



why UPLC ?

UPTOWN PEOPLE'S LAW CENTER



Annual
Report
2017



Because homelessness is
not a crime

The city of Chicago evicted Uptown Tent City from the Lake Shore Drive viaducts while under construction. Then, **they said no one could erect a tent anywhere** on city-owned land.

There are 5,000 shelter beds for approximately 80,000 homeless people in Chicago. Until they have homes, people should be allowed to have this community, which helps keep them safer!

Your donations help represent Uptown Tent City in a lawsuit which demands that the city respect the **Illinois Homeless Bill of Rights**.

Because prisoners
are people too



Illinois' prison system is in crisis. **It is among the worst in the entire United States.** Horrific health care, violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the **torture** that is solitary confinement, and other abuses occur every day.

UPLC not only exposes the **awful conditions** people are forced to live in, but also uses the law to **change them.** We are the **only** organization in Illinois who does this.

When **you** donate to UPLC, you are **changing the way Illinois prisons are run**, and protecting the **constitutional rights of more than 40,000 people.**

Your donation to UPLC...

- Leverages over 10,000 hours of pro bono work per year.
Pro bono attorneys + our prison knowledge = real change!
- Ensures that **over 100 letters** from prisoners are responded to and recorded **every week!** These letters keep us informed on what's going on behind the prison walls.
- **Helps over 500 people or families** with tenants' rights & Social Security income issues every year.
- Enables UPLC to **grow**—there is **increased need for our work**, and with **your help**, we will do it!



"I work at UPLC to try to stop other mothers from going through what my mom went through... seeing me go from 187 to 108 pounds, beat up regularly. It was torture for me, and torture for her."

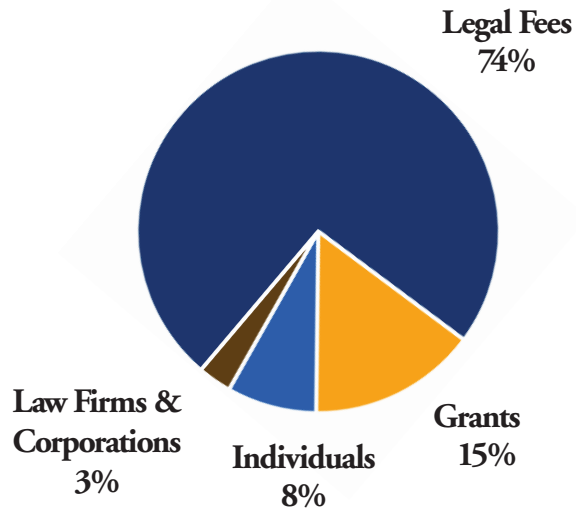
- Brian Nelson, Prisoner's Rights Coordinator and survivor of 23 years of solitary confinement

"I'm involved with UPLC because they help the people who are often forgotten. They give a voice to those who go unheard."

- Sean Suber, UPLC board member



Income



While case fee awards are an important source of income, they aren't reliable for meeting day- to-day expenses. A decade-long delay before being paid is typical of our prisoner class action work.

Support from our generous donors allows the work to continue while we await the outcome of these large cases!

Expenses

**Program &
Operating
Expenses**
91%



**Fundraising
Expenses**
9%

Over 90 cents of every dollar you donate to UPLC goes to our work and expenses—not fundraising!

Staff Time

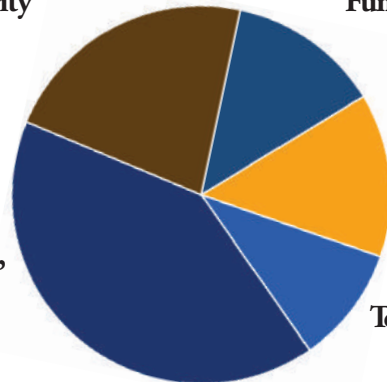
Social Security
22%

Fundraising
13%

Administration
14%

Prisoners' Rights
41%

Tenants' Rights
10%



With the addition of the Tent City lawsuits, we anticipate that staff time spent on Tenants' Rights will increase next year.

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