

J F O N - N E S T A F F

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Paralegal*

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Deputy Executive Director/Legal Director

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*Legal Administrative Assistant/
Client Advocate*

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Operations Manager*

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Executive Director

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Child Welfare Managing Attorney

Maria V. Mendoza
Access to Justice Legal Representative

Dorian Rojas, Esq.
Child & Family Staff Attorney

Mindy Rush-Chipman, Esq.
Senior Managing Attorney

Alexis Steele, Esq.
Immigrant Worker Attorney

Gary Walters, Esq. Iowa
Managing Attorney

J F O N - N E L O C A T I O N S

OMAHA OFFICE
2414 E Street Omaha, NE 68107

CENTRAL NEBRASKA OFFICE
200 W. 7th Street Office #214
Lexington, NE 68850

SOUTHWEST IOWA OFFICE
Centro Latino of Council Bluffs
Omni Center
300 W Broadway, Ste 40
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503

LEGAL CLINIC LOCATIONS
Trinity United Methodist Church
Grand Island, NE
First United Methodist Church
Lexington, NE

CONSULTATION LOCATIONS
Completely KIDS, *Omaha, NE*
Heartland Workers Center, *Omaha, NE*
Intercultural Senior Center, *Omaha, NE*
Latino Center of the Midlands, *Omaha, NE*
Siena Francis House, *Omaha, NE*
United Church of Christ/1st
Congregational, *Crete, NE*
St. Paul United Methodist
Church, *South Sioux City, IA*
Centro Latino of Council Bluffs,
Council Bluffs, IA
Heartland Family Service, *Council Bluffs, IA*

INFORMATION: 402-898-1349
APPOINTMENTS: 855-307-6730
info@jfon-ne.org
jfon-ne.org



Welcoming Immigrants to Our Community

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



OPENING LETTER

Over the last six years, Justice For Our Neighbors-Nebraska has grown in service delivery capacity, stability, and resilience. Our goals are to manage growth responsibly and build infrastructure. This will ensure long-term sustainability of the impact our organization has in the community.

In 2016, we complimented our increase in client services by strengthening our administrative functions. We are pleased to report that our 2014 – 2016 strategic plan culminated in the development of an exciting new business plan to guide us through the next three years. Watch for more details on our plans in the summer of 2017.

The JFON-NE legal team worked on 2,726 cases in 2016, an increase of 35% over 2015's caseload of 2,011 and 877% increase over the 279 cases worked in 2011. We are the only immigration legal services nonprofit in the state of Nebraska and southwest Iowa that has the legal expertise and capacity to serve clients without charge in the most complex case types—including federal litigation, removal, and complicated asylum applications.

Our educational efforts in 2016 reached 5,080 people from Council Bluffs, Iowa to Scottsbluff, Nebraska. JFON—NE's executive director attended the Harvard Business School Executive Education Program: Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management and shared the information in a session with his peers.

Advocacy is intrinsic to our mission, including expert testimony to the Nebraska Legislature and informing our community as bills progress through their stages. Read about the collective success of LB 947 on page 7 of this report.

It's been an amazing, roller-coaster year with many challenges and successes. We thrived because of your support—you, our board of directors, our volunteers, our collaborative partners, our advocates, and our donors. We thank you and pledge to honor your confidence and support in our important work.



Beverly Reicks
Beverly Reicks, Chair-elect
Board of Directors



Emiliano Lerda
Emiliano Lerda, J.D., LL.M.
Executive Director

OUR MISSION

Justice For Our Neighbors-Nebraska (JFON-NE) welcomes immigrants into our communities by providing free, high-quality immigration legal services, education, and advocacy.

2016 – 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Beverly Reicks, Chair | Daniel Padilla, Treasurer | Toni Demetria Smith |
| Sarah (Sally) McGill, Chair-elect | Mary Lee Fitzsimmons | Bernadette L. Tate |
| Melissa Baron, Secretary | Nick Brotzel | Mary L. Umberger |

ABOUT JFON-NE

Justice For Our Neighbors-Nebraska (JFON-NE) provides immigration legal services in a broad, genuine and compassionate sense—welcoming and helping immigrants who are often scared and confused by the systems and processes of our immigration legal system. Our free services prepare our low-income clients to contribute valuable assets to our society. We serve immigrants of all faiths, races, abilities and ages, with an emphasis on the most vulnerable—victims of domestic violence; children who have been neglected, abused or abandoned; and persons who would be persecuted if they returned to their home country. In 2016 our eleven attorneys and six legal staff worked more than 2,700 cases for individuals from 47 countries. Legal services are offered in Omaha, Grand Island, Lexington, Crete and South Sioux City in Nebraska, and Council Bluffs in Iowa.



