2023 Impact Report



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

GETTYSBURG COLLEGE
 MAGAZINE featured our
 work in their Summer
 2023 issue: A Steadfast
 Spirit: Turning Advocacy
 Into Action.



 The <u>CHARITY MATTERS PODCAST</u> with Heidi Johnson featured our work!



We LAUNCHED exciting NEW PARTNERSHIPS
with Kennett Consolidated School District and
Avon Grove School District! (Our Newcomer Support
Program at Kennett High School is pictured below).







- In partnership with IMMIGRANT PSYCHOLOGY NETWORK and the SCATTERGOOD FOUNDATION'S COMMUNITY FUND FOR IMMIGRANT WELLNESS, we launched CONEXIONES/CONNECTIONS, a bilingual therapy program that matches immigrant youth with therapists who speak their native language and provides youth with therapy services free of charge.
- WE EXPANDED JUNTOS PARA JÓVENES:
 <u>UNITED FOR YOUTH</u>, a project that provides
 DIRECT CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES to
 newcomer immigrant youth and their families in
 Montgomery County, PA. This program connects
 youth with needed social services, such as mental
 health support, health insurance, dental care,
 academic support, mentoring, and more.
- We AWARDED
 the third annual
 PROJECT LIBERTAD
 SCHOLARSHIP to JOSÉ,
 a participant in one of
 our Newcomer Support
 Programs in Phoenixville!



 We ran our most successful SUMMER NEWCOMER SUPPORT PROGRAM (AKA, Summer Camp!) ever, serving 50 STUDENTS!



We provided FREE LEGAL REPRESENTATION
 to 91 IMMIGRANT YOUTH at risk of deportation.
 (Executive Director Rachel is pictured with one of
 our clients).



- Our <u>RISE GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM</u> <u>EXPANDED</u> to serve middle school girls in Phoenixville!
- Our RISE girls' empowerment program VISITED WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY, where they enjoyed touring the beautiful campus and discovering what WCU has to offer!



- NORRISTOWN
 PRINCIPAL JULIO
 NUÑEZ FAJARDO
 SHARED HIS
 IMMIGRATION
 JOURNEY with
 our middle school
 newcomers!
- BOARD PRESIDENT
 ROGELIO AYLLON
 SHARED HIS
 IMMIGRANT
 EXPERIENCE
 with our middle and

high school students.





 Marian Sosa from Family Services of Montgomery County EDUCATED our newcomers about SEXUAL HEALTH AND CONSENT.



We continued to EXPAND THE IMMIGRANT
YOUTH ADVISORY TEAM, a group of dedicated
youth leaders and community members who
direct our work.





- WE GREW TO A TEAM OF SEVEN STAFF
 MEMBERS, up from just one staff member in
 January 2022! Our team now includes the following
 roles: Executive Director, Volunteer Coordinator/
 Administrative Assistant, two Newcomer Support
 Program Coordinators and an NSP assistant, a
 Case Manager, and of course, OUR DEDICATED
 VOLUNTEER TEAM!
- WE CONTINUED TO EXPAND OUR GLOBAL FOOTPRINT to serve even more youth from around the world, including Nicaragua, Ukraine, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, Haiti, Brazil, Vietnam, China, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Bangladesh, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Colombia, and more!

Page 2 of 5 ProjectLibertad.org



CLIENT STORIES



SUPPORTER STORIES

In December,
WE CELEBRATED AN
ASYLUM APPROVAL

for our deserving client from Honduras, who had waited over four years for a decision on his case!



Our longtime volunteer and youth leader **VALERIA BECAME A U.S. CITIZEN!**



Project Libertad has helped Mari receive her Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, work permit, and social security number. PL also helped Mari find stable housing as she waits to be eligible for her green card.



