

IMPACT REPORT 2025



SAFETY, SUPPORT, DIGNITY & HOPE

TABLE OF CONTENTS



A FOUNDATION OF HOPE	3
VOICES MATTER	4
SAFETY BEYOND BOUNDARIES	5
FROM CRISIS TO CONNECTION	6
YOUR IMPACT IN EVERY SEASON	7
YOUR SUPPORT AT WORK	8
OUR SINCEREST GRATITUDE	9
PATHWAYS TO HOPE	10

Front Cover:

Highlights from the ECFJC's 15th Anniversary Celebration, October 2025, pictured left to right: Senator Teresa Ruiz, board member and honoree Tikesha Monique James, County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr, Assemblywoman Shanique Speight, Assemblywoman Eliana Pintor Marin, ECFJC board members, ECFJC former board chair Michael D. Lichtenstein, ECFJC staff members



A FOUNDATION OF HOPE: LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP



Dear Friends and Partners,

This year marks the 15th anniversary of the Essex County Family Justice Center—a milestone that invites both celebration and reflection. For fifteen years, ECFJC has stood as a place of Safety, Support, Dignity, and Hope for survivors and families across Essex County. That legacy is built on collaboration, trust, and an unwavering belief that coordinated, compassionate services change lives.

The past year was also one of transition and renewal. Together, we invigorated the organization—strengthening our foundation, renewing partnerships across Newark and Essex County, and recommitting to the values that guide this work. Through collaboration with our public, nonprofit, and community partners, we stabilized operations, expanded relationships, and positioned the Center for its next chapter of impact. We are deeply grateful to the dedicated staff, partners, funders, and advocates who carried the mission forward with care and resolve.

As we honor fifteen years of service, we do so with gratitude for what has been built and confidence in what lies ahead. Thank you for standing with us as we continue this essential work—together.

With appreciation,



ELIZABETH GUERRIERO, PHD
Interim Executive Director



AMY SOLED
Board Chair

VOICES MATTER

CLEOPATRA'S STORY



BACKGROUND

Cleopatra's journey to the Family Justice Center began through countless therapy sessions, where she met other survivors who made her feel comfortable sharing her experience. Those connections helped her feel understood and supported, and that is how she eventually became involved with the VOICES chapter at the Essex County Family Justice Center.

Her experience as a survivor has shaped the way she supports other women today. Cleopatra focuses on showing empathy, offering encouragement, and advocating for others whenever she can. By reaching out and sharing her own story, she hopes to help people who may feel like they cannot overcome their situation and remind them that support and understanding exist.

“ My journey to the FJC was through countless therapy sessions. That’s where I met other survivors who made me feel comfortable, and that’s how I got involved ”

ECFJC'S ROLE

The Family Justice Center has remained an important and meaningful place in Cleopatra's healing journey. She describes the center as a safe space that supported her during a difficult time in her life.

Knowing that the Family Justice Center continues to keep its doors open motivates her to keep advocating for others. She hopes that other survivors who walk through those doors can feel the same safety and support that she experienced. Cleopatra also encourages anyone going through a difficult situation to find someone they trust who will listen without judgment, reminding them that help is out there and that they do not have to face their struggles alone.



“ Being a part of VOICES means so much to me because I know there’s a community that understands and supports me and others. ”

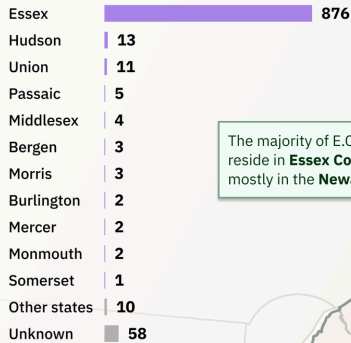
SAFETY BEYOND BOUNDARIES: WHERE WE SERVE

Clients Served in New Jersey, 2024-2025

Essex County Family Justice Center

In 2024-2025, the Family Justice Center (E.C.F.J.C.) provided services to **922 clients in New Jersey** and 10 clients in other states. Additionally, E.C.F.J.C. served 58 clients with unknown residence.

Clients per New Jersey county



The majority of E.C.F.J.C. clients reside in **Essex County**, and mostly in the **Newark area**.

