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**To:** Los Angeles City Council

**From:** California Community Foundation

**Date:** February 4, 2020

**Re:** Los Angeles Justice Fund / Year 2, Quarter 3 Report (November 27, 2017 to  
September 30, 2019)

**Los Angeles Justice Fund  
Year 2, Quarter 3  
Quarterly Report**

**REPORT OF LOS ANGELES JUSTICE FUND ACTIVITIES**

November 27, 2017, through September 30, 2019

**COMPILED BY THE  
CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

**FOR THE  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
WEINGART FOUNDATION**

**November 21, 2019**



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The California Community Foundation is pleased to submit **the third quarterly report of the second year (Y2Q3)** of the program summarizing cumulative activities and progress made by the Los Angeles Justice Fund (LAJF) **from the start of the program on November 27, 2017 through the end of this reporting period September 30, 2019.** This report has been prepared for the partners of the LAJF, a public-private partnership between the County of Los Angeles (L.A. County), the City of Los Angeles (City of L.A.), the Weingart Foundation and the California Community Foundation (CCF) to bolster and expand access to legal representation for Los Angeles County immigrants facing the threat of deportation. As the fiscal and program administrator of the LAJF, the CCF, in partnership with the Vera Institute of Justice (Vera), provides quarterly reports throughout the project.

## **I. PROGRAM BACKGROUND AND GOALS**

The LAJF was created in response to major national policy shifts that have resulted in increased immigration enforcement and a growing demand for legal representation services in L.A. County. The goal of the LAJF is to provide legal representation services for the most vulnerable immigrants detained by immigration officials, are subject to removal proceedings, and/or have a final order of removal. The program seeks to achieve this by supporting the following strategies:

1. direct legal representation via nonprofit legal services providers;
2. capacity building to increase the number of removal defense providers; and
3. expansion of pro bono legal services.

## **II. PROGRAM STRUCTURE & GRANTS**

As the fiscal sponsor and program administrator for the LAJF, CCF administers funding for 17 nonprofit organizations funded under the LAJF with combined funding from the City of LA, the County of Los Angeles, the Weingart Foundation and CCF. In this role, CCF collects grantee reports and convenes grantees to support best practices. In addition, CCF is partnering with the Vera Institute of Justice (Vera) to manage data collection for direct representation cases. Vera submits quarterly reports to CCF with data summarizing immigration legal cases represented by the LAJF (*Attachment A*).

As a public-private partnership, funds are used according to their restrictions. Direct representation cases are funded primarily with public dollars and capacity building, technical support and non-direct legal services are supported with philanthropic dollars. The following is an outline of LAJF grant recipients:

- 11 nonprofit legal service providers for direct representation (see full table below);
- 4 nonprofits for capacity building services to strengthen the removal defense field (included in table below);
- the Nonprofit Finance Fund (NFF) for one-on-one financial management consulting services to a cohort of grantees';
- Program for Torture Victims for medical and psychological forensic reports in collaboration with the direct legal service providers.

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<sup>1</sup> The NFF grant ended August 17, 2019 with the completion of their LAJF: Lessons and Recommendations from the Pilot Program report.

City and County are each paying CCF a one percent fee for administrative and indirect costs (details included in table below). The table below shows a breakdown list of grantees and expenses with their respective category strategy and total amount granted.

**Table: LAJF Grantees by Program Strategy and Grant Amount**

Organization	Category	Grant
1. Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles (AAAJ-LA)	Legal Representation	\$ 575,000.00
2. Bet Tzedek Legal Services	Legal Representation (Children)	\$ 325,000.00
3. Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)	Legal Representation	\$ 575,000.00
4. Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)	Legal Representation	\$ 575,000.00
5. Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)	Capacity Building (Technical Assistance, Training and Mentorship)	\$ 200,000.00
6. Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project, Catholic Charities of Los Angeles (Esperanza)	Legal Representation	\$ 575,000.00
7. Immigrant Defenders Law Center (ImmDef)	Legal Representation	\$ 775,000.00
8. Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)	Legal Representation (Children)	\$ 200,000.00
9. Los Angeles LGBT Center	Legal Representation	\$ 325,000.00
10. Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA)	Legal Representation	\$ 575,000.00
11. Loyola Immigrant Justice Clinic (LIJC), Loyola Law School	Capacity Building (Training, Removal Defense Pipeline)	\$ 260,000.00
12. Nonprofit Finance Fund (NFF)	Technical Assistance	\$ 200,000.00
13. OneJustice	Capacity Building (Pro Bono Removal Defense)	\$ 225,000.00
14. Program for Torture Victims (PTV)	Capacity Building and Technical Assistance for legal representation cases (Medical and Psychological Forensic Evaluations)	\$ 300,000.00
15. Public Counsel Law Center	Legal Representation	\$ 700,000.00
16. Southwestern Law School, Immigration Clinic (SWLC)	Capacity Building (Training and Removal Defense Pipeline)	\$ 260,000.00
17. USC Gould School of Law, Immigration Clinic	Legal Representation (Appellate Only)	\$ 180,000.00
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 6,825,000.00</b>
1. California Community Foundation (CCF)	Program and Grants Administrator	\$ 50,000.00
2. Vera Institute of Justice, Center on Immigration and Justice (Vera)	Data Collection and Program Evaluation	\$ 600,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 7,475,000.00</b>

### III. PROGRAM OUTCOMES TO DATE

This section provides a high-level summary of key outcomes for direct legal representation cases and capacity building efforts. For a detailed summary of LAJF direct representation cases please refer to **Vera's Y2Q3 LAJF Quarterly Report** (*Attachment A*)

## A. Direct Representation

The LAJF is supporting 11 nonprofit legal services providers for direct representation services representing \$5,505,000 of LAJF funds. The table below provides an overview of funding breakdown by funding source. The financial section of this report includes additional details on financial breakdown of LAJF funding.

Fund	Amount Allocated for Direct Representation
City of Los Angeles	\$1,718,400
County of Los Angeles	\$2,405,000
Philanthropy	\$1,381,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,505,000</b>

- As of September 30, 2019, **517 cases have been accepted for direct representation** by the 11 LAJF legal services providers, and **1,606 individuals have been screened** (includes legal consultation and referrals).
- Most clients, **82 percent (or 426 people) experienced at least one, but usually multiple, vulnerabilities** such as asylum seeker, crime victims among others noted in Vera's report (Attachment A).
- From the 145 clients initially detained, 37 have been released from custody.
- **55 percent of the 517 clients have lived in the United States for more than a decade and 25 percent of the 517 clients for over two decades** (the average time in the United States is 14 years).
- LAJF clients are generally young, **over 75 percent are under the age of 40**.
- Of the 517 cases, about half are funded by the City of L.A. and about half by the L.A. County.
- **85 percent of cases remain pending (438)**, 63 cases have been completed and 16 cases have been closed due to attorney withdrawal.
- **48 percent, of the 63 completed cases, have resulted in successful outcomes** allowing clients to remain in the United States, compared to less than 5 percent nationwide of their unrepresented counterparts.

## B. Capacity Building – Building a Removal Defense Pipeline

In addition to direct representation services, the LAJF is supporting capacity building efforts that are helping build/strengthen a removal defense pipeline that is supporting the legal infrastructure, building efficiencies for the field, supporting field coordination and general efforts to augment the current removal defense capacity and legal services infrastructure in L.A. County. As such, funding under this category supports a series of nonprofit organization providing a range of services from technical assistance, training, pro-bono support and coordination, psychological-medical evaluations among other critical areas of support.

The table below provides an overview of funding breakdown by funding source. The financial section of this report includes additional details on financial breakdown of LAJF funding.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Amount Allocated for Capacity Building</b>
Philanthropy	\$1,320,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,320,000</b>

- To date, **LAJF grantees have hired a total of 43 staff members** (29 attorneys and 14 non-attorney staff) working under the LAJF.
- **Immigrant Defenders Law Center (ImmDef)**, has **made fully operational a shared workspace near Adelanto**, just 3 miles from the Adelanto Detention Facility, that allows for LAJF attorneys to make effective use of time between hearings for meetings. The office is equipped with internet, printers, office supplies, snacks, water, meeting space and bathroom facilities. The satellite office has been an incredibly helpful resource to LAJF grantees allowing attorneys to have working space during detention center visits with clients and helping to build relationships with other attorneys.
- **Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)**, has **created a “Removal Defense Toolkit”** for LAJF grantees, which includes resources, trainings, samples, and other materials to help new attorneys orient themselves with the initial stages of removal cases. Also meant to help more experienced attorneys with references, samples, etc.
- **Program for Torture Victims (PTV)**, is partnering with LAJF grantees to **provide medical and psychological forensic reports as well as expert witness testimony** in L.A. Immigration Court or Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). Below is a summary of accomplishments to date.
  - **51 psychological evaluations** completed to date
  - **4 medical evaluations and forensic reports** completed to date
  - Conducted two “Effects of Trauma on Immigrants” workshops for LAJF Attorneys
  - **4 trainings** completed to date, including a Vicarious Trauma workshop
  - Hosted a forum for LAJF attorneys and other asylum attorneys to discuss assessment procedures and managing challenging cases.
- **Removal Defense Corps (RDC) Outcomes: A collaborative project between Southwestern Immigration Law Clinic (SWLC) & Loyola Immigrant Justice Clinic (LIJC):**
  - **RDC Docket Screening Project:** The project consisted of a group of over **40 law student volunteers** from Loyola and USC law schools who are observing the master calendar docket at 300 North Los Angeles Street to identify potential clients for LAJF representation. **218 individuals** were identified in need of representation (this number includes non-eligible individuals to be represented under the LAJF).
  - **Pro Bono Coordination:** Launched a pro bono project to recruit volunteer attorneys to take LAJF cases. To date **157 pro bono attorneys have been recruited and/or trained to take on pro bono cases. To date, 41 cases have been placed for representation under pro bono attorneys** (these cases are not included in the total number of cases represented under the LAJF).

- **Both LIJC and SWLC have created new courses focused on removal defense lawyering** where students learn topics such as trauma-informed lawyering, the practices of appearances in immigration court, and drafting declarations. To date, **9 students** were placed in externships with **7 of the LAJF legal service providers** during the lapse of the course.
- **RDC Resource Bank:** The RDC Resource Bank, available at <https://rdc.lls.edu>, is an online platform that hosts materials for use by LAJF partner organizations and staff attorneys, pro bono attorneys, and legal volunteers. It contains links to trainings, samples materials and practice guides. The site now has over **259 registered users**.
- **Immigration Judge Spreadsheet:** The Immigration Judge Spreadsheet or judicial database allows for attorneys to submit their experiences with local immigration judges into a searchable spreadsheet. Attorneys can input the following information: court location, type and date of hearing, judge name, trial attorney (TA) name, form of relief, and comments on judicial preferences or experiences with a particular TA. This information is helpful as attorneys prepare for hearings and implement optimal legal strategy.
- **LAJF grantee, OneJustice, outcomes:**
  - **California Pro Bono Matters – in collaboration with Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project, Catholic Charities of Los Angeles (Esperanza):** Launched a platform expanding pro bono legal services to immigrants facing deportation in Los Angeles. The platform displays immigration pro bono opportunities in Los Angeles on an interactive website and enables attorneys to search and share available pro bono cases that suit their interests with just a few clicks.
  - **In-person training workshops for LAJF grantees - August 2018 – September 30, 2019** Created a training module of cultural competency trainings to ensure effective and empowering legal representation of immigrant communities who have experienced immense trauma.
  - **OneJustice’s Immigration Pro Bono Network:** Website, Twitter, and monthly newsletter aimed to connect students and volunteers to LAJF and other partner organizations' training and volunteer opportunities, as well as provide policy updates and calls-to-action including Immigration Pro Bono Engagement & Appreciation Events.
  - **Pro Bono Training Institute:** Online platform with free training modules for pro bonos.

Please see *Attachment B* for a full list of trainings offered to date by LAJF grantees, this document is titled “*LAJF: Capacity Building Trainings for Grantees, Y2Q3.*”

#### IV. CHALLENGES TO REPRESENTATION

As stated in previous reports, as a result of the tumultuous policy landscape, legal services providers have reported ongoing challenges that have resulted in delays in representation that are negatively impacting cases and ability for grantees to maximize resources. CLINIC put together a list of immigration policy changes between 2018 and 2019 that have affected legal representation in LA County, see *Attachment D: Policy Changes Affecting Legal Representation in LA County* for a complete list. In addition, grantees and Vera report the following challenges from the field:

- Increased backlog in immigration courts causing delays for hearings as late as 2021.
- Increased issues with access to counsel at local detention facilities for non-attorney staff such as translators, case managers, and mental health evaluators.

- Increased hurdles to screen detained individuals through the Legal Orientation Program (LOP), this has required a higher investment in resources for grantees and limited their availability to provide representation to qualified individuals given the advanced stage of their cases once able to reach them.
- Increased wait-time for attorney access to visit individuals at the local detention facilities.
- Increased need for case management and coordination, given the complexity of cases, to connect clients with critical resources.
- Difficulty in obtaining physical documentation from detainees for proof of eligibility based on residency and/or criminal eligibility requirements.
- Difficulty in finding qualified attorneys with removal defense expertise, for a number of grantees, during the implementation of the project.
- No funds available for bonds; six clients who have been granted a bond are still detained, likely because they cannot afford to play the bond.

Another growing concern among LAJF direct legal services providers is the sustainability of the LAJF program. With **85% of LAJF cases that remain open**, direct legal services providers are concerned about sustainability of the infrastructure built to date and staff retention to be able to continue with representation of open cases.

