



FLORENCE
IMMIGRANT
& REFUGEE
RIGHTS PROJECT

Florence :: Eloy :: Phoenix :: Tucson

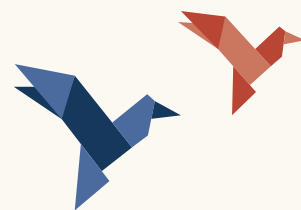


*Golden McCarthy, Esq., Florence
Project Children's Program
Director and an unaccompanied
minor celebrate release.*

2015

ANNUAL REPORT

Providing free legal and social
services to detained immigrants
in Arizona. Est. 1989.





A MESSAGE TO FLORENCE PROJECT DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It was quite a year for the Florence Project, our 25th! As we reflect on 2015, immigration is once again in the national spotlight. The numbers of immigrants and refugees fleeing harm is only increasing, a trend that we fear will continue long into 2016. We remain the only free legal services provider in Arizona for detained immigrant children, women, and men in need of legal assistance and representation.

Our staff continues to pioneer innovative legal strategies for our clients, and our work serves as a model for partners across the country. Our work is only made possible by your support. Thank you!

As you have likely heard, numbers of unaccompanied refugee children fleeing harm and violence in Central America are again on the rise. Our staff have been working non-stop to provide "know-your-rights" presentations and individual legal screenings to each child in immigration custody. Because of high numbers, it is not uncommon for our legal assistants and attorneys to meet with over 120 children in one day. They sit with children and hear stories of gang violence and domestic abuse, and assess their legal cases.

I think of our client Javier, who was left an orphan and forced to work in the fields when he was only 9 years old. He later fled violent gang recruitment and sought protection in the U.S. While only children, our clients display incredible grit and perseverance. With your support, we can continue to represent children like Javier.

There are also many detained immigrant women and men in Arizona who depend on the services of the Florence Project. One such client, Addis from Ethiopia, recently won asylum with the help of Florence Project pro bono attorneys, Yaser Ali, Esq., and Lilia Alvarez, Esq., after spending more than two-and-a-half years in detention. If not for the many hours those attorneys committed to the case, Addis would not be free today. I also think of former client Diana, a mother of two U.S. citizen daughters, separated from her family and detained for more than four years while she fought her domestic violence asylum case. Diana won her case and had a joyous reunion with her family because of the collaboration of Florence Project staff attorneys Charles Vernon, Esq., and Tally Kingsnorth, Esq., and pro bono attorneys from Perkins Coie, LLP, including Howard Cabot, Esq., Joshua Crum, Esq., and Heather Hamel, Esq. Our clients, like Diana, are resilient, strong individuals, who inspire us every day. Diana's victory would not have been possible without our steadfast supporters, legal staff, and our pro bono community.

We are also grateful to Perkins Coie, LLP, for supporting our new Legal Director position, which will allow us to deepen our advocacy and impact, handling challenging legal cases, strategic appeals, and national legal advocacy initiatives with partner organizations. In addition, last year we were able to greatly expand our social services program, thanks to generous support from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation. We now have three social workers on staff, and we continue to pioneer holistic services and strengthen one of the first legal and social services models in the country.

Your yearly support brings light and hope to the many immigrant children, women, and men the Florence Project serves. Despite the current political discourse on refugees and immigrants, we've moved into the New Year with renewed energy and obligation to provide quality legal services to detained immigrants in Arizona. We thank you for supporting our work this past year, and ask that you continue to partner with us in the year to come.

(Names have been changed to protect privacy)

- Lauren Dasse, Esq.
Executive Director

MISSION AND VISION

Our mission is to provide free legal and social services to detained adults and unaccompanied children facing immigration removal proceedings in Arizona.

Our vision is to ensure that all immigrants facing removal have access to counsel, understand their rights under the law, and are treated fairly and humanely.



^ From Left to Right:

Dan Bagatell, Esq.

Partner, Perkins Coie, LLP

Paul Eckstein, Esq.

Partner, Perkins Coie, LLP

Laura St. John, Esq.

Florence Project Legal Director

Dan Barr, Esq.

Partner, Perkins Coie, LLP

Lauren Dasse, Esq.

Florence Project Executive Director

“Working with the Florence Project has meant so much to me. It has really enriched my life. The Florence Project provides me with the opportunity to help children in need. The possibility that you can help facilitate a positive fresh start for a child who has been traumatized and in need of a champion is what keeps me coming back as a volunteer.”

