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

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<tr>
<th>SELF-SUFFICIENCY</th>
<th>EMPLOYABILITY</th>
<th>FAMILY STABILITY</th>
<th>IMMIGRATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>23%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>27%</td>
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Supported youth on their own as they pursued self-sufficiency through assistance with government identification, wage theft, debt settlement, and other legal matters.

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

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.

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

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91 LIVES CHANGED

“All I can say is thank you. You’ve made a difference in my life.”
~ ALWAYS Client

2,700 LEGAL SERVICE HOURS PROVIDED
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.