

TOGETHER WE RISE

2024-2025 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



NORTH CAROLINA
JUSTICE CENTER



**A SECOND CHANCE
FOR FOOD SECURITY**

ADVOCACY TOOLKIT



CONTENTS

Message to Our Supporters	4
Our Mission	5
The Impact of Your Support	6
Our Strategic Pillars	8
Stories from the Front Lines of Justice	9
A Young Voice Demands Change	10
One Mom's Fight Against the Felony SNAP Ban	14
He Channeled Grief into Change for Those with Medical Debt	18
Hope Regained: Thousands Win Against Predatory Debt	22
Keeping the Lights on After Hurricane Helene	24
Refusing Silence: A Worker's Courage	26
Empowering Immigrant Families	30
Protecting Immigrant Children	32
The Path to Justice	34
How You Can Help	35
Thank You to Our Generous Donors	36

MESSAGE TO OUR SUPPORTERS



Dear Friends,

We are living in unprecedented times. Every day, we bear witness as politicians escalate their attacks on our civil liberties—targeting immigrants; cutting public health and food assistance programs; dismantling public education; targeting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in schools and the workplace; and more. The NC Justice Center is also facing significant challenges, as lawmakers have slashed funding from critical legal advocacy organizations like ours.

Now, more than ever, the path toward justice is in peril. Thanks to your generosity, support, and continued partnership, our hope shines brighter than the challenges before us. Our country has a long history of popular movements led by ordinary people successfully pushing for political, social, and economic

change. From civil rights and workers' rights to protecting children and expanding opportunities, popular movements have shown that progress is possible when communities rise with courage and conviction.

This past year, your support empowered the NC Justice Center to continue that proud tradition. Together, we took bold steps across North Carolina—supporting immigrant families, expanding consumer protections, relieving medical debt, saving lives on death row, advancing access to quality education, protecting workers from harassment and discrimination, and defending essential public benefit programs. Through legal action, policy advocacy, and grassroots mobilization, you helped us prove that we can still ensure justice reaches those who need it most.

Justice is in jeopardy, but together we will rise and carry its light forward. As Martin Luther King, Jr. reminds us, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." With you by our side, we know that arc continues to bend because of our collective effort.

With gratitude,

DANA MANGUM

Interim Executive Director

A man with a beard and glasses, wearing a dark blue baseball cap and a dark blue t-shirt with the "peoplefirst" logo. He is standing outdoors with trees in the background. The t-shirt has the word "people" in orange and "first" in white. The background is slightly blurred, showing green foliage and a building.

*people*first

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to eliminate root causes of poverty in North Carolina by ensuring that every household in the state has access to the resources, services, and fair treatment it needs to achieve economic security. Our dedicated staff advocate for immigrants' rights, consumer protections, safe and affordable housing, a quality public education for every child, a fair criminal justice system, accessible and equitable health care, and workers' rights.

THE IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT





\$25,000

invested in groups that mobilized **thousands** of public education advocates

\$68,000 SETTLEMENT

for a client wrongly denied housing



80,000+ HOUSEHOLDS

received electric bill relief

\$35,000,000

in default judgment debt canceled for **18,400 people**

1.2 MILLION PEOPLE

in all 100 counties received Medicaid info

\$4,000,000

recovered for consumers and tenants



500+ IMMIGRANTS

served at power of attorney clinics

Clients from **15+ COUNTRIES** represented in immigrants' rights cases

15 DEATH ROW

sentences commuted



99 HOSPITALS

opted into new medical debt relief program

\$6.5 BILLION

in medical debt forgiven for over **2.5 million people**

\$162,500

in damages recovered for workers

9 PARDONS, 6 COMMUTATIONS

PUBLIC POLICY WINS

- **Secured passage of Senate Bill (SB) 565**, restarting and expanding automatic expunctions and leading to more than 1 million charges expunged—a jump from 15,000 a year to 10,000 a week.
- **Drafted and advanced House Bill (HB) 797** to rein in predatory residential property wholesalers and “We Buy Houses” operators; the bill passed the N.C. House unanimously and elevated us to the national stage.
- **Secured Governor Stein’s veto** of SB 266, which would shift costs and risks to North Carolina households at the benefit of our state’s largest corporations.
- **Promoted pro-worker legislation**, including bills to raise the minimum wage, establish a right to paid sick days, implement paid family medical leave insurance, increase unemployment insurance benefits, and require heat stress protections.
- **Mobilized statewide resistance to HB 10**, exposing harmful school voucher expansion tactics and building long-term opposition with Every Child NC and immigrant allies.

OUR STRATEGIC PILLARS



PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY

Our skilled advocates work with government officials and allies to secure laws and policies that protect and expand economic security. We're not just responding to crises, we're reshaping the systems that cause them.

LITIGATION

Our experienced attorneys take on high-impact cases that protect and expand the rights of workers, consumers, immigrants, and families with low incomes.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our educators and facilitators partner with community groups and leaders to create movements for change. We meet people where they're at, bringing vital resources to the communities that need them most.

RESEARCH

Our expert analysts assess the social and economic challenges confronting families and communities with low incomes and develop policy recommendations that promote shared prosperity.

COMMUNICATIONS

Our writers and media specialists generate a wealth of content for both new and traditional media to inform the public dialogue and influence state policy.



STORIES FROM THE FRONT LINES OF JUSTICE

“

Love—real love—is still the most dangerous thing we can do in a world that thrives on hate. The kind of love that refuses to be invisible. The kind that says you matter, even when the world says you don't.

- Giancarlo

A YOUNG VOICE DEMANDS CHANGE



GIANCARLO'S EDUCATION STORY

Giancarlo's story begins with his family. He was raised by a mother who relied on food stamps but showed him every day what resilience really looks like. He grew up with a brother who lives with autism in a world that often refuses to see him. And as a queer person in America, Giancarlo has been learning to exist without apology. He has shared his story before. He has spoken at rallies, sat at roundtables, and even shaken hands with Governor Cooper more than once. He has felt moments where something seemed to shift, but now he asks, "What has really changed?"

As Giancarlo surveys the consequences of policy and neglect, he decries the injustice taking hold. Speaking out on federal cuts to public assistance, he noted that "17 million will lose health care, 18 million kids will lose free lunch, 3 million will lose food assistance, 2 million jobs gone, all because feeding the poor isn't profitable."

