



United & Indivisible

in the fight for immigrant justice



Dear friends and allies of CIRC,

At the end of 2019, we entered a time of transition from which we are now emerging. We hired an Interim Executive Director, Lisa Duran. One of CIRC's co-founders, she came to us with decades of experience in organizing, doing policy work, and building coalitions. She has been working to strengthen CIRC and to re-affirm our commitment to building power at the grassroots through the integration of our work and especially of the civic engagement work done by CIRC Action Fund with the policy change and organizing work done by CIRC.

Despite the challenges of weathering a transition and the unexpected crisis of the pandemic with all of its attendant struggle, CIRC board and staff never missed a beat, moving our work online to virtual organizing and policy work immediately. Their effort to ensure that we continue to center the experiences of individuals and families who are directly impacted by the current anti-immigrant policies and sentiment has been heroic. You'll be hearing more from us in the future as we continue to move our agenda for change.

Thank you for your persistence and commitment to the work of CIRC during this challenging time. We look forward to new growth and new impact around the state from a strengthened organization that can make change that is rooted in our communities, that welcomes immigrants and their families, and that are places where everyone can thrive.

In solidarity,

Jossy Martinez
Board Chair

Lisa Duran
Interim Executive Director



Fighting for Progress

Since 2002, we have built a unified voice to defend and advance justice for all immigrants and refugees in Colorado and the United States.

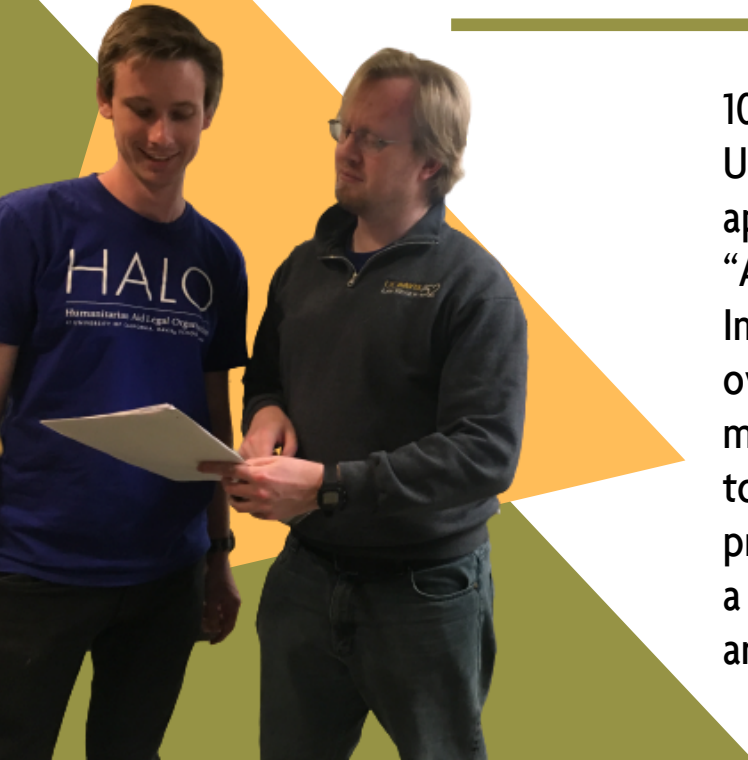
The Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition (CIRC) is a statewide membership-based coalition of immigrant, faith, labor, youth and ally organizations. We advance immigrant justice through capacity building, non-partisan civic engagement, strategic communications, defending against unjust detentions and deportations, and winning fair and humane public policies.

Justice doesn't just happen. It is fought for and won, and we are committed to the fight for justice until the end.

What we achieved in 2019



Citizenship Starts Here



100,000 Coloradans are legal permanent residents eligible for citizenship. Unfortunately, applying for citizenship can be a daunting task involving complex applications and costing thousands of dollars. In 2019, CIRC continued the “America is Home” Citizenship campaign in partnership with the Office of Immigrant & Refugee Affairs (DOIRA) in Denver. We provided legal assistance to over 4,600 people through our naturalization resources and services, and our multicultural citizenship workshops provided free legal help to applicants. Thanks to this program, many in Colorado have become naturalized citizens, which provides them with brighter futures in the United States by enabling them to earn a higher income, generate more taxes, connect with their neighbors more easily, and participate fully in our democracy.