## V. GRANTEE CONVENINGS

CCF convenes LAJF grantees bi-monthly to identify best practices, systemic barriers hindering effectiveness of services, and to identify methods for improving quality and efficiency of legal representation. The following is a table of convening dates and topics covered:

Meeting Date	Topics Covered
December 4, 2017	Meeting introduction to LAJF, overview of program, timeline and reporting.
January 22, 2018	CCF provided a deeper review of LAJF reporting guidelines, LAJF requirements and training by Vera on LAJF database for submission of monthly data.
April 18, 2018	Meeting included grantee updates, federal immigration policy updates, review of grantee training needs and capacity building resource needs.
May 9, 2018	CCF met with capacity building grantees (CLINIC, SWLC, LIJC, OneJustice, PTV, ImmDef) supporting LAJF legal service providers to coordinate capacity building legal resources, technical support and training for grantees.
June 14, 2018	LAJF grantee meeting to review capacity building tools, trends and best practices.
July 20, 2018	Meeting with L.A. County Office of Immigrant Affairs, County Counsel and LAJF grantees to discuss L.A. County Family Separation amendments to LAJF.
August 15, 2018	CCF presented updated LAJF reporting guidelines per City of L.A. and L.A. County's family separation amendments, a presentation and training by L.A. County Public Defender Office, LAJF Capacity Building updates and a presentation by the NFF regarding a new financial management and technical support capacity building program for grantees.
October 17, 2018	CCF presented LAJF program highlights and progress. The meeting included an update from the L.A. County Office of Immigrant Affairs regarding the exploration of a County-cross referral system with LAJF grantees/providers and capacity building/training updates from grantees.
December 18, 2018	Meeting with L.A. County Office of Immigrant Affairs and LAJF grantees to discuss L.A. County agency immigration legal services experiences and needs and begin

	exploring opportunities for collaboration and coordination of a referral system between Public Defenders, Alternate Public Defenders Office and LAJF direct legal services providers.
<b>December 19, 2018</b>	LAJF grantee meeting. Key agenda topics included: LAJF Q3 Report Highlights, LAJF technical assistance needs, field trends and best practices. NFF presentation and discussion to deepen understanding of actual costs of LAJF legal services and general grantee updates/collaboration.
<b>January 25, 2019</b>	Meeting between LAJF grantees and L.A. County Public Defenders Office, Alternate Public Defenders Office and L.A. County Office of Immigrant Affairs to explore opportunities for collaboration and coordination of referrals.
<b>March 14, 2019</b>	LAJF grantee meeting. The meeting included a presentation from the NFF's financial assessment of immigration legal services.
<b>April 17, 2019</b>	LAJF grantee meeting. An update was provided on the LAJF year-one, evaluation report, as well as updates on the work of the capacity building organizations under this program. In addition, the groups shared their needs to continue their work to continue representing open cases after the end of the agreement.
<b>May 14, 2019</b>	LAJF grantee meeting. Key items included updates on immigration policy landscape and programmatic updates.
<b>June 19, 2019</b>	LAJF grantee meeting. NFF provided and update on their ongoing assessment of the LAJF. CCF together with Vera reviewed the program reporting guidelines and discussed meeting frequency. With many LAJF grantee meetings in place, grantees agreed to meet quarterly going forward to allow for coordination of other LAJF related meetings and field coordination.

## VI. FINANCIAL REPORTING UPDATES

LAJF partners contributed a total of \$7,900,000 to the fund. This includes \$3 million from L.A. County, \$2 million from the City of LA, \$1,125,000 from Weingart Foundation and \$1,775,000 million from the CCF. Below is a high-level overview of funding breakdown (please see *Attachment D* for a detailed overview of financial breakdown per LAJF grantee and strategy):

**Table: LAJF Funding Allocation**

Of total amount raised, a total of **\$7,475,000** has been allocated in grant support. This includes \$7,425,000 via direct grants and \$50,000<sup>2</sup> that includes CCF administration fees.

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Direct Representation Allocation</b>	<b>Capacity Building Allocation</b>	<b>Vera (LAJF Data Collection &amp; Evaluation)</b>	<b>CCF Admin Fee*</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
City of Los Angeles	\$1,718,400	\$0	\$166,600	\$20,000	\$1,905,000
County of Los Angeles	\$2,405,000	\$0	\$250,000	\$30,000	\$2,685,000
Philanthropy	\$1,381,600	\$1,320,000	\$183,400	\$0	\$2,865,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,505,000</b>	<b>\$1,320,000</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$7,475,000</b>

<sup>2</sup> The administrative fee is not representative of the actual cost of administering the project. The fee is based on an agreement between CCF and City of Los Angeles and County of Los Angeles to allocate 1% of their respective contributed funds to cover a portion of the administrative costs.

**Table: LAJF Fund Balance**

The LAJF currently has a fund balance of **\$425,000**. CCF will work with LAJF partners to assess ongoing need in order to re-grant resources by end of current grant term to support ongoing-open LAJF cases.

Funder	Total Grant	Remaining Balance
City of Los Angeles	\$2,000,000	\$95,000
County of Los Angeles	\$3,000,000	\$315,000
Philanthropy	\$2,900,000	\$15,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,900,000</b>	<b>\$425,000</b>

**Table: LAJF Direct Representation Grants and Expenses to Date (per grantee):**

Below is an overview of total direct representation grants awarded and expenses to date. **As of September 30**, per the financial data collected, direct representation grantees have spent **81% of funds**.

Organization	Grant	Expenses to Date
<b>Direct Representation (\$5,505,000.00)</b>		
1. Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles (AAAJ-LA)	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 457,171.00
2. Bet Tzedek Legal Services	\$ 325,000.00	\$ 320,832.00
3. Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 181,471.00
4. Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 575,000.00
5. Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project, Catholic Charities of Los Angeles (Esperanza)	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 551,191.00
6. Immigrant Defenders Law Center (ImmDef)	\$ 775,000.00	\$ 677,041.00
7. Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 165,706.54
8. Los Angeles LGBT Center	\$ 325,000.00	\$ 285,293.38
9. Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA)	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 374,208.68
10. Program for Torture Victims (PTV) <sup>3</sup>	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 122,916.00
11. Public Counsel Law Center	\$ 700,000.00	\$ 558,494.41
12. USC Gould School of Law, Immigration Clinic	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 170,848.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,505,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,440,173.01</b>

**VII. CONCLUSION**

CCF is pleased to report that the LAJF program has surpassed its goal of providing access to direct removal defense representation to 500 individuals before the end of the two-year pilot phase (November 19, 2019) and it is currently at 517 represented individuals.

With the LAJF grant funding sunseting and with 85% of cases that remain active, looking at the long-term sustainability of the LAJF will be critical to maintain the program's infrastructure and ensure that existing/active cases continue with representation.

CCF looks forward to continue working with LAJF funders to take the learnings from the pilot-phase, assess the program's funding needs beyond the current grant term, and explore new funding models and structure to strengthen and increase the program's efficiency and efficacy and be able to maximize the program's impact.

<sup>3</sup> LAJF grant to Program for Torture Victims includes funding from City of L.A. and philanthropic dollars. This chart includes breakdown of dollars spent per category (direct representation and capacity building).

November 11, 2019

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# LA Justice Fund: Quarterly Report

Report of Legal Service Provider Activities through September 2019

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*Compiled by the Vera Institute of Justice for the California Community Foundation*

This report summarizes immigration legal cases represented by the Los Angeles Justice Fund (LAJF) during the first seven quarters of the program's launch and ramp up (four quarters from Year 1 plus the first three quarters from Year 2), from November 27, 2017 through September 30, 2019.

### Notes about the Scope of Data in this Report

- There is a lag between the end of data collection for a given quarter and the reporting such that the actual number of cases as of today will almost always be greater than the number reported in each quarterly report.
- The California Community Foundation (CCF) initially contracted the Vera Institute of Justice (Vera) to report on and eventually conduct research on the impact of representation for detained adult cases. As the scope of LAJF expanded substantially beyond detained adult cases, Vera agreed to collect and report quarterly on all adult representation cases through the customized database Vera designed for this program. This includes cases represented by Asian Americans Advancing Justice, L.A. (AAAJ-LA), Central American Resource Center (CARECEN), Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA), Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project (Esperanza), Immigrant Defenders Law Center (ImmDef), Los Angeles LGBT Center, Public Counsel, and the University of Southern California, School of Law Immigration Clinic (USC) (appellate only cases). CCF, Vera, and grantees negotiated that Vera would also report for CCF on both affirmative cases (represented by the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, or LAFLA) and children's cases (represented by Kids in Need of Defense, or KIND, and Bet Tzedek), but would do so outside of the database and thus, in a less complete form than for other cases. Some of the data in this report includes LAFLA, KIND, and Bet Tzedek cases, and some does not. Finally, Vera is not reporting for CCF on other work funded through LAJF beyond representation for the legal case. For example, technical assistance activities are beyond the scope of this report.
- A few organizations retroactively added cases to the database, meaning cases they took on for representation in previous quarters were added to the database at a later date. This means that the number of new cases taken on each quarter as reflected in the database today differs from the number of new cases per quarter listed in previous quarterly reports.
- Narrative data that may supplement the statistics contained here is separately collected and reviewed by CCF.

## Overview of LAJF Cases through September 30, 2019

**Total Cases Accepted: 517 (about half funded by City and about half by County)**

### Case Activity

- Organizations providing direct representation: 11
- Total clients in removal proceedings: 354<sup>1</sup>
- Total adults initially detained: 156
  - Total initially detained but later released on bond: 37
- Total affirmative cases (not in removal proceedings): 44
- Total children's cases: 93
- Total immigration case decisions / completions: 63
  - Portion of completed cases with successful outcomes allowing clients to remain in United States: 48%
  - Portion of unrepresented completed cases nationwide with successful outcomes: less than 5%
- Total cases with appeals: 36

### Client Demographics

- Average time in the United States: 14 years
  - Portion of clients in the United States for more than a decade: 55%
- Total number of countries that clients originated from: 32
  - Top five countries of origin: Guatemala, El Salvador, Mexico, Honduras, and Cambodia
- Portion of clients with an identified vulnerability: 82%

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<sup>1</sup> Most people categorized as being in removal proceedings are adults, but 62 cases in removal proceedings are children under the age of 18. These 62 children, however, are not categorized as "children's cases" because "children's cases" refers to the case type designated by attorneys in the database, not to the actual ages of clients. See Figure 7 in this report for clients' ages.

## LAJF Cases: Overview

By the end of the third quarter of Year 2 (Y2Q3), ending on September 30, 2019, LAJF had accepted a total of 517 clients for representation. Figure 1 displays the initial custody status and the removal risk that triggered program eligibility.

Figure 1: Initial Case Type and Custody (517 Total Cases)

Case Custody	240 Proceedings	Affirmative	Children's Cases	Withholding Only	Other Case Type	Total
Detained	139 (27%)	13 (3%)		2 (0%)	2 (0%)	156 (30%)
Non-Detained	215 (42%)	31 (6%)	93 (18%)	2 (0%)	20 (4%)	361 (70%)
Total	354 (68%)	44 (9%)	93 (18%)	4 (1%)	22 (4%)	517 (100%)

Children's cases, as presented in Figure 1, include those classified in the database as childhood arrival cases, unaccompanied children's (UC) cases, and UC mentorship.<sup>2</sup> The "other case type" category includes one credible fear review/reasonable fear review (CFR/RFR) case and 21 cases classified as "other" in Vera's database by legal service providers. Next, Figure 2 summarizes case status and outcomes.

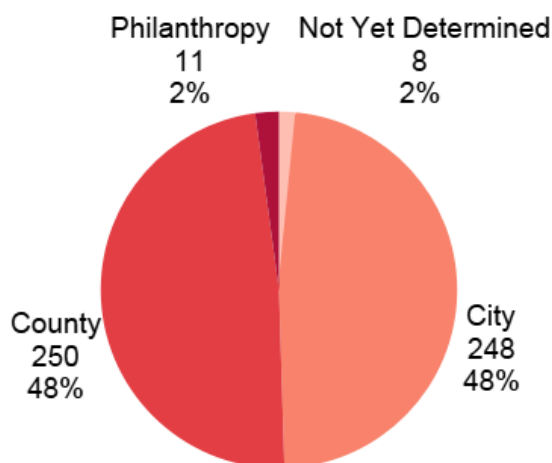
Figure 2: Case Status and Outcomes

85%	Portion of LAJF cases that remain pending (438 cases)	63	Number of cases completed by EOIR or USCIS (of 79 closed)
		16	Number of cases closed to the program due to attorney withdrawal (of 79 closed)

Most LAJF cases remain pending as of the report date. Among the 63 completed cases, 27 clients received grants of relief, 19 received orders of removal, three received grants of voluntary departure (which requires clients to leave the country but with fewer penalties than a removal order), and three had their cases terminated (which closes the case but does not result in a change in the client's immigration status). Case outcome information is missing for 11 cases and will be updated as it becomes available to Vera. This means that 30 of 63 cases (27 grants of relief plus the three case terminations), or 48 percent, had successful outcomes that allow clients to remain in the United States. This is compared to less than five percent of unrepresented cases with successful outcomes nationwide.

<sup>2</sup> Not all children, under the age of 18, are classified as UC, UC mentorship, or childhood arrivals cases. Ten children are in affirmative cases, 62 are in 240 removal proceedings, and three are classified as "other" case types. See Figure 7 in this report for clients' ages. Additionally, among the 93 children's cases, some are likely in 240 removal proceedings, meaning there are likely more than 68 percent of all cases in 240 removal proceedings. For example, some people classified as childhood arrivals in the database might also be in 240 removal proceedings, but since their attorney designated them as a children's case, they appear in that column.