— Shannon Hennessey
Florence Project Pro Bono Attorney

FLORENCE PROJECT CHAMPIONS

Florence Project donors (you!) and pro bono attorneys bring hope, safety, and justice to children escaping abuse, abandonment, and neglect, and women and men fleeing harm in their home countries.

OUR MAJOR DONORS IN 2015*

Susan Anderson	Randall & Gina Papetti
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Noel & Anne Fidel	Karuna Foundation
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Mary Ann Kirch	US Committee For Refugees and Immigrants
Ira Kurzban	Valley Unitarian Universalist Church
Yali Lincroft & Peter Lincroft	Vera Institute of Justice
R.A. & Rebecca Montano	William K Perry Farms
Luis & Mary Navarro	
Conor Oberst	

*Donors of \$1,000 or more in 2015



Shannon, long-time Pro Bono Attorney for the Florence Project, and her client.

PRO BONO ATTORNEYS IN 2015

Carmen Abarca-Wilson, Abarca Wilson Law Office, PLC	Christina Powers, Law Office of Christina L. Powers
Mario Acosta Jr., Mario Acosta Law Office	Nina Rabin, Bacon Immigration Law and Policy Program
Sara Agne, Snell & Wilmer, LLP	Adam Reich, Thorpe Schwer, PC
Lillian Aponte	Juan Rocha, Law Office of Juan Rocha
Alexander Arpad, Fennemore Craig, PC	Vicenta Rodriguez Banuelos, Banuelos Law Office
Elizabeth Balfour, Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton, LLP	Katie Ruhl, Ruhl Immigration, PLLC
Jill Bloom, Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen, & Loewy, LLP	Mercedes Ryden, Burns Law Office
Dustin Cammack, Steptoe & Johnson, LLP	Jesse Salen, Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton, LLP
Jorge Castañeda, Castañeda Law	Erin Schaad, Erin Schaad Law
Paul Charlton, Steptoe & Johnson, LLP	Robert Schaffer, Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie, LLP
Shuting Chen, Law Office of Shuting Chen	Margarita Silva, M Silva Law Firm, PLC
Jason Choy, Kirkland & Ellis, LLP	Spencer G. Scharff, Thorpe Schwer, PC
Holly Cooper, UC Davis School of Law	Gregory Schneider, Squire Patton Boggs, LLP
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Jena Decker-Xu, Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen, & Loewy, LLP	Nicole Simmons, Bowman and Brooke, LLP
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Bo Dul, Perkins Coie, LLP	Kelly Smith, The Law Offices of Kelly A. Smith
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Lorenzo Frausto, Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen, & Loewy, LLP	Olga Chantel Tomchin, Transgender Law Center
Ken Frakes, Bergin, Frakes, Smalley & Oberholtzer, PLLC	Claudia Valenzuela, Heartland Alliance
Aneesha Ghandi, National Immigrant Justice Center	Carl Volz, Dechert, LLP
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Shannon Hennessey	Zereb Zwick, National Immigrant Justice Center
Kari Hong, Law Offices of Kari Hong	Keren Zwick, National Immigrant Justice Center
Saul Huerta, The Huerta Law Firm, PLLC	
Joy Isaacs, Snell & Wilmer, LLP	
Bob Jobe, The Law Offices of Robert Jobe	
Sital Kalantry, Cornell Immigration Appellate Clinic	
Adam Kaplan, Honeywell International	
Brian Kim, Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie, LLP	
David Koch, Dechert, LLP	
Julia Koestner, Quarles & Brady, LLP	
Frank Long, Dickinson Wright, LLP	
Brian Manning, Snell & Wilmer, LLP	
Estelle McKee, Cornell Immigration Appellate Clinic	
James H. Moon, Latham & Watkins, LLP	
Laura Murray-Tjan, Federal Immigration Appeals Project	
Megan Oliver Thompson, Hanson Bridgett, LLP	
Luis Parra, Parra Law Offices, PLLC	
Laura Pasqualone, Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie, LLP	
Anthony Pelino, Law Office of Anthony Pelino, PLLC	

“SANDRA”

The Florence Project Social Services team met with Sandra during a “Know Your Rights” presentation at the Eloy Detention Center in the beginning of August 2015. She was five months pregnant and had surrendered herself at the border seeking refuge with her husband. Sandra came from Michoacan, Mexico, where extreme violence was affecting her family.

