



PAIR Awards & Recognition

In May 2019, PAIR was awarded a grant by the Equality Fund, of the Boston Foundation, to support our work to provide free legal representation to LGBTQ+ clients.

On May 16, 2019, PAIR was a recipient of the Massachusetts Academy of Trial Attorney's 2019 *Friend of Justice Award*.

In April 2019, PAIR was awarded a *Sustaining Grant Award* by the Cummings Foundation to support our work to protect the rights of asylum seekers and immigrants in detention.

PAIR was honored, in August 2018 with a special \$25,000 grant from the Open Avenues Foundation to support its work to protect immigrant unjustly detained by ICE.

PAIR was honored, in October 2018 with a special \$25,000 *Open Doors grant* from The Boston Foundation to support its work to protect immigrant rights

PAIR's Executive Director Anita P. Sharma was appointed as 2018-19 Steering Committee Member of the Boston Bar Association's Delivery of Legal Services Section

PAIR Executive Director Anita P. Sharma was appointed as 2018-19 Co-Chair of the Liaison Committee on Asylum of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), New England Chapter.

PAIR's Senior Attorney Elena Nouredine was appointed as 2018-19 Co-Chair of the Pro Bono Liaison Committee of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), New England Chapter.

In May 2018, PAIR was honored to be recognized with the *Kevin Larkin Memorial Award* for Public Service by the Massachusetts LGBTQ Bar Association.

In January 2018, PAIR was honored to be selected as a *Social Innovator* by the Social Innovation Forum.

In October 2017, PAIR was selected as a grantee of the *Greater Boston Immigrant Defense Fund* by Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR) to support a new detention attorney position.

PAIR was honored, in October 2017 with a special \$25,000 *Open Doors grant* from The Boston Foundation to support its work to protect immigrant rights

In October 2017, the PAIR Project was named *Organization of the Year* by the Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys (MAHA) for its post-election work to protect the rights of asylum-seekers and immigration detainees.

PAIR's Executive Director Anita P. Sharma was appointed as 2017-18 Steering Committee Member of the Boston Bar Association's Delivery of Legal Services Section

PAIR Executive Director Anita P. Sharma was appointed as 2017-18 Co-Chair of the Liaison Committee on Asylum of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), New England Chapter.

PAIR's Heather Perez was selected for the 2017-18 Boston College Law School Fellowship to support the Detention Program.

PAIR was selected for the 2017-18 Access to Justice Fellowship of Irene Freidl, Retired Partner, K&L Gates.

In May 2017, AILA NE presented PAIR with the 2017 AILA NE *Pro Bono Champions Award* in recognition of its post-election work and commitment to pro bono efforts.

In June 2017, The Philanthropy Connection announced its 2017-2018 grantees, including PAIR, who was selected for its determination to protect immigrant rights and expanded community outreach services.

In March 2017, PAIR received a 3-year Special Initiatives Grant (totaling 100K) by the Barr Foundation for its work to protect vulnerable communities, promote human rights, and protect civil liberties in Massachusetts through legal services and community education.

PAIR was honored, in March 2017, with a special grant from the Fish Family Foundation to support its post-election work to protect immigrant rights.

PAIR was honored, in February 2017, with a special \$15,000 grant from the Lenny Zakim Fund to support its post-election work to protect immigrant rights.

In February 2017, PAIR was awarded emergency funding by MLAC and the Klarman Foundation for its work to protect immigrant rights and community “Know Your Rights” initiative.

PAIR's Executive Director Anita P. Sharma was, in October 2016, honored by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly for its *Top Women of Law* Award.

PAIR's Executive Director Anita P. Sharma was appointed as 2016-17 Co-Chair of the Liaison Committee on Asylum of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), New England Chapter.

PAIR's Executive Director Anita P. Sharma was appointed as 2016-17 Steering Committee Member of the Boston Bar Association's Delivery of Legal Services Section

On June 9, 2016, PAIR was honored as a recipient of the Cummings Foundation “100K for 100” grant to support its Access to Justice Program to increase community intake.

In March 2016, PAIR was awarded a grant by the City of Boston, Mayor's Office of New Bostonian for their DACA/DAPA Outreach Initiative (through the Emma Lazarus Local Challenge).

PAIR's Executive Director Anita P. Sharma was appointed as 2015-16 Co-Chair of the Liaison Committee on Asylum of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)

PAIR's Executive Director Anita P. Sharma was appointed as 2016-17 Steering Committee Member of the Boston Bar Association's Delivery of Legal Services Section

PAIR's Elena Nouredine was selected for the 2015-16 Boston University Law School Fellowship to support a project to promote representation of unaccompanied minors for SIJS relief.

PAIR was recognized for its support of the Salvadoran immigrant community, in January 2016, at Boston's City Hall, hosted by the Consul General of El Salvador.