Figure 3: Funding Sources

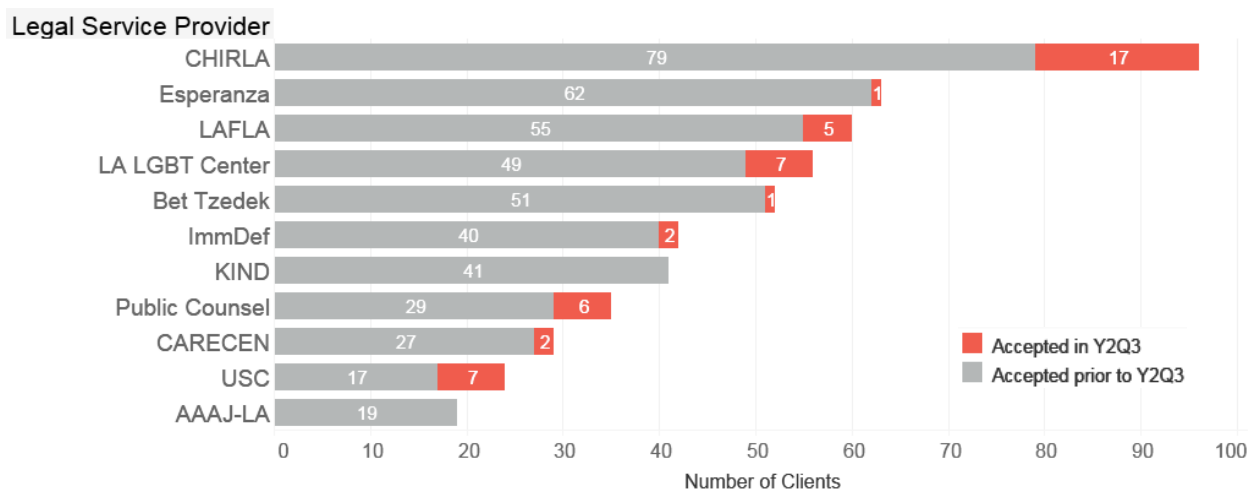


**Twelve City-funded cases required waivers.**

Figure 3 shows the distribution of funding sources across accepted cases, including City, County, and philanthropic funding. Forty-eight percent of LAJF cases (248 cases) are funded by the City of Los Angeles, and 48 percent (250 cases) are funded by Los Angeles County. Eleven cases (two percent) are funded by philanthropy, while funding is not yet determined for eight cases (two percent).

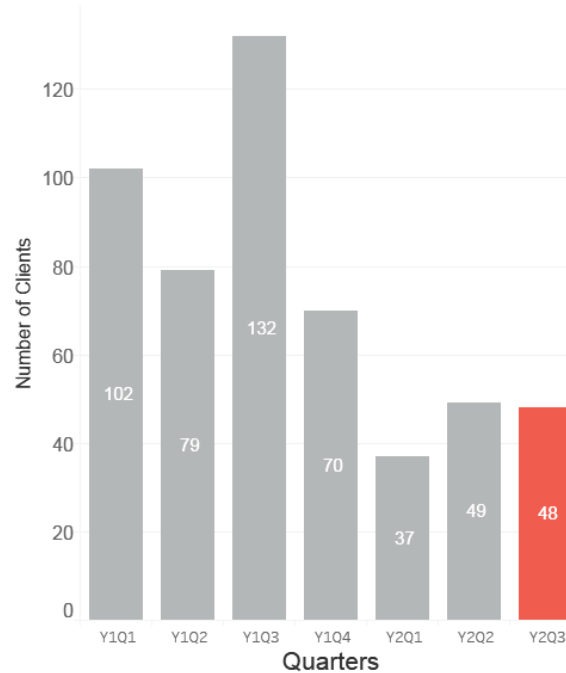
Figure 4 displays the number of cases each legal service provider has accepted for representation, and Figure 5 shows the number of new cases taken on each quarter across the entire program.<sup>3</sup> New cases accepted in the most recent quarter (Y2Q3) appear in red in both figures. Across all legal service providers, a total of 48 new cases were accepted in Y2Q3. As the program has evolved, many organizations have reached their active caseload capacity and/or may be cautious about taking on more cases than they can sustain without knowing if funding will continue beyond November 2019.

Figure 4: Number of Cases by Legal Service Provider



<sup>3</sup> The new case counts per quarter as shown in Figure 5 do not match the numbers listed in previous quarterly reports because some grantees have retroactively added cases, meaning they took on cases for representation in previous quarters, but did not add some of those cases to the database until recently.

Figure 5: New Cases per Quarter



## Client Demographics

This section provides information on LAJF client demographics, including how long clients have lived in the United States, their ages, genders, countries of origin, primary languages, and the types of vulnerabilities identified among clients. Figure 6 below displays the distribution of LAJF clients aged 18 and over, by how long they have lived in the United States (excluding children’s cases). As Figure 6 shows, 60 percent of adult clients have lived in the United States more than five years, and 55 percent have lived here more than 10 years.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> The percentages displayed in Figure 6 indicate that 54 percent of clients have lived in the United States more than 10 years, rather than 55 percent as mentioned in the text and in the text box next to Figure 6 ( $11 + 18 + 25 = 54$  percent). However, the percentages displayed in Figure 6 are rounded, and therefore do not add up perfectly to 55 due to rounding. Nonetheless, the true percent of those who have been in the United States for more than 10 years is 54.5 percent, or 55 percent when numbers are rounded.

Figure 6: Time in the United States

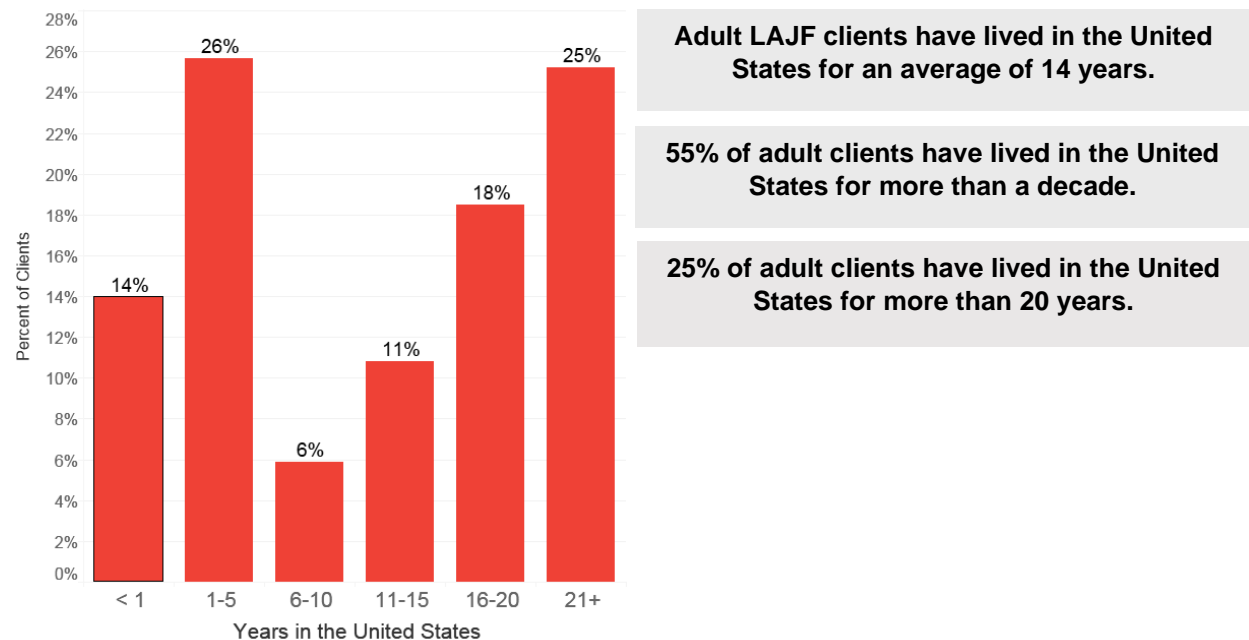


Figure 7 displays the distribution of clients by their ages and depicts the gender composition within each age group. Fifty-six percent of LAJF clients self-identify as male, 39 percent as female, and five percent express a gender identity other than male or female.<sup>5</sup> Figure 7 shows that LAJF clients are generally young, with the vast majority being under the age of 40. Twenty-four percent of clients (122 people) are under the age of 18. Finally, the group most likely to express a non-binary gender identity are 22- to 29-year olds, among whom 17 percent identify as non-binary genders.

<sup>5</sup> Age and gender information is missing for one client.

Figure 7: Age and Gender

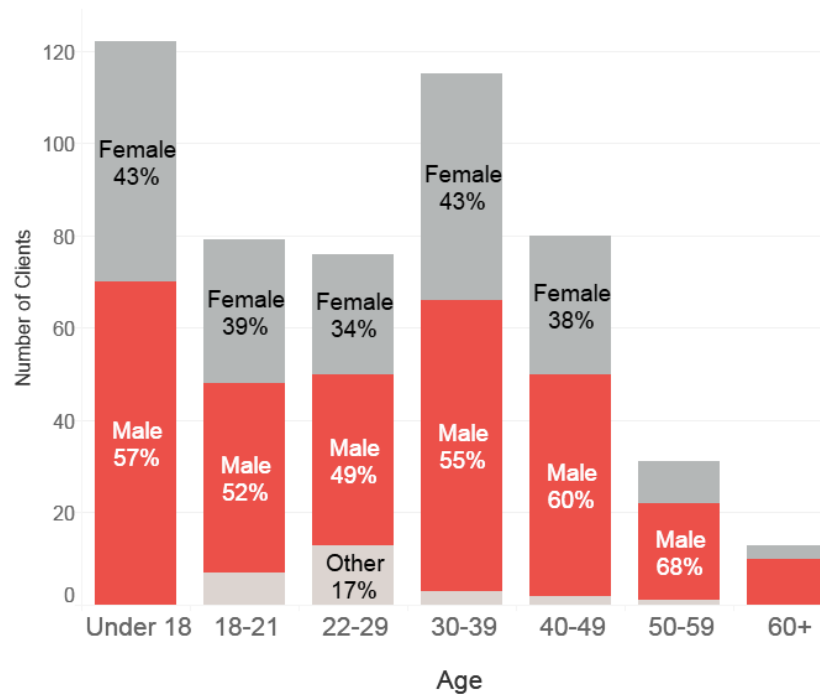


Figure 8 summarizes the primary languages spoken by LAJF clients, highlighting the three most common languages.

Figure 8: Language

**Of the 19 primary languages spoken by LAJF clients, the most common are: Spanish (82%), English (12%), and the Guatemalan indigenous language K'iche' (2%).**

Figure 9 is a heat map showing clients' countries of origin. The darker shades indicate the regions with the highest numbers of LAJF clients.

Figure 9: Country of Origin

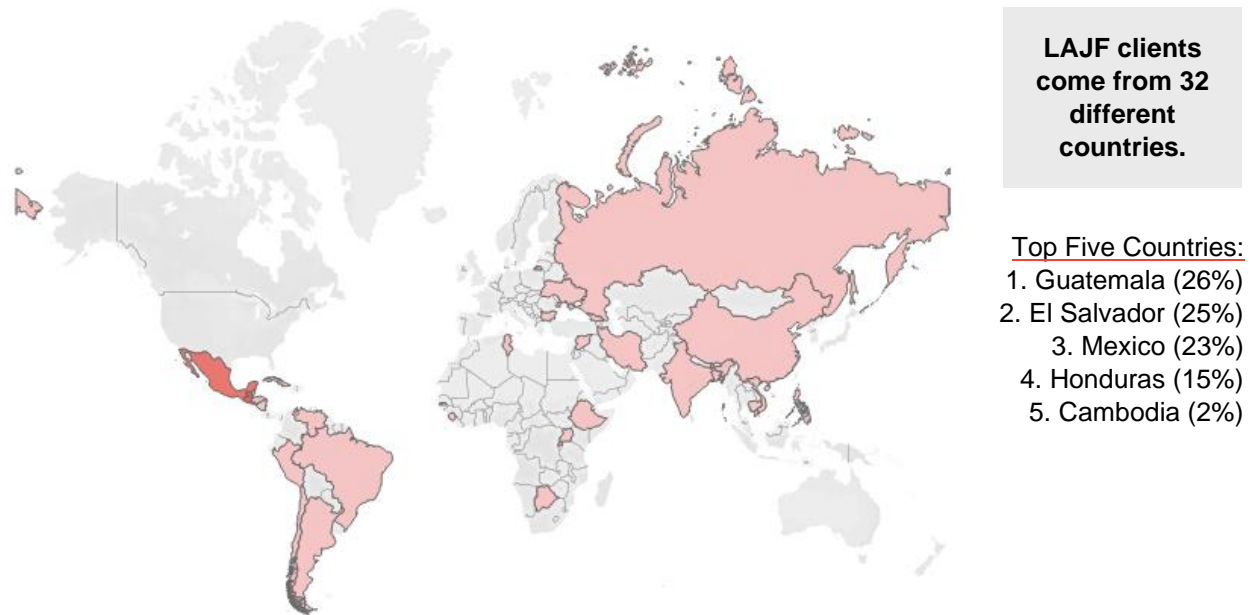


Figure 10 lists the types of vulnerabilities identified among LAJF clients, and the number of people who experienced each type. The majority of clients, 82 percent (426 people), experienced at least one vulnerability (1,072 total vulnerabilities among 426 people).

Figure 10: Identified Client Vulnerabilities

Vulnerabilities Identified	Count
Asylum seeker / fear-based protections	379
Victimization – crime, domestic / intimate partner violence, child abuse / neglect, or trafficking	239
Disability / significant medical needs, mental health needs	146
Current / former UC	97
Childhood arrival (not UC)	60
Homeless	40
Has dependent(s) with disability / significant medical needs	24
Other	87
<b>Total vulnerabilities identified</b>	<b>1,072</b>
<b>Total clients with a vulnerability identified</b>	<b>426 of 517 clients</b>

## Case Activities

This section details the activities attorneys have engaged in on behalf of their clients. First, Figure 11 shows the bond and custody status for LAJF clients who were initially detained (excluding 11 cases where the attorney withdrew). Figure 11 shows that, among the 145 clients initially detained, 37 have been released from custody (26 percent) (this is the total of all clients who have been “released”). Five clients who have been granted EOIR bond and one client with a bond set by ICE remain detained, likely because they are unable to afford the bond that was set.

Figure 11: Bond and Custody for Initially Detained Adult Cases

Bond Status	Custody Status	Count
Granted EOIR bond	Released	28
	Not released	5
Set by ICE, not lowered by EOIR	Released	3
	Not released	1
No ICE bond, not lowered by EOIR <sup>6</sup>	Released	3
	Not released	99
Parole granted	Released	3
	Not released	3
<b>Total initially detained clients, excluding cases where the attorney withdrew</b>		<b>145</b>

Next, Figures 12 and 13 summarize the types and number (in parentheses) of applications and motions, respectively, filed by attorneys on behalf of their clients. The figures focus on the five most commonly filed applications and motions. Overall, 419 motions and applications have been filed on behalf of 300 clients (58 percent of all clients).

