



Agenda

MEASURE X COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

July 21, 2021

5:00 P.M.

VIRTUAL MEETING

The Public may observe and participate in
the Virtual Zoom Meeting by using this link:

<https://ccccounty-us.zoom.us/j/81176769191>

Meeting ID: 811 7676 9191

Or by dialing (888) 278-0254

Conference Code: 468751

Mariana Moore, Chair
BK Williams, Vice Chair

Agenda Items:

Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and
preference of the Committee

1. Roll Call
2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).
3. RECEIVE the Record of Action for the July 14, 2021, Measure X Community Advisory Board meeting (Mariana Moore, Chair)
4. RECEIVE presentations and PARTICIPATE in panel discussions on the topic of immigration and racial equity across systems (Mariana Moore, Chair)
5. REVIEW and DISCUSS the plan for presenters of focused presentations at upcoming MXCAB meetings (Mariana Moore, Chair)
6. REVIEW and DISCUSS process for finalizing priorities and recommendations to submit to the Board of Supervisors (Mariana Moore, Chair)
7. The next meeting is currently scheduled for July 28, 2021.
8. Adjourn

The Measure X Community Advisory Board will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend Measure X meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting.

Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Measure X Community Advisory Board less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 1025 Escobar St., 4th Floor, Martinez, during normal business hours.

Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

*Live Transcription (Automated Closed Captioning) is available in English via Zoom - Click the "**Live Transcript**" button from the in-meeting Zoom toolbar and **select one** of the options from the pop-up menu.*

*Live simultaneous Spanish interpretation is available for Measure X Community Advisory Board meetings by joining the meeting via the Zoom application. Click on the "**Interpretation Globe**" at the bottom of the screen and choose the language channel Spanish. You may wish to "Mute Original Audio" so that you only hear the utterances on the channel that you select.*

Measure X Community Advisory Board meeting agendas and videos are available in Spanish at: http://64.166.146.245/agenda_publish.cfm?id=&mt=ALL

For Additional Information Contact:

Lisa Driscoll, Committee Staff
Phone (925) 655-2047
lisa.driscoll@cao.cccounty.us



Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

MEASURE X COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Date: 07/21/2021
Subject: Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda
Submitted For: MEASURE X Com Advisory Board,
Department: County Administrator
Referral No.: 2/2/21 D.4
Referral Name: Measure X Community Advisory Committee
Presenter: Mariana Moore **Contact:**

Referral History:

Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).

Referral Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

Accept attached written public comments.

Attachments

No file(s) attached.



Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

MEASURE X COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Date: 07/21/2021

Subject: Record of Action for July 14, 2021 Measure X Community Advisory Board Meeting

Submitted For: FINANCE COMMITTEE,

Department: County Administrator

Referral No.: N/A

Referral Name: Record of Action

Presenter: Lisa Driscoll, County Finance Director

Contact: Lisa Driscoll (925) 655-2047

Referral History:

County Ordinance requires that each County body keep a record of its meetings. Though the record need not be verbatim, it must accurately reflect the agenda and the discussions made in the meetings.

Referral Update:

Attached for the Board's information is the Record of Action for its July 14, 2021 meeting. Also attached are public comments that were received too late to be included in the July 14 meeting posting.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

Staff recommends MXCAB receive the Record of Action for the July 14, 2021 meeting.

Fiscal Impact (if any):

No fiscal impact.

Attachments

Record of Action MXCAB 7-14-21

Measure X Asks Spreadsheet

Public Comments



Agenda

MEASURE X COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

July 14, 2021

9:00 A.M.

1025 Escobar St., Martinez

Mariana Moore, Chair
BK Williams, Vice Chair

Agenda Items:

Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

Present: Mariana Moore, Chair; BK Williams, Vice Chair; Edith Pastrano; Kathryn Chiverton; Odessa LeFrancois; David Cruise; Dr. Michelle Hernandez; Michelle Stewart; Ali Saidi; Jerry Short; Kimberly Aceves-Iniquez; Ruth Fernandez; Debbie Toth; Sandra Wall; Susun Kim; Cathy Hanville; Sandro Trujillo; Pello Walker; Gigi Crowder; Melissa Stafford Jones; Diana Honig; Lindy Lavender; Peter Benson; Steven Bliss

Absent: Jim Cervantes; Sharon Quezada Jenkins; Geneveva Calloway

Staff Lisa Driscoll, County Finance Director; Enid Mendoza, Senior Deputy County Administrator; Jill Ray, BOS District II; Mark Goodwin, BOS District III; Chris Wikler, BOS District IV; Melissa Klawuhn, Assistant Sheriff; MJ Robb, Sheriff Commander

1. Roll Call

Staff provided instruction for access to English live transcription (automated closed captioning), and live simultaneous Spanish and ASL interpretation, and then conducted roll call. There were approximately 108 participants.

2. Accept attached written public comments.

Written public comments were received too late to be included in the original agenda packet. These items are included as attachments to these minutes. Additional public comments were received from Jessica Ozlap and Cathy Hanville. The MXCAB discussed the tracking spreadsheet that Cathy Hanville created for review purposes. This item is discussed further under agenda #5.

3. Staff recommends MXCAB receive the Record of Action for the July 7, 2021 meeting.

The Record of Action was accepted as presented.