He sees that same disregard reflected closer to home in North Carolina. "They overrode the governor's veto of HB 318, forcing sheriffs to work with ICE," Giancarlo said of N.C. lawmakers. "They expanded immigration checks to more offenses, criminalizing entire communities. They passed HB 193, allowing armed civilians on school campuses. They passed HB 805, targeting doctors who provide gender affirming care and silencing queer stories in our schools."

Yet even in this climate, Giancarlo joined students earlier this year at the N.C. General Assembly for a Youth Advocacy Day organized by the NC Justice Center in coalition with Every Child NC. About 140 public school students and their adult supporters gathered to share their experiences on issues like school safety, mental health, immigration justice, and DEI. The day included engagement with Superintendent Mo Green, meetings with state representatives, and a youth-led press conference—including a powerful speech from Giancarlo.

Together, we are uplifting the next generation of leaders. Students like Giancarlo and those he stood with at Youth Advocacy Day are already making progress, raising their voices to demand change. Their courage reminds us that it's not too late to build a more just and equitable world.

EDUCATION & LAW HIGHLIGHTS



Organized the Day of Action for Education Rights

Mobilized **hundreds of advocates and student leaders** from across the state to denounce the N.C. Supreme Court's rehearing of *Leandro*, march to the N.C. General Assembly, and uplift Black History Month.



Responded to the passage of House Bill 10

Collaborated with **immigrant rights** partners to mobilize communities **against HB 10's attack on immigrants and expansion of vouchers**, advocating for a veto and amplifying public opposition despite the legislature overriding it.



Defended edu- cation and civil rights

With Every Child NC, responded to far right, extreme legislative attacks against **DEI, civil rights, and LGBTQ protections**; proposed book bans; and efforts to weaken the State Superintendent's office.



Supported Helene-impacted communities

Convened a community-centered recovery panel discussion that brought survivors from previous storms in eastern N.C. together with **immigrant rights advocates working directly with Helene survivors** in western N.C.



Expanded and diversified Every Child NC

Strengthened Every Child NC partnerships, grew membership, and deepened engagement with **dozens of organizations and individuals**, with targeted outreach to AAPI, LGBTQ+, rural, and Black- and brown-led groups.





ONE MOM'S FIGHT

AGAINST THE FELONY SNAP BAN



[My children are] being outright excluded. And like I said, I understand. Sure, exclude me. Great. But you're taking away from my children.

- Sybriea



SYBRIEA'S FAIR CHANCE STORY

This spring, Sybrieta, a mother from Western North Carolina, took her story to the North Carolina General Assembly to advocate not only for herself, but for her children. Sybrieta is directly impacted by the Felony Drug SNAP ban, a law that bars people with certain convictions from accessing food benefits.

While she had been told that her drug conviction would not affect her children, the reality was far different. Because Sybrieta is not counted as a household member, her family of four is treated as a household of three when determining eligibility for food assistance.

Her income counts, but she does not, effectively excluding her children from any food benefits beyond WIC (the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children). The law, intended to punish her past, has instead left her children facing hunger.

With support from the NC Justice Center's fair chance team, Sybrieta attended meetings with lawmakers to share her lived experience, turning her personal struggle into a story of advocacy and showing lawmakers how policies designed to exclude adults can end up harming children.

Beyond supporting advocates like Sybrieta at the legislature, the NC Justice Center is working to end the Felony Drug SNAP ban through grassroots action. This year, we partnered with local advocacy organizations to host documentary screenings in Asheville and Greenville, sparking community dialogue about the ban. We also launched a community action group where advocates and directly impacted people can join strategy calls, get policy updates, and plug into advocacy opportunities.

Sybrieta's courage highlights the human impact of exclusionary policies in our criminal justice system. In her words, "It's time for us to close this gap and to make things fair and equal for everybody."



FAIR CHANCE HIGHLIGHTS



Advocated for clemency and early release

Urged Governor Cooper to exercise clemency power and grant early release of incarcerated individuals, resulting in **9 pardons**, **6 commutations**, and the historical **commutation of 15 death row sentences** to life without parole.



Demanded freedom and racial justice

Co-led the **Fifth Annual Vigil for Freedom and Racial Justice**, creating a clemency packet for 14 people—four of whom were granted clemency—and shared the stories of those harmed by incarceration to influence policymakers.



Challenged unjust fines, fees, and policies

Convened **100 stakeholders**, advocates, and directly impacted people; co-led panels and developed materials highlighting debt-based driver's license suspensions and local practices, driving momentum for policy reform.



Secured housing settlement and tenant policy reform

Secured a **\$68,000** settlement for a client wrongly denied housing because of a 30-year-old conviction, leading the property management company to also update its tenant screening policies to comply with federal and state laws.



Mobilized communities to push for systemic change

Hosted three powerful **community conversations** about decarceration and two **documentary screenings** about the Felony Drug SNAP ban, bringing together directly impacted people, advocates, and allies.





I watched my
wife die, and
these people
still came after
me for money.

- Terry

HE **GRIEF**
CHANNELED **INTO CHANGE**
FOR THOSE WITH MEDICAL DEBT

TERRY'S HEALTH ADVOCACY STORY

Terry and his late wife Sandra were victims of our for-profit health care system. They were both diagnosed with cancer and ended up with a mountain of debt despite having insurance. During Sandra's treatment, the hospital system pressured Terry to sign over partial equity in their home, which he did out of fear that treatment for his wife would be halted. Unfortunately, a year later, Sandra lost her battle with cancer.



A few years later, Terry received his own prostate cancer diagnosis. Again, despite being insured, the out-of-pocket costs kept piling up, and he simply could not pay them. The hospital system was relentless, taking Terry to court and winning a judgment against him. To prevent his credit from being further destroyed, Terry was forced to go back to work to make payments on the judgment. Understanding that medical debt is a systemic issue that impacts over 100 million Americans, Terry leaned into his long history of activism and

decided to speak out against what was happening to him.

Last year, the issue of medical debt gained traction when the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services pushed hospitals to sign on to a first-in-the-nation medical debt relief and protection program. The NC Justice Center took a leading role in partnering with grassroots advocates to pressure all 99 acute care hospitals in North Carolina to sign on to the program.

Unfortunately, none of the program provisions applied to Terry, but he used the momentum to share his story on NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt. Within a week, the hospital system sent Terry a letter forgiving not only his



judgment, but all judgments they had against people who owed medical debt. The system also nullified the contract that gave them equity in Terry's home.

Reflecting on his experience, Terry said, "I am so grateful and appreciative for the help and support that Rebecca Cerese and the rest of the Health Advocacy Project gave me as I fought this grave injustice. Without their tireless efforts, I'm sure I'd still be struggling with my now forgiven medical debt. The NC Justice Center was God sent."