Figure 12: Applications Filed

Applications
1. Asylum / withholding / CAT (153)
2. State court petition / request for SIJS findings (62)
3. Employment authorization (31)
4. U Visa (28)
5. LPR cancelation (20)
<b>Total applications filed: 338</b>

<sup>6</sup> Cases can be released due to closure in immigration court, despite lack of bond options

Figure 13: Motions Filed

Motions
1. Motion to terminate (27)
2. Motion to change venue (16)
3. Motion to reopen (7)
4. Motion for Substitution of Counsel (5) <sup>7</sup>
5. Bond-related motions (4)
<b>Total motions filed: 77</b>

Figure 14 displays information on case appeals, and shows that LAJF grantees have aided 36 clients (7%) with case appeals, including for bond, to the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), and to the federal circuit courts.<sup>8</sup>

Figure 14: Case Appeals

Clients and Appeals	New Cases in Y2Q3	Total Cases
Total clients	48	517
Cases with appeals	2	36
Clients with bond appeal	0	4
Clients with BIA case appeals	2	25
Clients with circuit court appeals	0	12
Clients with unspecified appeals	0	0

## Hourly Activity for County-Funded Cases

Los Angeles County requires grantees to log the hours attorneys spent on certain activities for County-funded cases. The four required codes, with an optional fifth code (other case activity), include:

- 1 – Initial case assessment, development, administration, fact gathering
- 2 – Court preparation<sup>9</sup>
- 3 – Court attendance
- 4 – Case evaluation, client advice, advocacy
- 5 – Other case activity

<sup>7</sup> One of the motions for substitution of counsel is an instance where the attorney withdrew to allow access to *Franco Class*.

<sup>8</sup> Some grantees have retroactively added cases to the database, meaning they took on cases for representation in previous quarters, but did not add some of those cases to the database until recently. For this reason, there are more cases with appeals in Figure 14 than reported in previous quarters. Additionally, there used to be some unspecified appeals in the database that have since been re-categorized.

<sup>9</sup> For affirmative cases, code numbers 2 and 3 reflect USCIS state court preparation and USCIS interviews, respectively.

Figure 15 shows the number of hours (in black font) and percent of time (in red font), by case type, attorneys spend on each activity code for County-funded cases, where the database contains hourly information for 169 out of the 250 County-funded cases (45 of these cases are closed).<sup>10</sup> The figure shows that, among all case types, most hours are spent on case evaluation, client advice, and advocacy (code 4), followed by court preparation (code 2), and initial case activities (code 1). It is notable that, among all cases, attorneys spend 10 percent of time on activity code number 5, because the County does not fund activities falling under this optional code. Moreover, grantees have noted that, although these codes cover many case activities, they do not cover the full scope of effort it takes to represent a client (not even with the inclusion of activity code 5, which does not cover activities that are not explicitly related to a specific case, like attending legal workshops and trainings, among other necessary activities). Thus, Figure 15 underreports the amount of time it truly takes to represent a client.

Figure 15: Hours per Activity Code, Case Type (169 Cases)

	Activity Codes					All Codes
	1	2	3	4	5	
240 proceedings	2,686	3,697	688	4,144	1,270	12,485
Percent of time	22%	30%	6%	33%	10%	100%
Affirmative cases	1	135	18	426	104	683
Percent of time	0%	20%	3%	62%	15%	100%
Children's cases (UC, UC mentorship, childhood arrival)	78	98	40	72	0	288
Percent of time	27%	34%	14%	25%	0%	100%
Withholding-only and other cases	81	495	25	118	26	745
Percent of time	11%	66%	3%	16%	3%	100%
All case types, total hours	2,846	4,425	770	4,760	1,399	14,200
Percent of time	20%	31%	5%	34%	10%	100%

## Descriptive Statistics for City-Funded Cases

After the first reporting period (at the end of the first quarter in Year 1), the City expressed an interest in viewing a detailed breakdown of City-funded cases. While some of the details the City would like are beyond the scope of the data collection agreed upon by stakeholders, and others cannot be reported for confidentiality reasons, as more cases were taken on, Vera is now providing more comprehensive breakdowns by providers and case types. First, information about cases with waivers is summarized, followed by a summary of information pertaining to all City-funded cases.

<sup>10</sup> Row and column totals may not always perfectly add up due to rounding. For example, in the row that gives hourly totals for affirmative cases,  $1 + 135 + 18 + 426 + 104 = 684$  (rather than 683 as listed in the table). However, the values for each billing code are rounded to whole numbers, but the true row total when the numbers are not rounded to whole numbers is 682.85 ( $0.5 + 134.75 + \text{etc.}$ ), which is rounded to 683 in Figure 15.

## City-Funded Cases with Waivers

Among the 248 City-funded cases, 12 clients required waivers. Details about the 12 clients are summarized below.

- Legal status at intake:
  - Total who entered the United States with authorization: 5
  - Total who entered without authorization: 4
  - Unknown: 3
- Case type:
  - Total in 240 removal proceedings: 7
  - Total childhood arrivals: 2
  - Total classified as “other” case types: 3
- Average number of years spent living in the United States (excluding children’s cases and people under 18 years old): 30
  - Number of clients who have lived in the United States for more than 30 years: 6
- Attorneys have identified 6 distinct vulnerabilities among these 12 clients. The most common vulnerabilities are (with the number of clients identified next to each vulnerability in parentheses):
  - Asylum seeker / fear-based protections (8)
  - Victimization – crime, domestic / intimate partner violence, child abuse / neglect, or trafficking (6)
  - Disability / significant medical needs, mental health needs (3)

## All City-Funded Cases

Figure 16 displays the initial case type and custody status for all City-funded cases.

**Figure 16: Initial Case Type and Custody (248 City-Funded Cases)**

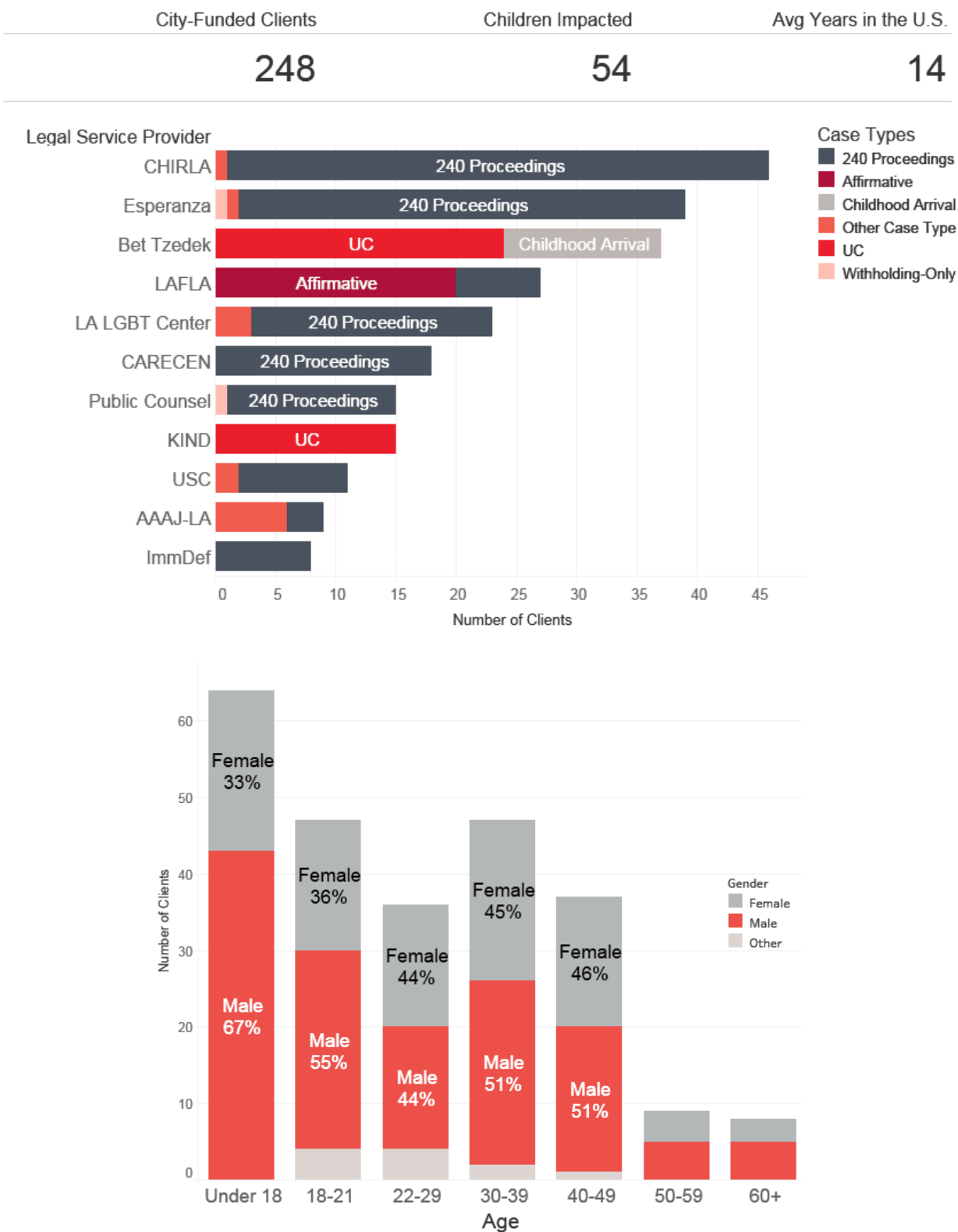
Case Custody	240 Proceedings	Affirmative	Children's Cases	Withholding Only	Other Case Type	Total
Detained	49 (20%)	5 (2%)		1 (0%)	1 (0%)	56 (23%)
Non-Detained	112 (45%)	15 (6%)	52 (21%)	1 (0%)	12 (5%)	192 (77%)
Total	161 (65%)	20 (8%)	52 (21%)	2 (1%)	13 (5%)	248 (100%)

Additional information about the 248 City-funded cases is listed below, and Figure 17 displays descriptive information in a collage.

- Nearly all clients (239/248) come from five countries (the number of clients from each country appear in parentheses):
  - Guatemala (78)
  - El Salvador (69)
  - Mexico (46)
  - Honduras (41)
  - Cambodia (5).
- Nearly one-third (75 clients out of 248) already have relief applications filed on their behalf.
  - Portion of detained clients with relief applications who were released: 58%

Figure 17: City-Funded Cases, Descriptive Statistics

### City-funded client demographics



Note: UC stands for unaccompanied children.

Figure 17 displays the case types for each organization, among other pieces of City-specific information. The numerical breakdown for each case type by legal service provider for City-funded cases, as displayed in Figure 17, is listed below.

- CHIRLA
  - 240 proceedings: 45
  - Other case type: 1
- Esperanza
  - 240 proceedings: 37
  - Other case type: 1
  - Withholding-only: 1
- Bet Tzedek
  - Childhood arrival: 13
  - UC: 24
- LAFLA
  - 240 proceedings: 7
  - Affirmative: 20
- LA LGBT Center
  - 240 proceedings: 20
  - Other case type: 3
- CARECEN
  - 240 proceedings: 18
- Public Counsel
  - 240 proceedings: 14
  - Withholding-only: 1
- KIND
  - UC: 15
- USC
  - 240 proceedings: 9
  - Other case type: 2
- AAAJ-LA
  - 240 proceedings: 3
  - Other case type: 6
- ImmDef
  - 240 proceedings: 8

Finally, Figure 17 also displays City-funded clients ages and genders. Overall, 138 City-funded clients are male (56 percent), 99 are female (40 percent) and 11 people (4 percent) express a gender identity other

than male and female. Additionally, 64 clients are children under the age of 18 (26 percent), and the remaining 184 people (74 percent) are 18 years and older.

## IX. Attachment B (3 pages)

## LAJF: List of Capacity Building Trainings for Grantees

## In-Person and Onsite Trainings:

Date	Activity Description	Leading Organization(s)	Notes
8/21/2018	<i>Immigration Consequences of Criminal Convictions and Cancellation of Removal</i>	<i>CLINIC &amp; ImmDef</i>	
10/6/2018	<i>I'm New Here: The Nuts &amp; Bolts of Removal Defense for attorneys newly embarking on their removal defense practice</i>	<i>RDC</i>	Novice Track; four-hour MCLE training; 30 attendees
10/10/2018	<i>Never Say Die: A look at options for post-conviction relief for clients whose crimes limit the immigration remedies available to them</i>	<i>RDC &amp; ImmDef</i>	Expert Track; 40 attendees.
10/19/2018	<i>Credible Fear Interview Preparation, Refugee Intakes, and Working with Asylum Seekers at the Border</i>	<i>RDC</i>	Student training series; 19 attendees.
10/24/2018	<i>Advanced Trial Skills in Removal Proceedings</i>	<i>CLINIC &amp; RDC</i>	Expert Track; 24 attendees.
11/28/2018	<i>Pereira is Dead. Long Live Pereira! Understanding the current case law around Pereira, its limitations, and how you can still use it to mount an aggressive removal defense</i>	<i>RDC</i>	Hot Topics training series; MCLE training; 30 attendees.
12/18/2018	<i>Policy Updates and Trends in LA Immigration Courts</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	During the LAJF Convening.
1/31/2019	<i>Heart of Matter: Nuts and Bolts of Asylum and Cancellation of Removal</i>	<i>RDC</i>	Novice Track; MCLE training; 20 attendees.
2/5/2019	<i>Defending Former Defendants: Consequences of Criminal Matters on Immigration Cases</i>	<i>RDC</i>	Expert Track; MCLE training; 40 attendees.
3/2/ 2019	<i>Help Me Help You: Interviewing &amp; Declaration</i>	<i>RDC</i>	Novice Track; MCLE training; 10 attendees.
3/16/ 2019	<i>Basic Skills for Working with Clients in Removal Proceedings</i>	<i>CLINIC &amp; RDC</i>	
3/26/2019	<i>Supervision &amp; Mentorship Best Practices in Immigration Legal Services</i>	<i>OneJustice &amp; RDC</i>	Hot Topics training series; 20 attendees.
4/3/2019	<i>Retro Relief. A look at TPS and NACARA</i>	<i>RDC: Southwestern, with assistance from LIJC</i>	Expert Track; MCLE training
4/24/2019	<i>Can I get a Second Opinion?</i>	<i>RDC: LIJC, with support from Southwestern</i>	Hot Topics; MCLE training; 16 attendees.
5/29/2019	<i>Don't Take Denied for an Answer: training on filing appeals with the Board of Immigration Appeals and the 9th Circuit</i>	<i>RDC: LIJC, with support from Southwestern</i>	Expert Track: MCLE training; 32 attendees.
5/31 – 6/1, 2019	<i>Summer Law Student Boot Camp</i>	<i>RDC</i>	Student Training Series; Two-day training (5/31-6/1); 37 attendees