4. RECEIVE presentations on the topic of safety net.

Mariana Moore introduced the topic for discussion. Presentations were provided and the following individuals shared their insight and experiences: Hisham Alibob, Alliance to End Abuse; Maria Solorzano, Family Justice Center; Kelley Curtis, Director EHSD CalFresh/CalWORKs division; Melinda Self, Director of Child Support; Matt Brega, Child Support; Salina Mansapit, Child Support Specialist II; Vic Baker, Equitable Economic Recovery Task Force; Dr. Carol Doham-Kelly, Rubicon; Kimi Barnes, Rubicon; Alissa Friedman, Opportunity Junction; Kim Castaneda, VP of Development and Communications - Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano; Chelo Gonzalez, Direct Service Program Manager - Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano; and Keva Dean, Resident Advocacy.

At the conclusion of the presentations, members of the MXCAB made comments and asked questions. At the conclusion of the MXCAB member comments, members of the public were offered an opportunity to speak and public comments heard from four individuals in two different languages.

5. Discuss/modify attached plan for presenters.

BK Williams introduced the topic for discussion and reviewed the current schedule of speakers. MXCAB members discussed options for future meetings. An item will be added to the next agenda for further discussion regarding the process for finalizing priorities and recommendations to submit to the Board of Supervisors. There were no comments from members of the public. An updated schedule will be attached to the next agenda.

6. The next meeting is currently scheduled for July 21, 2021.

There was no change to the next standing date and time.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15 PM.

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Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact:

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Phone (925) 655-2047
lisa.driscoll@cao.cccounty.us

AGENCY/GROUP
COUNTY VETERANS OFFICE

OLDER ADULTS

Contra Costa Fire

Early Childhood

Youth

Health Care

Mental Health

Housing/Homelessness

Criminal Justice

THE ASK

OUTREACH POSITION-\$200K only one position requested

CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES ROUGH estimate 150-200 per employee

Discretionary Funds no specific ask Alameda county has 750K-could be used for transport also

Nurse behavioral health clinician APS/IHSS

28.85 million

Rodeo Hercules fire response mental health-740,2000

16.725 MILLION EARLY CHILDHOOD SUPPORTS PROVIDERS SYSTEMS

discretionary fund for CPS social workers no amount given

transformational ideas family visitation center, respite programs whole family living resources no amount

suggestions made east county RYSE like program-no amount given

Lab 25-40 million

More money for clinics no specific ask dollar amount

Support County Hospital- no money specific ask

More money for Contra Costa Cares program no specific ask

Miles Hall community center and mobile crisis-no dollar amount given

Deaf Hope-money to support their services unsure of amount

Money to increase CBO budget to keep qualified workers

Land trust money-12 million a year

Eviction Defense funding-not specific amount

DA-human trafficking dept 1 million

DA-investigation unit-sheriff 3 million

Young adult diversion-DA 1 million

CC racial justice coalition-youth training and equity center east county-estimate 22 million 1 time funding

Rubicon-Probation-Support for reentry services no dollar amount

Sheriff 12.8 million mostly for staff 1.3 million body worn cams

Restorative Justice Programs-no specific dollar ask

Public Defender office 2 million for social worker lawyer teams from time of arrest

DATE OF PRESENTATION**PART OF COUNTY**

5/12/2021

ALL

5/12/2021

ALL

5/19/2021

not presented supplemental

Mostly east but some for all
east

5/26/2021

ALL

6/9/2021

ALL

not given

east

6/16/2021

all

6/23/2021

all
all
all

6/30/2021

all
all

7/7/2021

all
all
all
east
all

g

mostly east unincorporated

all
all

NOTES

Amounts

200,000

400,000

750,000

400,000

28, 250,000

740,200

16,725,000

300,000

1,000,000

5,000,000

30,000,000

15,000,000

5,000,000

500,000

15,000,000

500,000

money here could be leveraged for matches

250,000

money here opens many projects

12,000,000

1,000,000

1,000,000

3,000,000

1,000,000

One time-different orgs supported

22,000,000

500,000

12,800,000

500,000

publicly supported by others

2,000,000

147,565,200

specific

estimate
another cty
estimate

specific
specific

specific

estimate
estimate
estimate

specific
estimate
estimate
estimate

estimate
estimate
used as example

specific
estimate

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MXCAB Public Comments, Agenda Item 2

July 14, 2021

Bryan Scott, Chair, East County Voters for Equal Protection

Good afternoon, members of the Measure X Community Advisory Board. At the May 19 MXCAB meeting Fire Chiefs from throughout the County presented a detailed funding request, a request that covered many fiscal needs throughout the County. Many aspects of emergency services were discussed that day, and it was clear that money was needed for all of them.

One important and essential aspect of emergency services is the ability to respond. No one will dispute the fact that if there is no response, people suffer. If help is delayed, or doesn't come at all, victims suffer.

During the last three months that this board has been meeting, specifically the months of April, May and June, the 130,000 residents of eastern Contra Costa County have been without a responsive fire district for nearly 29 hours. Twenty-eight hours, fifty-one minutes, and nineteen seconds, to be precise.

