REMAINING RESILIENT
In 2019, the Florence Project served:

5,030
Detained Adults

5,604
Children

101
Cases placed with pro bono volunteer attorneys

534
Men, women, and children provided with social services
235 children and 299 adults

220
Family separations

Despite family separations no longer being front and center in the news, children continued to be forcibly separated from their parents, family, or guardians last year. The Florence Project responded to 220 such instances in 2019, including dozens of separations of “tender-aged” kids less than five years old.

Additionally, some parents made the agonizing decision to send their children to border checkpoints alone while they were trapped by the “Remain in Mexico” policy: a last resort for the minor to escape criminal threats and homelessness on the border. We also saw spouses, siblings, grandparents, and other relatives separated in U.S. custody by being sent to different detention centers, or by being deported without their loved ones.
In 2019, a Guatemalan orphan ran away from the farm where he was forced to work by an abusive, alcoholic grandparent. The boy reached the United States and met the Florence Project while detained at a shelter in Arizona. Now, Ramon lives with a supportive uncle, and attends school like he always wanted to.

A Venezuelan political prisoner escaped sure death by breaking out of a squalid jail. He sought asylum in the U.S., and won with the Florence Project’s help. Jorge works as a doctor now, responding to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic at a hospital in Iowa.

A Cuban ballet dancer and her partner fled repeated assaults from a police department that refused to accept their relationship. Their story is told in full in this report. It’s a tale of love, identity, and brave souls remaining resilient.

The word that best describes the Florence Project and its clients and supporters in 2019: Resilient. It was another year in which we confronted unprecedented attacks on immigrants’ rights. The “Remain in Mexico” policy was extended to Arizona. The Supreme Court upheld that and other blatantly cruel asylum policies. Detention centers remained full, as requests for release were increasingly denied.

The cruelty we observed in 2019 was meant to deter migrants from coming to the U.S. in search of safety, and to compel those held behind the locked doors and razor wire fences of immigrant detention centers to give up on their cases. But our clients remained resilient, and so did we.

In 2019, the Florence Project served thousands of people—over 11,000 adults and children, including over 1,000 migrants in partnership with the Kino Border Initiative at their Migrant Outreach Center in Nogales, Sonora.

We increased the size and scope of our expanded Border Action Team to provide more services in Mexico. We strengthened our Advocacy Team to challenge unconstitutional, or unjust detention. We participated in campaigns to promote change. And we doubled our social services capacity to further assist clients outside the courtroom.

Each year, the Administration introduces new attacks. Increased internal enforcement, “zero tolerance” family separations, fast-tracked deportations, quota systems for judges, and the fundamental reshaping of asylum law, including the third country transit bar, which eliminated asylum for anyone forced to pass through another country on their perilous route to the U.S. Nevertheless, we fight back and grow stronger each year.

We have to admit, while working from home during the pandemic, there have been aspects of 2019 we feel nostalgic for. We miss holding strategy sessions together in person. We miss saying “hi” to our Children’s Program clients in the hallways and lobby, hearing about their school days, getting them snacks, or enjoying an impromptu musical performance (some of them like to show off their guitar skills!). We miss client appreciation events—dinners and games for released adults, children, and their families—hosted by our Social Services Team.

Those opportunities will return, and we’re confident that our clients’ legal protections will be reaffirmed in the coming years, thanks largely to the passion and commitment of people like you. Your support has been critical, and if 2019 proved anything, it’s that you remain resilient, too. Thanks for standing with us!

Patricia, a former client who won asylum, wipes a tear on a call to thank her legal team.
At a small dance studio in central Phoenix, a Cuban immigrant named Jade is achieving her dream to perform ballet as her true self. In Cuban dance companies, Jade could only get male roles, though she is a trans woman. Now Jade’s husband, Arien, sits with the couple’s pro bono legal team, smiling as she spins on her toes, extends her arms, leaps forward, and looks over her shoulder.

