WE CAN MORE THAN DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF WOMEN AND GIRLS WE PROTECT FROM VIOLENCE WITH YOUR help
Violence against women and girls is an urgent global tragedy. Yet, against the backdrop of appalling statistics, thousands of women and girls show extraordinary acts of bravery and refuse to be victims of violence. They leave behind family, possessions, and lifelong community ties to seek safety and security in the United States.

But a life of dignity is not guaranteed even for those who make it to our shores. Immigrant women and girls face many unique barriers in their quest for justice, including extreme poverty, limited English proficiency, isolation from friends or family, and lack of understanding of a complex U.S. legal system.

Tahirih Justice Center stands alone as the only national, multi-city organization providing a broad range of direct legal services, policy advocacy, and community education to protect immigrant women and girls fleeing violence, but we are overwhelmed with pleas for help.

Our clients come from all over the world, but now live in the United States. Some are U.S. citizens, some have other lawful status, some are undocumented, but all lack access to legal aid and all are entitled under U.S. law to legal status and justice.
THE NEED FOR **growth**

We must do more to protect the brave but vulnerable women and girls who are standing up against female genital mutilation, forced marriage, rape, domestic violence, human trafficking, and other forms of gender-based violence.

**These heroes are ready to transform themselves, their families, their communities, and the world, but they cannot do it alone. In their greatest moment of need, they need the support of Tahirih Justice Center.**

Access to legal representation is critical to the achievement of justice and is extremely hard to attain. Nationally, there is less than one public service attorney available for every 10,000 people living in poverty. Because many of Tahirih's clients are often children or lack legal status, they are generally ineligible for legal aid. Their options for legal representation are scarce, and the stakes are high.

Without legal representation, most will lose their quest for justice and continue to face life-threatening violence. For example, an asylum seeker with professional legal representation is up to six times more likely to be granted legal status in the United States. Despite this obvious and pressing need, legal funding streams are shrinking, and many advocacy organizations are scaling back or closing their doors.

Now in our 17th year of operation, Tahirih is a respected leader in the field known for an effective, efficient, and innovative model of service. Today, we provide legal defense for more than 800 women and girls per year from three established locations across the United States.

Still, given the magnitude of the epidemic of violence against women, at our current scale, we can only protect one out of every three of the women and girls who reach out to us for help.

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**Annual Comparison of Pleas for Help vs. Women and Girls Represented**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Pleas for Help</th>
<th>Women and Girls Represented</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1045</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1022</td>
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</tr>
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<td>1636</td>
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<td>2184</td>
<td>876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2184</td>
<td>804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2045</td>
<td>1688</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TRENDS: DEMAND**

**TRENDS: SERVICES**

Pleas for help are underrepresented because Tahirih publicly messages when we reach capacity to manage call volume. In 2014, immigration court backlogs dramatically increased, reducing the number of new cases Tahirih could accept.

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**HELP US RAISE $10 million TO DOUBLE OUR LIFESAVING PROGRAMS AND EXPAND TO A TOTAL OF FIVE CITIES, WHICH WILL DIRECTLY PROTECT 250% more WOMEN AND GIRLS BY 2017**
When a courageous woman or girl risks everything to reject violence, we know only part of her journey to justice takes place in the courtroom, and helping one woman at a time is not enough. To have a truly transformative impact, we must change laws, practices, and attitudes that leave immigrant women and girls vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. Our award-winning, holistic approach combines direct services with education and policy advocacy in the fight to end violence against women and girls.

**Direct Services**
We provide our clients with a range of free immigration, family, and civil legal services, and we connect them to the vital social services they need to rebuild their lives, including emergency housing, food assistance, and health care.

**Training and Education**
We educate thousands of frontline professionals—including attorneys, judges, police officers, healthcare staff, and social service providers—to create a community better able to respond to the unique needs of immigrant women and girls.

**Policy Advocacy**
We engage in national policy advocacy, elevating our clients’ voices to important public debates across the country and transforming law and policies to ensure systemic, lasting change.
Since 1997, we have assisted nearly 17,000 heroic individuals from every corner of the globe with our effective, efficient, and innovative approach.

POISED TO DO

We are now poised to dramatically expand the number of courageous women and girls we assist in breaking free from violence and starting life anew in safety and with dignity.

Effective

We maintain a 99% litigation success rate despite the complex nature of the cases we accept. Tahirih accepts cases that others have deemed “unwinnable” and pioneers in uncharted areas of the law.

Efficient

We turn every $1 into $5 of impact by leveraging the donated services of a nationwide network of pro bono professionals, which includes more than 1,500 attorneys at nearly 200 top-ranked law firms and corporations.

