



TAHIRIH
JUSTICE
CENTER®

IN COMMUNITIES,
COURTS,
AND CONGRESS,
**TAHIRIH
PROTECTS
LIVES**

2014 IMPACT REPORT

*The world of humanity has
two wings – one is women and the
other men. Not until both wings
are equally developed
can the bird fly.*

– Bahá'í Writings



OUR MISSION

Tahirih Justice Center is a national non-profit that protects courageous immigrant women and girls who refuse to be victims of violence by elevating their voices in communities, courts, and Congress.

Tahirih helps our clients achieve justice and obtain the legal status they are entitled to so they can be free from violence and rebuild their lives.

Our award-winning, holistic model for protection combines free legal services and social services case management with bridge-building policy advocacy, education, and outreach. Tahirih's programs efficiently and effectively leverage donated professional services from a vast network of attorneys, medical professionals, and experts.

Inspired by principles of the Bahá'í Faith, Tahirih is committed to promoting the equality of women and men, and works to create a world where women and girls can live in safety and with dignity.

TAHIRIH'S OFFICES

National | Greater DC

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(f) 410-630-7539
baltimore@tahirih.org

-  www.tahirih.org
-  [TahirihJusticeCenter](https://www.facebook.com/TahirihJusticeCenter)
-  [@tahirihjustice](https://twitter.com/tahirihjustice)
-  [TahirihJusticeCenter](https://www.youtube.com/TahirihJusticeCenter)

LIVES PROTECTED

Since 1997, we've assisted nearly **17,000 women and children** seeking protection from gender-based human rights abuses such as rape, female genital mutilation, domestic violence, human trafficking, honor crimes, and forced marriage.



**IN
2014
WE:**

Responded to **1,780 individuals** who needed our expert legal advice and service referrals to reject violence in their homes and communities.

Provided **free legal representation and advice to 909** immigrant women and girls who were entitled to protection under U.S. law.

Connected **608 women and their children** to social services that were vital to rebuilding their lives after trauma.

INSTITUTIONAL GROWTH

In 2014, we strengthened our capacity and leadership as the only national, multi-city legal services and advocacy organization dedicated to helping courageous immigrant women and girls access the protections to which they are entitled under U.S. law and rebuild their lives in safety and with dignity.



Nationally, we:

- ❖ Grew 27%, hiring attorneys and critical staff members to support our capacity to serve women and girls in three, high-need locations in the United States.
- ❖ Implemented critical steps in our five-year strategic plan by fortifying organizational infrastructure, significantly elevating our public policy presence, and expanding our support base.

OUR FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-2017

We will:

Fortify

the capacity of existing offices.

Serve

250% more women and girls by opening two additional offices.

Amplify

our impact by doubling our capacity in public policy advocacy and training and education.

Pioneer

protections for forced marriage survivors in the United States.

LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS

In Greater DC, we:

- ❖ Trained 185 officers from United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, including the Administrative Appeals Office and Vermont Service Center, on barriers to protection for immigrant victims of domestic violence.

In Baltimore, we:

- ❖ Increased representation of trafficking survivors, aided a state-wide task force in developing referral tools for trafficking-related issues, and increased client access to healthcare debt forgiveness, for bills accrued as a direct result of crimes committed against them.

In Houston, we:

- ❖ Responded to the acute needs of unaccompanied refugee children fleeing sexual assault, human trafficking, and family violence in Central America by launching our Children's Border Project.



In COMMUNITIES

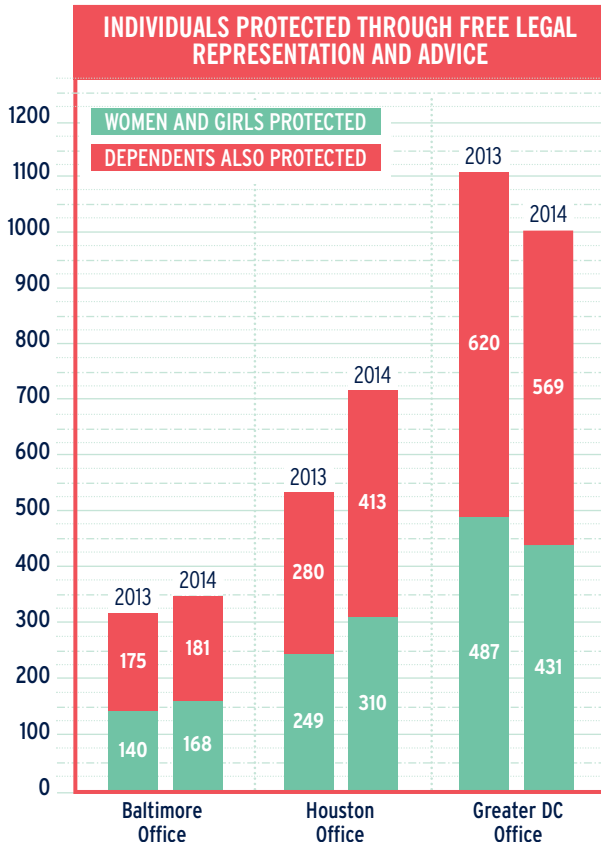
we:

