

MECKLENBURG
ACCESS TO JUSTICE
PRO BONO PARTNERS

A JOINT PROGRAM OF
LEGAL SERVICES OF SOUTHERN PIEDMONT &
LEGAL AID OF NORTH CAROLINA, CHARLOTTE

NORTH CAROLINA
ASYLUM PROJECT
LITIGATING TO SAVE LIVES

WHY PARTICIPATE?

- Invaluable litigation experience
- Develop skills working with interpreters and translators. Free translation services provided
- Mentoring and support from leading asylum litigators
- Rare pro bono experience where your help could actually save someone's life

The Problem:

Since 2014, more than 150,000 Central Americans, mostly women and children, have fled to the United States seeking asylum. They are fleeing for their lives from countries with some of the highest murder rates in the world, including the highest in 2014 and 2016.

Other facts:

- More than **80%** of these clients are found to have a "credible fear," making them eligible to apply for asylum.
- In N.C., only **20%** of them find an attorney.
- **80%** of those without attorneys are deported.
- Less than **30%** of those with an attorney are deported

The Need:

North Carolina is one of the highest "receiver states" for these women and children, but it is also one of the states with the *lowest level of available legal resources*, leading to abysmal representation and high deportation rates.

The Solution:

YOU!

The Access to Justice Pro Bono Partners program is launching a new pro bono project to address this critical need in North Carolina. YOU can help meet this need and ensure due process for these asylum seekers.

Questions? Contact Katya Riasanovsky at katyar@lssp.org or 704-971-2584, or Atenas Burrola at atenasb@lssp.org or 704-808-4150.