"Citizenship is important because if people plan to stay here for the long-term, they should be able to participate in our democratic process and vote for politicians who have their best interests in mind."

*Carrie, Aurora
CIRC Citizenship Workshop Volunteer*



Getting Out the Vote ★

In the months leading to the November 2019 elections, CIRC conducted nonpartisan voter engagement among communities of color (AAPI, Black, Latinx, and Native American) and young voters in Adams and Arapahoe Counties, which make up the city of Aurora. Ensuring a continued relationship and targeting these voters of color again in this election cycle will lead, we hope, to another high turnout in the 2020 elections.

20,411
doors knocked

We educated low-propensity POC voters on the importance of voting, logistics behind how they can vote, issues affecting their communities, and on CIRC's policy campaigns, such as creating immigrant legal defense funds that give immigrants going through deportation proceedings legal representation.

1

non-partisan city council forum

We hosted a forum and asked candidates where they stand on a series of intersectional progressive issues, including immigration, housing affordability, and environmental justice.

As a result of this, we noticed increased turnout among low-propensity voters in Aurora. We were able to turn many of these voters who were disenchanted by the electoral process in 2016 into higher propensity voters.

Rights & Resistance



ICE Hotline and Rapid Response

CIRC's Docuteam works to help those being targeted by ICE. In 2019, the Docuteam received 235 calls and expanded its reach in Colorado, including training 20 new volunteers in the Denver area. CORRN received 1,689 calls and provided emergency response to immigrants in crisis, collected data, and responded to increased ICE Enforcement through its network of nearly 900 volunteers. *



Holding Cory Gardner Accountable

CIRC supported a campaign to hold Senator Gardner accountable for his absence in Colorado. Several town halls were held with a cardboard Cory Gardner which led to a birddogging incident where Gardner agreed to sign the Dream and Promise Act if it were brought to a vote in the Senate.

Know Your Rights Workshops

Know Your Rights trainings help community members understand their rights when faced with arrest. CIRC conducted dozens of workshops in every region of the state including Rifle, CO in November where more than 30 people were trained and armed with vital knowledge.



I Drive Campaign

After years of hard work, the I Drive campaign was able to expand SB251 driver's license access to a total of 11 offices throughout Colorado including rural areas in the west. Thanks to this effort, many more undocumented Coloradans will be able to access driver's licenses.



*CIRC is part of the Colorado Rapid Response Network (CORRN), along with AFSC, COPA, Mi Familia Vota, Padres y Jóvenes Unidos, Together Colorado, and UNE.



CIRC is committed to ensuring that our Colorado elected officials are supporting immigrant and refugee communities. A vital part of our work is advocating for legislation that uplifts these vulnerable populations. We are proud to report that 2019 was another year of legislative victories.

Changing Laws Changes Lives

Key legislative victories in 2019

- HB19-1124: Prohibits the use of ICE holds in Colorado and information sharing between probation officers and ICE absent a judicial warrant. Requires a written advisement of rights before ICE interviews someone in jail.
- SB19-139: Expands issuance of SB251 licenses to 7 more DMV offices across Colorado and removes the cap on issuance of SB251 licenses. Passed with Republican co-prime sponsor and 6 Republican votes in the Senate.
- HB19-1196: Allows undocumented students to get financial aid from the state.



Immigrants
Belong Here

Developing Leaders

CIRC weaves leadership development throughout every facet of our work. Many of those that are directly impacted end up becoming active with CIRC, serving on the Board, joining as staff, testifying with their personal story in front of their state and national representatives, and even running for and winning public office.

