



**In December 2024, a small group of civic-minded lawyers in Rhode Island recognized the need for a group of experienced professionals to address new challenges to the rule of law and democracy in their local community. The mission of the Lawyers' Committee for Rhode Island is to use the law to protect people, groups, and institutions in Rhode Island from illegality by the federal government, and to support efforts to maintain and advance democracy.**

## 2025 IMPACT

- Nearly 50 lawyers donated hundreds of hours to support LCRI's development and operation.
- NLPP represented 92 named plaintiffs, and their members, including 26 named plaintiffs from Rhode Island, in seven legal actions to protect \$14.9 billion in funding. Every legal action in which the court has issued a ruling (six of seven cases) has resulted in affirmative protections. NLPP co-councils this litigation with local and national partners.
- Sixty-seven organizations received individualized support from NLPP staff or volunteer lawyers to address urgent legal questions.
- Sixteen organizations were supported with agency appeals, protecting \$7.8M through NLPP appeals.
- NLPP staff attorneys and volunteers delivered nearly 50 training sessions to hundreds of nonprofit staff, leaders, and volunteer Board members to help them protect their missions and their funding, know their rights, and address emerging needs.
- LCRI supported volunteer lawyers to file dozens of habeas petitions in support of people illegally detained by the federal government. In every case, the courts found the detainees' rights were violated and ordered immediate release or a bail hearing.
- Advocacy from volunteer lawyers from LCRI's education work group, in partnership with other community members, has successfully prevented school districts across the state from eroding anti-discrimination policies in educational settings.
- LCRI has provided legal and civic education to hundreds of people in Rhode Island's schools, places of worship, health clinics, businesses, and community groups, supporting Rhode Island's response to, and protection from, civil immigration enforcement.
- Volunteer members of LCRI's legislative work group researched and drafted two pieces of legislation that will make Rhode Islanders safer. A partner organization successfully raised \$50,000 to engage experts to help pass this legislation in 2026.