- ❖ Conducted 121 outreach, training, and education events to elevate the voices of our clients.
- ❖ Equipped 7,079 law enforcement, legal, and social service professionals with tools to better address the needs of immigrant women and girls facing violence—nearly triple the number of professionals trained in 2013.
- ❖ Grew our pro bono legal network by 44%. To date, 1,867 professionals and 568 law firms in the network provide free legal services to our clients, as well as strategic advice and support to our advocacy initiatives.
- ❖ Raised awareness of violence against women through reports in 45 prominent media outlets, including *Al Jazeera America*, *The Baltimore Sun*, *Houston Chronicle*, *The Huffington Post*, and *The Wall Street Journal*, almost doubling our media presence since 2013.



In COURTS we:

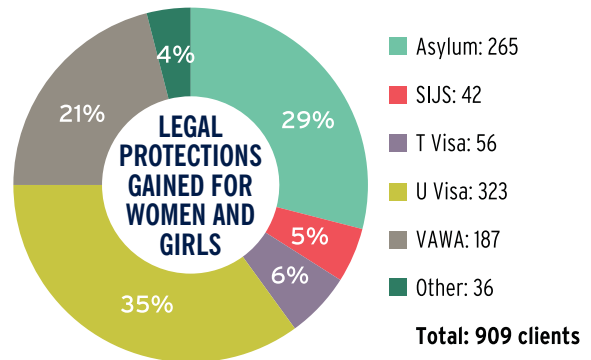
Maintained our longstanding 99% litigation success rate, despite the complex nature of our cases.



We litigate under U.S. law, and our clients are on U.S. soil, but they come from all over the world.

Clients by Region of Origin

❖ Latin America	61%
❖ Sub-Saharan Africa	19%
❖ Asia	8%
❖ Middle East/North Africa	4%
❖ North America	3%
❖ Europe	2%
❖ Caribbean	2%
❖ Undisclosed	1%



Total: 909 clients

In CONGRESS

we:

- ❖ **Advocated to end the inhumane detention of women and children fleeing Central America, most of whom are survivors of violence.** We raised national awareness of conditions in detention through the media, led high-level meetings with White House and DHS staff, spoke at a Congressional briefing, and submitted testimony to prevent arbitrary detention.
- ❖ **Co-led a national advocacy working group that defended against rollbacks in critical protections for immigrant women and girls fleeing violence.** We helped stop legislation that would undo legal and procedural protections especially important to children and victims of trafficking.
- ❖ **Maintained non-partisan leadership on our flagship issues.** We worked with policymakers to improve upon existing legal protections, including those provided by the Violence Against Women Act and the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act.



OUR PROJECTS

Forced Marriage Initiative Founded in 2011, our groundbreaking Forced Marriage Initiative made significant headway in fostering a national movement to empower women and girls to exercise their right to choose whether, when, and whom to marry.



Honoring Our Heartbeats: A Tour to End Forced Marriage in the U.S. made stops in New York City, Houston, San Francisco, New Brunswick, Chicago, and Washington, DC.

Photo © Preston Gannaway

We:

- ❖ **Triaged more than 70 emergency requests** to help individuals escaping forced marriages in the U.S. and overseas, including U.S. citizens facing forced marriage abroad—which represents a 75% increase in volume since 2013.
- ❖ **Equipped more than 1,300 attorneys, advocates, counselors, government officials, and law enforcement personnel with critical tools to identify forced marriages and protect victims**—more than doubling our reach in one year’s time.
- ❖ **Launched a groundbreaking national tour to raise awareness about forced marriage in the U.S.**, hosting events highlighting survivors’ stories and experiences, training advocates, and promoting policy solutions.
- ❖ **Drafted, as a liaison to the American Bar Association’s Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence, a resolution adopted by the American Bar Association’s House of Delegates** condemning forced marriage as a human rights violation and urging the legal community to address the issue in the U.S.

