



The New York Immigration Coalition

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

As we reflect on the past year, it's difficult not to be overwhelmed by the challenges we've faced and the hurdles we've overcome. Yet, in the midst of uncertainty and adversity, I am immensely proud of the resilience and dedication displayed by our team and the immigrant communities we serve.

The past year has tested us in ways we could not have imagined. From navigating the complexities of changing immigration landscape to welcoming thousands upon thousands of newcomers to New York, each day brought new obstacles to surmount. Yet, through it all, we remained steadfast in our commitment to upholding the principles of compassion, fairness, and justice.

Despite the challenges, we found innovative ways to adapt and continue our vital work.

We forged even closer partnerships with our member organizations to amplify our impact and provide much-needed support to and relief for our communities.

We stood up to meet new challenges and met them – and our newest neighbors – with grace and dignity. And most importantly, we fought alongside our immigrant communities, offering them support and solidarity in their time of need.

As we look ahead, we recognize that our work is far from over. The road ahead may be fraught with uncertainty, but I am confident that we possess the strength, determination, and resolve to meet whatever challenges come our way. Together, we will continue to fight for a more just and equitable immigration system—one that recognizes the inherent dignity and worth of every individual, regardless of their background or circumstance.

In the coming year, let us recommit ourselves to building a future where

all immigrants are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve, and where our communities are united by shared values of inclusivity and compassion.

Together, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of countless individuals and families, ensuring that the promise of New York remains alive for generations to come.

In solidarity,



Murad Awawdeh, President and CEO
New York Immigration Coalition



In 2022, Governor Abbott of Texas began bussing thousands of people – unannounced – to welcoming cities like New York. City officials, citing capacity issues, began bussing recent arrivals across the state. In response, the NYIC launched a rapid-response initiative to coordinate resources statewide and support the resettlement of those who wish to settle outside of New York City.

In 2022 the NYIC’s rapid response initiative **‘Welcoming New York’** secured over 1.9 billion dollars to support our newest New Yorkers, and an additional 73 million to meet the legal service needs of new arrivals.

In partnership with our members, the NYIC has worked to protect New York’s legacy as a safe haven and ensure that every asylum seeker who made it to our state has received the services, shelter, and care that they wanted to not only survive, but to thrive.

The Welcoming New York Campaign has shown that welcoming immigrants helps strengthen us all.

In addition to our work across the state, the NYIC has also secured **additional wins to support immigrant communities.**

On the federal level, our movement won a huge victory for tens of thousands in New York with the redesignation of Temporary Protected Status for Venezuelans, Afghans, and Cameroonians.

At the State level, we expanded the Child Tax Credit to include children four years and under, making a huge difference in the lives of working families.

In New York City, we fought hard to secure sixteen million dollars to help previously excluded undocumented families defray the cost of childcare, maintained and defended immigration legal services, adult literacy education, and so much more against austerity.

Today, we celebrate. **Tomorrow, the fight continues** – and the NYIC will remain steadfast until all of the needs of our community are met, no matter how many families choose to call New York home.



Trinity Church Wall Street

In the heart of downtown New York City, long-time NYIC partner **Trinity Church Wall Street** stands as a beacon of hope and compassion for incoming asylum seekers seeking refuge.

Trinity Church's commitment to welcoming asylum seekers is rooted in its mission to serve the vulnerable. Inspired by teachings of compassion, the church offers more than just practical aid; it **extends a warm embrace to each individual, affirming their dignity and humanity.**

Recognizing the urgency of issues facing our newest neighbors that began late last year, TCWS immediately mobilized, offering financial support to the NYIC and several other organizations responding on the ground, providing practical support, and connections to vital resources, all the while asking how they could do more.

By opening its doors and hearts, TCWS sends a powerful message of solidarity and unity to the community.

With their ongoing support, Trinity Church Wall Street not only provided tangible assistance but also sent a powerful message of solidarity and unity to the broader community. In a city known for its diversity and resilience, the church stands as a shining example of what it means to truly welcome those in need.

