THANK YOU
Over the last year, the communities we serve have experienced unprecedented assaults.

Across the nation and in our city, violence, racism, poverty, fear-mongering, and xenophobia have been on the rise. But the Urban Justice Center will not give up on our mission to provide people in urgent need with free legal services.

In this report, you’ll read about just a few of the thousands of people that our 12 projects, listed across this page, have helped this year. You can learn more about them and view a full recap of our year in our digital report: 2017.urbanjustice.org.

None of it would have been possible without your support. We need your donation to help us continue the fight toward justice.

DOUG LASDON
Executive Director

4 Fighting on the Ground
When the unconstitutional Muslim ban went into effect in January, the staff at the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP) were the first lawyers on the scene at JFK. Their clients were trapped in a terrifying legal limbo, but we stayed by their side every step of the way – and will continue to do so no matter how many travel bans the administration creates.

2 Starting the Conversation
For the past year, our Young Professional Board has been organizing Speaker Series panels on urgent legal issues including the refugee crisis, alternatives to solitary confinement, and the transgender military ban. Speakers have included politicians like NYC Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito and NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer.

3 Building a New Project
The Corrections Accountability Project (CAP) joined UJC in May of 2017. Directed by Bianca Tylek, CAP is an innovative initiative dedicated to eliminating the influence of commercial interests on the criminal legal system and ending the exploitation of all those it touches.

Protecting Asylum Seekers
“Kamila,” a transgender woman, fled her Central American town to escape sexual abuse and domestic violence. The Peter Cicchino Youth Project (PCYP) filed an asylum application and negotiated with the government’s immigration attorney to narrow the scope of her testimony to diminish retraumatization. She was granted asylum on the spot and is now working with her attorney to apply for benefits, for which she now qualifies as an asylee.

Cutting Through Red Tape
When Ms. C fled an abusive relationship, she found herself needing Public Assistance, Food Stamps, and Medicaid to survive. However, after suffering the traumatic theft of all her belongings while homeless, Ms. C was unable to provide important documentation to the Social Services Agency and had her application denied six consecutive times, in direct violation of City policy to protect domestic violence survivors. Ms. C turned to the Safety Net Project (SNP) for help, and her Advocate represented her in a hearing which led to the successful restoration of one year’s worth of benefits for Ms. C.

READ ABOUT OUR WORK

10,000,000+: Amount we saved the gov’t by keeping families out of shelters
14,500: People affected by our work this year
9,674: Cases closed by our attorneys & social workers
$10,000,000+: Amount we saved the gov’t by keeping families out of shelters

LEARN MORE
2017.urbanjustice.org

*To conceal the identity of some of our clients, alternate images have been used in this report.