



OPENING DOORS TO JUSTICE

2015 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

A Message From Our CEO, January Contreras



2015 was truly a remarkable year at ALWAYS. We began the year by expanding legal services to Pima County, and we broadened eligibility criteria to make our services available to young people impacted by the foster care system.

We are grateful to ALWAYS donors and supporters who invest and allow us to bring our services within reach of more people in need. As we look back, we celebrate the new staff, volunteers, and friends who have joined our cause. Above all else, we celebrate the women, men, and children who give ALWAYS the privilege of standing with them as they seek safety, stability, and self-sufficiency in the justice system.

We are proud to help them reclaim their futures. Thank you for supporting them and our work.

With thanks always,

January Contreras, CEO & Managing Attorney

ALLISON IS REUNITED WITH HER CHILD

Allison lived with an abusive partner, who was also the father of her son. When she made up her mind to flee their home, she and her child found shelter in a housing program for women with children.

Eventually, however, her abuser kept their child after a scheduled visit and made good on his threat to withhold their child from Allison unless she came back home.

Allison's child had been kept away from her for months when she found ALWAYS. ALWAYS quickly obtained temporary orders, and later final orders, reuniting her and her child.

As she fought to get her son back, she had another battle going on. Allison bravely testified in the prosecution of a man who had previously trafficked her for several days. Thanks to her testimony, her trafficker pled guilty to felony kidnapping.



2015 LEGAL SERVICES SUMMARY



Arizona Legal Women and Youth Services opens the doors of justice by providing free legal services to survivors of human trafficking, and young people, up to the age of 24, impacted by homelessness, abuse, and the foster care system.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY

23%

Supported youth on their own as they pursued self-sufficiency through assistance with government identification, wage theft, debt settlement, and other legal matters.

EMPLOYABILITY

17%

Empowered clients to address barriers to employment including set asides for non-violent criminal offenses, and fingerprint clearance card appeals.

FAMILY STABILITY

33%

Strengthened the families of young people and survivors, many of whom were fleeing violence, through Orders of Protection, child custody, child support and parenting time issues.

IMMIGRATION

27%

Assisted vulnerable immigrant youth and survivors to pursue pathways to employment, permanent residency, and citizenship.

ALWAYS MAKES A GLOBAL IMPACT

In 2015, ALWAYS helped young people and human trafficking survivors from around the globe. ALWAYS clients came from:

Belarus	Liberia
Ethiopia	Mexico
Guatemala	Tanzania
Honduras	Ukraine
Jordan	United States

91 LIVES CHANGED

2,700 LEGAL SERVICE HOURS PROVIDED

"All I can say is thank you. You've made a difference in my life."

~ ALWAYS Client



2015 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

EXPANDING OUR IMPACT

Legal Services Expand to Southern Arizona

ALWAYS partnered with homeless-youth serving organization and community partner, Our Family Services, to launch legal clinics and comprehensive law services for vulnerable youth and survivors of human trafficking in Pima County.

A New Home for ALWAYS

ALWAYS opened its independent law offices in Central Phoenix establishing Arizona's first comprehensive law office dedicated to the unique legal needs and empowerment of young people impacted by homelessness, abuse, human trafficking, and the foster care system.

Pro Bono Attorney Training

ALWAYS partnered with the Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking to host a two-day training preparing Arizona attorneys to provide skilled and knowledgeable counsel to survivors of human trafficking.

National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth Conference

ALWAYS co-facilitated a full day pre-conference institute for school and educational system personnel from across the nation focused on meeting the legal and educational needs of undocumented immigrant youth.

AMAN FINDS A PERMANENT HOME

Aman is a seven-year-old boy who was adopted as an infant from an Ethiopian orphanage by United States citizens. When Aman arrived in the United States, his adoptive parents did not complete his immigration process so he remained undocumented.

Sadly, his adoptive mother began physically abusing him, and the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) stepped in to terminate the adoptive parents' rights. Fortunately, Aman was placed with a loving foster family who wants to adopt him and give him a permanent home.

ALWAYS was called to help resolve Aman's immigration issues. His ALWAYS attorney helped him obtain a Special Immigrant Juvenile Visa for abused children, and is now helping him pursue permanent residency. We are proud to be a part of Aman's journey toward adoption and his opportunity to grow up in a healthy and caring home.

To protect their privacy, the names of ALWAYS clients have been changed.

"Your organization made a dream come true for my little guy. You are truly angels."

-Department of Child Safety Case Manager

2015 FAST FACTS ABOUT ALWAYS CLIENTS

70% ARE WOMEN AND GIRLS

50% HAVE BEEN IN FOSTER CARE

20% SURVIVED TRAFFICKING

*Data excludes "unknown" responses.

STRENGTH THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

ALWAYS partners with social service providers, community organizations, legal professionals, philanthropic supporters, and government agencies to meet the needs of young people and human trafficking survivors in the justice system.

Tumbleweed Center for Youth Development
Native American Connections – HomeBase
International Rescue Committee
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking
AZ Coalition to End Sexual & Domestic Violence
ASU Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research
Florence Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project

Our Family Services
one-n-ten
TRUST
National Network for Youth
Arizona Anti-Trafficking Network
Phoenix Dream Center
Shared Hope International

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ALWAYS FUNDING PARTNERS

