THE POWER OF LAW
FOR EVERY WOMAN
MISSION

THE CENTER FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS USES THE LAW TO ADVANCE REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM AS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT THAT ALL GOVERNMENTS ARE LEGALLY OBLIGATED TO PROTECT, RESPECT, AND FULFILL.
The Center for Reproductive Rights deploys the power of the law to bring reproductive autonomy to women across the globe—whether we are winning freedom for one woman after almost a decade of wrongful imprisonment in El Salvador or ensuring that more than five million women in Texas have access to essential reproductive services.
Your steadfast support has enabled us to undertake some of the most challenging and critical work of our time. As you look through these pages, we hope you are inspired by the stories of women who have raised their voices and demanded justice and that you share our pride in having shaped a more just world for women everywhere. We could not do this without you.

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SINCE 1992 THE CENTER HAS BEEN REFORMING LAWS AND POLICIES WORLDWIDE...

We have worked to advance reproductive rights in 60 COUNTRIES

Globally we have worked side by side with 156 PARTNERS
WE USE THE POWER OF LAW

CUTTING-EDGE IMPACT LITIGATION

GROUNDBREAKING FACT-FINDING REPORTS

BOLD LEGISLATIVE POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY

TRANSFORMATIVE CAPACITY-BUILDING

INNOVATIVE COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGIES

TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH AND DIGNITY OF MILLIONS.
HERE ARE A FEW OF OUR SUCCESS STORIES...
Without the repeated intervention of our tenacious legal team, it would be nearly impossible to find safe, legal abortion care within a thousand-mile stretch from Mississippi to Texas. Now we are headed to the U.S. Supreme Court to stop Texas’ clinic shutdown law HB2, which would leave as few as 10 providers to serve a population of 5.4 million women of reproductive age. It is one of the toughest battles we have faced in over 20 years. But together, we can make history.
Twice we have convinced the Supreme Court to preliminarily block Texas' sham law. Today 19 clinics remain open while the legal challenge continues—thanks to the Center’s action.

AP Photo: Austin American-Statesman, Reshma Kirpalani
LIFTING WOMEN’S VOICES AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES

The Center, in partnership with the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health, held the first-ever domestic women’s human rights hearing in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, raising the voices of Latinas most harmed by the state’s attacks on preventive reproductive health care and abortion. The 17 women who testified each had a story about hardship and resilience. Members of the UN Working Group on Discrimination against Women are returning to Texas in December to dig deeper into the crisis and listen to women’s stories, and will issue a report and recommendations based on their visit.
Hundreds of local women and their families rallied in conjunction with the human rights hearing, which addressed the devastating harm to women and immigrants inflicted by Texas policies.

Photo: Chi Nguyen
ADVANCING A PROACTIVE POLICY AGENDA

At a time when many state legislatures seem focused on setting back women’s health and rights, we convened 150 forward-looking lawmakers and advocates from 15 targeted states at our State Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C., last June. These top leaders shared ideas, strategies, and tactics for advancing legislation aimed at improving the delivery of essential reproductive health services in their states, and returned to their home districts well-equipped to advance proactive agendas.
A panel at the June 2015 State Leadership Summit featuring, from left, Irin Carmon (National Reporter, MSNBC), Kierra Johnson (Executive Director of URGE), Colorado State Senator Andy Kerr, and U.S. Congresswoman Judy Chu of California was one of 18 sessions at which participants worked on strategies for advancing forward-thinking approaches to ensuring women’s rights and access to essential reproductive health care and services.

Photo: Aaron Clamage
We filed a groundbreaking case in the Kenya High Court to hold the government accountable for what happened to Wanjiku, a 14-year-old rape victim who nearly died after getting an abortion from a phony doctor. She is just one of hundreds of thousands of Kenyan girls and women who risk their lives each year to obtain essential reproductive health services. Our litigation demands that the government make good on its commitment to ensure access to a range of essential reproductive health services. The case is one of a growing portfolio of litigation and advocacy we are using to protect the lives and well-being of women and families.
Wanjiku (above) was detained by the hospital because her mother, a poor tea picker, could not pay the medical bills. The Center’s case at the High Court of Kenya aims to restore access to safe abortion and protect the health and lives of 120,000 women each year.

Photo: Mark N. Kamau
Unjustly convicted of homicide after experiencing a miscarriage, Guadalupe was at last freed in February 2015. For more than 16 years, El Salvador has criminalized abortion in all cases, even when a pregnancy resulted from rape or puts a woman’s life at risk.

*Photo: Marina Moisa*
Following a decade of the Center’s bold advocacy—which generated international outrage—the Salvadoran government released from prison a young woman, Guadalupe, who had been wrongfully sentenced to 30 years for homicide after having a miscarriage. There are more than a dozen women like Guadalupe—known as Las 17—also imprisoned under El Salvador’s total abortion ban. We will not stop fighting until all are free.
An 11-year-old girl who was recently married in Rajasthan, India. We convened 60 high-level government officials to endorse the Kathmandu Call for Action in South Asia, a region where 130 million girls could be forced into marriage by 2030.

Photo: Chris Iseli
IGNITING ACTION ON CHILD MARRIAGE

The Center is leading efforts to ensure South Asian governments take responsibility for ending child marriage. We convened representatives from eight countries to endorse the Kathmandu Call for Action and denounce child marriage as a human rights violation. The UN Human Rights Council subsequently passed a groundbreaking resolution to eradicate child, early, and forced marriage. These actions mean hope for millions of women and girls.
Raising Our Voices: 
THE GALA

On a crisp fall evening in New York City, more than 350 guests gathered in the elegant lobby of the Museum of Modern Art for the annual celebration of the work of the Center for Reproductive Rights. The gala honored the inspirational work of three champions of reproductive freedom: international human rights law pioneer Dr. Colin Gonsalves, Dr. Sharon Malone, and former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder.

PHOTOS: SCOTT RUDD, ILYA SAVENOK, & CRAIG BARRITT
Kathleen Tait and daughter Emily Rosenthal

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(A statement of financial activities from July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015)

The fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, was a record-breaking year for the Center. Total revenue grew 5 percent to a record $20.4 million. Of this total, program spending amounted to $17 million and represented 80 percent of every dollar spent.
OVER $7.1 MILLION IN PRO BONO SUPPORT

Dedicated lawyers from around the world are critical to the success of the Center’s mission to advance reproductive rights as fundamental rights. We are proud to acknowledge the following firms, organizations, and individuals for their valued partnership.

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The generous financial support of you, our donors, has made possible the key victories and growth we celebrate this year.

Together, we are building a healthier and more just world for women everywhere.

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