



*WE ARE  
IN THIS  
TOGETHER*



Photo by: Quinn Russell Brown

Dear ACLU members,

As we take stock of the past year's wins and lay out our plans for the coming year in this report, let's not lose sight of the national context — the backdrop of this work.

Over the past four years we've witnessed some of the cruelest policies in our nation's history, but we've also rallied, flooding the streets, the airports, and the courts to fight for freedom, equity, and equality. With your support and determination, you showed you were more than up for the task. Now, through their vote, the bedrock activity of our democracy, Americans have sent a clear message that they stand against the politics of division, hate, and fear.

We must now turn our attention to boldly leading freedom forward, because it's never been about one party, person, or president. The work of defending our rights and fighting for progress started long before the current president was sworn in—and it won't end when he leaves office in January. You have our vow that we will continue fighting for your rights and holding our leaders accountable, regardless of political party. The ACLU sued the Trump administration and his predecessor's administration countless times. Our approach to the Biden administration will be no different.

Together with our partners here in Washington and across the nation, we are actively seeking to reunite the families of more than 650 children who were separated at the border, battling the growth of government surveillance, protecting your privacy, transforming the criminal legal system and policing, protecting LGBTQ rights, defending the right to vote, and through all of these efforts and so much more, fighting for racial justice and equity. Because we cannot rest until we've built an America where equity and equality aren't just ideals of our Constitution — they are a lived reality for all people.

We are in this together,

Michele Storms  
Executive Director, ACLU of Washington

## ACLU-WA STAFF

**Michele Storms**  
Executive Director

### EXECUTIVE & ADMIN

**Estefania Brambila**  
Administrative Associate II

**Justine Stark**  
Operations Coordinator

**Karen Riley**  
Human Resources Consultant

**Lindsay Andersen**  
Administrative Manager and Special Assistant to the Executive Director

**Michael Crye**  
IT Director

**Shareef Abduhr-Rahmaan**  
Finance & Administration Director

**Taylor Shook**  
IT Specialist

### LEGAL

**Breanne Schuster**  
**Lisa Nowlin**  
Staff Attorneys

**Elizabeth Jarvie**  
Legal Associate

**Gemma Junkinsmith**  
Intake Counselor

**Julia Mizutani**  
Equal Justice Works Fellow

**Tamara Matheson**  
Intake & Legal Associate II

**Tracie Hooper Wells**  
Paralegal

**Antoinette Davis**  
**John Midgley**  
**Nancy Talner**  
Senior Staff Attorneys

### POLICY ADVOCACY

**Crystal Pardue**  
Equal Justice Works Fellow

**Enoka Herat**  
Police Practices & Immigrant Rights Counsel

**Jaime Hawk**  
Legal Strategy Director, Smart Justice

**Jennifer Lee**  
Technology & Liberty Project Manager

**Kendrick Washington II**  
Youth Policy Counsel

**Leah Rutman**  
Health Care & Liberty Counsel

**Mark Cooke**  
Policy Director, Smart Justice

**Medha Raman**  
Policy Advocacy Associate II

**Mina Barahimi Martin**  
Policy Advocacy Fellow

### POLITICAL STRATEGIES

**Alison Holcomb**  
Political Strategy Director

**Eric González Alfaro**  
Legislative Director

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Political Strategies Associate

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Field Director

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Organizers

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Communications Associate II

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Online Communications Specialist

**Brian Robick**  
Communications Director

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Graphic Designer

**Julie Davidow**  
**LaVendrick Smith**  
Media & Communications Strategists

**Paula Luangrath-Brown**  
Community Relations Manager

**Ritee Sponsler**  
Community Relations Director

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Development Associate II

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Associate Director, Individual Giving

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**Kathryn Wahlberg**  
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**Mary Gagliardi**  
Director of Development

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**Amy Roe**, Senior Writer  
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**Eric Nygren**, Legal Intake Manager  
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**Jacqueline Nguyen**, Political Strategies Associate  
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Mort Brinchmann  
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Toby Marshall

## Washington Appellate Project

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## Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati

Christopher Petroni  
John Roberts  
Quincy Lu

## SUPPORT STAFF

Christine Tobin  
DeShawn Collins

## ACLU-WA Volunteer Paralegal

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Yu-Shan Sheard

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**TOGETHER, LET'S TAKE STOCK OF THE PAST YEAR'S HARD-FOUGHT PROGRESS:**

We defended **tribal sovereignty and tribal ties for Native youth**. Along with Seattle University School of Law's Center for Indian Law & Policy, the Korematsu Center, and several American Indian Law professors, we filed an amicus brief, successfully fighting for thorough investigations into children's Native heritage in adoption and dependency proceedings. Washington's first Indigenous Supreme Court Justice, Raquel Montoya-Lewis (Pueblo of Isleta, Laguna Indian Tribe) wrote the opinion. ....