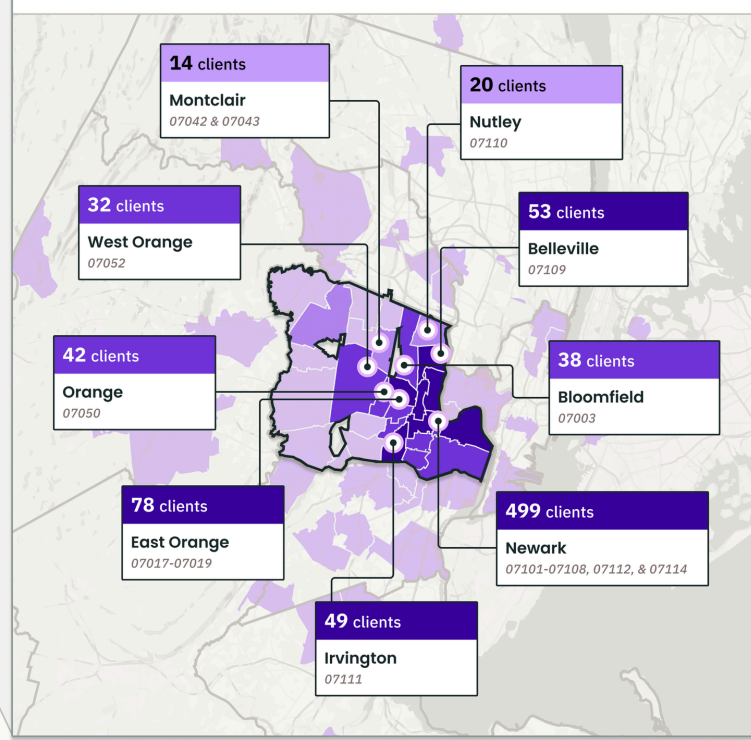
E.C.F.J.C. served **46 clients** in areas of the state outside of Essex County.

Clients per ZIP code



Clients Served in Essex County, New Jersey

Clients per ZIP code



“ The support I received from this service has been beyond incredible. Their compassion, insight, and professionalism create a safe space where healing can genuinely begin. Through their care, I was able to gain clarity and start to heal in ways I didn’t think were possible. ”
— Ms. M.A., 2025 client

“ From the initial conversation, the intake was extremely compassionate, attentive, and understanding. I was helped with the process that I knew nothing about. Step by step, they expedited my needs and helped to get the right attorney for my case. Extremely satisfied. ”
— Ms. I.K., 2023 client

FROM CRISIS TO CONNECTION: OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS

13,720 Lives Changed

Because of your commitment, 13,720 survivors have found a path to safety and hope since our doors first opened.

33,822 Moments of Healing

You have made over 33,000 safe visits possible for families in crisis since 2010.

393 New Beginnings in 2025

This past year, your generosity welcomed 393 new clients into a community of protection and support.

2,390 Safe Connections

You provided the resources for 2,390 client visits in 2025, ensuring no one had to face their journey alone.

803 Paths to Mental Wellness

Your support connected 803 individuals to essential mental health services, providing the foundation for long-term healing.

454 Advocates for Justice

Because of you, 454 survivors gained access to critical civil legal services to secure their futures and their safety.

Our collective impact at the Essex County Family Justice Center is made possible by the unwavering commitment of our 40+ dedicated partner organizations. We extend our deepest gratitude to this vital network for providing the comprehensive legal, social, and medical services that allow survivors to find safety and healing under one roof. By breaking down barriers to care and working in tireless coordination, you are doing more than providing services—you are restoring hope and changing lives across our community.



YOUR IMPACT IN EVERY SEASON



SPRING: With partners like SAVE of Essex County/FSL, we raised awareness at Montclair State University's Denim Day in April.

SUMMER: At the opening of the new courthouse with our partners, The Safe House.



FALL: Congresswoman LaMonica McIver visited the center in October!

WINTER: Della Crews featured us on News12 NJ Spotlight!

[click here to watch](#)



YOUR SUPPORT AT WORK: FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

One Gift. One Life Reclaimed.

A donation of \$1,000 fully funds comprehensive, wraparound services for a survivor of domestic violence. Because of you, they never have to walk this path alone.

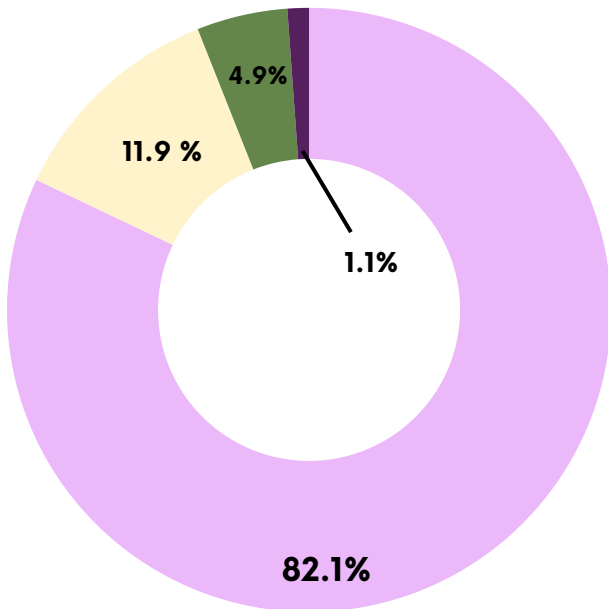
FY24 Revenue

Government Grants	\$1,251,600
Corporate Grants	\$181,586
Employer Retention Credit	\$74,098
Individual Donations	\$17,493
Total Revenue	\$1,524,777

