



IMMIGRANT LEGAL CENTER

**(FORMERLY JUSTICE FOR OUR
NEIGHBORS-NEBRASKA)**

Anna Deal, Director of Legal Strategy
Planting Seeds of Partnership Conference
Weds. April 21, 2021
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OUR MISSION

Our mission is to welcome immigrants into our communities by providing high-quality legal services, education, and advocacy.

- ILC clients are at or below **150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines**
- ILC's services are **free of charge**



OUR ROOTS

- 2000: Legal clinics at United Methodist Churches
- 2001: Iowa-Nebraska UMC conference hires attorney
- 2006: Justice For Our Neighbors – Nebraska becomes 501(c)(3)
- 2011: Executive Director & Legal Director ... new programs, partnerships & hires!
- 2015-2017: Clinics expand to Crete, Lexington, Grand Island, South Sioux City
- 2017: Centralized intake system, Nebraska Immigration Legal Assistance Hotline (NILAH)
- 2018: New Omaha headquarters & new name!
- 2018-2020: Grant to grow capacity with offices throughout rural Nebraska



WHERE WE ARE TODAY

Omaha; Council Bluffs; and soon Lincoln, plus...

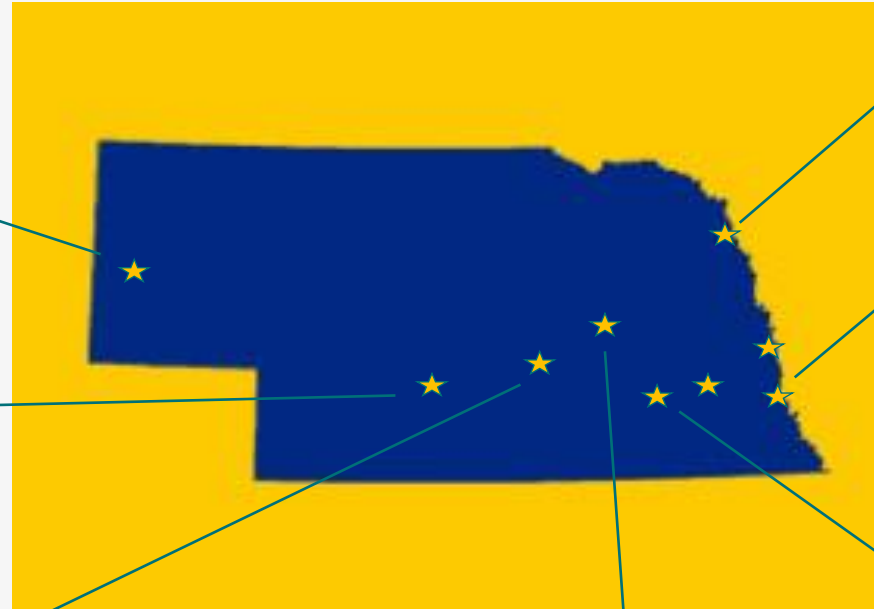
Scottsbluff, NE



Lexington, NE



Grand Island, NE



South Sioux City, NE



Nebraska City, NE



Crete, NE

Columbus, NE



OUR TEAM

- 19 attorneys
- 4 DOJ representatives
- 7 paralegals
- 6 reception/intake
- 6 administrative staff
- ~ 40% identify as Latinx
- ~ 65% are bilingual in English/Spanish
- ~ 50% identify as immigrants, children of immigrants, or from a mixed-status family