The Social Services Team immediately helped her get in contact with her sister-in-law who could serve as her sponsor if she was approved to leave detention on bond. While gathering all of the sponsor documents, Sandra experienced multiple health issues in detention, including back and stomach pain and infections from bed bug bites. Because of these health concerns and her pregnancy, the social services team submitted a request for Humanitarian Parole on September 2, 2015. It was critical that Sandra be given the freedom to care for herself and her unborn baby.

Thankfully, her parole release was approved the very next day. ICE dropped Sandra off at the Phoenix Greyhound Station that night, and the social services team quickly found a family to provide a place for her to stay until her sister could come the next morning.

Sandra was now free to make sure she was healthy and prepared for the birth of her child. Thank you for making Sandra’s freedom possible with your support.

**name has been changed to protect privacy*

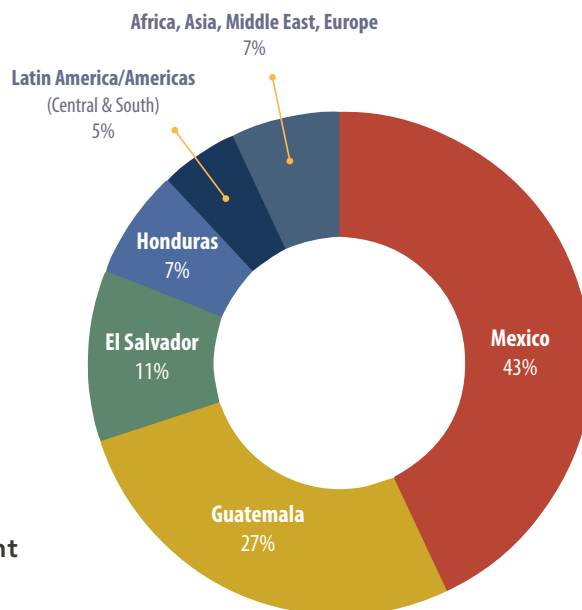
YOUR SUPPORT ENSURES QUALITY LEGAL REPRESENTATION & KEEPS FAMILIES TOGETHER

FLORENCE PROJECT CLIENTS

- Over 3,000 immigrant, refugee, and asylum-seeking women and men detained daily in Florence or Eloy, Arizona.
- Over 1,500 unaccompanied children detained daily in Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona, who are escaping abuse, neglect, or violence back home.
- The Florence Project exists because there remains no public defender system in immigration court. We are there to meet this need.

Thanks to your support, our clients do not have to represent themselves in court alone.

The Florence Project saw clients from 66 different countries in 2015



Children, women, and men deported and turned over to Mexican immigration officials in Nogales, AZ.

Many of our clients are the primary breadwinners for their families and have lived in the United States for years. Others are fleeing persecution and violence. Our clients also include children traveling alone who have suffered severe abuse in their home countries, or on the journey to the U.S. Some of the women we work with are survivors of domestic violence. Finally, we also represent clients with severe mental illness.

**YOUR SUPPORT ALLOWS US TO SERVE THOUSANDS OF CLIENTS
EACH YEAR – RESILIENT AND COURAGEOUS INDIVIDUALS WHO
INSPIRE US EVERY DAY. THANK YOU.**

4,451

Immigrant and refugee women and men received legal services in 2015

151

Immigrant and refugee women and men received social services in 2015

7,455

Unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children received legal services in 2015

107

Unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children received social services in 2015

FROM KNOWLEDGE SPRINGS HOPE

Florence & Eloy *PROGRAMS*



A CORNERSTONE OF OUR LEGAL WORK IS THE "KNOW YOUR RIGHTS (KYR)" PRESENTATIONS GIVEN TO WOMEN AND MEN IN DETENTION

- A KYR presentation provides critical information on navigating immigration court and educates detainees on their basic rights while in detention. Because these are civil, not criminal proceedings, an individual has the right to an attorney, but only if they can afford one. **There is no public defender system in immigration court.**
- After a KYR presentation, detainees are given the opportunity to receive an individual case evaluation with the Florence Project legal team.
- Your support ensures that the estimated 8 in 10 detainees who cannot afford an attorney are educated on their basic rights and given the tools to fight their immigration cases.

Without the knowledge learned during a KYR presentation and Florence Project representation, clients would likely be deported back to their home countries – back to the very violence and extreme poverty they seek to escape. Thank you for your generosity that helps inform and represent our clients.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT PIECE OF OUR WORK IS PRO SE ASSISTANCE.

