



ACLU Arizona



Our Collective Power, Our Collective Impact

Dear friends,

As I reflect on my first year as the ACLU of Arizona’s executive director, I am in awe at the power of our network: members, donors, and communities across our beloved state. I’ve had the privilege of meeting so many of you at townhalls and trainings, rallies and house parties — and the message is clear. Together, we are ready to fight for the Arizona and country that we all deserve.

There is no question; we are in critical times for the defense of civil rights and liberties, and the ACLU has a long history of confronting attacks like this head on. In the face of unthinkable abuses by our government, I’ve turned to this organization’s legacy and our vast community to lead in challenging times.

We are building lasting power together. Neighbors are building connections. Volunteers are stepping up to protect immigrants’ rights. Families are demanding dignity and safety. We are stronger because of each other.

With steadfast resolve and focus, we continue our work to stop the abuse of power and attacks on our democracy. The ACLU of Arizona has been on this path for over 60 years, and we aren’t backing down now. We are grateful for your unwavering commitment and support. It’s our collective power and impact that fuels our fight.

In community,



Victoria López
Executive Director

MISSION

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.

PROTECTING ACCESS TO ABORTION

Following the historic, voter-approved Arizona for Abortion Access Act, the ACLU of Arizona has been working to protect this win and ensure abortion access for all Arizonans. With co-counsel, we sued to strike down the state’s ban on abortion after 15 weeks of pregnancy — the first legal win following the passage of the act. We followed up by challenging burdensome abortion restrictions that violate the state’s constitution, including a 24-hour waiting period. At the state legislature, we supported a bill that would repeal laws that restrict access to abortion, and opposed bills that would restrict reproductive rights, none of which became law or were referred to the ballot.

DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

Our legal, policy, and public education work continues to be a key bulwark against efforts to erode our democracy. We hired our very first voting rights attorney, which allowed us to file litigation, amicus briefs, and public records requests to protect voters’ rights during the 2024 election cycle. We launched a Voting Rights Hub and deployed staff to polling locations to monitor elections. During the 2025 legislative session, we worked with partners to defeat anti-democratic, anti-voter legislation, including attacks on vote centers and early voting.

Now, we’re organizing the Democracy Defenders program to deploy volunteers in communities across the state to engage people on voting rights, protect our elections, and uplift democratic values.

ACTIVATING COMMUNITY POWER

Our organizing team builds leadership and engages communities in impactful action. This year, we hosted or participated in over 50 events, reaching hundreds of people, and registering over 400 new volunteers.

Our impact on the legislature was amplified through our activist network. Supporters contacted state lawmakers and the governor over 6,000 times through ACLU of Arizona action alerts responding to attacks on the First Amendment, immigrants’ rights, abortion access, and voting rights.

Cover art by Darian Cruz, Phoenix-based Illustrator.

Description: A ribbon reading “We the people means all of us” winds around a saguaro cactus, surrounded by desert flowers and wildlife.

ADVANCING RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES AT THE LEGISLATURE

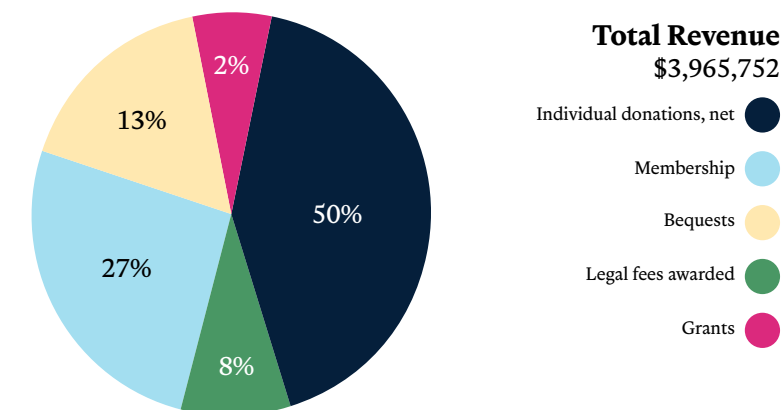
The ACLU of Arizona responded with a strong presence and clear focus to protect civil rights and liberties during the 2025 Arizona legislative session. Our work included:

- Taking public positions on 116 bills and testifying 70 times at the legislature. Over 90% of the bills we opposed were defeated.
- Conducting 14 policy briefings for elected officials on topics including the First Amendment, criminal justice reform, immigration, and LGBTQ+ rights.

We advanced proactive policy solutions, including:

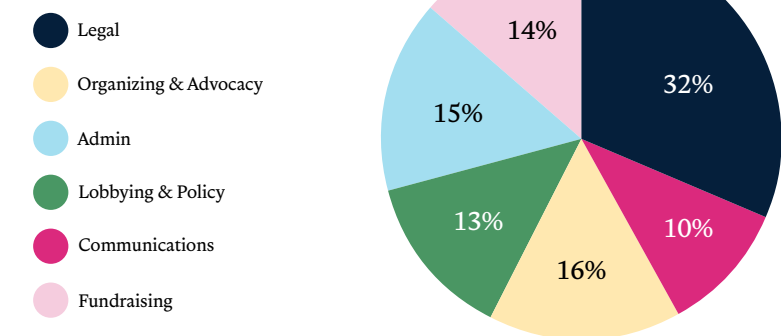
- A statewide non-discrimination bill that extends protections to people based on sexual orientation and gender identity.
- Executive clemency, which would establish, for the first time in Arizona, a pathway for people with terminal and debilitating illnesses to be released into a medical setting that could better manage their care.
- A bill that ends felony penalties for the possession of drug paraphernalia, which currently results in imprisonment for low level drug use, adds to a ballooning prison population, and prevents people from accessing community-based treatment for addiction.

FY25 FINANCIALS



Total Expenses

\$3,158,738



SAFEGUARDING THE FIRST AMENDMENT

We are standing up for the fundamental right to free speech, including the right to protest and to stop government censorship. We stopped several bills that would restrict these rights, such as a ban on pride flags, bans on solicitations on medians and next to streets, and restrictions on libraries and the criminalization of librarians. We led advocacy against several anti-free speech bills that would punish teachers and students for their speech, shut down campus protests, and create broad censorship regimes on the internet.

We filed a lawsuit on behalf of three Glendale residents challenging the city’s panhandling bans that target unhoused people and violate their First Amendment right to engage in protected speech. Following our lawsuit, the city decided to repeal the ordinances.

FIGHTING FOR IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

Our team led the opposition at the capitol to more than a dozen anti-immigrant bills. We obtained vetoes on all major legislation we opposed, including the “Arizona ICE Act,” which would have forced Arizona law enforcement to devote resources to Trump’s mass deportation agenda. With egregiously unconstitutional attacks on immigrants and our border communities, our principled and trusted voice is needed now more than ever.

Through targeted requests for records and in partnership with community groups, we are investigating arrests at courthouses and the role of local law enforcement in federal immigration matters.

We published an Immigrants’ Rights Resource Hub on our website providing guidance and materials in English and Spanish. The hub is being widely distributed and used by community members to inform our immigrant neighbors, friends, and family members about their rights.

CONNECT WITH US

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GIVE TODAY

