



ALLIANCE TO MOBILIZE OUR RESISTANCE

MID-YEAR REPORT

2024 A BRIEF REVIEW

A brief window into AMOR's activities and efforts during the first 6 months of the year



WHO IS AMOR?

INTRODUCTION

AMOR is a rapid response network created by six grassroots organizations in January 2017 to address individual acts of violence against community members (such as targeted hate crimes) and general acts of state-sponsored violence (such as localized ICE raids) in Rhode Island. In 2017 right after the Trump administration took office, these organizations foresaw the personal and systemic attacks that

immigrant, refugee, and vulnerable groups were going to face, and were motivated to unite and create the AMOR Network.

AMOR takes a dual strategy that 1) seeks to meet material needs through community-based working teams and 2) addresses the root causes of state violence through targeted advocacy initiatives. Our

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working teams organize community members, volunteers, partner organizations, and staff to provide and share resources from legal aid, mental health resources, transportation to and from legal appointments, and interpretation. Our advocacy initiatives focus on advancing legislation that expands immigrant rights, increasing awareness of legislation that benefits the community, amplifying the presence and demands of Rhode

Islanders impacted by systemic racism, and challenging racist institutions such as immigrant detention facilities. Through our initiatives, AMOR programs know-your-rights workshops, forums for the community to learn and discuss legislation that affects their lives, and enrollment sessions into benefits that are often possible as a direct result of bills which AMOR organized into legislation.

ABOUT AMOR

MISSION & VISION



MISSION

AMOR is a nonprofit organization in RI, that organizes to interrupt state violence and supports people impacted by the immigration system. We are organizing to place sovereignty back into the hands of communities directly affected by systemic oppression and to build leadership, generate power, create sustainability and organize resistance with and alongside all directly affected peoples.



VISION

AMOR envisions a world where the community has the power to ensure sovereignty. Where families do not fear being separated due to their documentation status and where black and brown communities are able to protect themselves against police violence and immigration raids. AMOR envisions a world where mental and physical health are the number one measure of community safety. Furthermore we envision a society where individual acts of hate and state sponsored hate are defeated by frontline community resistance.



CASE MANAGER REPORT

PERIOD OCTOBER 20, 2023 - JUNE 20, 2024

During the period October 20, 2023 to June 20, 2024, we have handled a total of 89 Cases and managed 208 service requests. These services have covered 29 different areas of resources and support. The majority of our cases have come to our office in need of assistance in matters related to their immigration status and legal procedures related to immigration status.

TOTAL CASES SERVED= 89
(85 OF WHOM WERE UNDOCUMENTED)

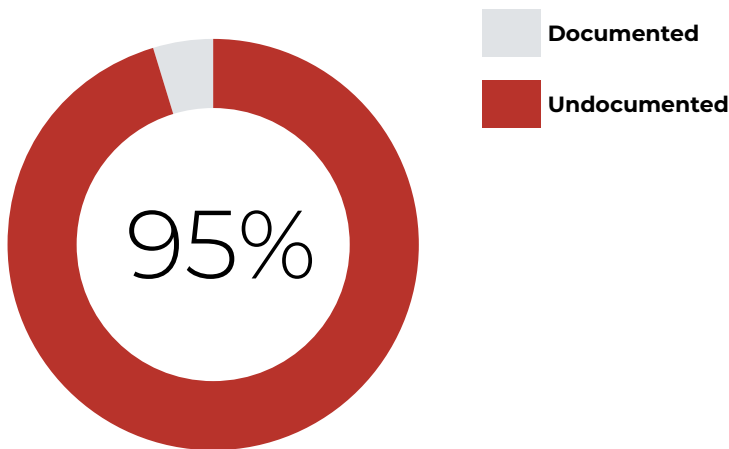
CASES HANDLED IN PERSON AT THE OFFICE= 70
REQUESTS HANDLED THROUGH DEFENSE LINE= 19

TOTAL SERVICES PROVIDED= 208
AVERAGE SERVICE PER PERSON= 2.70

DEMOGRAPHICS

AMOR is committed to supporting folks who are unable to access support from other organizations and service agencies.