- 250 delegates from our 90+ member organizations came together at our annual Member Assembly.
- 1 Statewide movement building training where we also celebrated our legislative victories
- 15 trainings led to build a volunteer base to participate in the implementation of the SB251 legislation.
- 300+ latinx attendees from all over Colorado come together at the State Capitol for Latino/a Advocacy Day, of which CIRC is a co-convenor.
- 10 Members graduated from CIRC's Communications Program and 5 of them learned how to produce a video and distribution systems for civic engagement ads.



Shifting the Narrative

Nativism and xenophobia are fueled by harmful and false narratives about immigrants and refugees. CIRC strives to combat this by uplifting real narratives from the community to tell the truth about immigrants throughout Colorado and the United States. Through online, televised, and print media, our outreach grows every year bringing truthful realities and inspiring stories into the public consciousness.

1.1B

Cumulated Earned
Media Views

10M

Advertising
Estimated
Value (AVE)

33%

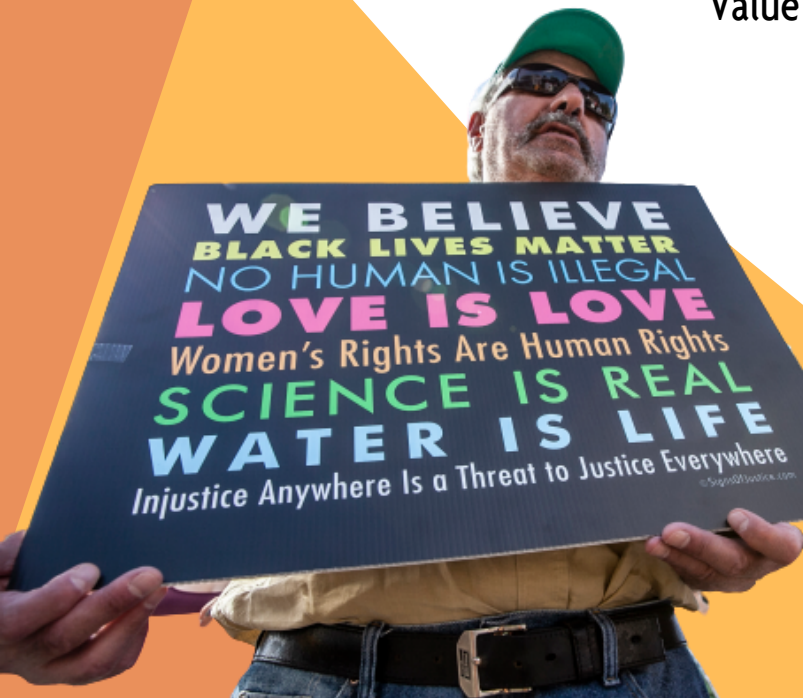
24K Facebook likes by
the end of 2019

2.8K

Twitter followers

11K

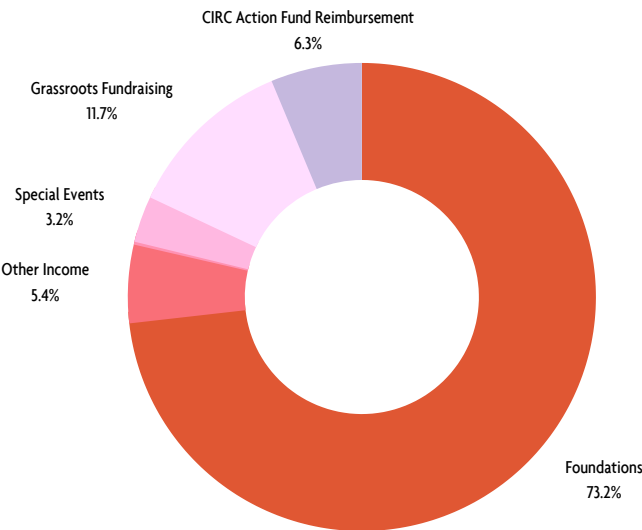
Monthly website
visitors



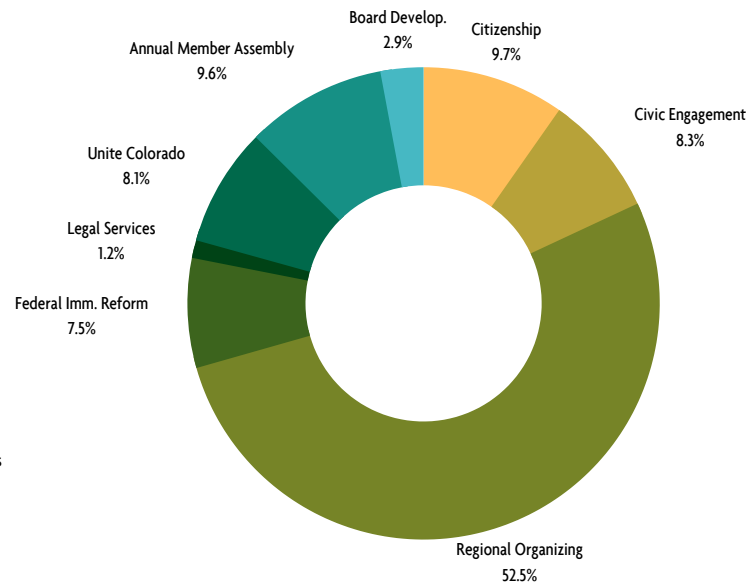
Noraly Hernandez from CIRC member organization Lamar Unidos gives a media interview in July 2019 regarding the SB251 Driver's Licenses program"

Money Matters

Immigrant justice advances in Colorado with the generous support of our funders and donors who understand how critical our work is. Our immigrant communities thrive when they can live in a society that is welcoming, free, and just. We warmly thank those who support us in fighting to make this a reality.



2019 Income



2019 Expenses

2019 Donors

Aspen Community Foundation
 Basil Doc's Pizza
 Brett Family Foundation
 Cairn Christian Church
 California Community Foundation
 Center for Community Change
 Center for Health Progress
 Chinook Fund
 Colorado Fiscal Institute
 Colorado Health Foundation
 Colorado Hispanic Bar Association
 Colorado Trust
 Colorado Women's Bar Association
 Community Foundation Boulder County