- Your support allows us to directly represent some, but not all, adults in detention. To stretch every donation and reach the most people, the Florence Project pioneered the Pro Se Assistance Program. Through the combination of a "Know Your Rights" presentation and an intensive case assessment interview, the legal team is able to assist clients to fight their own immigration cases successfully.

Direct representation and the Pro Se Assistance Program allow us to help more detainees each year. Thank you for making this happen with your support!



Impact of your support:

4,451

*Detained adults participated in
"Know Your Rights," presentations in 2015*

2,484

*Detained adults provided intensive case
assessment and pro se assistance in 2015*

22

*Women and men with severe mental
illness represented by a Florence Project
staff attorney in 2015*

28

*Women and men directly represented by a
Florence Project staff attorney in 2015*

60

*Women and men provided pro bono
(volunteer) attorneys in 2015*



Red flower by
Florence Project client.

"LISA*"

Lisa is a lesbian woman from El Salvador who suffered years of discrimination and physical and sexual assaults based on her sexual orientation. She was raped by a gang member who wanted to "convert her" to be heterosexual. Lisa also suffered persistent violent attacks when she was in public with her partners. Fleeing her persecution, Lisa was detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in the spring of 2015. With the help of Florence Project attorneys, Lisa filed a request for release on bond with ICE. Her request was denied citing she was a flight risk, despite strong community support. Lisa and Florence Project attorneys submitted a second request for a bond, this time with strong evidence illustrating community support for Lisa while she fights her case outside of detention. This time ICE granted Lisa an incredibly high bond of \$15,000.

Community groups in Tucson heard the news and rallied for Lisa; these community groups paid the bond and now Lisa is living at Casa Mariposa in Tucson, AZ. Thanks to your support and Florence Project attorneys, Lisa can now pursue a better and safer life.

Everyday Stories from
the Florence Project

**Name changed to protect privacy*



Noriana C. Hermes, Esq., Florence Project Children's Program Supervising Attorney and her client, an unaccompanied minor.



Florence Project Children's Program Legal Assistant, Elizabeth Garcia; Florence Project Children's Program Justice Americorps Legal Fellow, Jimmy Leyva, Esq.; Florence Project Children's Program Attorney, Larry Sandigo, Esq.; Florence Project Children's Program Supervising Attorney, Noriana C. Hermes (left to right).

YOUR SUPPORT PROVIDES SAFETY & HOPE TO CHILDREN

Phoenix & Tucson *PROGRAMS*

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

- 2015 proved to be another year with incredibly high numbers of unaccompanied children fleeing abuse, abandonment, and violence in their home countries.
- Thanks to your support, the Florence Project was able to provide "know-your-rights" presentations and legal assistance to nearly **20%** of the almost **40,000 children** detained in the United States in 2015.
- In addition, the Florence Project provided individual legal consultations and case analysis to 17% of all unaccompanied children detained in the United States in 2015. Thank you!



IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT:

7,455

Unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children received legal services in 2015

6,790

Unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children received individual legal consultations and case analysis in 2015

"MELANIE*"



Melanie comes from the Western Highlands of Guatemala where she grew up in a very large family. Her father hit her when he drank. He left welts on her body and he would yell at her. On multiple occasions, he forced her out of the house leaving her with no place to go except to seek refuge in the nearby mountains. Melanie was too embarrassed to go to a neighbor's home. Her childhood was marked with hunger, fear, poverty, and chronic abuse.

She left her home country at age 17 because she could no longer live in a violent household. A few months after entering the United States, the Florence Project made contact with Melanie, and after learning her story, the legal team offered representation. Our attorney filed her asylum application, and referred her case to the Florence Project social worker, so Melanie could talk with a counselor.

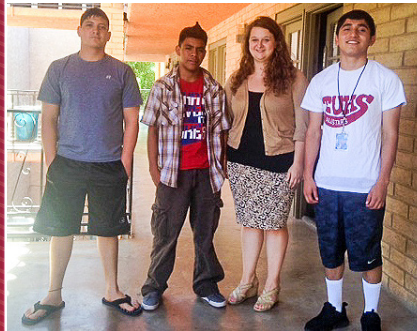
She was reunited with a supportive, caring older sister who has provided her with a new home and new opportunities. Most importantly, Melanie was afforded hope and the promise of stability and safety. Thank you for your support, which makes this and other victories possible.