Percent of Cases Supporting Undocumented Folks



FOCUS

In 95% of our cases, the main request and need has been for help with their immigration process and the need for monetary resources for the immigration procedures. This reflects the high demand and predominance of this need in our community.

COMPLEX CASES

We have identified 6 complex cases that have required assistance in more than 9 service areas. These cases have required special attention due to the complicated nature of their immigration legal processes and insufficient discretionary funds to resolve these requests.

ANALYSIS OF REQUESTS

In 95% of our cases, the main request and need has been for help with their immigration process and the need for monetary resources for the immigration procedures. This reflects the high demand and predominance of this need in our community.

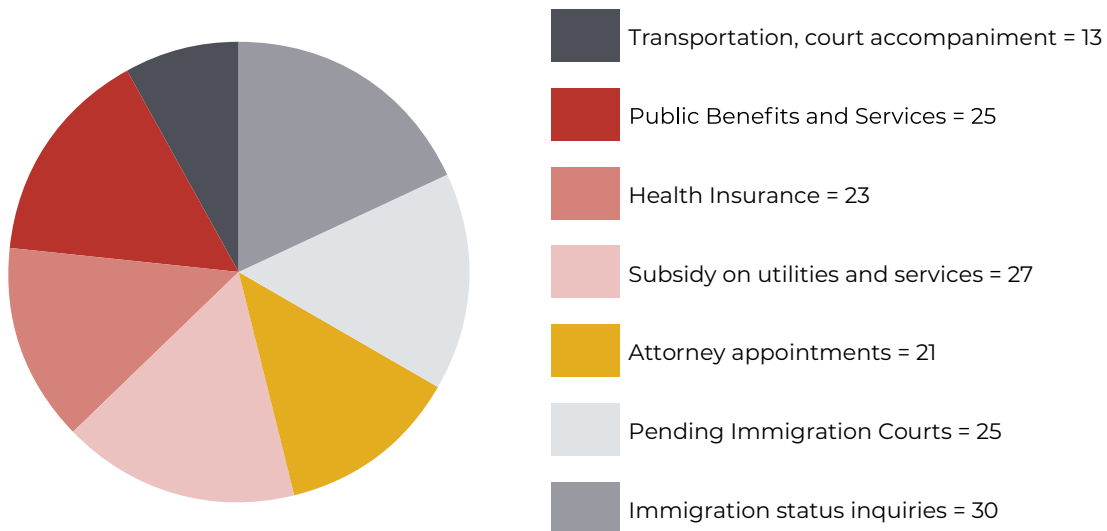
In addition to the predominant services mentioned above, we have offered a wide range of services and/or resources in 29 different areas, demonstrating our willingness and ability to adapt, solve and address the needs of our cases.

Although AMOR faces challenges in financial resources, we have been able to assist these 89 cases in this time period. not only in their aforementioned legal needs but also in other crucial areas that improve their quality of life.

SERVICE AREAS

Here is a window into the different types of support that have been provided to clients and community members seeking support.

Predominant Service Areas



CHALLENGES

Immigration legal cases tend to be complicated, extensive and very costly, which is beyond the financial capabilities of these families in our migrant community.



SOLUTION

We have expanded and extended our assistance and services to other areas where we can offer support such as: Health insurance management, medical care, financial assistance on medical bills, public benefits,

utility payment subsidy and basic utilities, electric power, heating, accompaniment and transportation to immigration court, workers' compensation cases, workers' rights counseling, privilege leave management, emotional counseling, food and nutrition programs, etc.

We look for ways to tap into available resources to ensure that our cases receive the help, support or assistance needed, even when we are unable to handle it directly, we turn to other means of support.

IMPACT AND SATISFACTION OF OUR CLIENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Despite the above challenges we have been able to satisfy our caseload in areas and requests in which they do not expect to be entitled or qualify for support. We have been able to provide them with tools in areas that they themselves unfortunately do not have the capacity or facility to handle. This ability to offer solutions beyond expectations has been key to improving the overall well-being of these families in our community.

