

CIRC ACTION FUND annual report



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mission & vision

CIRC Action Fund was established in 2012 to build a strong and thriving Colorado where all residents are treated with dignity and respect, have equal access to a fair quality of life and the opportunity to live united with family.

Our mission compels us to elect and protect candidates with a history of championing immigrant rights issues and to mobilize an electorate of People of Color and New Americans that reflects the populations where we work.

CIRC Action aims to shape Colorado as a national champion of cutting edge pro-immigrant elected and appointed leaders and to become Colorado's premier multicultural and intersectional statewide political advocacy organization.



A WORD FROM OUR CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



Dear Community,

It has been an incredibly challenging start to 2025. As our community faces threats and we mobilize to defend immigrants across Colorado, we look back at our work in 2024 and what we accomplished to prepare ourselves for this moment.

In 2024, we saw hateful rhetoric increase across the country, but in Colorado in particular. This misinformation was particularly pronounced in Aurora, where diverse immigrant and refugee communities from across the world have created a vibrant and beautiful society. As a part of our strategy to bring communities together, we held multiple town halls and events to shine light on who our community truly is and build a positive narrative for what we stand for.

In our 2024 program, we knocked on over 25,000 doors to talk to voters about our endorsed candidates and build support for positive immigration policies. 85 percent of the voters we talked to supported immigration policies that keep families together, showing that even in a climate filled with harmful rhetoric, Colorado voters stand with their immigrant neighbors.



Gladis Ibarra & Henry Sandman



A WORD FROM OUR CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



Going into 2025, the work that we started in 2024 is ever more important. We demonstrated that expanding pro-immigrant legislation is possible, even within an anti-immigrant climate. We were able to secure an additional \$350,000 for the Statewide Immigrant Legal Defense Fund, now funded at \$700,000, as well as make SB251 licenses even more accessible to the community, especially newly arrived migrants, by simplifying ID requirements. Moving forward, we are committed to Keeping Families Together by expanding our know your rights campaign across the state, rebuilding and strengthening the hotline network, and advancing positive immigration messaging to shape the Colorado we envision.

We are grateful to all those who contributed in any way to our movement — especially to our organizers, volunteers, members, and donors.

Together, we are proof of the power in people and what happens when we believe in our mission. We understand there is a fight ahead and we will not back away from ensuring Colorado is a welcoming state for anyone who wishes to call it their home.

In solidarity,



Gladis Ibarra & Henry Sandman



2024 TOTAL NUMBERS

PARTISAN NUMBERS

NON-PARTISAN NUMBERS

14,799 doors knocked

10,188 doors knocked

6,232 face to face conversations

1,858 face to face conversations

33,072 reached on social media

9,893
reached on social media

107,928 text message

12,723
GOTV mailers

Voter mobilization efforts were instrumental in combating harmful narratives and driving turnout, even in a challenging national landscape. The election results reaffirm the collective power of grassroots advocacy.

2024 PARTISAN VOTER ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

We successfully endorsed and supported the election of 18 proimmigrant candidates.

These leaders are poised to advance key policies such as healthcare access expansion, safeguarding reproductive rights, and improving protections for immigrant families and working-class communities.



Jason Crow CD6



Diana Degette CD1



Brittany Pettersen CD7



Chris Kolker SD16



Mike Weissman SD28



Javier Mabrey HD1



Jennifer Bacon HD7



Emily Sirota HD9

2024 PARTISAN VOTER ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS



Iman Jodeh HD41



Monica Duran HD23



Manny Rutinel HD32



Elizabeth Velasco HD57



Junie Joseph HD10



Jenny Willford HD34



Lorena Garcia HD35



Yara Zokaie HD52



Tish<mark>a Mauro</mark> HD46



Naquetta Ricks HD40

2024 PARTISAN VOTER ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

Voter Outreach Conducted:

• Knocked on 14,799 doors and made 18,807 attempts, achieving a 20.52% contact rate. Of those doors, the following canvassing attempts were within **CD 08**: Knocked on 9,503 doors and made 11,729 attempts, achieving a 22.52% contact rate.



- Sent 107,928 texts to mobilize voters and drive turnout for our endorsed candidates.
- Social media campaigns on Facebook and Instagram reached 33,072 people, generated 49,841 impressions, and received 2,457 interactions.



• Held 6,232 meaningful conversations with voters across our nonpartisan and partisan efforts, emphasizing immigrant rights, healthcare access, and economic equity.





2024 NONPARTISAN VOTER ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

CIRC's voter engagement program primarily focused on mobilizing BIPOC and immigrant communities in Adams, Arapahoe, Denver, Jefferson, and Pueblo counties. We continued to prioritize grassroots base building within BIPOC communities as part of our plan to continuously engage with them across the years. Highlights include:

Canvassing Impact

Knocked on 10,188 doors and made 15,015 attempts, achieving an 18% contact rate. Our team of bilingual mobilizers fostered meaningful in-person conversations and identified the following top issues among voters: housing affordability (32%), healthcare access (9%), and immigration reform (5%). We also sent 12,723 GOTV mailers in Pueblo.

Digital Outreach

Social media campaigns on Facebook and Instagram reached 9,893 people, generated 14,512 impressions, and received 553 interactions.

Engagement Results

85% of voters
engaged supported
pro-immigrant
policies such as
keeping families
united.

