

2020

Impact Report

ANSWERING THE CALL FOR JUSTICE

Letter from our Executive Director



Dear Friends,

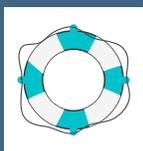
2020 was an extremely difficult year for all of us. The already-stretched resources available to the most vulnerable in our communities were further strained. 86% of the survivors we served reported being negatively impacted by COVID-19. As many traditional providers closed their doors or restricted their services, survivors across the country were left stranded and desperate. And then they found ALIGHT.

In response, ALIGHT quickly expanded our unique, scalable and flexible tech-based model. With approximately 45% of requests out-of-state, we invested more time and resources in network-building.

Our outsized impact is driven by our model's unique efficiencies that limit overhead and translate every \$1 of support into at least \$2.50 in value directly for survivors. Thanks to our technology model, lean staff, dedicated volunteer team, committed attorney network, partnerships and community supporters, we could help more survivors in more places than ever before.

We are looking forward to doing even more in 2021 - imagine what we can do together!

Impact



helped 40 new survivors & their 60 children/dependents,* or 100 at-risk beneficiaries



responded to 70 urgent legal cases, from eviction to disability benefits



delivered \$400,000+** in free legal services & access to justice funds*** directly to survivors

*based on disclosing survivors reporting an average of 1.5 children/dependents

**based on current data and the projected value of multi-year, ongoing cases

***includes rental assistance, court fees, transportation costs, etc.

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Board of Directors

- **Bob Connelly, Chair & Treasurer**
- **Peggy Fraser, Secretary**
- **Melinda Delmonico, Member**
- **Will Healy, Member**
- **Marianna Kosharovsky, ex officio member**

Staff

- **Marianna Kosharovsky, Founder & Executive Director**

Volunteer Associates

- **Amritha Donnellan, Legal Program Associate**
- **Amy Conley, Program Associate**
- **Anne Dunlop, Development Associate**
- **Maiyu Ondaro, Innovation Associate**
- **Megan Sakas, Digital Marketing Associate**
- **Rachel Swartzendruber, Intake Advocate**
- **Talie Watzman, Intake Advocate**

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Advisors to the Board

- Carolyn Bond, Strategic Advisor
- Kathy Kaoudis, Compliance Advisor
- Nadav Cohen, Technology Advisor
- Skip Thurman, Communications Advisor

Survivor Advisory Council

- Angela Rae Clark
- Grace Irene Tang
- Jasmine Conway
- Megan Lundstrom
- Rachel Niemiec

Legal Advisory Council

- Bob Connelly
- Edward Ramey
- Michael Cheroutes
- Stephen Jewett

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About ALIGHT

ALIGHT is an innovative 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that blends technology, human trafficking and free legal services. **Our mission is to unlock a fresh start for victims and survivors of human trafficking.**

To help survivors finally escape the trafficking cycle, ALIGHT connects them to a mobilized army of pro bono attorneys. With critical legal services, survivors can overcome legal problems that are insurmountable alone, enabling them to successfully gain independence and rebuild their lives in our community.

Recognizing a lack of professional trauma-informed and free legal services available to this at-risk and highly-vulnerable population, we are focused on providing free legal services to survivors of all forms of trafficking (sex and labor trafficking), regardless of gender identity, race, age or any other protected class.

Our Model

ALIGHT has pioneered the use of real-time technology (think: **Lyft for pro bono**) to rapidly match survivors' legal needs to untapped legal expertise. ALIGHT bridges the different worlds of the human trafficking survivors, the legal bar and the victim services community, so survivors are equipped to achieve justice on their own terms - whether resolving child custody, criminal records or identity theft - and have a path out of the violence and vulnerability that entraps them.

