



ANNUAL REPORT

2021





CELEBRATING 20 YEARS
OF BUILDING IMMIGRANT POWER
AND COLLECTIVE CHANGE





MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ROXANA NOROUZI

2021 was a year of big transitions at OneAmerica.

We bid goodbye to Rich Stolz after 9 years of leading our organization powerfully and I stepped into my new role as Executive Director. This transition was a direct representation of OneAmerica's work: investing in immigrant leaders and communities to step into their power and lead.

My journey with OneAmerica started twelve years ago, when I chased Representative Pramila Jayapal down the hall to ask for an internship at OneAmerica. A few months later I found myself organizing a bus of immigrant leaders traveling to San Jose, Calif., to demand a just immigration system. It was through these experiences that I found a home in the movement and a heart for organizing. During my 10 year tenure at OneAmerica, I've worked to transform the organization by developing new leaders, winning on bold issue campaigns and building OneAmerica as an organizing home for parents, youth, immigrants and people of color.

As the daughter of Jewish Iranian immigrants, I have seen and felt the trauma of the American immigrant experience - as well as its joy, beauty, and power. I am deeply committed to the work to change institutions and politics to work for and with our immigrant communities - and to do that work with joy and celebration alongside you.

We started the year celebrating the 20th anniversary of the founding of OneAmerica. It's been a pivotal moment to look back and celebrate all that we've accomplished together and lift OneAmerica into its third decade of building fearless immigrant power for bold collective change.

As we celebrated our history, I shared a vision for the future we can accomplish together. To me, that means investing more deeply in the leadership of our grassroots leaders, bringing in folks from all races and ethnicities to organize together for our shared liberation, and further building our electoral and political power to elect more people like us to office!



Many of you shared and supported this vision. So much so, that we raised over \$500,000 for our transition fund so we could have the space and time to dream about what's possible for our movement and to pave the way for our future generations to be free, to live in our world as it should be and stand in their full power.

In 2021, we won big for our communities. We secured deep investments in child care and early learning to expand access to child care and increase pay for the immigrant women of color workforce. We established the immigrant worker relief fund, providing \$340 million in pandemic relief for undocumented workers who were cruelly excluded from unemployment insurance and stimulus

payments. We won a legal challenge against racist election laws in Yakima County that diluted the votes of our community members, creating a chance for representation for the first time. At the federal level, we began the work to undo the harm of the Trump administration, and we'll continue pushing Biden and Congress to push through gridlock to take big steps to create a just immigration system.

We have so much to celebrate but also much work ahead to create a thriving home for immigrants in Washington and across the country. I look forward to seeing what we build together and what the next decade holds for OneAmerica.

ROXANA NOROUZI

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



OUR MISSION

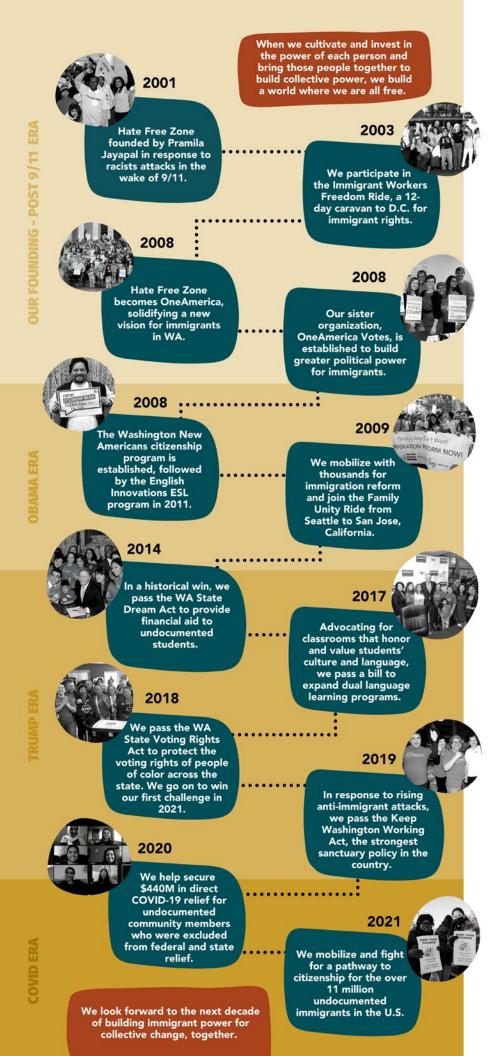
OneAmerica advances the fundamental principles of democracy and justice at the local, state, and national levels by building power within immigrant communities in collaboration with key allies.

OUR VISION

OneAmerica envisions a peaceful world where every person's human rights and dignity are respected, where communities appreciate differences and stand together for justice and equality, and where each person contributes to the common good.

OUR FAMILY

OneAmerica is a family of organizations made up of OneAmerica (a 501c3), our sister political organization OneAmerica Votes (a 501c4), our state political action committee the OneAmerica Votes Justice Fund and federal political action committee the OAV Justice for All PAC.