We also signed on a racial justice ballot guide cocreated by COLOR Action Fund and Working Families Party, which provided guidance on various ballot measures and their impact on BIPOC communities in Colorado.



WE BUILT GRASSROOTS MOMENTUM FOR LONG-TERM CHANGE

- We chose a canvassing team that was composed of community members deeply connected to the areas they served.
- We prioritized Adams, Arapahoe, Denver, Jefferson, and Pueblo counties. These efforts amplified immigrant voices and fostered solidarity across diverse communities. Conversations highlighted critical issues like housing affordability, healthcare access, and immigrant protections, creating a bridge between voter concerns and tangible policy goals.
- Having 6,232 in-depth voter conversations to educate and empower residents, reinforcing civic engagement as a tool for systemic change. This year's efforts laid the foundation for sustained community involvement in future electoral cycles.

WE STRENGTHENED COLORADO'S POSITION AS A NATIONAL LEADER IN IMMIGRANT PROTECTIONS

- We mobilized Colorado's voters who were instrumental in combating harmful narratives and driving turnout, even in a challenging national landscape. The election results reaffirm the collective power of grassroots advocacy.
- Voters delivered a clear mandate for inclusive policies and rejected divisive rhetoric and federal overreach. This election demonstrated Colorado's role as a firewall for immigrant protections, reproductive rights, and economic equity. With newly elected and re-elected leaders like Emily Sirota, Iman Jodeh, and Lorena Garcia, Colorado is positioned to continue setting a national standard for pro-immigrant legislation.
- In October, in collaboration with NILC Immigrant Justice Fund and Housekeys Action Network Denver, CIRC Action Fund co-hosted a neighborhood celebration and press conference in response to Trump's visit to Aurora and in solidarity with Dallas and Helena apartment residents, who were the victims of anti-immigrant gang rumors.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2024

ADVOCACY AND PRO-IMMIGRANT POLICY WINS

- **SB24-182: Immigrant Identification Document Issuance**: Simplifies access to driver's licenses and state IDs for undocumented residents by removing barriers like proof of residency requirements and introducing alternative identity documents. Over 200,000 immigrants have benefited since the program's inception in 2013. Implementation set for March 2025.
- HB 24-1430 Expanded Statewide Legal Defense Fund: Doubled funding for the Immigrant Legal Defense Fund from \$350,000 to \$700,000 for FY 2024-25, ensuring probono legal representation for hundreds of immigrants in removal proceedings.
- **Federal Advocacy Efforts:** Engaged in critical advocacy through trips to Washington, D.C., and New Orleans to address immigration policy challenges and promote inclusive reforms.
- Inclusion of DACA Recipients in Affordable Healthcare: Advocated with national partners to implement the CMS rule modifying the definition of "lawfully present," ensuring DACA recipients can access ACA health plans starting November 2024. This frees OmniSalud slots for other undocumented individuals.

PRO-IMMIGRANT LEGISLATION PASSED

- SB24-1098: Cause Required for Eviction of Residential Tenant: Requires landlords to have valid reasons for evictions, preventing arbitrary or discriminatory actions and increasing renter stability.
- SB24-094: Safe Housing for Residential Tenants: Strengthens tenant protections by mandating landlord accountability for uninhabitable living conditions and enforcing stricter timelines for repairs.
- **HB24-1007: Prohibit Residential Occupancy Limits:** Prevents local governments from enacting occupancy limits unrelated to safety or health, ensuring renters are not unfairly excluded.
- **SB24-064**: **Monthly Residential Eviction Data and Report**: Mandates the collection and publication of eviction data to improve tracking and understanding of housing instability.

DEFEATED ANTI-IMMIGRANT LEGISLATION

- **HB24-1128**: Prevented reinstatement of the "Show Me Your Papers" law, which would have forced local law enforcement to collaborate with ICE and restricted sanctuary policies.
- **\$B24-090**: Defeated a bill that would have criminalized driving without a license, protecting immigrants and transgender individuals from detention and deportation risks.

ADDITIONAL BILLS ENDORSED BY CIRC

- **HB24-1009**: **Bilingual Child Care Licensing Resources**: Expands access to childcare licensing by providing bilingual materials and support for non-English speakers.
- **HB24-1368**: **Language Access Advisory Board**: Establishes a board to improve legislative access for limited-English-proficiency populations.
- **HB24-119: Term Abandonment for Federal Classification Juvenile**: Clarifies eligibility for Special Immigrant Juvenile visas for youth abandoned due to parental death.
- **HB24-1130**: **Privacy of Biometric Identifiers and Data**: Strengthens privacy protections for biometric data to address disproportionate impacts on marginalized communities.
- **HB24-1070**: **Allowing Cultural and Religious Regalia at Graduation**: Ensures students can wear meaningful cultural or religious attire at ceremonies.
- **HB24-1286**: **Equal Justice Fund Authority**: Creates funding to support legal defense for low-income individuals facing eviction or deportation.



board of directors

NADEEN IBRAHIM - CO-CHAIR
East Colfax Community Collective

HELEN OH - CO-CHAIRTyrone Glover Law, LLC

ALEJO GONZALEZ - TREASURER
SEIU Local 105

ERIKA CERVANTES - SECRETARYHunger Free Colorado

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT

- FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA
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 - TWITTER
- **VOLUNTEER HERE.**
- DONATE HERE.
- SIGN UP FOR OUR UPDATES HERE.