 Community Language Cooperative

Gateway Fund II at the Denver Foundation
 Ellen Greenhouse and Lester Wall Giving Fund
 Fidelity Charitable
 Four Freedoms Fund
 FWD.us
 General Service Foundation
 Immigrant Legal Resource Center - New Americans Campaign
 Jordy Construction
 Key Bank
 League of Women Voters of Boulder County
 L.P. Brown Foundation
 Marvin Naiman and Margery Goldman Family Foundation
 National Immigration Law Center
 National Partnership for New Americans
 Norman Raab Foundation

Philanthropiece
 ProgressNOW
 Rocky Mountain Synod ELCA
 Rose Community Foundation
 San Luis Valley Immigrant Resource Center
 SEIU Local 105
 Schwab Charitable
 Silicon Valley Community Foundation
 Spring Institute for Intercultural Learning
 State Voices
 Summit Foundation
 The Tides Foundation
 UU Veatch Program at Shelter Rock
 United for a New Economy
 Vanguard Charitable
 Western Colorado Latino Chamber of Commerce
 Women's Foundation of Colorado

We strive to be as accurate as possible with our list of current donors. If we made an error, please let us know by calling 303-922-3344 or emailing marine@coloradoimmigrant.org.



Rebecca Galemba is an Associate Professor of International Studies at Denver University and a generous CIRC donor. What inspires her to give to CIRC?

"I have come to admire CIRC's work, commitment, and passion for immigrant rights and member-driven advocacy and activism.

CIRC is unusual in both stimulating wider public and policy awareness about immigration and advocating for immigrant rights while also being member-based, collaborative, and focused on building community engagement and leadership.

CIRC has also been a committed, long-standing partner to making Colorado a more immigrant friendly state, for pushing for change against a hostile federal climate, and building collaborative relationships between members and allied organizations."

Support Our Work



CIRCle of Friends
Monthly giving

Join the CIRCle of Friends by signing up for a recurring donation. Your donation will help support CIRC's mission to improve the lives of immigrants and refugees by making Colorado a more welcoming and immigrant-friendly state.