As a trans woman, Jade suffered police harassment on the street and assaults in jail cells in Cuba. Presenting as her true self ultimately ended Jade’s career in the Cuban ballet. But with smooth pirouettes, she shows the grace she used to survive the tumultuous journey. With melancholy movements, she also expresses the longing for safety and freedom that drove her and Arien to flee their home.

Reflecting on the persecution they endured in police custody, Jade said, “It wasn’t for being a criminal or a thief. It was simply for being a trans woman.” Tears welled in her eyes. “We were sexually assaulted. We saw no way out but to leave Cuba entirely. Leave friends, family—even everything, our whole lives.”

Jade and Arien crossed eight countries to present for asylum at the United States port of entry in Nogales, Arizona. Many of the same biases they endured in Cuba came up along the way, and in detention. But there, Jade connected with the Florence Project, which arranged for pro bono attorneys Melanie Pate and Hannah Dolski from the law firm of Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie to represent the couple in immigration proceedings.

Florence Project legal assistant Luis Valencia, who is also a member of the LGBTQ community, served as a cultural and legal liaison on the case. “Knowing I can offer some light and understanding that we are here to support you, that there are people who love you for who you are truly, that is such a gift I get from being a part of the Florence Project,” Luis said.

Jade and Arien married in detention, fulfilling a dream they had for their entire relationship—a dream that couldn’t come true in Cuba where their marriage would have been illegal. Melanie officiated the ceremony, and Luis acted as the witness. “Their joy was overflowing,” Melanie noted. “They were both crying. They were so excited to know that they could get married, finally, after so many years of struggling.”
Most importantly, marriage consolidated Jade’s and Arien’s legal cases, pairing their fates and meaning they could stay in the same detention center and stand together in court. But when the asylum verdict came, it seemed to Jade that the whole journey was all for naught.

The immigration proceedings were so confusing to the young couple that when the judge delivered his decision Jade interpreted the legal jargon to mean they’d lost. She turned to Arien weeping. But Luis said, “What’s wrong, Jade? You won!”

Jade realized that their nightmare was over, that the storm had passed. Recalling that moment at the Phoenix dance studio, Jade said, “It was a journey of ten months.” She and Arien wiped tears from their eyes. “Thank you, United States. Thank you, Florence Project, for not abandoning me in a moment when I needed help. You stayed by my side.”

Melanie Pate, a partner at Lewis Roca, said officiating Jade and Arien’s wedding was among the greatest honors of her life, and representing their case was one of the most rewarding experiences of her legal career.

Jade now aspires to open her own studio to teach ballet. After her first dance openly presenting as a woman, she said, “This was something indescribable, because years after being forced to leave a dance company I was able to improvise what I feel. It was a marvelous way to touch on my past. I always dance what I’ve lived.”
MARCH 2019
Supreme Court Broadens the Parameters for Mandatory Detention

In the spring of 2019, in Nielsen v. Preap, the Supreme Court broadened the parameters for mandatory detention by allowing Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to arrest and indefinitely detain undocumented immigrants and green card holders who had already served criminal sentences for past minor crimes and already been released back to their families and communities. The plaintiffs in this lawsuit were all detained by immigration officials on non-criminal charges years after their release from criminal custody. Because of mandatory detention, immigrants are forcibly held in prison-like settings for the duration of their immigration proceedings without the right to a bond hearing. Mandatory detention also presents immigrants with an impossible decision: either remain incarcerated for a year or longer while their cases are adjudicated, or give up on their cases and be deported back to a country they may not know or, worse, where they face risk of serious harm.

APRIL 2019
Administration Strips the Right to Bond Hearings from Asylum Seekers

In April, Attorney General William Barr decided Matter of M-S-, which stripped access to bond hearings from asylum seekers who were apprehended within the United States and who have established...
to a trained asylum officer that they have a credible fear of persecution or harm in their home country, overturning a 2005 George W. Bush-era case granting bond hearings to such individuals. In this decision, the Administration made it clear that if it cannot slam the door on all asylum seekers, it will do everything in its power to lock them up indefinitely. This decision requires mandatory and indefinite detention for all asylum seekers, a clear and egregious violation of fundamental human rights.

