

MEDIA RELEASE

CONTACT: Laura Paulsen
lpaulsen@vgagroup.com
(402) 345-5401, ext. 109



**JUSTICE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS-NEBRASKA IS NOW IMMIGRANT LEGAL CENTER
*Organization Announces New Name, Unveils New Logo***

(OMAHA, Neb.) Jan. 12, 2018 – Effective today, the nonprofit immigration law firm Justice for Our Neighbors-Nebraska will be known as Immigrant Legal Center (ILC). In conjunction with the announcement of its new name, the organization unveiled a new logo and also launched a new website at www.immigrantlc.org

The metro Omaha-based 501(c)(3) organization remains affiliated with the Justice For Our Neighbors Network, which offers legal clinics for immigration legal services throughout the country. ILC also continues its association with the Great Plains Conference of the United Methodist Church, which provides resources and funding. The mission of ILC is to “welcome immigrants into our communities by providing high-quality legal services, education and advocacy.”

“The new name, ‘Immigrant Legal Center,’ is more descriptive of the services we provide,” said Executive Director Emiliano Lerda, J.D., LL.M. “This change will make it easier for clients to initially find us, which may help them access the critical services they need even sooner. Clients can count on continuing to receive the same level of service and responsiveness from our attorneys, legal representatives, administration, and staff.”

This name change will also provide Immigrant Legal Center with a broader platform to affect positive change through new and ongoing collaborative partnerships, advocacy, and impact litigation not only within the state of Nebraska, and Southwest Iowa, but nationwide.

In addition to the new brand, ILC has also announced the launch of the public phase of a capital campaign to renovate its new office building, to make the space more functional and accessible. In the fall of 2017, ILC moved its offices from 2414 E Street to an existing building at 4223 Center Street. ILC currently occupies a temporary space on the third floor as the organization seeks to raise the additional \$800,000 still needed to meet the campaign goal of \$3.1 million. Community members interested in supporting ILC’s capital campaign can find more information at www.immigrantlc.org.

“Every donated dollar goes to improving the facility so ILC can execute their mission,” John Taylor of Project Advocates said. Project Advocates worked with ILC to assess operational needs and create a strategic plan for construction. The company will continue to provide project management services for the renovation. “It was a two-year process before we landed on this solution, which was clearly the best solution for now and the future,” Taylor added.

“Two floors of the building will eventually be available for lease,” Lerda said, “which will provide a source of revenue that will help ensure long-term sustainability for ILC. It’s just one of the many advantages the relocation has made possible.

“Our new office is more centrally located, which will allow us to expand our reach to better meet the needs of clients throughout Omaha,” Lerda said. “The facility will provide us with adequate space for the significant growth we’ve experienced as an organization with respect to both the number of clients we serve and the ensuing staffing needs. The remodel will also accommodate our anticipated growth for the foreseeable future.”

About Immigrant Legal Center

Immigrant Legal Center (formerly Justice For Our Neighbors-Nebraska/JFON-NE), is a nonprofit immigration legal services agency that provides free, professional legal consultation, clinics and court representation to immigrants who have incomes at or below 150% of the federal poverty level. The Omaha-based Immigrant Legal Center (ILC)—founded as JFON-NE in 1999—remains an affiliate of the Justice For Our Neighbors Network of 16 Sites offering more than 40 legal clinics for immigration services across the country.

The new name and logo for ILC does not reflect a change in culture, values, or mission. ILC continues to operate with volunteer support from the public as well as funding from individuals, local foundations and the Great Plains Conference of the United Methodist Church. For more information on Immigrant Legal Center, visit www.immigrantlc.org.