

2021 Results

15 years ago, we had an idea: What could we achieve if human rights advocates worked together, across borders, to ensure that migrants who traveled between Central America, Mexico, and the United States were never cut off from access to justice?

To make that vision a reality, we formed the Justice in Motion Defender Network, a unique coalition of trusted local human rights lawyers and organizations in key areas of Mexico and Central America. By partnering advocates in the U.S. with their counterparts in migrants' countries of origin, we can ensure portable justice: the right and ability to access justice across borders.

Throughout the past year, we were the critical piece:

- ▶ Helping to reunify families torn apart by the Trump Administration's Family Separation policy
- ▶ Gathering key evidence to support asylum claims in an increasingly restrictive system
- ▶ Ensuring justice in the U.S. for migrant workers who suffered human trafficking, wage theft, and other abuses
- ▶ Empowering advocates in the U.S., Mexico, and Central America through trainings, thought leadership, and expert advice on cross-border challenges

The Justice in Motion Defender Network is made up of **47** human rights lawyers and organizations in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Mexico



Justice in Motion's work impacted over 2,131 individual migrants and families in the past year.

Photo Background: Adobe Stock
Illustrations: Amanda Flores

Defender Network



EL SALVADOR

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Grupo de Monitoreo Independiente de El Salvador (GMIES)
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Barra de Abogadas

Bufete Nuñez Velasquez

NICARAGUA

Federación de Trabajadores/as del departamento de Chinandega (FETDECH-CST)
NicasMigrante

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Family Separation Crisis Response

Family Reunification is Under Way! This time last year, there were very few options for families who had been torn apart by the Trump administration's Family Separation policies, but President Biden's commitment to reunify families changed that reality. Justice in Motion is serving a key role helping deported parents and families access every new opportunity for reunification, justice, and healing.

- ▶ Finding "Unreachable" parents
- ▶ Providing input on the design and implementation of the U.S. government's family reunification efforts
- ▶ Delivering trusted local support to families who have little reason to trust the U.S. government after suffering such deep harm



We worked on 379 searches in 5 countries to locate and reach out to parents who would have otherwise been unreachable.



We provided continued support for 68 deported families seeking justice and restitution from the U.S. government.



We identified 101 deported families who were in danger or had other immediate concerns, and referred them to allied organizations for additional support.



GUATEMALA

Lic. Marco Vinicio López Maldonado
Bufete Jurídico R&L
Lic. Hector Waldemar Barrera Palma
Oficinas Chay Medrano
Oficina de Derechos Humanos del Arzobispado de Guatemala (ODHAG)
Oficina Jurídica Lic. Aroldo Palacios
Lic. Miriam Ramírez

Last Spring, President Biden's Task Force for the Reunification of Families began inviting families to apply to return to the U.S. to reunite with their children in safety and access services to begin healing from the traumas they suffered. The U.S. government turned to Justice in Motion and the other non-profits representing the families to respond quickly while the government planned a scaled up response. **We jumped into immediate action, working together to help dozens of parents return to the U.S. at the soonest possible moment.** Defenders accompanied parents to secure passports and COVID tests and provided critical local legal services related to family law and document correction.

Expanding Local Capacity

Over the past year, Justice in Motion provided 15 virtual training events for Defenders to deepen their knowledge of U.S. law and policies and empower their cross-border work.

Defenders in the News

Justice in Motion Defender Eriberto Pop was on the front page of the Washington Post showing how Defenders find and support parents harmed by "Family Separation."

