



Solutions Justes
MCM

2025 ACTIVITY REPORT

Just Solutions (MCM)





Table of Contents

Letter from the Director 02

Who We Are 03

Financial Statements 04

Organizational Structure 05

Our Legal Services 06

Statistics 09

Danaïdes Activities 14

What's to Come in 2026 19

Our Partners 23

A Letter from the Director

As a community ministry of the United Church of Canada, the Montreal City Mission (MCM) is rooted in a tradition of social justice, hospitality, and solidarity with those who are most marginalized. It is in this spirit that Just Solutions, MCM's flagship program, continues its mission of accompanying migrant communities at a time when migration pathways are increasingly shaped by precarity and uncertainty.

Building on the momentum of growth initiated in 2023–24, the year 2025 was marked by the continued expansion of Just Solutions, most notably with the opening of our office in Québec City. This marked the **first time, in MCM's 115-year history, that an office has been opened outside of Montreal**. The inauguration, held in October, gave rise to a memorable celebration that brought together people from diverse communities: community partners, members of faith-based groups, allies, and people directly affected. This powerful moment embodied what we seek to build: spaces of welcome, recognition, and concrete solidarity. Alongside this geographic expansion, our team continued to grow and strengthen. Staff members, interns, and volunteers deepened their relationships and expertise, enabling Just Solutions to respond with both rigor and compassion to a rapidly increasing demand. Indeed, **the number of requests for assistance doubled over the past year**, reflecting both the trust placed in our work and the worsening conditions faced by many migrant communities.

In a context where federal and provincial legislation is making it increasingly difficult for migrants to build stable and secure lives in Québec, our frontline role is more essential than ever. We express our hospitality not only through listening and presence, but also through the provision of reliable legal information and attentive accompaniment for people in precarious migration situations. Each encounter is an opportunity to reaffirm the dignity, rights, and inherent worth of those we accompany.

This annual report bears witness to the deep commitment of the Just Solutions team — to whom I tip my hat for the quality and strength of their work — as well as to the richness of our partnerships and the growing reach of our actions, whether in legal information and accompaniment, rights education, community mobilization, or advocacy. In the face of increasingly complex systemic barriers, we remain firmly anchored in our mission: to accompany, equip, and walk alongside migrant communities, particularly those most directly impacted by injustice.

Thank you to all who make this work possible through their trust, collaboration, and steadfast support.

Sincerely,
Rév. Paula Kline



Executive Director
Montreal City Mission (MCM)

Who we are



About MCM

For 110+ years, Montreal City Mission (MCM) has defended the rights and interests of the most vulnerable people in order to create a welcoming, inclusive, and just society.

It holds three different programs:

- 1 **Just Solutions**, a legal clinic specializing in humanitarian immigration law. 🗳️
- 2 **Ma'an / Together**, an intercultural partnership program 🗳️
- 3 **Camp Cosmos**, a summer camp for children from refugee or newly arrived families and diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. 🗳️

About Just Solutions

For over 20 years, Just Solutions has improved access to justice by offering free information, support, and legal representation in refugee and humanitarian immigration law. The clinic is often the last legal safety net for im-migrants and refugees navigating precarious statuses.

2025 Milestone

Opening of the Québec City Branch!

In October, MCM opened a Québec City branch, with support from the Nakonha:ka Region, to address the lack of accessible legal services for im-migrants and refugees following the closure of the local Legal Aid office.



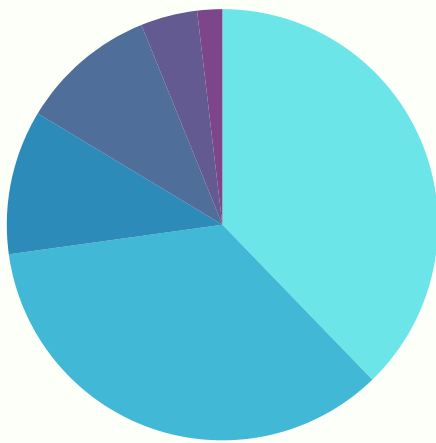
The launch included community events and workshops.