Everyday Stories from the Florence Project

**Name changed to protect privacy*

The focus of our social services work is supporting the immigration cases of our clients and helping them adjust to life as new Americans.

Below are some of the types of social services we provide our children clients.



Children's Program social worker and clients in Phoenix, AZ.

“The Social Services Program works in conjunction with and complements our legal services to increase the likelihood for success for our clients' cases. For example, children and young adult clients would not be released from detention while they fight their legal cases without the social services team finding safe housing for them. Clients also need help meeting their basic needs such as enrolling in school, finding a counselor, or helping secure identity documents. In the world of unaccompanied children there is almost no way to distinguish between the legal and social needs of clients because they are deeply interconnected. I am extremely grateful to our donors who make this work possible.”

— Anna Marie Smith
Florence Project Children's Program Social Worker

HELPING CHILDREN ALONE & AWAY FROM HOME

Phoenix & Tucson *PROGRAMS continued*

CHILDREN'S SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM

- **Mental Health** – Most children are suffering from trauma, either from abuse, neglect, or violence at home, or from their journey to the United States. Most children we see need counseling, and the Children's Program Social Worker makes sure they get the help they need.
- **Housing Crisis** – Many times our clients are on the verge of homelessness. In these cases, our Children's Program Social Worker coordinates with community groups and volunteers to find children temporary, or sometimes permanent, housing. The stability of a home makes a big difference in a successful legal case.
- **Educational/Social Support** – Our children clients are in the United States often for the first time in their lives. Here we help them enroll in school, mentorship or vocational programs, and meeting basic needs like food, clothing, and school supplies.
- **Legal** – Our Children's Program Social Worker coordinates with clients to make sure they attend appointments and hearings for their legal cases.

107 Unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children received social services case management in 2015

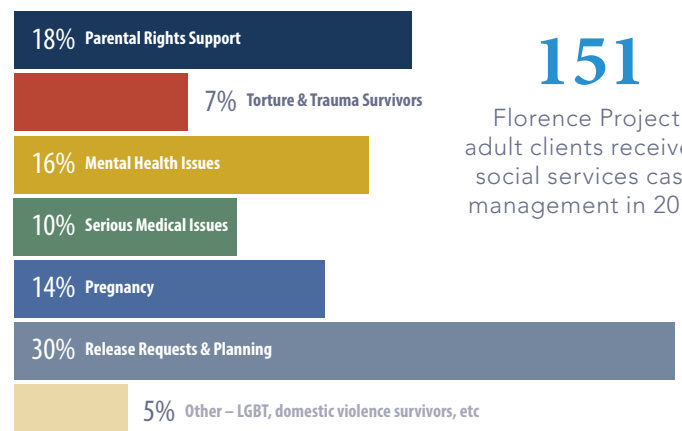
IN PURSUIT OF A BETTER & SAFER LIFE

Florence & Eloy *PROGRAMS continued*

ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM

Our Social Services Program coordinates supportive social services for some of the most vulnerable detained individuals, including the mentally ill, survivors of torture, LGBT clients, asylum seekers, domestic violence survivors, people with significant medical issues, and parents in immediate risk of losing custody of their children because of detention.

Types of Social Services Cases - Florence & Eloy

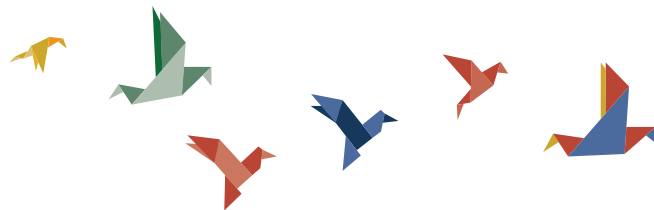


151

Florence Project adult clients received social services case management in 2015

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Outreach, Collaboration, & Advocacy



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Partnerships with Casa Mariposa, the Puente Movement, the Phoenix Restoration Project, Youth Adelante, and the Arcoíris Liberation Team continue to strengthen community support for our clients through letter-writing, visitation, and post-release hospitality.

Participation in local and national advocacy initiatives on issues such as the proliferation of for-profit immigrant detention centers, oppressively high parole bond fees, comprehensive immigration reform, family detention and separation, the detention bed mandate, and Border Patrol abuse.



