



ACLU

WE  
THE  
PEOPLE

GRAND  
WITH  
PLANNED  
PARENTHOOD

I ❤️ REPRO  
RIGHTS

YES  
for  
WOMEN'S  
HEALTH  
EQUITY

**ACLU**

Maine

**Annual Report**  
**2016 – 2017**

Because  
of **YOU**,  
we're  
meeting  
the  
challenges  
of the day.

We're growing!  
We've added:

## **2 organizers**

With two new organizers, we're on the ground in more communities than ever. Since the election, we've offered action forums, active bystander intervention trainings and educational outreach in over a dozen towns around the state.

## **1 staff attorney**

We're expanding our legal program so we can bring more cases on behalf of Mainers who are standing up for their rights.

## **1 justice fellow**

With more legal and advocacy expertise, we're growing our work to hold government agencies accountable to the people of Maine, with an emphasis on the juvenile justice system and the Department of Health and Human Services.

## **1 researcher**

With a new researcher on board, this fall we released a new report, "We Belong Here," which focuses on the experiences of immigrant youth in Maine schools. The report is part of an advocacy plan to support communities making change in their schools. It is the first of many in-depth reports we plan to release in the coming years on the issues that matter most.

# Some numbers since the election:

**10,000**

ACLU members in Maine  
(5x our pre-election membership!)

**7**

Active Bystander Intervention  
trainings you've shown up for  
around the state

**179**

Maine attorneys who signed our letter  
calling for an end to immigration arrests  
at courthouses

**125**

Mainers who joined us  
in Augusta to testify  
against anti-immigrant  
bill LD 366

**39**

Bad bills to restrict  
civil rights and liberties  
in Maine we defeated  
together

**5**

Legal actions filed to protect civil liberties in Maine



# See You in Court.

Since Donald Trump was sworn in as the 45th president of the United States, the ACLU has been there – side by side with you – **to lead the resistance to the administration’s unconstitutional and un-American threats to civil liberties.**

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With your help, we’ve created enough resistance to stop many of Trump’s campaign promises before they’ve gotten off the ground. But when the president has pushed his unconstitutional policies through, the ACLU has made good on our pledge to see him in court.

**Our list of legal actions since the day Donald Trump took office is at 94 – and counting. This includes:**

- **13** lawsuits challenging the Muslim ban
- **2** lawsuits supporting DREAMers
- **2** lawsuits challenging LGBTQ employment discrimination

- **1** lawsuit challenging the lack of transparency in Trump’s so-called “election integrity” commission
- **1** lawsuit challenging the treatment of protestors arrested on Inauguration Day

And we’re calling for investigations into failures of government accountability and transparency across the Trump administration.

With your help, we can make an even greater impact. The U.S. Department of Justice has over 11,000 lawyers, compared to the ACLU’s 300. Imagine what we could do with more.

# Standing with Immigrants

Donald Trump began his presidency with three executive orders targeting immigrants, and Gov. LePage is following his lead. Raids by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) are terrorizing immigrant communities. The president rescinded protections for undocumented immigrants who were brought here as children. And now Maine's governor is taking aim at sheriffs who refuse to honor unconstitutional immigration detention orders. **The ACLU is confronting these attacks head on.**

## HERE IN MAINE

- We went head to head with a so-called “anti-sanctuary city” bill, LD 366, that would have punished cities for refusing to deputize local law enforcement as federal immigration agents. And we won. **Over 100 people joined us at the State House to testify against this anti-immigrant bill.**
- **Over 170 Maine attorneys signed on to our letter** urging ICE to stop arresting immigrants who show up to courthouses for unrelated matters.
- **As ACLU attorneys around the country set up shop in airports and began filing the first lawsuits, we joined over 300 activists at the Portland airport protesting the first Muslim ban** and cheered on others doing the same around the state. And we filed a lawsuit to uncover just how Customs and Border Protection has been carrying out the unconstitutional ban.