6/6/2019	<i>Trial Skills Training on Direct, Re-Direct, and Cross Examination</i>	<i>CLINIC, with support from ImmDef and Public Counsel</i>	
6/14/2019	<i>Trauma and Client Interviewing</i>	<i>RDC: LIJC, with support from Southwestern</i>	Student Training Series; 30 attendees
6/28/2019	<i>Formulating Effective Declarations</i>	<i>RDC</i>	Student Training Series;
7/12/2019	<i>Common Criminal Issues in Removal Defense</i>	<i>RDC</i>	Student Training Series;
7/26/2019	<i>Adelanto Detention Facility Tour for LAJF Law Student Interns</i>	<i>RDC</i>	Student Training Series;
7/29/2019	<i>Arrest Reports in Immigration Matters: Strategies for Responding to Requests for your Client's Arrest Records</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	
8/2/2019	<i>Your Law and Order Moment</i>	<i>CLINIC &amp; RDC</i>	Novice Track; MCLE training;
8/8/2019	<i>Representing Asylum Seekers &amp; Formulating PSGs Post Matter of AB- &amp; Matter of L-E-A-</i>	<i>CLINIC &amp; RDC</i>	Hot Topic Track: MCLE training
8/16/2019	<i>Current Issues &amp; Zealous Lawyering in Removal Defense</i>	<i>RDC</i>	Student Training Series;
8/20/2019	<i>Part 2 CLINIC Trial Skills Training – Expert Witness Testimony and Closing Arguments</i>	<i>CLINIC, with support from ImmDef, and Public Counsel</i>	
8/28/2019	<i>So, You're Saying There's No Chance? (Zealous Lawyering in Removal Defense)</i>	<i>RDC, with support from USC Immigration Clinic</i>	Hot Topic Track: MCLE training
9/12/2019	<i>Self-Care &amp; Sustainability for Immigration Attorneys &amp; Advocates Working with Trauma Survivors: Mindfulness</i>	<i>OneJustice</i>	
9/19/2019	<i>Self-Care &amp; Sustainability for Immigration Attorneys &amp; Advocates Working with Trauma Survivors: Yoga</i>	<i>OneJustice</i>	

#### Webinars and Internet-Based Trainings:

Date	Activity Description	Leading Organization(s)	Notes
9/13/2018	<i>Representing Asylum-Seekers in Light of Matter of A-B-</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	Webinar
9/17 – 11/1, 2018	<i>Comprehensive Overview of Immigration Law</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	E-learning Course
8/29 – 9/26, 2018	<i>Understanding and Preparing Waivers</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	E-learning Course
10/17 – 11/7, 2018	<i>Representing Refugees and Asylees in Challenging Times</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	Webinar Series
10/19/2018	<i>What You Need to Know About Dora v. Sessions, Ms. L v. ICE, and M.M.M. v. Sessions Preliminary Settlement Agreement</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	Webinar
	<i>Understanding DHS' Proposed Changes to Public Charge Definition, Naturalization</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	Recorded Webinar

	<i>What All Advocates Need to Know About Removal Orders and Removal Proceedings</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	Recorded Webinar
1/15 – 2/25, 2019	<i>Comprehensive Overview of Immigration Law</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	E-learning Course
1/16/2019	<i>Representing Clients in Removal Proceedings in a Time of Rapid Change</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	Webinar Series
1/28 – 2/25, 2019	<i>USCIS Notice to Appear Guidance</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	Webinar Series
3/4 – 3/25, 2019	<i>Selected Issues in Inadmissibility</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	Webinar Series
3/22/2019	<i>Current Issues Impacting TPS and DED Clients</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	Webinar
	<i>A Pedagogy of Cultural Responsiveness</i>	<i>OneJustice</i>	Online Training Module
	<i>Trauma-Informed Advocacy in Action</i>	<i>OneJustice</i>	Online Training Module
4/26/2019	<i>Petition, Termination, Revocation, and Reinstatement</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	Webinar
7/29/2019	<i>Arrest Reports in Immigration Matters: Strategies for Responding to Requests for your Client's Arrest Records</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	Webinar
8/27/2019	<i>Basics of Immigration Litigation in Federal Courts</i>	<i>CLINIC</i>	Webinar

## Policy Changes Affecting Legal Representation in LA County (2018 – 2019)

The current White House administration has made significant changes to U.S. immigration policy. The effects of new regulations and policies include increased deportations and enforcement actions in addition to restrictions on eligibility to asylum and other forms of removal relief. These changes have directly impacted the lives of many noncitizens residing in Los Angeles County by making it more difficult to obtain legal representation, relief from removal, and restrict access to a path towards lawful status. In turn, LAJF grantees have been challenged to keep up with these changes while providing representation to their LA Justice Fund (LAJF) clients.

CLINIC, as national expert in training and capacity building and an LAJF partner, is uniquely positioned to provide LAJF attorneys with the tools they need to stay up to date and effectively represent their clients in Los Angeles County to respond strategically to policy changes. During the LAJF term from May 2018 to present, CLINIC has evaluated and advised on new policies and trends with relevant practice advisories, samples, and new trainings, in addition to timely updates on litigation challenging the administration's immigration policy changes. CLINIC's webinars and e-learning training courses have been made available to LAJF grantees and CLINIC's DVP team has specifically tailored numerous in-person trainings to LAJF grantees in collaboration with other LAJF-funded capacity building and Legal Service Provider (LSP) organizations.

Below is a list of policy changes, grouped thematically. Please see Attachment B for a complete list of trainings made available for LAJF grantees in response to these policy changes.

### I. Procedural Changes in Immigration Court/Removal Proceedings (2018 – 2019):

- **Notice to Appear (NTA) Decisions and USCIS Guidance:**
  - *Pereira v. Sessions*, 138 S. Ct. 2105 (2018): U.S. Supreme Court decision on Notices to Appear and BIA response in *Matter of Bermuda-Cota*, 27 I&N Dec. 441 (BIA 2018) limiting the application of *Pereira* holding to the stop-time rule in cancellation of removal cases.
  - **BIA decision in *Matter of Mendoza-Hernandez & Capula-Cortes***, 27 I&N Dec. 520 (BIA 2019): Majority held that a deficient NTA that does not provide the time and place of the initial immigration court hearing is “perfected” when the immigration court subsequently sends a hearing notice containing the information.
  - **USCIS Memo on NTA Guidance** (June 2018): Expands situations in which USCIS is directed to issue NTAs against individuals applying for immigration benefits placing more people into removal proceedings, further clogging immigration court system.
- **Administrative Closure, Continuances, Immigration Judges’ Dockets:** Judges faced with new quotas, pressure to adjudicate cases rapidly, and less independence managing dockets
  - **Attorney General Decision on Administrative Closure in *Matter of Castro-Tum***, 27 I&N Dec. 271 (A.G. 2018): Holding that immigration judges (IJs) may not administratively close cases unless doing so specifically authorized by regulations or settlement agreements.
    - Limits IJ’s ability to manage docket by putting a case on hold while waiting for an event outside the control of the parties to occur or to otherwise preserve government resources.
    - Immigration courts respond by establishing “status dockets”

- **Justice Department Issues New Quotas on Immigration Judges** (October 2018): Requiring them to finish 700 cases per year (three per day) or face disciplinary action.
    - Puts judges under pressure to adjudicate cases at a rapid pace.
  - **Attorney General Decision Impacting Immigration Judges' Independence/Dockets** in *Matter of S-O-G- & F-D-B-*, 27 I&N Dec. 462, 463 (A.G. 2018)
  - **BIA Decision Impacting Motions for Continuances** in *Matter of L-A-B-R-*, 27 I&N Dec. 405 (A.G. 2018)
- **Increased Detention/Bond:**
  - **Supreme Court Decision in *Nielson v. Preap***: Finding that individuals with criminal convictions can be held without bond regardless of how much time has passed since their release from criminal custody (March 2019).
- **Limiting Availability of Cancellation of Removal Relief:**
  - **BIA Decision in *Matter of Andrade Jaso & Carbajal Ayala***, 27 I&N Dec. 557 (BIA 2019)
- **DACA litigation (2018 – 2019)**: Trump administration announced in 2018 that it was dismantling Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, a federal program that provides deportation protections and work permits to eligible, young undocumented people.
  - Litigation in federal courts have kept DACA on life support.
  - U.S. Supreme Court will weigh in on DACA in its 2019 fall term (November 2019)

## II. **Asylum Policy Changes (2018 – 2019):**

- **Asylum Ban 1.0** (November 2018): Presidential proclamation and interim final rule barring those who enter the U.S. without inspection from eligibility to seek asylum.
- **Speeding up Asylum Application Adjudication Timeframe in Immigration Court:**
  - EOIR Memo (November 2018)
- **Migrant Protection Protocols** (December 2018): Asylum seekers at the southern border are issued an NTA and placed in removal proceedings and returned to Mexico to wait for a hearing date.
- **The April 2019 Presidential Memorandum**: Directs DHS to charge a fee for asylum applications, deny employment authorization for asylum seekers who enter without inspection, require asylum proceedings to be completed within 180 days.
- **Changes to the Credible Fear Screening Process** (April 2019): USCIS issued new instructions to asylum officers regarding how to determine whether an asylum seeker has a credible fear of persecution or torture.
  - Expedited Credible Fear Interviews (August 2019): USCIS director speeds up CFI procedure
- **Third Country Transit Bar** (July 2019): Interim final rule barring those who passed through a third country on route to the United States from eligibility to seek asylum in the U.S. unless they applied for asylum and were denied in at least one country through which they passed.
- **Presenting Particular Social Groups (PSGs) in Immigration Court** (2018 – 2019):
  - BIA Decision in *Matter of W-Y-C- & H-O-B-*, 27 I&N Dec. 189 (BIA 2018): BIA held that PSGs involve a factual determination so must be considered before an immigration judge (new PSGs cannot be articulated on appeal).
  - Attorney General Decision Limiting Asylum for Domestic Violence Victims and Gang-Related PSG Claims in *Matter of A-B-*, 27 I&N Dec. 316 (A.G. 2018)
  - Attorney General Decision Purporting to Restrict Family-Based Asylum Claims in *Matter of L-E-A-*, 27 I&N Dec. 581 (A.G. 2019)
- **Limiting Asylum Protections of Unaccompanied Children (UAC):**

- BIA decision *Matter of M-A-C-O-*, 27 I&N Dec. 477 (BIA 2018): BIA held that an immigration judge has initial jurisdiction over an asylum application filed by a respondent previously determined to be an unaccompanied child who turns 18 before filing the asylum application.
- USCIS Memo Limiting Asylum Protections for Unaccompanied minors (May 2019)
  - *J.O.P. v. DHS* lawsuit issues preliminary injunction
- **Expansion of Expedited Removal** (July 23, 2019)
  - Nationwide Injunction issued on Sept. 27, 2019 in *Make the Road New York v. McAleenan* preventing implementation of expanded expedited removal
- **Increased Detention of Asylum Seekers:**
  - Attorney General's Decision in *Matter of M-S-*, 27 I&N Dec. 509 (A.G. 2019) holding that some asylum seekers who have established credible fear and are subject to deportation cannot be released on bond by immigration judges.
    - *Padilla v. USCIS*: federal judge rules that asylum-seeking migrants detained for being in the U.S. illegally have the right to a bond hearing in immigration court rather than being held until their cases are complete (July 2019)
  - Administration issues rule allowing indefinitely detention of children in centers with their parents. Enjoined by *Flores* litigation (September 2019)

### III. Family Separation Policies:

- **Trump Administration's Zero Tolerance Policy** (April – June 2018): Practice of separating children from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border. Adults prosecuted and held in federal jails, children placed under the supervision of the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services
  - Family separations continue presently.
  - Litigation in *Ms. L v. ICE*, *Dora v. Sessions*, and *M.M.M v. Sessions*
  - Family reunification efforts continue.