+80 participants

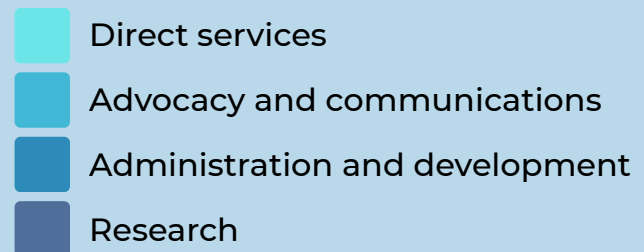
Financial Statements



Our sources of funding



Our expenses



Organizational structure



Pauline Kline
*MCM Executive
Director*



Anthony Rouget
Coordinator



**Marta Pereira De La
Infanta**
Assistant Coordinator



Sanae Moussafir
*March - December
Administrative Assistant*



Richard Goldman
Supervising Lawyer



Peter Butler
Legal Intervention Worker



Louise Olivier
Legal Intervention Worker



**Claudia Limoli
Cubria**
Legal Intervention Worker



Ryan Faulkner
*September - December
Legal Intervention Worker*



Elizabeth Collin-Paré
*September - December
Legal Intervention Worker*



Noémie Beauvais
*January - July
Legal Intervention Worker*



Socrate
Emotional support agent



Muzhgan Haydary
Project Manager



**Catherine Blais-
Delisle**
Project Manager



Solène Mouchel
*October - December
Advocacy Agent*

Our Legal Services



01) *Legal Information and Referencing:*



Providing someone with legal information can sometimes not seem like a big deal. It's neither advice, nor accompaniment, nor representation. But knowledge can be empowering. When someone comes to us with an issue that feels insurmountable, we work with them to tease out the different strands of the problem, understand it, and explain the legal issues in a way that makes the most sense to them. Most importantly, we give them the knowledge, tools, and appropriate references to take charge of the situation."

— Peter Butler, legal intervention worker

02) *Socio-legal Support:*



Our work as legal intervention workers is essential for people with precarious immigration status. Deprived of information and legal representation, they turn to us to learn about their rights. We help them navigate a rapidly changing humanitarian immigration system and, when possible, support them throughout the process. Access to justice should be a fundamental right, not a privilege, and that guides our work every day."

— Elizabeth Collin-Paré, legal intervention worker

03) *Administrative Representation:*



We have been representing a Salvadoran client on his humanitarian permanent residence application since 2018. After losing status due to earlier representation issues, he lived in constant fear of being sent back to El Salvador. We submitted his application in 2020, and he became a permanent resident in 2024, over 17 years after arriving in Canada."

— Louise Olivier, legal intervention worker

Our Legal Services



Mobile Legal Clinics

Our mobile clinics bring free legal information, assistance, and accompaniment directly to vulnerable communities, expanding access to refugee and humanitarian immigration support for people who might otherwise be unable to reach our services. This project is made possible thanks to the financial support of Ville de Montréal.

17 Mobile Clinics

56 Individuals Assisted

7 Different Neighborhoods



Discover our Instagram reel about our mobile legal clinics!



A big thanks to our partners for the mobile legal clinics



Bureau d'information
de Parc-Extension
Connectez-vous à Parc-Extension!

BIBLIOTHÈQUES
DE LACHINE
ON GRANDIT AVEC VOUS!

BIBLIOTHÈQUE
L'Octogone
LASALLE

COSI Comité des Organismes
Sociaux de Saint-Laurent **Accueil**

DESTINATION TRAVAIL | **CJE LASALLE**



LE CAP
SAINT-BARNABÉ

L'Unité
Centre d'initiatives pour le
développement communautaire



**TABLE DE QUARTIER
DE PARC-EXTENSION**

TDS LaSalle
Table de développement social

TRAIL
Table de réflexions et d'actions
interculturelles de Lachine

**VILLERAY
dans
l'EST**

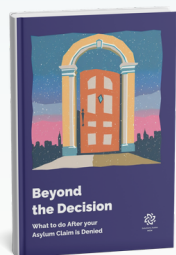


Legal Information Tools

Our Booklet “Beyond the Decision”

In March 2025, we published *Beyond the Decision*, thanks to the financial support of Department of Justice Canada (Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund). This is a guide in English for applicants whose asylum claims have been refused.

It covers contesting refusals, challenging removal orders, available immigration programs, and eligible services. It was developed over six months with input from workshops, research, lawyer expertise, and external consultants.

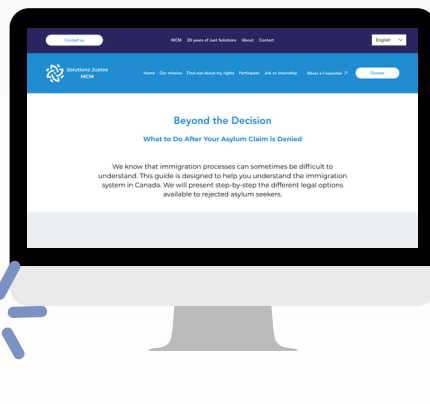


100

printed and distributed copies

120+

visits to online version



Our Legal Information Sheets

Thanks to the financial support of Ville de Montréal, we offer 10 legal information sheets currently available in both English and French on our website.

These clear, accessible resources answer frequently asked questions on key immigration topics, including:

- Applying for permanent residence on humanitarian and compassionate grounds
- Making an asylum claim
- Procedures and available resources for rejected asylum seekers



442

people visited our legal information page

2025 Statistics

Statistics across our three legal services

736 people contacted

1,640 individuals directly and indirectly impacted*

*Includes the person contacted and their family members.

9,690 interventions



Around 3 people a day contacted the clinic to obtain support or information.

