

CENTER *for*  
REPRODUCTIVE  
RIGHTS

# Defending Today. Building for Tomorrow.

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



# CENTER *for* REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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## Our Mission

The Center for Reproductive Rights uses the power of law to advance reproductive rights as fundamental human rights around the world.

## Our Vision

We envision a world where every person participates with dignity as an equal member of society, regardless of gender.

Where every woman is free to decide whether or when to have children and whether to get married; where access to quality reproductive health care is guaranteed; and where every woman can make these decisions free from coercion or discrimination.

# From the President and CEO and the Board Chair

This year, the courage and commitment of our partners, clients, and supporters came into sharp relief, and we are grateful to every ally who has joined us on this journey to advance reproductive autonomy.

Amid shifting legal and political threats worldwide and the intentional chaos being sown by our opposition, our strategy has remained steadfast and true—even in the face of the growing number of criminal cases.

Every day, we defend against attacks and regression as we push forward to strengthen legal protections for reproductive rights and access to care—whenever and wherever possible.

We are clear-eyed about the challenges ahead. Yet, we are seizing every opportunity for proactive change to build the world we envision—for adolescents in Nepal; people seeking abortion care from Norway to Michigan to Nigeria; girls in Ecuador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua; and for all people around the world.

We are in this fight for the long haul, and we know we are not alone. Together with our impassioned community of supporters, our extensive pro bono network, and our powerful movement, we refuse to be intimidated—and together, we will prevail.

Thank you for being with us, as we defend today and build for tomorrow.

**Nancy Northup**  
President & CEO

**Michele Coleman Mayes**  
Board Chair



Michele Coleman Mayes and Nancy Northup  
©Getty Images for the Center for Reproductive Rights

# Our Global Strategy

We **build, enforce, and defend** legal guarantees for reproductive rights, drawing on our expertise in human rights, comparative, and constitutional law, and leveraging our partnerships and pro bono network.

Through litigation, legal policy, and advocacy, we **create lasting legal change** to ensure that people worldwide can **make decisions** about their reproductive health and lives and **have access** to the full range of reproductive health services and information.

**65+**  
countries with strengthened reproductive health laws and policies

**115+**  
formal partnerships

**290+**  
staff working across five continents

**3,000+**  
pro bono attorneys from

**140+**  
law firms in our network

# From Action to Impact

Since the launch of our five-year Strategic Plan (2022–2026), as a result of our work with our partners, **3.2 billion people** across 50 countries are living under **stronger legal protections for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)**.

**787M people**  
have stronger legal protections  
for **maternal health**

**2.3B people**  
have stronger legal protections  
for **abortion**

**280M people**  
have stronger legal protections  
for **adolescent SRHR**

**1.4B people**  
have stronger legal protections for  
**assisted reproduction**

# OUR IMPACT IN THE United States

Despite the regressive policy environment, we took action on multiple fronts to urgently **defend abortion rights in the U.S. while pushing forward for stronger protections at every opportunity.**

We countered attacks from the Trump administration—through our Agency Watch advocacy tool, lawsuits to force transparency on medication abortion policymaking and to restore Medicaid funding for clinics in Maine, and comments and advocacy to slow harmful rulemaking on abortion—and we successfully defended people targeted by abortion bans.

Across the states, we secured powerful wins that built new legal protections for abortion access, including expanded interstate shield laws in Colorado, Maine, New York, and Vermont to enhance confidentiality for telehealth providers. We also secured litigation victories against abortion restrictions in Arizona, Idaho, Michigan, Montana, and elsewhere to keep clinics open and services available for as many people as possible.



©Center for Reproductive Rights



Center staff on Capitol Hill advocating against the Trump administration's proposed rule banning abortion for veterans.

“  
Even in this crisis  
moment, we can and we  
must build toward the  
world we want to live in.  
The wins are possible and  
we’re seizing them all.”

**Rachana Desai Martin**  
Chief U.S. Program Officer,  
Center for Reproductive Rights

### Other Impact

- We co-founded the Georgia Fertility Justice NOW coalition and campaign and helped draft and build support for two Georgia bills that would **advance equitable and non-discriminatory access to fertility care**. We also created new advocacy resources on the importance of affordability, autonomy, and ending discriminatory barriers in policymaking on in vitro fertilization (IVF).
- In response to our litigation and advocacy, Hawai'i enacted a new law to significantly improve its midwifery regulations—expanding licensure pathways, eliminating criminal penalties, and protecting Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners. With UCLA Law's Center on Reproductive Health, Law, and Policy, we also convened legal scholars, midwives, and other experts to develop new legal theories for **advancing the rights of pregnant and birthing people** in the U.S.