CONCLUSION

My commitment as a case manager is reflected in the diversity of services offered and the comprehensive care, as well as the compassion, support and delivery to the needs of our clients and community members.

Throughout this period I have demonstrated the capacity and willingness that AMOR has in carrying out its mission as well as the ability to adapt and overcome financial limitations, ensuring that our community receives the necessary support for its procedures and other vital needs.

Ingrid Mejia

Case Manager

June 24, 2024

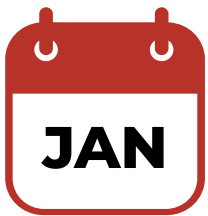




COMMUNITY EVENTS

2024 EVENTS OVERVIEW

The year 2024 has been significant for the immigrant community thanks to a series of events organized with the goal of informing, educating and strengthening our community connections. These events not only provided vital resources, but also fostered unity and empowerment among participants.



JANUARY 2024

The first event of the year, “Know Your Rights,” was held on January 23rd through Zoom, this informative and educational event focused on empowering the immigrant community by providing them with crucial information about their rights. The high participation and interest showed the community’s need and desire for this type of information, underscoring the importance of continuing with similar events in the future.



FEBRUARY 2024

On February 20th, the “ Bundle up with AMOR” event provided not only warm clothing, but also a space for community members to connect and strengthen their relationships. This event, highlighted the importance of creating a united and supportive community.



MARCH 2024

In March, significant events were held for women in the community. On March 8, Women’s Day was commemorated with a message of support and struggle spread on social networks. On the same day, the event “Mujeres Empoderadas” (Empowered Women) brought together immigrant women to discuss crucial issues such as patriarchy and violence against women. This event was a space for empowerment and solidarity among women.



APRIL 2024

On April 9, the “Motivational Workshop” offered inspiration and motivation to the community, with the participation of Sylbia Bernal as speaker, this workshop highlighted stories of empowerment and fostered a sense of hope and determination among attendees.



MAY 2024

On May 7, an important event on “Immigrant Labor Rights” was held. This event was organized with Gregory Pehrson as a speaker. The session was vital in educating the community about their labor rights, increasing their knowledge and understanding of this essential topic.



JUNE 2024

On June 21, the “Community Care Day / Healing Day” provided a space for healing and wellness for the community. With activities such as skin care, massages, and photo stations, this organized event promoted community cohesion and wellness. The activities were well received and it was suggested to include more options for children in the future.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Overall, the events organized in 2024 have shown a high level of participation and interest, especially in topics related to rights, wellness, and empowerment. These events have been instrumental in strengthening participation and mutual support within the immigrant community. The positive response to these activities highlights the importance of continuing to provide resources and connecting spaces for this community. The effective planning and execution of these events demonstrate the organizers’ commitment to creating an inclusive and supportive environment.

Nadia Gonzales

Base Building & Policy Organizer



COALITIONS & NETWORKS

LOCAL COALITIONS

IMMIGRANT COALITION OF RHODE ISLAND

MULTILINGUAL COALITION OF RHODE ISLAND

NATIONAL NETWORKS

DETENTION WATCH NETWORK

NATIONAL BAIL FUND NETWORK

CAMPAIGNS

SHUT DOWN WYATT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT

In 2023 AMOR took the lead in introducing legislation to ban ICE contracts within the Wyatt Detention Center, a legislative effort that has a legacy of over 4 years.

This year marked many lessons and renewed energy on continuing to build a base of support for this legislative effort.



LEGISLATION INFORMATION:

Ban ICE Contracts with Prisons and the establishment of Private Detention Centers in RI
House Bill 7968
Senate Bill 2769

MULTILINGUAL COALITION LEGISLATIVE EFFORT

This year AMOR worked with other like minded community organizations to advocate for bilingual education in Rhode Island.



LEGISLATION INFORMATION:

Support and Access to Bilingual Education (SABE) Act
House Bill 7514
Senate Bill 2917



VOLUNTEERS & COMMUNITY



COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM

Since it's found AMOR has working to organize and mobilize or community for long term change and to mobilize our community to respond to individual and communal needs.