Terry used his voice to speak truth to power and ended up changing not only his life, but the lives of thousands of others. His story is a powerful reminder of why fighting for justice matters.



HEALTH ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS



Expanded Medicaid enrollment and implementation outreach

Partnered with the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services to co-brand outreach materials, reaching **1.2 million people** in all **100 counties** through 1,000+ organizations.



Helped secure billions of dollars in medical debt forgiveness

Led a campaign to pressure **all 99** critical care hospitals to join a first-in-the-nation medical debt forgiveness program, resulting in **\$6.5 billion forgiven** for people with low incomes, financial assistance programs at every hospital, and a ban on predatory collections.



Influenced the vote of key decision-makers in Congress

Persuaded Senator Tillis to **oppose the harmful "Big Beautiful Bill,"** building momentum for future federal advocacy despite the bill's passage.



Defended Medicaid and the SNAP food assistance program

Coordinated the hand-delivery of **500 health professionals' signatures** and **100 personal stories** to all Congressional offices in the state, organized nonstop calls every five minutes for **60 business hours** to Senators Tillis and Budd, and planned simultaneous vigils outside their offices statewide.



“

Thank you so much
for the unwavering
and tireless work
throughout these
grueling and
long years!

- Vilayvan

HOPE REGAINED

THOUSANDS WIN AGAINST PREDATORY DEBT

VILAYVAN'S AND IRIS' CONSUMER PROTECTIONS STORY

For years, thousands of North Carolinians lived under the shadow of crippling debts that felt impossible to escape. Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC, one of the nation's largest debt buyers, had been violating North Carolina law by obtaining default judgments against debtors. PRA turned unpaid credit card debts into legal claims that could restrict what debtors do with their property, take money from their bank accounts, or even allow the sheriff to seize their cars.

That was the case for Vilayvan and Iris, whose car was seized to pay off a judgment she wasn't properly given a chance to dispute. Refusing to accept this injustice, Iris and Vilayvan—along with two other named plaintiffs—joined forces with the NC Justice Center's consumer protection attorneys.

Together, we filed a class action against PRA on behalf of the 18,400 North Carolinians who had been subjected to unlawful default judgments. Relief finally came in 2024, when PRA agreed to pay \$5.75 million and cancel thousands of default judgments that hadn't already been paid off, totaling approximately \$35 million in canceled debt. PRA also filed thousands



Your relentless pursuit of justice made all the difference for the small fish like me in an ocean full of big predator fish like PRA.

- Iris

of cancellations in courthouses across North Carolina. All class members received settlement checks ranging from \$50 to \$5,204, and a supplemental distribution was sent out in early 2025 to those who cashed their initial checks.



For Vilayvan and Iris, this wasn't just a legal win. It was a chance to regain a sense of hope and justice. "This victory means so much to me," Iris said. "It will significantly improve my life and the lives of countless others affected by PRA's predatory actions." In gratitude to the NC Justice Center, Vilayvan remarked, "You all will hold a special place in my heart, forever." We feel the same for her—and for every North Carolinian on whose behalf we continue to fight for justice.

KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON AFTER HURRICANE HELENE

When Hurricane Helene swept through Western North Carolina, families and communities were left grappling with downed power lines, flooded homes, and the fear of being without electricity. For residents already dealing with unimaginable losses, Helene added a layer of uncertainty about how they would keep their lights on in its wake.

The NC Justice Center's energy policy advocates stepped in to make sure these neighbors weren't left in the dark. We organized a meeting with Duke Energy to explore what billing flexibility could be offered to those whose lives were disrupted by the storm and to advocate for additional support policies.

During that meeting, Duke Energy shared that they could provide help on a case-by-case basis, offering payment plans, waiving late and reconnection fees, and waiving security deposits for families who had to relocate. But this assistance wasn't publicly announced; instead, customers were expected to call customer service themselves to request support.

Recognizing that many affected families might never hear about these "behind-the-scenes" measures, the NC Justice Center created a clear, easy-to-understand memo, available in both English and Spanish. We worked closely with more than 15 community partners to ensure it reached the people who needed it most. The memo went out to hundreds of nonprofits, utility assistance programs, and community organizations across the state, outlining the resources available and urging them to tell residents they can get help, but they need to reach out to Duke Energy directly.

As families began contacting Duke Energy, we didn't stop there. Together with our partners, we kept a close eye on the company's follow-through, asking organizations who received the memo to notify us of cases where assistance was requested but not received. When problems arose, we escalated them with Duke Energy staff, ensuring the promises made in the wake of Hurricane Helene translated into real support for the people of Western North Carolina.

CONSUMER, HOUSING, ENERGY, & TRANSPORTATION HIGHLIGHTS



Won tenant discrimination settlement

Co-counseled with Legal Aid NC to win a **\$68,000** settlement on behalf of tenants who were discriminated against by a large housing provider.



Guided rollout of historic electric bill relief program

Led stakeholder efforts to monitor and improve Duke Energy's first-ever Customer Assistance Program, helping **80,000+** households receive \$42 off each electric bill.



Resolved tenant utility cases

Stopped **thousands of dollars** in unfair utility fees and improved conditions for dozens of tenants in a mobile home park and a large apartment complex.



Educated tenants on their rights

Conducted multiple Know-Your-Rights trainings for tenants in mobile home parks, reaching **dozens** of tenants and their families.



Despite these challenges, Lourdes remained deeply grateful, frequently reminding us of how much the NC Justice Center's support meant to her. We fought together, and we cried together.

REFUSING SILENCE

A WORKER'S COURAGE

LOURDES' WORKERS' RIGHTS STORY

Trigger warning: Sexual assault



Lourdes (pseudonym) has been a farmworker in Eastern North Carolina for decades, mostly doing difficult field work. A few years ago, she moved to an agricultural packing shed, relieved to no longer work in harsh outdoor conditions and to have more reliable year-round hours. Soon after, a male coworker began sexually harassing her despite her repeated objections. Lourdes felt trapped because she owed a contractor who got her the job and had few options for consistent year-round work.

After several months, her coworker tricked her into staying late and tried to sexually assault her. Lourdes escaped but suffered physical injuries. When she reported the incident, her supervisor told her to work it out with her attacker and expected her to keep working with him. Unable to continue under those conditions, Lourdes left.