**JULY 2019**

**Third Country Transit Bar**

Last summer, the Trump Administration announced a Third Country Transit Bar, which banned asylum for migrants who pass through countries on the way to the United States and do not ask for asylum and await the decision in the countries they pass through. The vast majority of asylum seekers, including children, thus became ineligible for asylum in the U.S. The policy immediately put lives in danger because migrants are exceptionally vulnerable to cartel and gang violence during their journeys, and most countries they pass through are not able to protect them from the threats they are fleeing.

**SEPTEMBER 2019**

**Elimination of Timely Processing for Asylum-Based Work Permits**

In the fall, the Administration eliminated the 30 day processing requirement for asylum-based work permits. Without this fast processing rule, these applications can be delayed indefinitely, and without access to work permits, people seeking asylum in the U.S. cannot support themselves or contribute to the economy while their claims are adjudicated. By decreasing access to the tools that allow asylum seekers to meet their basic needs, the Administration undercut access to asylum in the U.S.

**OCTOBER 2019**

**Pilot Program to Expedite Deportation Proceedings of Unaccompanied Immigrant Children**

In October, the Executive Office of Immigration Review (EOIR) began piloting a program in the Phoenix Immigration Court in which the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) rapidly set unaccompanied immigrant children’s first court appearances for within 30 days of their arrival, instead of 90. Some children detained in shelters in Phoenix have had court hearings as quickly as ten days after their arrival. In the first month of this pilot, over 210 children were forced to attend court on an accelerated schedule before they had a chance to reunify with adult family members or secure attorneys to navigate their legal proceedings. This rapid initiation of removal proceedings against vulnerable immigrant children is a thinly veiled attempt to force children through court as quickly as possible.

**NOVEMBER 2019**

**Safe Third Country Agreement with Guatemala**

The Administration implemented a so-called “Safe Third County” agreement with Guatemala, initially announced in July. It immediately endangered the lives of asylum seekers from all over the world who, after arriving in the U.S. to seek asylum, were immediately sent by our government to Guatemala to seek asylum. This agreement abdicates our duty as a nation to provide refuge to those seeking safety and illegally circumvents U.S. asylum laws and international treaty obligations. The United States can only enter a safe third country agreement with another country if that country is demonstrably able to provide safety and protection for asylum seekers and has a robust and fair asylum process. There is no evidence that Guatemala is able to meet either of these obligations.
Authorities in Eritrea imprisoned Isaac’s father and burned down his family’s home. He never saw his father again. Nearly everything Isaac owned was destroyed in that fire, including his birth certificate and other documents that showed proof of age. Isaac and his mother fled to Ethiopia, where his mother abandoned him. Alone in a foreign country and unsure of what to do, Isaac decided to come to the U.S. with nothing but the clothes on his back.

The U.S. government initially accepted that Isaac was a minor and housed him in a shelter with other unaccompanied children. But several months after Isaac arrived in the U.S., the government suddenly ordered a dental scan to assess his age. This science is widely considered to be flawed, and federal law and the Office of Refugee Resettlement’s (ORR) own guidance provides that documents such as birth certificates and school records, along with statements by the child,
should be prioritized in determining a child's age. Initially, even after the dental scan, the government continued to treat Isaac as an unaccompanied minor.

Isaac didn’t have any family or friends he could live with in the U.S., so he was transferred to a long-term foster care facility for unaccompanied children. Isaac was able to attend a traditional high school. He joined a soccer team and made many new friends. He was passionate about learning English. But in every other way, his life was completely different from that of a normal American teenager. After soccer practice, he had to go back to the foster care facility. He could not do anything after school and was only allowed to make two phone calls per week.