The result is that 23 times during this period someone called 9-1-1, and the local fire district could not respond. The central county dispatch had to check with the east county fire district, determine that they were unable to respond, and then call another agency, sending a fire engine or other resource from a neighboring fire district, always from a much more distant fire station.

These facts are presented in black and white, in an emotionless statistical manner, in the East Contra Costa Fire Protection District Monthly Operational Report. You can find the report on the Internet here: [Monthly Operational Reports - East Contra Costa Fire Protection District \(eccfpd.org\)](http://eccfpd.org)

The Executive Fire Chiefs group that presented countywide funding needs detailed many service improvements that would be achieved, should the Board of Supervisors, with the recommendation of the MXCAB, dedicate a significant portion of the new countywide sales tax revenue to fire service.

However, in no fire district in the county, other than East Contra Costa Fire Protection District, is there ANY "Unavailable Time." No other fire district is unable to respond to emergency calls, let alone 23 emergency calls in three months.

The MXCAB must recommend to the Supervisors that the systematic underfunding of this essential government service be corrected.

Almost 20 years ago, when the Board of Supervisors formed the East Contra Costa Fire Protection District, it stated that it would make sure that the district is funded at a level comparable to other fire districts in the county. Through a number of governmental moves this has not been done.

Fifteen percent of the Measure X funds would fulfill the promise made in 2002. This action will bring equity in the provision of essential government services to the residents of East County.

A comprehensive collection of Public Comment materials has been submitted at prior MXCAB meetings. This material includes:

Meeting

Date	Comment Topic Area
4/12	Introductory Public Comments from East County Voters for Equal Protection and a formal definition of need, the public safety emergency in East County. Appendix: (CityGate Vol. 1); ECV Profile. <u>Microsoft Word - Public Comments MXCAB 4-13-2021.docx</u>
4/21	Public Comment including a White Paper describing the historical cause of the East County public safety crisis, and the 2002 fire district consolidation promises that were ignored. Appendix: LAFCO Table 4. <u>Microsoft Word - MXCAB Public Comment 4-21-2021.docx</u>
4/28	Public Comment regarding Seniors, and how EMS response is the enabler of more effective/efficient government services to all groups; Appendix: ECCFPD Press Release. <u>Microsoft Word - MXCAB Public Comment 4-28-2021.docx</u>
5/5	Public Comment regarding City/Town elected representatives supporting the solution to this public safety emergency, Measure X funding, a compilation of quotes and a compilation of three resolutions. Appendix: The three signed resolutions. <u>Microsoft Word - MXCAB Public Comments 5-5-2021.docx</u>
5/12	Public Comment regarding Q1 2021 Unavailable Time, with Gil Guerrero's LAFCO testimony, and link to the recording. Appendix: ECCFPD Operational Report for March, 2021 <u>Microsoft Word - MXCAB Public Comments 5-12-2021.docx</u>
7/14	Public Comment regarding the on-going public safety service emergency in East County, and the "Unavailable Time" during the second quarter of 2021, as documented by East Contra Costa Fire Protection District. <u>Monthly Operational Reports - East Contra Costa Fire Protection District (eccfpd.org)</u>

If a MXCAB member or alternate has any questions about the Public Comment materials or the subject area, I am eager to engage, as the Chair of East County Voters for Equal Protection. My email address is scott.bryan@comcast.net and my phone number is 925-418-4428.

Thank you.



Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

MEASURE X COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Date: 07/21/2021
Subject: Focussed Presentation and Discussion - Immigration and Racial Equity Accross Systems
Submitted For: MEASURE X Com Advisory Board,
Department: County Administrator
Referral No.: 2/2/21 D.4
Referral Name: Community Advisory Committee for Measure X
Presenter: Mariana Moore **Contact:** Lisa Driscoll (925) 655-2047

Referral History:

Plan for series of focussed presentations and discussion was established by the Measure X Community Advisory Board. Committee received presentations on May 12 regarding seniors, disabled people, and veterans, on May 19 community safety: fire protection, on May 26 early childhood, on June 9 youth and young adults, on June 16 healthcare, on June 23 mental health/ behavioral health & disabled residents, on July 7 community safety: Justice systems, and on July 14 safety net.

Referral Update:

Attached are presentations regarding immigration and racial equity across systems.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE presentations on the topic of immigration and racial equity across system:

- Community Engagement and Planning effort for the Office of Racial Equity & Social Justice:
 - Solomon Belette,
 - Arielle Danzy,
 - Karen Perkins,
 - Anh Ta,
 - Pastor Chris Williams,
- Stand Together Contra Costa:
 - Lanett Williams,
 - Heliodoro Moreno,
- Oasis Legal Services (oral presentation):
 - Ari Jones,

- Contra Costa Immigrant Rights Alliance:
 - Debra Ballinger
- Nepali Health Advocates:
 - Sangita Gautam,
 - Anupama Champagain Parajuli
- Resident Speaker:
 - Rose Muñoz

Additional materials (attached) were provided to supplement the presentations of Stand Together Contra Costa:

New American Economy Contra Costa Brief; Welcome Dinner Report; Stand Together Contra Costa Report FY19-20; Deportation Consequences Infographic; Advancing Universal Representation Toolkit; TRAC Immigration Court Statistics; and Keeping Families Together-Client Testimonials.