Charity Pie Night at Practical Art Gallery in Phoenix benefiting the Florence Project.

Community outreach by the numbers:

- 7 trainings on family unity with 119 participants.
- 38 trainings with 738 participants including public defenders, community organizations, and immigration lawyers on topics such as the overlap of criminal and immigration law, basic deportation defense, representing unaccompanied immigrant children, asylum law, and the Florence Project's work.
- 82 volunteers contributed their time and skills to the Florence Project in 2015, including attorneys, physicians, mental health professionals, interpreters, and country conditions researchers.



Former Florence Project client, Diana, Florence Project Pro Bono Coordinator, Charles Vernon, Esq., and Diana's host family.



Florence Project Children's Program Managing Attorney, Noriana C. Hermes; Florence Project rock-star volunteer, Karen Fasimpaur; and event guest at the 25th Anniversary Community Appreciation & Celebration.



Event guests gather to hear speech.



Florence Project staff tour the US/Mexico border in Nogales, Sonora.



Florence Project staff meet with a Mexican social services official in Nogales, Sonora.

“LEO”*

Florence Project staff first met Leo in the Eloy Detention Center in early 2012. He was a long-time Lawful Permanent Resident with eight U.S. citizen children, all living in California. Leo also resided in California before being placed in Immigration custody in Arizona. He was determined to fight his case to stay in the U.S., even though he was far from his family and regardless of how long it would take. Leo was working on his own on an argument for termination of his case. His argument was that the U.S. Government had no right to deport him. Florence Project Staff Attorneys helped Leo with his termination argument before the Immigration Judge, and then on an appeal before the Board of Immigration Appeals. His case was denied, and the Florence Project appealed to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Since Leo's case was before the Ninth Circuit, he was now eligible for a bond hearing. The Florence Project geared up to request the bond hearing when suddenly, Leo vanished from the Eloy Detention Center. As our staff desperately tried to locate him, he appeared in Alabama at the Etowah County Jail. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) had transferred Leo without any notice to his legal team and sent him even farther away from his family.

Despite his transfer to Etowah, Leo's case would remain with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The transfer did, however, complicate his bond hearing. Specifically, the Florence Project was applying for a *Casas* bond hearing, a right for detainees in the Ninth Circuit, which includes Arizona, but a *Casas* bond hearing is not a right that exists for those detained in other circuits. Nonetheless, the Florence Project argued that that DHS could not deny an individual his right to a “*Casas*” bond hearing simply by transferring him to another jurisdiction. After much back and forth, DHS agreed to hold a “*Casas*” bond hearing by video. Unfortunately, the Immigration Judge denied the bond in that first hearing.

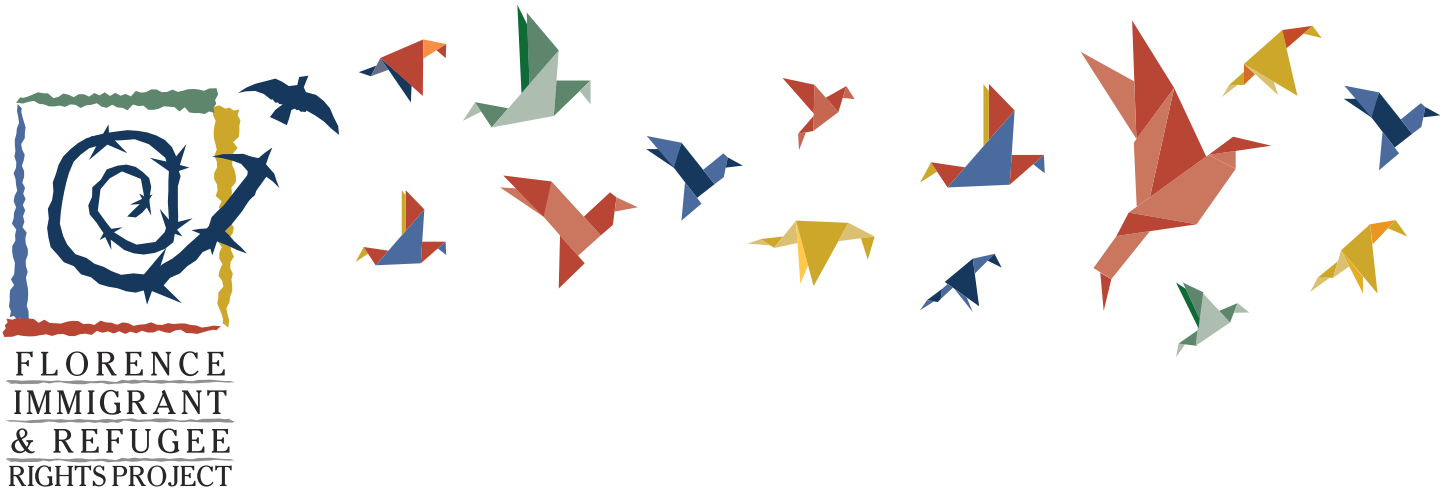
Undeterred, the Florence Project filed another appeal, this time challenging the Judge's denial of bond before the Board of Immigration Appeals. That appeal was successful, but at the consequent second bond hearing before the Immigration Judge, Leo was again denied.

