



## INNER CITY LAW CENTER

*Serving the most vulnerable in Los Angeles*

### Keeping Families Housed

Lynda Flowers (not her real name) is a proud and dedicated single mother of two young children who struggles with mental health issues. After being hospitalized and temporarily losing custody of her children, Ms. Flowers was finally able to get back on her feet and reunite with her children. She was getting regular mental health treatment, was receiving regular benefits to sustain herself, and had obtained a federal rent subsidy to help her pay her rent. However, due to her disability Ms. Flowers struggled with remembering to do small tasks, such as filing paperwork on time, and came to Inner City Law Center with an urgent problem.

Ms. Flowers' housing was federally subsidized and she had to submit regular re-certifications to keep her housing subsidy. On one occasion, she forgot to submit her re-certification, and as a result, her housing voucher was about to be terminated. She received a ten-day notice demanding that she pay the full unsubsidized rent, which she could not afford, and was in imminent danger of becoming homeless. All of Ms. Flowers' hard-won stability, and the custody of her children were now on the line.

As Ms. Flowers' time period to appeal the voucher termination had already passed, ICLC sent a reasonable accommodations request to the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACOLA) who administers her rent subsidy and also to her landlord.

Several days later, a special panel of HACOLA met and agreed to reinstate Ms. Flowers' voucher as a reasonable accommodation of her disability. This meant that Ms. Flowers kept her housing, stayed united with her children, and did not have her credit ruined by having an eviction on her record. Our advocacy team also followed up to make sure that Ms. Flowers went to the rescheduled voucher verification meeting. Ms. Flowers is extremely grateful to remain housed with her children, whom she calls "the light of her life."

Thank you for making ICLC's life-changing work possible.

### January 2014

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### Quick Links

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### Walking Tours



To learn more about our homelessness and slum housing work, join us for one of our monthly walking tours of Skid Row.

The tours begin and end at ICLC's offices at 7th and Central and are usually conducted by Adam Murray, ICLC's Executive Director.

**Our next tour will be on:**

**Friday, Jan. 31st, 2014**  
**from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.**

## End-Of-Year Letter Campaign Success

Thank you very much for your generous support of Inner City Law Center and for helping to make our end-of-year letter campaign the most successful appeal in ICLC's history. We want to thank you for your generosity and share our pride in the accomplishments you have helped make possible. Your support makes an enormous difference in the lives of thousands of low-income tenants, working-poor families and homeless veterans. ICLC's effective advocacy is only possible because of your support.

If you have yet to make a gift, there is still time.

**Your gift today will have twice its impact.** Two members of our Board stepped up to match January gifts dollar-for-dollar up to \$16,500! We have raised \$11,000 towards this match!

Can you help us raise the remaining \$5,500?

Please take a moment to [click here](#) to make an online contribution.

We hope you will take advantage of this special opportunity to double the impact of your tax-deductible gift. On behalf of all those who benefit from your commitment, thank you for your support.

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## About Inner City Law Center

Inner City Law Center is the preeminent housing and homelessness legal-services organization working on behalf of poor people in Southern California. As the only provider of legal services located on Skid Row in downtown Los Angeles, ICLC combats slum housing throughout Los Angeles and develops strategies to end homelessness.

Each year, ICLC's staff of 40 (including 22 attorneys) provides free, high-quality legal representation to thousands of low-income tenants, working-poor families, immigrants, people who are homeless or disabled, and veterans. Driven by the fundamental principle that every person should always be treated with dignity and respect, ICLC works for long-term, positive, and meaningful change.



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