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Our Mission:

The **I**mmigrant **L**egal **A**dvocacy **P**roject helps low-income immigrants improve their legal status and works for more just and humane laws and policies affecting immigrants.



A New Kind of Asylum Assistance

In recent weeks and months here in Maine, we have all seen media coverage or met newly arrived immigrant families who are hoping to apply for asylum in the U.S. and put down roots here. Their stories show their resilience and bravery, the difficult path still ahead, and the opportunities for our state if we welcome and support those looking to make Maine home.

Many have made dangerous journeys from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, and other places around the world through the U.S.-Mexico border, and all are part of a *long* history of immigrants seeking safety and a new life in Maine.

“It is long past time for us to stop framing the arrival of asylum seekers as a surprise and a crisis,” says ILAP’s Policy Director Lisa Parisio. **“Migration has been a part of our experience as human beings for as long as we have existed on this planet.** Sometimes people need to cross borders to save their lives and they have a human and legal right to do so.”

Navigating a System in the Shadows

In the shadows of every asylum seeker’s story is an **asylum system that undermines due process and human rights and treats Black and Brown immigrants with particular hostility.** Our immigration system is failing to protect those most in need of protection and, every day, immigrants of color feel the impact of a system that was built for their exclusion.

Felix Hagenimana joined ILAP’s team after the City of Portland first transformed the Expo Center into a temporary shelter for asylum seekers in 2019. And while so much in our world have changed since then, he is back providing support at the Expo and reminds us that “a lot of things in immigration have stayed the same.” Congress has not passed comprehensive immigration reform and the Biden administration is continuing many anti-immigrant and anti-Black policies from previous administrations. **“The laws are against asylum seekers,”** says Felix.

Despite these challenges, ILAP works alongside our clients to shine a light on injustices hidden behind arcane procedures and multi-year waiting periods and, together, we fight for justice and push ahead. And like in 2019, that means evolving our services to meet the needs we’re seeing today.

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As advocates we need to address this racism so the system will change



SUE ROCHE
Executive Director

As lawyers and advocates, at ILAP **we see the direct impact of immigration laws and policies on our clients' lives.** These policies can be a matter of life or death as they determine who gets to come into the country, who gets to apply for asylum protection, and who gets deported.

Our experience and observations show us that our Black and Brown clients experience the immigration system very differently from our white clients.

This is partly because the immigration system was originally created to keep people of color out of the United States, but also because new policies

implemented by administrations from both parties continue to favor white immigrants and those from Western countries over immigrants of color. These policies are racist, and as advocates we need to address this racism so the system will change.

We envision an immigration system where all immigrants and asylum seekers have the same access to protection and due process

as they navigate our immigration laws, regardless of their race, financial means, or what country they came from.

We are extremely disappointed by the Biden Administration's recent policies that would restrict asylum for those arriving at the U.S. border, primarily Black and Brown asylum seekers. We are glad the Administration is supporting Ukrainian refugees and hope it will continue to do so. But we also recognize that position contradicts border policies that impact African, Haitian, and Central American refugees. As an immigration legal organization, ILAP will continue to advocate for our individual clients in their cases, while we also work towards systemic change. This work includes shining a light on policies that are racist and unjust.

You can read more about our client-centered services and immigration policy efforts in this newsletter, including ways you can engage to help make our immigration system more just, fair, and equitable.

Thank you for your support and solidarity.

SUE ROCHE
Executive Director

How ILAP is Supporting Asylum Seekers

In fall 2022, ILAP launched the Asylum Assistance and Legal Orientation Project (AALOP).

Building on three decades of supporting asylum seekers in Maine, AALOP aims to find new, creative ways of offering timely, trusted, and reliable immigration help to even more asylum seekers.

ILAP has been working with local partners to provide legal support to asylum seekers living in temporary housing locations. As the next phase of this work, **we are excited to announce a new collaboration with the American Bar Association Commission on Immigration to pilot a training series to help people complete their asylum applications** with hands-on support from ILAP’s experienced immigration lawyers and accredited representatives.