Justice For Our Neighbors-Nebraska enjoys a solid reputation as a leader and go-to resource for our region's immigration legal professionals. We are affiliated with National Justice For Our Neighbors (NJFON), a network of legal clinics originally founded in 1999 by the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

We are fortunate to count among our generous supporters the Great Plains Conference of the United Methodist Church, NJFON and many local corporate and family foundations.

WE ARE A NATION OF IMMIGRANTS

We must never forget the pivotal role that immigrants have played in making this country the land of opportunity. Our differences are not our weaknesses. Our differences are the source of our strength. In a nation built by immigrants, we ask you to join us in honoring our long-standing principles and values upon which this amazing nation was founded – with liberty and justice for all.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

STATE OF NEBRASKA

American Civil Liberties Union
Anti-Defamation League
Asociación cívica Salvadoreña de Nebraska
Center for Rural Affairs
Coalition for a Strong Nebraska
Courts Matter Coalition of Nebraska
Legal Aid of Nebraska
Lutheran Family Services
Nebraska Appleseed
Nebraska Association for Translators & Interpreters
Nebraska Coalition for Immigration Reform
Nebraska Cultural Unity Conference
Nebraska Immigration Legal Assistance Hotline (NILAH)
Nebraska State Bar Association
Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Nebraska Bar Association

Columbus, NE

Columbus First United Methodist Church
Centro Hispano Comunitario de Nebraska

Crete, NE

Blue River Family Center
City of Crete
Crete Public Schools
Grace United Methodist Church
United Church of Christ, First Congregational

Grand Island, NE

Central Community College
Crisis Center Inc.
Grand Island Latino Network
Grand Island Public Schools
Hope Harbor
Multicultural Coalition of Grand Island
Saint Mary's Immigration Program
Trinity United Methodist Church

Hastings, NE

Hastings Multicultural Association

Kearney, NE

NTV News
Office of Multicultural Affairs, University of Nebraska at Kearney
Social Justice League, University of Nebraska at Kearney

Lexington, NE

Central Community College
Educational Service Unit 10

First United Methodist Church
Get Out The Vote-Lexington
Law Offices of Jesus Tena
Lexington Public Schools
Lexington Clipper Herald
Lexington Public Library
Los Jalapeños
Mid-Community Action Partnership
Mundo Latino
Pupusería El Rinconcito
St. Mary's Immigration Program
St. Ann's Catholic Church
The Trinidad Center
United Methodist Hispanic Ministry

Lincoln, NE

Center for Legal Immigration Assistance
Define American @ UNL
El Centro de las Americas
University of Nebraska Law School

North Platte, NE

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Omaha, NE

Alegent Health
BoysTown
Catholic Charities
College of Saint Mary
Completely KIDS
Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim
Creighton Center for Service and Justice
Creighton Law School
Creighton Multicultural Center at Creighton University
Domestic Violence Council
Film Streams
First United Methodist Church/Urban Abbey
Grace United Methodist Church
Heart Ministry Center
Heartland Workers Center
Immigrant Detainee Accompaniment Program
Intercultural Senior Center
Latino Center of the Midlands
Learning Community Center of South Omaha
Mexican Consulate in Omaha
Nonprofit Association of the Midlands
Office of Latino and Latin American Studies (OLLAS) at the University of Nebraska-Omaha
Omaha Metropolitan Community College
Omaha Public Schools
Omaha Together One Community

One World Community Health Centers
Open Door Mission
Project Harmony
Refugee Empowerment Center
Siena Francis House
Sisters of Mercy
St. James United Methodist Church of Bellevue
St. Paul United Methodist Church
University of Nebraska Medical Center
University of Nebraska-Omaha
Women's Center for Advancement
Youth Emergency Services
Watie White

South Sioux City, NE

South Sioux City Public Library
Sugal Consulting, LLC
St. Michael Catholic Church
St. Paul United Methodist Church
Unity In Action

STATE OF IOWA

Legal Aid of Western Iowa
Iowa Justice For Our Neighbors

Council Bluffs, IA

Centro Latino of Council Bluffs
Heartland Family Service

Sioux City, IA

Mary Treglia Community House

NATIONAL

American Immigration Council
American Immigration Lawyers Association
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc.
National Immigration Project

UNITED METHODIST PARTNERS

General Board of Church and Society
General Board of Global Ministries
Great Plains United Methodist Conference
Great Plains United Methodist Mercy & Justice Team/Micah Corps
National Justice For Our Neighbors (NJFON)
United Methodist Committee on Relief
United Methodist Women (National & Great Plains)

Individual United Methodist churches are listed with their cities.

