Dear friends,

With gratitude for your generosity, we are excited to celebrate our affiliate’s 95th anniversary with you. The outpouring of public support for the ACLU’s mission is a vote of confidence from millions of individuals across the country that we take very seriously, and honor through our dedicated advocacy.

In our first two decades, the ACLU SoCal fought against police brutality, racial injustice, and religious persecution. Our lawyers went to court to take stands for free speech, the rights of immigrants, the right of an attorney to meet with a client, and more.

Since those early years, the ACLU SoCal has taken on other vital matters: gender equity, voting rights, LGBTQ rights, economic justice, and more. But in all of these causes, old and new, there is never a single court decision or legislative victory that makes injustice a thing of the past. No victory ever stays won.

Card-carrying members of the ACLU have long been one of our most-valued assets. Though we have been mobilizing our members to engage in constituent activism for decades, the ACLU is now answering the call of the Trump era, working diligently in regions where threats and opportunities for human rights abound. We are informing voters of the power held by county supervisors, sheriffs, and district attorneys and publicizing where individuals running for office stand on key issues. These efforts are creating a sustainable base of members and voters who will be with us in 2018 and beyond.

Looking to the future, the ACLU will call upon our new and invigorated base of members, the majority of whom are women for the first time in our organization’s history, to fight with us as we dare to create a more perfect union.

From our founding in 1923 to the present, our strength is working together. It takes all of us — staff and board, donors and members, community partners and volunteers — keeping constant vigilance against injustice.

