

Stand with us during this crisis to defend the most vulnerable.

1. All participants are on mute by default.
2. We are recording the presentation and will share it with all registered guests within 24 hours following the presentation.
3. We will be pivoting to Q&A about halfway through the hour – please enter your questions in the chat box.
4. If you have further questions about today's presentation, please contact kim_marie@ncjustice.org.

Stand with us during this crisis to defend the most vulnerable.

COVID-19 Special Briefing – Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project

AGENDA

Welcome – Kim-Marie McLellan, Deputy Director of Gifts and Endowments

Where we are now – Rick Glazier, Executive Director

Project Overview – Dani Moore, Director of the Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project

COVID Response

- **Kate Woomer-Deters**, Senior Attorney
 - **Raul Pinto**, Senior Attorney
 - **Sarah Hill McIntyre**, Staff Attorney
-
- Q&A - Kim-Marie McLellan, Deputy Director of Gifts and Endowments

Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project:

COVID-19 Updates and Related Work

North Carolina Justice Center

June 30, 2020

Immigrant & Refugee Rights Team Members

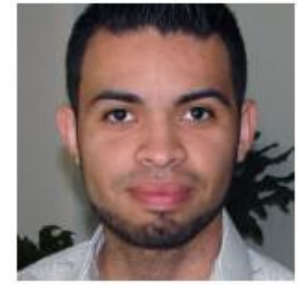
Strategies:

Litigation
Legislative Work
Community Engagement
Communications
Research (with BTC)



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Paralegal



JUAN CALDERON LORA

Paralegal



SARAH HILL McINTYRE

Staff Attorney



DANI MOORE

Director



RAUL PINTO

Senior Attorney



KATE WOOMER-DETERS

Senior Attorney

What Are the Main Goals of Our Work?

1. Advocate for **federal, state and local policies** that protect and defend the rights, safety and well-being of low-income immigrants and refugees, and against policies and practices that harm these communities.
2. Increase the number of low-income immigrants and refugees who can receive **immigration relief in order to prevent deportations** and contribute to immigrant families' economic security.
3. Protect **fair and equal access** to government, education and private sector services and benefits for low-income immigrants and refugees.
4. Contribute to an **immigrants' rights movement ecosystem** of deeply connected groups that share values and rely on each other to respond to the needs of impacted immigrant communities, to advance short term and longer-term policy wins, and to transform the lives of people on the frontlines of change.



Immigrants and Latinos During COVID-19

POLITICO

**'So much worse than I ever thought it would be':
Virus cases skyrocketing among Latinos**

June 19, 2020: "Over three months into the pandemic, Latinos...make up... 44% of the nearly 30,000 cases for which ethnicity is known... That is a dramatic overrepresentation in infections, since Latinos are only 9.3% of the state's population."

June 18, 2020: "In Durham County, N.C., Latinos make up 13 percent of the population, but from April through the end of May, the number of coronavirus cases among them jumped from 12 percent to 67 percent. The disproportionate impact is also seen statewide as Latinos make up 10 percent of the population but 45 percent of cases."

The News&Observer

**'An alley without exit.' Experts worry COVID-19
among Latinos will get dire without support**

County	Latino cases	▼ % of total cases	Latino population
Forsyth	1,496	68%	13%
Burke	483	66%	6%
Durham	1,894	61%	14%
Randolph	516	60%	12%
Surry	159	54%	11%
Johnston	493	53%	14%
Davie	68	52%	7%
Alamance	252	44%	13%
Chatham	194	43%	12%
Wake	945	42%	10%
Robeson	389	41%	9%
Harnett	169	41%	13%
Union	201	38%	11%
Mecklenburg	2,506	36%	14%

News and Observer, "An Alley Without an Exit: Experts worry COVID-19 among Latinos will get dire without support, " June 19, 2020.

Not All Immigrants are Latinos, Not all Latinos Are Immigrants

However, NC DHHS does not appear to provide COVID data disaggregated by citizenship status or place of birth of patients.

About 44% of Latinos in NC are foreign-born, the rest are U.S.-born.

About 56% of foreign-born persons in North Carolina are from Latin America, about 24% are Asian, about 5.6% African and the rest from Europe.