Innovative

We have developed a reputation as a recognized leader in the fight to end violence against women and girls. Since our founding in 1997, our tested, externally-evaluated model of service has been successfully replicated in three locations: Baltimore, Greater Washington, DC, and Houston.
Nearly a decade ago, Tahirih embarked on an ambitious path for growth. Responding to the rising demand for our lifesaving services, we committed to dramatically expanding the number of heroic women and girls we protect.

Researching best practices and revenue models, we accurately predicted we would hit a revenue “glass ceiling” in Washington, DC, and we recognized the efficiency of geographic expansion. We piloted an office in Houston, and it became self-sufficient ahead of schedule. Then, we opened an office in Baltimore.

Today, we are armed with an award-winning, replicable model of service. And every year since opening our first field office in 2009, we have continued to experience tremendous growth and success. From 2011 to 2013, we grew 51%, hiring attorneys and other critical staff. We now respond to more than 2,000 pleas for help each year from women and children fleeing violence.

Our success to date demonstrates the importance of building local sources of support, including pro bono resources and city-specific individual, corporate, government, and foundation donors.

Now, to fully meet the commitment we made to women and girls nearly a decade ago, we need your help. Through the Ready to Soar Campaign for Sustainable Growth, we will open two additional offices in high-need cities by 2017 and make critical investments in key, lifesaving programs.

Our path to growth and sustainability is dependent on the success of the Ready to Soar Campaign. With your support, we will build on our proven efficiency and dramatically increase the number of women and girls we can protect in a carefully-planned, strategic way.
Through geographic expansion, the cost to provide holistic legal services to a woman fleeing violence and her family already has dramatically decreased as a by-product of shared resources and streamlined operations across multiple locations.

From 2009 to 2013, as we expanded operations to Houston and Baltimore, the cost to serve one person at Tahirih decreased by 50%, while the number of women and children served dramatically increased by 263%.

Today, we’re poised not only to save more lives through direct services, we’re positioned to have a transformative impact on a systemic level by doubling our efforts in policy advocacy and education and training.

By 2017, with five offices in high-need cities across the United States, we expect to serve 3,600 women and children annually while maintaining our low service cost of $1,227 per person.
Our vision of equality for women and girls is lofty, but our approach is decidedly practical.

Our growth through 2017 is guided by a three-phase strategic plan that has already proven to be effective, efficient, and innovative. We’ve completed the first two phases of our three-phase plan. Now, we need your help to reach the finish line and dramatically increase the number of women and girls we serve across the United States.

**Phase 1**

2007–2009

**PREPARE FOR EXPANSION**

- Develop a solid strategic plan for growth
- Research best practices and proven methods for scaling
- Define model for replication
- Build internal and external support to position Tahirih for long-term growth

**Phase 2**

2009–2013

**PILOT, TEST & PERFECT OUR MODEL**

- Open our first field office in Houston in 2009
- Open our second field office in Baltimore in 2010
- Obtain third-party assessments of expansion model
- Develop and refine Tahirih’s model for future replication

**Phase 3**

2013–2017

**LAUNCH FULL NATIONAL EXPANSION**

- Increase by 250 percent the number of women and girls served by delivering holistic legal services to more than 3,600 women and their children annually by 2017
- Double the capacity of our national policy advocacy team
- Double education and training capacity
- Pioneer protections for women and girls forced into marriage by expanding our cutting-edge Forced Marriage Initiative
- Bring current offices to optimal size
- Increase institutional capacity in all program areas, including fundraising and finance and operations
- Open new offices on West Coast and Northeast Corridor to bring total number of operating sites to five
MAKING A transformative INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

Your investment in the Ready to Soar Campaign will not only have a direct and transformative impact on the lives of women and girls, it will ripple across every part of our mission, strengthen our day-to-day operations, and pave the way for our sustainable future.

$10 million of impact ACROSS OUR LIFESAVING PROGRAMS
Without your help, thousands of women and girls who are entitled to justice under U.S. law may never possess the wings they need to fly. An orphan who survived horrific abuse at the hands of her extended family knows what it feels like to live with broken wings. She told her attorney at Tahirih:

“Before Tahirih, I just wanted to fly, but I couldn’t. I never thought good things would happen to me. Now, I believe that I am a person capable of doing many things, that I am a person of value.”
“The world of humanity is possessed of two wings: the male and the female. So long as these two wings are not equivalent in strength, the bird will not fly.”

—BAHÁ’Í WRITINGS

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A TRANSFORMATIVE GIFT TODAY.

To discuss your contribution, please contact a member of our development team at:
PHONE: 571.282.6161
EMAIL: development@tahirih.org
WHEN A WOMAN OR GIRL ARRIVES AT TAHIRIH, SHE IS ALREADY A HERO.

She rejects violence or oppression. She improves the lives of her children. She inspires the courage of her sisters. She challenges her community, ends harmful practices, and changes the law. She transforms the world.

Please help us do everything we can to support her.