

Volunteer Model at Work

The Advocates provides free legal services to asylum seekers through the generous assistance of a powerhouse of volunteer attorneys, a team that provides millions of dollars of in-kind donations each year. To volunteer, licensed attorneys do not need immigration law experience; The Advocates provide attorneys with training and mentoring throughout their pro bono cases.

Your Dollar Is Multiplied Many Times

A volunteer-based non-governmental, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, The Advocates fo relies on the support of individuals, law firms, foundations, and the business community to fulfill its mission. The impact of each dollar is multiplied many times over by our hundreds of volunteer professionals.

Donate by visting TheAdvocatesForHumanRights.org.



“We can change the world and make it a better place. It is in your hands to make a difference.”
—Nelson Mandela

Our Mission

The Advocates for Human Rights implements international human rights standards to promote civil society and to reinforce the rule of law. By involving volunteers in research, education, and advocacy, we build broad constituencies in the United States and select global communities.



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THE ADVOCATES FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS



Changing the world for good.



The Advocates for Human Rights

At the forefront of the world's human rights movement, The Advocates for Human Rights, a volunteer-based organization, implements human rights standards to promote civil society and reinforce the rule of law. The organization creates and maintains sustainable, comprehensive, and holistic change on a local, national, and global scale.

For more than 30 years, The Advocates' innovative programming has changed the lives of refugees and immigrants, women, ethnic and religious minorities, children, and other marginalized communities. The organization investigates and exposes human rights violations; represents people who are seeking asylum; trains and assists groups that protect human rights; engages the public, policy-makers, and children; pushes for legal reform; and advocates for sound policy.



Refugee & Immigrant Rights

The Advocates represents refugees and immigrants, advocates for legal reform, and works to help better integrate our newest residents into communities. It is the largest provider in the Upper Midwest of free legal services to low-income asylum seekers, refugees, and immigrants.

Asylum is a legal protection and immigration status for people who are in the United States and afraid to return to their home country because of fear of persecution on account of their race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group. Call The Advocates' client line at 612-341-9845 for information.

Women's Human Rights

The Advocates' Women's Human Rights Program works tirelessly to make a better, safer world for women. Expert staff and volunteers help draft laws promoting women's safety and provide commentary on countries' new and proposed domestic violence laws. The Advocates publishes reports on violence against women, working with global partners to document women's human rights violations. It trains police, prosecutors, lawyers, and judges, in collaboration with host country partners, to implement both new and existing domestic violence laws.

Advocacy

The Advocates uses advocacy to protect the human rights of asylum seekers, refugees and immigrants, and women and girls; support human rights defenders; and work towards abolishing the death penalty. To achieve its advocacy goals, The Advocates uses international human rights mechanisms; works legislatively in Minnesota, the United States, and partner countries; participates legally; and is active in local, national, and international coalitions.

International Justice

The Advocates develops innovative, sustainable strategies to hold governments accountable for human rights abuses and to strengthen institutions in the international justice system. The Advocates holds Special Consultative Status with the UN, and it also participates in regional human rights mechanisms, such as the African Commission on Human and People's Rights.

At the UN, The Advocates presents oral and written statements to charter-based bodies, such as the Human Rights Council. It participates in UN review of compliance with human rights treaties through shadow reporting and provides expert technical advice.

The Advocates develops practical strategies and tactics to assist diaspora communities to promote change in their home countries, and assists post-conflict countries to move toward peace and accountability.

Human Rights Education

Education is one of the best ways to ensure long-term improvements in respect for human rights everywhere. The Advocates develop educational tools to help people learn and apply international human rights standards in their families, schools, workplaces, and communities.