Disparities in COVID cases are not the same among ethnic groups in NC:
Asians make up about 3% of North Carolina's population, but only 2% of COVID-19 cases
Latinos make up about 9-10% of NC population, and between 44 – 46% of COVID cases

Sources: See Pew Research Center, 2014, found [here](#), Johnson & Appold, UNC, 2014, found [here](#); Carolina Demography on NC Asian population [here](#) and on the African immigrant population [here](#); Breakdown of COVID cases by ethnicity, from NC DHHS, [here](#).

Why Are Many Immigrants, Particularly Latinos, Hit So Hard by COVID-19?

- Many Latinos and immigrants work in essential jobs including food service, food processing (meat and poultry, farm work), construction, restaurant, health care, childcare, and other industries that require in-person work.
- Foreign-born residents of NC are in the work force at higher rates than native-born residents, but are more likely to be living in poverty
See Johnson and Appold, UNC, 2014, Figures 10, 11, 12, [here](#).
- Among foreign-born residents of North Carolina who had not naturalized as of 2014, 61% lacked health insurance. (Study [here](#).)
Nearly 50% of all foreign-born residents of NC lacked health insurance in 2014. (Table 11, [here](#))
- Both undocumented and DACA immigrants are categorically excluded from important health insurance programs including non-emergency Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act
Many lawfully present immigrants are also excluded from Medicaid but can qualify for the ACA.
- Some residents fear accessing hospitals due to ICE, although ICE says they are not conducting enforcement at health care facilities.

What is the NC Justice Center doing?

Creating flyers for the public about COVID-19, health access, and public charge available in six languages, found [here](#).



Immigrant Access to Health Care and Benefits in Time of Emergency

UPDATED April 30, 2020

Families should access the health and benefit programs they need in times of health emergencies or economic downturn.

ACCESSING HEALTH AND BENEFIT PROGRAMS:

- All people can access federally-funded community health centers statewide with or without immigration status
 - For a list of community health centers near you, please visit: <https://bit.ly/2wTkXXH>
 - You may also visit your federally-funded health

- If your children or family members are citizens or already have green cards, they should continue to use the benefits for which they are eligible.
Only benefits used by the immigrant him or herself who is seeking a green card will be counted negatively.

ACCESSING HOSPITALS:

Creating videos for the public about COVID-19, public charge and access to benefits:

All materials available at: www.ncjustice.org/public-charge



Search

Parte # 2: Los Programas y Las Reglas Específicos al Coronavirus

(Parte # 1 Contiene Información Importante Sobre La Regla de Carga Pública. Se encuentra al: www.ncjustice.org)

0:14 / 14:39

What is the NC Justice Center doing?

- Presentations to advocates, immigrants' rights groups, health providers, and state agencies about immigrant access to benefits during COVID-19.
- Answering questions directly to the community about access to benefits during COVID through video chats and events.
- Advocating with DHHS for increased immigrant access to benefit programs.
 - Got DHHS to insert language in a letter to all P-EBT beneficiaries statewide that use of the program would not affect anyone's immigration application.
- Partnering with CCLA, Pisgah, and other community organizations statewide to do more education on immigrant access to health and benefits.



CONOZCA SUS DERECHOS PARA INQUILINOS

JESSE RAMOS Y LAUREN BRASIL

AYUDA LEGAL DE CAROLINA DEL
NORTE

KATE WOOMER-DETERS

CENTRO DE JUSTICIA DE CAROLINA DEL
NORTE

ACTUALIZADO el 23 de mayo, 2020



COVID-19 & Evictions

Evictions are a looming crisis for those hard hit by business closures and unemployment during COVID

Immigrants without status are ineligible for both federal unemployment AND the \$1200 stimulus check.

In addition to the advocacy work of NCJC's Consumer and Housing Project to delay evictions and utility shut-offs, the IRRP team has:

- Represented individual immigrant clients in eviction cases
- Produced flyers in English, Spanish, and French about tenants' rights during COVID, found [here](#).
- Produced a video in Spanish with Legal Aid of NC about tenants' rights during COVID, found [here](#).

DACA WORK

DACA Decision – Three Takeaways

- The way the Trump administration ended the DACA program was arbitrary and capricious.
- SCOTUS did not answer whether the program itself was legal.
- The Trump administration may end the program the right way.

