

### 2015 YEAR END REPORT



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**03. LEGAL REPRESENTATION** 

**05. COLLABORATIONS** 

08. FUNDING

11. LOOKING AHEAD

15. OUR TEAM

18. DONATE



## CASES REPRESENTING IMMIGRANT YOUTH

The Immigrant Child Legal Services Project (ICLS Project) provides direct legal representation to assist New York City's undocumented youth in obtaining Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) and/or other immigration benefits, such as asylum, prosecutorial discretion and/or "U" and "T" visas for survivors of crimes and trafficking. These forms of immigration relief ultimately lead to permanent status. The need for increased legal representation in this area is profound and UnLocal attorneys have taken on larger case loads to try and address this need. As part of the legal representation, UnLocal staff also provide collateral social services to meet the non-legal needs of our young clients.

### 5 GARFIUNA PROJECT CASES

The Garifuna are a population of mixed origin incorporating elements of indigenous Caribbean and African groups, who settled along the Atlantic cost of Central America. UnLocal has been working with a recent wave of now Bronx-dwelling Garifuna migrants, mostly women and children who are in need of advocates for both their asylum and Special Immigrant Juvenile Status cases. UnLocal is also coordinating referrals to other legal service providers and private practitioners in the instances where UnLocal is unable to take the case.

### ADVANCE PAROLE CASES

Many Dreamers have not travelled internationally since arriving in the U.S. However, with Advance Parole, a valid travel document, Dreamers may visit ailing family members, take advantage of study abroad programs and partake in overseas business assignments. Obtaining Advance Parole can be a legally complicated process. Recognizing the importance of Advance Parole for many Dreamers, UnLocal created the Advance Parole project to assist eligible Dreamers in fulfilling their dreams of international travel.

## REMOVAL DEFENSE CASES

UnLocal attorneys work on asylum, cancellation of removal and other forms of immigration relief for clients in removal proceedings. Our focus is working on cases with highly complex issues of law and collateral social services needs that are not likely to get placed at other immigration legal service providers. UnLocal's docket currently has open asylum, cancellation of removal, U and T visas cases.



Over the past several years, millions of people have been deported years after having interactions with the criminal justice system. While the divisive rhetoric "families not felons" propagated by the current administration and the excessive punishments facing immigrants with criminal convictions continues to have harsh consequences on families. Unlocal is

trying to reverse the impact of such policies. UnLocal staff are currently building two campaigns to bring two fathers, brothers, sons, husbands, and community members home. Each man had lived in the U.S. for more than 40 years, and has a U.S. Citizen Wife and U.S. Citizen children.







### AT10 DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS

UnLocal, Inc. has spent the past three years fostering relationships with other grassroots organizations serving immigrants. These partner organizations provide complimentary, critical community-based services such as English language classes, workplace abuse training, and arts education. While their focus is on immigrant concerns, their scope does not cover legal services. UnLocal, Inc. is able to fill this gap. To support the legal needs of their constituents, UnLocal provides basic immigration law seminars at high schools, workplaces, churches, member-based cooperatives, and bustling community-based organizations.



UnLocal has provided legal consultations at community events, schools, museums, community-based organizations, workplaces, and places of worship.

### **AT 10 DIFFERENT LOCATIONS**

In 2015, UnLocal provided immigration legal consultations at over 10 community-based locations. Many of the individuals receiving legal consultations are meeting an attorney for the first time. They are often scared to reach out and seek assistance. UnLocal provides legal consultations in private spaces in collaboration with community-based partners to build relationships with clients in a safe and familiar setting.

### **PARTNERS**

UnLocal is only effective with strong collaborators. Over the past year UnLocal has worked with 28 community-based, educational, municipal, tech services, advocacy and legal-services partners.

**Immigrant Movement International** 

Sisa Pakari

**Mothers on the Move** 

Flushing International High School

**Boys Club of New York** 

**New York Legal Assistance** 

La Fuente

New York State Youth Leadership Council

**Queens Pride Parade** 

**Council Member Daniel Dromm** 

**Queens Museum** 

**Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito** 

**Hillcrest High School** 

**New York Immigration Coalition** 

**Spanish Evangelical Church** 

**ID NYC** 

**New York State Department of Labor** 

**Grow Brooklyn** 

Talk Is Cheap

**Pathways to Graduation** 

Pan American High School

**Populace** 

Comprehensive Development, Inc.

**Immigrant Defense Project** 

HANAC

**African Services Committee** 

**New Sanctuary Movement NY** 

**Families for Freedom** 

### **COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

UnLocal recognizes the immense talents among our constituents, community partners and supporters. In 2015, we leveraged these talents through the exchange of services. UnLocal provided legal assistance to individuals who in turn provided UnLocal with design of fundraising materials, tax preparation, video editing, and social media branding.