**No matter how challenging the political climate, we will fiercely protect the rights of immigrants.**



PORTLAND

TO HER SONS WHO DIED  
FOR THE UNION

One Monument Square



MAINE EMBRACES

ALL PEOPLE

COMPASSION

PEOPLE  
POWER

STOP LD 366







# Protecting the Vote

The president and many state legislators are determined to make it harder for qualified Americans to vote. They're trying everything from unfounded claims of voter fraud, to gerrymandering, to rolling back protections that have been in place since the 1960s. **But the ACLU is fighting back to protect this fundamental right.**

## HERE IN MAINE

- **Over 100 Mainers packed the State House to join our fight against two bills that would have made it harder for Mainers to vote** – a discriminatory Voter ID bill and a bill to put more scrutiny on college student voters. The legislature heard us loud and clear and rejected both.
- With the power of hundreds of People Power activists, **we're launching a campaign to protect the Ranked Choice Voting system** that was approved by Maine voters in 2016.
- We're **putting pressure on Maine Secretary of State Matt Dunlap to push back against the rhetoric of President Trump's sham "election integrity" commission**, on which Secretary Dunlap sits. And we filed a public records request to uncover the extent of the commission's plans.

**Voting is the cornerstone of our democracy, and we'll keep fighting to make sure more people – not fewer – have access to the ballot.**

# Building Better Schools

Young people are especially vulnerable in today's volatile political climate. Immigrants, students of color and LGBTQ students experience bullying and harassment that can interfere with their ability to get a quality education – and that sometimes feels sanctioned by adults in position of power.

**The ACLU is fighting to make sure all young people are treated fairly.**

## HERE IN MAINE

- **We're working with the Maine Department of Education to make sure the state education plan includes a commitment to recruiting diverse educators.** Despite growing numbers of students of color in Maine schools, educators remain almost exclusively white. Hiring teachers of color will benefit all students.
- **We're working with dozens of parents and community members in Lewiston to make positive change in that city's schools** – including ending the disproportionate discipline of students of color, improving the English Language Learner (ELL) program, and more effectively including immigrant parents in their children's education.
- **Over 115 students, teachers and educators spoke with us for the creation of “We Belong Here,” a report on the experiences of ELL students in Maine schools.** Our goal for the report is to underscore the widespread nature of discrimination in Maine schools, and provide model programs schools can adopt to address the problems.

**All students have the right to go to school in a safe and peaceful environment, and the ACLU won't stop fighting until that is the reality.**







EDWARD T. GIGNOUX  
UNITED STATES  
COURTHOUSE

156

[Small illegible plaque]

EDWARD T. GIGNOUX  
SECRETARY OF THE  
JAMES KNOX TA  
GOVERNMENT ARCH  
1967-1971

# Holding the Government Accountable

A government of the people, by the people, for the people is essential to democracy. Yet many of today's elected leaders are misusing the power of their office to divide the American people. **The ACLU is fighting back by holding government officials accountable to the rule of law and to the public.**

## HERE IN MAINE

- **After two Maine women were blocked from commenting on Gov. LePage's official, government-run Facebook page, we took their case to court.** Social media is the newest public forum. The governor doesn't get to decide who has free speech and who doesn't based on whether he agrees with them.
- **We launched Maine Government Watch**, a website dedicated to cataloguing the failures of the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Maine Department of Corrections (DOC) to serve the people of Maine. Visit [mainegovwatch.com](http://mainegovwatch.com).

**The ACLU will never stop fighting in the courts, the legislature and the public sphere for increased government accountability and transparency.**



# FEATURED SUPPORTERS



**“Our Constitution is more than just a compilation of laws and procedures. It is a statement of our values, especially those of equal justice, equal rights, equal opportunity for all. If the ACLU stands for anything, it stands for those principles.”**

**SENATOR GEORGE MITCHELL**



**“Maine Law is proud to collaborate with the ACLU of Maine on work and programs that uplift our communities.**

**Together, we share a commitment to affirming the rule of law and fiercely defending against injustice in any sphere.”**

**DANIELLE CONWAY, DEAN,  
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SCHOOL OF LAW**



**“I have been volunteering for the ACLU for over a decade, but after the election I wanted to step up my involvement.**

**The ACLU is fighting the good fight from every angle - in the courts, in the legislature, and on the ground. I want to be a part of that fight.”**

