

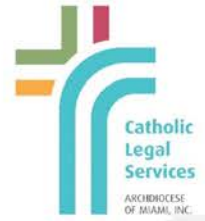
2022

ANNUAL REPORT



www.cclsmiami.org

MISSION



Legal Representation and immigration services to those who come to South Florida from foreign lands

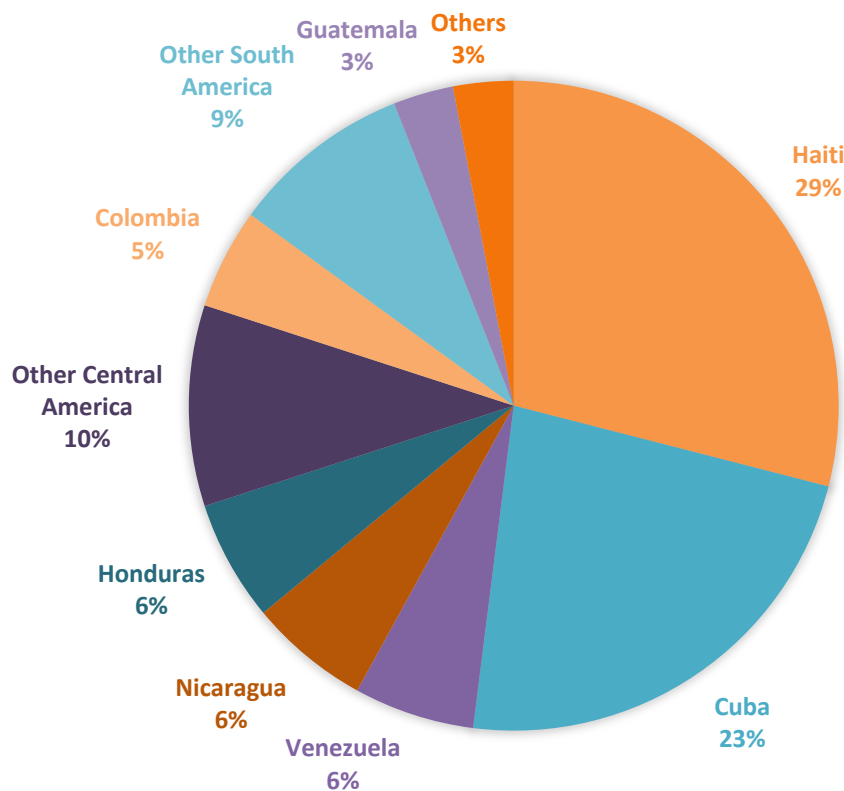
Professional assistance to those who lack sufficient means to obtain legal help

Quality services without regard to faith, race, national origin, or any other distinguishing characteristic



“Justice will never be fully attained unless people see in the poor person, who is asking for help in order to survive, not an annoyance or a burden, but an opportunity for showing kindness and a chance for greater enrichment.” — St. John Paul II

Incorporated in 1998, Catholic Charities Legal Services, Archdiocese of Miami, Inc. (hereafter “CCLS”) is a nationally recognized agency with an experienced team of attorneys and immigration professionals whose mission is to provide professional legal services, both application assistance and attorney representation before the Citizenship and Immigration Services, the Immigration Courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals, to those who come from foreign lands who lack sufficient means to obtain representation without regard to faith or national origin. In addition to its professional competencies, CCLS’ staff reflects the diversity of the population it serves, allowing for culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate services. In 2022, CCLS served clients from 93 different countries and territories.



“The bosom of America is open to receive not only the Opulent and respected Stranger, but the oppressed and persecuted of all Nations and Religions; whom we shall welcome to a participation of all our rights and privileges...” – President George Washington

REFUGEE ASSISTANCE (LEGAL) PROGRAM

The (RS) Refugee Assistance Program is federally funded by the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) within the Department of Health and Human Services. It is administered in Florida by the Department of Children & Families to provide various services to refugees. Our program is funded to provide employment-related immigration services to refugees, asylees, Cuban and Haitian Entrants, and others. In 2022, CCLS provided 921 services under this program.

Hope & Life: *“Torres,” a Cuban national who left Cuba in December 2021 fleeing violent abuse by the government due to his participation in a pacific protest on July 11, 2021. After waiting several months in Mexico, he was finally allowed to enter the United States and was granted parole on April 20, 2022. CCLS helped him submit his asylum application to the Miami Immigration Court in June 2022. In October 2022, CCLS staff helped Torres to apply for an Employment Authorization Document (EAD). He will also be helped in the future to file for Adjustment of Status under the Cuban Adjustment Act (CAA). We could not provide this kind of complex legal assistance without the support of the Refugee Support Services grant.*

Cuban Nationals Project

This project provides legal assistance and accepts referrals. Staff assists with work permits, parole requests, and fee waiver requests for recent Cuban arrivals for they to have the right tools to start their new life in the United States. We aid this same population with their adjustment of status applications after a year of their arrival so they can become legal permanent residents. Subsequently, after their five years as legal permanent residents, we provide them assistance for naturalization. The program assists Cuban nationals who are legal permanent residents or U.S. citizens to reunify with their family members who are in Cuba through family petitions.

