

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE



Bold Legacy, Bolder Future Advancing Equity, Justice and Leadership



50th Anniversary

LatinoJustice PRLDEF is using 2022 to plan and begin a trajectory of growth and expansion that will take the organization into the next two to three years and beyond. Our goal is to enhance and grow LatinoJustice's regional and national reputation as a leading civil rights and social justice organization and seek even more strategic opportunities and partnerships to build the power of the Latinx community.

In the next two to three years, LatinoJustice will add new strategies to our toolbox, build our docket in existing areas and expand into new, emerging issues that are most important to the Latinx community. And we'll deepen our work in states where Latinos are growing in numbers. Here's some of the planning and building that the LatinoJustice staff is undertaking to get us ready for the future.

- Build out capacity to launch for statewide campaigns. LatinoJustice will expand our capacity to advocate for positive changes in state laws, regulations, and agency policy in those states where we have a presence. With litigation strength for defense and policy and legislative advocacy strength for offense, there are no limits to the transformation that LatinoJustice can jumpstart.

- Establish a Racial Justice Center. The idea for the Center grows out of—and is aligned with—LJP's fundamental mission to seek a more just and equitable society. We are in a key moment in time as a country in confronting structural racism and the Latinx community has a key role to play here. The Center will help us apply a racial equity lens to all of LatinoJustice's work, as well as shape and direct targeted advocacy on behalf of the Afro-Latino and Indigenous-Latino members of our community, among other activities.

- Dismantle barriers to home ownership and affordable housing. Housing stability is critical for success in other areas of life, such as education and employment, as well as good health. Yet discriminatory government policies and private actors create obstacles to home ownership and affordable housing for many Latinx. LatinoJustice is building our capacity and expertise to identify and challenge discriminatory practices that violate federal and state laws, and ordinances and zoning practices that gentrify neighborhoods and push out people of color.

- Advocate for English Language Learners. Roughly 3.8 million students in U.S. schools are native Spanish-speakers who are not proficient in English. They make up the bulk of the approximately 5 million students nationwide identified as English Language Learners (ELL), the fastest-growing group in public schools – an also the one with the lowest rates of advancement and graduation. LatinoJustice is strengthening its commitment to do targeted advocacy on behalf of ELLs and looking to partner with an academic institution to conduct a survey of the current state of bilingual education in the U.S.

