This campaign brings together over 80 organizations across the assisted 4,349 applicants to complete their naturalization applications. In 2011, NAC held 134 group processing workshops and clinics, and currently, NAC is driving a national, nonpartisan citizenship permanent residents take the critical step to becoming American citizens. Our mission is 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. Since 1979, the ILRC has been collaborating throughout the nation, and creating effective partnerships to support capacity building, policy and advocacy, and immigrant civic engagement.

Civic Engagement

Engaging immigrants in mobilizing and raising their voices on critical issues to their communities.

Community Dialoguing

ILRC’s Community Dialoguing Project focuses on helping immigrants and their families build their skills to dialogue directly with their elected and appointed leaders in order to create positive change in their communities. Our Central Valley partner organizations included: the Female Leadership Academy in Tulare County, Union de Ex-Extranjere e Immigrantes en Fresno, and the Delta Parents Committee in Delta. Together we conducted over 58 capacity building training and strategy sessions with over 700 residents participating. These groups successfully engaged in 50 dialogue events with elected and/or appointed officials and 1,600 residents attended. Successful campaigns organized by our partners and strengthened by ILRC capacity building efforts included: teen pregnancy prevention and comprehensive sex education; school responsiveness and safety; dialogues with local law enforcement on safety issues; legal regulations for car impoundments; and relationships between school officials and the immigrant community.

New Americans Collaboration

In July of 2011, the Immigrant Legal Resource Center took the lead in a groundbreaking national network of legal service providers, faith-based organizations, businesses, foundations, and community leaders to help pave a better road to citizenship. This project called the New Americans Campaign (NAC) is modernizing and streamlining access to naturalization services, so greater numbers of legally qualified Americans can successfully engage in 50 dialogue events with elected and/or appointed officials and 1,600 residents attended. Successful campaigns organized by our partners and strengthened by ILRC capacity building efforts included: teen pregnancy prevention and comprehensive sex education; school responsiveness and safety; dialogues with local law enforcement on safety issues; legal regulations for car impoundments; and implementing a translation policy for parents to help improve the relationships between school officials and the immigrant community.

Community Leadership Project

The Community Leadership Project supports seven minority-led immigrant and grassroots organizations in the San Joaquin Valley as they build and sustain their capacity to deliver high quality services to the region’s immigrant communities. The ILRC developed a user-friendly guide on topics centered around capacity building, such as, leadership development, executive coaching, fundraising, financial management and planning, human resources and personnel, board governance, technology, and strategic thinking and planning.

Defending Immigrants Partnership

The crossover between immigration and criminal law is one of the most complex and technical areas of immigration, and the ILRC continued to work as a national leader in this field. Since 2002, the ILRC has been collaborating together with the Immigrant Defense Project and the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild, as a part of the Defending Immigrants Partnership (DIP). DIP’s efforts contributed to the 2010 U.S. Supreme Court holding in Padilla v. Kentucky that the Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution requires criminal defense counsel to provide affirmative and accurate advice to noncitizen defendants of the immigration consequences of their criminal cases. In 2011, the ILRC actively participated in ensuring that the Padilla decision was robustly interpreted and implemented in the criminal justice system nationally through: 

LGBT Immigration Project

The intersection between Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) justice and immigrants’ rights is an emerging area of expertise at the ILRC. The need for increased capacity in the area of LGBT-focused immigration law and services has become increasingly evident in the community. This new project is designed to engage immigrants and LGBT advocates on issues of mutual concern to create better benefits for both communities, including marriage equality and ending discrimination in all its forms. In 2011, with support from the Rainbow Endowment, ILRC produced a popular three-part webinar series “Representing Lesbian, Gay Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Immigrants: Navigating the Challenges Faced by LGBT Clients Seeking Legal Immigration Status.”

Publications

Seminars and Webinars

Our seminar and webinar offerings continue to educate legal and lay advocates on critical topics such as citizenship, immigration options for victims of domestic violence, “Know Your Rights,” the visa process, and immigration law reform. In 2011, we held 104 seminars, webinars, trainings, and community meetings throughout the U.S. Over 5,300 attorneys, paralegals, community organizers, social workers, English as a Second Language and citizenship teachers, immigrant leaders, and immigrant community members attended our educational events. Our seminars are taught by our staff attorneys, along with prominent guest trainers, who author ILRC publications and serve as technical consultants through our Attorneys of the Day program.

