INLAND COUNTIES LEGAL SERVICES

LGBTQ+ SERVICES PROGRAM 2025 IMPACT REPORT

ICLS's LGBTQIA+ Services Program reflects the organization's deep commitment to equity, dignity, and access to justice for ALL litigants across Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. **In partnership with ICLS's eight practice groups, the program provides compassionate, culturally responsive legal services that empower clients to navigate critical life transitions and protect their individual rights.** From assisting with name and gender marker changes and updating state/federal identity documents, to helping clients secure healthcare, public benefits, and advance healthcare directives, the program ensures that LGBTQIA+ community members live authentically and safely.

Experts believe the LGBTQ+ population in California has increased in recent years given the State's LGBTQ-friendly legal protections. On the ground, ICLS advocates have been made aware of a migration of LGBTQ adults fleeing anti-LGBTQ animus and violence in their home states. The Williams Institute continues to report that **our region is home to roughly 133,000 LGBTQ+ adults, i.e., about 4.1% of our region's total population. Of these, 27,000 identify as TGI, including 14,166 transgender individuals in Riverside County and 12,769 in San Bernardino County** (as reported in 2017 Inland Empire Transgender Health and Wellness Profile by the Riverside University Health System - Department of Public Health).

Our **LGBTQIA+ Services Program** is designed by and for members of the community, centering the lived experiences of our clients.

OUR PROGRESS

June 2024
Partnered with ICLS's Immigration Team and Orrick for an Immigration Relief Screening Clinic for LGBTQIA+ migrants

Dec. 2024
Program onboards its 80th client

July - November 2025
Collaborated with Legal Services NYC and APBCo on a rapid response passport application network to assist transgender applicants with applying for gender-congruent U.S. Passports

July 2024
Expanded services to offer ID Amendment Clinic in partnership with Jones Day

February 2025
Spearheaded the founding and launch of the Pride Bar Association of the Inland Empire (PBAIE)

November 2025
Received TruEvolution's Community Legacy Award for its commitment to justice and protecting the rights of underserved communities, in particular LGBTQ+ residents in the IE

October 2024
Partnered with ICLS's Small Business Clinic for an Entity Selection Clinic for LGBTQIA+ small business owners

May - July 2025
Hosted a Rural Summer Legal Corps Equal Justice Works Fellow to help establish the Civil Harassment Restraining Order Clinic designed to safeguard the wellbeing of LGBTQ survivors of non-intimate partner violence

2025 IN REVIEW

Since launching the LGBTQIA+ Services Program, ICLS has screened 200+ LGBTQIA+ individuals for service eligibility. Of those, we have onboarded 160+ for direct representation in California's statutory name and gender marker change court process and have successfully obtained 129 name and gender marker change petitions since program inception. Currently, we have several Petitioners awaiting either a final decision or volunteer placement.

More specifically, we took on 58 new name and gender marker change clients for extended services in 2025, and 25 new name and gender marker change clients since January 2026.

MILESTONES

26
clients assisted with securing gender-congruent U.S. passports

25
name and gender marker change petitions in 2026

200+
individuals screened for eligibility

160+
clients onboarded for direct representation

OUR SERVICES

GENDER MARKER & NAME CHANGE (GMNC) CLINIC	A GMNC order is the legal recognition of a change of name and gender marker and is one of many affirming steps that gender diverse folx take to live authentic lives. Our GMNC clinic helps folx obtain these orders and update core identity documents.
ADVANCE HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVE (AHCD) CLINIC	An AHCD is a legal document ensuring that a person's gender identity and health care wishes will be respected, even if they are unable to make decisions for themselves. Our AHCD clinic prepares these documents for our LGBTQ+ community.
COMMUNITY OUTREACH	Our outreach efforts center around building partnerships with community-based organizations, and providing LGBTQ+ folx, accessible legal education, excellent client representation, and culturally competent pro bono assistance.
CIVIL HARASSMENT RESTRAINING ORDER CLINIC	In response to growing anti-LGTBQ animus, the LGBTQ+ Services Program will be launching a free and virtual Civil Harassment Restraining Order Clinic during Fall 2025 The Clinic is designed to provide LGBTQIA+ folks with accessible legal information, forms preparation, filing assistance, and representation throughout the civil restraining order process.
HIV/AIDS DISCRIMINATION SERVICES	In 2025, ICLS launched a legal services program dedicated to protecting the medical rights of residents of Riverside and San Bernardino counties who are living with HIV/AID, including accessing affirming health care and combating discrimination.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING OUR WORK POSSIBLE

Since program launch, we have onboarded over 250 volunteer attorneys, law students, and legal professionals, contributing over 2,500 hours of legal services. The number of volunteers is expected to double in 2026 thanks to the dedication of our pro bono partners.