



September 8, 2024

Dear Kelly Ohlson,

Our faith organization is made up of three distinct faith communities: Mary of Magdala Ecumenical Catholic Church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Trinity Lutheran Church all sharing one building (at 301 E. Stuart Street) and sharing social and ecojustice ministry work together as one! We call our partnership 301 Faith Partners. We fully believe that helping our neighbors is what we are called to do from a faith perspective, but we know it is also a human perspective. When our neighbors are thriving, so is our community.

A concern of our members is the lack of funding for the **Immigration Legal Fund** **AND** the **Eviction Legal Fund** that will be discussed by Council Members in the coming work sessions. We have witnessed the work these two funds have provided for not only immigrants, but members of our low-income community and we would like to see these two funds reinstated to the forthcoming budget (they were part of the last 18 month budget cycle).

At the local level – we feel the need to support low-income families with eviction and legal funding no matter the issues at the Federal level. The Eviction Legal Fund filled an enormous gap with very low-income families. Often times there are 3-4 families living in a mobile home. If they are evicted – the families must leave behind their asset (mobile home owned by family) due to current laws.

These two funds currently support several agencies that collaborate together to fill the gaps needed for low-income and immigrant members of our community. The Eviction Legal Fund currently funds four organizations: The Colorado Poverty Law Project (CPLP), Fuerza Latina, ISAAC, and the City Mediation Program (Conflict Transformation Works). The Immigration Legal Fund currently supports Alianza NORCO, Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network (RMIAN) and ISAAC.

We would love to have a personal meeting (in person, via zoom or a phone call) with you regarding these two funds and their impact in the last 18 months and how this could improve our city in the future. We ask that you PLEASE take into consideration putting these two funds back into the City budget!

Sincerely,

301 Faith Partners Joint Social and Eco Justice Committee

(Mary of Magdala Ecumenical Catholic Church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church & Trinity Lutheran Church)

See signatures of members of congregations below