In this report we’ve selected a few highlights of our work from this past year. We hope you share our pride in all that we’ve accomplished together.
SCHOOL WALKOUTS  In March 2018, students nationwide planned to briefly march out of classes to mark the anniversary of the horrific school shooting in Florida. But in some schools, students were told there would be severe consequences — even arrests — for joining the walkout. The day before the protest, the ACLU SoCal sent a strongly worded advisory to every school district in the state. Attorney Peter Eliasberg wrote, “The First Amendment prohibits schools from disciplining a student more harshly for missing class for a protest than for any other unexcused absence.” The note was considered key to protests being held without undue backlash.
JESSIE MEEHAN was on her way to the LGBTQ Pride festival in West Hollywood when she stopped at a Walgreens to buy a few items and asked to use the restroom. The clerk refused to give her the key to the women’s bathroom, telling her she “looked like a man.” When Jessie got to Pride, she headed to the ACLU SoCal booth to report the incident. Attorney Amanda Goad subsequently challenged Walgreens, informing it that “California law protects every person’s right to access restrooms based on their gender identity.” Walgreens agreed to institute a new bathroom antidiscrimination policy at all 8,000 of its stores nationwide.
GANG INJUNCTIONS Peter Arellano of Echo Park had never been convicted of a gang crime and said he’d never belonged to a gang, but LAPD slapped him with a “gang injunction” that suddenly restricted his life: he could not visit some of his neighbors, drive to church with his family, or even stand in his front yard with his father. Gang injunctions had been used in L.A. for decades despite serving primarily to criminalize young men of color. The ACLU SoCal banded with others to file a lawsuit against enforcement of the injunctions. Arellano’s was lifted and in 2018 the court further provisionally barred the city from enforcing almost all gang injunctions.
The non-profit Victor Valley Family Resource Center (VVFRC) provides housing, meals, and case management services to people released on probation after serving jail time for non-violent offenses. In 2015, some residents of the high-desert city of Hesperia began spreading completely groundless rumors about a home run by the VVFRC, including that the residents were violent felons. The city enacted an unlawful ordinance to get the residents evicted. The ACLU SoCal won a court order that forced the city to stop its eviction efforts and a settlement returned fines that the VVFRC had been forced to pay.
In 2018, the ACLU SoCal embarked on a major voter registration effort, “Unlock the Vote,” that sent volunteers into the vast Los Angeles County Jails system — the largest in the nation — to register incarcerated people who wanted to vote and were eligible. Even the rapper Common took part in the non-partisan drive that registered nearly 2,000 citizens in both L.A. County and Orange County jails. As newly registered incarcerated people returned to their cells, many proudly wore “I Am Registered to Vote” stickers.
When Ali Vayeghan boarded a flight in Tehran to be reunited with his brother in the U.S., he never suspected the trip would take six days. His flight landed at LAX just hours after the Trump administration’s first Muslim travel ban took effect. Although Vayeghan had a visa, he was confined to a sparse room with no food for 20 hours and then literally carried onto a plane leaving the country. The ACLU SoCal rushed into action, winning an emergency court motion that forced the government to allow Vayeghan back into the U.S. where he was greeted by a cheering crowd that included the mayor. It was a key defeat for the Trump ban.
The federal Office of Refugee Resettlement funds organizations, some of which are faith-based, that shelter unaccompanied immigrant minors. In 2017, the ACLU SoCal and others took up the case of a 17-year-old who learned she was pregnant while in a shelter. “Jane Doe” wanted an abortion and was able to line up the funding for clinic appointments and transportation to get there. But ORR officials refused to let her go to the clinic, instead forcing her to get anti-abortion “counseling.” The ACLU team secured court rulings affirming Jane’s constitutional rights, and finally, she was able to obtain an abortion.
Hundreds of immigrant detainees locked up in Victorville prison in the Mojave Desert in 2018 were kept in inhumane conditions. They were banned from any contact with the dozens of lawyers who volunteered to help with their immigration cases that for asylum seekers could be matters of life and death. “Holding prisoners incommunicado, with no access for legal help or even family, is the hallmark of despots and dictators,” said ACLU SoCal attorney Michael Kaufman when we filed suit. In less than a day a federal judge sided with the ACLU SoCal, upholding the right of the detainees to have access to attorneys.
DUE PROCESS IN SCHOOLS  In Riverside County, it can take only a phone call from a school official to turn a student over to the crushingly oppressive Youth Accountability Team (YAT) program. Without judicial oversight, students and their families are coerced into signing on to the regimen that treats students like criminals, putting them under the supervision of probation officers with the power to impose surprise searches, unannounced home visitations, and interrogations into intimate details of their lives. In July 2018, the ACLU SoCal filed a lawsuit demanding that the YAT program be forced to adhere to the U.S. and California constitutions.
For more than thirty years, the Orange County District Attorney and Sheriff's Department have run a secret informant operation in county jails in violation of the U.S. and state constitutions. They placed informants in cells with defendants awaiting trials, rewarding informants for extracting incriminating statements. The information they obtained was tainted and in 2018, the ACLU SoCal co-filed a lawsuit against the D.A. and sheriff. An emotional, widely covered press conference on the suit included statements by Theresa Smith (left) and Bethany Webb, both of whose lives were personally impacted by county officials’ actions.
When Ramona Ripston took over the ACLU of Southern California as Executive Director in 1972, it had a half-dozen employees working out of an office above a wig shop in downtown Los Angeles. She didn’t have much in the way of resources, but she had assets far more powerful — a fierce devotion to civil liberties, an unflagging commitment to amplifying unheard voices, an uncanny ability to suss out the political labyrinth of her adopted city, a media savvy that brought her organization into the limelight, and a huge quotient of charm that turned opponents — even police chiefs — into friends.

Under her leadership and her belief in the power of coalitions, the ACLU SoCal teamed up with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund to force Los Angeles county to redraw voting districts, resulting in the first majority Latino supervisorial district. Her coalition-building efforts also led to the shut down of a police spying division that stomped on constitutional rights to privacy, and she started a public campaign to bring awareness to race-based traffic stops. Ramona fought any attempt to curb abortion rights and she was the first ACLU affiliate executive in the country to hire a full-time attorney-advocate to fight for LGBTQ rights.

