

WE THE PEOPLE

Texans are living under one of the cruelest and most dangerous presidential administrations in American history, and the most divisive and harmful state government in modern memory. But their rise to power has motivated and mobilized a resistance that grows stronger every day, with the ACLU leading the charge.

Since Trump was elected, our base has rolled up its sleeves and engaged thousands of activists to fight in Texas. Our membership has grown from 22,000 to 55,000, and our direct influence now encompasses 200,000 online activists and social media followers.

Yet with the rights of 27 million Texans to protect, we have our work cut out for us. Not only has President Trump rolled out an unconstitutional agenda at odds with both the spirit

and the letter of the Bill of Rights, he has 19,000 government lawyers—11,000 of whom work for Jeff Sessions's Department of Justice—to help him implement it.

In Texas, Greg Abbott and Dan Patrick maintain their full frontal assault on the civil rights of immigrants, women, people of color, and LGBT Texans. Their policies seek to militarize the border, separate families, encourage racial profiling and injustice, treat LGBT Texans as

undesirable second-class citizens, and ban abortion, method by method.

Today we at the ACLU face one of the worst assaults against justice, equality, and democracy throughout our 100-year history. But it is our mission and our mandate to rise to the challenge yet again. With you on our side, and with the talent and passion of our allies and supporters, we will succeed. Thank you for standing with us.

OUR MISSION AT A GLANCE

Texas is a place where we look out for one another, believe in our democracy, value our immigrants, and celebrate our diversity. For nearly 80 years, the ACLU of Texas has fought for the freedoms of everyone who calls the Lone Star State home. This year we will make a real difference in the lives of immigrants, women, LGBT Texans, and those unfairly harmed by our broken criminal justice system.



IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS

Immigrants in Texas contribute to our diversity and enrich our economy, but immigrant communities continue to be profiled, harassed, detained, and demonized by extremist politicians and the militarized law enforcement agencies they control.

The fight for immigrants' rights is especially important in the Lone Star State. We share a 1,254 mile border with Mexico, 16% of our residents are foreign-born, and our largest city, Houston, is the most demographically diverse in the nation. Texas is thus a critical front in the national battle for immigrants' rights, and we at the ACLU of Texas are committed to defending those rights in courtrooms, at the state legislature, and in communities large and small throughout the state.

Our goals are clear: to end abuse in immigration enforcement, end family separation, end family detention, end local law enforcement's collaboration with federal immigration officials and the abuses they inevitably engender, and ensure that no Texans—regardless of their race, religion, national origin, or immigration status—are discriminated against by the State and its agents.

REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

Every woman in Texas should have the right, the access, and the tools to make the best decision for herself and for her family about when and whether to have a child, without undue influence by politicians and special interest groups.

Yet since *Roe v. Wade* became the law of the land in 1973, Texas lawmakers have passed 19 different restrictions on reproductive freedom that include bans on the safest methods, bans on insurance, restrictions on judicial bypass, and a whole litany of onerous regulations otherwise known as Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers, or TRAP laws—that make it nearly impossible for many women who have decided to have an abortion to access the care they deserve and to which they have a right.

We are committed to ensuring that women in Texas have both the right to control their own reproductive destinies, as well as the tools they need to exercise that right.



LGBT EQUALITY

In public schools, in the workplace, in public accommodations, and in housing, LGBT Texans have been treated like second-class citizens. In most of the state, LGBT folks lack the most basic protections against discrimination because of their sexual orientation. And in most of the state, that discrimination is still legal.

LGBT folks have difficulty finding or keeping a place to live without being harassed. LGBT youth are targeted for bullying and discrimination. Children raised by same-sex couples continue to face hurdles related to their legal status. Transgender Texans are at a substantially higher risk for unemployment, poverty, workplace discrimination, housing discrimination, health care discrimination, bullying, suicide, assault, and murder. Many basic transactions of everyday life—from using a public restroom to writing a check at the grocery store to boarding an airplane—can be occasions for discrimination and harassment.

But in spite of our state lawmakers' staunch opposition, Texans no longer have the patience for anti-LGBT discrimination. We are committed to defending LGBT equality throughout the state. We will continue to pursue public education, legal, and advocacy campaigns until every Texan, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, can live their lives with dignity.