Attachments

1 -Community Engagement and Planning Effort for the Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice

2 -Stand Together Contra Costa (STCC)

3 -Holistic Deportation Defense (STCC)

4 - Oasis Legal Services Asylum for LGBTQ +Immigrants

5 -Contra Costa Immigrant Rights Alliance

6 - CCC Asian Pacific Islander Community - Introducing Nepali Community and Nepali Health Advocates

7 -Resident Speaker - Rose Muñoz

New American Economy Contra Costa Brief

Welcome Dinner Report

Stand Together Contra Costa Report FY 19-20

Deportation Consequences Infographic

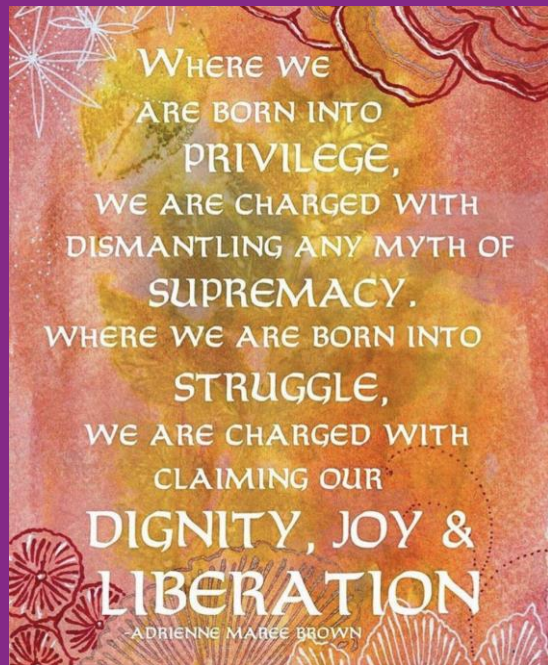
Advancing Universal Representation Toolkit

TRAC Immigration Court Statistics

Keeping Families Together-Client Testimonials

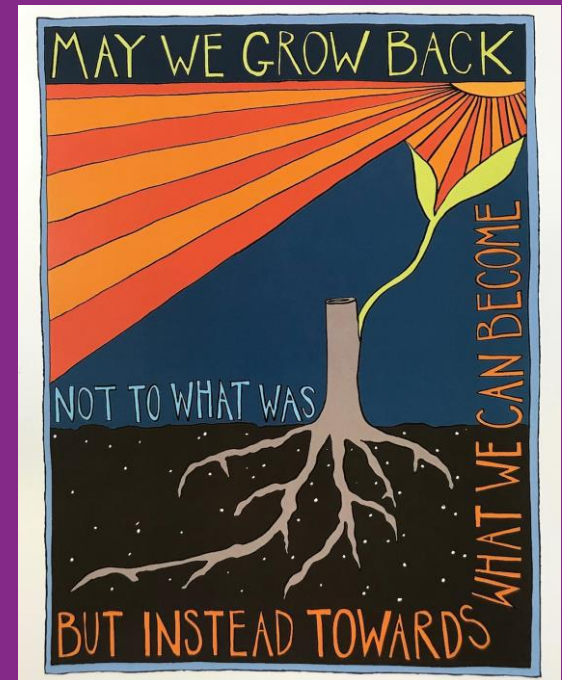
Contra Costa County Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice

ORESJ Community Engagement Process



Update to the Measure X Community Advisory Board

July 21, 2021



WHAT WE ARE DOING TODAY

OUR PURPOSE TODAY IS TO SHARE

- The culture and principles of the Host Table and Process
- The importance of a County Office and of a community-led process
- The work done to date and what is ahead
- What we are learning and the emergent priorities and recommendations

How We Do It (*Host Table Principles*)

- We center the priorities and lived experiences of residents and families most vulnerable to systems' harm and inequity.
- We disrupt racism and injustice that exist in our institutions and systems.
- We center healing, justice and equity.
- We engage in healthy struggle so that we are accountable, innovative and creative.
- We learn and adapt through radical listening, inquiry and reflection.
- We advocate for resources through an equitable, humanizing and transparent process.
- We celebrate and appreciate.

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are each residing on tribal lands of those who have lived on this land time immemorial.

We pay respects to their elders past and present.

Please take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together today.

We recognize the resilience of those past and present, who work to build a strong and sovereign nation where Tribal members live their values and culture.

Text your zip code to **1 (907) 312-5085** to learn more about the tribal lands in your area.

<https://nativegov.org/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment/>

Labor Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the labor of enslaved, kidnapped, displaced peoples, of immigrants of refugees, those who have been made undocumented, incarcerated, and stateless. We are indebted to all this labor that allows us all to be here today.

We remember that our country is built on the labor of enslaved people who were forced to the “Americas” from the African Continent.

We acknowledge the foundational, innumerable, and ever-present ways in which our culture, our economy, our nationhood is *‘made possible by the labor of enslaved Africans and ascendants who suffered the horror of the transatlantic trafficking of their people, chattel slavery, and Jim Crow.*

We acknowledge all labor, including voluntary, involuntary, and trafficked peoples who continue to serve within our labor force’. Dr. TJ Stewart

Visit the following links to learn more:

www.unpaidlabor.com

<https://diverseeducation.com/article/206161/>

Spoken Word



“The role of art in social action is to report or reflect”.