OUR SERVICES

IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES

JFON-NE is a nonprofit immigration law firm with specialties in domestic violence, child welfare, and refugee and asylum cases. We specialize in complex cases that may have multiple components. Our immigration legal service providers' comprehensive knowledge of immigration law provides the expertise to know which option is the best for individual clients.

Our practice areas include:

- Asylum
- Family-based immigration
- Refugee
- Removal/Deportation
- Special Immigrant Juvenile (SIJ) Status (including state family law matters)
- U-Visa (including labor and employment law matters)
- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

EDUCATION

JFON-NE offers a variety of educational presentations in order to help welcome our newest neighbors to Nebraska and western Iowa and to provide accurate information on the current federal immigration system. Presentations are made for immigrants, non-immigrants, professionals, and groups at institutions of higher learning. In 2016, JFON-NE staff gave 122 presentations to 5,080 individuals.

The top five most-requested presentations include:

- Services provided by JFON-NE
- Immigration Law Basics
- Administrative Relief: Expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parental Accountability (DAPA)
- Know Your Rights
- U-Visa and VAWA (for victims of domestic abuse/violent crime)

ADVOCACY

JFON-NE advocates, in collaboration with partnering organizations, for fundamental changes in the laws at the local, state, and federal level that make it safe and lawful for immigrant community members to stay, work, and live in the United States. In our strategic plan, our board of directors and leadership identified seven strategies for advocacy initiatives.

The seven strategies for advocacy initiatives are:

- Impact Litigation
- Issue Analysis/Research
- Legal Action
- Media Advocacy/Public Awareness
- Coalition Building/Networking
- Policy Analysis/Research
- Good Policy Implementation

CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS

CASES WORKED

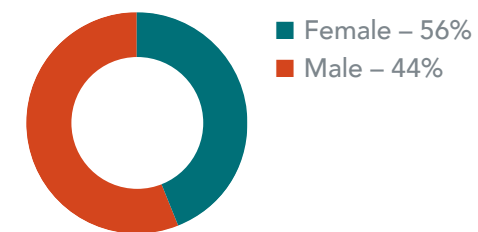
Cases worked in 2015: 2,011
 Cases worked in 2016: 2,726
 Increase over 2015: 35.6%

NATIONALITIES SERVED

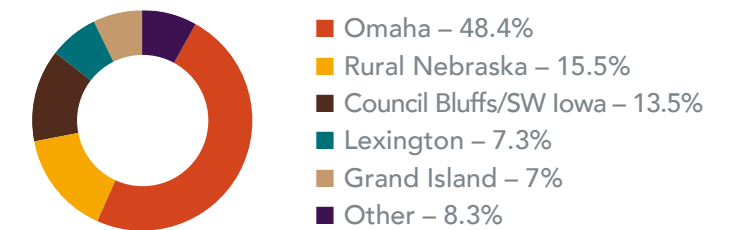
Nationality/Citizenship: 47



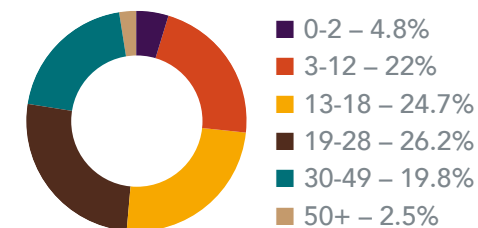
CLIENTS BY GENDER



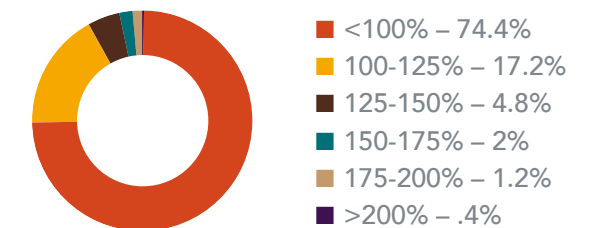
CITY OF RESIDENCE



AGE AT DATE OF ENTRY



FAMILY INCOME (Percent of federal poverty level)



2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



LEGISLATIVE BILL 947 PASSED

In collaboration with a strong and diverse coalition of organized allies, our advocacy efforts were rewarded with significant success on LB 947, the professional and commercial license bill that became law April 20, 2016. JFON-NE attorneys and staff provided technical support in drafting the bill, assisted with creating talking points, delivered committee testimony, and emailed action alerts to support the effort to pass Nebraska LB 947. The law grants equal opportunity to certain work-authorized immigrants who have the skills, education, and qualifications to obtain the professional or commercial licenses needed to practice their profession.