Border Project Made possible through the generosity of Laura and John Arnold, our Houston-based Children’s Border Project was created in 2014 to address the influx of unaccompanied children fleeing violence in Central America. In our first two months, *we:*

- ❖ **Hired a full-time attorney and allocated additional staff support** to answer urgent pleas from parents, sponsors, and guardians in the Houston area and deliver holistic support for low-income girls seeking legal protection in the United States.
- ❖ **Spearheaded the local coordination of free legal and social services** for unaccompanied refugee children.
- ❖ **Trained 480 attorneys in a trauma-informed approach** to the unique needs of unaccompanied children arriving at our border.

2013 AUDITED FINANCIALS

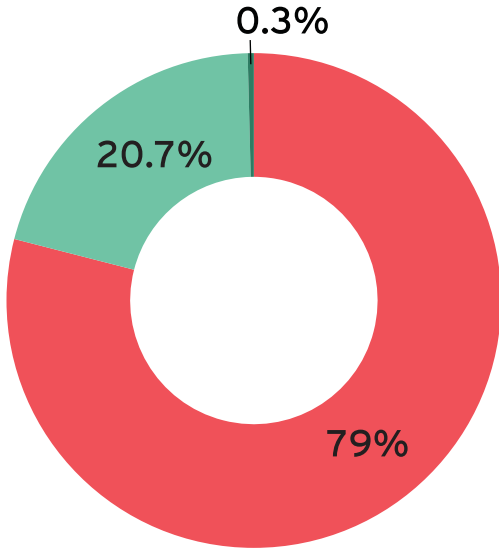
In 2013, the value of pro bono services donated to Tahirih and our clients reached a historic **\$12.9 million**, which enabled us to serve more women and children around the country and multiply every **\$1 donated into \$5** of impact.



2013

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
REVENUE AND SUPPORT	\$	\$	\$
Donated (In-Kind) Professional Services	12,972,757	--	12,972,757
Grants and Contributions	2,461,680	924,985	3,386,665
Interest Income	2,241	--	2,241
Fundraising Sales, Net of Expense	25,287	--	25,287
Honorarium	1,600	--	1,600
Miscellaneous Income	29,603	--	29,603
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	815,997	(815,997)	0
Total Revenue	16,309,165	108,988	16,418,153
EXPENSES			
Program Services	15,263,523	--	15,263,523
Supporting Services:			
Administration	527,642	--	527,642
Fundraising	343,934	--	343,934
Total Supporting Services	871,576	--	871,576
Total Expenses	16,135,099	--	16,135,099
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(174,066)	108,988	283,054
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	715,839	737,975	1,453,814
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$889,905	\$846,963	\$1,736,868

FINANCIALS



Revenue and Support

- Donated Professional Services: 79%
- Grants and Contributions: 20.7%
- Other: 0.3%

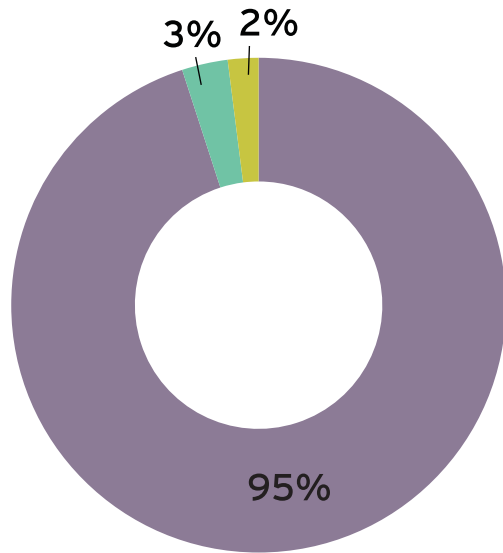
Total: \$16,418,153

Expenses

- Program Services: 95%
- Administration: 3%
- Fundraising: 2%

Total: \$16,135,099

Total includes in-kind donations.



Our full 2013 financial statements and Independent Audit Report issued by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP can be viewed at Tahirih.org. Our 2014 financial statements and audit report were not available at the time of this publication, but can also be viewed online.

“I had lost faith in all humanity as my pain went unnoticed, and my life meant nothing to most. It was only when I came to Tahirih that I slowly started to gain a renewed spirit of hope.”