In 2022, CCLS assisted Cubans who were formally part of the MPP (Migrant Protection Program) and were paroled in filing motions to change venue (COV), asylum applications with the Department of Justice and USCIS, work permits, and Cuban adjustment applications. In 2022, CCLS completed 921 services under the Refugee Assistance Program grant, where 678 were Cuban nationals. CCLS assisted many individuals with their adjustment of status and naturalization applications, where 22 of those services were rendered to asylee clients and have assisted countless Cuban families eligible under the Cuban Family Reunification Parole (CFRP) program.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Special Haitian Project – Notre Dame

The program provides Know Your Right presentations (“KYR”) to recent Haitian Migrants. To respond to the increasing demands for immigration services and to serve more individuals, CCLS maintained its Notre Dame D’Haiti Catholic Church location to conduct its KYR and provide other services to the Haitian population.

“Remember, remember always, that all of us, and you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists.” — Franklin D. Roosevelt

In 2022, CCLS conducted weekly KYR presentations that serve 20-30 migrants each session, averaging 60-100 respondents a month.



KYR at Notre Dame d’Haiti Parish Hall

The weekly KYR provided legal screening/intake, legal orientations, a friend of court services when needed, and *pro se* assistance to thousands of Haitian migrants facing removal without legal representation in Immigration Court and who must report to Immigration Customs Enforcement (“ICE”). The weekly KYR also provided referrals to social services around the community.

Pro-se Asylum Clinic

CCLS launched quarterly *pro se* asylum clinics for unrepresented individuals in removal proceedings close to reaching

their one-year asylum deadlines. Those clinics are conducted at the Notre Dame D’Haiti Catholic Church in Little Haiti. **This project relies on volunteer attorneys to help CCLS assist unrepresented Haitian migrants in completing their asylum applications *pro se*.** In 2022, CCLS tried and appealed to private attorneys to provide full *pro bono* representation to this vulnerable population.

Hope & Life: “I am a client. I am happy I came to Catholic Legal Services for my immigration help. I attended a session that helped me understand the immigration system. I have a child with cancer and am dealing with that and the foreign immigration system. Having someone who goes out of their way to help you is an extreme blessing. They also referred me to other programs that could help my family beyond immigration issues. They took the time to ensure everything was done for me correctly. They have done a lot for my family. They are so invested in ensuring we are okay that it took me a while to realize that all the programs were not from them. They had people come to the site to offer services they knew would benefit us. Thank you.”



KYR at the border of Mexico

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”
– Mahatma Gandhi

THE JOY OF GIVING

2022 Thanksgiving Basket Drive



The staff of Catholic Legal Services pulled together and purchased all the components for a traditional Thanksgiving meal for 100 disadvantaged families recently arrived. In addition to the non-perishable supplies, ***we are thankful to the Development Office of the Archdiocese of Miami*** for providing each family with a gift card to Publix so they may purchase additional perishables.

Charity isn't about pity; it is about love. Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love. The fruit of love is service, which is compassion in action".

– St. Teresa of Calcutta



Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

TPS was extended for Venezuelans and approximately 323,000 Venezuelan were eligible for TPS renewal, significantly impacting South Florida. While serving the Venezuelan community, we continued to assist Haitians eligible at Notre Dame D'Haiti Catholic Church in Little Haiti, a highly convenient location for the Haitian community. CCLS conducted outreach to inform individuals about their eligibility to file for TPS and various other immigration services.



CCLS helps its clients become productive members of society and ... they come back to CCLS to serve others. They are now CCLS employees

CCLS Staff Testimony: "I enjoy being part of the CLS Notre Dame team. Being part of this outreach program is extremely rewarding for me. The reward to me is personal. My parents came to the United States by boat and had to navigate this complicated immigration system independently. I am grateful they were able to overcome the process. Working at CLS and being part of the Notre Dame team is my way of giving back to the world.

I feel compelled to help everyone here and do not want one to navigate the system alone. These individuals have a fear of the immigration system. They must know and understand that I am there for them and any time. Likewise, the client has a fear of this complicated immigration process. I like to make them feel like I am there with them throughout the process. I want them to feel heard. A simple work authorization, change of address, or setting an appointment with ICE Miramar makes such a massive difference in the individual's life. Once I break the trust barrier, the fulfilling part of the work that I have always longed for."