NEW BUSINESS PLAN DEVELOPED

The completion of our three-year strategic plan resulted in the development of a new business plan that will guide our growth initiatives over the next three years. Also, with the addition of new staff, we are outgrowing our current office “home.” More details will be announced in the summer of 2017.

LEGAL SERVICES INCREASED 35%

In 2016 we worked on 2,726 cases, a 35% increase over our 2015 casework, reflecting a rise in our Attorney of the Day Program, Pro Bono Detainee Project and our Rural Inclusion Initiative. We are proud of our caseload numbers, but are not driven by them. We are more concerned that critical needs are addressed as our programming increases. Last

year JFON-NE launched a three-year partnership with Heartland Workers Center to serve immigrants affected by unfair labor and employment practices, funded by the Weitz Family Foundation. Additionally, we launched the Senior Immigrant Project with the Intercultural Senior Center, funded by the Immanuel Vision Foundation. Finally, the Iowa West Foundation selected JFON-NE to receive multi-year funding that ensures the availability of immigration legal services in southwest Iowa.



IMPACT LITIGATION CONTRACT SIGNED

National Justice For Our Neighbors (NJFON), our national affiliate, contracted with JFON-NE to spearhead impact litigation on behalf of the nationwide JFON network. Impact litigation aims to call attention to and, when possible, correct aspects of our broken immigration system. The legal work involves direct representation and weighing in on other significant cases through the submission of amicus curiae (“friend of the court”) briefs where there is the possibility of making positive changes in immigration law or policy. In 2016, our cases through this partnership have involved expanding eligibility for asylum protection for family-based social groups, calling for a much-needed duress exemption for refugees facing the persecutor bar, combating family detention practices, and advocating for compassionate immigration enforcement measures.

2016 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

JFON-NE’s domestic violence legal staff made presentations to more than 650 participants at the Nebraska Human Trafficking Task Force training series in Hastings, Scottsbluff, North Platte, Omaha, Norfolk and Lincoln, Nebraska. More than 650 social service providers and law enforcement officials attended, including those authorized to sign U-Visa Certifications in the state of Nebraska. The training series played a vital part of our response to the problem of some Local Law Enforcement Agencies routinely declining to sign U-Visa Certifications for victims who should be able to benefit from a U-Visa. Support from the Lozier Foundation, the Women’s Fund of Omaha, and the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) made it possible for us to continue to serve immigrant victims of violence.



RURAL INCLUSION

As part of the Rural Community Inclusion Project, a Sherwood Foundation-funded collaboration, JFON-NE’s Rural Capacity Building team, with Nebraska Appleseed, Heartland Workers Center, Center for Rural Affairs, and Centro Hispano of Columbus, promotes inclusion in Nebraska’s rural communities. JFON-NE opened an office in Lexington, and has a presence in Crete, Grand Island and South Sioux City. Our rural staff provided legal services to hundreds of Nebraskans and gave presentations that reached thousands of rural community members throughout Nebraska.

NEW LABOR LAW PARTNERSHIP

Through the generosity of the Weitz Family Foundation, JFON-NE launched the Immigrant Workers Legal Partnership, our three-year collaboration with Heartland Workers Center (HWC) to assist immigrant victims of labor law violations. JFON-NE’s full-time Immigrant Worker Attorney holistically supports the greater Omaha community by providing consultations, representation, workers’ rights training, referrals to free wellness services, victim advocacy guides, legislative policy strategy, and online labor law resources—in addition to immigration legal services. Through this collaboration, HWC has the unique option to access this attorney’s time and skills in collaboration.



CHILD AND FAMILY

Our Child and Family team is working to ensure that vulnerable immigrant children in Nebraska have access to the immigration legal benefits for which they are eligible. Such benefits ensure life-long security by leading to lawful permanent residence status.

