



20 | ANNUAL
21 | REPORT



EMPOWERING IMMIGRANTS

As Nebraska and Southwest Iowa's largest nonprofit immigration legal services provider, Immigrant Legal Center is focused on empowering immigrants to live with confidence and free from fear.

Through legal services, education, and advocacy, ILC is unique in our ability to meet the ever-changing needs of immigrant communities because of our people, our partners, and our promise to never turn any family away due to inability to pay.

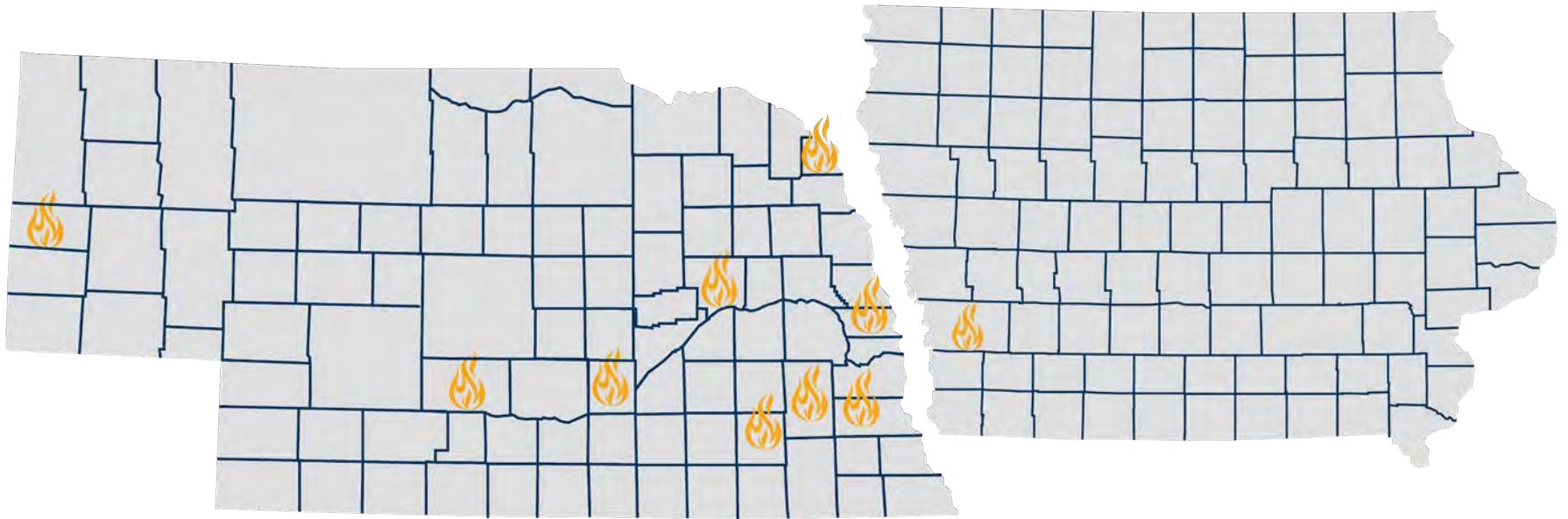
OUR MISSION

Immigrant Legal Center (ILC) welcomes immigrants into our communities by providing high-quality legal services, education, and advocacy.

OUR VISION

We empower immigrants to live with confidence and free from fear.

STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION



EXPANDING OUR FOOTPRINT

Our new office location in Lincoln, Nebraska will allow us to serve even more clients and connect with more community partners to better serve the immigrant community.

We are grateful for the support of our funders and donors in helping ILC grow to continue providing high-quality legal services to our immigrant neighbors.

GET IN TOUCH

 1221 N Street, Suite 221
Lincoln, NE 68508

 402-898-1349

OFFICES

OMAHA, NE
COLUMBUS, NE
COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA
CRETE, NE
GRAND ISLAND, NE
LEXINGTON, NE
LINCOLN, NE
NEBRASKA CITY, NE
SCOTTSBLUFF, NE
SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NE

HIGH-QUALITY LEGAL SERVICES

It is vital that all individuals pursuing immigration relief have access to high-quality legal services, regardless of ability to pay. ILC's diverse team of experts assist with all forms of family and humanitarian-based immigration, but specialize in the most complex, time consuming and resource-intensive cases.

- Asylum
- Removal/Deportation Defense
- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)
- Refugee Services
- Family-based Options
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
- U-Visa, T-Visa, and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
- Naturalization
- Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- Work Authorization

EDUCATION

We provide factual, timely information about the U.S. immigration system to immigrant and nonimmigrant communities, and professional audiences.