She contacted the police and sought medical help, and a few months later, an advocate connected Lourdes to the NC Justice Center. Our workers' rights team sprung into action, filing a discrimination charge with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which found that her employer had violated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act against employment discrimination and harassment.

After the employer offered only a token settlement, we filed a federal lawsuit, a process that spanned several years and forced Lourdes to repeatedly relive her experience amid a system that often dismissed her pain. Despite these challenges, Lourdes remained deeply grateful, frequently reminding us of how much the NC Justice Center's support meant to her. We fought together, and we cried together.

About a year later, we reached a confidential settlement equal to several years of her income, compensating Lourdes for lost wages and for pain and suffering.

As we confront statewide funding threats to legal services, Lourdes' story shows why access to these services is essential. Many plaintiffs walk away or accept far less than they are owed because they cannot afford a long legal fight. Without this critical help, Lourdes could not have held her employer accountable. Her story shows the power of standing with workers against powerful defendants.



WORKERS' RIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



Exposed the cost of inaction for working North Carolinians

Published the *State of Working NC 2024*, showing the economic and human tolls of failing to enact paid leave, paid sick and safe days, unemployment insurance reform, a livable minimum wage, and appropriate childcare funding.



Used digital advocacy tools to mobilize voters

Expanded the “We Work We Vote” digital advocacy campaign to connect civic engagement with workplace justice and other major election issues, resulting in 400+ website visits and 27,000 YouTube views.



Fought for justice on behalf of workers in court

Litigated on behalf of farm and food processing workers who were victims of human trafficking, wage theft, sexual assault, and retaliation, recovering \$162,500 in damages.



Empowered workers through education and outreach

Reached over 2,200 workers, allies, and community members through outreach, trainings, and presentations on workers' rights and workplace safety.



Protected immigrant workers

Helped immigrant workers gain legal protections, work authorizations, deportation protection, and access to better credit, driver's licenses, Social Security numbers, and health coverage—making hundreds more eligible for the same benefit in the process.

“ Now that I have a power of attorney, I feel calmer, safer, and very grateful to the excellent team that helped me.

- Client at POA clinic

A photograph of a family of three outdoors. A woman with dark hair pulled back is on the left, looking towards a young child. A man with a beard and a dark baseball cap is on the right, smiling at the child. The child, a young girl with brown hair in pigtails, is wearing a pink shirt and denim overalls, and is smiling while putting her finger in her mouth. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting foliage.

EMPOWERING IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS STORIES

Federal policy changes and heightened immigration enforcement have created widespread fear among immigrant communities across North Carolina. Families worry daily about what might happen if a parent, sibling, or other loved one is detained or deported. In this climate of uncertainty, the NC Justice Center's immigration attorneys have stepped in to provide concrete legal tools to help families protect themselves.

This year, we organized a series of "power of attorney" clinics across the state, partnering with local immigrants' rights advocacy organizations to serve over 500 people so far. We mobilized hundreds of volunteer lawyers, interpreters, and notaries in trusted spaces to help community members create legal documents that allow trusted family members or friends to make critical decisions on their behalf if they are detained or deported. That includes decisions like closing a bank account, selling a car, or determining what to do with a child's medical care or school enrollment.

Describing their experience at one of our clinics, a client shared, "I wanted to do a power of attorney because I needed to make sure that a trusted family member could legally represent me in certain important matters. At the appointment, I felt a little nervous and doubtful, but the team of lawyers treated me with patience, respect, and professionalism. They explained everything clearly to me and answered all my questions. Now that I have a power of attorney, I feel calmer, safer, and very grateful to the excellent team that helped me."

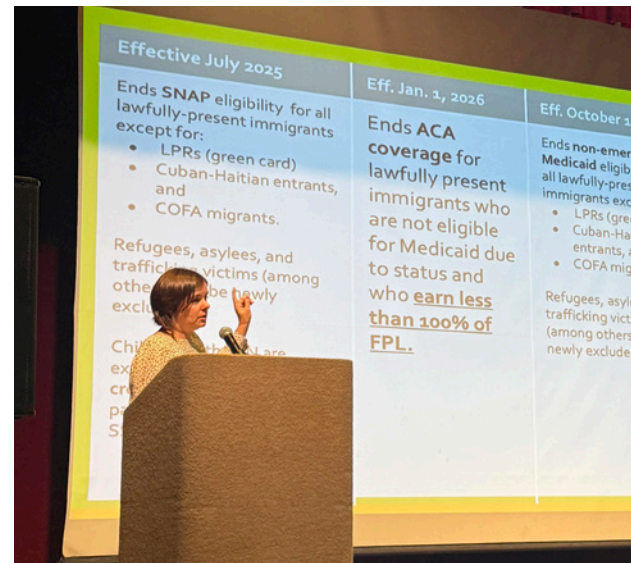


PROTECTING IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

When undocumented children enter state care after experiencing abuse or neglect, they often face the immigration system without the resources or guidance they need. The Department of Social Services may have custody of these children, but navigating the complex and confusing immigration system can be overwhelming, leaving children at risk of losing opportunities for relief.

The NC Justice Center partners with local social service offices to help fill this gap. Our immigrant and refugee rights experts help children apply for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), putting them on a path to legal residency and a safer future. This work has become even more crucial under the current administration, which has ended deferred action for children with SIJS status.

When immigrant children have strong legal services by their side, they don't have to navigate the system alone. We must continue to provide the guidance, legal support, and reassurance that immigrant children need to move from uncertainty and fear to safety and hope for the future.



IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE RIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



Represented immigrants facing persecution and exploitation

Provided **legal support to survivors** of gender-based and sexual violence, persecution based on sexual orientation, and persecution due to political/organizing activities in their home country, as well as victims of crimes or labor exploitation in the United States.



Fought on behalf of immigrants in court

Represented immigrants in asylum, family-based U-Visas, and Cancellation of Removal cases, and secured a green card for a long-term U visa holder in a removal proceeding.



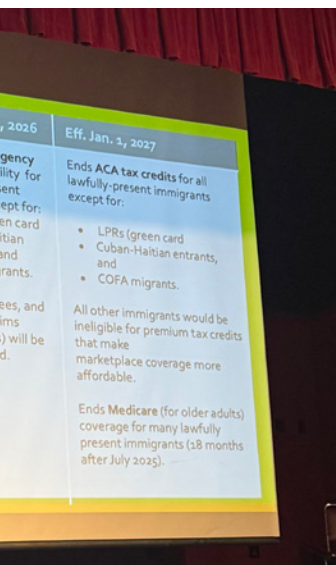
Equipped immigrant families with preparedness resources

Responded to widespread targeting of our immigrant population by collaborating with immigrant-led and Latinx groups throughout the state and jointly published with El Pueblo the *Immigrant Family Preparedness Toolkit* in Spanish and English.