The Path to Citizenship Takes Many Years

Jasmine's story illustrates the lengthy timeline to obtain U.S. citizenship

Jasmine was just 13 years old and living with her grandmother in the West African country of Cameroon when her parents in the U.S. finally saved enough money to bring her to Omaha. They wanted their daughter to live in safety and have more educational and economic opportunities than she had in Africa, where she was living in desperate poverty.

SHE FELL IN LOVE WITH A VIOLENT TEEN

Two months after her arrival, Jasmine met a 17-year-old man named Kevin. Three months later, Jasmine moved in with his family and was pregnant with their first child. Kevin, initially loving and protective of Jasmine, became controlling and jealous.

By the time they moved into their own place, Jasmine had given birth to their second child. Kevin began to slap and kick her, but she told no one. The abuse became more intense over time. Jasmine tried to leave him, but the abuse continued to intensify. The final incident occurred when Kevin located her through social media, kidnapped her in his car, and tried to rape her. She jumped out of the car and ran into the street where she flagged down help to call the police.

When the police went to his house, Kevin denied everything. But the judge awarded Jasmine full custody of their children and Kevin was charged with domestic assault and false imprisonment.

THE LAW WAS ON HER SIDE

We came into contact with Jasmine in 2016 at Completely Kids, one of our host sites for immigration legal consultations. Upon our request, the Omaha Police Department certified that she was indeed a victim of domestic violence and false imprisonment and had cooperated with law enforcement in the investigation and prosecution of the criminal activity. We documented Jasmine's victimization, her helpfulness to law enforcement, and the physical and psychological impact of Kevin's abuse in an application for a U-Visa.

15 YEARS TO CITIZENSHIP

Today, Jasmine waits for her future to stabilize. Because only 10,000 U-Visas are granted annually and there are nearly 80,000 applications pending, it will be a long wait. While her application is pending, she has a degree of protection from deportation. But

she does not have employment authorization yet, so she struggles to support herself and her children. Within two or three years Jasmine will likely obtain a work permit (2019). She can then apply for a social security card and a driver's license. Four to five years after obtaining the work permit, her U-Visa will finally be adjudicated (2024). After three years with a U-Visa, she will be eligible to apply for residency (green card) (2027). Finally, in 2032, Jasmine will have the opportunity to apply for U.S. Citizenship after meeting all requirements including an interview, exams and more fees.

The U-Visa represents life-changing autonomy, offering the ability to leave the abuse, the lawful right to work, and an opportunity at upward social mobility.



Impact Litigation Can Change Immigration Law

Certain cases reveal errors in our broken immigration system

When Remberto's case first came to the attention of JFON-NE, he was detained and had just been denied relief in a published decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. See *Aguinada-Lopez v. Lynch*, 814 F.3d 924 (8th Cir. February 23, 2016) ("Aguinada-Lopez I"). Remberto was facing the prospect of imminent deportation to El Salvador where his life was in grave danger, so JFON-NE teamed up with the Center for New Americans at the University of Minnesota Law School and the law firm of Wichmer & Groneck in St. Louis to file an emergency stay of removal and a petition for rehearing.

EIGHTH CIRCUIT REAFFIRMS ELIGIBILITY FOR ASYLUM FOR FAMILY GROUPS

In addition to the client's safety, the chief concern in Remberto's case related to the Court's categorical rejection of protection for individuals facing gang violence because of familial associations. The Court's decision was the latest in a series to apparently hold that family-based social groups could not qualify one for protection under U.S. asylum law. Seeing

this as an error, Remberto's legal team sought a rehearing and successfully obtained a stay to prevent the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) from removing him while his petition for asylum was pending. The Eighth Circuit eventually agreed with part of Remberto's argument by vacating the first decision and issuing a new published decision that implicitly reaffirmed that persecution on account of family ties is sufficient to qualify one for asylum. See *Aguinada-Lopez v. Lynch*, 825 F.3d 407 (8th Cir. June 7, 2016) ("Aguinada-Lopez II"). However, the Court still denied him relief on other grounds. Additionally, while Remberto's petition was pending, DHS unlawfully deported him back to El Salvador in violation of the Court's order.

DHS ORDERED TO BRING CLIENT BACK TO THE U.S.