DACA – Administration Response Irony

37. What does the judicial branch do?

- *reviews laws*
- *explains laws*
- *resolves disputes (disagreements)*
- *decides if a law goes against the Constitution*

38. What is the highest court in the United States?

- *the Supreme Court*

39. How many justices are on the Supreme Court?

- Visit uscis.gov/citizenship/testupdates for the number of justices on the Supreme Court.

40. Who is the Chief Justice of the United States now?

- Visit uscis.gov/citizenship/testupdates for the name of the Chief Justice of the United States.

USCIS Statement on Supreme Court's DACA Decision

Release Date: June 19, 2020

WASHINGTON — U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Deputy Director for Policy Joseph Edlow issued the following statement on today's Supreme Court decision on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program:

Today's court opinion has no basis in law and merely delays the President's lawful ability to end the illegal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals amnesty program.

DACA – Practical Implications

- DACA renewals should proceed as normal.
- Uncertainty whether USCIS will accept new applications.
- Uncertainty whether USCIS will accept applications for travel permits a/k/a Advance Parole.
- Individuals MUST assess the risk v. reward.

DACA – NCJC Work

Estamos en vivo conversando sobre el fallo de la Corte Suprema sobre DACA



5.8K Views



Like



Comment



Share



Reach More People With Your Video

Your video post reached 26,705 people and got 5,844 views. Try boosting your post so more of the people you care about watch it.

- Community Education
- State and Federal Advocacy
- Strategizing about direct services in light of the risks

Meanwhile, in the news...

Flash Briefing-News Local News

Report: Pandemic may impact 850,000 immigration cases

Lorenzo Zazueta-Castro - June 9, 2020



A US border patrol agent walks past buses used to transport detained immigrants at the Rio Grande Valley Central Processing Center on Monday, Aug 12, 2019, in McAllen. (Joel Martinez | jmartinez@themonitor.com)

The current backlog in immigration cases is growing cancellations "will cause hearing delays for months and probably years to come," says a new report from Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse.

According to the TRAC report, more than 365,000 immigrants have been impacted by the partial shutdown of the immigration court due to COVID-19.

TRAC's estimate of those impacted by the partial shutdown states 368,000 immigrants have been impacted by the partial shutdown that began in

earnest in early March — but the report underscores that more than 850,000 immigrants could be affected by the shutdown even if the court were to open immediately.

Immigration
Trump, citing pandemic, orders limits on foreign workers, extends immigration restrictions through December

U.S. & WORLD

Trump administration extends visa ban to non-immigrants

By Associated Press | Jun 22, 2020, 4:02pm MDT
Deb Riechmann and Elliot Spagat

CORONAVIRUS

Human rights groups call for release of ICE detainees after 34-year-old dies of COVID-19

Over the weekend, a 34-year-old Guatemalan man died from COVID-19 while awaiting departure from the U.S.

CNN politics Donald Trump Supreme Court Congress Facts First 2020 Election

LIVE TV Edition

US immigration agency prepares to furlough more than half of its workforce



By Priscilla Alvarez, CNN
Updated 6:04 PM ET, Wed June 24, 2020

LAW POLITICS IMMIGRATION
Could Covid-19 Mean the End of Asylum Law in the United States?
"Public health" fears are being used to keep out asylum seekers and immigrants—will they ever be let back in?
By Jack Herrera and Quito Tsui
JUNE 9, 2020

Proposed Rule on Asylum

- Creation of Asylum & Withholding Only Proceedings
- Heightened Bar for CFI's
- Increased gatekeeping and mandatory bars to asylum process
- Expanded definition of "frivolous"
- Ability to deny applications without a hearing
- Eliminating Gender-Based Claims
- Eliminating Gang or Other "Private" Violence Claims
- Limiting due process protections throughout process
- Reducing political opinion claims
- Raising burden for proving "persecution"
- Punishing those who traveled through other countries, entered or attempted to enter without authorization, worked without authorization, or failed to pay taxes in the U.S.
- Eliminating eligibility for those persecuted by "rogue" officials
- Getting rid of confidentiality protections



Comment by July 15, 2020

**Visit the Federal Register Site to
Tell DHS Why You Oppose this
Rule.**

**All Comments Due by
11:59 PM on July 15th**

<https://www.aila.org/takeaction#/82>