— Asima*

SURVIVOR OF POLITICAL PERSECUTION AND FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION FROM SUDAN



“Tahirih made me feel like my life has a purpose.

I really can't put it into words. They have been family to me. They opened their arms to me and helped me. They pushed me on toward my future.”

— Itza

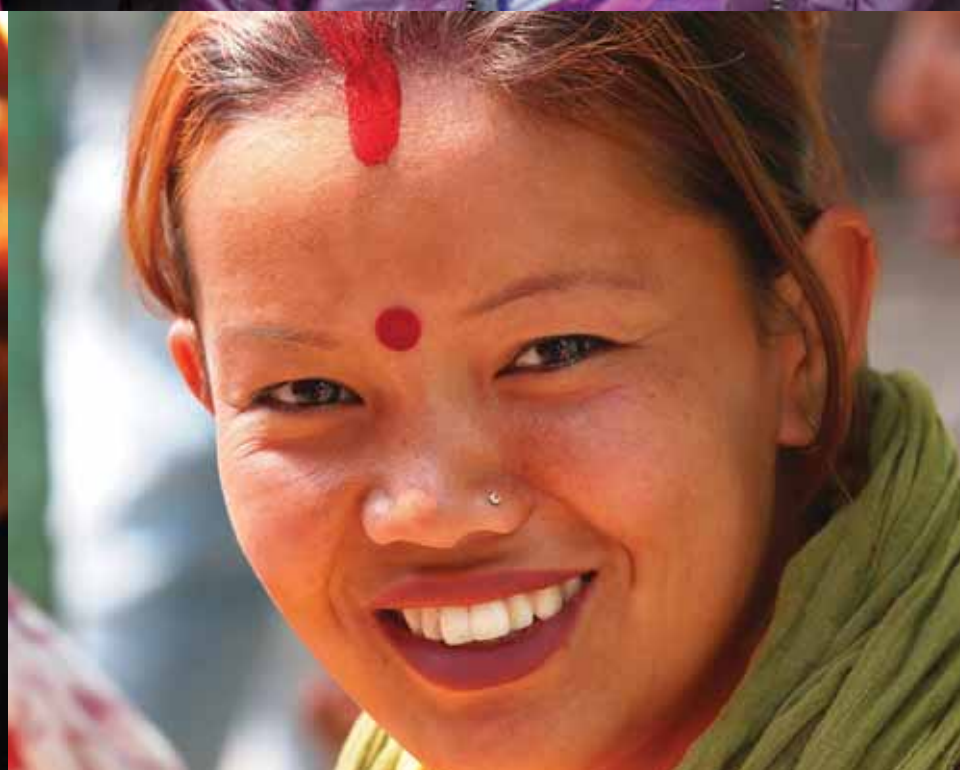
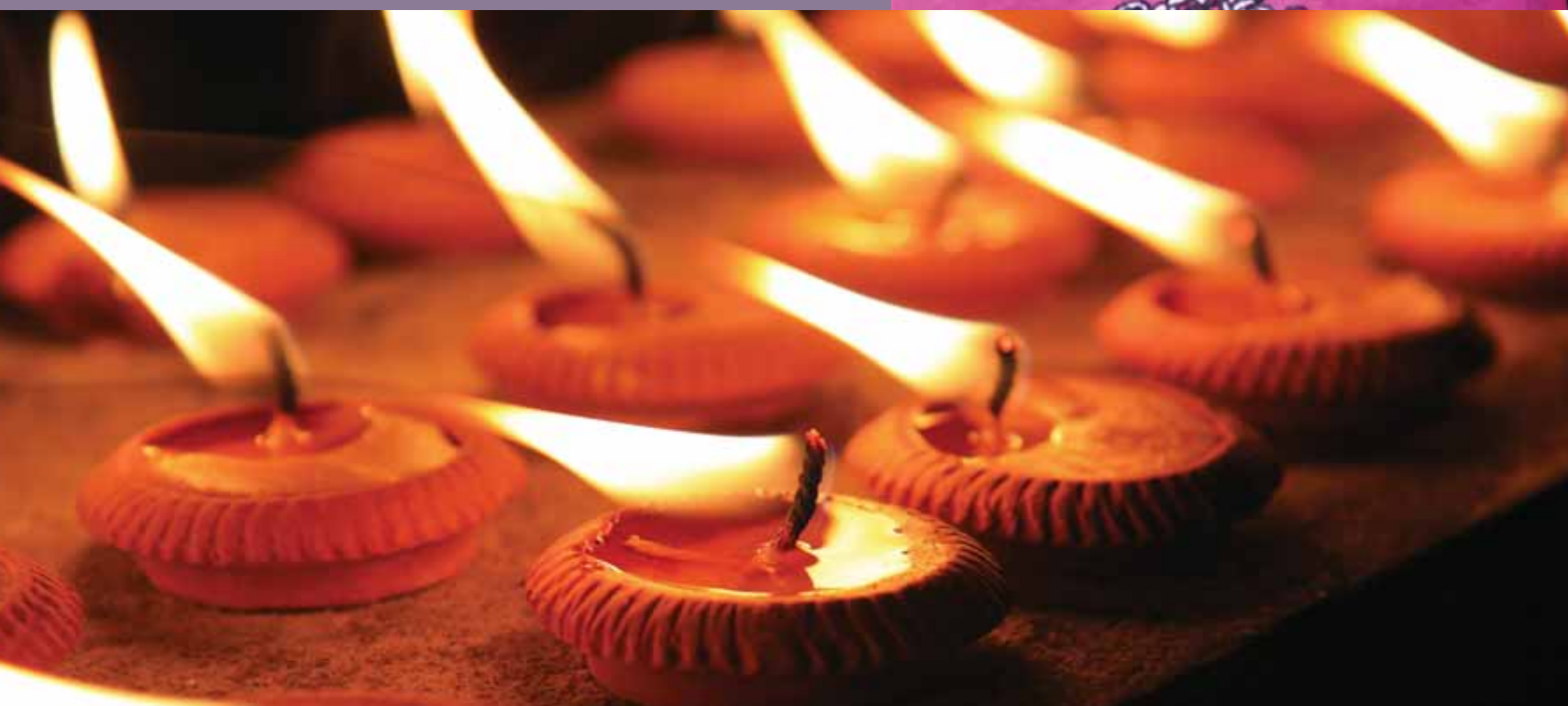
SURVIVOR OF CHILD ABUSE AND RAPE FROM NICARAGUA