In response, Remberto's legal team filed an emergency motion to compel DHS to return him to the U. S., which the Court granted. After several harrowing weeks in hiding within El Salvador, Remberto's was returned on a privately-chartered

plane. His lawful entry to the U.S. not only granted him immediate protection, but it also opened the door for him to seek adjustment of status through his U.S. citizen spouse. Not long after his return, Remberto's legal team secured his release from detention and reopened his removal proceedings. He is now reunited with his wife and pursuing his residency application, safe from the gang violence that threatened his life in El Salvador.

Of the countries of the world with the highest per capita murder rates, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala rank among the top five.

– Global Study on Homicide 2013, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

DACA Protects Young, Productive Adults and Families

Constanza was nearly returned to a country she no longer knew

When Constanza was just 10 years old, extreme poverty and violence drove her family from their home in Mexico. They left everything familiar to immigrate to the U.S.

THE DACA PROGRAM FUELED HER DRIVE TO SUCCEED

The family ended up in Council Bluffs, Iowa where both parents found low-paying jobs, but a safe, decent life. When Constanza was 18 years old, she applied for a 2-year temporary work permit through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Constanza knew the DACA program was an important opportunity for her future. She became an eager student who wanted to make her parents proud. She received a scholarship to attend a college in Omaha and married her high school sweetheart. Their daughter was born the following year. There was one more challenge that threatened their family's future—Constanza's lack of status to allow her to remain in the U.S. indefinitely.

Before graduation, the young couple came to JFON-NE because they heard Constanza's husband, a U.S. citizen, could help her obtain lawful status. Unfortunately, they soon found that the process for Constanza would not be simple. Even though she was only a child at the time of her entry, because she crossed the border without permission, she didn't qualify to apply for residency within the U.S. To make matters worse, because Constanza was required to leave the country, she also faced a penalty that would prevent her from returning to the U.S. for ten years unless granted a waiver. Constanza was terrified by the possibility of being separated from her entire family and alone for 10 years in a country she barely remembered.

EDUCATION PROVIDED THE KEY TO RESIDENCY

Fortunately, Constanza qualified for advanced parole, which allowed her to travel outside the U.S. for educational purposes. JFON-NE helped her apply for a travel permit—called advanced parole—for a college

class abroad. She was thrilled about the class, which helped her complete a credit requirement for her degree.

After the class ended, Constanza's legal return to the U.S. on the travel permit also cleared the way for her to apply for residency without having to return to the U.S. Embassy in Mexico or seek a waiver of the ten-year penalty. After about six months, Constanza was approved for lawful permanent residency. Now this young woman has a stable immigration status that allows her to live and work in the United States indefinitely—with her family.



It is estimated that the loss of employees who are able to work under DACA would cost Nebraska almost \$146,000,000 per year.

— Center for American Progress news release, Jan. 2017

YOUR GIFT HELPS VULNERABLE IMMIGRANTS

Immigrants with low incomes come to JFON-NE because they have no other options for legal representation. Your support makes it possible for JFON-NE to provide the immigration legal services they so desperately need.

FOUNDATIONS & GRANTS

Anonymous
 Anonymous
 Community Services Fund of Nebraska
 Great Plains Conference/United Methodist Church
 Holland Foundation
 IA/NE Chapter American Immigration Lawyers Association
 Iowa West Foundation
 Legal Aid of Nebraska
 Lozier Foundation
 Mammel Foundation
 National Justice For Our Neighbors - (NJFON)
 Nebraska Commission on Public Advocacy (NCOPA)
 Omaha Community Foundation
 Peter Kiewit Foundation
 William & Ruth Scott Family Foundation
 The Sherwood Foundation
 Weitz Family Foundation
 Women's Fund of Omaha

GUARDIANS – \$15,000+

Anonymous
 Warren Distribution/Polina & Bob Schlott
 Katie Weitz, Ph.D

CHAMPIONS – \$10,000 – \$14,999

Anonymous
 Omaha Steaks - Betiana & Todd Simon
 Annette & Paul Smith

BENEFACTORS – \$5,000 – \$9,999

Anonymous

ADVOCATES – \$3,000 – \$4,999

Anonymous
 E Creative - Esther Mejia
 Susan & Mike Lebens
 Streck, Inc.