**LAJF Year 1 Expenses**  
(November 27, 2017 - Dececeember 31, 2018)

ORGANIZATION	Y1, Q1	Y1, Q2	Y1, Q3	Y1, Q4	Year 1 Total Expenses
	Expenses	Expenses	Expenses	Expenses	
Legal Service Providers					
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles (AAAJ-LA)	\$ 133,722.00	\$ 60,939.00	\$ 64,085.00	\$ 49,457.00	\$ 308,203.00
Bet Tzedek Legal Services	\$ 49,396.00	\$ 42,778.00	\$ 48,142.00	\$ 50,531.00	\$ 190,847.00
Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)	\$ 2,611.00	\$ 4,191.00	\$ 43,128.00	\$ 36,633.00	\$ 86,563.00
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)	\$ 23,185.00	\$ 43,005.00	\$ 92,488.00	\$ 125,114.00	\$ 283,792.00
Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project, Catholic	\$ 57,990.00	\$ 91,356.00	\$ 58,363.00	\$ 114,504.00	\$ 322,213.00
Immigrant Defenders Law Center	\$ 89,469.00	\$ 77,251.00	\$ 135,206.00	\$ 71,893.00	\$ 373,819.00
Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)	\$ 25,010.00	\$ 24,399.00	\$ 24,454.00	\$ 24,308.00	\$ 98,171.00
Los Angeles LGBT Center	\$ 31,935.00	\$ 34,407.00	\$ 32,742.00	\$ 33,347.00	\$ 132,431.00
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA)	\$ 9,215.95	\$ 42,579.42	\$ 57,759.50	\$ 81,906.96	\$ 191,461.83
Program for Torture Victims (PTV)	\$ 19,138.00	\$ 16,349.00	\$ 16,238.00	\$ 18,947.00	\$ 70,672.00
Public Counsel Law Center	\$ 72,316.00	\$ 68,330.00	\$ 89,594.00	\$ 89,336.00	\$ 319,576.00
USC Gould School of Law, Immigration Clinic	\$ 17,992.00	\$ 3,326.00	\$ 23,122.00	\$ 25,596.00	\$ 70,036.00
Total	\$ 531,979.95	\$ 508,910.42	\$ 685,321.50	\$ 721,572.96	\$ 2,447,784.83
Capacity Building Organizations					
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)	Not Required to Report Quarterly				
Loyola Immigrant Justice Clinic (LIJC), Loyola Law School	\$ 13,025.00	\$ 36,297.00	\$ 37,792.00	\$ 32,900.00	\$ 120,014.00
Nonprofit Finance Fund	Not Required to Report Quarterly				
OneJustice	\$ 34,039.30	\$ 44,391.62	\$ 38,818.82	\$ 28,557.35	\$ 145,807.09
Program for Torture Victims (PTV)	\$ 19,139.00	\$ 16,353.00	\$ 16,242.00	\$ 18,951.00	\$ 70,685.00
Southwestern Law School, Immigration Law Clinic (SWLC)	\$ -	\$ 28,141.00	\$ 24,597.00	\$ 31,955.00	\$ 84,693.00
Data Collection and Evaluation & Administration					
Vera Institute of Justice, Center on Immigration and Justice (Vera)	Not Required to Report Quarterly				
Program Administration					
California Community Foundation (CCF)	Not Required to Report Quarterly				

Notes:

- There is a lag time in data collection for a given quarter and the reporting such that the actual financials will be updated from previous quarters.
- City of LA / LA County funds are only used for direct legal representation activities.
- CLINIC, NFF, and Vera are not required to provide quarterly financial reports.
- Funding for Program for Torture Victims (PTV) includes a combination of direct representation activities and capacity building resources.
- The City of LA and LA County are each paying CCF a one percent fee from their total contribution for administrative and indirect costs.

Changes to expenses previously reported:

- AAAJ-LA, expenses were updated on Q5 report to include expenses not previously reported.
- Esperanza, expenses were updated on Q6 to include expenses not previously reported.
- LA LGBT Center, expenses were updated on Q6 to include expenses not previously reported.
- KIND, expenses were updated on Q7 to include expenses not previously reported.

**LAJF Year 1 Total Expenses + Year 2 Expenses To Date  
(November 27, 2017 - September 30, 2019)**

ORGANIZATION	Total Expenses from Year 1	Y2, Q1	Y2, Q2	Y2, Q3				Total Expenses to Date
		Total Expenses	Total Expenses	City	County	Philanthropy	Total Expenses	
Legal Service Providers								
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles (AAAJ-LA)	\$ 308,203.00	\$ 61,003.00	\$ 69,217.00	\$ 4,876.00	\$ 8,432.00	\$ 5,440.00	\$ 18,748.00	\$ 457,171.00
Bet Tzedek Legal Services	\$ 190,847.00	\$ 43,275.00	\$ 45,192.00	\$ 16,130.00	\$ 23,023.00	\$ 2,365.00	\$ 41,518.00	\$ 320,832.00
Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)	\$ 86,563.00	\$ 48,969.00	\$ 22,674.00	\$ 6,467.00	\$ 7,257.00	\$ 9,541.00	\$ 23,265.00	\$ 181,471.00
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)	\$ 283,792.00	\$ 116,907.00	\$ 109,401.00	\$ -	\$ 64,900.00	\$ -	\$ 64,900.00	\$ 575,000.00
Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project, Catholic Charities of Los Angeles (Esperanza)	\$ 322,213.00	\$ 93,512.00	\$ 62,785.00	\$ -	\$ 54,811.00	\$ 17,870.00	\$ 72,681.00	\$ 551,191.00
Immigrant Defenders Law Center	\$ 373,819.00	\$ 81,695.00	\$ 111,490.00	\$ 32,049.00	\$ 26,548.00	\$ 51,440.00	\$ 110,037.00	\$ 677,041.00
Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)	\$ 98,171.00	\$ 22,870.00	\$ 21,609.54	\$ 8,571.00	\$ 8,571.00	\$ 5,914.00	\$ 23,056.00	\$ 165,706.54
Los Angeles LGBT Center	\$ 132,431.00	\$ 38,716.00	\$ 62,932.58	\$ 24,717.40	\$ 24,717.40	\$ 1,779.00	\$ 51,213.80	\$ 285,293.38
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA)	\$ 191,461.83	\$ 42,783.75	\$ 78,590.20	\$ 21,480.52	\$ 26,390.35	\$ 13,502.03	\$ 61,372.90	\$ 374,208.68
Program for Torture Victims (PTV)	\$ 70,672.00	\$ 17,424.00	\$ 17,541.00	\$ 17,279.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,279.00	\$ 122,916.00
Public Counsel Law Center	\$ 319,576.00	\$ 83,476.00	\$ 65,544.41	\$ 19,543.00	\$ 39,084.00	\$ 31,271.00	\$ 89,898.00	\$ 558,494.41
USC Gould School of Law, Immigration Clinic	\$ 70,036.00	\$ 21,584.00	\$ 28,110.00	\$ 25,559.00	\$ 25,559.00	\$ -	\$ 51,118.00	\$ 170,848.00
Total	\$ 2,447,784.83	\$ 672,214.75	\$ 695,086.73	\$ 176,671.92	\$ 309,292.75	\$ 139,122.03	\$ 625,086.70	\$ 4,440,173.01
Capacity Building Organizations								
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)	Not Required to Report Quarterly							
Loyola Immigrant Justice Clinic (LIJC), Loyola Law School	\$ 120,014.00	\$ 37,141.00	\$ 37,573.00			\$ 38,810.00		\$ 233,538.00
Nonprofit Finance Fund	Not Required to Report Quarterly							
OneJustice	\$ 145,807.09	\$ 25,615.54	\$ 33,211.20			\$ 20,366.17		\$ 225,000.00
Program for Torture Victims (PTV)	\$ 70,685.00	\$ 17,427.00	\$ 17,543.00			\$ 17,281.00		\$ 122,936.00
Southwestern Law School, Immigration Law Clinic (SWLC)	\$ 84,693.00	\$ 29,820.00	\$ 41,711.00			\$ 32,419.00		\$ 188,643.00
Data Collection and Evaluation & Administration								
Vera Institute of Justice, Center on Immigration and Justice (Vera)	Not Required to Report Quarterly							
Program Administration								
California Community Foundation (CCF)	Not Required to Report Quarterly							

**Notes:**

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- Funding for Program for Torture Victims (PTV) includes a combination of direct representation activities and capacity building resources.
- The City of LA and LA County are each paying CCF a one percent fee from their total contribution for administrative and indirect costs.

**Changes to expenses previously reported:**

- AAAJ-LA, expenses were updated on Q5 report to include expenses not previously reported.
- Esperanza, expenses were updated on Q6 to include expenses not previously reported.
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- KIND, expenses were updated on Q7 to include expenses not previously reported.

**LAJF Grant Allocations and Expenses To Date**  
**November 27, 2017 - September 30, 2019**

ORGANIZATION	Total Grant Allocation				Total Expenses as of September 30, 2019				Remaining Funds	Percentage Spent to Date
	City	County	Philanthropy	Total	City	County	Philanthropy	Total		
Direct Representation										
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles (AAAJ-LA)	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 280,000.00	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 182,463.00	\$ 224,518.00	\$ 50,190.00	\$ 457,171.00	\$ 117,829.00	80%
Bet Tzedek Legal Services	\$ 138,000.00	\$ 145,000.00	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 325,000.00	\$ 138,000.00	\$ 141,986.00	\$ 40,846.00	\$ 320,832.00	\$ 4,168.00	99%
Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 64,043.00	\$ 48,796.00	\$ 68,632.00	\$ 181,471.00	\$ 393,529.00	32%
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 260,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 260,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 575,000.00	\$ -	100%
Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project, Catholic Charities of Los Angeles (Esperanza)	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 202,965.00	\$ 247,630.00	\$ 100,596.00	\$ 551,191.00	\$ 23,809.00	96%
Immigrant Defenders Law Center	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 775,000.00	\$ 174,149.00	\$ 130,171.00	\$ 372,721.00	\$ 677,041.00	\$ 97,959.00	87%
Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 62,739.36	\$ 63,510.80	\$ 39,456.38	\$ 165,706.54	\$ 34,293.46	83%
Los Angeles LGBT Center	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 325,000.00	\$ 125,611.89	\$ 125,611.89	\$ 34,069.60	\$ 285,293.38	\$ 39,706.62	88%
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA)	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 134,665.01	\$ 160,909.72	\$ 78,633.95	\$ 374,208.68	\$ 200,791.32	65%
Program for Torture Victims (PTV)	\$ 125,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 122,916.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 122,916.00	\$ 2,084.00	98%
Public Counsel Law Center	\$ 145,400.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 254,600.00	\$ 700,000.00	\$ 119,935.14	\$ 241,333.28	\$ 197,225.99	\$ 558,494.41	\$ 141,505.59	80%
USC Gould School of Law, Immigration Clinic	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	\$ -	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 85,424.00	\$ 85,424.00	\$ -	\$ 170,848.00	\$ 9,152.00	95%
Total	\$1,718,400.00	\$ 2,405,000.00	\$1,381,600.00	\$5,505,000.00	\$ 1,577,911.40	\$ 1,729,890.69	\$ 1,132,370.92	\$ 4,440,173.01		80.7%
Capacity Building										
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	Not Required to Report Quarterly					
Loyola Immigrant Justice Clinic (LIJC), Loyola Law School	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 260,000.00	\$ 260,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 233,538.00	\$ 233,538.00		90%
Nonprofit Finance Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	Not Required to Report Quarterly					
OneJustice	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00		100%
Program for Torture Victims (PTV)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 175,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 122,936.00	\$ 122,936.00		70%
Southwestern Law School, Immigration Law Clinic	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 260,000.00	\$ 260,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 188,643.00	\$ 188,643.00		73%
Data Collection & Program Evaluation										
Vera Institute of Justice, Center on Immigration and Justice (Vera)	\$ 166,600.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 183,400.00	\$ 600,000.00	Not Required to Report Quarterly					
Program Administration										
California Community Foundation (CCF)	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	Not Required to Report Quarterly					
TOTAL	\$ 1,905,000.00	\$ 2,685,000.00	\$ 2,885,000.00	\$ 7,475,000.00						
REMAINING BALANCE	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 315,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 425,000.00						

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## **LA Justice Fund: Stories of Impact**

### **Victims of Violence Cases**

#### Case #1 (Domestic Violence)

BR is a Mexican mother of two, who was detained after a domestic violence (DV) incident on the street in which her partner was physically abusing her. Police were called by bystanders. BR is a survivor of chronic and complex trauma -- beginning in childhood -- where she witnessed her mother being brutalized daily, where she acted as protector to her two younger siblings while she herself was a mere child, where she suffered serial sexual abuse at the hands of older men and relatives in her unprotected life.

Her mother fled across the border with her and her siblings with help from community members who recognized that they would get killed at the hands of BR's father. She and her family eventually attained Lawful Permanent Residence (LPR), however BR with her traumatic past -- and still largely vulnerable to ongoing abuse by people who hosted them and having a mother who continued to remain traumatized. BR found "protection" in the arms of intimate partners -- who provided initial affection, which was not sustainable. She was brutalized by these men serially, engaged in terrible coping methods, including self-medicating.

She was arrested on a warrant when police were called to intervene in the DV incident on the street where by she was being brutally beaten. However, she was arrested due to an outstanding warrant. She was held in Adelanto for about a year before her case concluded with a positive outcome with the assistance of LAJF fund which also included a psych evaluation report from Program for Torture Victims (PTV) documenting the trauma impact she faced.

Her plans to reunite with her bio-family and children fell apart after her release. She had been counting on her mother and brother to take her back into their home to reunite with her young children who were eagerly awaiting her return. Her stepfather changed his mind about letting her back into the home. No one picked her up from Adelanto on the day she was released. Her previous community supports had failed her. She called several people to help her get back to LA -- and not one could come get her. She landed up calling the family of her abuser. The abusers' cousin drove to Adelanto to pick her up and housed her thereafter -- in the same home where the abuser lives.

Her stepfather and family filed for custody of her two children in learning that she was being housed in the family home of the perpetrator. They went to Probate Court and the L.A. County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) was assigned to assess her ability to care for her children.

She currently remains in high crisis state, was homeless when she got out, and no support systems to help her transition back to society and at least have access to basic needs: food, clothing, shelter, and a means to be able to work, work authorization. None of this was available to her upon release. Pushing her to return to her abuser's environment, continue to succumb to abuse in exchange for a roof over her head, no income to even afford transportation or food.

She reached back out to PTV -- and we are providing crisis intervention services (ProBono) -- to help her find safety, and fight for her children. We are doing the intensive crisis work of building a safety net for her to address her unsafe housing/ homelessness, safety from ongoing DV, seeking DV shelter, locating ProBono counsel/family attorney, coordinating with DCFS, finding

## **LA Justice Fund: Stories of Impact**

access to healthcare and counseling her around not relapsing as a way to numb the incredible stress, and pain she is going through from being separated from her kids. This is an ongoing story --which remains in the midst of its crisis stage. She is meeting with DCFS this week and hoping to find confidential DV shelter if beds are available.

### **Case #2 (VAWA)**

An elderly woman living in Los Angeles County called our office seeking help after her firstborn son assaulted her. This woman had no immigration status, did not speak any English, and had no income. She was at risk of deportation as she had an outstanding removal order. Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA) agreed to assist her with her VAWA application. This woman was a victim of felonious assault at the hands of her US citizen son. Her son became very violent after his stepfather died when he was just a teenager. He started getting into fights and was subsequently incarcerated. After he was released from prison, his mother was hopeful his behavior would change. However, it only exacerbated, he started doing drugs, which lead to erratic and paranoid behavior. His mother encouraged him to seek rehabilitation. Unfortunately, while in rehabilitation, he failed one of his drug tests and was asked to leave.