Championed immigrant access to public benefits

Educated communities, state and local government, and partners on public benefits for immigrants, putting on **8 public events** that reached **364 people**.



THE PATH TO JUSTICE

Our path to justice is guided by a clear set of strategic goals that advance equity, opportunity, and prosperity for all North Carolinians. In the coming year, we are committed to pursuing the following objectives.

PROTECT

immigrants from arbitrary treatment, detention, and deportation; increase immigrants' economic security by protecting access to public programs and preventing unfair business practices; mitigate harm from anti-immigrant policies and reduce community fear.

STRENGTHEN

decarceration and post-conviction advocacy by amplifying directly impacted leadership, improving reentry and employment opportunities, and building long-term coordinated strategies to sustain and expand fair chance reforms.

ADVANCE

impact litigation and legislative advocacy to protect consumers, renters, and homeowners; expand grassroots engagement, coalitions, and inclusive policymaking, including in rural areas.

SAFEGUARD

Medicaid expansion and Medicaid funding, implement federal requirements without adding administrative burdens, engage with communities, expand Healthy Opportunities programs, and ensure successful medical debt forgiveness initiatives.

DEFEND

workers' rights through litigation, policy advocacy, and outreach; ensure safe workplaces, fair pay, benefits, and adequate unemployment insurance; empower workers to improve their working conditions and influence policymakers.

LEAD

the *Leandro* school funding campaign, particularly ahead of the next legislative session and in preparation for new litigation developments based on an upcoming opinion in the case.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

North Carolina needs bold, sustained advocacy. Your gift powers impact litigation, policy change, and community organizing. Join us and help build a more just North Carolina!

Donate

Donations can be made as a one-time gift, monthly, quarterly, or annually. **New in 2026**—taxpayers who take the standard deduction may deduct up to \$1,000 (individual) or \$2,000 (joint). If you itemize, charitable deductions remain available.

Tax EIN number: 56-1348186 | **Online:** ncjustice.org/donate

By Mail:

North Carolina Justice Center
Attention: Development
P.O. Box 28068
Raleigh, NC 27611-8068

For questions regarding your financial investment, please contact Kim-Marie McLellan, Director of Gifts, Endowment, and Communications, at Kim_Marie@ncjustice.org

Invest in Our Endowment

Starting in the new year, if your giving plans include an investment to the NC Justice Center's new endowment, your gift will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$500,000. Learn more at ncjustice.org/endowment.



Other Ways to Give

- **Join the Justice Circle** by giving at least \$1,000 annually.
- **Make a gift of stock:** We also gratefully accept gifts of stock, which can provide significant tax advantages while fueling our mission.
- **Donate through your donor advised fund (DAF):** If you give through a DAF, you can easily support us by recommending a grant through your fund. Simply use our **EIN: 56-1348186** to find us in your DAF's charitable database. To initiate a stock gift, visit ncjustice.org/stock-daf.



Stay Connected

Sign up to receive emails about our work and opportunities to take action: ncjustice.org/updates.



THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Rosalind & Adam Abram
Irwin Abrams
ACLU North Carolina
Pat Adams
AJ Fletcher Foundation
Jana Albritton
Ann Alexander
Dr. Patrice Alexander
Syd Alexander
Catherine Alexander
Lynn Allen
Joseph Alonis
Patricia Amend
American Online Giving
Foundation
Gary Ander
Dr. James Anderson
Dr. Carol Angle
Dr. Marcia Angle & Mark Trustin
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous Fund of Triangle
Community Foundation
Martha Apple
Hon. Margaret & Howard Arbuckle
Michael Arones
The Athlete's Foot
Karla Atkinson
Carol Atwood
Kathey Avery
Barbara Avery
Cynthia Aziz & Timothy
Vonderembse
Sarah & Meg Baesmith
David Bangert
Erin Barnes
Hon. Sharon & Jim Barrett
Jim Bassett
Lenore & Joe Baum
Joyce & William Bay
Rachel & Nathan Bearman
Judith Beck & Jerome Hay
Brenda & Charles Becton
Michelle Bedard & Steve Agan
Suzanne Begnoche, Attorney at
Law
Rep. Mary Belk
Laura Benedict
Phyllis & Tyler Bennett

Elizabeth & Walter Bennett
Alicia Berry & Jeff Kleaveland
Patricia Berryman
Pakis Bessias
Mary Bethel
Donna Bickford
Dr. Bob Bilbro
Stephanie Biziewski
Derek Black
Blackbaud Giving Fund &
YourCause
Betty & Dr. David Bland
Joy Blevins
Eva Blinder & Beth Israel
Joseph Blocher
Nancy Louise Blood & Cathy
Chandler
Lanier Blum
Jennifer & Jack Boger
Boger Family Foundation
Kenneth Boger
Linda & Mitchel Bollag
Jack Bookman
Dr. Dennis Boos
Deborah Bosley & Martin Settle
Linda Bossert
Stella Boswell & Craig Heinly
Bert Bowe
Scott Bradley
Lauri Brandenburg
Kevin Brandman
Dr. Jo Ellen Brandmeyer
Lewis Brandon III
William Brandon
Yvonne Brannon & Bill Clifford
Ruth & Daniel Brenner
Martin & Carol Brinkley
Honorable Robin Britt, Sr
Jan & Jim Brittain
Renaë Broderick
Ruth Bromer
Carol Brooke & Chris van Hasselt
Jacob Brooks
Brooks, Pierce, McLendon,
Humphrey & Leonard, LLP
Barbara Brooks
Adam Broome
Shelley Brown
Joseph Brown
Bruce Brown
Cedric Brown