Attorney of the Day

In 2011, our on-call Attorney of the Day staff provided expert analysis and on responses to nearly 3,500 questions from hundreds of attorneys, pro bono counsel, paralegals, nonprofit staff, community organizers, policymakers, social service workers, teachers, and other service providers across the U.S.

2011 Financial Position

DONATIONS AND REVENUE

Grants 92%
Fees for Services 5%
Individuals, Events & Other 3%

EXPENSES

Program Delivery 90%
Management and General 6%
Funding 4%

NET ASSETS

$1,154,299
$1,001,000
$6,887,216
6,952,515

ASSETS

Cash and Investments
$3,648,114
Current grants receivable
$3,481,461
Current re-grants payable
$1,000,944
Total Assets
$8,195,353

LIABILITIES

Payables and accrued expenses
$81,173
Current re-grants payable
$2,700
Total Liabilities
$8,195,353

NET REVENUE

$6,952,515

Fees for Services
5%
Grants
92%
Program Delivery
90%
Management and General
6%
Funding
4%
Training. The ILRC led DIP’s efforts to bring together in-house immigration experts from public defender offices, hosting 131 defenders representing 36 states at the DIP national conference. Over $16,500 was distributed in scholarships to increase access for defenders to critical training.

Policy. Working with advocates in Santa Clara County, California, the ILRC helped to develop the first post-Padilla prosecutor policy in the country ensuring prosecutors consider the adverse immigration consequences of charges in plea negotiations in noncitizen cases.

Outreach and education. The ILRC formed an important collaboration with one of the preeminent criminal judicial associations in the country, the Center for Public Policy Studies’ Immigration and the State Courts Initiative. Together, ILRC and the Center helped to educate the judicial bench, the most critical decision makers, on Padilla-related issues.

The ILRC hosted the U Community Wiki and the U Online Forum to allow nonprofit organizations free access to our recorded trainings and manuals. The ILRC led DIP’s efforts to bring together in-house immigration experts from public defender offices, hosting 131 defenders representing 36 states at the DIP national conference. Over $16,500 was distributed in scholarships to increase access for defenders to critical training.

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Immigrant Youth

The ILRC provides support for and advocates on behalf of the most vulnerable members of the immigrant population – children and youth. We address the needs of children and youth who risk entering the juvenile justice system or being denied access to higher education. In 2011, our wide-ranging efforts included:

- Collaborating with Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act students and community organizations advocating on their behalf.
- Partnering with the Migration and Child Welfare National Network focusing on improving the child welfare system’s services to immigrant families.
- Responding to growing immigration enforcement trends in the juvenile justice system of California (the state with the highest immigrant youth deportation rate).

Distributed 5,100 English, Spanish, and Chinese language comic books, educating and warning about possible immigration provider fraud.

Combating Immigration Provider Fraud

The ILRC is committed to exposing fraudulent operators who take advantage of the hopes and dreams of undocumented immigrants, promulgating legal options that do not exist. Our work through the following anti-fraud trainings, “Know Your Rights,” in immigrant communities. As an expert in combating immigration fraud, ILRC provides technical assistance to community-based organizations, district attorneys, and the California State Attorney General’s Office on prevention. Nationally we collaborate with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, the American Immigration Lawyers’ Association, and the American Bar Association creating legislation and policies to provide remedies to victims, strengthen sanctions against fraudulent immigration consultants, and prevent the unauthorized practice of immigration law. ILRC also acts as a clearinghouse and referral service for fraud victims.

In 2011, we distributed 5,100 English, Spanish, and Chinese language comic books, educating and warning about possible immigration provider fraud (editions for broader use in California and nationwide are also available).

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

- Supporting and educating immigration and juvenile justice advocacy and legal organizations throughout the country on the immigration consequences of juvenile delinquency.

Combating ICE Enforcement Efforts

Immigrant communities across the country fear and avoid local police as they watch immigrant families being torn apart. Increased collaboration between Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and local law enforcement across the U.S. through the Secure Communities program resulted in deportations hitting record breaking levels of 400,000 in 2011. The ILRC has responded by increasing education, collaboration and advocacy efforts in our communities. In 2011, through collaborative partnerships in Santa Clara County, California, we passed the strongest anti-immigration enforcement ordinance in the country, eliminating all cooperation between law enforcement and immigration authorities to deport individuals entangled in the criminal justice system.