“Our goal is for applicants to leave with a well-prepared application that has been properly filed, **bringing them a critical step closer to being able to obtain a work permit and rebuild their life in Maine, their new home,**” explains Senior Project Attorney Catherine N. Lindgren who is collaborating with ILAP’s long-time asylum expert Jennifer Bailey on this project.

Due to the complexity of defensive asylum cases, this kind of *pro se* defensive asylum assistance offered in workshop settings is rare among other immigration legal service providers. But knowing traditional forms of assistance are not keeping pace with our community’s needs, **we believe in trying something new to provide asylum assistance on a larger scale.** “It’s a unique type of assistance that, depending on how it goes, could be something other legal service organizations use as a model,” explains Felix.

ILAP is working with our partners at the University of Maine School of Law and Catholic Charities Maine to host monthly three-session series starting in June. We look forward to sharing updates on this exciting new initiative in future issues.

Check out pg. 4 for info about ILAP’s asylum advocacy efforts.

SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT



80th Birthday Fundraiser

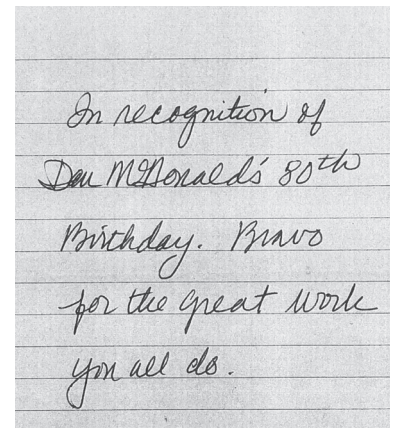
When **Dan McDonald** and his wife, Joan, were planning his 80th birthday celebration, they knew they wanted to use the occasion to inspire guests to support an important cause. The choice was easy. **“I chose ILAP as a suggested donee for our guests, because it is one of my favorite charities, doing so much good in our community and our state,”** reflected Dan.

The checks started arriving over a month before the celebration and just kept coming! **ILAP received 25 donations from all over the country, totaling over \$4,500, in honor of Dan.** When we told him the news, he said, “I am delighted that so many people were so generous. Everyone who has heard

about ILAP knows of its contributions to the fabric of our society.”

Not only is Dan a big supporter of ILAP, he also serves on our *Pro Bono* Panel. Dan and over 200 other lawyers donate thousands of hours to help in ILAP’s efforts to serve the legal needs of low-income asylum seekers, vulnerable children, and other immigrants in Maine. And when Dan takes on a case, he puts everything he’s got into it. This spring, at ILAP’s Volunteer and Partner Appreciation Event, **he received an award for his pro bono work alongside Lowell Turnbull.** See pg. 6-8 for more about our event and awards.

At the event, his wife told us about the birthday fundraiser plan to include a suggested donation, **“When you are having a big 80th birthday celebration, people will want to bring gifts, but you don’t really need things anymore.”** She was not surprised at all when Dan picked ILAP as the organization he wanted to support.



A note from a donor in recognition of Dan’s 80th birthday.

Thank you, Dan, for partnering with us to create a world where systems are rooted in justice, where everyone belongs and thrives!



A gift to ILAP is a great way to celebrate any occasion. You can dedicate your gift in honor or in memory of a special person in your life.

If you are feeling inspired to support ILAP with your own creative fundraiser, visit ilapmaine.org/grassroots-fundraising to learn more. Starting a Facebook or Instagram fundraiser is also an easy way to inspire your friends and family to support ILAP’s work!



LEGAL

Title 42 Ends, Biden Administration Continues Attack on Asylum Access

Title 42, a Trump-era border policy that has stripped asylum seekers of their legal and human rights since the beginning of the pandemic, ended once and for all this May. ILAP applauds all who worked tirelessly to bring about the end of this deadly and racist policy.

But directly following Title 42's termination, the **Biden administration implemented a new asylum ban that, like Title 42, will deny access to asylum at the U.S.-Mexico border, disproportionately impacting Black and Brown immigrants.** This comes after campaigning on promises to restore asylum and once condemning similar deadly deterrence policies.

