

## A Story of Hope

Veronica came to Just Neighbors four years ago, after her school's parent liaison recommended she seek legal help for her immigration case. Just a couple months before, her ex-husband had hit her so her teenage daughter Ana called the police. That phone call changed everything. She was able to finally break free of her abusive husband who wasn't just physically and emotionally abusing her but also using her as free labor.

For 12 years, Veronica's ex-husband had controlled her and forced her to work without pay, creating graphic designs by night and working construction during the day while also taking care of her two daughters. Veronica describes working on the computer with her toddler, Sophia right by her side and having to keep going despite being exhausted after a day of working construction.

*I can't believe it's real, and I'm still trying to get my wits about me to even process what this will mean for me. I feel like God remembered me and all that I've been through and helped me get here. Cristina [Veronica's attorney] has an immense capacity to help others, and I don't have the words to express how much she has helped me and Ana.*

When Just Neighbors took Veronica's case, the attorney determined that she was eligible for a T-Visa, a special visa designated for survivors of trafficking. In Veronica's case, she is not only a survivor of labor trafficking but also of domestic violence.

Just Neighbors got to work on Veronica's case and simultaneously was able to help her older daughter Ana apply for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). Ana's DACA approval came with a work permit that has allowed her to help support the family in addition to going to school.

After two years, Veronica's T-Visa application was approved. She was granted a work permit that will allow her to seek employment and take some of the weight off Ana's shoulders. In three years, Veronica will be able to apply for a green card and Ana will be eligible for one, as well.

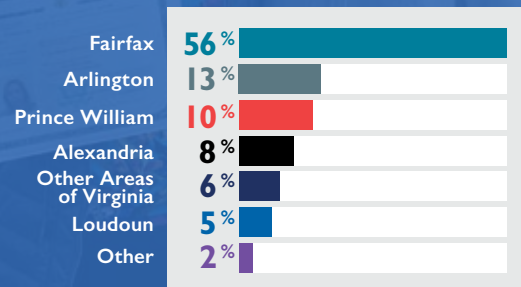
Veronica and her girls have bright futures ahead of them after suffering so much trauma. Just Neighbors is honored to have been able to help them and looks forward to seeing all they do with their newfound sense of freedom and financial independence.



Just Neighbors is a leading voice and expert resource to the community on immigration issues, regularly giving presentations to local faith-communities, government agencies and other nonprofits. In 2019, staff and volunteers gave 47 presentations on immigration related topics, reaching over 2,143 people, and participated in 32 other outreach events, educating more than 1,200 people.



### Where Clients Live



7630 Little River Tpke #900 Annandale, Virginia 22003

A 501(C) (3) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
United Way #8574 CFC #98417

## Support From:

### Faith Communities

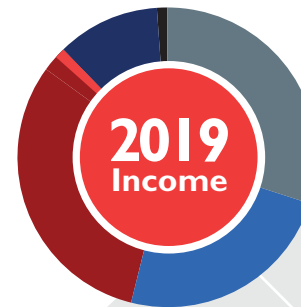
Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church  
Annandale United Methodist Women  
Arlington District United Methodist Women  
Arlington District of the UMC  
Centreville United Methodist Women  
Dumbarton United Methodist Church  
Embrace Waynesboro Community Center  
Fairlington United Methodist Church  
Fairlington United Methodist Men  
Fairlington United Methodist Women  
Foundry United Methodist Church  
Heritage Presbyterian Church  
Herndon Friends Meeting  
Mount Olivet United Methodist Church  
Mountain Valley United Methodist Church  
NOVA UMC Bi-District Office  
Resurrection EV Lutheran Church ELCA  
Rock Spring Congregational UCC  
Springfield United Methodist Church  
St Aidan's Episcopal Church  
St. Anne's Episcopal Church  
St. George's United Methodist Women  
St. John Neumann Church  
St. Mary of Sorrows  
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church  
Sterling United Methodist Women  
Sydenstricker United Methodist Church  
The United Methodist Church in Northern Virginia  
Una Familia  
Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston  
United Christian Parish  
Virginia United Methodist Conference  
Virginia United Methodist Foundation  
Wesley United Methodist Women  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Williamsburg United Methodist Church  
Williamsburg United Methodist Women

### Governments

Arlington County  
Fairfax County  
Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

### Foundations, Organizations & Businesses

100 WomenStrong of the Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties  
ACT for Alexandria  
AILA Washington DC Chapter  
Annandale Christian Community for Action, Inc (ACCA)  
Arlington County Dept of CPHD  
Clare and Don's Beach Shack  
The Closet of the Greater Herndon Area  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
Custom Ink  
ExxonMobil Foundation  
FaithJustice Foundation  
Kaiser Permanente  
Mason Hirst Foundation  
Meyer Foundation  
The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation  
Morrison & Foerster Foundation  
National Justice For Our Neighbors  
Philip L. Graham Fund  
QMT Associates  
SolutionWorx  
Sutter and Terpak, PLLC  
The Northern Virginia Ethical Society  
Titmus Foundation  
Verizon Foundation  
Virginia Coalition For Immigrant Rights  
Virginia Law Foundation



**32%** Foundations  
**30%** Individual Donors  
**24%** Government Grants  
**8%** Faith Communities, Law Firms and Businesses  
**3%** Client Fees  
**3%** Other

**\$866,386**

**Just Neighbors**  
Hope Through Immigration Legal Services



justneighbors.org

## 2019 Highlights A Season of Growth

**Expansion outside of Northern Virginia:** In 2019, Just Neighbors launched the Virginia Expansion Program reaching out to four rural areas in the state: The Eastern Shore, Staunton, Harrisonburg and Lynchburg. Clients here have little or no access to affordable immigration legal services. Three clinics took place on the Eastern Shore and in Staunton. In 2020, we will hold two clinics at each location.