LEO BARRINGTON, VOLUNTEER



**“Print: A Bookstore is devoted to being a positive force in our community, and thrilled to support the ACLU of Maine’s tireless protection of all Mainers’ civil liberties.”**

EMILY RUSSO & JOSH CHRISTIE, PRINT: A BOOKSTORE

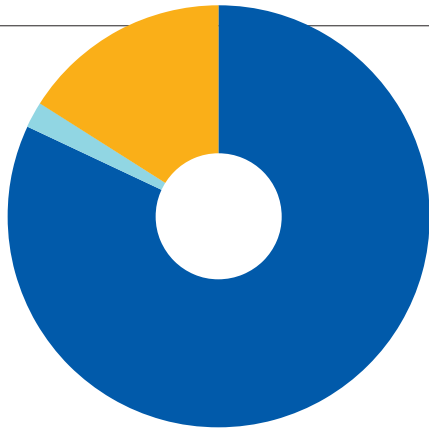


**“Interning at the ACLU helped me learn to think critically about the world in ways I never had before. I realized the incredible importance of challenging the government and institutions when they are unjust, and I felt like I was part of one of the strongest voices fighting for justice and equality.”**

LUCA DEANGELIS, SUMMER INTERN

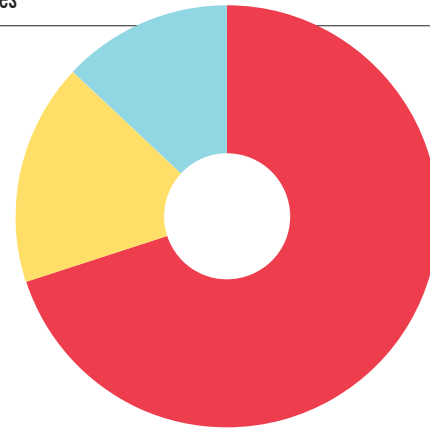
# Support and Revenue

Donations, Grants & Membership	\$1,227,612
Bequests	\$25,269
National ACLU	\$243,491
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,496,372</b>



# Expenses

Programs	\$578,693
Management & General	\$138,398
Fundraising	\$112,526
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$829,617</b>



## Other Changes in Net Assets

Investment Income	\$25,451
Realized & Unrealized Gains (Losses)	\$111,153

People from every corner of Maine are standing up for equal rights for all. Thanks to you, the ACLU of Maine has more people on the ground and in the courts than ever before.

**We need you to keep standing up and speaking out. Your continued resistance is critical, because the threats to our fundamental freedoms keep coming.**

## **Become a supporter today.**

Keep up the fight for liberty, equality, and justice in Maine.

Join the more than 10,000 people across Maine who are taking a stand against threats to our fundamental freedoms. Give to the ACLU of Maine.

**Make your gift at:**

[www.aclumaine.org/give](http://www.aclumaine.org/give)

**Or, mail your gift to:**

ACLU of Maine  
121 Middle Street Suite 200  
Portland, ME 04101

# Message from the Executive Director

## Dear friends,

Today we face threats to our values greater than many of us have ever witnessed. This year brought a constant barrage of attacks on our democracy and civil liberties. But while most of us have never faced such a challenge, the ACLU has. For nearly a century, the ACLU has challenged threats to our rights at every turn. This is what we do. **We were made for times like these.**

Today, thanks to you, we are stronger than ever before. ACLU attorneys are on the ground, fighting for justice in every state in the nation. **People like you are standing up all across Maine**, and around the country, and fighting back against this administration's outrageous policies.

I firmly believe – and I know you do too – that we are fighting the good fight: championing equality, liberty, and justice for all.

Your determination fuels this critical work. Your support allows us to resist efforts to trample on the law. Everything is on the line right now. We can withstand the assault on our rights, if we stand together.

In this struggle for democracy, WE THE PEOPLE have a job to do.

And, together, we are up to the job.  
With gratitude,



**ALISON BEYEA**  
Executive Director





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**ACLU**  
Maine