Client Testimony: *"I am incredibly grateful for what Catholic Legal Services has done for my family and me. I have benefited from many of the programs. Because of their help, my son could remain in the United States without an order of deportation, and my husband and I are at peace. It is incredible how they leave their office and come to help us where we at. The attorney went to the church and helped my son with his court hearing. Thank you very much."
"Notre-Lady Louis"*



CIRCLE Services

In September, Catholic Legal Services received \$1M to provide legal support to Miami-Dade County's immigrant community. Through this funding, CCLS established Community Immigration, Refugee, Citizenship, and Lawful Employability Services (CIRCLE Services), which incorporates community education, legal screenings, targeted legal assistance in clinic settings, and direct representation to individuals in Miami-Dade County. The Project will educate, counsel, assist and represent eligible immigrants who have a pathway under current law to obtain an immigration benefit, refugee status, citizenship, or other lawful employability status.

Through the CIRCLE Services Project, we are addressing growing and well-founded deportation fears with a four-part approach:

- Educating migrant, refugee and immigrant communities in community settings regarding immigration law, practices, policies and procedures;
- Offering advice and counsel through individual consultations and case assessments;
- Conducting targeted legal clinics for eligible individuals for specific forms of immigration relief; and,
- Representing individuals who have been determined eligible for immigration relief based on family unity, community ties, or vulnerable characteristics.

The collaborative includes the following organizations:

- Americans for Immigrant Justice (AIJ)
- Family Action Network Movement (FANM)
- Florida Immigrant Coalition (FLIC)
- Haitian Lawyers Association (HLA)
- Hispanic Unity of Florida (HUF)
- Miami Workers Center (MWC)
- Miami-Dade County Office of New Americans (ONA)
- Sant La Neighborhood Center

Monthly Virtual TPS Clinic

The collaborative holds monthly TPS clinics every third week of every month from Thursday to Saturday. This year, CIRCLE offered a hybrid program, virtual and in-person, to make the services attainable to all eligible disadvantaged individuals. TPS service is offered to various nationalities, including but not limited to Cameroon, Haiti, Venezuela, and Ukraine. Together, we have completed over 395 TPS applications and/or TPS-related services under this program.



CCLS Staff assisting eligible TPS applicants at an immigration district clinic.

Miami-Dade County Immigration Clinic



The collaborative hosted an in-person immigration clinic monthly. These clinics have been held in different county districts in Miami-Dade County. These clinics will continue to be held at each district in the County. CCLS, as the lead agency, with its competent attorneys and accredited representatives, performed legal reviews, provided legal consultations, and trained legal volunteers on-site and virtually during those scheduled clinics.

Joseph Caleb Center Site

CCLS went to various locations to offer services such as the Joseph Caleb Center and Sant La, and any other designated locations as may be requested by the Collaborative or as we may see the need.

CCLS Staff: *“The CIRCLE program is one of the most important at the office. This program focuses on making as many new entrants in Miami-Dade County employable as possible. CIRCLE targets recent arrivals and the recent arrival are not able to afford private attorneys. CIRCLE changes people’s lives. It allows the family who otherwise would not be able to get help to receive services at reputable organizations such as ours. These services are vital to each family, their children, and the generation to come because CIRCLE helps complete temporary protective status and work authorization for whoever is eligible. This is important because individuals can sustain themselves by lawfully working in the US once the work authorization card is approved. Thus, they do not have to rely on others to care for themselves and their family.”*

District Clinics



“Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope...”
– St. Francis of Assisi

NATURALIZATION PROJECT

In 2022, Catholic Legal Services continued to partner with other organizations as part of the New Americans Campaign (NAC). Through this partnership, led by CCLS, the collaborative has successfully assisted thousands of lawful permanent residents realize their dreams of becoming US citizens.

In addition to the partnerships fostered by the NAC, CCLS partnered with the Miami Dade Office of New Americans (ONA), the Office of Congresswoman Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick, and the Haitian Lawyers Association (HLA).





Together with the ONA, CCLS, and the NAC hosted a three-day citizenship clinic to assist eligible lawful permanent residents apply for naturalization. On September 15 and September 16, the clinics were held virtually via Zoom. On September 17, the Clinic was held virtually and included one in-person location in Broward and another in Miami-Dade County, with the support of Miami-Dade College Wolfson Campus and their iCED Program. During the in-person event held in Miami-Dade County, we received a surprise visit from Miami-Dade County Mayor, Daniella Levine Cava. She spoke to attendees about the importance of

immigrants in Miami-Dade County and how proud and happy she was that they were taking this bold step in their future. Attendees were so happy and proud of themselves and inspired by the mayor's words.

During the Summer of 2022, CCLS's partnership with HLA allowed it to assist more than 100 people in their journey to citizenship.