- Innovative, Next-Generation Solutions
- Free Legal Advocacy, Counsel & Representation
- Survivor-Centric, Trauma-Informed Services

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National Need

ALIGHT responded to the COVID-19 crisis ravaging the nation by helping survivors on legal cases in 28 states and Washington, DC to date



Examples of how ALIGHT stepped up for survivors across the US:

- Helped survivor being stalked by her trafficker to ensure her safety and privacy and clear 5 criminal convictions in **CO** so she could pursue her education without being tracked.
- Helped survivor in **WI** successfully fight eviction and recoup 2-months of rent worth \$1,380.
- Helped survivor to wrestle back custody for her son from her trafficker by collaborating with **CA & NC** agencies.

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Highlights



Nationally-recognized by the American Bar Association* for ALIGHT's unique, tech-based model for engaging the legal community in fighting for the rights of human trafficking survivors.



Co-founded the National Survivor Law Collective (with Paul Hastings, Moore & Van Allen Human Trafficking Legal Clinic, Free to Thrive, Trafficking Law Center and Restoration Justice Center) to respond to gaps in legal services by improving coordination among human trafficking legal services organizations focused on providing free services to survivors.



Launched The Circle of Light in the Summer of 2020. Inspired by the brave survivors we work with who are our guiding lights, the Circle of Light is a monthly giving program that funds legal services to survivors of human trafficking who do not otherwise have a legal voice.



Convened the ALIGHT Survivor Advisory Council, composed of 5 Survivor Leaders representing MA, AZ, CO and WI, for guidance and support on trauma-informed and impactful scaling of our model.

**Resolution 113 states: "That the American Bar Association encourages lawyers in all practice areas to use and promote technology-based platforms that facilitate the efficient, timely, and targeted matching of survivors of human trafficking who have legal needs with lawyers who have the requisite specialization and availability to meet those needs pro bono." As noted in the report accompanying the resolution, ALIGHT has "pioneered" this approach.

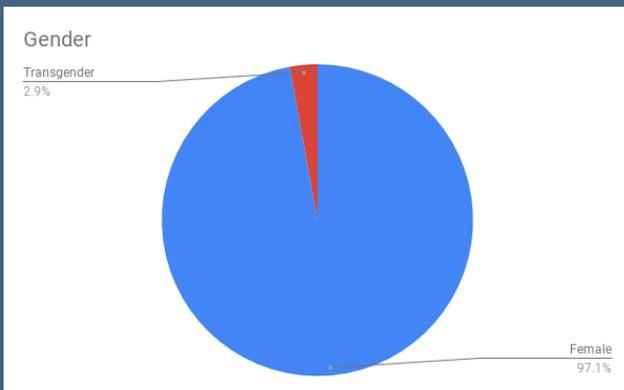
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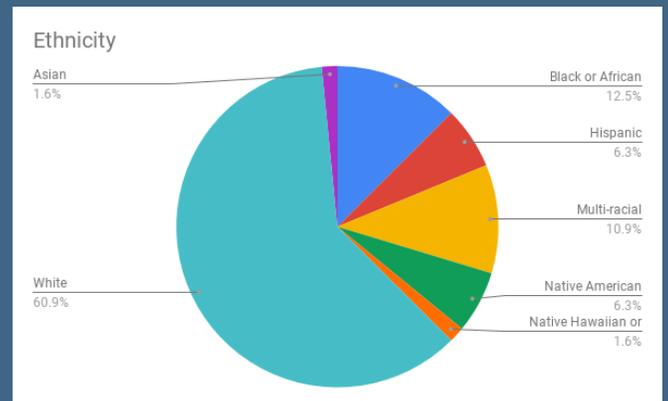
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Who We Serve

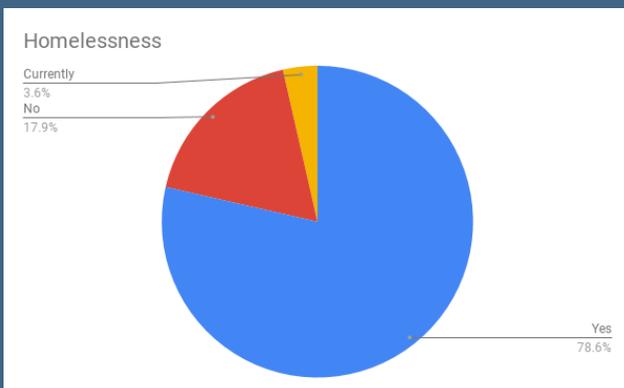
The following demographic information is anonymized for survivor privacy and safety. Additionally, this data reflects information from survivors who chose to disclose as of December 31, 2020.



