COMMITTED TO THE STRUGGLE
Dear Friends,

In 2016, we celebrated PIRC’s 20th anniversary, reflecting on our founding and our journey over the past 20 years. Beginning with a group of passionate advocates determined to protect asylum-seekers, PIRC has been sustained by a strong commitment to take up that struggle each day. This commitment is made by our staff, volunteers, donors, and the tenacious and brave immigrants we have been privileged to serve. It is an alliance of will, a journey we walk together.

In 2017, we face new challenges. PIRC’s mission is more important than ever. We will continue to stand with immigrants — those who struggle in the face of adversity, such as asylum-seekers like Mobo (page 3) as he seeks freedom and refuge, and survivors of violence like Azmera (page 5), showing us again how asking for help is the first step in a journey of courage. We hope you will join us in this commitment.

Kind regards,

Andrew Mahon
Board President

Connect with PIRC today at www.pirclaw.org or follow us on Facebook.
WHO WE ARE

PIRC VALUES

WE BELIEVE:

• EVERY PERSON DESERVES to be treated with respect and dignity
• IN FAIR AND CONSISTENT ACCESS FOR ALL to America’s system of justice
• EVERY PERSON’S CONTRIBUTION COUNTS in creating a shared prosperity in our community
• IN SUPPORTING FAMILY UNITY, as strong families make for strong communities
• IN PROVIDING LEGAL PROTECTIONS to vulnerable immigrants that create safety for themselves and their families
• IN HELPING IMMIGRANTS OVERCOME BARRIERS to services such as physical isolation, language, and culture

MISSION STATEMENT

The Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center (PIRC), a nonprofit organization founded on the belief of equal access to justice, works to protect immigrants’ rights to freedom and opportunity in the United States and saves the lives of the most vulnerable immigrants and their families. PIRC provides free, effective legal representation, legal services, legal counsel, education, and advocacy to help immigrants obtain or protect their legal status.
Mobo never imagined that he’d have to flee his home and risk his life getting to America, only to be put in prison when he got here.

Mobo grew up in Nigeria, where he knew he had to hide the fact that he was gay. Upon hearing about his sexual orientation, his father disowned him. The elders of his village found him “guilty” of being gay and banned him from the village. He was beaten in public by his brothers, and narrowly escaped getting killed by various individuals who heard about his sexual orientation. Mobo was fearful of going to the police because he knew some individuals who had been beaten and killed by police for the very same reason.

Fearing for his life, he fled the country and made the long journey to the United States, getting robbed along the way. He requested asylum at the southern border, but because he had no visa to enter, he was sent to York County Prison.

It was there he met with a PIRC attorney who listened to his story and took on his case. Together, they stood in front of the immigration judge, recounting the atrocities that Mobo had suffered and the constant threats on his life he was still receiving. With the help of our attorney, Mobo was granted asylum and freed from detention. He now has lawful status and authorization to work. Most importantly, he is finally free to live in safety.
DETAINED PROGRAMS

For immigrants in civil detention in the York County Prison and the family detention center in Berks County, PIRC provides life-saving education, advocacy, and legal services.

EDUCATION
Legal orientation classes educate immigrants in detention about what to expect in immigration court, their rights, and potential legal options. This critical education empowers immigrants navigating a complicated immigration legal system on their own.

PRO SE ASSISTANCE
Many of the immigrants detained in York County Prison or at the family detention center in Berks County are asylum-seekers who fear returning to their home country and are faced with representing themselves in court, pro se. As possible, PIRC provides support services including document translation, legal and country conditions research, hearing prep, and support with applications, briefs, and the appellate process.

DIRECT REPRESENTATION
PIRC attorneys represent and advocate for immigrants, including those who have mental health challenges, who are illiterate, and who have fled trauma, torture, and persecution in their home country.