We co-led the Approve R-90 campaign to guarantee all public K-12 schools teach **age-appropriate, inclusive, comprehensive sexual health education**. ....

We negotiated improved **protections for students with disabilities** against discriminatory school discipline through a settlement with the state Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. ....

We successfully advocated for passage of the Courts Open to All Act to **prevent ICE arrests** at courthouses and we amended attorney ethics rules to stop lawyers from reporting people to ICE. ....

We continued to fight the racist War on Drugs, launching the Treatment First Washington campaign, along with 50+ endorsing organizations, to **replace our criminal drug possession laws with a public health approach**. ....

We sued the Federal Bureau of Prisons for denying **medication assisted treatment (MAT)** to people with opioid use disorder, and won a settlement obtaining life-saving treatment for our client. ....

We successfully challenged a **search and seizure** statute. In a strong unanimous decision, the Washington Supreme Court held that "the legislature can legislatively protect constitutional rights, it cannot legislate them away." ....

We launched a **police divestment blog series** to explore diverting resources from police functions that fuel loss of life in Black communities to services that address the root causes of the inequities in communities most harmed by police violence. ....

We filed a lawsuit on behalf of Black Lives Matter Seattle-King County to **defend the free speech rights of protestors**. ....

We submitted an amicus brief in Mancini v. City of Tacoma, arguing **police are not immune from a lawsuit** for barging into the wrong house to execute a search warrant. ....

We supported multiple allies to pass an ordinance that ensures youth in Seattle and King County speak with a **public defender** before they are allowed to give up their constitutional rights and be interrogated or have their bodies or belongings searched. ....

In State v. Jackson, we outlined the history of shackling Black and Indigenous people and we joined an amicus brief opposing the **blanket use of shackling on people unable to post bail**, which led to the Washington Supreme Court agreeing that the blanket use of shackling was unconstitutional. ....

We worked successfully with partner organizations to decriminalize and defelonize "bail jump" offenses. For decades, prosecutors could add an additional **bail jump felony** to original charges if a person missed a court hearing while their felony case was pending, disproportionately affecting people who are low-income or experiencing a crisis. ....

We challenged excessive sentencing for young people who were not provided adequate due process. We drafted an amicus, alongside the Korematsu Center, to ensure that even when a child is being tried as an adult, **trial courts must meaningfully consider age and development** and they have the discretion to impose a sentence below the adult range for crimes committed as a child. ....

We published a report on **how life and long sentences fuel mass incarceration** in Washington state. Read the report at [aclu-wa.org/about-time](http://aclu-wa.org/about-time). ....

In response to COVID-19, we successfully advocated to **reduce the statewide jail population** by 50% and the prison population by 1,000. We also joined an amicus brief to further reduce the prison population and stop unconstitutional conditions in the prisons due to inadequate action to prevent the spread of the virus. ....

We supported passage of a bill to restrict the use of **youth solitary confinement** in Washington prisons, jails, and detention centers. ....

We successfully **fought for the right of our client, an incarcerated transgender woman, to receive medically necessary treatment and services**. ....

We passed legislation to **protect patient access to information and care** by preventing health systems from prohibiting their providers from sharing medically-accurate, comprehensive information about care and how to access it with patients. ....

We filed a lawsuit to **protect whistleblowing** on behalf of a doctor fired after exposing insufficient COVID-19 protections for health care workers. ....

We launched the Algorithmic Equity Toolkit (AEKit), in collaboration with the Critical Platform Studies Group, to **help members of the public better identify, analyze, and question powerful AI-based technologies** that aim to automate, aid, or replace human decision-making. ....