IMMIGRATION COURT HELP DESK

ICH educates and provides limited legal advice to non-detained respondents in removal proceedings about the immigration court process. ICH provides individuals with the tools to make informed decisions about their legal cases and, in doing so, improves the efficiency and effectiveness of immigration court proceedings. The program provides legal orientations, a friend of court services, intake clinics, pro-bono attorney referral and placement, outreach, and *pro se* assistance in completing motions and forms to serve over 181,000 Respondents facing removal without representation in the Miami Immigration Court.

In 2022, ICH served 7,912 participants. After the Miami Immigration Court resumed Master Calendar Hearings after the COVID-19 pandemic, ICH has resumed in-person services at the Miami Immigration Court three times a week and has resumed some in-person services at our office but continues to provide some of its services remotely. The program has used different forms of technology, such as electronic documents, applications, and video conferencing to provide services remotely and reach out to Respondents.

Type of Service	Number of Participants
Group Information Sessions (KYRs)	34
Self-Help Workshops	19
Individual Information Sessions	880
Friend of Court	3

FAMILY GROUP LEGAL ORIENTATION PROGRAM

Like our Immigration Court Help Desk program, the Family Group Legal Orientation Program (“FGLOP”) provides legal orientations, friend-of-court services, pro-bono attorney referral and placement, outreach, and *pro se* assistance in completing motions and forms to serve these family groups. In 2022, the Miami Immigration Court had almost 27,000 dedicated docket cases, most of whom are from Colombia and some Brazilians.

Since the program’s launch in the summer of 2021, FGLOP has provided 14 KYRs to these families and has served over 100 families.

ADULTS WITH CHILDREN PROGRAM

The AWC Program Provides Direct Representation To Immigrant Families In Deportation Proceedings Before The Miami Immigration Court And Submission To USCIS.

In 2022, The AWC Program Represented Approximately 100 Families With Active Cases. The AWC Program Successfully Maintained A Diligent Representation Of Its Clients. The AWC Program Is Well Poised To Continue To Increase Families’ Access To Representation, Due Process, And Ultimately, Legal Status, Safety, And Stability.

UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN PROGRAM

In 2022, the UCP program doubled in size adding attorneys, paralegals and a social services coordinator. The UCP team works together to provide culturally competent and holistic legal services to unaccompanied children who are facing removal proceedings alone. This work is challenging as attorneys must appear in Florida State Court for custody matters which happen in unison with Immigration Court. Furthermore, there are fast deadlines as children are often referred to us nearing their 18th birthday, a barrier to some options for relief. Despite these challenges, the team forged ahead securing a path to citizenship for many young clients, with particular success with complex state court matters and SIJS. Several clients were granted asylum before an Immigration Judge including a Mam-speaking young woman from Guatemala who witnessed family members being murdered in her village.



In addition to representing nearly 400 children, the UCP team expanded to conduct outreach and provide "know your rights" presentations to children who were released from an ORR facility

without having spoken to an attorney. They contacted 1000s of children to offer them consultations and to make referrals. The team looks to continue expanding next year as there are many more children arriving in Miami from Haiti and Cuba, in addition to Northern Triangle countries who need our help!

LEGAL ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR CUSTODIANS



Legal Orientation Program for Custodians who have been released from the Office of Refugee Resettlement custody and are currently in immigration court proceedings and cannot afford an attorney. Immigration courts do not provide *pro bono* counsel to indigent respondents and so the LOPC is crucial in helping minors navigate the complex legal system of their removal proceedings.

The goals of the LOPC are to (1) reduce the number of in absentia removal orders by educating custodians on their role and responsibilities, the immigration process, and potential forms of relief, and (2) protect children from mistreatment, exploitation, and harm.

In 2022, we served approximately 1,178 individuals through legal orientations, individual intakes legal screening, pro se asylum workshops, and pro bono referrals. Our office was the first program at the EOIR Immigration Court in Miami to offer remote Friend of Court services for the judge's juvenile dockets in order to assist UACs that didn't have legal representation.

The LOPC program is also responsible for placing many children's cases with private pro bono attorneys in the South Florida region. This involves heavy mentoring and training of private attorneys on asylums, special immigrant juvenile visas, U-visas, T-visas, and state court proceedings. Since the LOPC deals with vulnerable populations who have been victims of abuse and trauma, they also offer non-legal referrals in areas such as therapy, health care, food aid, school enrollment/placement, and rent assistance.

"There is no better exercise for your heart than reaching down and helping to lift someone up." – Bernard Meltzer



UNACCOMPANIED REFUGEE MINORS PROGRAM



The Unaccompanied Refugee Minor Program is designed to meet the needs of children from other countries whose circumstances require foster care support services because their families are either temporarily or permanently unavailable due to political circumstances, economic hardship, or abandonment, or they are unable or unwilling to provide parental care and supervision.