ADVOCACY
Detained immigrants face language barriers, isolation, and limited understanding of their rights and U.S. laws. PIRC advocates for equitable treatment with the courts, prison facilities, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

BY THE NUMBERS:

2,000+ INDIVIDUALS
in detention
BENEFITTED FROM LEGAL EDUCATION

84% OF IMMIGRANTS
appear in court
WITHOUT AN ATTORNEY

82 IMMIGRANTS
ADVOCATED FOR
through pro bono representation or pro se assistance

Imagine having suffered trauma, narrowly escaping harm and battling through a grueling journey, only to end up in prison, faced with the task of representing yourself in court before an immigration judge when you don’t know the law, the culture, or the language. When you have limited access to the outside world, little to no money. When you have one chance — sometimes only a few minutes — to tell your story to an immigration judge who will decide your fate. PIRC’s pro se assistance provides research support, application assistance, translation of documents, and connections to other resources critical to their defense.

“Commitment is what transforms a promise into reality.”
— Abraham Lincoln
PROVIDING IMMIGRANTS IN OUR COMMUNITY WITH HOPE

Azmera and Mia and Their Journey to Safety

Azmera was studying at a university in West Africa when she met a naturalized U.S. citizen from her country. After a brief courtship, she traveled to the United States on a fiancé visa.

Although her fiancé was kind and respectful during their courtship, he assaulted and abused her from the first day she arrived in the United States. He kept her locked in the house with no phone and forced her to work all day.

She became pregnant and during one of her prenatal visits was able to talk about the violence she was experiencing. A PIRC attorney met with Azmera and explained that American laws would allow her to file for immigration status — that there was a way to safety that would allow her to remain in the United States with her daughter.

PIRC connected Azmera to support and shelter and filed for her immigration status. Azmera was approved for a work card and now lives in her own home where she and her daughter, Mia, can live without violence. She is hoping to someday pursue her dream of becoming a nurse.
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

In the community, we provide legal protections to immigrant survivors, legal clinics for low-income residents seeking immigration legal advice, and advocacy.

IMMIGRANT SURVIVORS PROJECT

PIRC meets with courageous immigrant survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, and human trafficking to educate them about the laws that protect them. As in Azmera’s case, their lack of immigration status can become a way for abusers to threaten to have them deported, separating them from their children here in the U.S. PIRC’s free legal services provide the protection of American laws and help survivors to obtain work authorization and lawful status. The Immigrant Survivors Project also partners with domestic violence and sexual assault agencies in nine counties in South Central Pennsylvania to ensure that immigrant victims receive the critical array of restorative victim services available.

LEGAL CLINICS

With partners in the community, PIRC provides free immigration legal clinics to immigrants seeking legal advice and assistance with becoming U.S. citizens.

ADVOCACY

PIRC advocates for language access by providing education and training for community service providers, sharing tools that can bridge language and cultural gaps. As a member of community task forces, PIRC also advocates for access to these services for immigrants in the community.

SERVED BY FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMMIGRANT SURVIVORS</th>
<th>FAMILY MEMBERS</th>
<th>CITIZEN CHILDREN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>191</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>183</td>
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100% of domestic violence victims who applied for work cards were approved.

COUNTIES SERVED

Based on the results of the York County Bar Foundation’s economic impact study, every dollar invested in PIRC results in an estimated nine fold economic benefit to the community.
We could not serve vulnerable immigrants without the support of dedicated volunteers. Thank you for the time and talent you give to create significant impact for immigrants seeking the protection of asylum… for immigrant survivors seeking the safety and stability of a work card or a green card… for the many immigrants who know they are not walking alone in their journey. Your service to vulnerable immigrants is a legacy of hope.

TOGETHER, WE CREATE IMPACT

“Everybody can be great, because anybody can serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”
— Martin Luther King, Jr.

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GIVING TIME, GIVING HOPE
DR. ANNE MIDDAUGH

Psychologist Anne Middaugh has demonstrated her commitment through several years of incredible volunteer service, work that is often complex, meticulous, and heart wrenching. Despite this, Dr. Middaugh has time and again aided immigrants who need her support.

Her work with Margarita is but one of the many examples in which she has made lasting impact on immigrant lives.

