

2023

# ANNUAL REPORT

#### IMMIGRANT CHILDREN ADVOCATES' RELIEF EFFORT (ICARE)

No child should face the immigration process alone

www.icarecoalition.org

## MISSION, VISION, & VALUES

#### **OUR MISSION:**

ICARE is a coalition of legal advocates dedicated to expanding access to legal representation for immigrant youth facing deportation in New York City, while advocating for universal access to counsel.

#### **OUR VISION:**

We envision a New York City where every immigrant child has access to legal representation in immigration court.

#### **OUR VALUES:**

- We believe in the transformative power of <u>community & partnership</u>, uniting our diverse strengths to create a thriving network of support and collaboration
- We embrace <u>innovation & expertise</u>, ensuring that we continually provide quality legal services while pushing for forward-thinking solutions.
- Our approach is rooted in being <u>client-centered & trauma informed</u>, ensuring that every interaction is empathetic, respectful and sensitive to the needs of each young person.
- <u>Advocacy</u> is at the heart of our mission, as we champion the rights, voices and dignity of young immigrants.
- We are dedicated to <u>fostering autonomy</u> by encouraging young immigrants to make informed decisions and take ownership of their decisions.

#### A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear ICARE Community,

As I approach my one-year anniversary with ICARE, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible milestones we've achieved together in 2023. I am thrilled to share the life-changing legal services we've provided that have touched the lives of young New Yorkers. Your unwavering support has been instrumental in these accomplishments, reinforcing our commitment to safeguarding the rights and well-being of immigrant children.

From expanding access to legal representation to shaping a unique identify of ICARE, our year has been marked by significant strides. Together, we've not only laid foundations but also paved the way for transformative change.

As we reflect on these achievements with pride, I am equally excited about the journey ahead.



Our collective path continues, and with your continued support, we can magnify our impact, advocate for even more young people in need, and ensure that no child faces the daunting immigration process alone.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Sierra Kraft Executive Director ICARE Coalition

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### **OUR IMPACT**

July 2022-June 2023



Screened 1,220 children for legal relief

Represented over 200 young immigrants



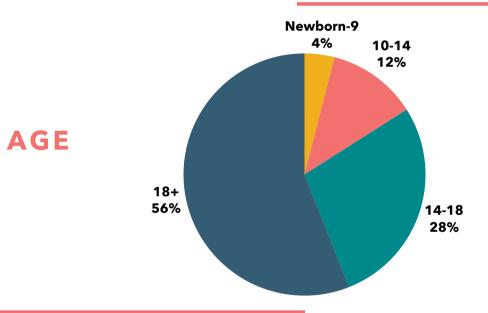


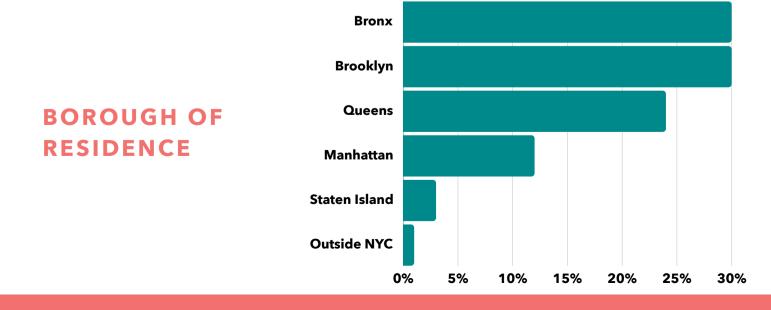
Secured nearly \$4M in public funding for legal services

Obtained legal relief for 60 young immigrants









### YEAR IN REVIEW LIFE-CHANGING LEGAL SERVICES



For almost a decade, ICARE members have been delivering exceptional legal services to unaccompanied children facing deportation in NYC. These lifechanging legal services have a profound impact on the lives of young New Yorkers.

This year, our efforts have resulted in numerous successful case outcomes, including:

- 130 young individuals having Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) petitions granted
- 123 individuals being granted a motion to terminate, liberating them from removal proceedings without the need to appear in immigration court
- 63 young New Yorkers obtaining adjustment of status
- 13 young immigrants being granted asylum

#### **POLICY & BUDGET ADVOCACY**

ICARE's commitment to policy advocacy reflects our dedication to safeguarding and advancing immigrant rights, addressing critical issues faced by young immigrants in New York City.

This year, we advocated for policies that protect immigrants' rights, ensuring fair and equitable treatment for young immigrant to grow and thrive. Our efforts have centered on the following key policies:

- Children's Welcome Act
- Access to Representation Act
- Fairness to Freedom Act
- Immigration Court Efficiency & Children's Court Act
- Protecting Vulnerable Immigrant Youth Act
- Working for Immigrant Safety & Empowerment (WISE) Act



## **OUR TEAM**



### STAFF

Sierra Kraft, Executive Director

#### **ADVISORY BOARD**

- Alexandra Rizio, Managing Attorney, Policy & Partnerships, Safe Passage Project
- Beth Krause, Supervising Attorney, Immigrant Youth Project, Legal Aid Society
- Josie Cardoso-Rojo, Managing Attorney, Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)
- Julie Silvia, Managing Attorney, NYC Legal Programs, Catholic Charities Community Services
- Stephanie Lopez, Co-Director, Legal Services Center, The Door

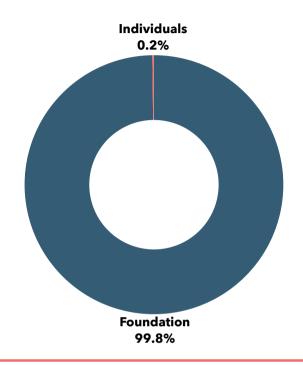
#### Year in Review

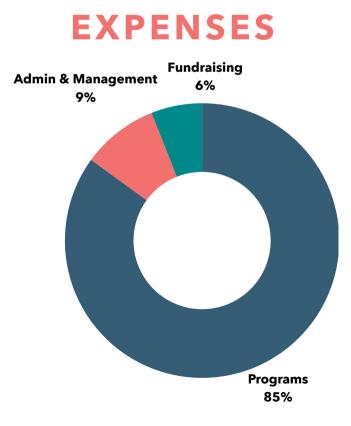
### OVERVIEW OF FINANCES

ICARE's management practices ensure that operating funds raised in the current year are effectively put to use to support programs that further our mission of expanding legal representation for immigrant youth facing deportation in NYC, while advocating for universal access to counsel.

The following figures represent sources and uses of operating funds for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

#### REVENUE





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### THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS!

Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication to this critical mission! We are energized by this community of allies and advocates who tirelessly seek justice and champion the rights of young immigrants.

- New York Community Trust
- Robin Hood Foundation
- New York City Council



#### NO CHILD SHOULD FACE THE IMMIGRATION PROCESS ALONE

WWW.ICARECOALITION.ORG