Gender of the individuals supported



51% Women

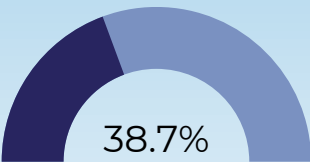
47.5% Men

1.5% Non-Binary, Trans woman or Trans man

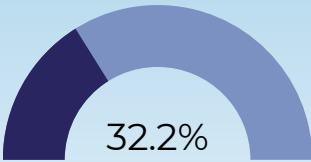
7% of people identified being part of the 2SLGBTQI+ community.

Statistics across our three legal services

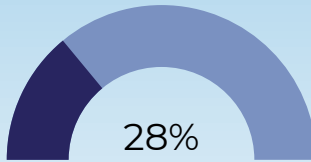
The individuals for whom we know the vulnerabilities face multiple, including



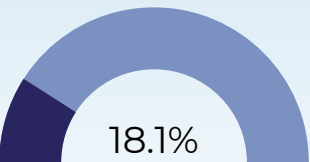
Severe Financial
Precarity



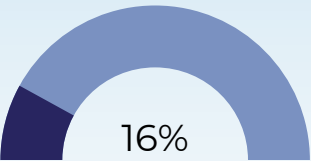
Serious Mental or
Physical Health Issues



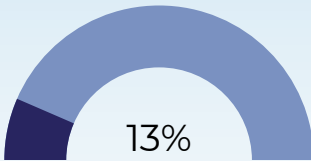
Family or Gender-based
Violence



Other Vulnerability
Factors



Single Parents



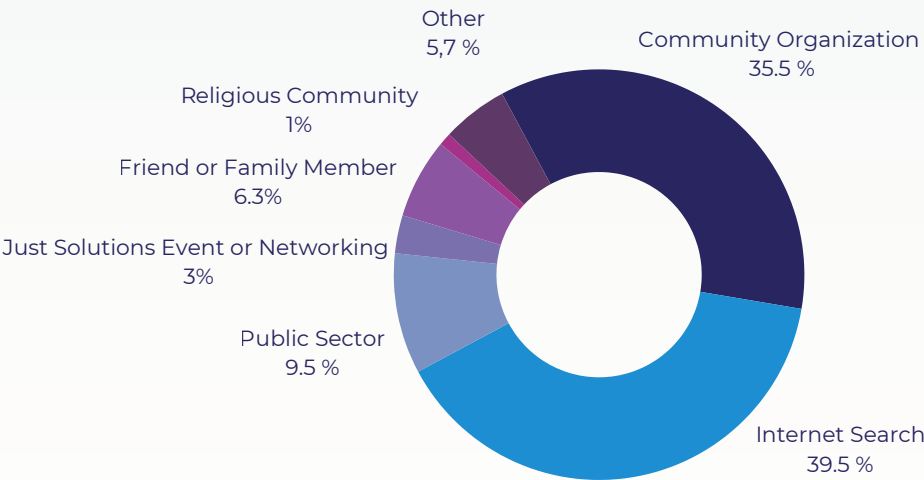
Homelessness or Risk of
Homelessness



60%

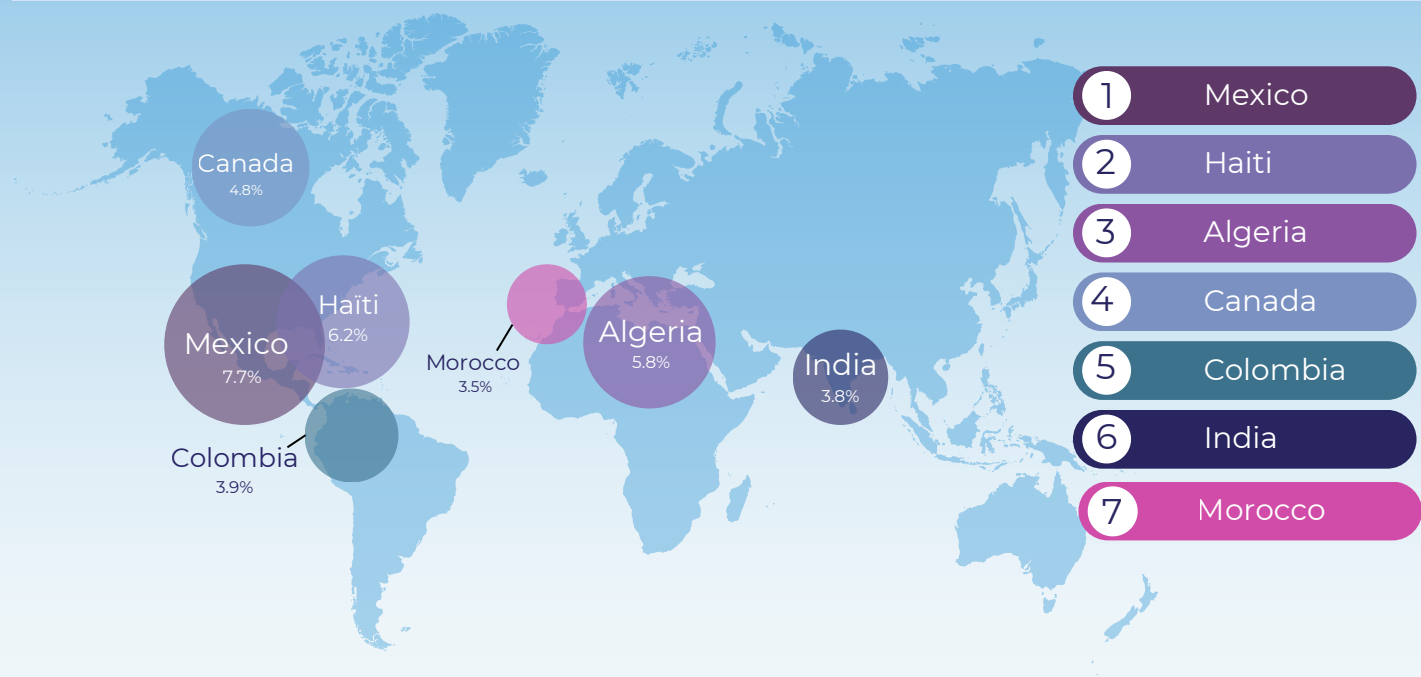
of individuals who sought
services at the clinic faced
multiple vulnerability
factors.