Our staff equips immigrants and allies with critical information and training to help individuals understand the complex immigration legal system.

To request a presentation or invite ILC to participate in an event, email education@immigrantlc.org.

ADVOCACY

In collaboration with partner organizations, we advocate for fundamental policy changes at the local, state, and federal level. In addition, we provide technical support, analysis, and testimony on state and federal legislative matters affecting immigrants.

During the 2021 legislative session, we advocated for immigrants through support of several key bills.

- LB298
- LB 241
- LB441

LB298

In Nebraska, employers already pay unemployment insurance taxes for all of their employees, yet Nebraska law excludes eligible work-authorized immigrants from receiving these benefits.

LB298 would close the unemployment insurance gap by amending Nebraska's public benefits statute to clarify that all immigrant workers who are lawfully present and authorized to work will be eligible to access this earned benefit.

UNPRECEDENTED TIMES EXTRAORDINARY SERVICES

Since the U.S. withdrawal of military forces from Afghanistan in August 2021, the U.S. has evacuated more than 70,000 Afghan nationals to the U.S.

Immediately, Immigrant Legal Center began preparing applications for humanitarian parole for Afghan nationals to reunite with their families in the U.S. Dearra Godinez, Senior Director of Operations, Andres Ramirez, Senior DOJ-Accredited Representative, Vemexi Ruiz de Chavez, attorney, and Luciano Guerra Ramirez, attorney worked tirelessly mailing out 20, 293-page applications to submit to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

Humanitarian parole allows individuals who are ineligible for admission to the United States to enter temporarily due to a compelling emergency.

Approval of humanitarian parole can be expedited but normally takes between 60 and 120 days once all paperwork is submitted and is granted for 1-2 years.



SERVING THE MOST VULNERABLE



In response to the overwhelming need for services for unaccompanied children, Immigrant Legal Center began a social work program integrating high quality, pro bono immigration legal services with services that unaccompanied children and their family sponsors need for healthy integration to Nebraska communities.

To lead its new program, ILC selected Monica Meier as its new Director of Social Work. ILC's new program will connect unaccompanied children resettled in Nebraska and their family sponsors with immigration legal services and other critical resources.

For 16 years Meier has served the immigrant community in Nebraska providing bilingual counseling and social work services to immigrant families, including unaccompanied children and their families.

On average, Nebraska receives 385 unaccompanied children per year. However, in fiscal year 2021 Nebraska received 890 unaccompanied children.

THANK YOU TO OUR DEDICATED FUNDERS

We depend on the generosity of our community to provide high-quality legal services, education, and advocacy for immigrants in need.



THE HAWKS FOUNDATION



- Fred and Eve Simon Charitable Foundation
- Nebraska Commission on Public Advocacy
- Great Plains Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church
- Polina and Bob Schlott
- Paul and Annette Smith

- Todd and Betiana Simon
- Mike and Susan Lebens
- H. Lee and Carol Gendler Charitable Fund
- William and Ruth Scott Foundation
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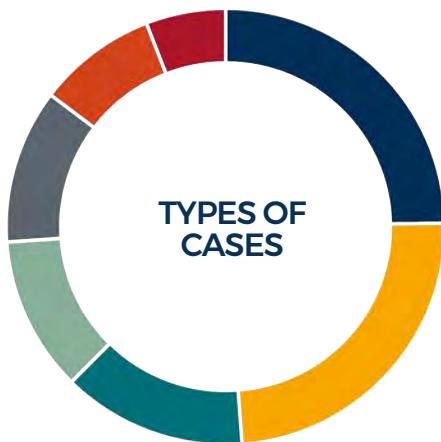
CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS



- Mexico - 544
- Guatemala - 342
- Other Latin American Countries - 273
- El Salvador - 180
- African Countries - 128
- Asian Countries - 113
- Unknown - 57
- Other - 43



- Douglas, NE - 342
- Pottawattamie, IA - 54
- Hall, NE - 48
- Outside Nebraska & Iowa - 42
- Woodbury, IA - 29
- Other - 238



- Fee Waiver/ FOIA/ Waiver/ Brief Service - 745
- DACA/Citizenship/Family-Based/ Employment Authorization - 724
- Asylum/Refugee - 409
- Removal Defense/Appeals - 346
- U-Visa/ T-Visa/ VAWA - 344
- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status - 265
- Other - 177





DIRIAN'S STORY

"It's difficult," Dirian said of growing up in Honduras. When Dirian was just five years old, her mother made the difficult decision to leave Honduras to seek better opportunities and a brighter future for Dirian and her then three-year-old brother.