Several months after he was transferred to long-term foster care, authorities abruptly revisited the dental scans. They claimed Isaac was acting like an adult, even though he steadfastly insisted that he was 17 years old and that he knew his birthday. Despite ORR’s own internal guidance stating that dental scans should not be used as the only evidence of a child’s age—a rule that ORR broke in this case and in many other cases in 2019—the government abruptly reversed course in Isaac’s case, relying exclusively on the flawed science of the dental scans to decide that Isaac was in fact an adult. That week, Isaac was transferred to ICE custody. Isaac was two months shy of his 18th birthday.

Isaac’s Florence Project attorney, Laura Belous, immediately sprang to his defense, assessing options to reverse this injustice and get Isaac out of adult detention. Yet, even after obtaining a baptismal certificate from Isaac’s church in Eritrea confirming his date of birth and getting a ruling from the juvenile court finding Isaac to be a minor, ICE refused to release Isaac from adult detention.

The Florence Project worked with pro bono attorneys, Nathan Arrowsmith and Brian Mosley to file a habeas petition—challenging unjust detention—and a temporary restraining order in Federal District Court four days before Isaac’s 18th birthday. Nathan knew that remaining in adult detention would have lifelong consequences for Isaac and felt compelled to do anything he could to secure his release.

Two days before his birthday, a federal judge found that ORR’s decision to transfer Isaac to adult detention violated the law and ordered him back to ORR custody. The judge cited that the government’s justification that Isaac acted like an adult could not be considered “evidence” to show his age, especially when Isaac had his own testimony, a baptismal certificate, and a juvenile court order all confirming that he was still 17.

Because he was again recognized as a minor, Isaac was returned to the long-term foster care program two days before he turned 18. Once more, his attorney sprang to his defense. Unfortunately for children, turning 18 brings uncertainty. The child must request release from ICE, and ICE has the authority to grant or deny release. If they deny it, the child is transferred to adult detention on their 18th birthday.

Two days before his birthday, Florence Project social workers prepared a release request, and it was approved! The Florence Project then found a pro bono attorney to finish the case in Georgia, where Isaac just became a Lawful Permanent Resident!

Unfortunately, Isaac turned out to be the first of many young clients, primarily from Africa, India, and Bangladesh, who were wrongly transferred to adult detention based on evidence from faulty dental scans. In 2019, we helped over 20 children who were wrongly sent to adult detention fight their wrongful detention and secure release. Thank you for making this work possible!
The Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP) or “Remain in Mexico” were implemented on parts of the United States-Mexico border in January 2019. The policy has since forced tens of thousands of asylum seekers to wait in Mexican border cities while their asylum claims are adjudicated, a process that can take many months, if not years. Hundreds of people in MPP reported cases of rape, torture, kidnapping, and other violent assaults in Mexican border cities as they waited for their immigration court dates.

The Florence Project, through an innovative partnership with the Kino Border Initiative (KBI) in Nogales, Sonora, immediately strategized to ensure that asylum seekers stuck in Mexico would have access to our legal services, and we formed a Border Action Team.

We spent much of 2019 preparing for the “Remain in Mexico” policy to extend to Arizona, and in November 2019, it did. Asylum seekers on the Arizona-Sonora border were transferred to El Paso, Texas, and sent to wait for their court hearings in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua. However, after several weeks, immigration officials began returning asylum seekers to Nogales, Sonora, and required them to find their own transportation to Ciudad Juárez for the court hearings in El Paso. The journey is much longer on the Mexican side of the border and necessitates crossing through dangerous, cartel-controlled territory.

Because unaccompanied children are exempt from “Remain in Mexico,” at the end of 2019 many children who migrated to the U.S. with their families began to present for asylum as unaccompanied minors. Parents made the agonizing decision to send their children to the border alone to escape the dangerous conditions presented by the “Remain in Mexico” policy. This is another way that this administration has torn apart families.