At this point, it would have been easy for Leo to give up. But he showed amazing perseverance. Because the case was now headed to the 9th Circuit and, in 2015, the Florence Project did not have the capacity to continue representation at this level, Leo needed a pro bono attorney.

The Florence Project called Bob Jobe from the Law Offices of Robert B. Jobe (a top immigration firm in the country) and asked for his help. Without even hearing what the case was about he said “Whatever you need, we'll do it.”

Thus Leo's case before the Ninth Circuit moved forward. Anna Benvenue, Esq., Florence Project pro bono attorney from Robert B. Jobe's office, handled the 9th Circuit appeal, eventually winning a hearing with the Board of Immigration Appeals. Meanwhile, Mike Mehr, Esq., a Florence Project pro bono attorney also from the Law Office of Robert B. Jobe, simultaneously filed a promising post-conviction relief petition to illustrate Leo was not deportable from the U.S. Anna argued the case at the Board of Immigrations Appeals and ultimately won an outright termination order to completely dismiss the case!

After years of fighting, Leo won his case. He was released from Etowah Jail on Christmas Eve 2015 and reunited with his family, after nearly four years of detention. Thank you for making this Merry Christmas possible with your support!



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Margaret Kirch

Andrew Silverman, J.D., *University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law*



“ I served on the Florence Project Board to honor my grandparents, all of whom sought refuge, freedom, and opportunity in this land. I served on the Board to challenge our country to better honor the dream that drew so many of our ancestors to these shores. And I served on the Board because many immigrants in detention, if only informed of their rights and helped to assert them, have viable legal defenses against deportation, including solid claims to asylum and residential status under U.S. law. Helping such people is, for me, what it means to be a lawyer. ”

- Honorable Judge Fidel

Honorable Judge Fidel and Peggy Kirch, Florence Project Board members, at our 25th anniversary fundraiser.

FLORENCE PROJECT STAFF

(as of December 31, 2015)

ADMINISTRATION

Lauren Dasse, Esq., *Executive Director*
Christian Avila, *Office Coordinator*
Jamie Martin Bengston, *Operations Manager*
Hugo Polanco, *Development & Outreach Coordinator*

FLORENCE & ELOY TEAMS

Laura St. John, Esq., *Legal Director*
Rekha Nair, Esq., *Florence/Eloy Managing Attorney*
Annabel Barraza, *Legal Assistant*
Lola Sophia Bovell, Esq., *Staff Attorney*
Liz Bradley, Esq., *Staff Attorney*
Carmen Smith-Estrada, *Legal Assistant*
Ben Harville, Esq., *Senior Staff Attorney*
Jasmina Nogo, Esq., *Staff Attorney*
Charles Vernon, Esq., *Pro Bono Coordinator*

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Kaitlin Porter, LMSW, *Social Services Coordinator*
Liz Casey, *Social Worker*
Anna Marie Smith, *Children's Social Worker*

CHILDREN'S TEAM

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Laura Belous, Esq., *Tucson Managing Attorney*
Brenda Aguirre, Esq., *Phoenix Justice Americorps Fellow*
Mindy Butler-Christensen, Esq., *Phoenix Staff Attorney*
Rocío Castañeda, Esq., *Phoenix Managing Attorney*
Noriana Colon-Mercado, Esq., *Phoenix Managing Attorney*
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Carmen Perez, *Phoenix Legal Assistant*
Vanessa Piñeda, Esq., *Pro Bono Coordinator*
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Andrea Reyes, *Phoenix Legal Assistant*
Diana Roque, *Phoenix Legal Assistant*
Martin Ruiz, *Phoenix Legal Assistant*
Larry Sandigo, Esq., *Phoenix Staff Attorney*
Daniela Ugaz, *Tucson Legal Assistant*
Jennifer Varela, *Phoenix Legal Assistant*
Jordan Weiner, *Tucson Legal Assistant*