Our follow-ups were primarily
referred by ...

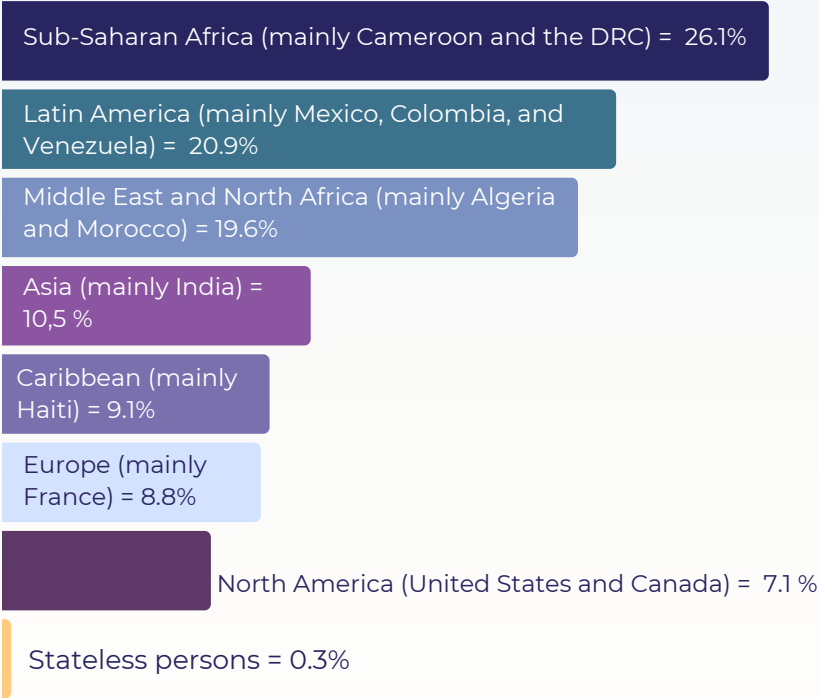


Statistics across our three legal services

Main countries of origin of the people supported

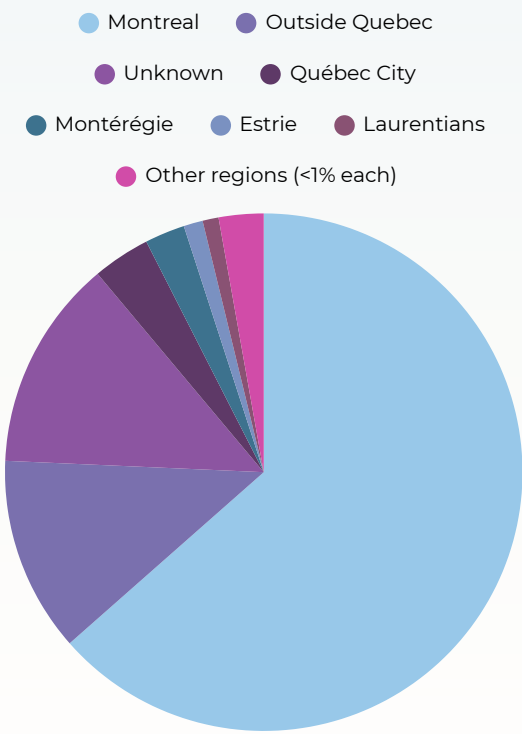


Main regions of origin of the people supported*



**note: total slightly above 100% due to dual nationalities*

Main regions where the people supported live



2025 Statistics

Statistics for information and support services

Main immigration statuses of the individuals supported

Person without legal status (14.5%)