The program provides substitute living arrangements and culturally sensitive services to achieve a balance between ethnic identity and adaptation to a new socio-cultural community. Upon release into our program, these children are represented by our attorneys in dependency court in Miami-Dade County where they are provided the same benefits as any child in state foster care. We are one of the few programs nationwide that assist these

URMPs on an emergency basis – to avoid any detention by ICE once they turn eighteen. These youths are then eligible for extended foster care after their 18th birthday. We represent them before USCIS and before the EOIR.

The URMP is a program that can help youths from all over the world including Cuba, Venezuela, Afghanistan, Guatemala, Honduras, EL Salvador, Haiti, and Mexico to name a few. In 2022, we had approximately 32 URMP cases – both new and old – and all the URMs were granted or are pending the grant of their immigration benefits. None of the URMs actively in our program are facing removal thanks to our legal representation.



“Safety and security don't just happen; they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in our society, a life free of violence and fear.” — **Nelson Mandela**

CHILDREN LEGAL SERVICES (FLORIDA BAR FOUNDATION AND PAUL PALANK)



The mission of the Children Legal Services is to provide legal assistance to children in critical areas which affect their safety, well-being, and future development. Through this grant, our office can assist unaccompanied alien children who are released from the Office of Refugee Resettlement. Our representation consists of advocating for custody and placement in either family court, probate court, or children's court and then filing relief and representing these children before USCIS and EOIR. In 2022, our office represented approximately 152 children. Many of which have won Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, asylum, and or T-nonimmigrant status. We also assisted these children in the initial and renewal filing of their employment authorization cards and more.

NATIONAL QUALIFIED REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM

The "NQRP" is a public defender model for detained individuals found to be incompetent. It helps those who lack the capacity to help themselves. One client, "Yunikeris," was chronically homeless and self-medicating. Not understanding the implications of pleading guilty after an arrest for carrying pills without a prescription, he was sent to Krome for removal proceedings. Our office was appointed to represent Yunierkis after the judge found indicia of incompetency. We receive approximately two dozen appointments per year. We successfully obtained a pardon for Yunierkis. He is now receiving therapy and prescription medication to treat his condition. He is grateful that the expertise, experience, and goodwill of the agency allowed him to remain in the U.S.A.

LABRE PROGRAM

The Labre Project serves Miami-Dade County's Homeless Population. The primary purpose of the program is to help homeless individuals get their renewed work permits and residency cards, which are essential to accessing public benefits. This has been a challenging year for the project as stringent ID requirements from the Real ID law, coupled with unprecedented processing delays at USCIS, have made acquiring routine ID cards difficult for the County's noncitizen population. As many clients have told us, "Without my ID card, I can't get my disability benefits, and I could even lose my house."



SUPPORT THE LABRE PROGRAM
SUPPORT IMMIGRANT HOMELESS COMMUNITIES IN SOUTH FLORIDA

As many clients have told us, "Without my ID card, I can't get my disability benefits, and I could even lose my house."

Continuing this important work is essential for making sure that the Miami-Dade Homeless Community has access to basic resources.

In the 2022 Calendar Year, the program provided 875 individual services for 460 people. Our primary partners are Camillus House, Lotus House, and the Chapman Partnership's three locations (Chapman North, South, and MiaCasa).

Program Goals for this Year – the Program hopes to raise \$150,000 this year in order to fully fund one FTE attorney and paralegal, which may actually be divided among several people.

Another goal is for the program to branch out into representing noncitizens before Social Security and other federal agencies. There is a gap in service for noncitizens because current federal funding for nonprofit legal providers specifically excludes noncitizens. Given that Miami has a unique, aging immigrant population that is technically eligible for public benefits, there is going to be a growing need for representation in this area.

How can you help? – it's important to understand how much of the homeless problem in Miami-Dade County is due to bureaucratic processing requirements and delays. Those who want to help improve the homelessness issue in our community can donate to the program and can also advocate for universal ID cards and more user-friendly public benefits portals.

MANAGED-SERVICE PROGRAM

The Managed-Service Program provides low-cost and free legal services for clients who do not qualify under one of the agency's many grants. During the calendar year 2022, the Managed-Service Program ("MSP") provided 5,670 services. More than two-thirds of services – accounting for 60% of total services provided – were attorney consultations (29%), applications for employment authorization (21%), and Know Your Rights Presentations (10%). The MSP also did a significant number of family petitions (122 services) and asylum services (102). We provided more than 94 different types of services under the Managed-Service Program in 2022. Nonetheless, most of the services are still in progress.

Some of the program's biggest impact comes from representing individuals in removal proceedings. "Jonnie-Jean," an 18-year-old abandoned at 14, was apprehended by ICE and facing deportation. No one cared to tell him of a prior hearing he missed. Our office was able to successfully get his case reopened and obtain a low bond. Jonnie-Jean is now awaiting TPS. The capacity to assist clients on a *pro bono* basis would help reach those who are truly and completely destitute. We can accomplish that goal through the generous support of our donors and funders.