OUR IMPACT IN

# Latin America and the Caribbean

In a landmark **victory for girls in Latin America and around the world**, the United Nations recognized for the first time that forced pregnancy and forced motherhood violate girls' human rights.

This is a result of the four cases we brought to the UN Human Rights Committee with our partners in the Son Niñas, No Madres (They are Girls, Not Mothers) Movement on behalf of four girls in Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Ecuador who survived sexual violence, became pregnant, and were denied abortion care. The Committee's rulings apply to more than 170 countries and set new global standards for access to abortion, sex education, and protections for sexual abuse survivors.



©Son Niñas, No Madres Movement



Son Niñas, No Madres advocates, including Center staff, at a press conference in Quito, Ecuador.

“

**Girls were born to learn, to play, to dream of bright futures—not to mother or bear the consequences of violence.”**

**Catalina Martínez Coral**

Vice President for Latin America and the Caribbean, Center for Reproductive Rights

### Other Impact

- We argued the first-ever case **addressing Peru’s forced sterilization policy** to reach the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. We and our partners brought the case of Celia Ramos, who died in 1997 after undergoing surgical sterilization without her full consent. She was one of thousands of Indigenous and impoverished women who were forcibly sterilized as part of Peru’s policy during the regime of Alberto Fujimori in the 1990s.
- As a result of our legal advocacy with partners, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights issued two groundbreaking expert opinions: recognizing that the **climate emergency** must be addressed with a gender perspective and recognizing the **right to care** and its link to reproductive health. These opinions set important legal precedents to advance reproductive rights as human rights in the region.

## OUR IMPACT IN

# Africa

### We secured two landmark victories affirming abortion rights for survivors of sexual violence.

In **Nigeria**, the Federal High Court in Abuja recognized for the first time that pregnancies resulting from rape, incest, and other forms of sexual violence are a violation of both physical and mental health and that survivors have the right to decide whether to continue the pregnancy. The decision, secured with our partner the Reproductive Justice Initiative Foundation (RJIF), sets an important legal precedent and contributes to the growing recognition of reproductive rights as human rights in Nigeria and across the region.

Building on this work, we joined a groundbreaking case in **Malawi** involving a 13-year-old girl who became pregnant after being sexually assaulted and was denied access to abortion care. The judgment from the High Court of Malawi referenced our amicus brief, affirming that survivors of sexual violence have an automatic right to safe abortion services under Malawi's law.



©Center for Reproductive Rights



Center staff and partners at the High Court in Blantyre, Malawi.

“

**This decision is a major step forward in protecting the health and dignity of Nigerian women and girls.”**

**Bada Olasupo**  
Executive Director, Reproductive Justice Initiative Foundation

### Other Impact

- Our sustained and multi-pronged advocacy with partners helped secure important advances for **adolescents' health and rights** in the region. A new law regulating health care services in Rwanda grants adolescents aged 15 and older the right to access sexual and reproductive health services without mandatory parental consent, and new guidance from the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child protects the right to education for pregnant and parenting students across Africa.
- The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights adopted a resolution to develop guidelines on **eliminating obstetric violence and promoting quality maternal health care** in Africa as a result of our advocacy and partnership, a key milestone in the region.

## OUR IMPACT IN

# Asia

### **We secured a significant victory affirming adolescents' reproductive rights in Nepal.**

As a result of our case, which we filed in 2020 with our partner the Forum for Women, Law, and Development, Nepal's Ministry of Health and Population adopted new adolescent-friendly guidelines for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). In its ruling, the Supreme Court of Nepal reaffirmed the guidelines and strengthened the legal and policy environment for adolescents' rights.

We also partnered with Youth-Led Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Advocacy Nepal (YoSHAN) to publish research on the harmful impacts of criminalizing consensual and non-exploitative sexual activities among adolescents in Nepal.



©Center for Reproductive Rights



Symposium in Kathmandu, Nepal that supported development of the Jindal Global Law Review special issue.

“

**The ability to make and exercise decisions about one’s body, sexuality, and reproduction is at the core of gender, economic, and social justice.”**

Jindal Global Law Review

### Other Impact

- We led a multi-year project and gathered lawyers, academics, advocates, and other experts to create a **special issue of Jindal Global Law Review**—a peer-reviewed legal journal—on reproductive autonomy and justice in Asia. The issue, co-edited by the Center, explored SRHR challenges in Bangladesh, China, India, Nepal, Pakistan, South Korea, and Sri Lanka, aiming to develop strategies for law and policy reform.
- We produced a first-of-its-kind legal analysis on the unique legal and social **barriers that queer people in South Asia face in accessing SRHR, including abortion**. With increasing anti-rights activity in the region, this research and analysis provide powerful advocacy tools to address these challenges.