20 YEARS OF BUILDING POWER

OneAmerica was founded by Pramila Jayapal and other community leaders after September 11, 2001 to advocate for and with immigrants and refugees in response to anti-immigrant hate in America. OneAmerica, initially called Hate Free Zone, was built so immigrants and refugees had a place to come together, organize together, and create a future where we could have more opportunities to thrive in the U.S.

In celebrating our 20th anniversary, we looked back at all we've won, together. Here is a snapshot of major wins in our history.

As we look forward to the next 20 years, we recognize that we are an organization of leaders building immigrant power for collective change - for a just immigration system and pathway to citizenship for all, to ensure the right to vote, to secure real representation at every level of society and government, and fight for an education system rooted in justice for immigrant communities. We will be the ones shaping civic and political policies, offices, and institutions that most impact our lives and we look forward to continuing to win big for and with our communities.

OUR VICTORIES

We won the first Washington Voting Rights Act challenge, working with Yakima residents to hold the County Commission accountable to respecting Latino voting rights. Now the community has an opportunity to elect candidates of their choice for the first time.



We passed Fairstart for Kids, the largest investment in child care and early learning in Washington State history.



We passed a capital gains tax that makes the wealthy pay their fare share to fund critical programs.



Years after the Working Families Tax Credit bill passed, we secured \$268 million in funding for a tax rebate for all working families regardless of immigration status.



We won \$340 million in direct relief for undocumented workers, who, despite paying taxes, have been excluded from COVID-19 pandemic support like unemployment and the federal stimulus.



We won \$420.75 million for language access supports and early learning and child care programs.



We won \$1.85 million to expand heritage language programs and establish community advisory councils for dual language programs. Mobilized

82

VOLUNTEERS

Knocked on

760

DOORS

Completed

170

TEXT & PHONE BANKING SHIFTS

Reaching

46,309

IMMIGRANT VOTERS

Via our Washington New Americans Program we provided free citizenship services and info to

60
INDIVIDUALS

14 went on to become U.S. Citizens

Delivered free English and Digital Literacy Classes to

128 immigrants and refugees across

cities via our
English @
Home program

22 out 34

endorsed OneAmerica
Votes candidates won
their elections

70

People trained through our **Power Building Institute**

1,297

People mobilized to take digital action on our state and federal legislative priorities

SHOUTOUT

A huge thank you to our grassroots leaders on our Federal Campaign Team who led powerfully in the fight for citizenship for all:

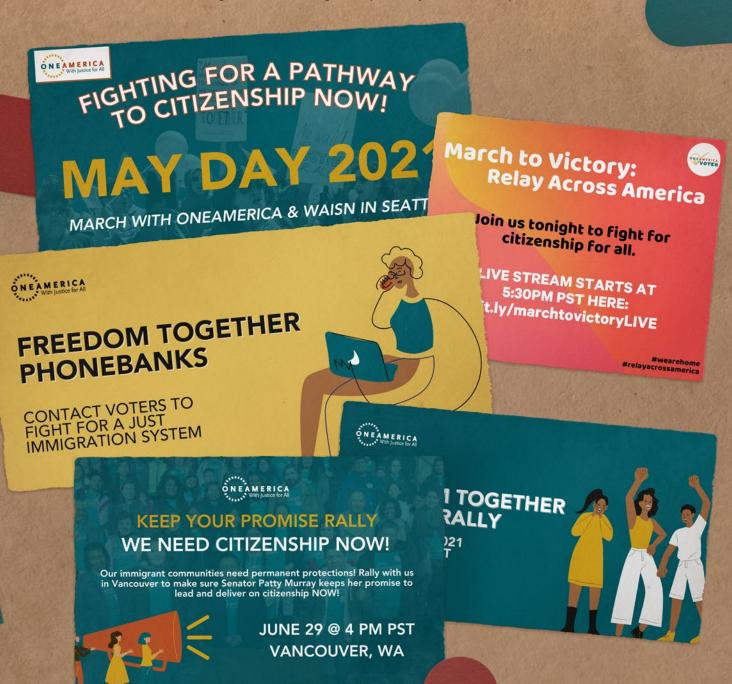
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THE FIGHT FOR CITIZENSHIP FOR ALL

In 2021, our communities advocated to take big steps towards a just immigration system under the Biden Administration. Led by our grassroots leaders and in coalition with organizations across the country, we fought to pass a pathway to citizenship for the over 11 million undocumented immigrants in our country. We had a unique opportunity to push our legislators to keep their campaign promises and create real systemic change.

Over the year, we held multiple rallies, a teach-in, phonebanks, and mobilized over 900 people who sent over 5,800 letters to Congress advocating for a pathway to citizenship!



KEEP YOUR PROMISE RALLIES

At the height of our fight for a pathway to citizenship in the Build Back Better plan, we organized actions on October 11 and 12 which mobilized over 700 people to take to the streets. In two days, we planned actions in 10 cities across Washington state. We flexed our power to make our demands heard!



KEEP YOUR PROMISE

CITIZENSHIP FOR ALL!



CUMPLAN SU PROMESA

CIUDADANÍA PARA TODOS!