BROWARD OFFICE



CCLS' Hollywood office is staffed by a multicultural, multilingual, and professional staff with extensive immigration experience. Specifically, the staff includes a Managing attorney, a Detention Program Supervising Attorney, four staff attorneys, one law school graduate (pending Bar results), four paralegals and one receptionist/administrative assistant. The Hollywood office is a full-service arm of the agency that offers services that include the filing of petitions and applications, attorney representation before all the immigration authorities including the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), and the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO). The people served by the Broward office include applicants for adjustment of status, employment authorization, Temporary Protected Status, asylum, victims of certain serious crimes and marital violence, citizenship, and petitions for family-based applications.

Victims of Crimes

Immigration law recognizes the special claims of abused women, men, and children, yet they remain the most vulnerable immigrants with nowhere to turn to escape exploitation and mistreatment because they remain ignorant of their rights and without the resources to exercise them. These individuals represent some of the poorest members of the South Florida community and have little hope of escaping their abusive situation or of changing their economic situation without obtaining legal status in the United States. Their irregular immigration status increases their vulnerability in that their abusers exploit their lack of immigration status and threaten deportation to prevent the victim from seeking outside help and protection. Abusers manipulate the fear and isolation of the immigrants to perpetuate the abuse. The Broward office has had the great privilege of serving those men, women and children that are victims of these crimes. The Broward office staff attorneys often represent victims of crimes in their immigration matters before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service and the Immigration Court. The cases range from U-Nonimmigrant Status for victims of certain serious crimes, VAWA Self-Petitions for victims of Domestic Violence and Petitions for Removal of Conditions based on being subject to abuse or extreme cruelty by their U.S. Citizen or Legal Permanent Resident spouses. Crime victims that are living in shelters or earn below the poverty guidelines are often afforded a full range of immigration representation for themselves as well as their spouses and children. When grant funding is available and awarded to CCLS, we also utilize such funding to provide pro bono representation for these clients as well. With the assistance of the Broward office, these individuals often gain legal status, employment and ultimately autonomy from their abusers.

Detained Persons

The Broward office is also committed to serving the detained immigrant population of Miami-Dade County, Broward County and Glades County. Through the Legal Orientation Program (LOP), staff attorneys at the Broward office help detained immigrants understand their legal rights and provide them with information on how to navigate the very complex removal process. In 2022, more than 2,000 detainees across South Florida's detention facilities received legal orientation through CCLS' Legal Orientation Program (LOP).

Immigrant Justice Corp Fellowship

The Broward office housed two Immigrant Justice Corp Fellows (IJC) through whom we provided direct representation before Immigration and Customs and Enforcement and the Immigration Court at the Broward Transitional Center (BTC) in Pompano Beach. All representation of detained immigrants by the Fellows was provided at no cost to the detained immigrant. The types of cases ranged from release on bond or parole, and requests for protection from removal in the form of Asylum and withholding of removal. During 2022, the CCLS IJC Fellows provided representation to many detainees at the Broward Transitional Center and were able to secure their release. The IJC Fellows also worked hard to find funding sources to assist their detained clients in paying the high monetary bonds set by the immigration judges at BTC.

One such detained client was Manuel (not actual client name): Manuel was a religious activist in Cuba who provided spiritual guidance and counseling to families and youth in Cuba. As a result of his opposition to the regime's attempts in recruiting young people as supporters, Manuel was beaten, incarcerated and threatened by members of the police and Cuban authorities. After several attempts to leave Cuba, Manuel finally succeeded and arrived in the United States through the border. Once processed by CBP, he was sent to Broward Detention Center. Manuel was referred to the IJC Fellows through CCLS' Legal Orientation Program (LOP) for possible bond representation before the Immigration Court. Once released, Manuel was represented by the IJC team with his asylum application before the Immigration Court in Miami. Almost three months after his release from detention and with representation from CCLS, Manuel was granted asylum and is currently awaiting the arrival of his wife and two daughters from Cuba as derivatives of his asylee status.

National Qualified Representative Program

Many persons detained in the local detention facilities suffer from mental illness. Many of them have mental health issues serious enough for an immigration judge to find that they are incompetent to represent themselves. The Broward office also houses attorneys that provide legal representation to all detainees that have been deemed mentally incompetent to represent themselves through the National Qualified Representative Program. Broward office staff attorneys are often appointed as qualified representatives by the immigration court to represent those detainees at no cost to the detainee. In many cases, our staff have been able to secure the release of those vulnerable detainees back to their families or when necessary, to mental health facilities that can provide the care that they desperately need.