- *Arielle Danzy*

Context and Background

Contra Costa County is home to many social justice movement leaders, activists, and organizations. There is a rich history of organizing across multiple movements for justice and across many generations.

Contra Costa County is also home to an entrenched culture of white supremacy, over-surveillance of, under-resourcing, and exploitation of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities. This culture is too often felt, expressed, and allowed within and by County governance and departments.

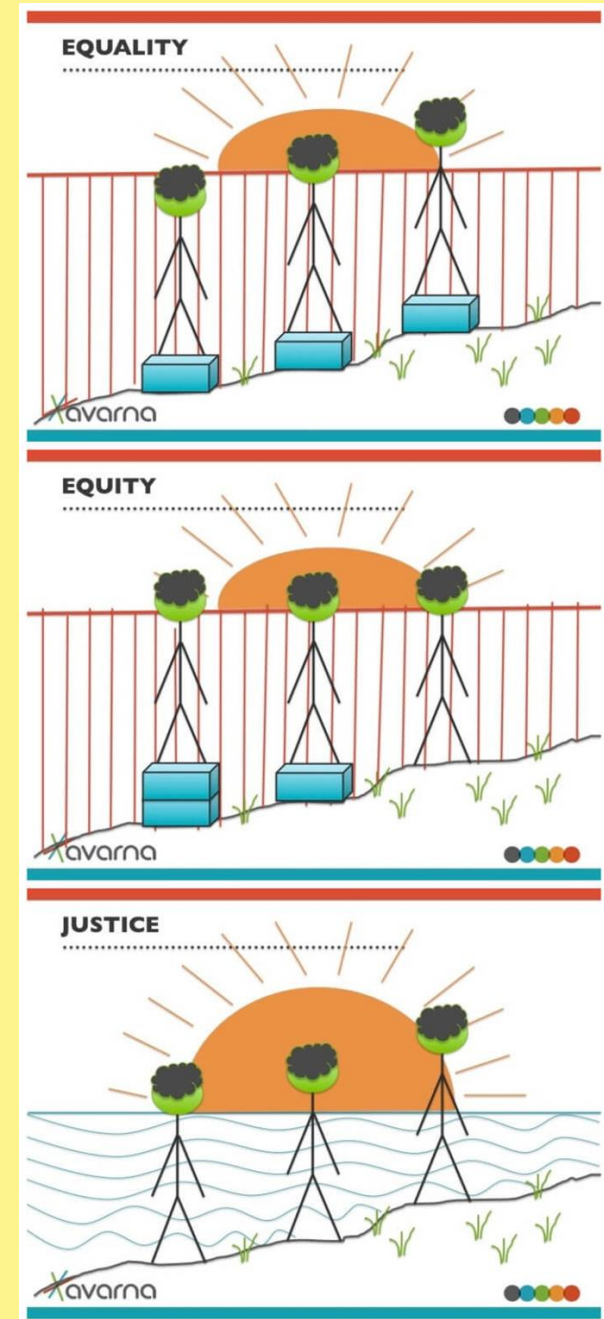




In November 2020, The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors unanimously authorized the development of an Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ).

The Board also authorized the ORESJ to be informed by and launched after a community engagement process.

The **GOAL** of the Office is to enact and sustain principles, policies, practices, and investments that are racially just and equitable across all of its departments and divisions.



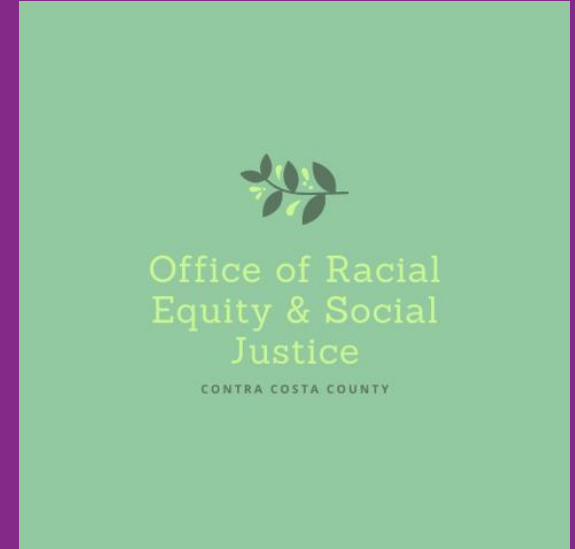
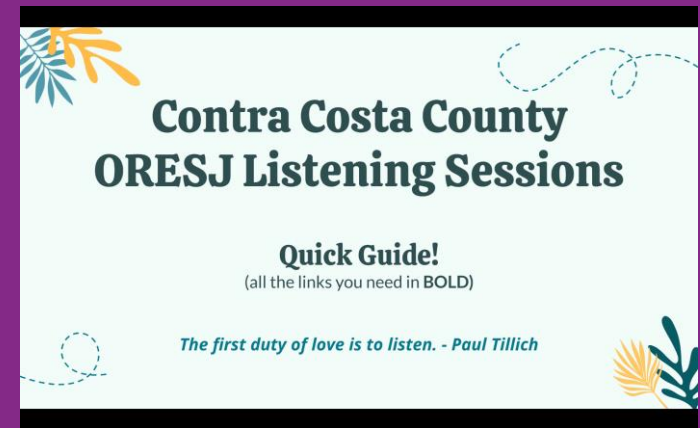
In February 2021, a Host Table composed of BIPOC residents, CBOs, and systems partners came together to develop and facilitate a Listening Campaign to inform the priorities and structure of the ORESJ. Key tasks of the Table:



- ★ **Develop and implement the community engagement process (Listening Campaign).** Serve as ambassadors, co-host and co-facilitate listening sessions, town halls, truth forums.
- ★ **Deliver recommendations to the Board of Supervisors** on the roles, responsibilities, priorities, structure, and accountability of the Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice.
- ★ **Respond to emerging needs and dynamics** that arise out of the engagement process.

Key Work to Date Through This Process

- ★ We have conducted 35 listening sessions
- ★ We have engaged over 400 residents in the sessions.
- ★ We are providing stipends for all participants and listening session hosts.
- ★ We have launched preliminary website (cccoresj.org).
- ★ We have conducted 2 learning sessions for Host Table and larger community
- ★ We provided an update to the Board of Supervisors
- ★ We are currently engaging potential project management consultants to support data analysis and meaning-making, ongoing listening sessions and learning sessions, landscape analysis of current County efforts, and development of ORESJ recommendations.



What We Are Learning

1. Listening deeply and actively is fundamental to change and transformation. It is the work.
1. The more we listen, the more we need to listen.
1. Our residents want and need the County leaders to listen.
1. There is a lot of pain and distress that our communities feel and hold. Individuals don't feel safe.
1. There is a fear of retribution for speaking out.
1. We need more time to ensure we are connecting broadly and deeply.
1. We have residents who are hopeful; many who are doubtful. All are looking to County leaders to change this narrative.

Preliminary Recommendations: Furthering the Work Together

- a. Work with the Host Table to support and attend Listening Sessions for residents in your Districts. *
- a. Launch language interpretation at all BOS Mtgs, Commission meetings (*based on Census threshold languages*)
- a. Establish land and labor acknowledgements at all BOS and Commission meetings.*
- a. Establish a Reparations Task Force to study and make proposals for Reparations for African Americans in Contra Costa County.
- a. Commission a research study into the historical and contemporary impacts and costs of racism in Contra Costa County.
- a. Research study includes BOS, BOS staff, and Department/Division Heads participate in education on the the racial harms of the areas and sectors of work the County oversees - *health systems, criminal legal/justice systems, law enforcement, child welfare, social services, behavioral health, early childhood education, elections system, planning and land use, and transportation.*
- a. Work with the Host Table to research and learn from models and approaches in other jurisdictions.*

**Can be implemented without additional County costs*

Pacing Our Process



Contra Costa County Planning Process for Designing the Office of Racial Equity & Social Justice

A community planning process grounded in active listening, witness-bearing, truth and healing.

★ PHASE 1

- Piloting, launching sessions
- Identify Consultants
- June 22 BOS Presentation

JUNE REFLECTION
What are we hearing and learning? Who's missing

March - June 2021

★ PHASE 2

- Continue sessions
 - Engage those not reached
 - Loop back with Phase 1 participants
 - July 26th Community Invite Session
- What are we hearing and learning? Who's missing?

July-September 2021

★ PHASE 3

- Continue sessions
- Draft priorities, strategies, recommendations

October-December 2021

**Final Report
shared with
BOS
Feb 2022**

Planning Outcomes

- Acknowledgement & understanding of racial harms & burdens
- A cohesive County ecosystem grounded in & responsive to needs of residents most burdened by racial inequity
- A plan to launch the CCC Office of Racial Equity & Social Justice
- A more committed & collectivized base of residents that ensure accountability & transparency and ability to mobilize to emergent conditions & opportunities



Listen.
People start
to heal
the moment
they
feel heard.

-Cheryl Richardson

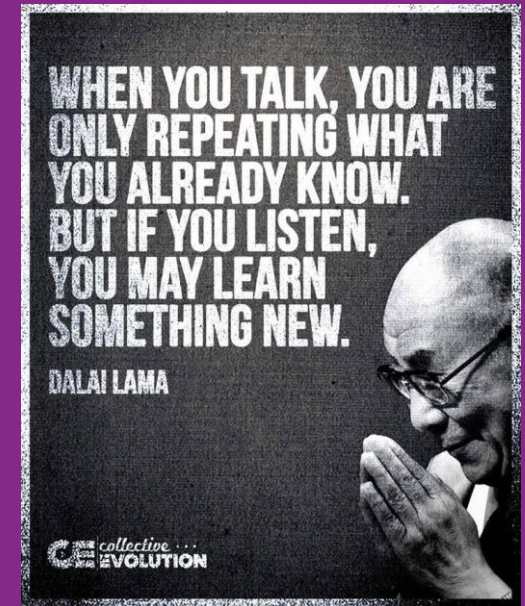
www.thepeppermintpost.com

Thank you for listening.