“To be free

of such bondage feels like I have won the lottery, and in my heart, I have. I thank Tahirih for their time, countless hours, and caring.”

— Nancy*

SURVIVOR OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FROM CANADA



“Marriage for me meant serving a man for life, ending my education, and never having the opportunity to make my dreams come true.

With my family, I didn't even have any dreams and I didn't even know I could be someone

other than an obedient daughter who sacrifices herself for her family's reputation.”

— Maya*

PAKISTANI-AMERICAN SURVIVOR OF FORCED MARRIAGE

Thank You

2014 Lifesavers
to the many individuals and institutions who made our lifesaving work possible through generous financial support in 2014.

Corporations and Organizations

ABC 13
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Anadarko Petroleum Corporation
Arnold & Porter LLP
Baker & McKenzie LLP
Baker Botts LLP
Baker Hughes Inc.
BankUnited, N.A.
BP America, Inc.
Capital One
Catapult
Caterpillar Inc.
Chamberlain, Hirdlicka, White, Williams & Aughtry
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
Cooley LLP
Congregation of Divine Providence
Covington & Burling LLP
Crowell & Moring LLP
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
Davis, Polk & Wardwell LLP
Direct Energy
DLA Piper LLP
Dykema Gossett PLLC
The Estee Lauder Companies Inc.
Exxon Mobil Corporation
Foley & Lardner LLP
Foster LLP
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Greenberg Traurig LLP
Hilton Worldwide
Hogan Lovells LLP
Jones Day
King & Spalding LLP
Latham & Watkins LLP
Maggio Kattar Nahajzer + Alexander, P.C. Marathon
Oil Company
Mayer Brown LLP
McDermott Will & Emery LLP
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
Norton Rose Fulbright
Oasis Petroleum, Inc.
Paul Hastings LLP
PepsiCo, Inc.
Reply! Inc.
Seyfarth Shaw LLP
Shell Oil Company
Sidley Austin LLP
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
Thompson Hine LLP
Troutman Sanders LLP
Vinson & Elkins LLP
Wilmer Outler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP
Winstead PC
Winston & Strawn LLP