Refused Asylum Seeker (13.5%)

Asylum Seekers (12.5%)

Person Living Abroad (12.5%)

Temporary Foreign Workers (10%)

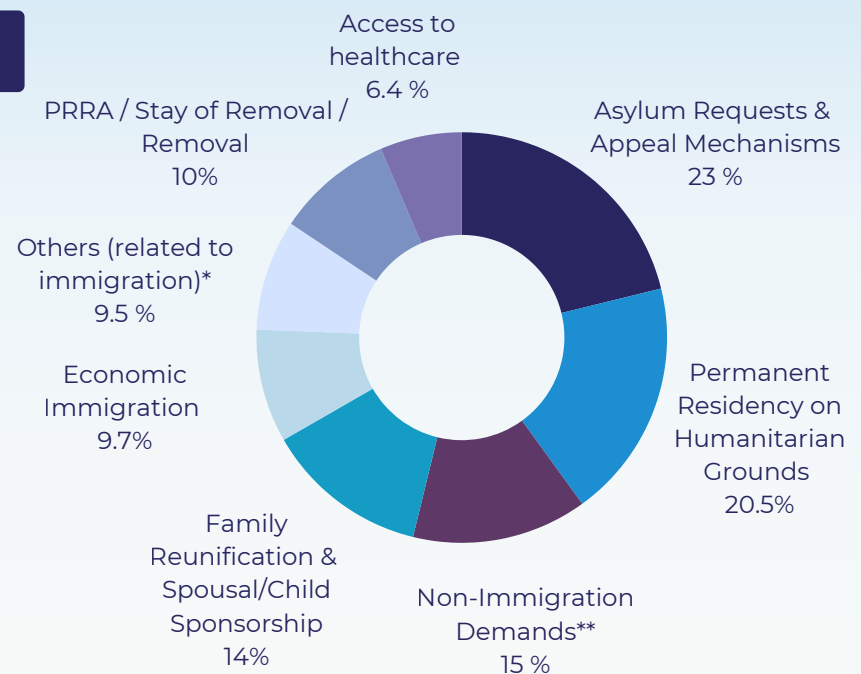
Other immigration statuses (10.3%)

Visitors (6.5%)

Refugee/ protected person (6%)

International Students (5%)

Main Areas of Intervention



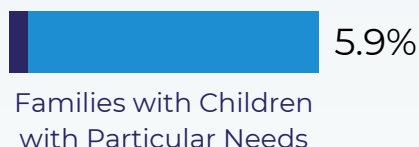
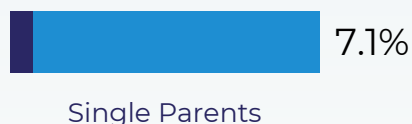
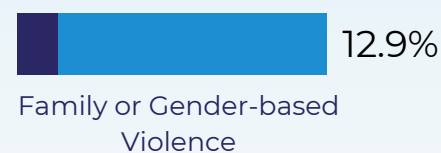
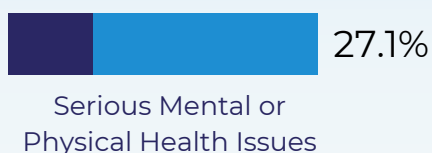
*note: Includes civil law, family law, criminal law, social assistance, and housing.
**note: Includes tourist visas, study permits, permanent residence (excluding humanitarian grounds), and Canadian citizenship.

Represented Cases Statistics

Statistics for Represented Cases Before Administrative Bodies

85 individuals **61** adults **24** children

All individuals we represented face at least one vulnerability, such as...