**Justice and Advocacy Fellowship:** Through a grant from the Meyer Foundation, Just Neighbors established a Justice and Advocacy Fellowship position. Kimberly Garcia is now developing an overall advocacy strategy, while motivating volunteers and clients to advocate for local and national immigration issues such as driver's licenses, in-state tuition; DACA, refugee limits and more. This is our first intentional advocacy focus.

**Work at the Border:** Just Neighbors sent three teams to the Mexican-U.S. border to help *Al Otro Lado* support prospective asylees and those who had been returned through the Migrant Protection Protocol. This work was funded by St. Anne's Episcopal Church, National Justice For Our Neighbors and Project Corazon. It is essential to our work in Virginia that our attorneys understand what clients are experiencing at the border.

**Growing our Space:** Thanks to a grant from the Philip Graham Foundation, Just Neighbors expanded our office space to accommodate additional staff and volunteers. With the addition of four more attorneys (2 in late 2018 and 2 in early 2020) and the Justice and Advocacy Fellow, we outgrew our current space.

**New Website:** If you haven't gone to our website lately, please visit [www.justneighbors.org](http://www.justneighbors.org). The website redesign, also funded by the Philip Graham grant, made our website much more useful and manageable.

As we continue to find ways to help more clients, our staff has worked hard to obtain additional grants and to expand our fundraising efforts. The demand for our services continues to increase and the work itself becomes more complex every day. The support of our grantors, faith communities, businesses and many individuals makes this possible. **We are grateful for your generous gifts of time, talents and treasures as we continue our mission to serve the most vulnerable immigrants in Virginia.**

227 Volunteers

1,805 Volunteer attorney hours

6,561 Non-attorney hours

Total Value of Volunteer Hours

\$718,385



Just Neighbors uses a community clinic model to help clients. Staff attorneys leverage their time and expertise by supervising volunteers who work directly with clients. This maximizes the number of clients that attorneys can help and provides volunteers the opportunity to serve their neighbors.



### 2019 Board of Directors:

|                            |                                   |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Joseph A. Keyes Jr., Chair | Marci Huntsman                    |
| Bryce Chadwick, Vice Chair | Cheryl Moore                      |
| Julia Bizer, Secretary     | Mary Ellen Payne                  |
| Lisa Trangsrud, Treasurer  | Joyce Shields                     |
| Pratibha Agarwal           | Anne Wilson                       |
| Lauren Bell                | Mike Wilson                       |
| Sandy Burkholder           | Rodrigo Velásquez                 |
| Bryce Chadwick             | Sarah Calvert, Ex-officio         |
| Elizabeth Hoefler          | Erin McKenney, Executive Director |

## Providing Immigration Legal Services to Those With a Legal Pathway

For 23 years, Just Neighbors has served more than 13,000 clients from 130 countries by helping low-income immigrants obtain the documentation to which they are legally entitled. We believe that investing in immigration legal services positively impacts a family's overall stability in the United States. Requiring individuals to pay expensive fees for these services forces families to choose between paying for legal services or for basic needs like food and housing. Research shows that granting legal status and citizenship to immigrants increases their income level, chances of home ownership, education level and access to health care.

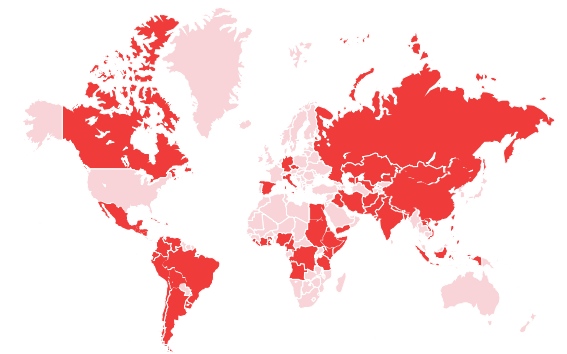
Focusing on humanitarian cases, Just Neighbors staff attorneys and many volunteers serve the most vulnerable immigrants in our community, many who are:

- Refugees and asylees
- Immigrant victims of domestic violence and other violent crimes
- Dreamers (immigrants brought to U.S. as children)
- Those issued Temporary Protected Status (TPS) because of armed conflict or natural disasters in their homelands
- Families seeking general advice about their immigration status
- Trafficking victims
- Asylum seekers

Just Neighbors is able to respond to the changing immigration legal framework because of our unrestricted resources from private foundations, donors, corporations and faith communities.

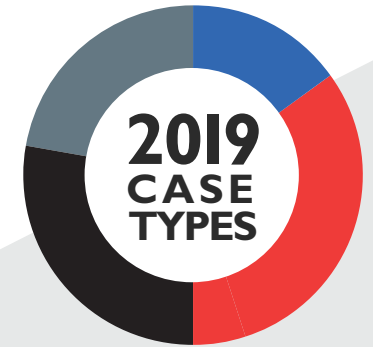
As we maintain our focus on those who are least likely to get help elsewhere, we are forced to turn away 75% of callers due to capacity limitations. To support this work or seek legal help, see [www.justneighbors.org](http://www.justneighbors.org).

76 Countries of Origin



Top 10 countries in 2019

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| El Salvador | Peru        |
| Honduras    | Afghanistan |
| Guatemala   | Egypt       |
| Bolivia     | Ethiopia    |
| Mexico      | Eritrea     |



34% Victims of Crime

26% Advice and Counsel

24% Family Unity

16% Employment Authorization (including DACA)

The mission of Just Neighbors is to provide immigration legal services to low-income immigrants and refugees in Virginia, especially those who are most vulnerable. We also seek to foster enriching experiences that enhance awareness and mutual understanding among our clients, volunteers, and staff.