Who We Are

About us

SCIP was founded in 2015 to address the growing needs of refugees and other displaced persons in Southern California who are seeking asylum in the U.S.

Contact Us

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Mission Statement
Southern California Immigration Project (SCIP) is dedicated to delivering services to survivors of human rights violations by providing pro bono legal representation to immigrants.

Why SCIP?
Tens of thousands of detained immigrants in the U.S. face deportation back to a country with unstable governments either unwilling or unable to protect its citizens. If returned, they face the immediate danger of physical harm, if not direct threats to their lives. Because undocumented immigrants do not have the right to an appointed immigration attorney, the majority of them concede to deportation because they cannot afford representation. SCIP’s mission is to give those seeking safety and stability in the U.S. a chance at a new and productive life.

SCIP at a Glance
- SCIP has represented clients from 21 African countries as well as LGBTQ clients from other countries, in immigration court and with the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA).
- Many of these clients are detained at the Imperial Regional Detention Facility and the Otay Mesa Detention Facility or if they are not detained, reside in San Diego county, while their case is being processed through the court system.
- In 2021 SCIP represented 89 clients with a 75% success rate. In 2022, we supported 228 clients.

Call to Action
With your help, SCIP can continue to represent asylum seekers who are unable to afford legal representation. SCIP is also dedicated to conducting community outreach.

Immigration Facts
- The Immigration Court backlog as of March 2023 was 2.1 million pending cases.
- In 2023, more than 28,000 asylum seekers are currently detained awaiting their case to be heard.