Sarah & Joe Broz
Jessica & Steven Brueggeman
Sam Bryan
Patricia Bryan
Rep. Allen Buansi
Barbara Buckley
Julia Buckner
Joel Bulkley
Sandra Bumgarner
The Burlington Charitable Fund
Rebecca Burmester
Sandra Byrd
Dr. Jeff Caiola
Campbell University School of
Law
Ann & John Campbell
Susan & Jack Campbell
Ashley Campbell
Robert Campbell
Campbell Law School
Scottie & Tom Cannon
Jane Caplan
Charlotte Caplan & Michael
Brubaker
Cristy & Don Carroll
Jean Cary & George Danser
Lucia Gill Case & Peter Case
Suzanne & Matt Case
Dee Cash & Frank Goldsmith
Anne Cashion
Jim Cavener
Rebecca Cerece
Mac Chaffee
National Coalition of 100 Black
Women, Queen City Metropolitan
Chapter
Charles River Labs
Chris Chato
Deborah & George Christie
Sandy Clark
Carol Clark
Hon. Beverley Clark
Dr. Barbara Clawson
Louise Clifford
Howard Cohen
Nancy Ackermann Cole & Don
Cole
Tim Collins
Community Foundation of Greater
Greensboro, Inc.
Community United Church of Christ

The Robert C. & Sally B. Cone
Fund
Laurie Cone
Cone Health Foundation
Cone Wealth
Congregation Beth Israel
Congregation Beth HāTephila
Renee & David Connelly
Cathy Conners
Dr. Sharon Contreras
Carol & Patrick Conway
Sandra Wilcox Conway & Peter
Conway
Roger Cook
Dr. Leslie Cooper
Copeley Law
William Corbett
Susan Cormier
Jessica Cossette
Marion Cowell, Jr.
Robert Crabill
Burton Craige
Betty Craven & Michael Warner
Gisele Crawford
Alysia Creed
Auley Crouch, III
Laura Crumpler & John Dowd
Elizabeth Culbreth & John
Vanderstar
Rene Cummins
John Curry
Alexandra Cury
Robert Dalsemer
Kenneth Dalsheimer
Rhoda Davis
Jennifer Davis
Bruce Davis
Kristine Daynes
Jennie Deal
Erin Debnam
Deborah Ross for Congress
Mary Kay Delaney
Jade Dell
Anne Deloria & Bob Jackson
Democracy NC
Democratic Women of Wilson
Sarah Dempsey
Linda Depo
Philip Derfler
Carol & Robert Deutsch
Vicky & Robert Dickson

Karen Dietrich	Marge Foreman	Randee Gordon	Stephen & Kelly Hofstatter
Disability Rights NC	Teresa & Kenneth Foster	Lucy Gorham	Ellen Holliday & Ted Fillette
Atinuke Diver	Andrew Foster	Susan & Chris Graebe	Carol Holmes
Leonor Dobson	Diana Fotinatos	Sen. Lisa Grafstein	Mark Holt
Michelle Dominguez	Foundation for the Carolinas	Myron Gray	Richard Hooker, Jr
Abby & Jim Donnelly	Laurie Fox	Hon. Jane & Frank Gray	Jean Hopkins
Karen Dorr	Fox Rothschild LLP	Maurice Green	Randall Horne
Stephen Dovenitz	Franciscan Friars	Emily Chapman Grimes	Mary Anne Howard
Laura Dover	Joanne Kennedy Frazer & Ted	Katie Grischow	Lucille Howard
Moira Downey & Hon. Chris Brook	Frazer	Priscilla Guild	Dr. Chi & Kristin Huang
Bertis Downs	Lorin L. Freeman	Ferrel Guillory	Dr. Elizabeth Huddleston & Wendy
David Dreifus	Linda & Donald Frey	Betsy & Hon. Joe Hackney	Wieber
Kristi Dry	Kerry Friedman	Chip Hagan III	Hon. Robin Hudson & Victor Farah
Pam & Alan Duncan	Surassawadee Fry	Barry Hager	Charles Humble
Winley Durham	Shirley & Hon. Henry Frye	Carolyn & George Hall	Anne & Sam Hummel
Ivy & Martin Dyckman	Levi Fuller	Dr. Jacquelyn Hall & Robert	Holmes Hummel
Elizabeth Dyson	Judy Futch & Paul Smith	Korstad	Darren Hunicutt
Martha Dzioba	Charise & David Gantt	Bob Hall	Linda & Martin Hunicutt
Shelton Earp	David Garces	David Hamilton	George Hunker
Jennie Eblen	Garfinkel Immigration Law Firm	Robin Hammond	Julia Hunt
Peter Edelman	William Gaskins	Shannon Hamrick	Dr. Frederick Ifft
Laurie Edgerton	Sarah Geer & Sam Jackson	Anna Hamrick & Sam Snead	Carolyn Ikenberry
EducationNC	Suzanna Geiser	Gerry Hancock	Eva & Clyde Ingle
Betsy & Ben Edwards	Robert Gelblum	Deb & George Hanna III	Hon. Lucy Inman & Billy Warden
Lori & Harrison Edwards	Karen Genua	Laura Hanson & David Cecelski	Crystian Ioppolo
Alice Y. Elliott	Pamela George & David Austin	Eileen Hanson-Kelly	Mary Irvine
Elise Elliott	Maureen Geraghty & Griff Morgan	Sally Harbold	Ernest Irving
Carole Ellis	Ellen Gerber	Lonna & Richard Harkrader	Sandy & Deane Irving
Elmo's Diner	Victoria & Thomas Gerig	Thomas Harmon, Jr.	Aggie J. Jackson
Amy Englehart	Narendra Ghosh	Jane Harper & Woody Connette	Abby Jacobs & Joseph English
Andrew Erteschik	Neela Ghoshal	Frieda & Thomas Harrington	Deborah Jakubs
Dean Melissa & Larry Essary	Hugh Giblin	Dr. Alice & William Hart Jr.	James Family Foundation
Essex Richards P.A.	Susan Gilbert	Arianne Hartsell-Gundy	Jamieson Scott
Sherry Essig & Warren Raybould	Peter Gilbert	Jane Harwell	Jim Jarrard
Everett Gaskins Hancock LLP	Nathalie Gilfoyle	Sherry Hay	Angela Jeannet
Dr. Lou Fabrizio	Meagan Gill	Darren Hayes	Matthew Johnson
Facebook	Linda Gillison	Anne Healy & Bruce Elmore	Valerie A. Johnson
Carol & William Falender	Patti Gilmour-Sylvester & Don	Laura Heise & John Graybeal	Becky Johnson
Stephanie Fanjul	Sylvester	Stanley Henshaw	Sarah Jones
Barbara Fedders	Sydney Gingrow	Marilynne Herbert	Edwina & Hon. Paul Jones
Sheila & John Fellerath	Amy Ginsburg & Andrew Maynard	Mary Faith Herndon	Gay & Miller Jordan
Judith Ferster	Give Lively Foundation Inc.	Flor Herrera-Picasso	Joseph M. Bryan Foundation of
Fidelity Charitable	Katherine Glenn	Mary Hervig	Greater Greensboro
Financial Protection Law Center	Natasha Goins	Ann Hester	Irving Joyner
Ted & Deborah First	James Goldsmith	Damon Hewitt	Daniel Kadis
Barbara Fish	Deborah Goldstein	Margaret Hickie	Freya Kamel
Hon. Susan & John Fisher	Mary Goodkind	Jeannette Hickman	Linda Kane
Blandy Fisher	Shayne Goodrum	Cynthia Hilliard	Lynne Kane
Terri Flam-Goldberg	Randee Goodstadt	Dr. Jo Ellen Hirsch	Billie Karel
Jill & Smitty Flynn	Angie & Paul Goodwin	Donna Hodgman	Joseph Karpen
Laura Ford	Rivka Gordon & Trip Van Noppen	Stephen Hofstatter	Kate B. Reynolds Trust