When he returned from rehabilitation, his behavior was even more erratic and violent. Despite his mother's efforts, he refused to go back to rehabilitation. When she tried to talk to him about it – he would get aggressive, angry, and violent. One time when his mother confronted him, he threw a plate at her. On another occasion, he grabbed her by the shirt and dragged her around the house. On various occasions, he would threaten her with knives and would strangle her.

On December 1, 2016, he broke into his mother's house. His mother recognized his voice and could hear him in the bathroom. She immediately ran to the kitchen and hid all the knives so he could not use them as weapons. She was going to leave the house, when her son saw her. He came up to her and told her that she did not love him. He then pulled back his fist and punched her right over the bridge of her nose. She ran to a neighbor's house for help. Her shirt was drenched in blood. She also went to the doctor for the bruising and swelling. That was the last time she has seen her son. While she is hurt that her son would treat her like this, she is also relieved and focused on her other kids. She hopes that they can heal and recover together. On February 13, 2018, LAFLA filed a VAWA petition on behalf of this abused mother and we received her prima facie determination in April 2018. LAFLA looks forward to receiving a VAWA petition approval so that we can mitigate her outstanding removal order and save her from deportation.

### **Case #3 (Victim of Crime)**

A concerned mother living in Los Angeles County contacted the LAFLA offices seeking for help after her daughter confided she was sexually assaulted by her uncle. The daughter and her family did not have immigration status, her parents did not speak any English, and they had very limited resources. The father was at risk of deportation having had contact with immigration officials in the past. LAFLA agreed to assist this family with a U visa application.

After the sexual assault at the hands of the maternal uncle, the girl suffered severe trauma. Her parents were extremely concerned about her and they contacted law enforcement, Department of Child and Family Services, and therapy providers to help their child. The parents' sought a restraining order and immediately relocated to make their child feel safe in their home.

## **LA Justice Fund: Stories of Impact**

On January 16, 2018, LAFLA filed a U visa application on behalf of the girl and her family. LAFLA looks forward to receiving a U visa petition approval so that the family can continue to heal and recover together.

### **Case #4 (Asylum)**

Cynthia is a hard-working mother of three U.S. citizen children who has called Los Angeles home since 2006. She was recently detained by immigration officials after she went to Mexico for a brief visit to see her dying father. Sadly, while living in the US, Sylvia was severely beaten and raped by her ex-partner and the father of her child. Her abuser was deported to Mexico last year, and Silvia's recent trip to Mexico prompted her abuser to search for her. Unfortunately, by the time Cynthia arrived in Mexico her father had passed away. Her ex-partner saw the news of his wake on Facebook and soon after arrived at her family's home, armed with a gun, and demanded that the family give Cynthia back to him - as if she were an object and not a human being. Sylvia was terrified that she would be killed, so she quickly fled Mexico, attempting to re-enter the United States and return home to her children in Los Angeles. Cynthia was detained at the US-Mexico border and placed in immigration detention at Adelanto, CA. She was scared, alone, and wondered if she would ever see her three children again.

Cynthia was fortunate to be referred to the attorneys at Immigrant Defenders Law Center (ImmDef), who, with the support of the LA Justice Fund, have begun representing her in her fight for asylum. Cynthia had an opportunity to share her story of abuse before an Immigration Judge in early June 2018. Silvia's case was largely reliant on "Matter of A-R-C-G-," a case that extended asylum protection to victims of domestic violence. Unfortunately, just one week after her testimony, and while awaiting the Judge's decision, Attorney General Sessions issued a decision which inhumanely strips asylum protection from victims of domestic violence. However, with her ImmDef attorney by her side, Cynthia has a fighting chance to employ cutting edge and developing legal theories to protect her from the Trump administration's continuing assaults on women and children. Silvia, despite her hardships, is lucky that her city, Los Angeles, is standing by her and supporting her as she continues to fight for her life.

### **Case #5 (Victim of Violence)**

An AAAJ-LA client removal order was terminated by an immigration judge in Tacoma, Washington. "Daniel" was the victim of a violent shooting that left him paralyzed from the waist down. He is an exemplary member of the community, who has turned his negative circumstances into an inspirational one. Daniel volunteers at the rehabilitation center he attends for physical therapy and also volunteers at Cal State University Los Angeles, teaching students in one of the medical departments about living with a disability. In his motion to terminate, the judge mentioned that the letters of support demonstrated "his character, volunteerism, and commendable civic spirit." The AAAJ-LA team worked on the motion to reopen his case and the motion to terminate his removal. His work was funded under LA City funds.

### **Case #6**

A Bet Tzedek client fled her home country to escape sexual abuse by a family member and sexual assault by a person in uniform. She was understandably hesitant and laconic in her initial interactions with us. She lived with her aunt upon moving to the US and, after a few meetings with our advocates at Bet Tzedek, she revealed that her aunt was not a supportive figure in her life. Her aunt ran a "casita" out of her home—literally translated as "little houses," casitas are

## **LA Justice Fund: Stories of Impact**

illegal speakeasies, often located in run-down buildings or homes, offering illicit drugs, gambling, and prostitution.

### Case #7 (Victim of Violence; Bond; Cancellation of Removal)

"Israel's" case has been particularly inspiring, as he has persevered through many struggles as a child and teenager, and has committed himself to rehabilitation, personal growth, and faith after making mistakes as a young adult. Israel and his mother migrated to the U.S. when he was ten years old as a violent civil war was erupting. Israel witnessed other children being recruited and kidnapped to be child soldiers. Israel's mother's life was threatened for her involvement with a political party. Several of his family members were murdered. His sister's children were held in a rebel camp for several years. Israel was a victim of sexual abuse as a child for which he carried guilt and shame throughout his life.

Israel arrived at the U.S. in the mid-1990's in Compton, CA. Israel faced significant discrimination and violence because of the racial tension in his neighborhood. Israel also became a target for bullying and was often called, xenophobic names and was beaten up frequently. Israel attended Compton High School during a very violent time. While finishing high school, Israel's step-father's health began to decline, so Israel started to help care for his step-father until he passed away in 1999. After high school Israel could not find work and began associating with the wrong crowd to make money in ways that ultimately landed him in prison. However, one of the most admirable traits of Israel is his commitment to his rehabilitation and his ability for someone to take full responsibility of the things he did wrong. He demonstrates sincere remorse and how he has fundamentally transformed his life. While detained Israel completed several fellowships, classes, vocational programs and is one semester away from receiving his Associates of Science degree. Israel is grateful to be able to learn from his past mistakes and want to use his story to share with others and help those in similar situations. He wants to be able to give back to his community and help young people dealing with violence, abuse and bullying so they can avoid the same path as Israel. Israel understands the importance of providing youth in his community an opportunity to relate to someone who has been in a similar situation.

ImmDef was successful in helping Israel receive a bond and is now home with his mother after spending almost 7 years apart. ImmDef was also successful in demonstrating to the court over DHS' arguments that he is eligible for cancellation of removal. During Quarter 4, Israel was granted cancellation of removal for permanent residents and his immigration case has now been resolved.

### Case #8 (Victim of Violence; Bond)

Maria is an ImmDef client who is a long-time resident of LA County and she has two U.S. Citizen children living in Los Angeles. Maria was the victim of domestic violence, including sexual violence throughout her life in the United States and in her home country of El Salvador. Starting in her early teenage years in El Salvador, Maria's mother forced her into sexual slavery, forcing her to work as a prostitute. After several years, Maria fled to the United States where she met the father of her two U.S. Citizen daughters. The father of her children began to abuse Maria physically soon after her daughters were born. After her children were born, Maria's husband contracted HIV from an affair with another woman and transmitted it to Maria. After years of trauma and abuse, Maria turned to alcohol to escape and was ultimately convicted of driving under the influence. Although Maria was diagnosed with PTSD and demonstrated to the Immigration Judge she was seeking rehabilitation related to her alcohol use, the judge denied

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her the opportunity to be released on bond and return home to her minor children who were living with Maria's abuser. Although Maria's bond was denied, ImmDef staff worked tirelessly on her case and she was granted asylum. As a result, Maria was released from detention and now has documentation in the United States. With legal status Maria is attempting to obtain the support and services she needs.

### **Case #9 (LGBTQ+)**

In November 2018, the LGBT Center represented 2 transgender individuals in securing asylum before the Immigration Court. One came to the US as a 19-year-old after having suffered threats and abuse as a transgender man. The Center secured his release from detention, where he experienced harassment, and was parole to the Center. Following his release, the LGBT Center represented him in his Immigration Court case where he won asylum. The Los Angeles LGBT Center assisted him in preparing and filing a name and change degree to correct all identity documents. The Center has helped him with finding employment and enrolling in school.

### **Case #10 (LGBTQ+)**

In November 2018, the LGBT Center represented 2 transgender individuals in securing asylum before the Immigration Court. One of them was a medical student when she was attacked because she is a transgender woman. After fleeing her home in Central America, she was detained for several months when she came to the US. With little support in the US from her family, she came to the LGBT Center when she was on the verge of homelessness. The LGBT Center secured her employment authorization and later represented her before the Immigration Court and won asylum. Over that last few months, she has begun her studies again and is continuing her dream to practice medicine.

### **Case #11 (LGBTQ+)**

Public Counsel won a BIA appeal during the second quarter of year two of the program (April – June 2019) for a gender nonconforming client from Mexico. The BIA agreed that the immigration judge failed to properly consider country conditions for transgender men in Mexico in denying relief under the Convention Against Torture. The case is now back before the Immigration Court where Public Counsel and the client await a new (and hopefully positive) decision.

### **Case #12 (VAWA)**

In December of 2018 one of Public Counsel's LAJF attorneys received a prima facie approval for an LAJF client who had filed a petition under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The client is a talented fashion designer who had previously graduated from college in the United States with a degree in graphic design. She attempted to start a career in fashion in her home country in Africa. Although she received international recognition for her work, she had great difficulty eking out a living as a designer in her home country, which is impoverished and suffers from institutional corruption. In 2014, she entered the U.S. to promote her clothing and brand around Los Angeles. Six months after her arrival, she began a romantic relationship with a U.S. citizen, and the two married shortly thereafter. Although the marriage began well, our client's husband became increasingly manipulative and controlling, using our client's immigration status and poverty as a means of controlling her. Whenever she threatened to leave him, he would remind her that she needed him to get papers. Our client finally left the marriage in 2017, but without a job, support system, or immigration status, she essentially became homeless. She was detained by ICE at Adelanto and placed in removal proceedings in late 2017. Throughout all of 2018, the attorney worked with the client to gather evidence and prepare applications to

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file for VAWA status. The application was finally submitted in October, and we received prima facie approval in December. Although there is still much work left to be done, we are hopeful that we can arrange legal status for her and watch her career as a designer get back on track.

### **Unaccompanied Children Cases**

#### **Case #1**

Catherine is a fifteen-year-old girl from Guatemala who was abandoned by both her mother and father and left to be raised by her grandmother. When her grandmother died, Catherine lived with her aunt, who took advantage of her and that she had no one to care for her. Catherine's aunt placed her into forced labor and trafficked Catherine into working for her. Her aunt took most of Catherine's money for herself and would frequently abuse her by tying her up with a lasso while physically abusing her. When not working, Catherine was forced to cook and clean for the home and slept on the cold floor with no blankets or warmth.

By hiding what little she could from her aunt, Catherine saved up enough money to make the difficult journey to the U.S., where she is now with loving and caring family who have Catherine's best interest at heart. KIND is directly involved with Catherine's case and we're currently pursuing Special Immigrant Juvenile Status and possible asylum. KIND seeks to appoint Catherine's sponsor as her legal guardian so that she can receive the proper care and attention she deserves.

#### **Case #2**

Ira is a three-year-old girl from El Salvador who fled her home country with her uncle and grandmother due to gang threats against the family. Ira's uncle was one of the few people in his community who decided to stand up against the local gang's criminal activities and testified in court, resulting in gang members going to prison.

Although Ira, her grandmother, and her uncle were placed into witness protection thereafter, the local gang found out where the family was living and sought to kill Ira's uncle as retaliation for acting against them. Gang members placed a gun to Ira's grandmother's head while she held Ira in her arms. The men demanded to know more information about Ira's uncle and his whereabouts and gave the grandmother and Ira 24 hours to give them the information. That same night, Ira and her family made the difficult journey to the United States, where they are now seeking asylum and protection.

When arriving in the U.S. Ira faced a different set of problems. Once in the custody of ORR, Ira was placed with a foster family that did not properly care for Ira and her wellbeing. This neglect resulted in Ira being hospitalized for skin rashes and diseases. Once out of the custody of ORR and finally released to her family, Ira was treated properly and is now in a better home than before. KIND has met with young Ira and her family and we're searching for a volunteer attorney to represent Ira in her immigration case so that Ira may remain with her family.

#### **Case #3**

Marley is an indigenous girl from Guatemala living with her father and Marley's partner in the Los Angeles area. Marley's primary language is Mam, with a limited understanding of Spanish and much less grasp of English. On one occasion in the U.S., Marley was being physically abused by her partner due to jealousy. Marley's father witnessed the abuse and called the police to protect his daughter, resulting in the partner being arrested. Social Services were

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subsequently called and due to language issues between Marley and the social worker, there have been great difficulties in Marley's case. Currently, KIND is in communications with Marley and her father and we're screening the case for possible legal services KIND may provide.

### **Case #4**

LAFJ team members won release on bond for "Joaquin," a 19-year-old orphan who came to Los Angeles as an unaccompanied child at age 16. Joaquin was approved for SIJS in 2016, but he is still awaiting his visa due to backlogs in the system. Despite his approved SIJS petition, ICE detained Joaquin and put him in removal proceedings after he completed a six-month criminal sentence. Joaquin struggled daily in detention and, after six months at Adelanto, was on the cusp of giving up and returning to Honduras. However, with legal representation and robust support from various community groups, including the San Fernando Valley Immigrant Youth Coalition (IYC), Joaquin was able to win a \$5000 bond. IYC members ran a campaign to raise the bond funds, and Joaquin was released from custody in September 2018. He is thrilled to be out and has the ongoing support of community groups to help him get back on his feet. Public Counsel, with LAFJ support, will continue to represent Joaquin in his removal proceedings on the non-detained docket of the Los Angeles Immigration Court.