I support PL because
I have always wanted
to be involved in my
community. I believe
that being involved in
the lives of kids gives
them the foundation
for success! I am
proud to be a part of



PL doing my best for the community! **

– Joann Seunarine

I have volunteered with
Project Libertad for over
five years. I have helped
with the Newcomer
Support Program, and
now I help support the
Mentoring Program.
I really enjoy working



with Project Libertad, because it gives me an opportunity to raise awareness on the unique needs and experiences of migrant youth. Project Libertad fosters resilience and empowers migrant youth by creating an inclusive, compassionate community.

I am so honored to be a part of that!

– Guilianna

Page 3 of 5 ProjectLibertad.org



SUPPORTER STORIES

The two main things that drew me to Project Libertad are: First, Rachel's story; she chose a life dedicated to a non-profit as opposed to what



might have been a fortune or even fame as an attorney in private practice. The second is that PL advocates for children at their most vulnerable, in situations where they are literally left to fend for themselves. **

- Abe Shenoy

Libertad because
they care for
students and
families whom
I work with on a
daily basis. Children
immigrating to the



U.S. are impacted by policies outside of their control. PL helps to mitigate these factors, giving kids a chance to build a life in the U.S. **

– Jess Kilmetz



IMMIGRANT CHILDREN'S DEFENSE PROJECT

- We provided 93 FREE IMMIGRATION LEGAL SCREENINGS in 2023!
- Represented 91 IMMIGRANT YOUTH in 139 IMMIGRATION CASES.*

*Some youth may have more than one legal case opened for them

INCLUDING:

- 56 ASYLUM CASES
- 59 SPECIAL IMMIGRANT JUVENILE STATUS CASES
- Visas for survivors of certain serious crimes and human trafficking
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) cases
- Legal Permanent Residency (GREEN CARD)
- And more!



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS PROJECT

 448 INDIVIDUALS participated in KNOW YOUR RIGHTS trainings



LEGAL-MENTAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

- Thanks to our Legal-Mental Health Partnership with IMMIGRANT PSYCHOLOGY NETWORK:
 - 448 INDIVIDUALS received MENTAL HEALTH and wellness presentations
- Immigrant Psychology Network provided our newcomers with 8 COPING SKILLS AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING SESSIONS

Page 4 of 5 ProjectLibertad.org



- Our Newcomer Support Programs SERVED 423
 STUDENTS total in 2023. These programs create a
 SAFE SPACE for newcomers to adapt to life in the United
 States and process their EXPERIENCE OF MIGRATION.
 - Our Summer 2023 NEWCOMER
 SUPPORT PROGRAM GREW to serve
 50 STUDENTS three days per week.
 - RISE: Refugee and Immigrant Students Excelling Girls' Empowerment Program:
 - This program expanded to include middle school girls!
- We hired a second, part-time NEWCOMER SUPPORT PROGRAM COORDINATOR to meet the growing demand for this program!



JUNTOS PARA JÓVENES/ UNITED FOR YOUTH CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

 Our Case Manager CONNECTED 32 YOUTH WITH RESOURCES in the community through our Case Management program.



JOVENES FUERTES/STRONG YOUTH SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING PROGRAM:

 In partnership with <u>Immigrant Psychology Network</u>, we reached immigrant youth in **5 DIFFERENT SCHOOL DISTRICTS** with this in-classroom SEL program.



CONEXIONES/CONNECTIONS THERAPY PROGRAM:

- In partnership with <u>Immigrant Psychology Network</u>, we conducted **53 VIRTUAL THERAPY SESSIONS** for immigrant youth.
- We provided therapy services to nine students in Spanish and Portuguese.



MENTORING PROGRAM

 Our volunteer mentors provided 100 HOURS OF MENTORING to youth in Phoenixville!



ADULT ESL

• 84 INDIVIDUALS received free ESL instruction



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

• **49 INDIVIDUALS** received free professional development training about how to best support immigrant youth



VOLUNTEERING

- 1416 total VOLUNTEER HOURS given in 2023
- 51 total VOLUNTEERS who volunteered in 2023



TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED

• 1100 total INDIVIDUALS SERVED in 2023









Page 5 of 5 ProjectLibertad.org