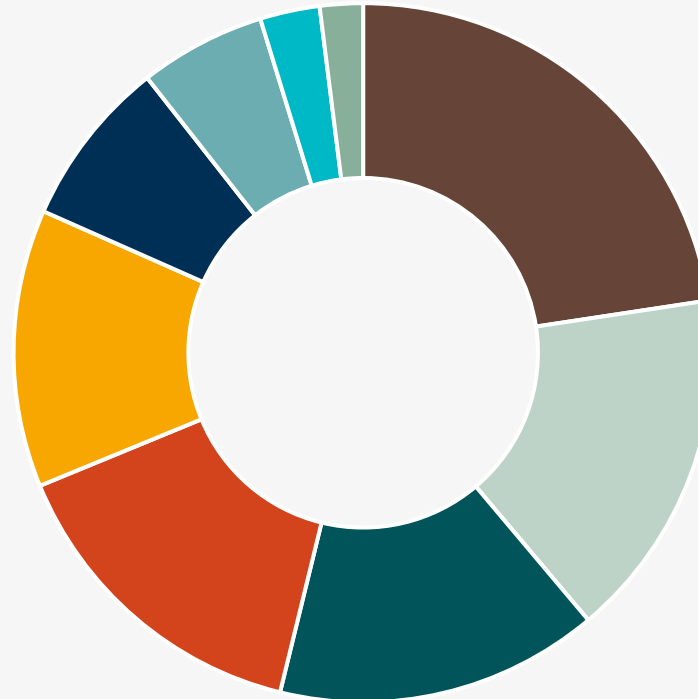


LEGAL SERVICES

- Asylum
- Removal/Deportation Defense
- Attorney of the Day
- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)
- Domestic Violence (VAWA Self-Petition)
- Survivors of Crime (U Visa)
- Human Trafficking (T Visa)
- Refugee Services
- Family-Based Options
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
- Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- Immigrant-Focused Medical Legal Partnerships (IMLP)
- Safety Planning

2020 Legal Services Metrics

- 394 legal consultations provided
- Served clients from 50 countries:
 - Mexico: 438
 - Guatemala: 272
 - El Salvador: 159
 - Honduras: 60
 - Somalia: 48
 - Cuba: 45
 - Sudan: 36
 - Nicaragua: 16
 - Venezuela: 14
 - United States: 14



3,045 cases worked:

- Appeals: 17
- Asylum: 228**
- Brief Service: 94
- Citizenship: 129
- DACA: 118
- Employment authorization: 519**
- Family based: 190
- Fee waiver: 298**
- FOIA: 187
- Refugee: 66
- Removal defense: 292**
- Special Immigrant Juvenile: 270**
- U/T/VAWA: 316**
- Waiver: 186
- Other: 132

Total Active Clients & Waitlist by County



Nebraska



<u>County</u>	<u>Clients</u>	<u>Waitlist</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Clients</u>	<u>Waitlist</u>
Douglas	414	34	Brown	4	
Sarpy	32	1	Madison	4	
Hall	30	3	Sherman	3	
Lancaster	26	8	Wayne	3	
Dawson	23		Cass	2	
Saline	18	2	Kimball	2	
Dodge	16	1	Adams	1	1
Colfax	11		Gage	1	
Platte	11		Keith	1	
Scotts Bluff	7	4	Lincoln	1	
Buffalo	7		Merrick	1	
Dakota	7		York	1	

Iowa



<u>County</u>	<u>Clients</u>	<u>Waitlist</u>
Pottawattamie	88	1
Woodbury	5	3
Montgomery	4	
Cass	2	
Crawford	2	1
Mills	2	
Sioux	1	2
Hancock	1	
Johnson	1	
Polk	1	
Plymouth		2

Outside Nebraska & Iowa:

Clients
29



EDUCATION & TRAINING

- Presentations/trainings on various immigration legal topics, including:
 - Immigration 101
 - Relief Options for Immigrant Victims of Crime
 - Relief Options for Immigrant Children
 - Immigrant Rights & Planning
 - Policy Developments
- ILC Resource Page and Blog



ADVOCACY

- Work on Nebraska legislative matters affecting immigrants:
 - Drafting bills
 - Providing technical support and analysis
 - Testifying
- Nebraska court appellate work
- Federal impact litigation
- Local advocacy efforts, including law enforcement advocacy



NEBRASKA IMMIGRATION LEGAL ASSISTANCE (NILAH)



PHONE

1-855-307-6730



WEBSITE

www.nilah.org

NILAH provides a centralized hotline and resources for low-income immigration legal assistance.

The calls are confidential, with Spanish/English bilingual paralegals available and access to 50+ other languages

If there is relief available, NILAH will send their case to the appropriate organization.

WHAT UNMET NEEDS DO YOU SEE?



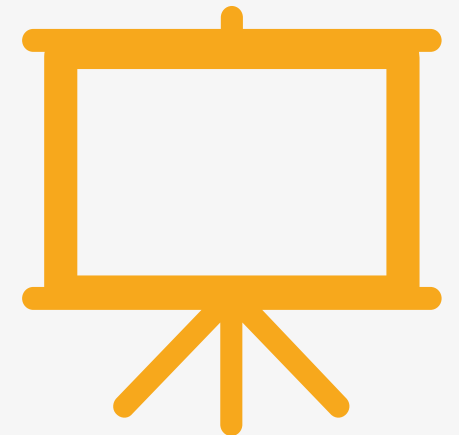
Interested in learning more?

- To request a presentation, speaker for your event, or learning materials contact:

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CONTACT US



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