



**PIRC**

Pennsylvania Immigration  
Resource Center

*Educating, advocating, ensuring access to justice.*



**We are Resolute:**  
*we stand with*  
**Immigrant  
Families**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2017**



Dear Friends,

The year 2017 was a year of change for immigrants and their families. New administration policies have made immigrants and their families more vulnerable to family separation. And families like Marcos' (see his story), and their employers and the community, are suffering as a result.

**PIRC remains resolute.**  
We stand with immigrant families.

We are grateful for your support – through words, acts of volunteerism, and financial assistance. You have made it possible to serve more vulnerable immigrants in 2017 than in any other year in PIRC's history, helping immigrant parents like Marcos and their children remain together in the community.

Let us know what you're thinking. Follow us on Facebook or connect by email at [info@pirclaw.org](mailto:info@pirclaw.org). Together we create futures of hope for vulnerable immigrants and families.

Kind Regards,

**Andrew Mahon**  
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*Managing Attorney/Legal Orientation Program*

**Christina Powers**  
*Managing Attorney/ Detention Representation*

**Andani Alcantara-Diaz**  
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**Alexa Siegel**  
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**Diana Locke**  
*Managing Attorney/ Immigrant Survivors Project*

**Sarah Martin-Torres**  
*Program Coordinator*

**Rosa Perez-Lupian**  
*Legal Advocate*

### DEVELOPMENT/ ADMINISTRATION

**Elizabeth Miller**  
*Development Manager/ Office Manager*

**Fernanda Castillo**  
*Office/Program Assistant*

## Programs and Services

In 2017, new immigration policies that are focused on detention and deportation have had a broad and significant impact on all immigrants in Pennsylvania who are noncitizens. This expansion of the detention and removal system has resulted in families being separated at the border and in our community. PIRC has witnessed a sharp increase in the need for services and has responded through increased education, advocacy, and representation:

### Detention Programs



#### INCREASED EDUCATION IN DETENTION

In 2017, PIRC's Legal Orientation Program (LOP) provided **services to more than 2,450 detained immigrants**. PIRC provides LOP services at both the York County Prison, which detains immigrants from communities across Pennsylvania, and the Berks County family detention center. LOP services include Group Orientations, Individual Legal Orientations, and Self-Help Workshops.

Number of detained immigrants served:

1700	▲	1900	▲	2000	▲	2450
2014	●●	2015	●●	2016	●●	2017



#### INCREASED DIRECT REPRESENTATION

PIRC identifies the most vulnerable immigrants in detention for pro bono representation and refers cases to PIRC's legal staff or to pro bono attorneys and law schools. In 2017, PIRC provided **direct representation to 41 detained immigrants, pro se assistance to 49 detained immigrants, and mentored pro bono attorneys representing 19 detained immigrants**.

Through the National Qualified Representative Program (NQRP), PIRC is the designated legal services provider for detained immigrants in removal proceedings deemed not competent to represent themselves before the immigration court.

### Community Programs



#### INCREASED SERVICES TO IMMIGRANT SURVIVORS

In 2017, the Immigrant Survivors Project (ISP) experienced another year with a high level of services. PIRC's ISP **provided direct representation to 253 immigrant survivors**, and 65 of their family members, who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. In the households of these survivors, **239 U.S. citizen children also benefited from the stabilization and security** that immigration status provides.

### Community Defense Project



#### LAUNCH OF THE COMMUNITY DEFENSE SERVICES

In 2017, PIRC launched the **Community Defense Project**, offering community legal clinics, supporting the need for increased LOP services, and providing advocacy for families and their loved ones in detention.



## WE BELIEVE

# families belong together

Marcos\* is a working father of two young children. He had no idea he was at risk of being held in immigration detention. Yet under current expanded immigration enforcement policies, immigration enforcement officers showed up at his home and took him into custody.

When Marcos came to the United States, he met and became friends with Valerie\*, a U.S. citizen. They married and had two young children. Valerie told Marcos she would file the applications for his green card, but after their marriage, she started hitting and punching him, verbally abusing him, and threatening to have him deported. Despite the abuse, Marcos worked hard to ensure that his children were taken care of.

As Marcos witnessed the impact of his wife's abuse on their young children, Marcos sought help. One of PIRC's Immigrant Survivors Project advocates listened to Marcos and told him

*Despite the abuse, Marcos worked hard to ensure that his children were taken care of.*

about the laws that protect victims of domestic violence. PIRC filed applications for Marcos, and he received a temporary lawful status while he waits for his green card.

In August 2017, Marcos received a traffic ticket, which he paid. Before the changes in enforcement policies, his temporary legal status would have protected Marcos against immigration detention and deportation. But under expanded enforcement, Marcos – a domestic violence survivor, and father of two – was taken into custody and detained at the York County Prison.

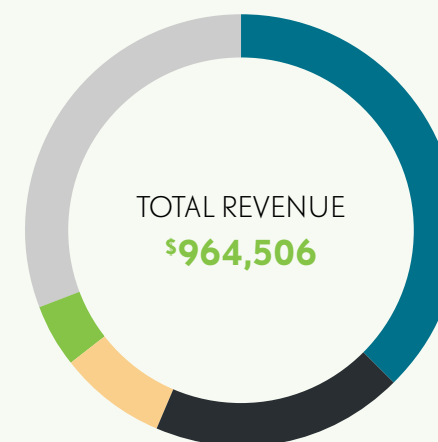
An attorney from PIRC's Detention Programs advocated for Marcos, and he was granted bond. Marcos was released from detention and has been reunited with his children and returned to work and his home!



## 2017 AT A GLANCE

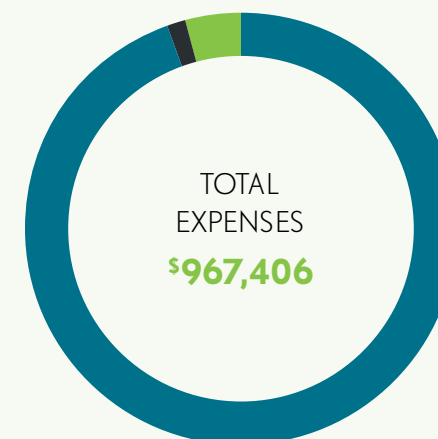
### Revenue

- Government **\$364,204**
- PA IOLTA **\$182,000**
- Foundations **\$75,667**
- Donations **\$47,570**
- In-Kind Contributions **\$294,816**
- Other Income **\$249**



### Expenses

- Program Services **\$914,178**
- Administration **\$14,675**
- Fundraising **\$38,553**



## LIGHT OF LIBERTY awardees



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OF THE YEAR**  
**James Gillespie, Esq.**

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OF THE YEAR**  
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**VOICE OF COURAGE**  
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# thank you

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We stand  
WE ARE RESOLUTE  
We stand  
WE ARE RESOLUTE  
and with

Throughout this report, we've changed the names of those we serve to protect their identity.

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