Since the implementation of “Remain in Mexico” in Arizona, our Border Action Team in partnership with KBI has worked to identify particularly vulnerable migrants who have suffered violence in Mexico to accompany them to request non-refoulement interviews. Non-refoulement interviews are granted to individuals who express a fear of being returned to wait in Mexican border cities while their U.S. asylum claims are adjudicated. Asylum seekers have the right to have counsel present during these interviews, although frustratingly many interviews are not granted or attorneys are not called to be present.

Our Border Action Team also collaborates with KBI to make sure that people in MPP have as much support as possible before they travel to Ciudad Juárez for their hearings in El Paso. In early 2020, the Florence Project began holding workshops in Nogales, Sonora, in which Florence Project attorneys, legal assistants, and volunteers spend a day helping migrants fill out asylum applications, gather evidence, and translate documents.
It’s hard to imagine Kari Hong doing anything other than immigration defense. When you hear her family’s story, you can understand why she was called to this work.

Kari’s biological grandfather, Juris Aire, was a chemist in Latvia who had advanced knowledge on fingerprint technology. Right after World War II, the Soviets tried to hire him to use his expertise to more accurately locate and track their enemies. He refused, knowing that meant he couldn’t stay.

Juris woke his family in the middle of the night, and they fled to Germany, where they stayed in a displaced persons camp. However, the fact that others hadn’t escaped didn’t sit well with Juris, so several times a week, he would leave the camp, go to East Berlin, and help other Latvians flee to the West. He was eventually caught, arrested, and sent to a political prison, where he was a prisoner until his release in 1959. While he was at the camp, Kari’s grandmother died of cancer, and the children were orphaned.

Meanwhile, an American couple, Howard and Edna Hong, was working in East Germany helping to resettle refugees during a seven year leave of absence from Howard’s college position in Minnesota. They kept hearing about two children who’d lost both of their parents, one to political prison and the other to cancer. A number of people whom Juris had saved asked Howard and Edna to find and take care of Juris’s children. Howard and Edna eventually did, finding, adopting, and bringing them back to the United States.

Kari has taken on approximately 100 cases with the Florence Project as a pro bono volunteer attorney! In her current role as a professor at the Boston College Law School, Kari founded and supervises the Ninth Circuit Appellate Program, in which law students argue an immigration case that is being appealed to the Ninth Circuit with Kari’s supervision. She estimates that about half the cases her students have taken on through that program have been Florence Project cases.

CONTINUED...
“Why I do what I do?” Kari asks. “My father—the immediate beneficiary of his families’ legacy of kindness—always emphasized how important it was to be kind to others, whether they be strangers or loved ones. In our everyday lives, being kind and helping other people seems small, like drops of rain that are soft and unobtrusive when they fall from the sky. But when water joins together, it is the only force that can level mountains and carve out valleys.”

Kari’s father’s advice to avoid falling into the despair of futility fuels her work. “Not every case wins. Not every case has a large impact. But when a case is an impactful win, nine times out of ten, the case came from my partnership with the Florence Project.”

“My father’s insights have proven true. Success is measured collectively, and failure comes from not trying.”

In 2019, Kari dedicated her sabbatical to working with the Florence Project as an appellate fellow, taking on two dozen cases in front of the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Ninth Circuit, an experience she describes as “eye-opening.”

The relentless legal changes over the last three years have made practicing immigration law difficult. “They are designed to make our clients give up hope, and it has had that impact on me too,” Kari says. “I’ve been doing detention work for two decades, and I’ve never seen it like this. I’ve never had clients give up before, but now I’ve had clients give up because detention is brutal, by design. It was never like this before.”

“But in my own moments of doubt, I hear my grandmother Edna Hong’s voice quietly and calmly saying: ‘It’s the right thing to do, I can do it, so I will.’

“I see no other alternative. I feel lucky to be a part of the Florence Project’s community of volunteers. Knowing that there are hundreds of us, today’s hope and efforts are combining and will further combine. Right now, I’m hanging onto my father’s leap of faith that, as long as I keep working on my drops of water, at some point, the water will join and a flood will carve up the barriers that are blocking justice.”