24

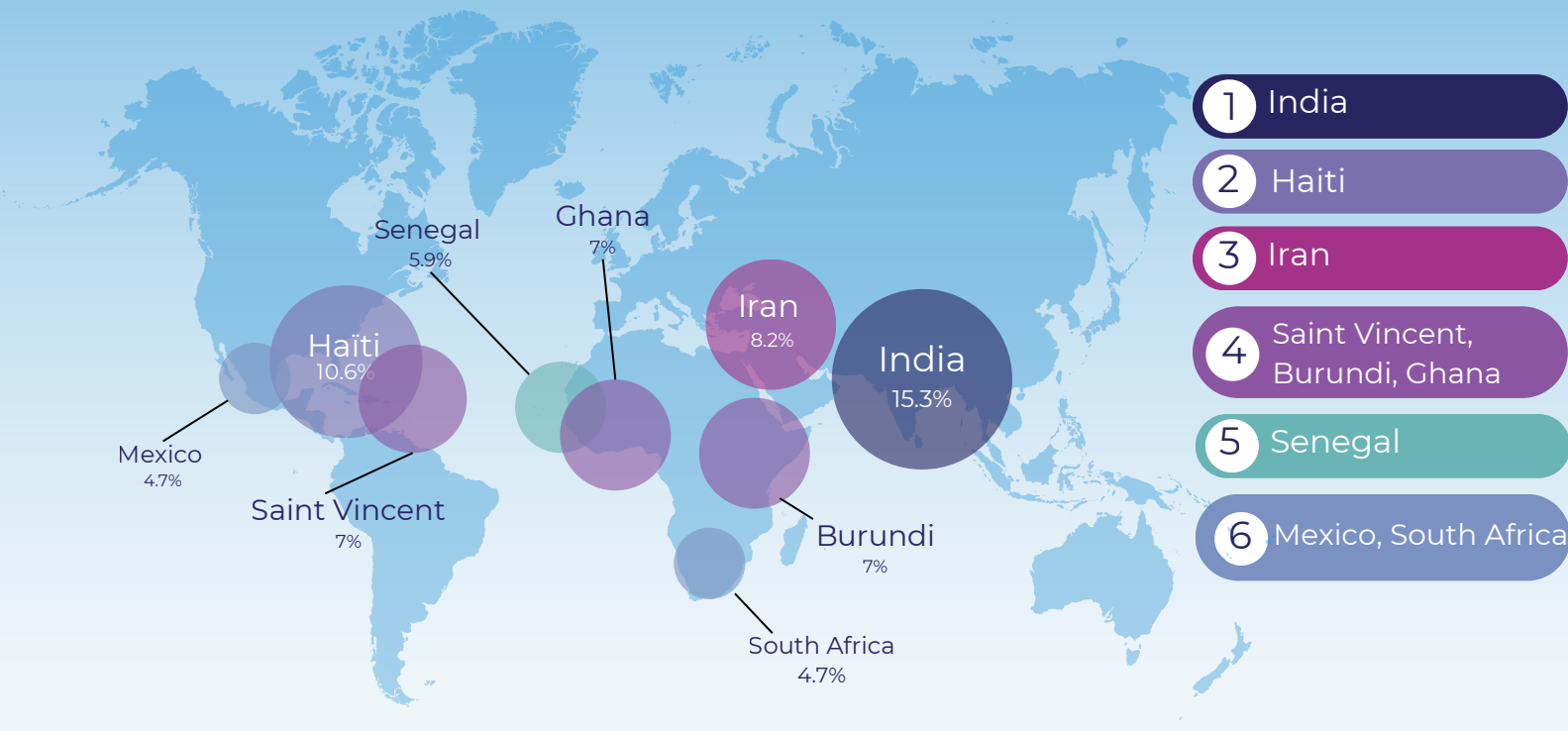
represented individuals
obtained permanent residence

18 adults

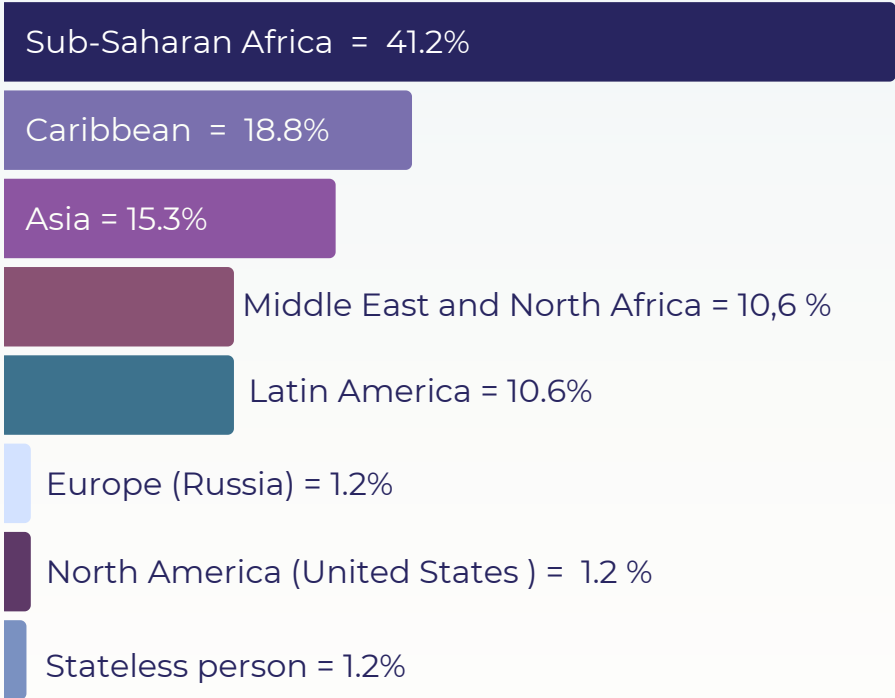
6 children

Represented Cases Statistics

Main countries of origin of the people represented before administrative bodies



Main regions of origin of the people represented



Danaïdes Activities



For the past three years, Just Solutions has been developing Danaïdes activities to raise awareness of the issues facing a group we have been defending for more than 20 years and which is too often ignored or stigmatized: im-migrants without status and those with precarious status. These activities are based on five complementary components: research, awareness-raising, advocacy, workshops, and educational support.

