JULY 1, 2025 — JUNE 30, 2026

JUSTICE AND MERCY
LEGAL AID CENTER

2026 IMPACT REPORT

20 YEARS OF DOING JUSTICE, LOVING MERCY & WALKING HUMBLY FOR *a better future*

DEAR *Friends,*

Each Wednesday, I begin my prayer time with these words: "I thank my God every time I remember you" which is borrowed from Philippians 1:2–4.

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy."

And when I say you, I mean—our dedicated staff, board members, volunteers, donors, partner organizations, and, most importantly, our dear clients. **If you are reading this annual report, you are a part of this family**—and I thank God for you continually!

I think we can all agree that **we have a lot to be thankful for at JAMLAC.** This past year, we:

- **Served 3,225** people in our community.
- Welcomed **4 new members** to our staff team.
- **Purchased a building and moved into a new facility**, creating a new home for JAMLAC and the communities we serve.
- **Celebrated 20 years** of seeking justice for people experiencing poverty and oppression.

These accomplishments are worth celebrating, but the numbers tell only part of the story. Behind every person served, every new staff member, and every milestone is **a story of courage, hope, perseverance, and transformation.**

I invite you to read this report and reflect with me on the **life-changing impact** made possible through JAMLAC this past year.

Peace of Christ,

Steve Thompson, Lead Servant

MORE THAN

3,225 =

LIVES IMPACTED



IMPACT AT A *Glance*

JAMLAC expands access to justice through representation, advocacy, and education.

1370 Clients — **FULL REPRESENTATION**

1355 Individuals — **CONSULTATIONS & WORKSHOPS**

500 Participants — **LEGAL PRESENTATIONS**

We DOUBLED the number of clients receiving full legal representation!

Full legal representation is JAMLAC's core service and the heart of our mission. In 2025, we refocused resources on this work, doubling the number of people receiving sustained legal representation from 689 clients the previous year to 1,370 this year.

At the same time, our impact extends beyond full representation through legal consultations and advocacy, education, and community presentations, helping more people understand their rights and access the support they need.



OUR TEAM

FAMILY LAW

Steve Thompson
Lead Servant & Attorney
Jose Escobar
Associate Director & Attorney
Alexander Holmes
Attorney
Rosanna Mendoza-Rios
Paralegal
Angela Mendoza
Paralegal
Claudia Rueda
Paralegal
Oscar Mendoza
Paralegal

OLDER ADULT

Elizabeth Davidson
Older Adult Legal Program Director
Nayeli Torreblanca
Intake Specialist and Front Desk Clerk

DEVELOPMENT

Nikki Koster
Director of Development
Marlene Bedoya
Communications Director
Cassie Chaparro
Business Manager
Sunanda Dangol
Event Coordinator

IMMIGRATION

Sulma Mendoza
Immigration Director
McKenna Newsum Schoenberg
Attorney
Mariah Melena
Attorney
Carmen Stevens
DOJ Fully Accredited Rep.
Renzo Reategui Walton
DOJ Accredited Rep.
Amy Enriquez
Paralegal
Aracely Enriquez
Legal Assistant
Vicky Guerrero
Paralegal & Workshop Coordinator
Jezebelle Medina
Legal Assistant
Evelyn Castillo
Paralegal

LEGAL BRIDGE PROGRAM

Tana Finley-Padilla
Pro Bono Coordinator

ADVOCATES

Janette Torreblanca
Victim Advocate
Aide Salazar Zetina
Resources & Partnership Liaison
Susana Bedoya
Front Desk Clerk

20 YEARS OF *Impact*



FROM A SINGLE MOTEL ROOM

JAMLAC began as **a program of Mile High Ministries,** operating from a single hotel room where two bathrooms were converted into attorney offices.



2006
96 Clients
$62K Budget
2 Staff

LEGAL CLINICS ACROSS DENVER

Over the years JAMLAC has partnered with Christian Legal Society, to host 12 legal clinics across the Denver metro area where volunteer attorneys provide legal advice on various matters. These clinics **are still going strong**.

CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID
CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY



JUSTICE FOR FAMILIES

Since the beginning, we have taken **family law cases** for survivors who could not otherwise afford an attorney. Over the years, we have helped countless survivors escape abuse.



2010
350 Clients
$230K Budget
4 Staff

VOLUNTEERS DRIVE OUR SUCCESS

We had **25 volunteers who contributed over 200 hours** that first year. JAMLAC now has **282 volunteers for a total of 3,125** hours, which is crucial for our impact services.