Kari Hong (left) honored as the Florence Project’s 2019 Adult Pro Bono Attorney of the Year with Pro Bono Managing Attorney, Katie Ruhl (right).
2019 Pro Bono Attorneys: As of December 31, 2019

Sai Manthra, Arizona State University
Krizia Verplancke, Arizona State University
Greg Altschuh, Attorney at Law
Victor Aronow, Attorney at Law
Hans Clugston, Attorney at Law
Hon. Nancy Corsones, Attorney at Law
Hiram Fenjac, Attorney at Law
Erik Johnson, Attorney at Law
Nicole Nakaji, Attorney at Law
Katie Ostrow, Attorney at Law
Daljitpal Parmar, Attorney at Law
Lisa Siegel, Attorney at Law
Kevin Valdez, Attorney at Law
Stovhan Ayala, Ayala Law Office
Daniel Arellano, Ballard Spahr LLP
Jan Bucon, Ballard Spahr LLP
Terrence Brown, Banner Estrella Medical Center
Toby Brink, Banner Health
Kari Hong, Boston College Law School
Jeffrey Brook, Bowman and Brooke
Mercedes Ryden, Burns Law Office
Arturo Gonzalez, Chapa Law Group
Vidula Patki, Coppersmith Brockelman PLC
Marki Stewart, Coppersmith Brockelman PLC
Jared Levine, Crowell & Moring LLP
Brian McGarth, Crowell & Moring LLP
Kevin Groman, Crown Canyon Law
Daniel Rodriguez, Daniel Rodriguez Law
Michael J. Plat, Dickinson Wright PLLC
David I. Thompson, Dickinson Wright PLLC
Cole Schlabach, DLA Piper
Sean Smith, Evans Dukarich LLP
Bradley Pew, Fennemore Craig PC
Emily Ward, Fennemore Craig PC
Jena Decker-Xu, Fragomen Worldwide
Stephan Eggum, Fragomen Worldwide
Maguette Eluyode, Fragomen Worldwide
Jaime Santos, Goodwin Procter LLP
Samantha Winter McAlpin, Gust Rosenfeld PLC
Brittany Reed, Gust Rosenfeld PLC
Trish Stuhan, Gust Rosenfeld PLC
Alan Feldman, Jackson Lewis PC
Cabell Breckenridge, JC Breckenridge Law
Alex Egbert, Jennings, Strouss & Salmon PLC
Judy Flannagan, Judy C. Flannagan, PC
Ron Kilgard, Keller Rohrback LLP
Sheree Rybak, Klarquist
Andrea Tazioli, KW Law LLP
John Shaw, Law Office of John D. Shaw
Yalda Godusi, Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP
Michael Hallam, Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP
Laura Pasqualone, Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP
Melanie Pate, Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP
Bruce Samuels, Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP
Heather Stanton, Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP
Clara Acosta, Lubin and Enoch PC
Nick Enoch, Lubin and Enoch PC
Alyse Fischer, Morgan, Lewis & Borckius
Karen Nagle, Nagle Law Group
Michael Neufeld, Neufeld Law Firm PLC
Hillary Walsh, New Frontier Immigration Law
Norris Livoni, Norris C. Livoni, Attorney at Law
Kristina Holmstrom, Ogletree Deakins PC
Josh Bendor, Osborn Maledon PA
Emma Cone-Roddy, Osborn Maledon PA
Hayleigh Crawford, Osborn Maledon PA
William Furnish, Osborn Maledon PA
Tracy Donahue, PayPal
Daniel Barr, Perkins Coie LLP
Howard Cabot, Perkins Coie LLP
John Gray, Perkins Coie LLP
Brian Lake, Perkins Coie LLP
Christian Ruiz, Perkins Coie LLP
Janel Glynn, Polsinelli
Isabella Leavitt, Polsinelli
Jennifer Axel, Polsinelli
Leah Tinney, Quares & Brady LLP
Republic of Arizona, Salt River Project
Margarita Silva, Silva & Fontes
Edward Hemes, Snell & Wilmer
Benjamin Nucci, Snell & Wilmer
John Vryhof, Snell & Wilmer
Lisa Panahi, State Bar of Arizona
Quintin Cushman, Steptoe & Johnson LLP
Tim Strong, Steptoe & Johnson LLP
Caroline O’Hara, The Law Office of
Carolyn K. O’Hara
Deana Champagne, The Law Office of
Deana Champagne PLLC
Vianey Hurtado, Thomas Law Firm
Nina Rabin, UCLA School of Law
Jennifer Settles, Uhaul
Lynn Marcus, University of Arizona, College of Law
Hillary Farber, University of Massachusetts, School of Law
Katherine Winkley, Winkley Law Firm PLLC
Juliana Manzanarez, Ybarra Maldonado Law Group
Ray Ybarra Maldonado, Ybarra Maldonado Law Group
2019 Foundation and Law Firm Partners