Under this new rule, people who travel through a third country on their way to the U.S. will be ineligible for asylum. The rule also requires the use of a dysfunctional smart phone app called CBP One with documented failures in the facial recognition for people with dark skin. In addition to the asylum ban, the Biden administration recently reached an agreement with Canada to allow both countries to deport people without allowing them to apply for asylum.

Through these attacks, ILAP has worked with partners across the nation to defend the right to seek asylum. ILAP submitted a public comment opposing the administration's asylum ban - one of 50,000 comments submitted in just 30 days.

We envision a world in which asylum seekers are welcomed with dignity. **"The incredible thing is that when we choose to welcome people over inflicting more cruelty and harm, we all benefit,"** says Policy Director Lisa Parisio.

Asylum Seeker Work Authorization Act Reintroduced in Congress

In Maine, and around the country, newly arrived people seeking asylum are eager to support themselves and their families and put down roots in their new communities. But under current federal law, **asylum seekers must wait six months after they apply for asylum to even be eligible to work.**

Meanwhile, businesses in Maine are facing worker shortages, nonprofit organizations and municipalities are stretched beyond capacity, and our communities want the experience and knowledge immigrants bring.

Earlier this year, Representative Pingree introduced a bill in the House that would address this senseless wait time. ILAP applauds Rep. Pingree for her leadership and will continue our advocacy efforts around work permit accessibility. Senators Collins and King have also introduced a bill in the Senate, however this bill would not help all asylum seekers in Maine get their work permits faster and would actually lengthen backlogs.

To learn the latest about current bills and other advocacy efforts, follow us on Twitter @ILAPMaine.

Maine State Legislative Session

While immigration is governed by federal law, states can pass laws and policies that help immigrants find stability and security and make greater contributions to their communities. The First Regular Session of the 131st Maine Legislature convened in December 2022 and lawmakers will be meeting in Augusta through the summer.

ILAP is proud to join our partners in advocacy efforts during this legislative session.

We have provided testimony for a bill that would increase funding for civil legal aid and help ILAP meet more of the immigration legal need in Maine and another that would expand access to MaineCare to all who qualify, regardless of immigration status. Along with our

Take Action Today! There are easy, meaningful ways you can make your voice heard and advance justice and equity for immigrants. Visit ILAP's Take Action Page at ilapmaine.org/take-action/

partners, ILAP is tracking other bills that would impact immigrant communities in Maine and will be offering testimony as the session progresses.

You can read our testimony and see more of ILAP's advocacy in action at ilapmaine.org/advocacy-in-action.



Executive Director Sue Roche provides testimony on Access to Justice Day in March.

ICE Litigation Win!

In January 2021, ILAP joined the ACLU of Maine and University of Maine School of Law's Refugee and Human Rights Clinic in submitting a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. We requested information about Immigration and Custom Enforcements' (ICE) detention and transfer activities in Maine and the opening of a new ICE facility in Scarborough with little transparency or consultation with the local community.

When ICE refused to comply with the request, we joined our partners in suing. **This April, a judge ruled in favor of ILAP and our partners, ordering ICE to conduct a new search of its records and release more information.** With this additional information, we will better understand how ICE operates in Maine and push for greater transparency. ILAP thanks the ACLU of Maine for their leadership on the litigation!

PRO BONO WINS

We are grateful to each and every *pro bono* attorney who stands alongside Maine's immigrant community and uses their expertise to increase the chances of securing life-saving protections in an increasingly complicated immigration system.

Recent Pro Bono Panel wins have included:

- A client from Djibouti who won their case at the Asylum Office with the help of Lewiston-based *pro bono* attorney **Christopher Boots**. They are now petitioning to bring their spouse and children to the U.S. to be reunited after over 5 years.
- Two asylum seekers who had recent wins in Immigration Court thanks to the hard work and perseverance of *Pro Bono* Panel attorneys **Michael Waxman** and ILAP Board President **Alicia Curtis**.
- A hard-won asylum win for a wonderful family with the help of **Lowell Turnbull**, who gracefully handled last-minute changes to ensure his client had every opportunity for success at the Asylum Office.

