

Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota

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ILCM Organization Summary

- Mission** *The Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota enhances opportunities for immigrants and refugees through legal representation for low-income individuals, and through education and advocacy with diverse communities.*
- Goals**
- Remedy legal problems by providing quality immigration legal services to low-income immigrants and refugees of all nationalities;
 - Prevent legal problems by providing law-related education to immigrants and refugees of all nationalities; and
 - Raise public awareness of immigration issues so as to encourage sound public policy that protects the universal human rights of immigrants and is both compassionate and practical.
- Clients**
- Our clients earn less than 187.5 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.
 - ILCM serves immigrants and refugees residing in the state of Minnesota.
 - Nearly 57 percent of ILCM clients are from Latin American countries, 22 percent are from Asia, 18 percent from Africa, and the remaining three percent are from various countries in Europe, Oceania, and North America.
 - In 2015, 72 percent of ILCM clients lived in the seven-county Metro Area, while the remaining 28 percent resided in rural Minnesota.
- Activities**
- Assist clients in preparing and presenting citizenship applications, and in passing exams.
 - Reunite families by helping citizens and permanent residents to petition for family members from abroad; keep families together through family petitions; and prevent the separation of families by providing representation for persons in removal proceedings.
 - Assist families and individuals in filing asylum applications; assist battered immigrant women and children in filing Violence against Women Act (VAWA) petitions; assist victims of serious crimes in obtaining U-Visas.
 - Provide legal representation for young immigrants through our DREAMers Immigration Project and Central American Refugee Project.
 - Present appeals in court to defend the constitutionally-guaranteed rights of immigrants.
 - Advocate for fair and comprehensive immigration reform.
 - Educate immigrants, professionals, and the general community about immigration and the issues faced by immigrants and refugees.
- Unique Attributes**
- ILCM is the only legal program in Minnesota that provides comprehensive immigration services to low-income persons of all nationalities, regardless of legal status.
 - ILCM seeks to make legal services accessible to all immigrants in Minnesota by staffing satellite offices in West St. Paul, Moorhead, and Worthington.
- 2015 Success**
- ILCM provided legal services to 4,615 immigrants and refugees across legal programs.
 - ILCM served clients from 104 different countries.
 - ILCM reached more than 8,000 individuals through over 100 education and advocacy presentations, in addition to numerous appearances on radio and television.
 - ILCM expanded services with the opening of a full-time office in Moorhead, Minnesota.
 - 238 pro bono attorneys donated 2,840 hours of service to ILCM clients and their families.