01) Research

Launch of the Research Report

On June 2nd, we launched the report titled *"Experiences of access to legal services and support for migrants with precarious and no status in Quebec."*

Based on interviews with over 40 migrants with precarious or no immigration status and around 50 service providers, we shared our findings through a presentation, collaborative workshops, and a festive gathering.

110+
participants
joined online and
in person.



02) Awareness-raising

2025 Pride Parade and Community Days

On August 8 and 10, we participated in Community Days and the Montreal Pride Parade, connecting with diverse communities, including 2SLGBTQIA+ im-migrants and refugees, who often face unique challenges in accessing immigration services and legal support. We raised awareness of inclusion and social justice issues, shared resources, offered information, and advocated for participants' rights to help them feel supported and empowered.

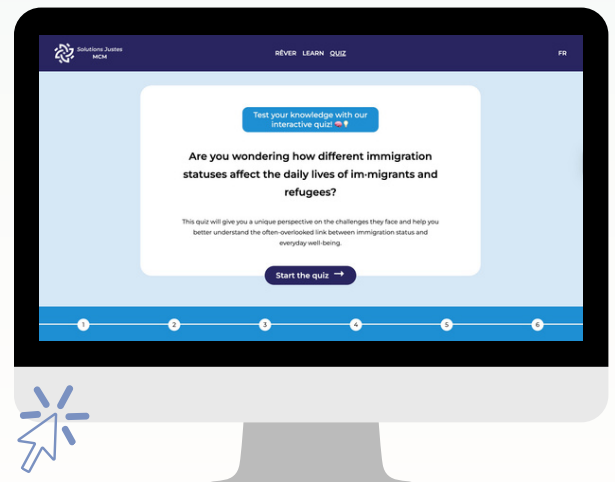


Originally launched in French, the Rêver à l'essentiel campaign highlights how immigration status shapes people's lives and aspirations. In 2025, the campaign was translated into English to broaden its reach and deepen public awareness.

The campaign's interactive quiz was launched in February and later brought to the streets of Montréal as a participatory activity. Between February and December 2025, **the quiz was visited by 539 people**, reflecting strong public interest in exploring how migration status affects daily life and long-term dreams.



Rêver à l'essentiel Campaign



Click on the image to try the quiz!



03) Advocacy

2025 Public Consultations

As in 2022, the clinic submitted a brief to the Quebec National Assembly during consultations on Immigration Planning for 2026–2029, where we emphasized that behind the numbers are people and that sustained funding for legal organizations, particularly for legal representation, is essential.

[Click here to read our brief.](#) 



Advocacy Against Bills C-2 and C-12

We joined the pan-Canadian coalition and the Quebec Common Front to denounce Bills C-2 and C-12, calling for their withdrawal as a serious violation of im-migrants', refugees', and asylum seekers' rights. Together, we helped draft a brief to a government committee and participated in press conferences to voice our opposition and defend im-migrant rights.





04) Workshops

20 workshops throughout the year
for im·migrants, refugees, and professionals.

In 2025, we offered workshops on immigration and refugee law, for im·migrants and refugee communities, as well as for professionals working with them.

Topics covered included:

- The available legal remedies after a negative decision at the asylum hearing;
- The Temporary Resident Permit for victims of family violence;
- Permanent residence and family reunification for refugees.

Visit our [Activity Calendar](#) to stay informed.



“

One of the most striking aspects of the past year has been seeing the impact of our workshops on im·migrants' lives. Participants often arrive anxious about their immigration processes, but as they learn about their options and the steps involved, the atmosphere shifts and their confidence begins to grow.”

— Legal intervention worker



05) Education

Each year, we welcome interns in **law, social work, political science, communications, and advocacy** who receive hands-on training in immigration and refugee law, as well as psychosocial intervention with highly vulnerable migrant communities. Several placements were also made possible thanks to the support of **Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ)**.

“Throughout my summer at Just Solutions I was able to, not only improve professional skills related to my field of study, but also gain practical, hands-on experience in two areas that I am most passionate about: defending the rights of migrants with precarious status, and communications.”

— Laurence Banville, summer student

“When I knew that I was going to do my stage at Just Solutions I did not know the degree of knowledge that I would gain from this experience.”

— Maria Marcela Vega Barbosa, legal intern

“As a law student, hearing the different stories from our clients of how they are impacted directly by our governments' laws and policies gave me a fuller, more practical understanding of the law. It was great to develop my skills in legal casework and social intervention to accompany my legal knowledge.”