PROTECTING VULNERABLE IMMIGRANTS

The DOJ grant allowed us to launch our **Immigration Department** and begin serving abused and oppressed immigrants.



JUVENILE IMMIGRATION PROGRAM BEGINS

JAMLAC **launched the Juvenile Immigration Program** to provide legal protection and support for vulnerable children and youth.

2014
898 Clients
$692K Budget
12 Staff

2018
2,032 Clients
$875K Budget
14 Staff

WORKSHOPS EMPOWER COMMUNITIES

Beginning with Citizenship workshops, and expanding to offer Know Your Rights, Family Protection Plans, Older Adults, and more— **Workshops are a key way JAMLAC educates and empowers our community** while adapting to its needs.



A NEW BUILDING

JAMLAC **purchased a new building** to expand its services and welcome more individuals and families seeking justice and hope.



2026

3,225 Clients

$3.1 M Budget

27 Staff





OLDER ADULT PROGRAM

We introduced the Older Adult Program to expand access to **trusted legal support for aging members** of our community.



2021

1,500 Clients

$1.2M Budget

17 Staff



20 YEARS OF JUSTICE

In January 2026, JAMLAC celebrated its 20th anniversary, marking two decades of expanding access to justice and serving thousands of individuals and families in our community.

THE PRO BONO PROJECT BEGINS

By **engaging volunteer attorneys from the community** to take on cases through pro bono service, JAMLAC expanded its capacity to provide full representation in new areas of law.

A NEW HOME FOR JAMLAC!

In 2025, JAMLAC reached one of the most significant milestones in our history: **purchasing a building.** What began 20 years ago in a single motel room has grown into an organization serving thousands of people each year, and our new building reflects that remarkable journey.

Our new office provides the space and stability needed to welcome more clients, strengthen our legal services, and continue responding to the growing complex needs of our community.

More than an office, **this building is a place where people facing difficult circumstances can be welcomed with dignity, compassion, and hope.** It is also a gathering place where staff, volunteers, churches, legal professionals, and community partners can collaborate, learn, and serve.

This permanent home marks the next chapter of JAMLAC — **a lasting investment in access to justice for generations to come.**