Foundations

Aaron and Lillie Straus Foundation Inc.
Abell Foundation
Alice Kleberg Reynolds Meyer Foundation
Arlington Community Foundation
Asian American Bar Foundation of Houston
BBVA Compass Foundation
Foundation for a Just Society
The Gallogly Family Foundation
George L. Shields Foundation, Inc.
Goldseker Foundation
Harris and Eliza Kempner Fund
Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation
Haskell Fund
Hearst Foundations
The Herb Block Foundation
Hispanic Bar Association
Houston Bar Foundation
Houston Endowment
Houston Foundation
Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation
Jewish Women's Giving Foundation of Baltimore
The Lucille and Paul Maslin Foundation
M & T Charitable Foundation
Meyer Foundation
Moriah Fund
The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
Morton K. and Jane Blaustein Foundation
MuniMae Foundation
NoVo Foundation
Philip L. Graham Fund
Ralph M. Cestone Foundation
The Richard A. Busemeyer Atheist Foundation Inc.
Rotary Club of Washington, DC
Simmons Foundation
State Bar of Texas, Corporate Counsel Section
State Bar of Texas, Litigation Section
The Steptoe Foundation
The Summit Foundation
Texas Bar Foundation
Tikkun Olam Women's Foundation
Tranquil Space Foundation
University of Houston Law Foundation
Venable Foundation

Individuals

\$900,000 +
Laura and John Arnold
\$100,000 +
Anonymous
\$50,000 +
Paul Glist and Karla Jamir
Carelle Karimmanesh
Payam and Gouya Zamani
\$20,000 +
Abdolhossein, Guitty, and Tina Etemai
The Estate of Michael MacLeod
\$10,000 +
Tahirih Baker
Douglas and Suzanne Henck
Karen Otazo-Hofmeister and John Hofmeister
Kellye and Robert Jennings
Isaac Souede and Sein Chew
Kelly Mahon Tullier
Mary and Jeffrey Zients
\$5,000 +
Tanya and Jeffrey Andrien
The Buck Family Fund
Robert Cook
Susan Crown
David and Afsaneh Dean
Michael and Debora Goldberg
Audrey Hendricks
Sean Hinton
Sanjay and Lisa Kalavar
Frank Kendall and Elizabeth Halpern
Masu and Badar Khan
Leanne Lachman
Laura Loeb
The Marek Family
Alex and Lindsey Niebruegge
Jane Northern
Fern O'Brian
Lydia Protopapas
Soula (Anastasia) Proxenos and Bruce O'Brien Amy Nicolle Rodgers
Dr. Jackie Eghrari-Sabet & Sina A. Sabet James Sandman
Christine Savage
Penelope Shapiro
David and Moigan Shin
Marzieh and Jalil Thurber
Sheila and John Tweed
Debra Winger
Frances and John Worthington
\$2,500 +
Eva Carney
Martha Cochran
Liz Dennis
Laurie and Juan Carlos Duperier
Bob and Eugenia Etnyre
Kenneth Ewing
Karen Fananapazir
Naheed Ghassemi
Shiva and Gus Gill
Gerald Glass
Wilfred Grandison
Kyle and Carmen Green
Virginia Geoffrey and John Andelin Jr. Charles and Christine Henck
Andrea and David Johnson
Chelsie King-Garza and Adam Blankenship Thomas Mackall and Beth Roberts Ginny Maslin
Shazma and Arshad Matin
Robert McNally
Tana Pool
Elissa Preheim
Nancy Roy
Hannah Sibiski & Stuart Nance
Kamran Siddiqi
Claudia Tema
Dawn Vermilya
Alexandra Winter



Governments

Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement, National Human Trafficking Victim Assistance Program, via U.S. Committee on Immigrants and Refugees
Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, Legal Assistance for Victims Program
Fairfax County, Virginia, Consolidated Community Funding Pool
National Institutes of Justice, via Urban Institute, Justice Policy Center
State of Maryland, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, STOP Violence Against Women Program
State of Maryland, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, Victims of Crime Assistance Program
State of Texas, Department of Criminal Justice Services, STOP Violence Against Women Program
State of Texas, Department of Criminal Justice Services, Victims of Crime Assistance Grant Program
State of Texas, Office of the Attorney General, Other Victims Assistance Grant Program
State of Virginia, Department of Criminal Justice Services, STOP Violence Against Women Grant Program
State of Virginia, Department of Criminal Justice Services, Virginia Domestic Violence Victim Fund Grant Program

*Names have been changed and photos do not depict actual clients to protect client safety and privacy.