Our volunteers and allies continue to meet regularly engaging in emerging organizing work to create a space to support folks in detention, to mobilize actions at the Wyatt Detention Center to call attention to inhumane treatment of folks detained there, and to continuously come together as members of this community to end detention and imprisonment.

TRANSPORTATION TEAM

The AMOR transportation team supports folks in our community by arranging rides to appointments, court dates, community events and more. This is one of our most consistent and longest running volunteer lead groups. We are so proud of the AMOR transportation team.

VOLUNTEERS

AMOR's volunteers support the organization in so many critical ways. AMOR's transportation team, fundraising team, our board of directors, and everyone who comes out to support individual events like direct actions, fundraisers, vigils, noise demos and our community events. Our volunteers help make so much of what we do possible.

MUTUAL AID CAMPAIGNS

At times we use our social media platform to support individuals who are in need of financial support or other physical needs. We believe in the power of our community to show up when a need arises that cannot be met entirely by our budget.





FINANCES

FUNDRAISERS THIS YEAR

AMOR GRILL OFF FUNDRAISER

RAISED OVER \$4,000

401 GIVES CAMPAIGN

RAISED OVER \$4,000

FUNDERS

These are some of the funders who have supported AMOR's work this year!

HAYMARKET PEOPLE'S FUND

RHODE ISLAND FOUNDATION

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FUNDING PROGRAM

TUFTS HEALTH PLAN FOUNDATION

TIDES FOUNDATION





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A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTOR

REFLECTIONS ON THE YEAR

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS, including foundations, amorcitos sustainers, board members, volunteers, partnership organizations and staff members for making our work possible in our community during the first six months of 2024.

We began 2024 with hope and fresh energy to continue doing our work to support our community. We recognize that our community is suffering hardships caused by the constant stress and worry of surviving in an exclusionary and racist society. Most members of the community tirelessly work to cover their basic needs, including rent, food, medicine, and transportation. Beside the difficulty of covering basic needs, community members also suffer stress, anxiety, trauma, and fear because of our broken immigration system which only has limited pathways for people

to adjust their status, causing more people to face deportation and family separation.

The situation of the immigrant community in Rhode Island will be impacted by who is elected president in November of this year. However, no matter the outcome of the election, nothing will change the threat of deportation, family separation, and the challenges and suffering that immigrants are facing, until the current cruel immigration laws are changed to more humane and welcoming ones. Until this happens we will continue to fight and work towards a better world for individuals and families in our immigrant community.

At AMOR we continue to connect and build community, knowledge, support, strategies and change for the benefit of our community.

Catarina Lorenzo
Executive Director

LOOKING FORWARD

STRATEGIC PLANNING



THIS YEAR AMOR HIRED A TEAM TO HELP FACILITATE OUR FIRST EVER STRATEGIC PLAN PROCESS.

In the last seven years we have learned a lot from our work, from our people, and the non-profit system. We need to strengthen our work and focus on the part that has worked well and needed most in the community. We need

to find the balance between supporting our community with direct services, our campaigns, and our organizing work with the health and care of our staff members and volunteers. The needs in our community have increased more than ever in the last seven years: immigration issues, deportation, housing crisis, healthcare, food, access to language, transportation. Our staff and volunteers continue to be committed to this incredibly hard work in our community, especially because our staff and volunteers are people of color that are directly impacted by these issues.

In the past two years, we've experienced growing pains as we became a 501c3 in the beginning of the pandemic. We established a new Board and working on its development; we've had staff transition from burn out; we've developed and troubleshooting internal personnel, financial, and structural policies; we are restructuring our work to match our capacity; and we want to realign our staff, board members, and volunteers by revisiting and reaffirming AMOR's mission and vision. We hope to do all of this through a strategic planning process.



STAFF

CATARINA LORENZO
NADIA GONZALES
INGRID MEJIA
SOPHIA WRIGHT

ALLIANCE TO MOBILIZE
OUR RESISTANCE

THANK YOU!

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THANK YOU!

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