“Caramel” won her asylum at BTC with the help of LOP back in 2019. Two CCLS staff attorneys had been helping her to bring her children from Venezuela since then. After a lot of setbacks, much work and persistence, they finally arrived in the US on December 31, 2022. Staff attorneys accompanied “Caramel” to Miami Airport to greet her daughter and son.



SERVING THE SERVANTS IMMIGRATION PROGRAM

The Serving the Servants Immigration Program (SSIP) enables CCLS to continue its mission by demonstrating support towards the Roman Catholic Church in the United States. The SSIP assists the Archdiocese of Miami, many other dioceses, eparchies, religious institutes, religious organizations, and charitable organizations with their immigration needs. The SSIP provides legal representation and assistance in bringing foreign-born priests, religious men and women, ministers, and seminarians from around the globe for formation, education, and/or ministry. It also provides legal representation and assistance for those who are currently present in the United States and assists with student visas. The SSIP provides consultation on religious immigration matters, representation of clients as necessary, preparation of various forms, and ongoing management of cases.

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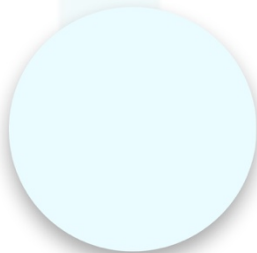
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Catholic Legal Services
will celebrate Twenty-Five Years
of Service to the Immigrant & Refugee
Community in 2023

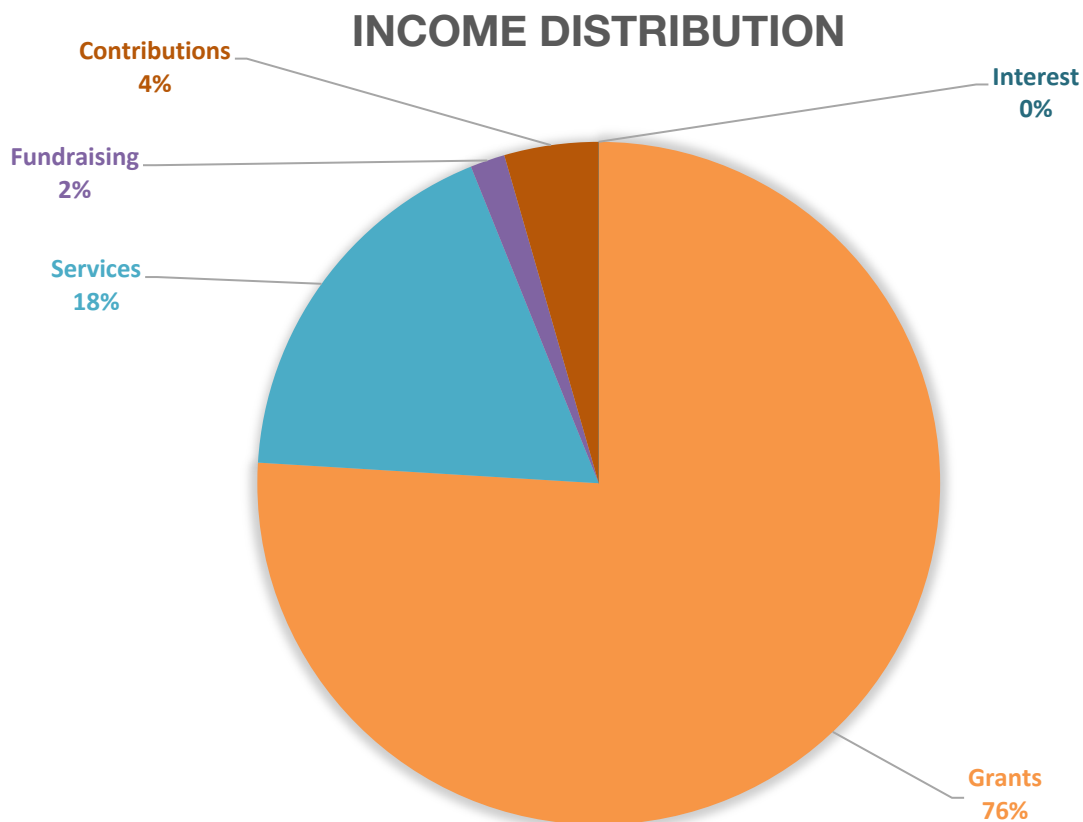
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Please support our work among the Outcast & Refugees!