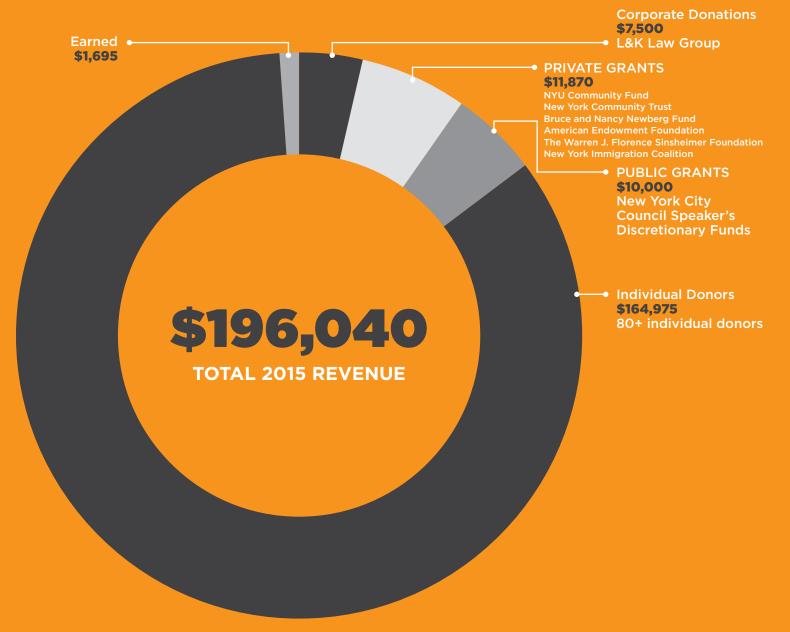


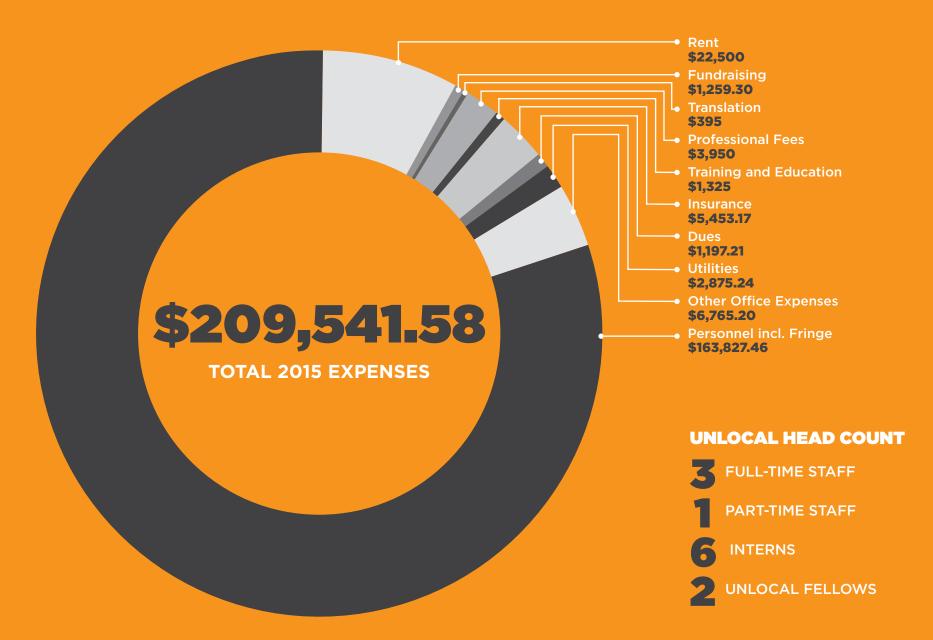
UnLocal, under the leadership of our Education and Outreach Coordinator, Tania Mattos, and our Social Media Intern, Virginia Lazo Castillo grew online visibility by utilizing Youtube, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Virginia, a former UnLocal client, developed original content that created awareness around immigration issues and empowered the voices of immigrants through story-telling.



Through a DACAmented client, UnLocal discovered Populace, a revolutionary online texting service that changed the way UnLocal communicates with our clients. Populace is dedicated to breaking down communication barriers between experts and the people who need our services by using SMS. We now have a better way of communicating directly with our clients and anyone who signs up for the service. At events, 90% of the attendees affirmatively say YES to receiving information from UnLocal. In the event of immigration reform or a major change in immigration law, we will be able to reach our constituents easily and effectively.











## LEGAL/EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

UnLocal works closely with high schools and high school equivalency programs to provide complementary legal services and support to programmatic staff at these locations. In 2016, UnLocal will launch a fellowship program at several pilot schools in the Bronx and Queens, which will allow more direct access for potential clients to reach UnLocal's services.



### THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

UnLocal clients are often in need of therapeutic services and attendant evaluations for their legal cases. UnLocal will hire a social worker to provide these services on-site and also provide fee-for-service evaluations on a sliding-scale to outside legal providers and their clients. This will add a much-needed resource to the communities we serve and create an additional revenue stream for UnLocal.



## DACA/DAPA AND IMMIGRATION REFORM

UnLocal has given several presentations on DAPA and expanded DACA, President Obama's proposed executive actions preventing deportation of millions of undocumented immigrants. UnLocal staff continue to prepare for a broad action, whether DAPA or some kind of immigration reform, and stand ready to serve large numbers of immigrants if such measure is passed.