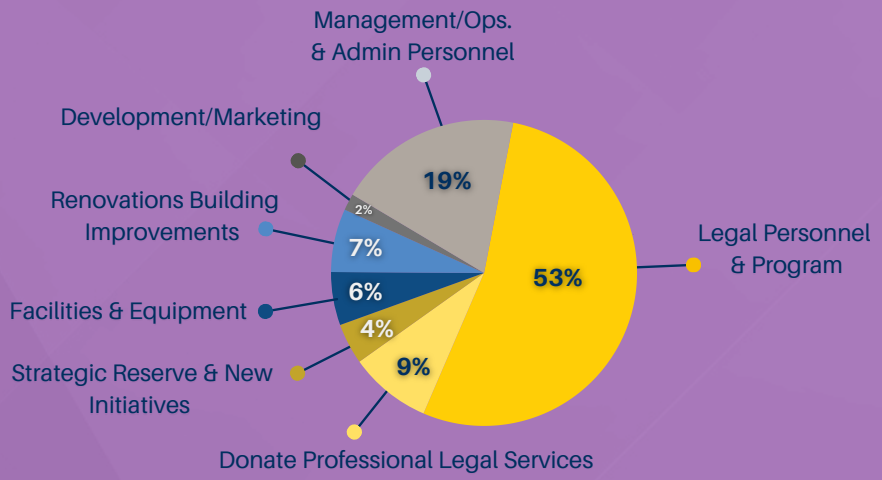
YOUR SUPPORT AT *Work!*

FUNDS INVESTED

IMPACT-DRIVEN INVESTMENT

$3,121,175

EXPENSES

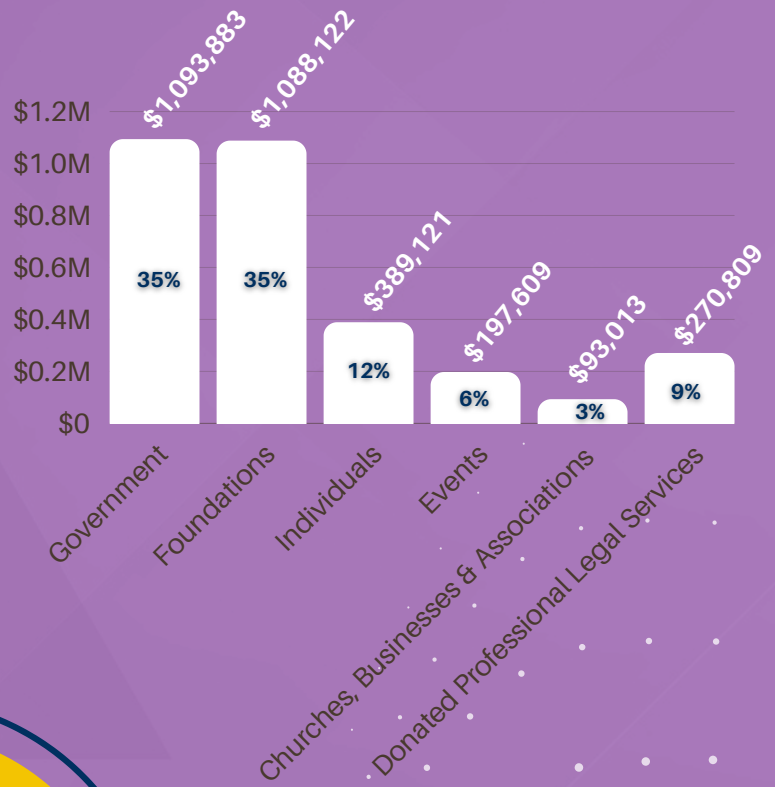




JULY 1, 2025 — JUNE 30, 2026

FUNDS RAISED

$3,132,556



INCOME

20 YEARS MADE POSSIBLE BY *You*

A special thank you to **380 individuals and families and 67 businesses** for their incredible generosity this year, along with:

FOUNDATIONS/OTHERS

- Anschutz Family Foundation
- Bachus and Schanker Cares Foundation
- Broomfield Community Foundation
- Colorado Access to Justice Commission
- Colorado Bar Foundation
- Colorado Gives Foundation
- Colorado Lawyer Trust Account Foundation (COLTAF)
- El Pomar Foundation
- Next50
- Rose Community Foundation
- Standing Pines Foundation
- The Anschutz Foundation
- The Colorado Health Foundation
- The Denver Foundation
- The Myriad Impact Foundation
- Xcel Energy Foundation
- Various Family Foundations

CHURCHES & ASSOCIATIONS

- Bear Valley Baptist Church
- Celebration Community Church
- Christian Legal Society
- City Church Denver
- Colorado AILA Chapter
- Colorado Community Church
- Colorado Hispanic Bar Assoc.
- Denver Community Church/Project Renew
- First Unitarian Society of Denver
- Good Samaritan Project
- Life Center, Mission Hills Church
- LifeGate Church
- Redemption Anglican Church

GOVERNMENT

- Arapahoe County / Aid to Agencies
- City and County of Denver / HRCP
- Colorado Family Violence Justice Fund
- Colorado Refugee Services Program/ Office of New Americans
- Office for Victims Programs, VOCA
- Denver Immigrant Legal Service Fund
- Victim Assistance Law Enforcement - 1st, 2nd, 17th, 18th, 23rd Judicial Districts

JAMLAC *Today*
JUSTICE IN ACTION

JAMLAC is honored to be able to provide essential legal services for those who otherwise would not be able to afford an attorney. Walking with our clients through the whole legal process results in life-transformation and long-term positive outcomes.

"Thank you, Carmen Stevens, for taking so much time to teach me what selfless and compassionate representation can be."
— **Ali'a Keliiholokai, Volunteer**



OUR PROGRAMS

Immigration Law

Our immigration team serves individuals, families, and children navigating complex immigration matters. **Staff guides clients in pursuing paths to legal status and work authorization**. A significant part of this work focuses on survivors, victims of crime, and vulnerable children.

Older Adult Legal Program

The program expands access to legal support for older adults through **individual assistance, planning, education, and community-based outreach.** Its work continues to emphasize addressing legal issues before they become crises that threaten an older adult's independence or security.

Family Law

Our family law team focuses on cases in which legal needs intersect with **domestic violence, child custody, financial instability, and family safety.** Our team provides representation and guidance to help clients make informed decisions and supports them during some of the toughest moments of their lives.

Legal Bridge Program

The program continues connecting the legal community with clients in need of legal aid. **Through external volunteer attorneys,** referrals, and partnerships, it expands JAMLAC's capacity and creates additional pathways for people to access legal assistance.