Sarah Ignatius, PAIR's former Executive Director, who led PAIR in providing legal assistance for asylum seekers for over 22 years was, in October 2015, awarded the Refugee & Immigrant Ministry's Constance Hammond Award.

In June 2015, The Philanthropy Connection announced its 2015-2016 grantees, including PAIR, who was selected for its work to protect immigrant rights and to ensure a smooth leadership transition.

PAIR's Asylum Staff Attorney Anita P. Sharma appointed as 2014-15 Co-Chair of the Liaison Committee on Asylum of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)

PAIR was selected for the 2014-15 Access to Justice Fellowship of Michael Diener, Retired Partner, WilmerHale.

PAIR was recognized for its support of the Salvadoran immigrant community, in January 2015, at Boston's City Hall, hosted by the Consul General of El Salvador.

PAIR's Asylum Staff Attorney Anita P. Sharma was appointed as 2013-14 Co-Chair of the Liaison Committee on Asylum of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)

PAIR was selected for the 2013-14 Access to Justice Fellowship of Thomas Hannigan, Retired Partner, Ropes & Gray.

PAIR was selected for the 2012-13 Access to Justice Fellowship of Martha Koster, Mintz Levin litigation partner.

PAIR honored in August 2012 with a special \$10,000 grant from the Lenny Zakim Fund in memory of Jonathan Samen, a beloved board member of the Lenny Zakim Fund, a dedicated public servant and trusted attorney at Riemer & Braunstein.

PAIR was selected for the 2011-13 Equal Justice Works Fellowship of Sarah Sherman-Stokes, sponsored by DuPont and K&L Gates, to support the Detention Program.

PAIR's Asylum Staff Attorney Anita P. Sharma was appointed as 2012-13 Co-Chair of the Asylum Liaison Committee of the New England Chapter of AILA

PAIR's Asylum Staff Attorney Anita P. Sharma was appointed as 2012-13 Co-Chair of the Immigration Public Service Committee of the Boston Bar Association's Immigration Law

PAIR's Asylum Staff Attorney Anita P. Sharma was selected as 2012-13 Steering Committee Member of the Group Mentoring Program of the Boston Bar Association's Diversity & Inclusion Section

PAIR recognized by MIRA on November 16, 2010 for "its outstanding work as part of the Massachusetts Haitian Temporary Protected Status Consortium"

PAIR Pro Bono Detention Manager Antonio P. Castro Aranda awarded honorable recognition on June 6, 2010, by Sheriff Thomas M. Hodgson, of the Bristol County House of Correction, for services provided to immigration detainees

PAIR featured in the Massachusetts Bar Foundation's video celebrating the Foundation's 45th anniversary in January 2010.

PAIR honored with the 2009 *Dr. Joseph H. Brenner Award* from Community

Legal Services and Counseling Center "for its invaluable work on behalf of asylum-seekers"

PAIR Asylum Attorney Anita Sharma honored as one of the 100 *Unsung Heroines of 2009* by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women

PAIR's Executive Director Sarah Ignatius and Pro Bono Detention Manager Antonio Castro Aranda were recognized in May 2009 by the American Immigration Lawyers Association-New England Chapter for "their dedication and efforts to develop a pro bono program with AILA attorneys"

PAIR's Executive Director Sarah Ignatius and PAIR Board member Robert Hildreth recognized with the Keeper of the American Dream Award by the National Immigration Forum on behalf of the National Immigrant Bond Fund in 2008

PAIR's Asylum Staff Attorney Anita P. Sharma was selected by the Boston Bar Association as a member of its Public Interest Leadership Program 2008-2009 class

PAIR was recognized with the Daniel Levy Award from the National Immigration Project in November 2007 for its part in responding immediately to the March 6, 2007 workplace raid in New Bedford, during which Immigration arrested over 360 people

PAIR was selected for Pickering Fellowship of WilmerHale LLP, allowing a WilmerHale associate Lara Slatcha to support PAIR's Asylum Program.

PAIR received a Special Recognition from the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services, on June 4, 2007, for recruiting and training over 70 attorneys from private law firms for pro bono representation of victims of the March 2007 Immigration raid in New Bedford

PAIR client and Board member Edith Fobid spoke at the Boston Bar Foundation John and Abigail Adams Ball in November 2006 about being imprisoned and tortured in Cameroon due to her support for minority rights of English-speakers there.

PAIR's Asylum Staff Attorney Anita P. Sharma received the John G. Brooks

Public Service Award in October 2006 from the Boston Bar Association for her outstanding representation and mentoring, and tireless efforts on behalf of PAIR's asylum clients

PAIR awarded the Obunto Award in June 2006 by the Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights for its "dedicated service to survivors of torture and asylum-seekers, for providing hope to countless individuals and their families, [and] for caring for each individual one at a time"

PAIR selected for the 2006 Catalogue for Philanthropy's 10th anniversary edition for "[standing] squarely in the grand tradition of American philanthropy's commitment to political freedom"