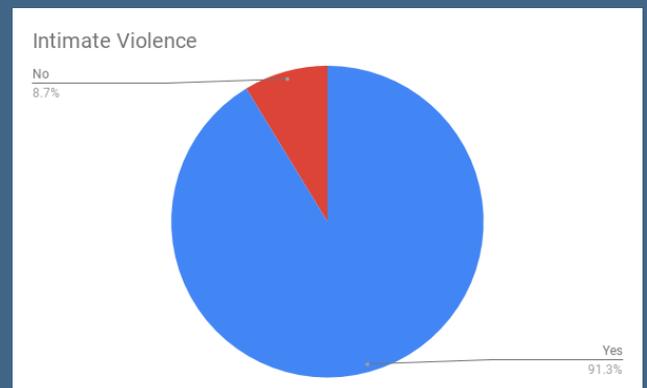
97% identify as female



39% identify as an ethnic minority



83% have experienced homelessness



92% have experienced intimate partner violence

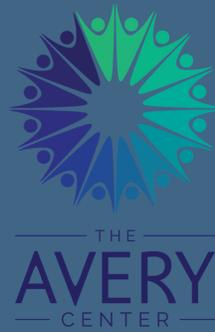
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How Survivors Find Us

- **Survivor-led organizations** like The Avery Center and BridgeHope
- **Survivors** we have already helped
- **Victim services organizations** like the Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance
- **Civil rights organizations** like the NAACP and Towards



Justice

TOWARDS JUSTICE
DEFENDING THE DIGNITY OF WORK

- Partners in **The National Survivor Law Collective**
- **Directories** like the National Human Trafficking Hotline, the National Domestic Violence Hotline, United Way 2-1-1
- **Domestic violence agencies** like Family Tree and Safehouse Progressive Alliance Network
- **Out-of-state providers**
- Members of the **ALIGHT Survivor Advisory Council**
- **Task forces**
- **District attorneys' offices**



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Colorado Attorney Network

- Antommaria & Rodionov, LLC
- Arnold & Porter LLP
- Broxterman Alicks McFarlane PC
- Castle Lantz Maricle LLC
- Coan, Payton & Payne, LLC
- Drexler Law Group
- Gavin Halligan, LLC
- Griffiths Law PC
- Greenberg Traurig, LLP
- Law Office of Jessica Eve Jones, LLC
- Levin Sitcoff
- Lowrey Parady, LLC
- Hall Estill
- Kutner Brinen, PC
- The Law Office of Laura Harvell, PC
- O'Malley & Sawyer LLC
- Peak Legal Services
- Pesch Law Office
- Proff Law, LLC
- Recht Kornfeld, PC
- Riley Law LLC
- The Sawaya Law Firm
- Schall Law LLC
- Sweeney & Bechtold, LLC
- Tierney Lawrence LLC
- Towards Justice
- Vedra Law LLC
- Vilner Disability Law

RECHTKORNFELD_P
CRIMINAL • CIVIL • POLITICAL

LEVIN | SITCOFF

PROFF LAW

JUVENILE & CRIMINAL DEFENSE



Castle
Lantz
Maricle LLC

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Get In Touch

Website

www.alightnet.org

Email

connect@alightnet.org

Survivor Intake Warm Line

720-608-6039

Facebook

[**@ALIGHTAlliancetoLead**](#)

Twitter

[**@ALIGHTnet**](#)

Instagram

[**@ALIGHTonIG**](#)

LinkedIn

[**@AlliancetoLeadImpactinGlobal
HumanTrafficking**](#)

Newsletter

www.bit.ly/35ISGXX

Donate

www.bit.ly/2kjCylg