**SAVE THE DATE:
Thursday, July 29th
4pm-6pm**

Community Update/Invite Session

|



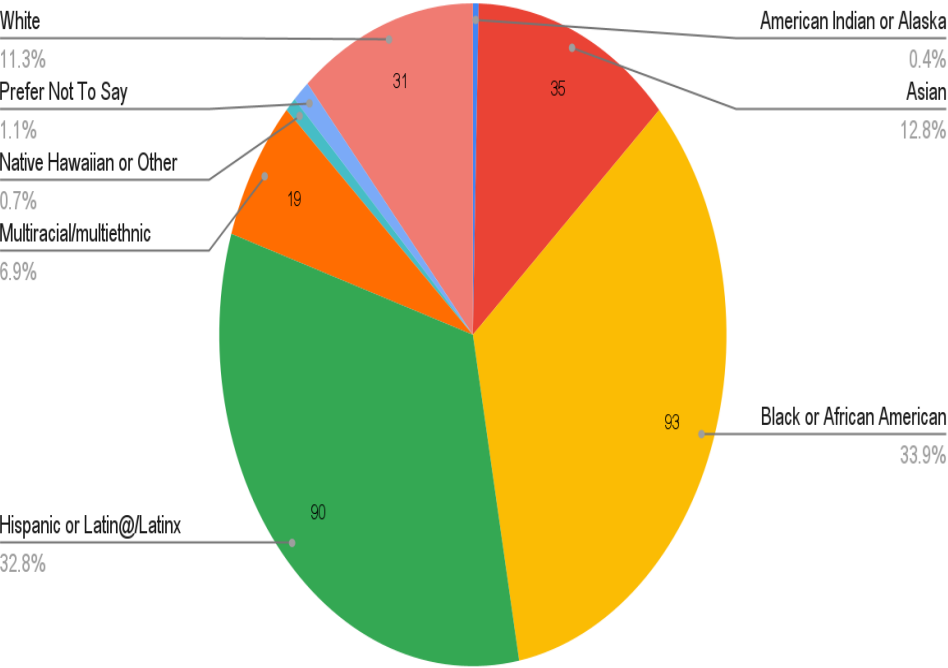
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYIfu6pqDwtHtIRKBrNVv8qvhCQIIA-z3bW>

Reference Materials

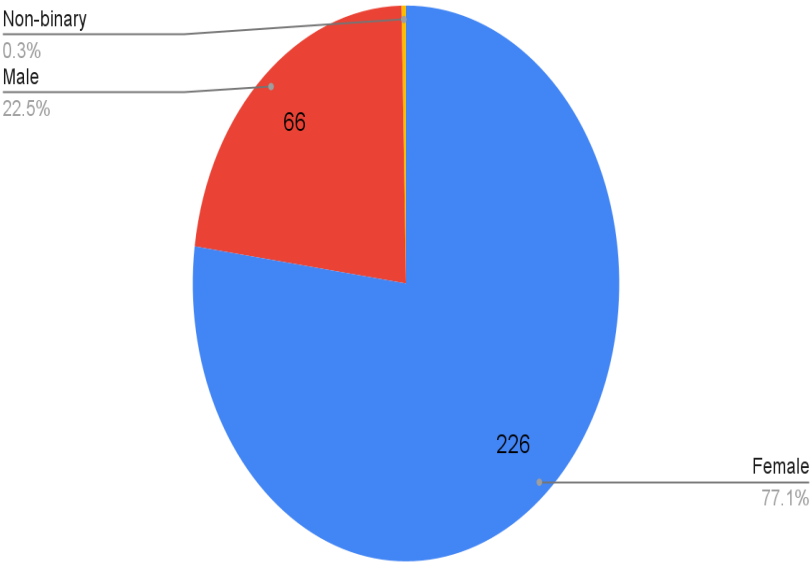
- Participant Demographic Information
- Host Table Demographic Information
- Host Table Structure

Participant information (Source: Census Forms)

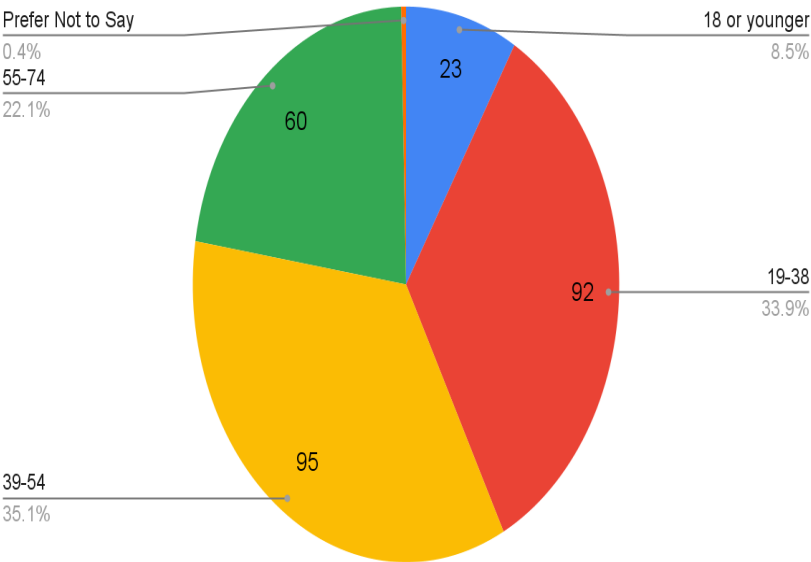
Racial/Ethnic Identity (n=274)