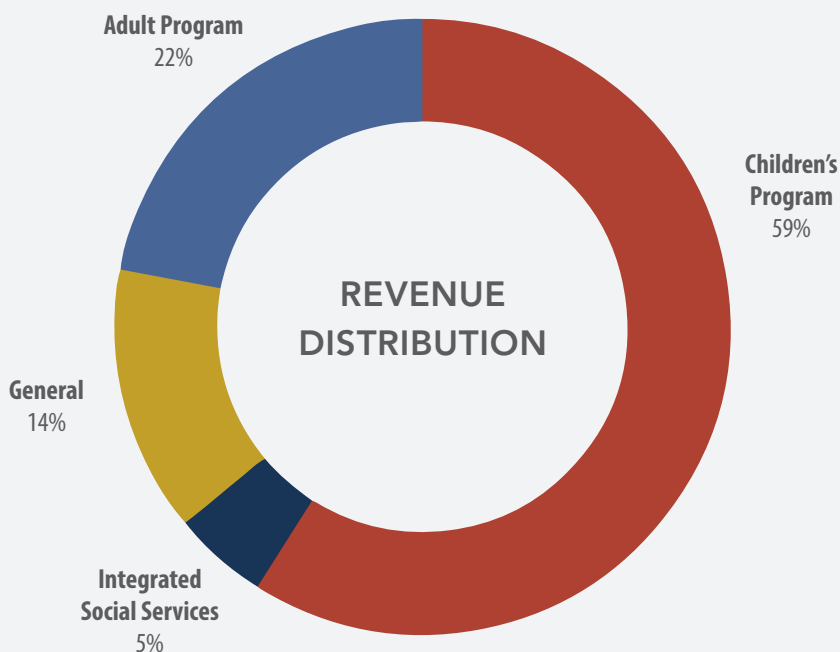
FINANCIALS

Federal Government Subcontracts	74%
Foundation Grants	17%
Individuals	6%
Law Firms	2%
Religious	1%
Corporations	1%

TOTAL REVENUE: \$2,476,091.21

Program Services	85%
Office Overhead	7%
Building Cost	5%
Management & Fundraising	3%

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$2,219,926.73



2015

ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION & VISION

Mission: Our mission is to provide free legal and social services to detained adults and unaccompanied children facing immigration removal proceedings in Arizona.

Vision: Our vision is to ensure that all immigrants facing removal have access to counsel, understand their rights under the law, and are treated fairly and humanely.

ABOUT THE FLORENCE PROJECT

The Florence Project participates in local and national advocacy and outreach initiatives to amplify the voice of immigrant detainees and ensure they are treated fairly and humanely. We also act as a national resource development center for "know your rights" materials for detainees, legal service providers, and community organizations.

FLORENCE PROJECT'S HISTORY

The Florence Project was created in 1989 in response to a plea from Immigration Judge John J. McCarrick, who publicly urged Arizona attorneys to fill the gap in representation created by the absence of a public defender system in immigration removal proceedings - a gap that in his view threatened the statutory and constitutional rights of detained indigent immigrants. In response, attorney Chris Brelje, supported by his law firm Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie (Lewis and Roca at the time), spent a year establishing the project in Florence.

With services first limited to Florence, AZ, the Florence Project expanded in 1998 to include legal services to immigrants detained at the Eloy detention center, then in 2000 to provide legal services to unaccompanied immigrant minors. In 2007, the Integrated Social Services Program was established to address the diverse social service needs of especially vulnerable clients. From 2007-2012, the Florence Project ran the Arizona Defending Immigrants Program, providing training and consultations to public defenders about the immigration consequences of criminal convictions. Today, the Florence Project is home to 45 staff and served nearly 12,000 people in detention in 2015.

TO DONATE TO THE FLORENCE PROJECT:

Mail a check or money order to:

The Florence Project

P.O. Box 654

Florence, AZ 85132

Visit our website:

www.firrp.org

TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE FLORENCE PROJECT:

Call or email:

firrp@firrp.org

520.868.0191 x105

TO CONTACT THE FLORENCE PROJECT OR TO SCHEDULE A VISIT:

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