## LOOKING AHEAD: WHAT THEY SAID

This school year, Unlocal has provided pro-bono legal services for many of our students who have come to this country fleeing violence, poverty and political instability in their countries. The staff of Unlocal has shown to be deeply caring, committed, and reliable. They go out of their way to support our students and their families. They have taken extra time to meet with students and families at my school, and have personally picked up recent arrived students and families to take them to court.

-Tania Romero
School Social Worker, Flushing International High School



## LOOKING AHEAD: WHAT THEY SAID

Many of the new immigrants in our community have trouble finding professional, dependable, and affordable immigration legal services in Corona, and NYC more broadly. Additionally, there are many fraudulent "abogados" who might not only cheat them of money, but lead them into legal trouble. Consequently, it is of utmost importance to be able to offer a combination of both community education along with legal consultation. UnLocal's innovative and unique model of community lawyering does provide both these components. We deeply value our partnership with them to allow us to provide this essential service to our community, and we have heard nothing but positive feedback from participants.

IMI has expressed to UnLocal a need for even more regular services from than current budgets allow, and are therefore very supportive of their efforts to strengthen and expand our partnership.

-Prerana Reddy
Director of Public Programs & Community Engagement, Queens Museum





Michele Lampach, Esq. Executive Director



**Tania Mattos**Education And Outreach Coordinator



Madhuri Kumar, Esq.
Director, Immigrant Child
Legal Services Project



**Jesse Rockoff, Esq.** Staff Attorney

#### **Volunteers**

Emiliano Garando Photographer Interns

Yesenia Lazaro

Erika Guerrero

Steffi Romano

**Daisy Guzman** 

Lisa Tashiro

Virginia Lazo Castillo

Mariana Ivascu Web Designer

Melissa Fox, Esq. Legal Fellow

Alex Franco, Esq. Legal Fellow

Erika Rodriguez Event Volunteer

Juan Garcia Tax
Event Volunteer

Jocelyn Romero Event Volunteer

Lily Mattos
Event Volunteer

Sarah Corstange, Esq. ProBono Legal Assistance

### Board of Directors

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Alexandra Goncalves-Pena, Esq. Supervising Attorney, American Friends Services Committee

Laura Stein

Executive Director, Dancing Grounds and Co-Founder, UnLocal, Inc.

Michele Lampach

Co-Founder and Executive Director, UnLocal, Inc.



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Adi Avivi

**Alex Franco** 

**Ami Formica** 

**Amy and Michael Chait** 

**Annie Coombs** 

**Arlene Hotchstat** 

Ben Abelman

Bili Keny Dubon

**Brandon Maultasch** 

Brennan McGrath/ Karie Titus

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**Cynthia Martinez** 

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**Emily Manzo** 

Fanny Efron

Filadelfo Quintanilla

**Gerardo Mendez** 

**Hayley Zweig** 

Hera Chand

Ian Hague

Iris DiLorenzo

**Javier Enrique** 

Jean Barbeis

**Jeffrey Klingenstein** 

Jessie Van Arman

Joanthan Barenboim

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Law office of Hera Chand

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Mickey Lewis

MIke Rosenthal

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Nathaniel Dell

NIna Zeitlin

Norbert Goldfield

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Prerana Reddy

Rachel Stein

Rebecca Sills

**Richard Bailey** 

**Ryan Wood** 

Saira Khalique

Sarah Borsody

Sarah Corstange

Sarika Saxena

Solomon Zavala

Steffi Romano

Steve and Lisa Denholtz

Steven Cha

Susan Kingsland

Susan Perlstein

Tatyana Johnson

Varsha Singh

Viviane and Charles Lampach

YiYi Zhang





Please consider supporting our work.

UnLocal, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) tax-deductible organization.



#### BY CHECK

Checks may be made payable to "UnLocal, Inc." and mailed to UnLocal, Inc., 233 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4A New York, New York 10016.



#### **ONLINE**

Donate directly to UnLocal, Inc.'s PayPal account by visiting unlocal.org and clicking on the "donate" button on the home page.



#### **DONOR ADVISED FUNDING**

If you would like to recommend a donation to UnLocal, Inc., our tax-exempt ID is 41-2278265, 233 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4A New York, New York 10016.



### **BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS**

To designate UnLocal, Inc. as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy, an IRA, Keogh, 401(k), 403(b) or other qualified retirement plan, please provide your financial institution: UnLocal, Inc., 233 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4A, New York, New York 10016. Tax ID: 41-2278265.



#### **BUSINESS INQUIRIES, REAL ESTATE, AND OTHER:**

Donations can be arranged in a variety of forms. Details will vary; please contact us for further information.

IN 2015, WE HAVE BEEN HUMBLED, INSPIRED AND TRANSFORMED.
IN 2016, WE PLAN TO CONTINUE TO GROW, ENGAGE AND SOLVE PROBLEMS TOGETHER.
JOIN US.