Legislative Analysis and Advocacy

We advocate for immigration policy reform to strengthen immigrant families, respect the due process and civil rights of newcomers, and foster healthy communities for all citizens. With our expertise in immigration law and strong partnerships with immigrant leaders and grassroots service providers, we assert an informed and powerful voice to educate the media as well as local and federal policymakers. Our 2011 advocacy platform focused primarily on comprehensive immigration reform, passage of the DREAM Act, due process issues, and the intersection of immigration and criminal justice law.

CIS Liaison Project

For the past 18 years ILRC has been dedicated to improving immigration practice and policy on the local and administrative levels by facilitating communication between Bay Area community-based organizations (CBOs) who represent immigrants and the Citizenship and Immigration Service (CIS) – the administrative body that adjudicates applications for immigration relief such as green cards, naturalization, and citizenship. In 2011, we focused on the most pressing issues:

- Encouraging the CIS to improve the way they adjudicate naturalization applications submitted by people who have disabilities that prevent them from passing the English test.
- Collaborating with the CIS’ Fraud Detection Unit to educate the immigrant community about how to avoid becoming victims of unscrupulous immigration attorneys and immigration consultants.
- Improving communication between CBO’s and the CIS through an efficient and effective intricate case inquiry system that is constantly kept current.
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Engaging immigrants in mobilizing and raising their voices on critical issues in their communities.

Community Dialoguing

ILRC’s Community Dialoguing Project focuses on helping immigrants and their families build their skills to dialogue directly with their elected and appointed leaders in order to create positive change in their communities. Our Central Valley partner organizations included: the Female Leadership Academy in Tulare County, Union de Ex-Braceros e Inmigrantes en Fresno, and the Delta Parents Committee in Delta. Together we conducted over 58 capacity building training and strategy sessions with over 700 residents participating. These groups successfully engaged in 50 dialogue events with elected and/or appointed officials and 1,600 residents attended. Successful campaigns organized by our partners and strengthened by ILRC capacity building efforts included: teen pregnancy prevention and comprehensive sex education; school responsiveness and safety; dialogues with local law enforcement on safety issues; legal regulations for car impoundments; and pregnancy prevention and comprehensive sex education; school responsiveness and safety; dialogues with local law enforcement.

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In 2011, our on-call Attorney of the Day staff provided expert technical assistance through our Attorney of the Day program.

Seminars and Webinars

Our seminar and webinar offerings continue to educate legal and lay advocates on critical topics such as citizenship, immigration options for victims of domestic violence, “Know Your Rights,” the visa process, and immigration law reform. In 2011, we held 104 webinars, seminars, trainings, and community meetings throughout the U.S. Over 5,300 attorneys, paralegals, community organizers, social workers, English as a second language and citizenship teachers, immigrant leaders, and immigrant community members attended our educational events. Our seminars are taught by our staff attorneys, along with prominent guest trainers, who author ILRC publications and serve as technical consultants through our Attorney of the Day program.

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2011 FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

Cash and Investments $3,648,114
Current grants receivable $2,197,325
Current other assets $411,070
Long-term grants receivable $1,915,009
Net property and equipment $67,008
All other assets $2,700
Total Assets $8,195,353

LIABILITIES

Payables and accrued expenses $81,373
Current re-grants payable $1,000,044
Accrued vacation $118,338
Long-term re-grants payable $12,383
Total Liabilities $1,242,838

NET ASSETS

Available for operations $1,114,299
Bond-designated reserves $1,001,000
Temporarily restricted $68,897
Total Net Assets $6,952,515

DONATIONS AND REVENUE

Grants 92%
Fees for Services 5%
Individuals, Events & Other 3%

EXPENSES

Program Delivery 90%
Management and General 6%
Fundraising 4%

IMMIGRANT LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER

2011 Annual Report

Our mission is 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. Since 1979, the leading publishers of immigration law practioners and community-based organizations

Publications

For 32 years, the ILRC has been one of the leading publishers of immigration law publications. Our manuals are written for immigration attorneys, paralegals, nonprofit agencies, and other advocates working on immigration law issues in the U.S. Our publications include comprehensive volumes on a full range of topics, remedies, and relief within immigration practice. Written by ILRC staff attorneys and prominent guest authors, our library provides expert references, tips, curricula, and guides for winning cases and navigating an increasingly complex legal environment. We updated six of our hallmark publications in 2011 and produced over 800 manuals nationwide. Publication sales are an important source of revenue that is reinvested into the ILRC’s mission and programs.

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