UnLocal New York City

Based in NYC, NYIC Member organization UnLocal is a community-centered organization that provides direct legal representation and community education to New York City's undocumented immigrant communities. As a Welcoming New York regrant-ee, UnLocal's Pro Se Plus Project delivers critical community education workshops to directly-impacted communities, as well as provides capacity-building trainings to other service providers in order to expand the reach of their work. Like many other nonprofits supporting the undocumented community, 2023 brought an increase in demand for services.

With support from the NYIC and the Welcoming New York grant, **UnLocal** was able to adjust and significantly increase their capacity to meet the needs of our community.

Grannies Respond Beacon

Based in Beacon, NY, Grannies Respond provides compassionate and respectful support for asylum seekers and immigrants who seek safety and security in the United States. They were founded in 2018 to support migrants crossing our southern border and traveling across the U.S. on buses.

In partnership with the NYIC, **Grannies Respond** greeted over a thousand buses in the first several months of their founding, sometimes serving as many as about 350 migrants in a single morning.

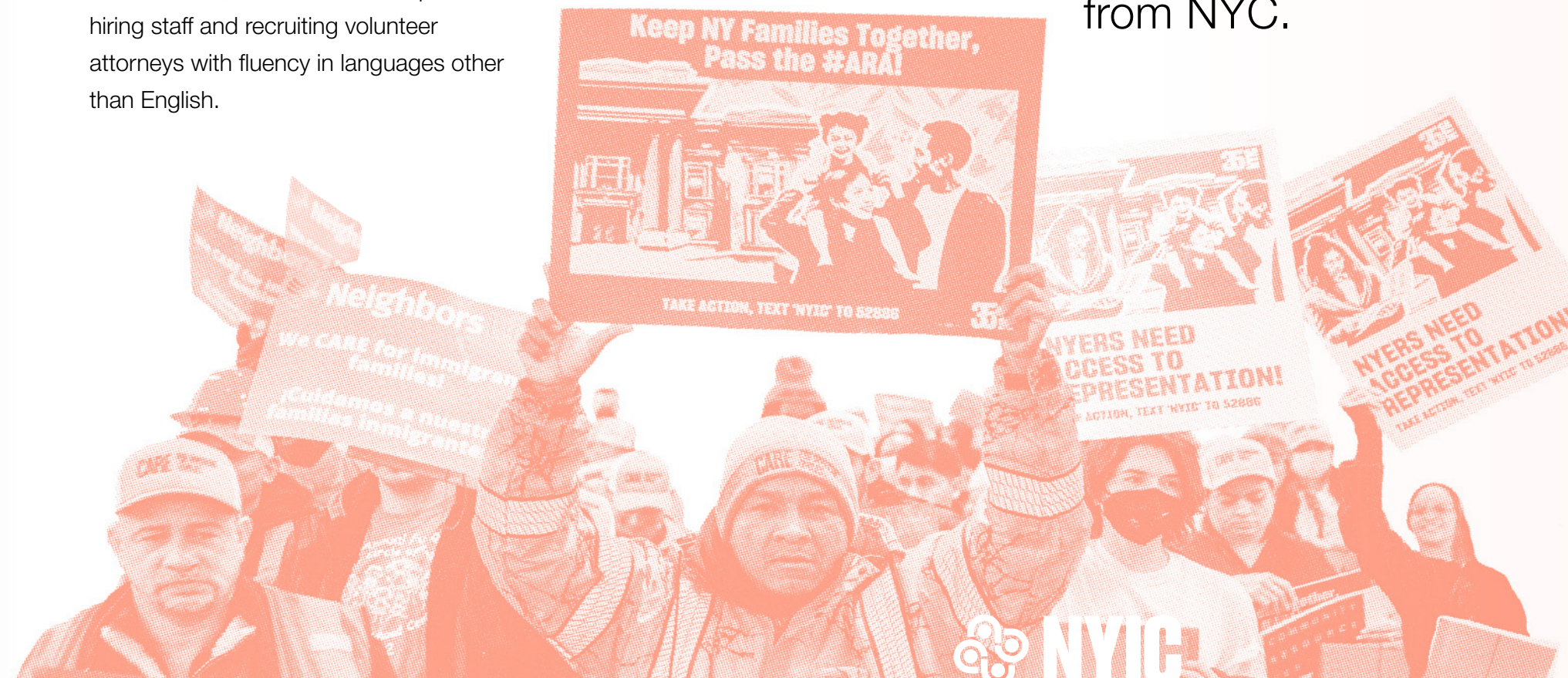
When the flow of migrants on buses began to ebb, Team TLC NYC opened a retail "store" in Manhattan, the Little Shop of Kindness, where migrants could "shop" for free clothing and other necessities, as well as receive free legal advice and referrals for needed services. In the Hudson Valley, the Grannies Response team has met all the migrants bussed from NYC. To date, over 50,000 individuals and families have directly benefited from their work.

