

Teaching, Interpreting & Changing Law Since 1979

IMMIGRANT LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER
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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 nearly 9,000 issues to pro bono and nonprofit advocates, as well as public defenders, through our national Attorney of the Day service. Our Attorney of the Day (AOD) consultation service offers expert legal technical assistance to attorneys, nonprofit staff, criminal defenders, and others assisting immigrant clients by offering case-specific consultations on immigration law and practice. Our staff attorneys conducted hundreds of online and in-person trainings, community meetings, task forces, and workshops for the immigration legal field, immigrant rights advocates and allies, and directly impacted community members. 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 to facilitate more than 700,000 immigration applications for naturalization, over 260,000 fee waivers, and saved approximately \$786.5 million in the community.

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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

The second Trump administration immediately ushered in evil and illegal policies, rampant hatred, and racism toward immigrant communities. Despite the curveballs thrown at immigrants and those who stand with them, the staff of the ILRC remained undeterred. In 2025, the ILRC stepped up in so many ways thanks to the incredible work of our staff and your support.

One of our most valuable programs is our Red Cards program. The point of the wallet-sized Red Card is to inform immigrants and citizens of their constitutional rights while also explaining to ICE agents that the card holder does not want to speak with the ICE agent and is exercising their rights. We distributed nearly 7 million Red Cards in 2025—the most ever in a single year. Our Red Cards are translated into nearly 60 languages, up from 19 at the end of 2024. Additionally, demand for our Know Your Rights trainings increased in 2025, and we conducted dozens of them for advocates, immigrants, and others throughout the United States. Our Red Cards have been featured prominently, including in a New York Times story in February 2025.

Our extremely popular one-hour, bi-weekly online immigration policy briefings that we call *Immigration Briefings* began in 2025. These Briefings were vital to the field and provided important updates and our expert opinions about how the administration's new and always-changing policies could affect their clients. The Briefings were held every other Wednesday and had an average attendance of 3,000 people. We will continue the Briefings in 2026.

Our California policy work helped to secure funding for legal services providers. We pushed back against the expansion of detention centers and continued our organizing work. We also prioritized defending sanctuary attacks in San Mateo, San Francisco, and Alameda counties.

Our Texas team worked with partners to mitigate the harms of Texas's Senate Bill (SB) 8, which mandates 287(g) programs. 287(g) programs require local law enforcement (LEA) to collaborate with ICE. SB 8 requires most Texas Sheriffs to enter into a 287(g) agreement. Despite legal attacks and threats from the state, our Texas team also continued to advocate for the renewal of legal defense funds (ILDF), and we helped pass an ordinance in Houston to limit LEA and ICE collaboration.

The New Americans Campaign team hosted a highly successful Naturalization Practitioners' Conference in Los Angeles, bringing together over 200 partners from 40 cities across the country. Conference attendees particularly valued the opportunity to connect with and learn from other partners. Some of the sessions where attendees indicated that they learned the most were the legal trainings (on topics such as drugs/alcohol and naturalization, disability waivers, and screening/red flags) and best practices sessions on communication strategies, naturalization workshops, and using data to inform outreach. Additionally, 65 naturalization applicants were served at the post-conference workshop.

The ILRC's Communications Team saw explosive growth in our audience outreach across all of our social media platforms, with an incredible 80 percent increase in 2025. This increase highlights the power and reach of the ILRC's work on social media. The media continued to rely on the ILRC as experts on immigration policies and law. Our media requests increased during this period by 80 percent from last year due to the actions of the current administration and the many changes in state and federal policies and laws. Our staff was quoted in The New York Times, Washington Post, Associated Press, Law360, NBC News, USA Today, NPR, ABC News, Los Angeles Times and many local newspapers, TV news and radio stations. Our popular Solidarity Signs designed for display in storefront windows were featured in The Chicago Tribune on October 14, 2025. In November, one of our senior staff attorneys was invited to speak to Associated Press reporters and editors. That briefing was scheduled for December 2025. If successful, ILRC could begin hosting regular briefings for reporters and editors from a wide range of outlets nationwide.

All of this work is ongoing and will continue into 2026. We could not have accomplished all that we did in 2025 without the generous support from donors and supporters like you nor without the unwavering dedication of our staff and board of directors.

Eric Cohen
Executive Director



2025
FINANCIAL
POSITION

The ILRC continues to grow as an organization impacting policies and communities across the country. In 2025, the ILRC spent 83 cents of every dollar raised on program delivery and 17 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.