### **Heads of Household**

#### **Case #1**

Juan has lived in Los Angeles County since 1988. He has three US citizen children and two US citizen grandchildren. All his children and grandchildren live in Los Angeles County. During Juan's time as an LA County resident, he has been employed and an active member of the community. Juan has worked at the San Fernando Swap Meet for the last 20 years. He frequently donates toys and supplies to public schools in his community. Additionally, he and his daughter regularly prepare food and supplies for homeless individuals and donate directly to the homeless population in the San Fernando Valley.

As Juan was preparing to leave home for work one morning, he was unexpectedly arrested by ICE. Juan, not fully understanding why ICE officials were at his house, invited the officers to come in. The officers falsely accused Juan of having stolen vehicles on his property and detained him although they did not have evidence of a crime or a warrant for his arrest. Juan had allowed a friend to park a car at his home, but the officers documented that they suspected the car was stolen. When Juan's daughter went to local police, they had no record of any investigation concerning Juan.

Juan's detention was extremely difficult and confusing for his family members. His daughters and grandchildren were devastated not knowing if or when he would come home. Juan shares a very close relationship with all his children.

At his initial Immigration Court hearing, Juan and ImmDef staff were ready to explain to the court why he merited release from detention. DHS counsel submitted a document prepared by the ICE officers who came to his house and accused Juan of stealing cars without any proof. The officers who arrested Juan were not present in court. Because Juan had a lawyer to advocate for him, he was able to demonstrate the unreliability of the document and object to its admission as evidence in court. The Immigration Judge agreed with this argument and Juan was released on bond at his first hearing. Without a lawyer, it would have been impossible for Juan to demonstrate that the accusations made by the arresting ICE officers were unfounded.

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Juan is now home with his family, and he is very grateful to have the support of Los Angeles, his home for the last thirty years, as he continues to fight his case. He knows that because of this support, he will never need to face this struggle alone.

His 20-year-old daughter, who is a student at Cal State LA and works for LA's Best Afterschool Enrichment Program, provided extensive documentation for ImmDef staff to assist in the preparation for her father's bond hearing. After working closely with ImmDef staff, Juan's daughter has decided she wants to become a lawyer and will begin volunteering with ImmDef's Los Angeles Justice Fund Program next week, so she can help other Angelino families facing similar situations.

### Case#2

Mr. J.J. has resided in the United States since 1976, when he arrived as a ten-year-old child. He has been a lawful permanent resident (LPR) since 1981. He is a long-time resident of Los Angeles, where he and his then-wife, a U.S. citizen, raised their two U.S. citizen daughters, ages 18 and 20. One of his daughters, N.J., has a serious medical condition that required intensive care in her early childhood. Mr. J.J. and his ex-wife, with whom he remains close, experienced marital difficulties after the birth of N.J., resulting in a string of misdemeanor convictions for domestic violence. As part of his rehabilitative efforts, Mr. J.J. completed several programs for domestic violence perpetrators and participated in counseling. Throughout, Mr. J.J. maintained steady employment as an auto mechanic. Many of Mr. J.J.'s friends and family have written that Mr. J.J. is an extremely hardworking man who has always provided for his family.

Mr. J.J. was arrested by ICE on his way to work one morning. The basis for his arrest was his last criminal conviction, which occurred in 2008. Despite having had no further contact with law enforcement in the last decade, Mr. J.J. was transferred to the Adelanto Detention Facility and placed in removal proceedings. Represented by an LAJF attorney, Mr. J.J. successfully argued that he was neither a flight risk nor a danger to the community. He was released from custody on a \$6,500 bond. Unfortunately, because of the release restrictions imposed by ICE, including both ICE check-ins and home visits, Mr. J.J. has been unable to return to work full time. Public Counsel, with LA Justice Fund support, continues to represent Mr. J.J. in his removal proceedings on the non-detained docket of the Los Angeles Immigration Court.

### Case #3

Mr. M. was brought to the United States almost thirty years ago, when he was still a toddler. Mr. M. speaks English, has lived in Los Angeles since he was an infant, and is, for all intents and purposes, culturally American. Mr. M. and his wife, a U.S. citizen by birth, have been married since 2011, and have four U.S. citizen children, ages 11, 10, 7, 3. He is a committed husband and father. Although Mr. M. was involved in gangs when he was a young man, he left gang life years ago and began a new, law-abiding life for himself. As Mr. M. matured into a young man, he realized the terrible effects of gang life and committed himself to the difficult task of gang separation. He has had no criminal record for the past ten years. As part of his rehabilitative process, Mr. M. studied culinary arts at Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts. Since his graduation from Le Cordon Bleu, Mr. M. has worked at two different restaurants in the Los Angeles area. Mr. M.'s employers and customers have written admiringly of his reliability, work ethic, and positive demeanor. For the past five years, Mr. M. has worked as a volunteer coach for a youth soccer league in his LA neighborhood, in part to help dissuade at-risk youth from joining gangs.

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Despite Mr. M.'s rehabilitation and strong ties to the community, ICE targeted him for removal. He was arrested after leaving his workplace in Los Angeles and transferred to the Adelanto Detention Facility where he faced removal proceedings. Public Counsel took on Mr. M.'s representation through the LA Justice Fund. At his bond hearing, ICE fought hard to convince the immigration judge that Mr. M. should remain detained pending removal proceedings. They lost. With the help of counsel, Mr. M., his family, and friends succeeded in showing the judge that Mr. M. was neither a danger to the community nor a flight risk. To the contrary, he is a hard worker, caring husband, and a role model for his children and the youth in his community. The judge ordered Mr. M. released on a \$3000 bond. He is now reunited with his family and back at work. Public Counsel, with LA Justice Fund support, continues to represent Mr. M. in his removal proceedings on the non-detained docket of the Los Angeles Immigration Court.

### **Difficulty Providing Residency Documentation**

#### **Case #1**

A 21-year-old man who has lived in the US undocumented since 2007, when he entered the country at age 11 with his family. He is a DACA recipient who was arrested by ICE and detained in Adelanto. Esperanza is advocating for termination of his removal proceedings based on his being a current DACA recipient.

This young man is homeless in a practical sense. Prior to his detention, his strained relationships with his family members left him staying with friends and his girlfriend. Though his girlfriend and her mother would be willing to take him in, they are worried because other undocumented people (not known to ICE) live with them and his presence in the home could draw ICE's attention to the home (for visits, check-ins, supervision in general). He is essentially prevented from requesting bond because, were we to do so, the immigration judge would deny it for his being homeless and therefore a risk of flight. This is an area where insisting on documentation of residency is problematic. His case is funded through the County.

#### **Case #2**

A 50-year-old undocumented man who has lived in the United States for the past 19 years. Esperanza had to make use of the City waiver to represent him because of a conviction. During his imprisonment, he was transferred out of the state of California due to overcrowding. While out of state in another prison, he was raped and threatened by other prisoners for refusing to take part in smuggling and selling contraband inside the prison. He was later transferred to another state for protective custody and then to California, again in protective custody, until he completed his sentence. This is an area where insisting on documentation of residency is problematic. This man has undocumented/DACA children in the United States, but he has lost communication with them since entering ICE custody. His children fear ICE will know about them and come after them if they continue communicating with him. If documentation were insisted upon, this man would be excluded from representation.

### **Other**

#### **Case #1**

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AAAJ-LA's Case Manager continues to assist LAJF clients with needs beyond legal representation. One challenge is the lack of resources available to clients who are out of status and experiencing homelessness. For example, one of the LAJF clients is homeless, has severe mental health issues, has difficulty with various daily activities, and only speaks Khmer. The Case Manager has met with the client at the Harbor Regional Center to find appropriate aid that fit her needs. The center requires 3 appointments to properly diagnose the client. Case Manager has attended the third appointment, and by the time Q3 Report was submitted, they should receive a diagnosis within a few weeks.

### Case #2

The legal services provided by LAJF have had an enormous positive influence for individuals detained at the Adelanto Detention Facility. One individual who has lived in Los Angeles County as a lawful permanent resident since he was four years old was placed in removal proceedings in February. This person briefly turned to drug use after his father died of cancer. The same year of his father's death, ICE posed as probation officers and took him and his brother into custody. His mother was left in the home alone with no support.

This individual was fortunate enough to receive help from an LAJF attorney. Although bond was denied twice, this individual was ultimately granted cancellation of removal and was saved from deportation. ImmDef LAJF attorney successfully litigated that a conviction did not make him ineligible for cancellation of removal. Through aggressive lawyering, this person won on the merits of his case. This person was released from immigration detention with his immigration proceedings behind him just a few days before his mother's naturalization oath ceremony which he attended. Because of the LAJF this individual was able to watch his mother become a citizen of the U.S.

### Case #3

ImmDef's LAJF program assisted another long term lawful permanent resident win cancellation of removal. This individual had lived in the U.S as a lawful permanent resident for nearly 20 years. DHS placed this person in removal proceedings in December 2017. DHS placed this person in removal proceedings for a conviction that occurred in 1999 – almost 20 years ago. DHS argued that his 1999 conviction was a “crime involving moral turpitude” that prevented this individual from even applying for cancellation of removal. Through ImmDef's representation this person was able to successfully argue that his conviction was not a bar to relief. After being detained for 9 months, this person was granted cancellation of removal and permitted to remain in the country he has called home for over 20 years.

### Case#4

ImmDef's LAJF program also assisted a 62-year-old man who has been a resident of the U.S for a decade. This man has no family in his home country – his siblings and son are all in the U.S. Prior to receiving services from LAJF the man had a conviction that qualified as an “aggravated felony” due to the sentence. LAJF was able to successfully work with the LA County Public Defender's Office and modify the sentence. The conviction no longer qualified as an “aggravated felony” and this man was now able to apply for asylum as well as cancellation of removal. Without the tireless effort of the LAJF program, this man would have had almost no relief from deportation.

### Case #5

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Public Counsel's attorney, working in collaboration with the LA County Public Defender's Office, achieved an excellent result for a long-time resident of Los Angeles who was brought to the United States from Honduras as a small child.

"Miguel" lived a normal life until, in his late teens and early twenties, he began to exhibit signs of a serious mental illness. His condition worsened until, in 2012, his mother interrupted him in the midst of a severe psychotic episode. During this episode, Miguel struck his mother. He was arrested and charged with assault. Miguel was ultimately placed in a diversion program where he received mental health treatment and other services. However, because ICE regards even diversion programs as convictions for immigration purposes, Miguel was unable to renew his Temporary Protected Status.

Earlier this year, ICE officers accompanied Miguel's probation officer to his apartment and took him into immigration custody. They subsequently tried to deport him without an opportunity to see a judge using an administrative removal order, which authorizes ICE to deport a person without allowing them to see a judge if they have been convicted of an aggravated felony – here, a crime of violence with a sentence of a year or longer. To prevent this from taking place, we worked with Miguel's public defender, who filed a petition to reduce Miguel's official sentence to 364 days. With that order, we were able to vacate Miguel's administrative removal order and secure a full hearing before the immigration court. In that hearing, we filed a motion to suppress and terminate based on Miguel's unlawful arrest by ICE in conjunction with the probation check; unfortunately, but not surprisingly, the immigration judge denied the motion. We are now pursuing a claim for asylum and related relief, which we hope will result in his release from detention and a stable immigration status.

### **Bond Cases**

#### Case #1

One family in particular has benefited from Advancing Justice-LA's work under the LA Justice Fund. This family is Chinese-Panamanian; the parents emigrated separately from China and met in Panama, where they had four children. The entire family then moved to the United States and were undocumented for many years. Our client, the mother in this family, was unfortunately put into removal proceedings after being caught at a border checkpoint in 2016. One of her daughters, who received DACA assistance from Advancing Justice-LA, was able to post her bond and our client was released from ICE detention a few weeks later. At this time, the family's youngest son decided to enlist in the army's Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest (MAVNI) program, which recruited him because of his language skills in Chinese. Within six months of being enlisted in the army, the son, a former DACA recipient, was able to become a naturalized U.S. citizen with Advancing Justice-LA's assistance. He subsequently submitted immigration applications for both parents. Our attorney also submitted Motions to Terminate Removal Proceedings and a Motion for Administrative Closure on behalf of his mother. His father received his green card about one year into the Trump administration, and his mother was able to win her deportation case because of her son's petition for her. We are happy to report that just after Christmas 2018, our client finally has her green card and is safe from deportation and from the threat of family separation.

#### Case #2

During Quarter 4, one of CARECEN'S client, under the LAJF, was granted bond. This client had been separated from his family at the border and was able to obtain legal representation due to

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the County's amendment to the program after the zero-tolerance family separation policy. Our attorney worked diligently to prepare a bond packet for this client and was successful in winning the bond case. The client was able to secure the bond amount through the help of RAICES. Unfortunately, the client's father, who our attorney also represents, was also granted bond but he does not qualify for RAICES' bond fund. Our attorney is currently preparing him for his merits hearing.

### **Case #3**

CHIRLA's supervising attorney in the Removal Defense Team successfully obtained bond for a LAJF client that has lived in the U.S. for over 15 years and has strong ties to this country. The client had been detained at a military base after making a wrong turn and then knowing he was undocumented.

### **Case #4**

LAJF client "Alex" has resided in Los Angeles since 2007, when he arrived as a fourteen-year-old child. Alex graduated from high school and enrolled in community college after graduation. In 2012, he was granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, but the period of deferred action expired in 2017. That same year, Alex began to work as an informant for a law enforcement Agency. Shortly after, he violated the terms of his probation for a prior misdemeanor conviction. After serving two-and-a-half months in county jail, Alex was detained by ICE, transferred to the Adelanto Detention Facility, and placed in removal proceedings. Represented by LAJF attorney Jackie Aranda, Alex successfully argued that based on his strong ties to the community and his work for the law enforcement agency, he was neither a flight risk nor a danger to the community. He was released from custody on a \$5,000 bond. Public Counsel, with LAJF support, continues to represent Alex in his removal proceedings on the non-detained docket of the Los Angeles Immigration Court.