We filed an amicus brief in Martinez-Cuevas v. Deruyter Bros. Dairy, Inc., in which the Washington Supreme Court overturned the state's 60-year exclusion of dairy workers from overtime pay. The ruling affirms **farmworkers' right to overtime pay**, an exemption created by our State Legislature in the 1950s. The exemption has cost generations of farmworker families, whom on average make less than \$30,000 a year, the opportunity to save, to buy a home, to afford to send their youth to college, cover basic health care costs, and more. Overturning this ruling promotes economic equity and is an affirmation of the constitutional rights of all workers in our state. ....

We continued to **build community in COVID times**. We sponsored KEXP's Indigenous Peoples Day programming and held frequent Flights & Rights virtual events to bring people together statewide. In October, over 400 supporters hailed the ACLU's one hundredth anniversary and Michele Storms' leadership in a statewide, virtual celebration. Re-watch at [aclu-wa.org/celebrate](http://aclu-wa.org/celebrate). ....

ACLU of Washington  
PO Box 2728  
Seattle, WA  
98111-2728  
**GIVE [aclu-wa.org/give](http://aclu-wa.org/give)**  
**JOIN [aclu-wa.org/join](http://aclu-wa.org/join)**  
**TAKE ACTION [aclu-wa.org/act](http://aclu-wa.org/act)**

## NOW AND THROUGH 2021, TOGETHER LET'S:

Continue to **hold police accountable** for silencing critics with violence.

**End debt-based driver license suspension** laws in Washington.

**End the contract to detain immigrant youth** in Cowlitz County.

Strengthen enforcement of new laws **prohibiting ICE courthouse arrests**.

Work with communities to introduce a **people-centric data privacy bill** that gives people meaningful power over their data.

Advance strong bills that meaningfully regulate **facial recognition and AI-based automated decision-making systems**.

Publish a toolkit to help families advocate for the **removal of school Safety Resource Officers**.

Pass legislation to reduce detention of **Washington youth** and reintegrate them into their communities.

Work to ensure that students statewide receive a **free and appropriate education** during the COVID-19 crisis.

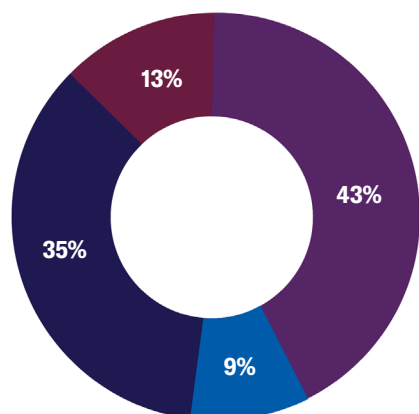
Work with the legislature to pass **voting rights restoration** for people with felony convictions, ban **solitary confinement**, and **reform sentencing**.

Work to increase access to **health care coverage** for undocumented individuals.





Work to **strengthen government oversight of health system consolidations** to ensure communities are not left without access to reproductive, end-of-life, and LGBTQ+ related care.

Work to pass a bill to ensure health systems cannot prohibit doctors and nurses from providing needed medical care to **patients who are miscarrying or have an ectopic pregnancy**.

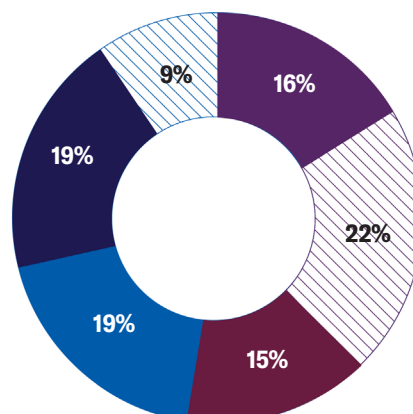
## ACLU of Washington & Foundation 2019-2020 Combined Operating Budget




### Support & Revenue

	<b>Annual Contributions</b> \$3,839,063
	<b>Bequests, Case Awards &amp; Restricted Funds</b> \$842,704
	<b>Membership</b> \$3,176,865
	<b>Endowment Fund Income</b> \$1,139,217

**Total Support & Revenue**  
\$8,997,849



### Expenses

	<b>Policy Advocacy</b> \$1,240,282
	<b>Legal Department</b> \$1,685,783
	<b>Communications</b> \$1,150,115
	<b>Political Strategies</b> \$1,493,881
	<b>Management &amp; General</b> \$1,475,612
	<b>Development</b> \$729,772

**Total Expenses**  
\$7,775,445