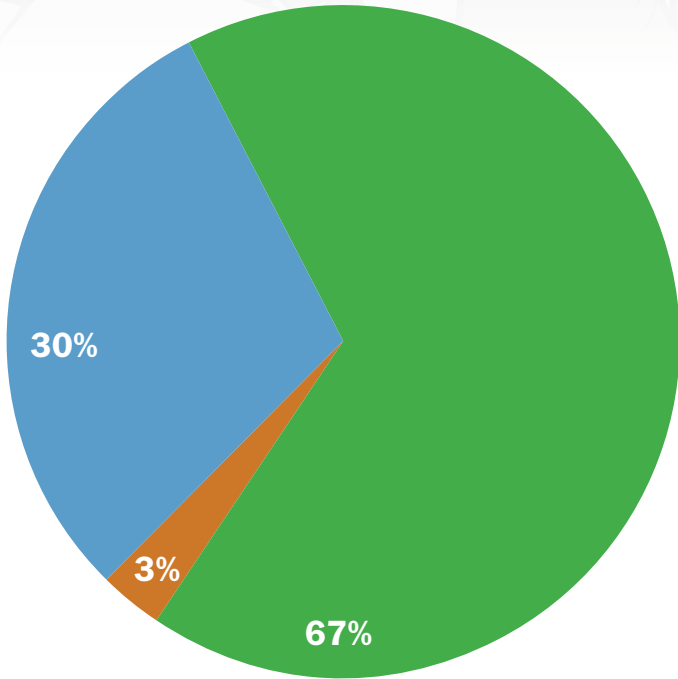
The ILRC continued its regranting program in 2025. The ILRC regrants millions to partner organizations in the field. It is one of the ways that we fulfill our mission to build the immigration legal and immigrant rights fields. While many know of our technical assistance and training programs, regranting 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 2025, the ILRC supported the work of over 200 partner organizations, including grassroots and community-based groups, with more than \$5.2M distributed in regrants.

Cash and Investments		\$	75,723,437
Current Grants Receivable		\$	10,757,791
Other Current Assets		\$	747,127
Long-term Grants Receivable		\$	2,731,086
Net Property and Equipment		\$	406,908
All Other Assets		\$	239,844
TOTAL ASSETS		\$	90,606,193
Available for Operations		\$	16,108,794
Board-designated Operating Reserves		\$	9,580,000
Board-designated Endowment		\$	40,000,000
With Donor Restrictions		\$	17,391,479
TOTAL NET ASSETS		\$	83,080,273
Payables and Accrued Expenses		\$	1,532,312
Current Re-Grants Payable		\$	5,683,857
Other Liabilities		\$	309,751
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$	7,525,920

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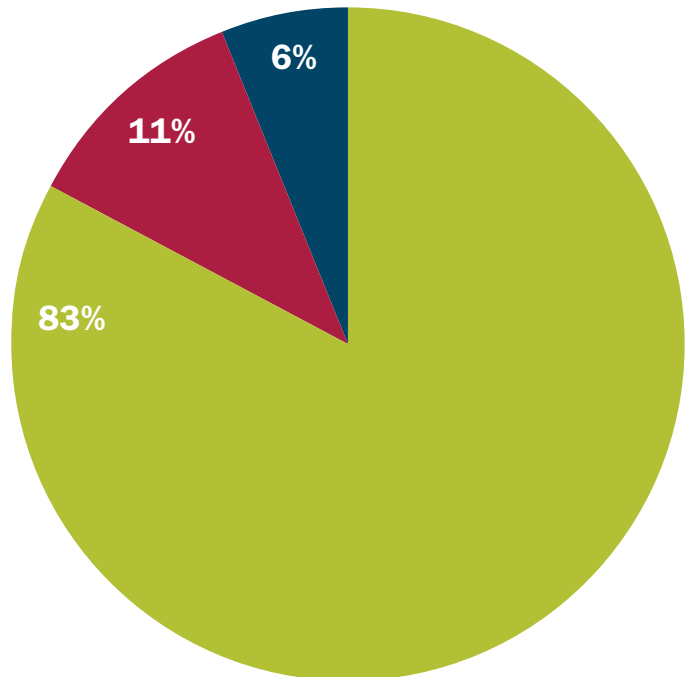
Donations and Revenue

- Grants — \$20,530,755
- Individuals, Events, & Other — \$46,312,876
- Fees for Services — \$1,991,067



Expenses

- Program Delivery — \$20,262,420
- Management & General — \$2,786,988
- Fundraising — \$1,444,209



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ILRC BY THE NUMBERS 2025

6,981,000

Know Your Rights
RED CARDS
Distributed in
56 Languages

37 MORE
LANGUAGES
THAN IN 2024



8,484

Attorney of the Day

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

21

Immigration Briefings

serving

68,192

Attendees

150

In-person & Online Legal Trainings

serving

15,592

Legal Practitioners

69

Community Meetings & Workshops

serving

3,344

Attendees



Policy Update: Immigration Briefings

The ILRC added a new series of legal information briefings to our usual webinar and training schedule in 2025 to address the many immigration law and policy changes that occurred under the Trump administration.

In January 2025, the ILRC launched one-hour, bi-weekly online immigration policy briefings. These popular briefings were a place to learn about critical developments in the immigration legal field. They were designed to provide legal service providers and advocates with accurate, up-to-date information about the changing legal and policy landscape. These briefings covered a wide range of topics, including the latest developments related to removal defense, naturalization, green card applications, work authorization, political asylum, general immigration policy, and ICE enforcement. The briefings also alerted our audience to the latest attacks on temporary immigration status and the terminations of various protected statuses, deferred action, DACA, and parole, all of which leave even more people vulnerable to detention and deportation.

An average of 3,000 participants attended each briefing, with 4,446 being the highest number in attendance for a single briefing. The consistently high attendance numbers have proven the immense need for this critical information. The briefings have been a space where we heard from and shared trends with other advocates who are fighting for immigrant rights. The participants told us that they looked forward to briefings, and they appreciated the sense of camaraderie the briefings fostered. Due to the immense popularity and demand, the ILRC will continue to convene these briefings in 2026.

**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 2025.
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.