More Ways To Give



Are you a federal employee? The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the largest and most successful workplace charitable giving drive in the world. CFC is structured to support and to promote philanthropy through a voluntary program that is cost-efficient and effective in providing all Federal employees the opportunity to impact the CFC charitable interest of their choosing. CFC Code: 50563



Join Colorado Gives Day, one of the largest one-day giving movements in the country. Each December, Coloradans come together with the common goal to strengthen the community by helping to power nonprofits. Every nonprofit receiving a donation on Colorado Gives Day receives a portion of the fund, increasing the value of every dollar donated.



Community Shares connects Coloradans to charities and causes they care about most. Workplace giving campaigns provide an opportunity for employees and company leadership to work together on an annual drive to inspire charitable community investment. Giving campaigns are fun and unite employees around a common goal.



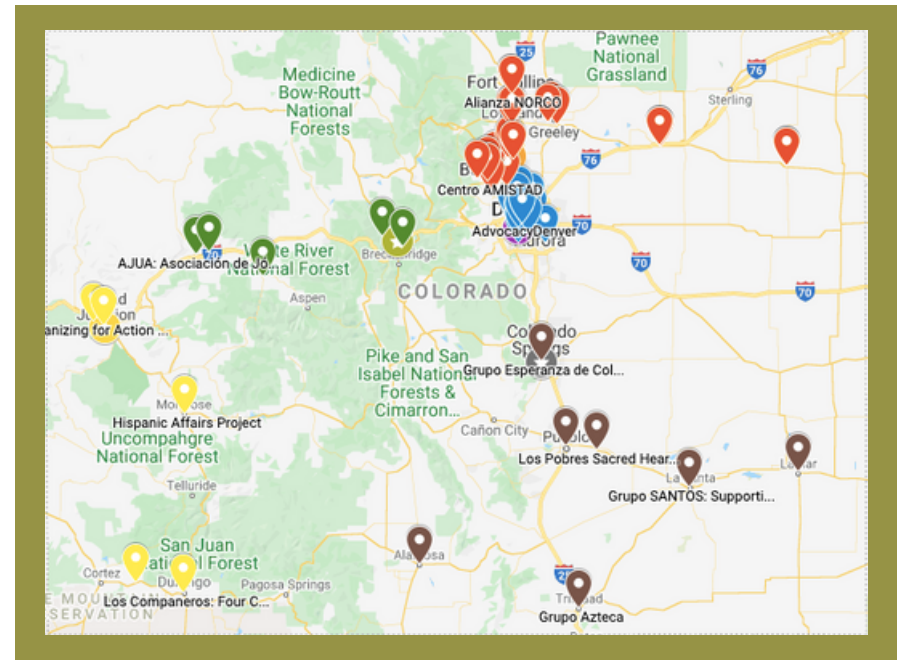
Host a fundraiser on your favorite social media platform and let your friends and family know about CIRC! Fundraising on Facebook or other platforms is an easy and great way to get your friends and family active and involved in supporting CIRC's mission and goals.

Want to have fun and raise money? Host a fundraiser at your home or at a restaurant with a percentage of proceeds benefiting CIRC.

What is Planned Giving? Through gift planning, you can choose a method of giving that protects your family's needs and offers greater tax savings. Stock donations allow you to support CIRC while avoiding paying the capital gains tax on any appreciated stocks, increasing the impact of your gift.

Our Coalition

We could not have achieved so much in 2019 without our membership coalition. Our 90+ members form a diverse and multicultural group of national and local non-profits, community groups, faith organizations, foundations and advocacy partners throughout Colorado ensuring that our work reaches to every part of the state. If you would like to join our coalition don't hesitate to contact us!



Contact Us

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter



Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition
2525 West Alameda Avenue
Denver, CO 80219

Phone: (303) 922-3344
Fax: (303) 922-3300

www.coloradoimmigrant.org

Thank you to Jonathan De Camps for many of the photos appearing in this report!