PIRC first met Margarita in 2016. Margarita had fled gang persecution in Mexico and was sexually assaulted by gang members who continued to stalk her after she attempted to escape. The PIRC attorney representing Margarita asked Dr. Middaugh to meet with Margarita and provide a psychological evaluation that could be entered into evidence in Margarita’s asylum case. Dr. Middaugh met with Margarita, earned her trust, and was able to document horrific circumstances and the impact they had on Margarita’s life.

Her forensic report shed light on the emotional scars that Margarita suffered and how this impacted her ability to tell her story. Dr. Middaugh not only documented the PTSD Margarita suffered but also the cultural issues of shame that had caused Margarita to withhold the sexual assault in prior accounts of her experiences.

With the support of Dr. Middaugh’s report, Margarita was granted asylum and is finally safe in the United States.
LIGHT OF LIBERTY AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Pro Bono Attorney of the Year
Rosina Stambaugh

Law Firm of the Year
Asylum and Human Rights Clinic, University of Connecticut School of Law

Community Volunteer of the Year
Dr. Anne Middaugh

Pro Bono Interpreter of the Year
Rosalyn Groff

Continuing Commitment to Justice, Organization
Philadelphia Bar Foundation

Continuing Commitment to Justice, Individual
Jill Family

Voice of Courage
Josia Nunes

2016 VOLUNTEERS

From translating a document to advocating before an immigration judge, volunteers demonstrate the impact one person can make. Your commitment to serving immigrants is inspiring!

Amin Alawi
Fatimatou Bah
Bob Balaban
Ashley Barasha
Tessla Cerrato Hernandez
Heather Conlon Keller
Carol Anne Donohoe
Judy Eidelson
Lisa Flanagan
David Freedman
Conchita Garcia
Tesfagorgis Ghebreslassie
Suzan Greenberg
Gabriela Grezina
Rosalyn Groff
Graciela Gubera
Elizabeth Hoffman
Joseph Hohenstein
Rebecca Hufstader
Sadiq Hussein
Natasha Kirk
Laura Lopez
Peng Lu

Andrew Mahon
Malcolm McDermond
David McVeigh
Tha Meng
Gusmane Michel
Marise Michel
Anne Middaugh
Northeastern University
Mia Polizzoto
Silas Ruiz Steele
Jessica Santiago
Craig Shagin
Suzanne Smith
Ed Spreha
Rosina Stambaugh
John Stauffer
Elizabeth Sweet
University of Connecticut
Villanova University
Arno Vosk
John Woldebruk Negussie
Lindsay Zimliki

Your commitment makes a difference

$230,000

value of services

PROVIDED BY VOLUNTEERS

40 Attorneys, psychologists, psychiatrists, bilingual community members, and passionate advocates comprise PIRC’s volunteers
2016 AT A GLANCE

THANK YOU

PIRC is grateful for the continued commitment of our donors to empower and protect vulnerable immigrants. You sustain our mission. Individually and together, you made a positive impact in the lives of thousands of vulnerable immigrants in 2016, and the ripple effects of your generosity will carry forward for generations.

Private Foundations, Corporations, and Other Organizations:

AILA Philadelphia
Barley Snyder, Attorneys at Law
Chan and Associates
Glatfelter Insurance

Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, Philadelphia
Herbert M. Rehmeyer Trust
Holberg Design, Inc.
Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia
Mennonite Central Committee

Modern Art
Pennsylvania IOLTA Board
Philadelphia Bar Foundation
The Philadelphia Foundation
Track 5 Media
Trans/Queer Yoga
The William and Mildred Kaplan Foundation

REVENUE
Public/Government Funding
Individual Contributions
Foundations
IOLTA

EXPENSES
Fundraising
Operations/Administration
Program Services

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<td>5%</td>
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“"I am so grateful to have found PIRC and for all the work they have done for me. Now I know I can provide a better life for my two-year-old daughter.””

— Jorge, survivor of domestic violence, proud parent

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

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