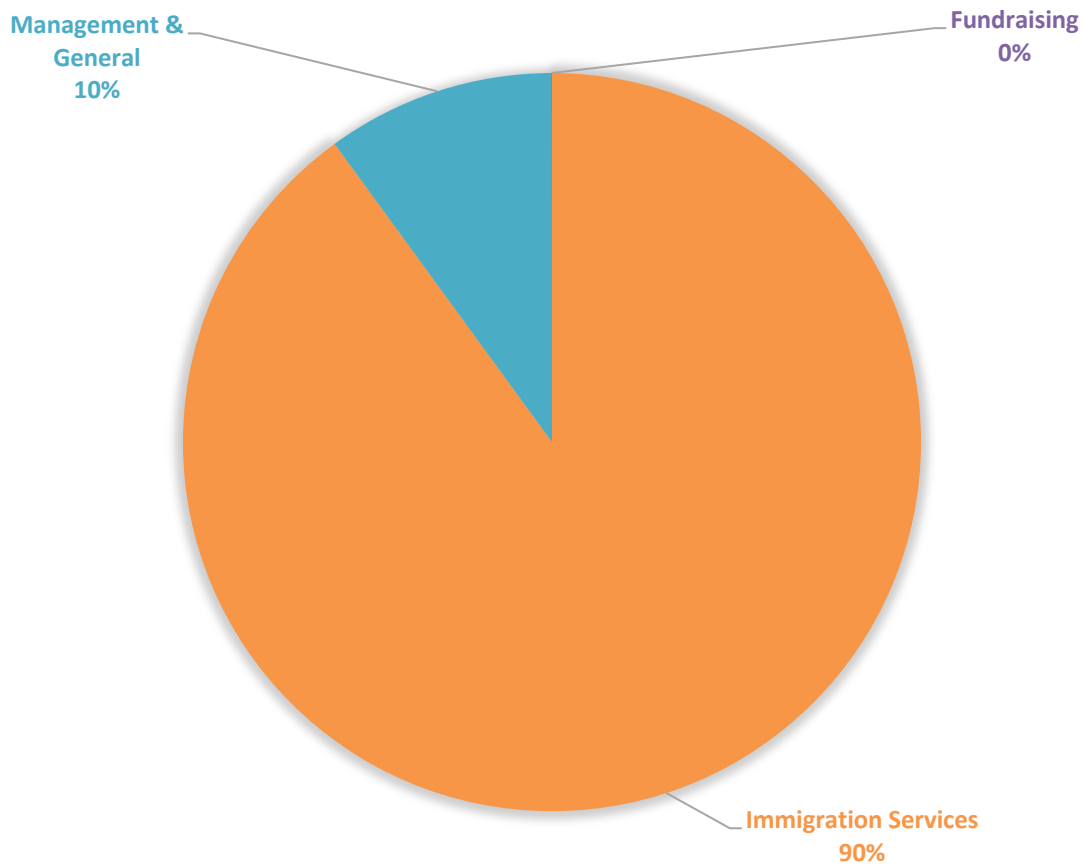
FINANCIALS

REVENUES	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Grants	\$3,045,508	242,000	\$3,287,508
Services	798,605	-	798,605
Fundraising	16,275	1,360	17,635
Contributions	333,754	25,909	359,663
Loan Forgiveness	566,015	-	566,015
Interest	27	-	27
Net asset released from restriction	247,455	(247,455)	-
	5,007,639	21,814	5,029,453



EXPENSES			
PROGRAM SERVICES:			
Immigration Services	3,652,171	-	3,652,171
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	3,652,171	-	3,652,171
SUPPORTING SERVICES:			
Management & General	474,489	-	474,489
Fundraising	645	-	645
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	475,134	-	475,134
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,127,305	-	4,127,305
Change in Assets	880,334	21,814	902,148
Net assets – beginning of year	(9,081)	36,559	27,278
Net assets – end of year	871,253	58,173	929,426

EXPENSES DISTRIBUTION



MIAMI OFFICE
COURTHOUSE PLAZA BUILDING
28 West Flagler Street, 10th Floor
Miami, FL 33130
Tel. 305-373-1073
Fax. 786-496-9480

HOLLYWOOD OFFICE
CITY COLLEGE BUILDING
6565 TAFT St., 4th Floor
Hollywood, Florida 33024
Tel: 954-306-9537
Fax: 1-800-691-5203

CATHOLIC LEGAL SERVICES

GALA
2023

Celebrating 25 Years of Service

OCTOBER 27, 2023 · **6:30 PM**
DoubleTree Grand Biscayne Bay

25
ANNIVERSARY
YEARS

We are excited to invite you to our organization's 25th-anniversary gala, which will be on October 27, 2023, at the DoubleTree Grand Biscayne Bay. We hope that you will join us for this special occasion and help us celebrate our achievements over the past 25 years.

Throughout our history, our organization has been committed to making a positive impact in the community by helping poor immigrants obtain asylum, establish legal residency, become citizens, reunite families and understand immigration law and policies by providing public education. As we celebrate our 25th anniversary, we are looking forward to an evening of celebration, recognition, and gratitude. We will be honoring our founders and recognizing the individuals and organizations that have played a vital role in our success.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and we hope to see you at our 25th-anniversary gala.