Are you a lawyer in Maine?

To find out more about providing life-changing legal representation, visit ilapmaine.org/pro-bono-panel or contact Michelle Gentry at mgentry@ilapmaine.org.

ILAP By The Numbers

ILAP supported **4,719** immigrants and their family members through direct immigration legal services and community legal education in 2022 and benefitted many more through systemic advocacy.

1,613 people received direct legal support, benefiting 1,131 household family members.

98+% approval rate for full representation cases that received a final decision.

5,177 hours donated by more than 200 *pro bono* attorneys representing asylum seekers, vulnerable immigrant youth, and Afghan evacuees.

1,975 immigrant community members and service providers attended 71 in-person and virtual outreach events.

50 mentions in the Maine and national media.

130,000 unique visitors to ILAP's website.

38 policy recommendation letters or joint public comments related to immigration law and policy.



Threaded Together:

A Night to Appreciate the Fabric of ILAP's Community

On the evening of May 2nd, we gathered at the Maine MILL (Museum of Innovation, Learning & Labor) in Lewiston for ILAP's Spring Appreciation Event. Our event theme, Threaded Together, resonated in a space filled with **nearly 100 people representing people from across ILAP's community - volunteers, business and community partners, donors, ILAP staff and Board, and immigrant community members.**

Museum Director Rachel Ferrante opened with background on the museum and the current exhibition focused on immigration, *Who we are. Who are we?* One of the sections of the exhibit is the MAINER Project, a wall with 10 portraits of Black Mainers and their oral stories.

One of the Mainers featured in the oral history exhibit, Araksan Egueh, also has a special connection to ILAP. She spoke about her experience as an ILAP client and the pride she feels when she calls herself a Mainer. "I had a lot of good people around me who opened their hearts and their hands for me when I first came," Araksan reflected. **"When it was my turn, I chose to stay because I felt like I had a value to give back."** With the help of her ILAP *pro bono* lawyer, Araksan was finally granted asylum earlier this year after a long seven-year battle with our backlogged and convoluted immigration system.

ILAP Board President Alicia Curtis took a moment to congratulate the volunteer and partners awardees. Check out the full list of awardees on pg. 8! As a *pro bono* lawyer herself, she spoke about the importance of all the people who donate time, expertise, and passion to advance ILAP's mission.



The award winners were introduced, and after a robust applause, received beautiful award plaques with the Adinkra symbol for bravery, designed by Ebenezer Akakpo of Apkakpo & Co., our Business Partner Award recipient. Last year, Ebenezer designed thermoses for ILAP featuring the same symbol.

Special thanks to Androscoggin Bank and Berman & Simmons for making this event possible through their generous partnership!

See more photos and learn more about our event partners at ilapmaine.org/event-2023.



Jeff's Jamaican Cuisine provided beautiful and delicious fruit and charcuterie trays, and **Mogadishu Café** brought flavorful, crowd-pleasing sambusas. Beverages were provided by Lewiston's own **Baxter Brewing Company**. Thanks to all!

2022

Volunteer & Partner Awards

We at ILAP thank all our supporters for making it possible for us to continue to do the work that threads us all together, helping immigrants maneuver our unjust immigration system while advocating for policy changes for a better system tomorrow.

Join us in congratulating ILAP's 2022 Volunteer & Partnership Awardees:

Supporting Immigrant Youth Award

Preble Street Teen Center

ILAP Hero

Dr. Alice Haines

Language Volunteers of the Year

Alby Recierdo / Marcos Pacheco Sotos

Grassroots Fundraiser of the Year

Louise Rosen

Outstanding Advocate Award

Maine Vets for Afghans

Pro Bono Law Firm of the Year

Bernstein Shur

Pro Bono Attorneys of the Year

Dan McDonald / Lowell Turnbull

Development Volunteer of the Year

Mariah Mitchell

Business Partner Awards

Akakpo & Co. / House of Languages

Community Partner Awards

Mano en Mano /

Chelsea Hoskins and the staff of the Resettlement Program of the City of Portland

ILAP is honored to recognize our volunteers and community partners through these annual awards. **We invite you to take a moment to think about the people who make a difference in your life and community.**

We are planning a 30th anniversary celebration this fall and will be featuring the names and stories of those who have been honored and remembered by our community. We hope you can join us!