By 2011, when she left the ACLU SoCal for retirement, the organization she built was a political and advocacy powerhouse with an expert team of attorneys, organizers, and social workers who partner with top law firms and advocacy groups to fight for justice. This year, she left us all. Her legacy is in the strong, vibrant organization she left behind, the laws she saw passed, the legal precedents she saw established, and the millions of people who have better access to justice because of her life’s work. Thank you, Ramona.
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Iona Kusmiak
Jess Lyons
Reverend Jeanne Audrey Powers
Betty Sheinbaum
Kurt Topik

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUPPORT &amp; REVENUE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>PERCENT</th>
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<td>Individual Contributions*</td>
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<td>Events</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restricted Foundation Grant</td>
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<td>Court Awarded Fees</td>
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<td>Interest &amp; Other*</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Kind Legal Contributions</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
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<td>Program Services</td>
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<td>Management &amp; General Operations</td>
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<td><strong>$7,905,949</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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* National ACLU Foundation’s total share of revenue: $4,684,362.

1 Grants awarded to the ACLU Foundation are restricted and earmarked for specific purposes.

2 Includes distributions of $54,324 from the Watson Endowment, $40,496 from the Permanent Endowment and $84,768 from the Trust for the Bill of Rights.

All figures provided are unaudited at the time of publication.
See how we've reinvested our resources on the following pages.
HOW WE’VE REINVESTED OUR RESOURCES

For 95 years, the ACLU of Southern California has benefited from the support of a broad base of people dedicated to civil liberties and civil rights. The extraordinary support of our loyal and longtime members and donors allowed us to be ready to act when Donald Trump was elected president.

On the previous pages, we provide you with our financial report for the fiscal year that began April 1, 2017 and ended March 31, 2018, five months after the election.

Our staff and the boards of the ACLU Foundation of Southern California (Foundation) and the ACLU of Southern California (Union) take the responsibility of stewarding your contributions very seriously. We are deploying resources with two factors in mind: (1) to mitigate immediate threats and (2) sustainably position ourselves to see the work through.

A cornerstone of our plans is to strengthen our presence in the Inland Empire and Central Valley, where there is a dearth of legal services to provide support for the region’s most vulnerable communities.
In addition to continuing to invest in current staff and priority issue areas, we were able to strategically expand the organization in the following ways and respond effectively to the egregious threats from the Trump administration and its local enablers:

• Opened our third field office in Bakersfield, California to protect immigrant families from indiscriminate deportation efforts and to prevent assaults on civil liberties such as racial profiling by law enforcement. With our headquarters in Los Angeles, and additional field offices in Santa Ana and San Bernardino, the ACLU SoCal now has significant reach throughout the southland.

• Hired additional attorneys, community engagement advocates, and lobbyists in our immigrants’ rights, police practices, education equity, criminal justice reform, and gender and reproductive justice teams.

• For the first time, hired a Director of Pro Bono Attorney Programs to strategically partner with the legal community.

• Refocused our community engagement efforts by launching a rebranded Activist Engagement and Leadership Development team, including a new position dedicated to leveraging the ACLU’s new People Power movement comprised of over 200,000 individuals across the country.

• Expanded communications capacity to more effectively use media advocacy on our most pressing issues and ensure the continued growth of the ACLU profile amongst new and longtime supporters.

• Strengthened the ACLU of California’s Center for Advocacy & Policy, which represents more than 300,000 ACLU members across the state and ensures that the voices of those directly impacted by state policy will be heard in the political process.

Thank you, again, for your support! Your generosity helps to ensure that the ACLU is relentless in the fight for justice. We look forward to keeping you posted on the progress of these and other investments.
Victoria Acosta  
Development Assistant
Sameer Ahmed  
Staff Attorney
Dana Alasker  
Development Coordinator
Ahilan Arulanantham  
Senior Counsel
Rekha Arulanantham  
Munger, Tolles & Olson Fellow
Zarmine Balasanyan  
Assistant Controller
Marcus Benigno  
Director of Communications & Media Advocacy
Peter Bibring  
Director of Police Practices/Senior Staff Attorney
Eva Bitrán  
Staff Attorney
Carolina Briones  
Foundation Relations Manager
Liz Garcia Bynum  
Senior Manager of Program Collaboration
Hermelinda Calderon  
Advocacy Assistant
Oscar Carpinteyro  
Building Security
Sarah Clifton  
First Amendment/Jails Staff Attorney
Jessica Colburn  
Deputy Director of Philanthropy
David Colker  
Press & Communication Strategist
Iliana Covarrubias  
Administrative Assistant
Miguel Cruz  
Director of Volunteer Mobilization
Ruth Dawson  
Staff Attorney
Jacqueline Delgadillo  
Legal/Advocacy Assistant
Julia Devanthéry  
Dignity For All Staff Attorney
Glen Eichenblatt  
Director of Information Systems