Ron Katz	Lloyd Lense	Franklin McNutt	Emma H. Nguyen
Mark Kearins	Angela Leonard	Mark Meares	Gene Nichol
Hon. Patsy Keever	Tammie & Lou Lesesne	Dr. Darlyne Menscer	Jan Nichols & Erika Lindemann
Susan Kelemen	Lisa Levenstein	Lonnie Merrick	Kim Nilsen
Irene & John Keller	Carol Cole Levin	Kym & Rep. Graig Meyer	Dr. Don Nonini
Thomas Kelley	Betsy & Steve Levitas	Gale Meyer	North Carolina Black Alliance
Walter Kelly	Jane Levy	Lloyd Michener	North State Bank
Ervin Kelman	Linda Levy	Kristen Mielhe & Jeffrey Petrou	Phyllis Nunn
Tom Kenan, III	Melissa Lewis	Sally Migliore	Julie Nye
Jane Kendall & Ran Coble	Jesse Lipson	Deborah Miles & Marc Rudow	Kirsten Nyrop
Jackie Kiger	Dr. Susan Dianne Little	Steve Miller	Lynne O'Brien & Roger Mitchell
Judy Kincaid & Hon. Phil Lehman	Louise Lockwood-Zorowski	Beverly Miller & Roger Manus	Maureen O'Brien
Elizabeth King	Sara & Richard Loeppert	Marc Miller	Jocelyn Olcott
Helen & William King	Lown Institute	William Mills	Olmstead Reviewer
Beth Kinny	Lee & Mike Lumpkin	Fred Mills Sr.	Olson Law, PLLC
Emma Kinyanjui	Adrienne Kelly Lumpkin	Stephanie & John Mitchell	Laura O'Neal & Sam Cone
David Kirkman	Susan Lupton & Bob Schall	Mark Monsky	OneDigital Benefits
Sondra & Richard Klein	Drew Lyton	Ashley Montague & William Yoder	Jenni & Todd Owen
Dr. Carol Klein	Sadie Maddock	Julie & Richard Mooney	Ray & Sally Owens
Kathleen Klesh	Jessie Maeck	Noel & Hon. Richard Moore	Bob Page
Patricia Klinefelter	Pamela Mahony	Cathy Moore & Stephen Gheen	Mary-Rose Papandrea
Karlene Knebel & Richard Mann, Jr.	Karen Mallam & Keith Johnson	Peg & Dr. Richard Moore, II	Ana Pardo & Michael Akers
Marti Knisley	Diane & Bill Mance	Margaret Morehouse	Katy Parker
Susan Koesters	Chloe Mantrom	Hon. Marcia Morey	Joanna Patcha
Dr. Thomas R. Konrad	Stuart Marcovitch	Ann Morris & Mark Sutter	Patterson Harkavy LLP
Claudia Koonz & Jan Paris	Dr. Jane Marcus & Kenneth Schorr	The Morriss Family Foundation	PayPal Giving Fund
Sue Krebs	Jennifer Marsh	Rev. Milly Morrow	Mack Pearsall, Jr.
Jane Kulesza	William Marshall	Winfield Moses	Gail Perry
Jacqueline Kumar	Louise & Hon. Grier Martin	Joe Mosnier	Richard Perry
Helen Ladd & Edward Fiske	Dierdre & Dr. Allen Mask	Daniel Mosteller	Lance Perry
Janine Lafferty	Dee & John Mason	Robert P. Mosteller	Emily & Randel Phillips
Kathy Lamb & Dan Edwards	Catherine Matthews & Philip	Mary Mountcastle & Jim Overton	J Dickson Phillips III
Martha & William Lamb	Pfeifer	Letha Muhammad	John Pickens
Lancaster Craig & Associates	Karen Matthews	Steven Mullinix	AshLeigh Pienkosz
Laura Landy	Hon. Julie Mayfield	Thomas Murphy	Amanda Pike
Robin & Timothy Lane	Carolyn McAllaster & Coin Page	Karen Muse	Jane Pinsky & Richard Adelman
Suzanne Langlois	Austin McCall	Mutual of America	Pisgah Legal Services
Deborah Langsam & Dr. Joal	Margaret McCann	NAMI North Carolina	Lori Pistor & Terry Allebaugh
Fischer	Ann McColl & Thomas Stern	National Association of Social	Planned Parenthood South
Susan Larson	Ann & Dr. Webb McCracken	Workers NC	Atlantic
Laser Precision Cutting, Inc	William McCutcheon	NC A&T State University	Susy Pollitt & Bill Rowe
Kathleen Laufenberg & Kent	Diana McDuffee	NC Association of Educators	Megan Polzer
Spriggs	Sandra McFeeley	NC Budget & Tax Center	Joan Poole
Adria & Josh Laurore	Deborah McGill	NC Central University	Beth S. Posner
Monica Lavery	Jennifer McGovern & Steven	NC Coalition for Alternatives to the	Dr. Cheryl Posner-Cahill
Melinda Lawrence & Greg Malhoit	Unruhe	Death Penalty	Diane & Mark Pozefsky
Dr. David Leader	Kim McGuire & Jim Samsel	NC Council of Churches	Jane Preyer & Lark Hayes
Judith Leavitt & Betty Dickson	J. Denny McGuire	NC Democratic Party Jewish	Hon. David Price
Lynn Lederer	Maria McIntyre	Caucus	Public Schools First NC
Karis Lee	Nathan McKinney	NC Equal Access to Justice	Dr. Sara Quandt & Thomas Arcury
Dr. Jennifer Leeman & Tom Munk	Ruth McKinney	Commission	Dr. Kate & Hon. Joe Sam Queen
Ellen Leff	Ann McKown & Dan Hudgins	NC NAACP	Melissa Radcliff
Legal Aid of NC	Kim-Marie McLellan	NC State University	Karen Ramshaw & Pat Whalen
Rev. Margaret Leinbach	Elaine McNeill & Ann Louise	Ann Nelson	Randleigh Foundation
Elizabeth Leland & Luke Largess	Barrick	Network South Inc.	Dorothy & Hon. Ray Rapp