Abril is a powerful OneAmerica leader. As a DACA recipient, she was activated when DACA was ruled unlawful. She realized that temporary protections are not enough and took the mic at Seattle's Keep Your Promise Rally to shine a light on the need for a just immigration system with a pathway to citizenship. Below is a small snippet of her story and powerful speech.

"My family and I came to the United States in 2005. A couple of months after our arrival I celebrated my 4th birthday. While my parents did want me to have better opportunities, we never planned to make the United States home; we were going to go back to Mexico. But then the recession hit,

there was no way we could go back and miss the opportunities available to us here...

I've always been told by my parents to not let anything hold me back...especially my status, but the truth is there are goals and dreams that keep slipping through my fingers. Something that seems maybe unimportant or overlooked to others about the hardships of being a DACA recipient is that I've always wanted to travel outside the country...to study abroad and to even visit my motherland. Receive a hug from my relatives that still remember my face as a three-year-old. To have my parents show me around our hometown and to be able to feel connected to my roots.

For a long time, I was afraid to speak out. Our undocumented status CAN be and IS used as a weapon against us. A lot of times it can lead to our silence, it can lead us to grow AFRAID... AFRAID of using our voice because for many we are not seen as being humans with stories... with aspirations in life. When the term "illegal" is used against us we are being seen or categorized as something other than human. We're told we're seen as being part of this country but only under certain circumstances and we keep being promised that a pathway to citizenship will happen but again we are shut down and we're told "not yet."

...When the Obama administration created DACA, I felt hope and the possibility of a future here. But I was not eligible to apply until October 2016, meaning that Trump was months away from entering office. I felt powerless - I didn't feel that someone like me will ever be able to make a home here. Now with the Biden administration I am not hoping - I am demanding my future. Along with all of you, I am demanding that our elected leaders do better for me and for our communities.

This is an invitation for you to commit to change culture and to advocate for those who may not have the capacity to advocate for themselves. We need to take a stand against anti-immigrant rhetoric that only perpetuates violence and instills fear, preventing the liberation of all people. Take action with me today. Take action demanding the Congress do what is right. Take action because even though I am afraid, I am also determined, and I want you to be determined with me. Together, let's raise our voices and demand that Congress and the Biden administration keep their promise."

Now with the Biden administration I am not hoping I am demanding my future. Along with all of you, I am demanding that our elected leaders do better for me and for our communities.

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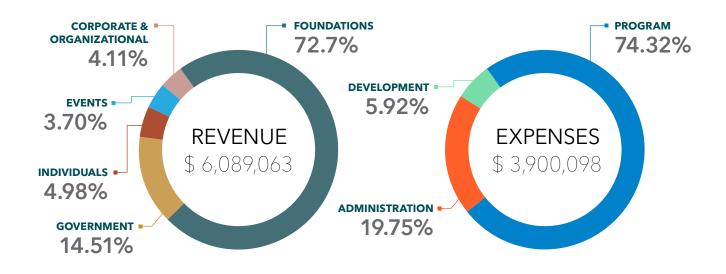
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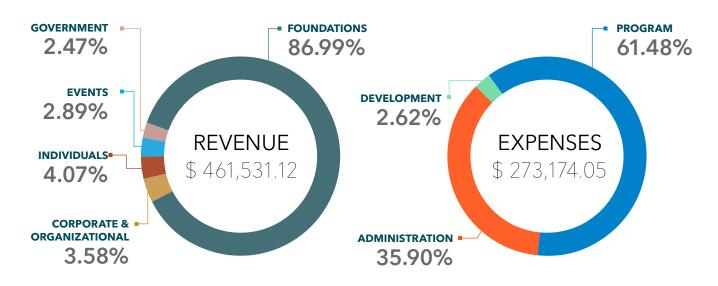
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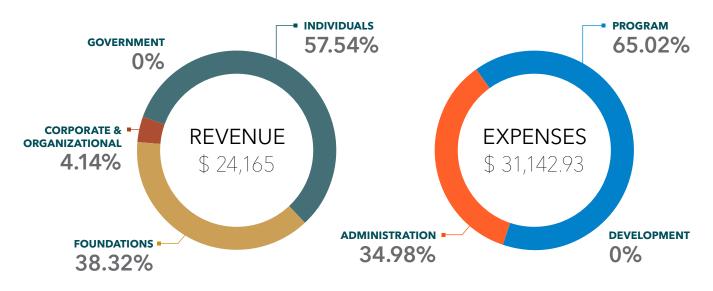
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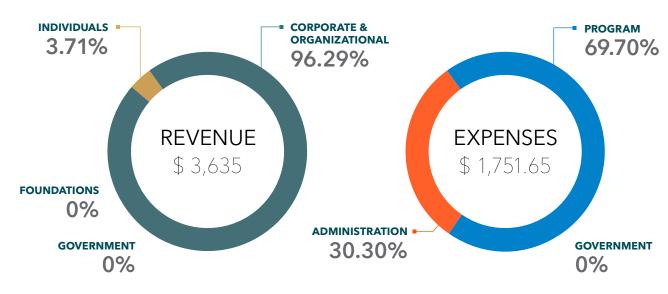
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