Bonnett, Fairbourn, Friedman & Balint, P.C.
Borealis Philanthropy New Venture Fund
The Burton Family Foundation
Byrd-Borland Foundation
Carylon Foundation
Chamberlin Family Foundation
Coppersmith Brockelman PLC
Dayspring Foundation
Dunn Family Charitable Foundation
Elizabeth A. Lynn Foundation
Bungie Foundation
Foundation Beyond Belief
Freygish Foundation
Gerson Family Foundation
Give Back Foundation
Harold K. Raisler Foundation
Harry C & Florence E Bauknecht Charitable Fund
Hispanics in Philanthropy
Holder Family Foundation
Howard G. Buffett Foundation
Isabel Allende Foundation
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Lakeshore Foundation
Law Office of Farhad Sethna
Law Offices of John D Shaw
Law Offices of Andre Boghosian
Law Offices of Daniel A. Rodriguez
Leaves Of Grass Fund
Longhill Foundation
Marcia Brady Tucker Foundation
Panta Rhea Foundation
Nada Foundation
NEO Philanthropy
Ohrstrom Foundation
Omaha Community Foundation
Open Anthropology Foundation
Ortega Law Firm P.C.
Pajwell Foundation
Perkins Coie Foundation
Puzauskas Family Charitable Foundation
Race Forward
Raza Development Fund
Rogers Family Foundation
Roy and Patricia Disney Family Foundation
The Global Whole Being Fund of RSF
Social Finance
Seidman Family Foundation
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
The Steele Foundation
Steptoe & Johnson LLP

Susan Crown Exchange, Inc.
The Abelow Family Foundation
The Emanuel and Anna Weinstein Foundation
The F.B. Heron Foundation
The Fish Family Foundation
The Gumbo Foundation
The Jacob & Valeria Langeloth Foundation
Child Welfare Fund
The Jonah Maccabee Foundation
The Lynn Stern and Jeremy Lang Family Foundation
The Max and Anna Levinson Foundation
The Morningstar Foundation
The Rudolf J. and Daphne A. Munzer Foundation
The Tiger Tail Family Foundation
The University of Arizona Foundation
Torres Consulting And Law Group LLC
Troper Wojcicki Foundation
Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust
The Weil Family Foundation
Winky Foundation
Yerba Buena Fund
Zitrin Foundation

Florence Project staff with Pro Bono Attorneys honored at the 2019 State Bar Foundation Luncheon.

Retiring Board Member, Dr. Nelba Chavez (center), honored in Tucson, Arizona, photographed with friends Dr. Mercy Valencia (left) and Dr. Becky Montaño (right).
Thanks to our donors’ generous support in the wake of the family separation crisis, the Florence Project significantly increased its staffing size and advocacy in 2019. Now, as we assess the impact of the drastic increase in detention and the COVID-19 pandemic, we have reserved surplus revenue to sustain our growth and to strategically respond to further attacks on immigrants’ rights and an increased need for our services. As always, we will put every dollar available toward meeting the needs of detained immigrants. Thank you for joining us in defending due process and human rights!

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