OUR IMPACT IN

# Europe

## Our advocacy played a key role in advancing abortion law reform across Europe.

In **Norway**, recommendations we made with partners to the Ministry of Health influenced a new law that expands the legal limit for abortion from 12 to 18 weeks of pregnancy and removes restrictions on adolescents' access.

In the **United Kingdom** (UK), an expert committee in **Scotland** recommended law reform to decriminalize abortion and expand access, and the UK Parliament voted overwhelmingly to advance a bill that would end the criminalization of women for abortion in **England** and **Wales**. We are working closely with partners across the UK to secure reforms.

In **Armenia**, we worked with partners and lawmakers to shape new legislation that would remove the three-day mandatory waiting period for access to abortion.



©Adrien Buchet



Center staff in Geneva, Switzerland, where flags flew over the Mont-Blanc Bridge for International Safe Abortion Day 2025.

“

**Too many women in the region still experience harmful legal obstacles that jeopardize their health and well-being and impede their timely access to abortion care.”**

**Leah Hctor**

Vice President for Europe, Center for Reproductive Rights

### Other Impact

- We helped secure important commitments on sexual and reproductive health and rights in the European Commission’s first-ever **Roadmap for Women’s Rights**, which sets out the European Union’s five-year vision for advancing gender equality and protecting women’s rights in the EU and globally.
- To celebrate **International Safe Abortion Day**, we secured the first-ever official recognition of the day by the City of Geneva, which turned key landmarks green and collaborated with the Center on “reproductive rights are human rights” branding. We also launched a new report on European abortion laws and hosted an event in Geneva to engage high-level government officials, Swiss authorities, and partners.

OUR IMPACT AT THE

# Global Level

In a historic win, the **UN Human Rights Council** adopted a resolution with the **first-ever standalone reference to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)**.

Led by Canada and adopted by consensus, the resolution affirms the rights to bodily autonomy and to sexual and reproductive health. We played a key role in shaping and defending this resolution, working closely with Member States to ensure strong language and countering efforts to weaken it.

Resolutions like this play an important role in shaping international norms that, in turn, inform national laws, policies, and funding decisions that directly impact people around the world.



©Center for Reproductive Rights



The Center's Enid Muthoni Ndiga with partners at an event on adolescents' rights organized by the Center and our partners during CSW.

“

**This victory at the Human Rights Council sets a powerful new global standard and affirms a political commitment to gender equality, dignity, and freedom.”**

**Enid Muthoni Ndiga**  
Chief Program Officer for Global Advocacy & Regional Programs, Center for Reproductive Rights

### Other Impact

- We joined partners and world leaders at the 69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the UN's largest annual gathering to advance gender equality and women's empowerment, to **champion SRHR on the global stage**. We organized or participated in eight high-level panels and engaged with ministerial-level delegations from Luxembourg, Finland, Canada, and Sweden to encourage continued prioritization of SRHR in the face of unprecedented global pushback. This year's CSW marked the 30th anniversary of the historic Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, a progressive and visionary global agenda for advancing the rights of women and girls. To celebrate this milestone, we launched the "30 Years, 30 Stories" digital campaign, highlighting progress on maternal health care, abortion access, gender equality, and international human rights since 1995.

OUR IMPACT THROUGH

# Strategic Partnerships

We strengthened and expanded our relationships with a broad range of partners and allies to build momentum for our shared impact and to advance reproductive rights.

In the U.S., to support our **engagement with corporate leaders**, we advised on a study from the Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) and Morning Consult and a paper from the Georgia Institute of Technology and the College of Wooster, published in the National Bureau of Economic Research, finding that abortion bans influenced job decisions, talent migration, and employee expectations around health care access. We leveraged the findings to articulate the business case for protecting reproductive rights on Capitol Hill and on a mainstage panel at the 2025 South by Southwest Conference (SXSW), featuring Center President & CEO Nancy Northup, Dr. Chelsea Clinton, and senior leaders from Bumble and IWPR.

We also supported corporate advocacy on reproductive rights, including by helping to organize more than 50 biotech CEOs and investors to submit a comment to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, urging it to avoid politically motivated decisions about the abortion pill mifepristone.

“

**To build a resilient workforce and thriving economy, it's up to corporate leaders and law-makers to take decisive action and make reproductive health care a top priority.”**

**Dr. Jamila K. Taylor**  
President and CEO, Institute  
for Women's Policy Research



©Center for Reproductive Rights

IWPR's Dr. Jamila K. Taylor with Julia Taylor Kennedy, the Center's Senior Director for Corporate Engagement, and Nancy Northup, Center President & CEO, at a U.S. congressional briefing on the economic impacts of abortion bans.

# Pro Bono Partners

The Center's pro bono partnerships form a vital backbone of our work. The commitment of our partner firms, who continue to stand with us despite a rapidly changing environment, has been instrumental in advancing our mission.

