

**ACLU**

Arizona  
Impact Together  
Rights for All



**ABORTION IS  
HEALTHCARE**



**I READ  
BANNED  
BOOKS**



# 2023-24 COLLECTIVE IMPACT



The ACLU of Arizona advances equity and dismantles systemic injustice by taking legal action, influencing policy, and mobilizing our communities to protect the civil rights, liberties, and dignity of all Arizonans. We envision an Arizona where all people prosper, thrive, and live in liberation with dignity and freedom.

## KEY MOMENTS

The ACLU is the premier defender of the Bill of Rights and works on multiple civil liberties and civil rights issues, using an integrated advocacy approach that includes litigation, communications, grassroots activism, and policy advocacy. Alongside community and philanthropic partners, our integrated advocacy approach fuses the ACLU's resources and capacities to maximize our impact across issue areas.

## LIBERTY

We successfully advocated for the legislative repeal of a near-total abortion ban that would have prohibited abortions in nearly all circumstances. We litigated to protect abortion access for all Arizonans. In addition to our challenge to the state's fetal personhood law and other abortion restrictions, the ACLU of Arizona sued to stop the near-total ban from ever taking effect. We also joined the Arizona for Abortion Access campaign, working with partners on a citizen-led ballot initiative that enshrines the right to abortion in the state constitution.

## FREEDOM

We led the introduction of HB 2625, our coalition-backed statewide nondiscrimination bill. While the bill did not pass this year, we created a robust coalition of support, held a successful press conference and created messaging guidance for community partners and elected officials. Our coalition is ready to advance this work in the next legislative session.

## EQUITY

Earlier this year, the ACLU of Arizona published "From Hope to Heartbreak: The Disturbing Reality of Border Patrol's Confiscation of Migrants' Belongings," a report documenting the inhumane practice of border officials confiscating migrants' essential belongings. We have since secured groundbreaking changes to inhumane and punitive policies at the southern border to protect the rights and dignity of asylum seekers and immigrants. The ACLU of Arizona also testified against and secured the Governor's veto on harmful bills that sought to punish migrants and people who provide humanitarian assistance.

## DEMOCRACY

The ACLU of Arizona successfully fought back against anti-democracy legislation in a critical election year. We are now working with local and national partners to identify and prepare for threats to our elections. We were excited to welcome our very first Voting Rights Attorney, and we are ready to face challenges to our democracy and make sure every Arizona voter is able to cast their ballot through Integrated Advocacy.

## LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

As we reflect on the 2023-2024 fiscal year, I am filled with immense gratitude and pride. Pride in our resilient affiliate staff and volunteers fighting to protect our civil rights and liberties without ceasing. Gratitude for the opportunity to do this work alongside a strong community of stakeholders and partners – including you – who not only believe in a more perfect union, but also take action to achieve it.

Together, we continued the fight for border justice. We persist in pressuring the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office to comply with court orders to stop racially profiling and unlawfully detaining Latine people in the *Melendres* case. We also pressed on with the fight to end inhumane confiscation of migrants' belongings at the border alongside our national and state affiliate counterparts.

Together, we pushed back on a Civil War-era abortion ban and won. We leveraged our community partnerships and provided leadership on the executive board for Arizona for Abortion Access Act – a massively successful citizen-led ballot initiative that could enshrine the right to abortion in our state constitution. We helped collect the most petition signatures in Arizona history, and voters now have the power to protect our rights and keep Arizonans in charge of private medical decisions about pregnancy and abortion.

I've said "we" throughout this letter. Please know that's intentional. The ACLU of Arizona team includes full time staff attorneys, policy strategists, communications experts, organizers, fundraisers, and the indispensable partners who volunteer and contribute to protect the civil rights and liberties of all Arizonans.

However you give – whether it's your time, talent, or treasure – you are a deeply appreciated member of this team. Thank you for believing in our mission to create an equitable and just state for all Arizonans. Thank you for your continued partnership and for giving to our ACLU.



In liberty,

Alejandro Pérez  
President, Board of Directors

## 2024-25 ACLU OF ARIZONA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

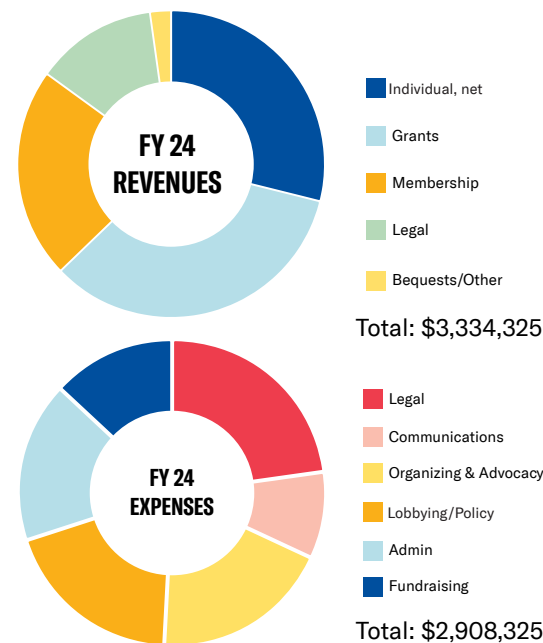
Alejandro Pérez, **President**  
Cassie Ramirez-Breneman, **Vice President**  
Michelle Gahee, **Secretary**  
Mark Willits, **Treasurer**  
Jennifer Delgado, **General Counsel**

Geoffrey Nail, **Equity Officer**  
Fran Dickman, **National Board Rep.**  
Thomas W. Chiang  
Alexis Eisa  
Hubert Hirwa

Abby Jensen  
Marietta Martin  
Naydia Pershard  
Paul Underwood  
Carly Weil

## IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

- 18 active legal cases maintained challenging government violations
- 762 complaints processed from community members seeking assistance
- 382 bills tracked
- 120 meetings with lawmakers
- 95% bills we opposed were defeated
- 175 volunteers recruited
- 16,925 members
- 3,912 actions taken
- ≈236,641 supporters



This expenditure figure includes unrealized gains for FY24. All figures are from unaudited, internal financial records.

## TALK TO US

(602) 650-1854 | acluaz.org | development@acluaz.org

American Civil Liberties Union of Arizona  
P.O. Box 17148  
Phoenix, AZ 85011

GIVE ONLINE



The cover art is by Rhianna Francis, Illustrator and Graphic Designer based in Phoenix, Arizona. Description: a surreal, dreamscape featuring whimsical objects that convey inclusion, fundamental rights, sustainability, education and creativity, based in an Arizona desert.