

Asian Heritage Month 2021 "Trailblazers in Social Justice"



REGINI DAVID

OUTREACH AND LAW REFORM COORDINATOR & PARALEGAL AT WEST SCARBOROUGH COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES (WSCLS)

Regini David is the Coordinator of Power in Community: Fighting for Affordable Homes and Outreach and is a Law Reform Coordinator and Paralegal at West Scarborough Community Legal Services (WSCLS). She has been involved in community development and organizing at the grassroots level for over 32 years. Her community activism started at the age of 14 in Sri Lanka and as she grew older expanded to Germany, the US, and Canada. She played a key role in the formation of many grassroots organizations in Canada and abroad, including: TOFFE (which later became the Workers Action Centre), Voices of Scarborough, Power in Community: Fighting for Affordable Homes in Canada and the Sooriya Women Center and Poorani Women Center in Sri Lanka. These organizations are at the forefront of fighting for equality and bringing justice to the most vulnerable communities.

For the past 28 years, in Canada she has been a worker's rights advocate and a union organizer with the labour movement here. She has worked tirelessly with campaigns to raise the minimum wage and improve the rights of temporary workers in Ontario.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Regini led an outreach campaign at WSCLS to inform low income individuals and families and frontline workers about key changes to the law and resources available to them as a result of the pandemic. The campaign managed to reach out to over 650,000 low income individuals and frontline workers. Regini and the team at WSCLS also sought feedback from the low-income community the clinic serves about their needs during the pandemic. They then conveyed this feedback to key decision-makers, including within government, which helped raise awareness about issues affecting the low-income community of West Scarborough and helped lead to inclusive policy changes.

Currently, she is a member of Legal Aid Ontario's Racialized Advisory Committee, where she advocates on issues affecting racialized individuals within the legal aid clinic system. She is also coordinating a campaign to legalize rooming houses across the City of Toronto, in order to ensure affordable housing is available to the city's low-income residents.

Regini's tireless community activism for marginalized and racialized communities has helped lead to law reform and policy changes that have bettered the lives of low income individuals living in Ontario and abroad. We would like to take this opportunity during Asian Heritage Month to thank Regini David for her continued and inspiring leadership and advocacy.

See more of Regini's work



[Regini David](#)

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