

## OUR REPORT TO YOU

JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 2023

*Molley (left) and his partner, Amy, at the 2023 Awards Ceremony and Reception.*

**“Without CAIR Coalition, people like myself would not be sitting here today.**

*Molley (left) was a child soldier in his country and came to the United States in the early 1990s to seek refuge and safety. He has had a green card since 1997 and lives in Maryland with his children and partner.*

After struggling with his mental health, Molley was ripped away from his family by Immigration and Customs Enforcement and sent to a detention center in Georgia, more than 800 miles away from his home.

**“My kids are my life,” said Molley. “Because I know what it was like growing up without parents. And I made a deal with God and myself that I would never, ever, not be in their lives.”**

But in September of 2022, while he was in detention, Molley was connected with an attorney from CAIR Coalition.

“The hardest thing [about being in detention] was knowing that a person like myself, who has gone through so much—from the civil war back home to coming to a new country with so many obstacles—could then be locked away. With a snap of a finger, my whole life just came crashing down.”

CAIR Coalition argued that the Immigration judge should terminate Molley’s case because the crime was not a “ground for removability,” a crime that allows green card holders to be deported.

The judge agreed. But then, the Department of Homeland Security appealed.

CAIR Coalition went through the entire appeals process with Molley while he was in detention for nine months. Together, we defended that termination order before the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). Finally, in March, we got the decision that the BIA agreed with the termination.

After nine months in immigration detention, Molley was finally released! He is now safe at home with his family and community.

**“CAIR Coalition came in here, working for free and doing it from their heart. We need more people like that, more organizations like that.**


# Here is how you made a mark!

The United States detains more immigrants than any other nation in the world—with currently 35,000 people in detention facilities across the country. But with your help, we continue to fight alongside our immigrant neighbors when they need it most.

**9,000+** 

## Detention Hotline Calls Answered

Our free hotline connects immigrant adults who are in detention and at risk of deportation, to CAIR Coalition staff and private attorneys, to ensure they have access to legal services.

**2,000+** 

## Immigrants Received Know Your Rights Presentations

to help them understand their rights in the immigration process and empower them to make decisions about their own legal case.

**250+** 

## Immigrant Children and Adults Received Free Direct Legal Representation

**200+** 

## People Received Social Services

Upon release from detention, people were connected to food, housing, educational and medical resources, and other basic needs.

**40+** 

## Lawsuits Litigated

CAIR Coalition's Immigration Impact Lab has litigated over 40 lawsuits to challenge barriers to asylum, minimize the consequences of criminal convictions, and protect due process rights for those who are detained.

This includes 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.

## We Did It!

Last month, nearly 300 supporters came together for the Focused on Freedom Awards Ceremony & Reception at Planet Word. It was a wonderful celebration with our community. Guests enjoyed delicious food and drinks by Immigrant Food while reconnecting with old friends and making new connections. See you next September for CAIR Coalition's 25th Birthday Bash!



Left: Amilcar Valencia, Executive Director of El Refugio, Community Advocate Award Recipient with Erin Argueta, an attorney with the Southern Poverty Law Center. Photo Credit: Milo Davis