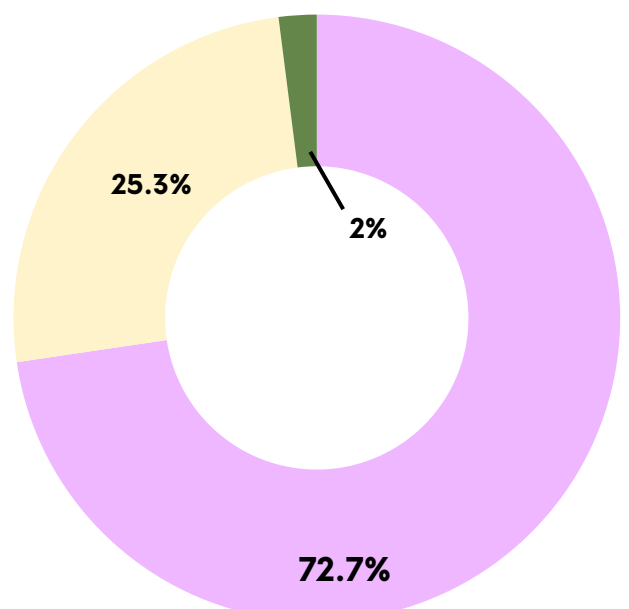
FY24 Expenses

Program Expenses	\$1,040,865
MGT & General	\$362,589
Fundraising	\$28,911
Total Expenses	\$1,432,365

● Gov Grants
 ● Corporate, Foundation and Trust Grants
● Employer Retention Credit
 ● Individual Donations



● Program Expenses
 ● Management & General
● Fundraising



OUR SINCEREST GRATITUDE

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has supported the Essex County Family Justice Center and our mission this year, for the past 15 years. Your kindness and commitment make it possible for us to continue providing safety, support, dignity, and hope to survivors and their families across Essex County and beyond.



FOUNDATIONS, CORPORATE SPONSORS & PUBLIC FUNDING

Department of Children and Families
Office on Violence Against Women
Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance
The Safe House
The Stone Foundation of New Jersey
Investors Foundation
Essex County
Community Foundation of New Jersey

Jewish Women's Foundation of New Jersey
Bloomfield Buy-Rite
Target Circle Giving
PayPal Giving Fund
Studio Nectar
Whole Foods Market, Newark
VIVA Grant Program
Office of Victims of Crime (OVC)

DONORS AND FUNDERS 2024 AND 2025



Sunil Advaney
Karishma Bhambani
Lynda A. Bennet
Blackbaud Giving Fund
Barbara Brownsword
Joann Brown
Amparo Caicedo
Kathleen Carroll
Riki Cop
Patrick Corsetto
Ammylou and Anastasia Daludado
Danielle Darnell Parks
Jacqueline Daniher
Felicia Davis
Cathy Dent
Battista Douglas
Barclay A. Dunn
Ellen Gardner
Diane Gelman & Michael Lichtenstein
Michael Giaimo & GV Brands
Emily Grant and Arthur Hickok
Elizabeth Guerriero
Caroline Harris
Thomas Hester

Nancy Haimi-Cohen
Louisa Hackett
Tikesha James
Yolanda James
Delrina Johnson
Sheila Jones
Riana Joseph
Nancy Kessler
Jennifer Kiernan
Amrita Kumar
Emily Kline
Valyrie Laedlein
Drew Lehman
Joel and Susan Lichtenstein
Alaina Mirchandani
Samaira Mirchandani
Amber Moore
Duru Nankani
Caitlin Punzalan
Esti Raif-Levi
Zara Riley
Jesse Robbins
Cecilia Ryu
Sue Sciosia
Aswin Subramaniam
Marim Youssef

Mary Houtsma
Trevor Lee
Ruth Marcus
Montclair Mud
Michael Munoz
Michael Nathanson
Sandra L. Benya
Alexandra Neale
Nancy Plominski
Dominic Porcaro
Jane Randel
Erica Resnick
Dana Ricci
Miesha Robinson
Randall Scott
Literary Safari Inc.
Sara Sepe
Amy Soled
Eric Song
Vanessa Taneja
Reena Thadani
Malvika Tickkoo
Krishna Tobon
Yishrayl Stella Utah
Micahel Valencia
Rama Ginde
Maria Yllescas
Sadhu Vaswani Teen Group



PATHWAYS TO HOPE: STAY IN TOUCH



Pictured Left to Right: Maria Yllescas, Nilcinea Batista, Senator Teresa Ruiz, Nadia Naranjo, and Tikesha James

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Volunteer for 2026
outreach events



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Make A Gift