253
Volunteers

contributed 4,597 hours of service, valued at $355,000, significantly expanding the reach of JAMLAC's work

Volunteer hours grew *47%* in FY2026

CHILDREN IN NEED, JAMLAC STEPS UP

FOURTEEN DAYS TO PROTECT A FUTURE

For one young woman who had experienced circumstances no child should have to endure, turning 21 represented more than a birthday—it could mean losing the opportunity to seek protection for abandoned, neglected and abused children through Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS). With time running out, **JAMLAC's Immigration and Family Law teams worked together urgently to provide the necessary documents.** With just 14 days remaining before the client's 21st birthday, JAMLAC was able to submit the case and preserve her opportunity to seek legal protection.

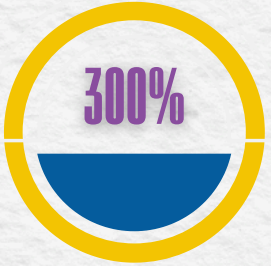
This is what full legal representation at JAMLAC can look like: **attorneys and advocates working across practice areas, navigating complicated legal systems**, and standing beside a young person when the stakes could shape the rest of their life. And this need is growing.

Over the past two years, **JAMLAC has seen a 300% increase in SIJS cases involving children and young people who have experienced abuse, abandonment, or neglect.** Behind every case is a young person seeking something everyone deserves—the chance to live with greater safety, stability, and hope for the future.

BEHIND EVERY NUMBER THERE IS A *Story*



Juvenile cases at JAMLAC have increased



Each case represents a child seeking **safety, stability, and a path forward.**

2026: A MILESTONE YEAR

EXPANDING OUR IMMIGRATION TEAM

We added **three new positions** to our Immigration team, increasing our capacity to respond to growing and increasingly complex immigration legal needs.



SERVING THE MOST VULNERABLE



83% of our clients are survivors of crime and **90% of the survivors we serve do NOT return to their abuser.**



EXPERIENCE THAT STAYS

13 JAMLAC staff members have served for more than five years, providing valuable experience, institutional knowledge, and continuity as the organization grows.



A GROWING DOJ NETWORK

JAMLAC continued to lead and expand the DOJ Recognition and Accreditation Network, strengthening collaboration among organizations working to increase access to qualified immigration legal services.



CREATE AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Nine former clients and community members share their lived experience, strengthen JAMLAC's work, and help inform the organization's future, by serving on the Advisory Committee.

POSITIVE LIFE CHANGES



91% of clients report knowing more about their legal rights, feeling safer, or **experiencing positive life-changes as a result of working with JAMLAC.**

FROM A VISION TO 20 YEARS OF *Impact*

One constant mission... ***Seeking justice for those struggling with poverty and oppression.***

Twenty years ago, JAMLAC began with a simple belief: that **everyone deserves to be seen, heard, and have access to justice, regardless of their circumstances.** What began in 2006 with two staff members serving 96 clients has grown into an organization serving thousands of people each year, supported by dedicated staff, volunteers, donors, attorneys, and partners who continue to expand what is possible for our community.

Behind that growth are the outcomes that matter most: **thousands of individuals and families are safer, have more economic opportunity, and experience positive life-transformation as a result of working with JAMLAC.**

Twenty years later, our calling remains the same: to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly—opening doors, restoring hope, and working toward a community where justice is within reach for everyone.



JOIN US FOR THE *future*...

"Do justice. Love mercy. Walk humbly with God."

— Micah 6:8

THANK YOU FOR 20 YEARS OF *Justice*

JUSTICE AND MERCY
LEGAL AID CENTER

www.JAMLAC.org
5400 Washington Street, Denver

IMPACT PARTNERS

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Our Passion is Justice

GENERAL AIR
a family and employee owned company

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CONSTRUCTION DEFECT & INSURANCE ATTORNEYS

Orten Cavanagh Holmes & Hunt, LLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

STANDING PINES FOUNDATION

ANDERSON ALLEN LLC
LEGAL ADVISORS AND MEDIATORS

REID LAW

TBANK
banking for good

Highlands Ranch Rotary Foundation
changing lives worldwide one at a time

GIBSON DUNN

Monica Perez
REAL ESTATE CONSULTANT

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COHEN&COHEN P.C.

AMOR A LA MEXICANA

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Cleide Cooper
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