Bryna Rapp	Jane & Trevor Sharp	Alison Stuebe & Geoffrey Green	Tom Warshauer
Alice Ratliff	Theodore Shaw	Mary Patricia Stumpf	Grace & Donald Washington
Andie Rea	John Shaw	Barbara & Gray Styers	Mary Wayne Watson
Susan & George Reed	Art Sherwood	Brenda Summers	Walter Weathers
Suzanne Reynolds & Hoppy Elliot	Nancy Shoemaker	Dr. Laura Svetkey	Katherine & Mike Weaver
Allison Rice & Louis Perron	Reggie Shuford	Angilique & Adam Svolto	Linda Weisel & Daniel Pollitt
Ann Richardson	Susan Siegel	Heidi Swann	Hon. Jennifer Weiss & Bruce Hamilton
Patricia Rieser	Pnina & Sorin Siegler	Janet & Jim Sweeney	Deborah Weissman
Justice Allison Riggs	Pam Silberman & Jack Holtzman	Hon. Mary Ann Tally	Barbara Weitz & Mark Kay
Luke Rindfuss	Beth Silberman & Kenneth Rose	Cathy Tamsberg & Felicia Roper	Anne West
Retta Riordan	Michael Sileno	Helen Tarokic	Judith West
Carol Rist	Adam Silverstein	Pat Taub	Marian Westbrook
Patricia Robertson & Curry First	Arshia Simkin	Dr. David Tayloe	Jane Wettach & Paul Baldasare, Jr.
Wendy Robineau & Donald Beskind	Bob Simmons	Harry Taylor	Leona Whichard
Hon. Gladys Robinson	Rachel Simon	Andrea Tebbets	Judy Whisnant & John Bell
Bob Rodriguez	Simon Resources, Inc.	Monica Teutsch	Rev. Jaye White
Patrick Rogers	Edith Simpson	Nancy Tew	Judy & Robert Wicker
Louise Romanow	Andrew Simpson	Jennifer Thomas	Eileen Williams
Dr. Pat Roos	Rev. Gary Simpson	Laura Thomas	James Williams
Shirley & Eliot Rosen	Karen Sindelar	Angus Thompson, Jr	Stuart Wilson
Theresa Rosenberg	Jeff Sinn	Michelle Tiger	Cynthia Wilson
Deborah Ross for Congress	Paula Skedsvold	Dean Patricia Timmons-Goodson	Anne & Charles Wilson
Susan & Tom Ross	Becky Slifkin & Dr. Richard Rosen	& Dr. Ernest Goodson	John I. Wilson
Erica Rothman	Mary Nelle Smith & Kyle Woosley	Tin Fulton Walker & Owen PLLC	Hon. Leslie Winner & Dr. Gerald Postema
Margaret Rowlett	Stephen Smith	Abbie & Alan Tom	Winston Salem Foundation,
Lao Rubert & Hon. Steve Schewel	Jane & Gary Smith	Topos Research Partnership LLC	Anonymous
Michael Rulison	Linda B Smith	Kate & Allen Torrey	Linda Wire
Annette Samuels	James Smith	Carol Tresolini & Thomas Fiore	Women's Forum of North Carolina
Tara & Steve Sandercock	Jennifer Snider	Triangle Community Foundation	Beth Stewart & Jeff Woodhead
Ann & Blaine Sanders	Southern Environmental Law Center	Christopher Trotman	Mary & Stephen Woody
James & Kristen Saranteas	Andrew Spainhour	Elizabeth Troutman	Christine Woomer
Charles Sasser	Dr. Charles Spira	Debra Tyler-Horton & Carl Horton	Andy Yaco-Mink
Helen Savage	Treka Spraggins	UNC School of Law	Susan & Duncan Yaggy
Carol Sawyer & Tom Hanchett	Kate & Phelps Sprinkle	John Vail Law PLLC	Dr. Ned Yellig
Dr. Jessica Schorr Saxe & Allen Saxe	Tim Stallmann	Quirina Vallejos	You Can Vote
Ben Scales	Diane Standaert	Beth & Michael Van Amburgh	Stephen Young
Beatrice Schall	Paul Starnes	Nancy J. Van Antwerp	Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation
Karen & Michael Schley Foundation	State Employees Combined Campaign	Richard & Carol Nadell Van	Henrietta Zalkind
Judy Schneider	Celisa Steele	Deusen Social Justice Charitable Fund	Ruth Zalph
Lily Schorr	Dr. Joette Steger	Jeanne Van Divender	Kathy Zaumseil
Michael Schulman	Gerda Stein & Lee Norris	Peter van Dorsten	David Zeeso
Phyllis Schultz & Dr. Matthew Gromet	Dr. Sondra Stein	Hon. Terry & Ted Van Duyn	Karen Ziff & Richard Wasch
Robbie Schultz	Anna & Governor Josh Stein	Diane Vannais & Dr. Charles Waldren	Eugene Zimbalkin
Deborah Scott	Helen Stein	Bhavana Veeravalli	
Susan Scott	Lauren Steiner	Angela Vieth & Arthur Goodwin	
Douglas Sea	Carole Stern	Frances & Thomas Vitaglione	
F. Scottie Seawell	Mark Sternlicht	Helen & Harold Voris	
Joti Sekhon	Kerrie Stewart	Sen. Joyce Waddell	
Self Help Credit Union	Susan Stinson	Sharon Walker & David Walsh	
Carolyn Sexton	Cay Stratton	Susanne & Greg Walker Wilson	
Andrea Shapiro	Blaise Strenn	James Walrath	
	Student Action with Farmworkers	Charles Walton	
	David Stuebe	Jenny Warburg	





📍 P.O. Box 28068 Raleigh, NC 27611 | ☎️ (919) 856-2570 | ✉️ contact@ncjustice.org

The North Carolina Justice Center's work is made possible by generous support from individuals, businesses, and foundations. Thank you for ensuring our work to build prosperity and opportunity for all North Carolinians can continue.



Scan here to support our work.
Or visit: ncjustice.org/donate