ECBAVLP (Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project) Buffalo

Based in Buffalo, NY, The Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project (ECBAVLP) provides free civil legal services to low income individuals and small not-for-profits in the greater Western New York region. They have been providing immigration legal services to their local immigrant community since the 1990's. In order to decrease barriers to their services, ECBAVLP has emphasized hiring staff and recruiting volunteer attorneys with fluency in languages other than English.

In 2022 alone, they were able to serve clients in 36 different languages. In partnership with other NYIC coalition members, ECBAVLP has expanded their reach even further.

Training case managers to deliver legal intakes and coordinating with the *Welcoming New York* campaign allowed **ECBAVLP** to deliver services to over 500 migrants bussed to Buffalo from NYC.

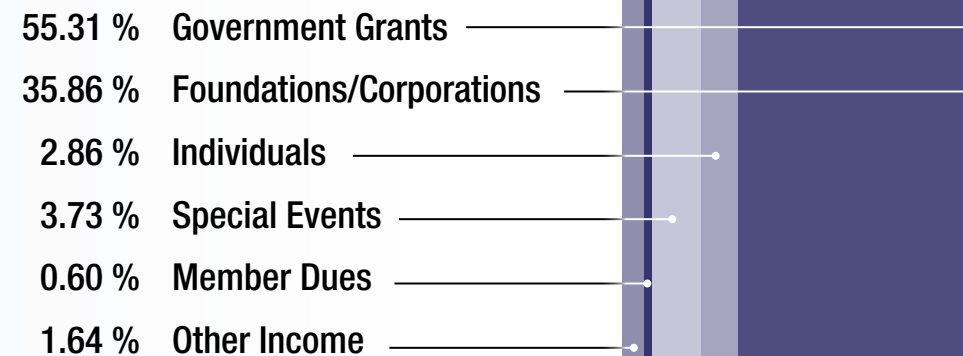


Expenditures



11.12 M

Support & Revenue



12.28 M

Board Members

Darnell Benoit	2021 Flanbwayan Haitian Literacy Project*
Carola Otero Bracco – Chair	2017 Neighbors Link*
Guillermo Chacón – First Vice Chair	2002 Latino Commission on AIDS*
Megan Chambers	2014 LDF Union*
Muzaffar Chishti – Vice Chair	1993 Migration Policy Institute
Teresa Gonzalez – Secretary	2019 Bolton-St.Johns
Michael Hirschhorn	2018 mebl / Transforming Furniture
Paul Kim	2019 Legal Consultant
Mae Lee	1998 Chinese Progressive Association*
Carmen Maquilon	2004 Catholic Charities*
Yesenia Mata	2022 La Colmena NYC*
Jessica Maxwell	2010 Workers Center of Central NY*
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Candis Tolliver	2021 32BJ SEI*
Eddie Taveras	2021 FWD.us
Shontell Smith	2024 Tusk Strategies

*NYIC Coalition Member Organizations

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