— Catherine Shi, summer student

Legal Intervention Interns

- Bianca Maselli
- Jessica Dinelle
- Kendra Magner - Legal intern and Summer volunteer
- Maelissa Buteau
- Manuela Guzman Yepes
- Maria Marcela Vega Barbosa
- Mathilde Munger
- Yara Nader

Summer Students

- Catherine Shi
- Laurence Banville

Advocacy Interns

- Isabella Solano
- Noa Bojgienman



What's To Come in 2026



Access to Justice for Im-migrant Women and 2SLGBTQIA+ Im-migrants with Precarious Status or no Status

Following the publication of our research report on access to justice for im-migrants with precarious status and no status, the Danaïdes team undertook a complementary analysis report – **“Between Protection and Precarity”** – focused on the realities and specific needs of im-migrant women and 2SLGBTQIA+ im-migrants in similar circumstances.

The report draws on qualitative data from a literature review and

Our team is also in the midst of launching an **awareness campaign** on sponsorship and domestic violence that includes an **animated video** as well as an **educational online platform** to learn more about the realities of im-migrant women experiencing domestic violence. The publishing date of the report and launch of the awareness campaign are set for March 2026.

19 semi-structured interviews
with

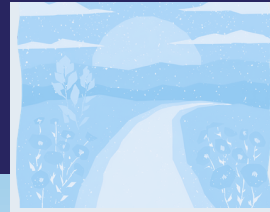
32 professionals
from community organizations and women's shelters, as well as researchers and lawyers working with these populations.

By addressing a significant gap in the literature on access to justice for these marginalized populations, this analysis documents the barriers they face in seeking justice and asserting their rights. It also formulates targeted recommendations for policy-makers and practitioners to improve their access to justice, economic security, well-being, and dignity.



**WE STAND IN
SOLIDARITY
AGAINST
HATE AND
INTOLERANCE
TOWARDS THE
2SLGBTQIA+
COMMUNITY.**

We warmly thank Women and Gender Equality Canada for their financial support as well as our partners, which make this project possible.



Protection Over Precarity (POP) Committee



In Quebec, most community committees on im-migrant and refugee protection focus on asylum seekers, leaving little space to discuss **access to justice for im-migrants with a very precarious or no status**, whose realities differ. To fill this gap, the Danaïdes team created the POP (Protection Over Precarity) Committee in collaboration with the Table de Concertation des Organismes au Service des Personnes Réfugiées et Immigrantes (TCRI).

The Committee serves as both a forum for sharing information and a space for mobilization, bringing together representatives from community organizations, institutions, and im-migrants across Quebec. Each year, members vote on two priority issues and develop **actionable plans**.



FOR 2026...

The year 2026 promises to be more than complicated, and unfortunately, we must not hide behind false optimism: it will be an extremely difficult year for the people served by the clinic, for the professionals who have made their values their profession, and for all allies of social justice. We must not deny this difficulty ahead so that we can face it together. For it is in times of difficulty and adversity that we see bonds grow stronger, that we see the great principles of solidarity reborn, and that we must work together more than ever. More than ever, we must fight in every way possible to ensure that justice, compassion, and hospitality remain at the heart of our actions.



In memory

Agatha M. Barker, 1949-2025

A cherished client of Just Solutions since 2022, Agatha M. Barker was a joyful, humorous, and remarkably resilient person. For more than thirty years, she dedicated her life to taking care of others, mostly under difficult circumstances. The hardships she experienced never stopped her from seeing the good in others. Her smile, youthful laughter, and kindred spirit left a lasting impression on all who had the privilege of knowing her. Agatha's life and her story will not be forgotten.

Just Solutions Team (MCM)

Jenny Jeanes, 1976-2025

It is with immense sorrow that we reflect on the passing of Jenny Jeanes—former MCM student and passionate advocate for refugee rights. For over 20 years, Jenny worked tirelessly, improving the lives of countless individuals while fostering a more just and inclusive community. She was a leader, a dedicated professional, and a warm, caring and compassionate human being. Jenny was taken away too soon, and although she may no longer walk among us, her spirit and the values she championed will endure eternally.

Just Solutions Team (MCM)

Community & Legal Partners



Bureau d'information
de Parc-Extension
Connectez-vous à Parc-Extension!



Canadian Council
for Refugees
Conseil canadien
pour les réfugiés



CENTRE
COMMUNAUTAIRE
LGBTQ+
DE MONTRÉAL

MONTRÉAL
LGBTQ+
COMMUNITY
CENTRE

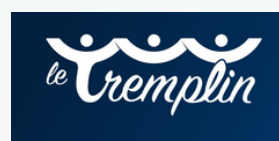


Comité des Organismes
Sociaux de Saint-Laurent

Accueil



Femmes
du monde
à Côte-des-Neiges



ROHMI
Regroupement des organismes en
hébergement pour personnes
migrantes



REGROUPEMENT DES MAISONS
POUR FEMMES VICTIMES
DE VIOLENCE CONJUGALE



University Partners



Funding partners



• Congregation of the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus

• Fondation Marie-François

• Oeuvres Marie-Anne-Lavallée



Solutions Justes
MCM