SUPPORTERS – \$1,500 – \$2,999

Laura & Michael Alley
 Cindy & Mogens Bay
 Esther & Daniel Brabec
 Arike & Dele Davies
 First National Bank
 Mary Lee & Ed Fitzsimmons
 Fraser Stryker PC, LLO
 Roberta Wilhelm & Vic Gutman
 Shannon & Emiliano Lerda
 Dianne Lozier
 Athena Ramos & Jose Sanchez
 Millard Lumber, Inc./Joel Russell
 Mary Anne & Pete Tulipana
 Veridian Credit Union

ALLIES – \$500 – \$1,499

AccT-Style Tax Service
 Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture, Inc.
 Association of Retired Ministers & Spouses
 Baird Holm, LLP
 Eleanor & Larry Biederman
 Broadmoor Apartment Communities
 Marla Goldberg Cohen & Robert Cohen
 Covenant Community
 Lucia Perez Coutino
 Brandon Dickerson
 Ryan Ellis
 Jennie & Shane Ellison
 Jill & Jerry Feilmeier
 Maria Fernandez
 First United Methodist Church
 Meredith Fuller & James Luyten
 Jim Glazer
 Jason Fitch and Associates
 Donna & Matthew Johnson
 Likes Meyerson Hatch LLC
 Rachel Mabrey
 Gretchen & John McGill
 Sally McGill & Andrew Becerra
 The Nebraska United Methodist Foundation
 Carolina & Daniel Padilla
 Doris Boruff Peterson

Christian Perversi
 PJ Morgan Real Estate
 Beverly Reicks & Scout Pettersen
 Rockbrook United Methodist Church
 Barb & Ron Schaefer
 Barbara Schlott
 Toni Demetria Smith
 Palma Strand & David Sylvester
 Yen Thach
 Mary Umberger
 Rachel & Tak Yamamoto
 Yamamoto & Kitchens PC, LLO

FRIENDS – \$250 – \$499

Ann Atkinson & Daniel Isaman
 Helen & Robert Bartee
 Dawn & Ness Bashara
 Ellie Batt
 Leslie & Jim Cavanaugh
 Catherine & Terry Ferguson
 Charles Gill
 Anne Herman & Jeremy Vican
 Joanie & Richard Jacobson
 Diane & Larry Jensen
 Jennifer & Chris Jerram
 National Everything Wholesale
 Norfolk First United Methodist Women
 Penny & Steven Parker
 Denise & Hobson Powell
 Berdeen & Ronald Roemmich
 Kelly & Abe Schlott
 Christine Smith
 Mieko Young

We appreciate our donors! Please help us correct omissions or misspellings. A complete list of donors is on our website at jfon-ne.org.

Email to dawn@jfon-ne.org or call 402-898-1349.

FOOD TRUCK WORLD TOUR



The October 6 Food Truck World Tour was an Outstanding Success!

We raised \$130,000 from our friends and sponsors to help us welcome vulnerable immigrants to our community.

We offer heartfelt thanks to our event chairs and to you, our closest supporters, for your confidence in our important work!

HONORARY CHAIRS

Polina and Bob Schlott

HOST COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Betiana and Todd Simon

WORLD TRAVELER SPONSORS



KATIE WEITZ, Ph.D.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT Elly Biederman



When we retired in Plattsmouth, I had the opportunity to work with a retired teacher who taught GED and English to students in the Cass County Corrections jail. Many of these students were from Mexico, serving time before being deported. Some of them told stories about lawyers who showed them no care. I had heard about JFON-NE and the caring work they do serving folks who have very special difficulties with the U.S. immigration system. I took the time to meet them and I am impressed by the staff in Omaha. I want everyone to know that there are lawyers who take time to care. I tell people about JFON-NE often and send an amount to support their work each month.

Love and Prayers,
 Elly Biederman

VOLUNTEERS ARE OUR HEROS – ALL 127 OF THEM!

Volunteers serve a critical role at JFON-NE. Without their compassionate assistance, we would not be able to serve the rapidly increasing number of immigrants who seek our help. THANK YOU to all our welcoming volunteers!