AROUND 207

New Project Supports Trafficking Survivors & Work Continues Statewide

ILAP has a long history of working with survivors of labor trafficking to secure immigration protections, a critical step in achieving safety and stability. Trafficking is prevalent in Maine and disproportionately impacts immigrants of color, those without stable legal status, and other historically oppressed groups.

We are proud to be expanding legal services, referrals, and support for immigrants experiencing labor trafficking and exploitation in Maine alongside our partners at Preble Street and Pine Tree Legal Assistance thanks to the investment of the Howard G. Buffett Foundation.

"Being empowered with legal information, knowing your rights, and having a lawyer by your side as an advocate is vital for immigrants in escaping dangerous, inhumane, and unjust work conditions," explains Executive Director Sue Roche.

In addition to ILAP's role in this new grant partnership, **the Rural Maine Project has continued connecting with immigrants living in Washington and Hancock** counties through our partnership with Mano en Mano and in Kennebec County thanks to the Capital Area New Mainers Project.

Other events and workshops were offered at Catholic Charities' new refugee service facility in Bangor, Bangor Inn of Court, and Maine Law's Rural Maine Practice Clinic. ILAP also continued our participation in the Farmworkers Resource Network and was invited to join a newly-formed rural Maine justice task force.

Rural Maine Project Welcomes & Farewells

Long-time champion of ILAP's Rural Maine Project, Barbara Taylor, left the organization this spring. After serving 10 years as a staff attorney with ILAP, Barbara returned in 2018 to pilot and lead the Rural Maine Project. Through her work, Barbara empowered immigrants and migrant workers and made lasting partnerships with organizations and communities across the state. Her extensive knowledge of "cimmigration" (the intersection of immigration and criminal law) and skill at making complex information accessible to all had an impact on so many. **Thank you, Barbara, for your fiery passion and dedication to community.**

ILAP is excited to welcome the newest addition to the Rural Maine Project Team, Lourdes Trujillo as Rural Community Liaison! She brings a wealth of knowledge of Maine's rural immigrant communities and will expand the project's reach and capacity.

LEGAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Change of Venue Clinics

The U.S government often assigns immigration court locations with little consideration to where people intend to live after entering the U.S. ILAP meets with people here in Maine with cases placed with courts in Miami, Houston, and other parts of the country. People risk deportation if they miss a hearing – even if their assigned court is hundreds or thousands of miles away.

To ensure immigrants living in Maine can attend important immigration court hearings and avoid deportation because of missed hearings, ILAP launched a monthly Change of Venue clinic

to help asylum seekers and others file motions to move the location of their immigration court to Boston, the closest court serving all of Maine.

Since fall 2022, ILAP has hosted **8 clinics and filed Change of Venue petitions for nearly 80 people!**

Support for TPS Recipients

In our Fall 2022 newsletter, we highlighted the impact of Haiti Temporary Protected Status (TPS) on communities in Maine. At the time, the majority of our clients who had applied under the 2021 designation were still awaiting decisions.



ILAP Paralegals Nadine Twagirayezu and Kate Turrell prepare paperwork to file Change of Venue petitions during a clinic at the ILAP office.

we have **teamed up with Preble Street to host twice-monthly outreach events on-site at the Teen Center.** During these sessions, ILAP attorneys and staff hold brief meetings with immigrant teens experiencing homelessness to answer questions about immigration issues and address emergency situations.

We are happy to report that within the last 6 months, **20+ ILAP clients who were waiting on decisions have been granted TPS.** For many, this approval also means access to a work permit for the first time.

Our Forms Program also filed 15 Haiti TPS renewals during the short renewal window this winter and is working on securing TPS for 40+ Haitians who qualify under the most recent designation, announced in Dec. 2022. We have also been working with long-time TPS holders from Sudan and Somalia to re-new their TPS protections.