SMART JUSTICE

The state of Texas has the 4th highest incarceration rate in the country. 81% of our inmates are incarcerated for non-violent and drug offenses. We spend seven times more on incarceration than on higher education. And in communities throughout our state, patterns of racial profiling, racially biased enforcement policies, and instances of excessive and even lethal force disproportionately target people of color.

The status quo is racially unjust, ineffective, wasteful, and unsustainable. We collaborate with conservatives and progressives alike to push for thoughtful criminal justice reforms, working not only to stem the flow of people into prisons, but also to shrink the number of people inside prisons. We pursue common-sense reform policies that include promoting police practices that protect communities rather than militarize them, diverting non-violent offenders from incarceration towards sensible alternatives, and implementing effective school discipline practices to reduce the school-to-prison pipeline.

Smart, effective reform is possible, and we are committed to helping Texas re-envision a criminal justice system that is fair and free of racial bias, keeps our communities safe, and respects the rights of all who come into contact with it.



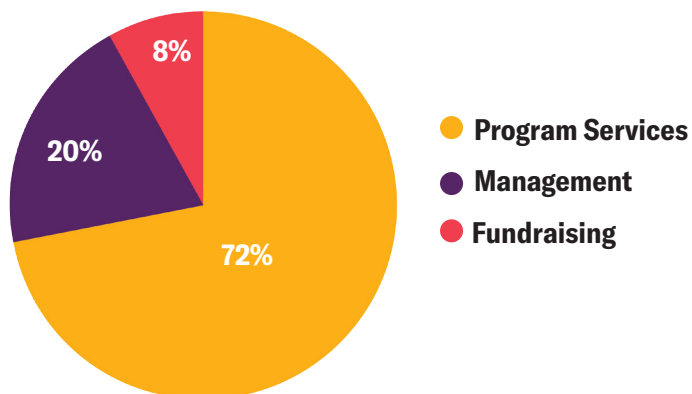
FIVE REASONS

TO STAND WITH THE ACLU OF TEXAS

- 1 We stand on principle.** We never yield in our devotion to the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the rule of law, and we never back down.
- 2 We defend everyone's rights.** We don't choose sides when it comes to the Constitution, and we are committed to protecting the freedoms we are all guaranteed under the law.
- 3 We fight our battles on all fronts.** Whether it's racial justice, free speech, immigrants' rights, religious freedom, reproductive rights, voting rights, or LGBT rights, every single civil rights battle in the U.S. has a hotly contested front line in Texas. And we are prepared to fight for all of them.
- 4 We defend the rule of law.** Whenever anyone, anywhere acts to undermine civil liberties, the ACLU of Texas's lawyers, advocates, political strategists, and organizers stand to defend them.
- 5 We defend Texans everywhere.** Texas is a big state, but our staff, advocates, and volunteers are involved in legal cases, rallies, protests, legislative efforts from El Paso to Orange, helping people stand up for their rights.

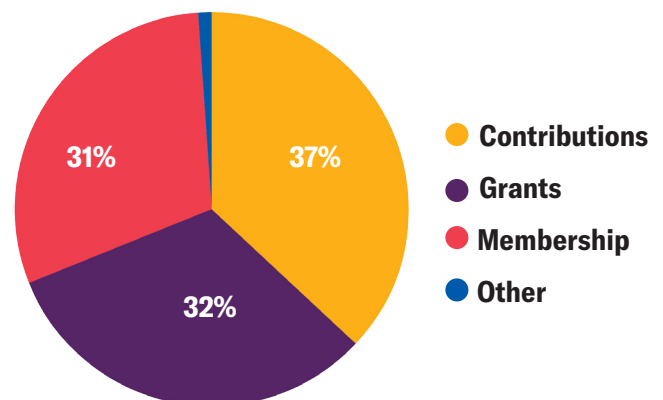
FISCAL YEAR 2018 OPERATING BUDGET

In the wake of the presidential election and the first Muslim Ban, the ACLU has witnessed an outpouring of support not witnessed in our history.



Total Expenditures: \$5,282,863.85*

*Unaudited figures as of July 26, 2018.



Total Support & Revenues: \$6,391,663.63*