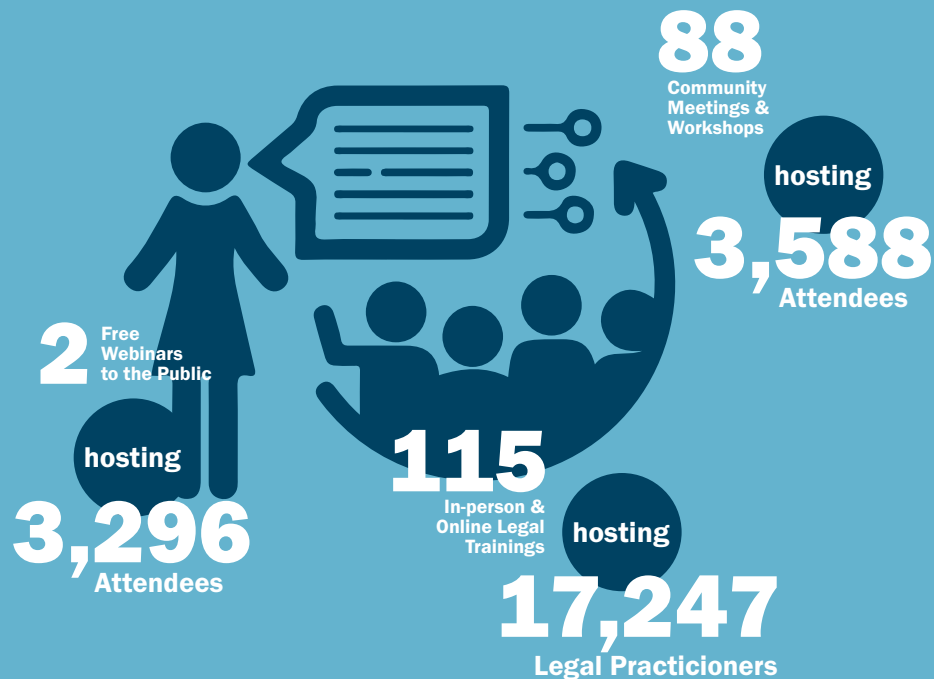
ILRC BY THE NUMBERS 2024

5,018,850

Know Your Rights
RED CARDS
Distributed



ALMOST 4.4
MILLION MORE
THAN IN 2023



8,097

Attorney of the Day

Issues Answered for Non-
Profits, Service Providers,
& Pro Bono Attorneys



Preparing to Meet **2024's** Challenges

Our policy and advocacy efforts are guided by three main pillars:

(1) dismantling the arrest to deportation pipeline and disrupting racial disparities in the immigration and criminal legal systems; **(2)** expanding immigration law to improve protections from deportation and access to immigration relief; and **(3)** preserving and expanding access to legal services and opportunities for citizens and immigrants to engage in the political process.

The ILRC staff, led by the Policy Team, spent the year planning for potential election scenarios in 2024. Engaging in this year-long scenario planning process allowed us to move nimbly once the election results were called in November. Public outcry and fear immediately swept from coast to coast. The ILRC was called to respond to the exponential need in our communities for policy analysis, resources, and legal information. The thoughtful and timely preparation during 2024 helped propel us into 2025 as we continue to meet the needs of immigrant communities through a landscape of dramatic policy and legal changes.

In addition, the ILRC team helped achieve several policy wins in 2024 including: advocating with federal policymakers to make immigration benefits, like naturalization, more accessible; campaigning lawmakers in California to win legislation that benefits immigrant youth and increases state funding for immigration legal services; and winning local policies in Houston that improve the daily lives of immigrant communities.

The ILRC thanks its very generous individual and institutional funders for their contributions to our work and support to fulfill the ILRC's mission in 2024.

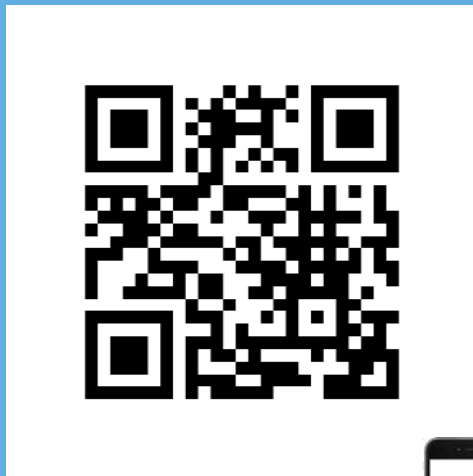
We could not have done our work without your investment in our team.

Thank you!



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SUPPORT OUR WORK!

The ILRC is a national nonprofit at the forefront of promoting and defending immigrant rights. We believe immigrants share a common vision with all Americans: a productive, happy, and healthy life for themselves and their families.

Join a community of funders who are committed to the ILRC's mission to work with and educate immigrants, community organizations, and the legal sector to continue to build a democratic society that values diversity and the rights of all people.

Make your gift today by:

- Visiting www.ilrc.org/donate to make a donation online
- Visiting our [More Ways to Give](#) page to learn about additional ways to support the ILRC

ILRC.ORG/DONATE

**Your gift will support the ILRC
and the immigrant community.**

Questions? Contact the ILRC's
Development Team at development@ilrc.org.

All contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Tax ID #94-2939540.