Immigrant Children's Project Attorney Maggie Loeffelholz and Staff Attorney Emma Morgenstern recently provided a training to over 30 ILAP *pro bono* attorneys and partners covering best practices for representing noncitizen children.

In addition to the stresses of daily life, immigrant youth are up against substantial systemic barriers. A reinterpretation of immigration laws by the U.S. Department of State last year has meant those who have been granted SIJS now have to wait 4-5-years before applying for permanent residency, or a green card.

Connecting with Immigrant Youth

As ILAP continues to see unprecedented numbers of children and teens eligible for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS),

To learn more about national advocacy efforts to eliminate harmful waiting periods for immigrant youth visit: sijbacklog.com.



In partnership with Lewiston Adult Education, ILAP staff offer **monthly office hours in Lewiston** to answer legal questions, provide information and referrals, and help people connect with tools and information to understand their legal processes. Since beginning this project in fall 2022, **ILAP staff have provided 51 brief consultations** to people who would otherwise would not have access to an ILAP lawyer.

LEAVE A LEGACY ... make a meaningful difference

In this section, we share often overlooked giving options that can reflect your charitable goals and make a meaningful difference.

What is a Donor-Advised Fund?

Donor-advised funds (“DAFs”) are accounts established at a public charity (like the Maine Community Foundation) to which individuals may donate cash, securities, or other assets and receive a charitable income tax deduction in the year of contribution. The donor then serves as an advisor to the account and makes suggestions to the public charity about when to make grants, which charities should receive grants, and the amount of the grants.

DAFs are simple to establish, have no initial set-up costs (although operating costs and minimum funding amounts vary depending on the fund), and allow for grants to be made anonymously. The main drawback of DAFs is that the donor serves only as an advisor and does not have total control over the management and administration of the fund.

“I am a member of ILAP’s Board and Pro Bono Panel, and proud to support its work welcoming and supporting brave people new to Maine, sometimes fleeing tyrannic regimes. Financially, giving through a donor advised fund helps my wife and me to give more thoughtfully as it tracks our donations over time and by organization so that we can see how our giving reflects our values and supports the communities we care about.”

— Arnie Macdonald

What is a Private Foundation?

Private Foundations are charitable entities established as either corporations or charitable trusts to which individuals may donate cash, securities, or other assets and receive a charitable income tax deduction in the year of contribution. They must apply for and obtain tax-exempt status from the IRS and file annual tax returns, which public reporting requirements make it impossible to give anonymously.

The donor may retain complete control of the foundation’s administration, the selection of grantees, and the management of the investments. However, because private foundations are governed by complex tax regulations, establishing and running one requires expert tax and legal counsel. For example, among other requirements, private foundations must distribute 5% of their assets each year and are subject to penalties if they fail to do so.

Contact your financial advisor to decide which giving options are right for you. ILAP also welcomes the opportunity to talk with you about your charitable goals. Contact Development Director Laura Simocko any time at lsimocko@ilapmaine.org or 207-699-4407 (direct line).

Special thanks to Development Committee member Mariah Mitchell for her help on this section!

DID YOU KNOW?

More than \$1.3 trillion sits in private foundations and \$230+ billion in DAFs nationwide.

DAFs and family foundations are important vehicles for supporting the vital work of non-profits. However, current regulations mean funds can sit inactive for long periods of time, never reaching organizations.

As DAFs and family foundations grow in popularity, ILAP supports calls for more transparency and policies to incentivize and require payouts to unlock the full potential of these funding sources.

ILAP NEWS!

Francine Ngabu became a U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Accredited Representative in February, allowing her to represent clients before USCIS.

Melissa Brennan and **Alice Kopij** were promoted to Co-Legal Directors and **Lisa Parisio** became ILAP’s Policy Director. **Danny Muller** was promoted to Senior Information Systems and Operations Specialist and **Catherine Lindgren** transitioned from her role as Afghanistan Project Attorney to Senior Project Attorney on the Asylum Assistance and Legal Orientation Project (AALOP). **Congratulations to all!**

Stay Informed:



Get our monthly email updates! Sign up at signup.ilapmaine.org, or scan the QR code.

