

## OUR REPORT TO YOU

JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 2022

*Jawid (center)  
at the 2022  
Awards  
Ceremony &  
Reception.*

# "The Lights That Came Into My Life"

*Jawid (center) worked with the U.S. military in Afghanistan. But when our troops left in 2021, Jawid barely escaped. He made it to the U.S., only to be immediately detained.*

When the U.S. government pulled their troops out of Kabul, Afghanistan in 2021, Jawid barely escaped the Taliban who were actively looking for him.

"Everybody was crying, yelling, screaming," said Jawid, remembering the horror of the situation. "My daughter was so afraid the Taliban would kill me."

But Jawid made it onto a plane and landed in D.C. However, the Customs and Border Protection officers made a mistake—falsely identifying him as having a criminal conviction and immediately taking Jawid into custody.

"They tied my hands behind my back," said Jawid. "I was so worried about what was happening. I didn't know the language. I was so scared."

Jawid was detained for two months before he was connected with CAIR Coalition staff. But he remained hopeful. He knew that he was being wrongfully detained, and he continued to fight for his case.

In the end, Jawid was granted asylum. Jawid said, "None of this would have happened without Khatia [his lawyer] and Zakir [his translator]—the lights that came into my life."

**"When I was in detention, the biggest happiness for me was when I met with my lawyer and translator because I could finally express myself," said Jawid. "They were my connection to my family—my wife was so worried about me because she didn't know if I was killed."**

Now that he's out of detention, Jawid is living in the D.C. area. "My daughter needs to go to school—the Taliban does not let girls go after sixth grade," said Jawid. "I want to bring my family here. That's what I'm looking forward to."

Fortunately for Jawid, he is now on a path to gain permanent residency. But due to the Afghan Asylum Act being stalled in Congress, others who fled Afghanistan have not had the same opportunity.

*Learn more about how your gift has made an impact!*



# Here is how you made a mark!

The United States detains more immigrants than any other country in the world.

But with your help, we can continue to fight alongside our immigrant neighbors when they need it most.

**7,179**  
**DETENTION**  
**HOTLINE CALLS**  
**ANSWERED**



Our free hotline connects DMV immigrant residents who are in detention, to CAIR Coalition staff, to ensure they have access to legal services.

**17** **HABEAS**  
**CASES**

For children and adults to obtain their release from detention by arguing that their detention is unlawful.

**6** **LARGE IMPACT**  
**LAWSUITS**

## Universal Representation

Some of the first of their kind, our Universal Representation programs offer free legal services to immigrants in Maryland and D.C. As residents are transferred to detention facilities in Georgia and Pennsylvania, our team is also traveling to support them.



**1,591**

## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS PRESENTATIONS

were given to immigrant children and adults who are detained to help them understand their rights in the immigration process and empowering them to make informed decisions about their own legal case.

**115 PEOPLE**  
**RECEIVED SOCIAL**  
**SERVICES**

Upon release from detention, people were connected to food, housing, and medical resources. They received assistance with school enrollment, were accompanied to immigration-related appointments, and much more.

**291** Immigrant children and adults who are detained received direct legal representation.

**33** Adults who are detained were helped to represent themselves.

**65** **LAWSUITS LITIGATED**

Our Immigration Impact Lab brings cutting-edge litigation in the Fourth Circuit and beyond, including habeas petitions, a novel area of immigration law where we continue to make significant strides. Immigrants who are subjected to prolonged or unlawful detention have a right to seek release through habeas petitions.

