

MISSION: Justice for Alaska Native People



Pillars of Justice



Social Justice Advocacy

Bringing partners together to advocate for fair and equitable treatment of Alaska Native people within the justice system



Restorative Justice

Providing those returning to society after incarceration with the tools they need to successfully rebuild their lives



Advocacy for Victims

Standing up for the rights of Alaska Native people and providing the tools they need to advocate for themselves



Education

Equipping individuals with knowledge about the criminal justice system

STATISTICS & IMPACT

Advocacy

championed

91

Tribal members' causes

This year, ANJC championed the causes of 91 Tribal members, ensuring their voices were heard within the criminal justice system; we have advocated on behalf of 6,100 individuals since 1993.

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6,100

individuals since 1993

- For 73% of those assisted, we provided case management and guidance during legal interactions.
- The court system has granted long-term protective orders to every single individual who sought one with the assistance of ANJC.

Reentry

helped

1,893

previously incarcerated individuals since 2006

Since 2006, we have helped 1,893 previously incarcerated individuals find a stable and productive life outside of prison, assisting nearly 500 individuals in 2017 alone.

- 48% of those assisted this year are now employed or working on their educational goals.
- Nearly 52% have connected with healthcare, behavioral health, or social activities that provide positive support.

48%

of assisted are now employed

Family Law

+82%

of those served in Family Law had successful outcomes since 2014

In 2017, ANJC served 18 participants through its family law programs, which include support to individuals who have been abused; assistance with civil legal issues related to family law; and free legal clinics for child custody or divorce cases.

- More than 82% of those served in the Family Law program have experienced successful outcomes since 2014.

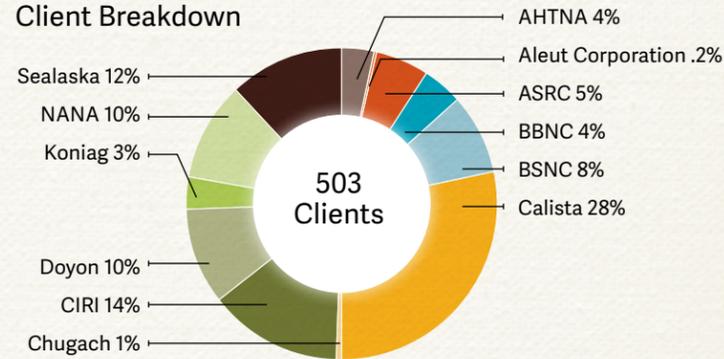
STATISTICS & IMPACT

Service Area

ANJC serves individuals state-wide, assisting participants from every ANCSA region.

- We have served a total of 1,119 individuals this year, including 500 participants who identified as ANCSA-affiliated.

ANJC ANCSA-Affiliated Client Breakdown



IMPACT STATEMENT

Making Our Voices Heard, Now and Tomorrow: An update on ANJC's future

Since 1993, ANJC has been a voice for Alaska Native and non-native people seeking justice in Alaska. Today, the organization provides advocacy for victims of violence, family law assistance, and reentry support for the previously incarcerated.

But ANJC wants to do more. With grant-writing support from Cook Inlet Tribal Council and donations generated from its upcoming fundraiser, ANJC will expand services currently limited to Anchorage, extending its advocacy and case management services from Kenai to the Mat-Su Valley. Already, ANJC has partnered with local organizations to increase reentry services in those locations.

At one time ANJC had a robust youth program—but a lack of funding eliminated that service area. ANJC aims to resuscitate its youth program, starting with administering the educational, law-focused Color of Justice program, targeted at youth who aspire to a career in the justice system. Recognizing a significant need for youth reentry services, ANJC is also partnering with the Department of Juvenile Justice and McLaughlin Youth Center to assist youth offenders inside the system and those leaving the system. But the organization's emphasis will be on prevention, offering mentoring and advocacy for young people before they become involved with the juvenile justice system.

“What we heard from our stakeholders is that they value what ANJC has done in the past, and they want us to build upon that and expand it. So we're increasing our capacity, widening our service area, and finding new ways we can provide a voice for Alaska Native people and others within the justice system.”

ANJC Director Tammy Ashley

ANJC is also strengthening its partnership with villages and tribes. Its new Tribal Liaison will bring family law, advocacy, and reentry support to CIRI region villages and work with tribal Indian Child Welfare Act representatives on family law issues. ANJC will develop staff who can also provide technical legal assistance for Tribal Courts across the state.

For everything negative you take away, you have to put something positive back, and for me, ANJC is that positive thing.

Jayson Buzby
Reentry



Voices

Clients

from

Today, I've gone from being shattered, broken, and scared to being the queen of my own destiny.

Miranda Childress
Family Law



As I was sitting in prison, waiting to get sentenced, I had no idea if I was going to go away for years or decades. Then I got a phone call. Somebody close to me had died from an overdose. I didn't even know they were using drugs. I had a severe drug and alcohol problem, and that's what ultimately led to my incarceration. But that was my breaking point. I decided I was going to be open to new things and walk that positive path.

Then I saw a flyer in prison for ANJC's reentry program. When I came to ANJC post-release, it was comforting, welcoming. I had built a relationship with the staff, and since I had burned pretty much every bridge when I got out of prison, they essentially became my family. I took life skills classes, learning those things you take for granted—skills not everybody is born with. I gave back to the community, volunteering. It's not only important to make it out of prison, but to lend a helping hand to those coming behind you.

My life is vastly different now. When I came out, I was homeless; now I own two homes. I own my own business, I'm married, and I have two kids. Soon I'll be nine years sober.

When somebody does something wrong, it's easy to say they should be punished, and that is true. But what do you do after that? How does a person move on? There's no easy answer, but ANJC walked alongside me and encouraged me. For everything negative you take away, you have to put something positive back, and for me, ANJC is that positive thing.

I was married to my ex-husband for eight years. The violence was really subtle at first—it was emotional abuse, controlling and manipulating. It was so subtle, it was easy to ignore or justify. But in 2012, my daughter witnessed my husband trying to strangle me. Even then, I wasn't ready to break away.

A couple years later, it got bad again, and I recognized my safety was at stake. I packed my bags and hid them so I'd be ready to run when the time came—and it came the night he began throwing a knife around and threatened to kill me with his bare hands. He put his hands on me to show me exactly how he would kill me. That night, I left him, and I haven't looked back.

I knew there was help for people like me and that, having Alaska Native heritage, I had more resources to tap into. I came to ANJC with my daughter, a bag of clothes, a car, and nothing else. Advocates with ANJC's free legal clinics helped me file for divorce and gain custody of my daughter. The packet I had to fill out seemed a mile high, but ANJC's advocates translated the legal terms into a language I could understand; they offered suggestions for what I should ask for in the divorce, and they put my daughter's safety first.

ANJC helped me find my courage and inner strength. We're all leaders in our own way, and ANJC helps us remember that. Today, I've gone from being shattered, broken, and scared to being the queen of my own destiny.

Voices for Justice

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Be a voice for a more just Alaska. Join us for good food and great company while supporting the critical mission of the Alaska Native Justice Center. For more information, contact Kelly Hurd, khurd@citci.org or at (907) 793-3272. To learn more or make a financial donation, please visit www.anjc.org.

Tuesday, October 17

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Fireweed Business Center

Anchorage



—Alaska Native—
JUSTICE CENTER

3600 San Jeronimo Drive, Suite 264
Anchorage AK 99508

Join us

Voices **Justice**
for

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