We are deeply grateful to the **more than 1,000 attorneys** who contributed nearly **35,000 hours of legal expertise** this year, providing services valued at **\$35.4 million**. Through our global Pro Bono Program, these trusted partners amplified our reach, enabling us to meet escalating legal needs around the world.

This steadfast support is made possible in part by a generous donor whose transformative investment has allowed our Pro Bono Program to remain robust in the face of political headwinds. With this foundation, we continue to cultivate region-specific strategies, strengthen our relationships with law firms worldwide, and mobilize a global legal community that stands ready to defend the rule of law at a critical juncture. We are profoundly grateful for their partnership, courage, and unwavering dedication.

A&O Shearman

Ahmad, Zavitsanos,  
Anaipakos, Alavi & Mensing  
PC

ALP East Africa

Aluko & Oyebode

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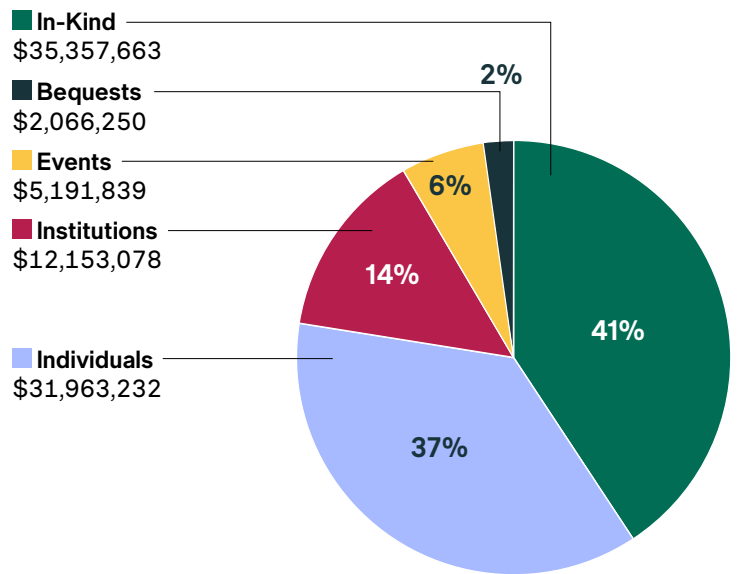
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# Financials

Our financial growth over the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, allowed us to strengthen our programs and broaden our impact worldwide. Total revenue raised was **\$51.4 million**, and we secured additional in-kind (non-monetary) support valued at **\$35.4 million**, mostly for legal services. **Seventy-nine percent** of our expenses went directly to program.

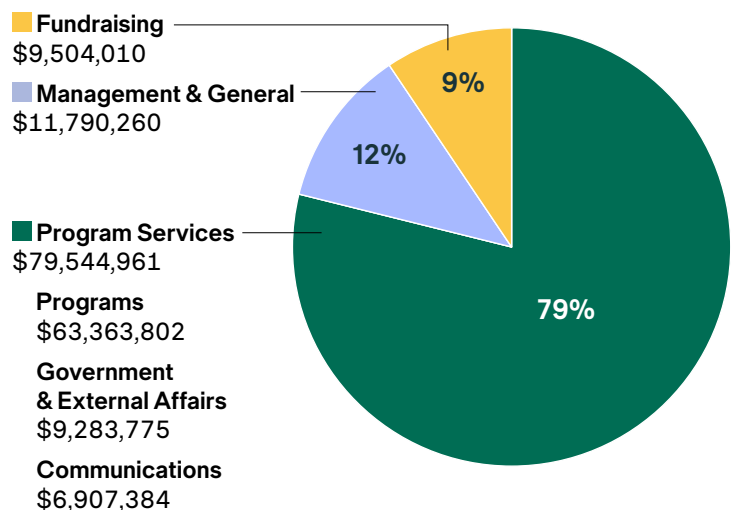
Based on the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), our audited financial statements for fiscal year 2025 reported total net assets at the close of the fiscal year were \$82.1 million and the total recognized revenue was \$86.8 million inclusive of donated services.

## Revenue



## Expenses

Includes donated services



# With Thanks to Our Donors

We are deeply grateful to our donors and partners, whose generous financial support bolstered our work and impact this year. Your steadfast commitment has helped to advance reproductive rights as human rights and create meaningful change around the world. We are honored to continue this work together in the year ahead.

To learn more about how you can support the Center's programs and drive progress for reproductive rights, please visit our website: [www.reproductiverights.org/support](http://www.reproductiverights.org/support)

You can also email us at: [contribute@reprorights.org](mailto:contribute@reprorights.org)

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Center for Reproductive Rights  
New York Gala, October 2025

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