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Bob Campos
Jim Cavanaugh
Roger Garcia
Diane Greenfield
John Knape
Lowen Kruse
David Lanphier
Doris Boruff Peterson
Athena Ramos
John Ringwalt
Jenny Stilwell
Jim Van Arsdall

CRETE LEGAL SERVICES

Dulce Castañeda
Josie Filipi
Pastor Jeff Hagaman
Ryan Hinz
Grace Kraus
Joel Lemus
Jared List
Pam Scholz

GRAND ISLAND CLINIC

Debbra Brummund, Coordinator
Christy Horky, Coordinator
Connie Anderson
David Clark
Sherry Cook
Andrew Cunningham
Sandy Engel
Maria Gamboa
Jeanne Graves
Cecilia Hormachea
Priscilla Hormachea
Ann Sukraw-Lutz
Raquel Maar
Ann Marsh
Joyce McKinny
Glen Murray
Yolanda Nuncio
Vanessa Ocon
Andrea Paret
Karen Reese
Carolyn Roper
Del Roper
Sandy Sypherd
Maria Trejo Guerrero

Glenda Vetter
Donna Winter

LEXINGTON CLINIC

Gladys Godinez, Coordinador
Manuela Alvidrez
Maria Alvisar
Ana Castañeda
Kellie Draper
Chawnta Durham
Pastor Anne Gahn
Carlos Godinez
Maria Fernanda Juy
Sue Keller
Brenda Landa
Luciano Ramirez
Ruth E. Maldonado
Enequina Manriquez
Selina Martinez
Jose Antonio Mascareño
Ruby Mendez-Lopez
Vanessa Ortiz
Andrea Paret
Gustavo Ramirez
Valeria Rodriguez
Gloria Sarmiento
Lynette White

KEARNEY (UNK)

Flor Acosta Marquez
Maria Amado
Andrea Gusman
Maria Gutierrez
Anna E. Madrigal
Kellie Matthews
Juan Carlos Guzman

OMAHA OFFICE

Josh Cohen
Jenessa Cruz Alfaro
Leslie A. Espino
Gabiella Hezel
Peter Johnson
Mustafa Kraim
Rachel M. Lee
Tina Nguyen
Emily O'Donnell
Andrea Paret
Maddison Pottebaum

Christine Smith
Ellen Struve
Tristan Thomas
Elisabeth Thoreson-Green
Jessica Vazquez
Julianna Zieno

SOUTH SIOUX CITY LEGAL SERVICES

Francys Chavez
Laura Maldonado
Jessica Maldonado
Karina Pedroza
Balbina Valadez
Ismael Valadez
Vanessa Valadez

INTERPRETERS & TRANSLATORS

Elizabeth Ajongo (Arabic)
Myhanh Che (Vietnamese)
Marsha Conroy (French)
Sunkist Judson (Burmese)
Khater F. Khater (Arabic)
Juan Lopez-Mateo (Q'anjob'al)
Juana Marcos (Q'anjob'al)
Luis Marcos (Q'anjob'al)

PRO-BONO VOLUNTEER ATTORNEYS

Jamie Arrango
Joshua Barber
Brian Blackford
Gunda Brost
Julia Cryne
Kristin Fearnow
Jason Finch
Charissa Flege
George Jones
Angela Loder
Joseph Lopez Wilson
Diana McFarland
Jeff Norris
Sonia Parras-Konrad
Amy Peck
Laz Pittman
Chris Roth
Josh Slepser
Jason Weiers
Leanne Wells Kendall
Rachel Yamamoto

2016 FINANCIALS

REVENUE

Fundraising.....	\$139,635
Grants	1,081,091
Individual Donations	26,802
Major Gifts.....	50,000
Client Donations.....	1,010
Great Plains Conference	108,060
National JFON.....	35,616
Fee for Service	2,500
TOTAL	\$1,444,714

EXPENSES

Management	\$382,207
Fundraising.....	159,201
Programs:	
Child & Family Welfare	289,376
Domestic Violence	133,463
Rural.....	279,758
Iowa	112,969
Employment	60,552
TOTAL	\$1,417,526

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS..... \$27,188

NET ASSETS

Beginning of Year..... **\$586,561**

NET ASSETS

End of Year



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT Gladys Godinez



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

I'm happy to be a volunteer at the Lexington Clinic alongside Attorney Rosangela Godinez. We live in rural Nebraska, and it is rare to find a reputable immigration attorney in this area. This volunteer opportunity has allowed me to learn more about the immigration processes, which has compelled me to start training to become a DOJ Accredited Representative. I have the opportunity to meet wonderful volunteers that want to welcome immigrants into our communities and believe in the JFON-NE mission. Our volunteer network is diverse and enthusiastic in the work that we do. I would say the most heartwarming part is when new volunteers come to our events and are willing to give their time and compassion to our neighbors.

Gladys Godinez

We want to acknowledge all of our volunteers. Please let us know if we misspelled or missed your name. Email to dawn@jfon-ne.org or call 402-898-1349.