In December of 2013, at just 13-years-old Dirian and her then 11-year-old brother, made the treacherous journey to the United States. Together, they traveled through Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico on foot, in cars, and even swimming in the cold Rio Grande until finally making it to the United States in January 2014.

"The journey was difficult, we almost died," Dirian said. "We would get hungry along the way but all there was to eat was a rolled-up tortilla with some chicken."

At the border, Border Patrol took Dirian and her brother to "las hieleras," rigid, cramped holding cells in Customs and Border Protection facilities.

After days at "las hieleras," Dirian and her brother were then placed in ORR custody before being released to their mother. "It was a beautiful experience, we were all crying," Dirian said.

Once safely settled in the United States, Dirian, her brother, and her mother were connected with an immigration attorney. With the help of Immigrant Legal Center, Dirian was able to apply for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status and have her removal proceedings terminated. In 2016 Dirian was able to adjust her status and get her Legal Permanent Resident Card and in 2021 Dirian became a U.S. Citizen.

"I'm very grateful for this opportunity not many people have," Dirian said. "I can now create a better future for myself."

FOOD TRUCK WORLD TOUR

HONORARY CHAIRS

Former Omaha Central High School Principals

Dr. Gary L. Thompson, 1995-2002

Jerry F. Bexten, 2002- 2006

Gegory Emmel, 2006 - 2010

Dr. Keith Bigsby, 2010 - 2013

Dr. Ed Bennett, 2013 - 2021

EVENT CO-CHAIRS

Karen & Taylor Borchert

Marlina & Dusty Davidson



SEVENTH ANNUAL FOOD TRUCK WORLD TOUR RAISED OVER \$200,000

Immigrant Legal Center hosted the seventh annual Food Truck World Tour on Sunday, September 26 at a new location at Stinson Park at Aksarben Village.

Attendees were able to enjoy delicious food from eight local food trucks parked throughout the park and watch cultural performances from local groups all while supporting immigrants in our communities.

Delicious food options were available from Omaha Steaks with a Taste of Heaven Mobile Restaurant, Maria Bonita Mexican Cuisine, El Arepon Venezuelan Food, La Casa Pizzeria, A Taste of New Orleans, Wonton Jon's, and Chaima's African Cuisine, and eCreamery.

Guests were able to watch incredible performances from Karen Culture Organization Don Dance team, Dowd's Irish Dance Academy, Omaha Pipes and Drums Band, Mariachi Rey Azteca and Jing Mo Tong Athletic Association.



NEBRASKA IMMIGRATION LEGAL ASSISTANCE HOTLINE



The Nebraska Immigration Legal Assistance Hotline (NILAH) is a centralized hotline for low-income residents of Nebraska and southwest Iowa seeking immigration legal assistance. We began operating NILAH in 2018 on behalf of 11 nonprofits.

In 2021, NILAH received more than **5,000** calls.

NEED IMMIGRATION LEGAL HELP?

Call **NILAH** to determine if you are eligible for a consultation.



1-855-307-6730



Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. CST
Press 9 to leave a voicemail

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Mulhall's

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LOCATIONS

OMAHA, NE

4223 Center St
Omaha, NE 68105

COLUMBUS, NE

Centro Hispano
3020 18th St, Ste 7
Columbus, NE 68601

COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA

Centro Latino of Iowa
300 W Broadway, Ste 40
Council Bluffs, IA 51503

CRETE, NE

United Church of Christ (UCC)
440 E 12th St
Crete, NE 68333

GRAND ISLAND, NE

Great Western Bank
1811 West 2nd St, Ste 325
Grand Island, NE 68803

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2401 Plum Creek Pkwy, Ste 325
Lexington, NE 68850

NEBRASKA CITY, NE

611 Central Ave, Ste B & C
Nebraska City, NE 68410

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1221 N Street Ste 221
Lincoln, NE 68508

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615 S Beltline Highway W
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NE

Unity in Action
3900 Dakota Ave, Ste 11
South Sioux City, NE 68776

YOU CAN HELP

Your donation supports those in need in our community - survivors of violence, children who are abused or abandoned, and those who have fled persecution in their home countries.

Make a gift and learn more at immigrantlc.org

IMMIGRANT LEGAL CENTER

An Affiliate of the Justice For Our Neighbors Network

4223 Center Street | Omaha, NE 68105 | P: 402.898.1349 | F: 402.502.4604 | immigrantlc.org