



**We must fight harder,
smarter and stronger**

November 11, 2016

Our statement of commitment for equality, justice and opportunity for all

Dear Friends and Allies,

Almost 50 years ago, Western Center was birthed out of the Watts Rebellion in a time of upheaval in this nation. Now we find ourselves in a new time of upheaval. This week's election and what it means for our future has left us reeling, but we remain as resolved as ever to breaking down barriers that prevent any person from living with basic dignity.

Western Center's founders believed that systemic change at every level of society is essential to achieving justice. We dedicate our work to ending poverty for all people—immigrants, people of color, women, people with disabilities, and others who are marginalized. We are members of these communities. We have always used creative tactics to fight injustice. Today, we must fight harder, smarter, and stronger. And we will.

As we process what the next four years will bring, we are taking stock of our resources and strategies as we recognize the magnitude of the challenges our communities face. Eradicating poverty requires attacking racism, xenophobia, misogyny, homophobia, Islamophobia, and bigotry in all of its forms. Eradicating poverty requires attacking the systems that perpetuate inequalities for marginalized groups. Eradicating poverty requires building thriving, inclusive communities with affordable homes and access to healthcare and economic opportunities.

We stand with our clients, our legal services partners, and all of our allies in the fight for justice. Legal services are on the front lines of this battle. In the coming weeks, we will be reaching out to you, as our partners, to strategize on defending our clients, our communities, and our values.

In solidarity in our continuing fight for equity, justice, and opportunity for all,

Western Center on Law & Poverty Staff



Copyright © 2016 Western Center on Law & Poverty, All rights reserved.

Western Center on Law & Poverty | 3701 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 208 | Los Angeles, CA 90010