BIENVENUE!

Wilkommen, Welcome!



ILAP was thrilled to welcome **Semhar Yehdego** as Portland's office Legal Program Assistant. A recent graduate of American University, Semhar worked in marketing at a software startup before joining ILAP's team. Semhar's family moved to Portland from Eritrea in the 90s after fleeing the civil war and their story has strengthened her passion for ILAP's work. Semhar is proficient in Spanish and Tigrinya.



We welcomed **Beatriz Harley** into the role of Development Associate. Beatriz (Bea) brings a wealth of experience from her tenure at A Better Chance's (ABC) Winchester, MA Chapter and a background in press, community outreach, marketing, and social media in the music industry. She is the daughter of a Cuban refugee and a Venezuelan immigrant and is fluent in Spanish.



ILAP was excited to welcome **Sarah Scola, SHRM-CP** as the organization's new Human Resources and Operations Director this spring. Sarah worked previously as the Director of Human Resources and Operations at Cheverus, a Jesuit high school in Portland. She is a graduate of the University of Maine School of Law and has extensive volunteer and work experience in the legal field.



This spring ILAP also welcomed **Lourdes Trujillo** as Rural Community Liaison. Lourdes graduated as a pharmacist from the Central University of Venezuela and worked as a Community Development Worker for several years in Venezuela before moving to the U.S. Once in Maine, Lourdes found work on a dairy farm, where she became very involved with the rural community in this state. Lourdes is fluent in Spanish.



We are thrilled to welcome **Amy Hagemeyer** to ILAP's Board of Directors. Amy works in learning & development at the International Rescue Committee. Previously, she dedicated eight years to providing services and advocacy for seasonal and migrant farmworkers in Western New York and Maine. Amy is an artist and most recently illustrated and designed outreach posters for the Worker Justice Center of New York.



We are also excited to welcome **Erin Reed** to our Board. Erin is the Executive Director of the Trinity Jubilee Center, a secular community center in Lewiston. Erin began volunteering there in 2004 and became the director in 2014. The Center provides comprehensive support to hundreds of immigrant families and Erin works closely with ILAP's Lewiston office. She is a graduate of Bates College.

BANKWANA

Farewell & Well Wishes

Our deepest appreciation goes out to **Diane Mutagoma, Blanca Santiago, and Caroline Teschke**, who stepped off our Board of Directors in December after years of dedicated service. ILAP is a thriving and more resilient organization because of your leadership!

ILAP also bid farewell to long-time staff member Barbara Taylor this spring. *See pg. 8 for more.*

Remembering Hayden Anderson



Hayden welcomes guests to ILAP's CeleSoirée in 2012.

ILAP mourns the loss of Hayden Anderson, who died this spring after a year-long battle with colon cancer.

Hayden served as ILAP's Development Director and Interim Executive Director from 2009-2012, leading the organization through a time of transition and leaving an enduring legacy that continues today.

"He took the first steps of moving ILAP out of the start-up phase and into the organization it is today," remembers Sue Roche. **"For those who knew him, you know what a great loss this is for all of us. His wit, humor, and understated intelligence were unmatched."**

Hayden touched the lives of so many in our community and we extend our heartfelt condolences to his loved ones, friends, and all who knew him.

Thank you, Hayden, for your thoughtfulness, wit, and always making everyone and everything around you better.



IMMIGRANT LEGAL ADVOCACY PROJECT

P.O. Box 17917, Portland, ME 04112
ph 207.780.1593

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Get Legal Help

ILAP staff are here to help!

For multilingual immigration help and resources, including how to request an appointment, visit ilapmaine.org/get-legal-help!

ILAP aims to connect as many Maine immigrants with legal support as possible. We receive many new requests each week and are unable to help everyone. Thank you for your patience and understanding!



SUPPORT ILAP

Advance the cause of justice for immigrants in Maine by supporting ILAP today:

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