Peter Eliasberg  
Chief Counsel/Manheim Family Attorney for First Amendment Rights
Jennifer Fahey  
Special Assistant to the Executive Director & Manager of Board Relations
Jessica Farris  
Director of Criminal Justice/Policy & Advocacy Counsel
Vicki Fox  
Director of Strategic Partnership & Marketing
Aditi Fruitwala  
Staff Attorney
Erik Garcia  
Community Engagement & Policy Advocate
Marelyn Garcia  
Paralegal
Eve Garrow  
Homelessness Policy Analyst & Advocate
Amanda Goad  
Audrey Irmas Director, LGBTQ, Gender & Reproductive Justice Project/Senior Staff Attorney
Melissa Goodman  
Director of Advocacy
Alex Guzman  
Building Operations Assistant
Mario Guzman  
Building Facilities Manager
Brendan Hamme  
Staff Attorney
Wardah Imran  
Communications Coordinator
De’Jon Jackson  
Director of Operations
Sandra Kang  
Paralegal
Casey Kasher  
Paralegal
Michael Kaufman  
Sullivan & Cromwell Access to Justice Senior Staff Attorney
Amber Kim  
Director of Human Resources
Jason Köhler  
Database Manager
Preeti Kulkarni  
Chief Financial and Administrative Officer
STAND FOR JUSTICE

The ACLU needs your partnership. The ACLU’s work is made possible by the financial support of over 1,000,000 members, activists, and philanthropists across the country who stand for justice, freedom, and equality.

INVEST IN THE ACLU

Make a tax-deductible donation to the ACLU Foundation of Southern California and help fund ACLU’s litigation, public education, and community engagement work. You can also make a contribution to the ACLU of Southern California; though not tax-deductible, this critical support makes possible our legislative work and lobbying. The ACLU is able to accept donations via mail, online, or stock transfers.

ACLU Foundation of Southern California Stock Transfer:

DTC: Code 40, DTC #0164, Charles Schwab and Co. Inc.,
Attn: Transfer of Accounts, 101 Montgomery St., San Francisco, CA 94101

FBO: ACLU Foundation of Southern California, Account #1024-1241

You can make a tax-deductible gift online at www.aclusocal.org/donate. For more information about stock transfers, donations in honor of a loved one, or other gifts, call: (213) 977-5254.

Stock contributions via our broker do not identify the donor. To be credited with the correct contribution amount, please call (213) 977-5254 to notify the ACLU of your gift.

LEAVE YOUR LEGACY

Join hundreds across Southern California who have become members of ACLU’s DeSilver Society, by naming the ACLU in their estate.

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• Name the ACLU as a beneficiary on your insurance.
• Start a Charitable Gift Annuity.

For more information please call (213) 977-5289 or visit www.aclusocal.org/donate.

BECOME A MEMBER

Become an official card-carrying member of the ACLU and connect to one of the largest advocate networks in Southern California and the nation. For more information about becoming a member visit www.aclusocal.org/join or call: (213) 977-5248.

The ACLU is a nationwide organization; donations to Southern California equally support our important work here, as well as the work of other ACLU affiliates in states where some of the most egregious civil rights and civil liberties violations occur and there is little financial support for their defense.

For more information about investing in the ACLU, charitable estate planning or becoming a member you can also visit: www.aclusocal.org/donate.