"A motorcycle-riding lawyer searches Guatemala's remotest corners to reunite families separated by the U.S."
Washington Post July 26, 2021

G & C Consultores

Pastoral Social de la Diócesis de San Marcos

Oficina Jurídica de Rebeca Sanchez y Kenny Gonzalez

Oficina Jurídica Notarial Licdo. Het Waldemar Barrera Trinidad

Asociación de Abogados y Notarios Mayas de Guatemala (AANMG)

Centro de Estudios y Apoyo al Desarrollo Local (CEADEL)

Immigration Protection

- Our legal action team and Defender Network supported 186 protection cases, helping individuals find safety through asylum and other forms of immigration protection
- We provided vital cross border support in 71 Child Detention cases to help expedite the safe release of children from US immigration custody and safely reunite them with their families
- We presented at Defend Asylum Together! Essentials of Immigration Law for Effective Pro Bono Representation—hosted by the American Bar Association. Over 400 lawyers in attendance from across the country learned how cross-border collaboration can improve case outcomes

Migrant Worker Exploitation

- We provided cross-border support to help migrant workers defend their legal rights against human trafficking, wage theft, and abuse
- We maintained and updated Visa Pages: Temporary Foreign Worker Visas, the leading resource for advocates and policymakers about U.S. migrant labor programs
- We called for caution when the Biden administration increased the number of temporary foreign worker visas designated for Northern Central America. Rapid expansion without robust reforms is likely to lead to more recruitment fraud, abuse, and human trafficking

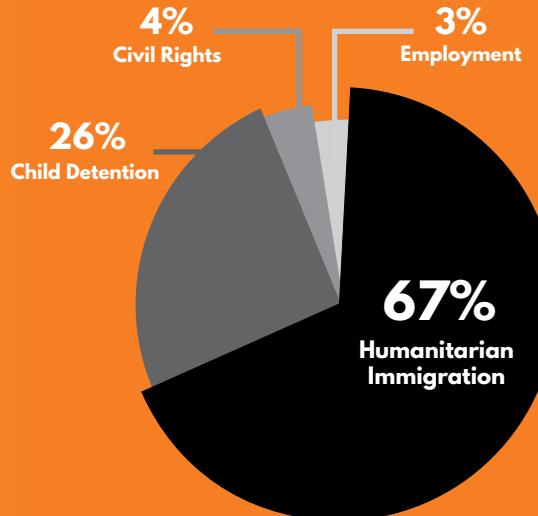


MEXICO

Scalabrinianas Misión con Migrantes y Refugiados - SMR/ Padre José Marchetti A.C.
Asociación de Auxiliares Voluntarios para Servicios Sociales, AC
Comunitaria por los Derechos Humanos "Tzobibáltik" A.C.
Frente Indígena de Organizaciones Binacionales (FIOB)
Pastoral de Migrantes - Chinameca, Veracruz
Pastoral de Migrantes - Hidalgo
Respuesta Alternativa A.C.
Servicios Educativos del Bajío A.C.
Instituto para las Mujeres en la Migración, AC (IMUMI)

U.S. Legal Actions 2021

Justice in Motion supported 270 cases*



*Not including our cross-border collaborations related to the Family Separation Crisis Response

Defenders Sharing Their Expertise

We launched an online library with materials utilizing the expansive knowledge of the Defender Network on country of origin issues including family law, repatriation, obtaining records in Central America, and criminalization of migrants. We worked with Defenders to create 15 pre-recorded webinars, three expert declarations, and the issue alert *Informal Adoptions in Central America and their Implications for U.S. Immigration Cases**

*Created in collaboration with the Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights

Red de Mujeres y Hombres por una Opinión Pública con Perspectiva de Género en Campeche, A.C. (REDMYH A.C.)
Centro de Orientación del Migrante de Oaxaca (COMI)
Centro Juvenil Generando Dignidad A.C. (CJGD)
Comisión de Derechos Humanos y Laborales del Valle de Tehuacán A.C. (CDHLVT A.C.)
Laboratorio de Innovación para la Paz
Arredondo & Amaro Abogados
Centro de Acompañamiento a Migrantes A.C. (CAMINOS)
Pastoral de Movilidad Humana - Diócesis de Zamora
Red de Mujeres del Bajío A.C.

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WE Trust

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Figures are based upon preliminary end-of-year forecasts for Fiscal Year 2021.

