

OPPORTUNITY & PROSPERITY FOR ALL

Get to know **OUR PROJECTS**

Immigration

The Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project protects and defends the rights of immigrants and refugees with low incomes statewide.



OUR WORK, OUR IMPACT:

In addition to our legal representation, we monitor and respond to anti-immigrant bills at the state and federal level. Through our advocacy efforts, we provide accurate information to the immigrant and refugee communities about immigration reform and policy changes, and implement and conduct community education efforts to prepare and coordinate with families and immigrant-led organizations on pandemic response and access to care.

- We presented Spanish or English **community education workshops**, reaching more than 3,700 participants, designed and implemented in partnership with organizations across the state.
- We produced **bilingual online community education videos on public charge, vaccine access for immigrants, and the child tax credit**. We developed and shared flyers on COVID vaccine access in seven languages, public charge law changes in five languages, about the Child Tax Credit in two languages, and made several updates throughout 2021 to flyers about changing landlord-tenant rights during the eviction moratoriums. We also appeared multiple times on Spanish- and English-language television and in Spanish-language print media to discuss immigrants' rights in relation to COVID programs, eviction law, and public charge.
- We continued our **civil litigation on behalf of immigrants with low incomes who face a wide variety of housing and consumer issues**, successfully settling a number of cases. We litigated new cases concerning mobile home purchases involving serious consumer law violations, including one against a large national mobile home park chain. We represented numerous immigrants facing eviction and helped them navigate the various rental relief programs available to ensure that

Our multifaceted work includes legal representation and assistance navigating the complex immigration system, and protecting immigrants and their families from abuses in the public and private sectors. We partner with pro-immigrant and pro-refugee organizations, allies, and leaders to advance progressive public policies that improve families' daily lives. We also promote acceptance and understanding of immigrant and refugee communities in North Carolina—and counteract rising xenophobia, Islamophobia, and racism.



assistance was not denied based on immigration status. Through our advocacy, we helped make improvements to the application processes.

MOVING FORWARD

Advocate for federal, state, and local policies that protect and defend the rights, safety, and well-being of immigrants and refugees with low incomes, and against policies and practices that harm these communities.

- Monitor and respond to major changes in state or local policy and practice affecting immigrants and refugees in North Carolina, including anti-immigration and tuition equity legislation, and policy advocacy to respond to hate incidents and crimes in the state. Continue communications with state executive team on major immigrant & refugee policy issues.
- Monitor, analyze, and respond to key federal policy issues in partnership with state and national organizations, providing accurate information to low-income immigrant and refugee communities.



Provide legal representation to immigrants and refugees with low incomes to prevent family separation, address systemic barriers that prevent immigrants and refugees from obtaining immigration relief, and increase their economic security.

- Represent immigrants in need of immigration legal assistance, working on cases that highlight the harms of current policies.
- Work with local practitioners to develop a plan to identify immigration litigation issues and create strategies to address them.
- Pursue cases focusing on constitutionally questionable ICE practices.
- Address immigration law needs of North Carolina families using direct representation, community education, mobilization of pro bono networks, and holistic impact litigation strategies.
- Continue to address notario fraud.

Protect fair and equal access to government, education, and private sector services and benefits for disenfranchised immigrants and refugees with low incomes.

- Ensure that immigrants who are not eligible for Legal Services Corporation representation are protected from fraudulent consumer transactions and unfair housing practices. Litigate existing Fair Housing Act cases for immigrant clients, home ownership/foreclosure cases and existing landlord-tenant and eviction cases, and pursue and explore ways to challenge unfair debt collection and unfair lending practices to mobile homeowners.



- Continue to lead on and participate in efforts and collaborations to ensure that North Carolina's COVID-19 response is inclusive of immigrants and refugees, and that our communities are as well-informed as possible on COVID-19 information.
- Maintain and expand immigrant access to Medicaid, schools, and related programs and services.
- Monitor court language access and act as a continued liaison to U.S. Department of Justice about language access in courts in North Carolina. Address issues with immigrant access to state and federal programs as they arise, including schools, Department of Social Services offices, and the DMV.
- Help inform immigrants and advocates about policy changes related to Public Charge through workshops and trainings for community partners and immigrant residents.
- Continue to assess and take action in cases related to admission, enrollment, or tuition equity at community colleges and the UNC system. Advise and represent immigrant students who are wrongly denied in-state tuition.

Contribute to an immigrants' rights movement ecosystem to respond to the needs of impacted immigrant communities and advance policy wins.

- Strengthen the statewide immigrants' rights movement and related movements by participating in and leading collaborative efforts with partner organizations, prioritizing immigration enforcement issues, refugee issues, Latinx community engagement, Islamophobia, and more.

LET'S WORK TOGETHER to end poverty, build power, and share prosperity across North Carolina!



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of immigrants & refugees -

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