Gender (n=293)

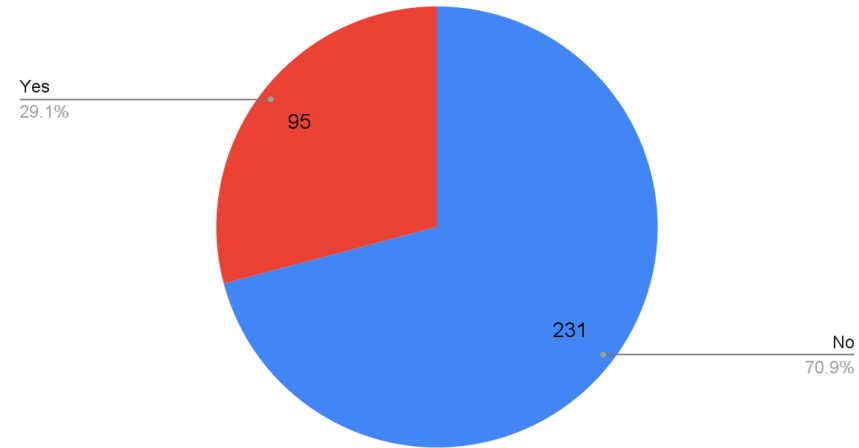


Age (n=271)

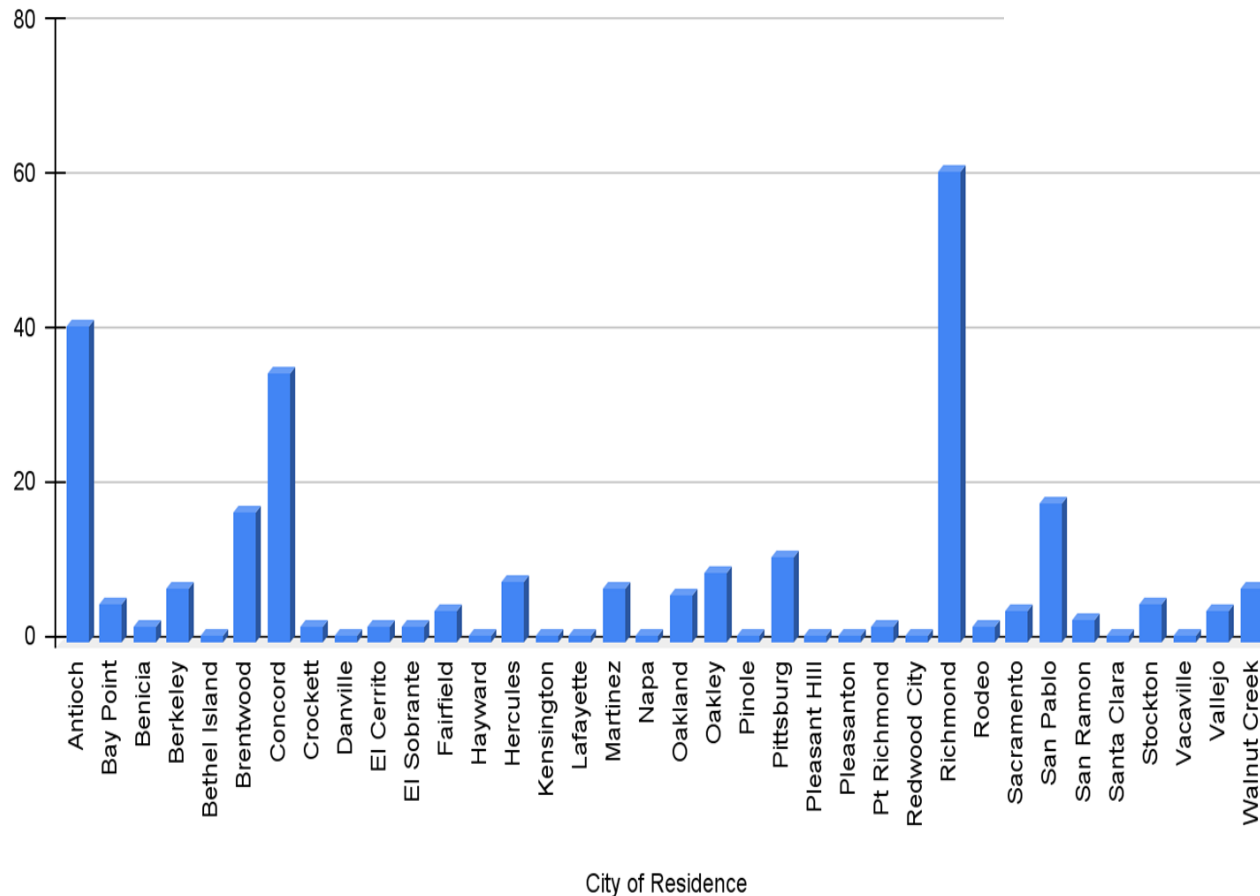


Participant information (Source: Census Forms)

Work for Contra Costa County (n= 326)

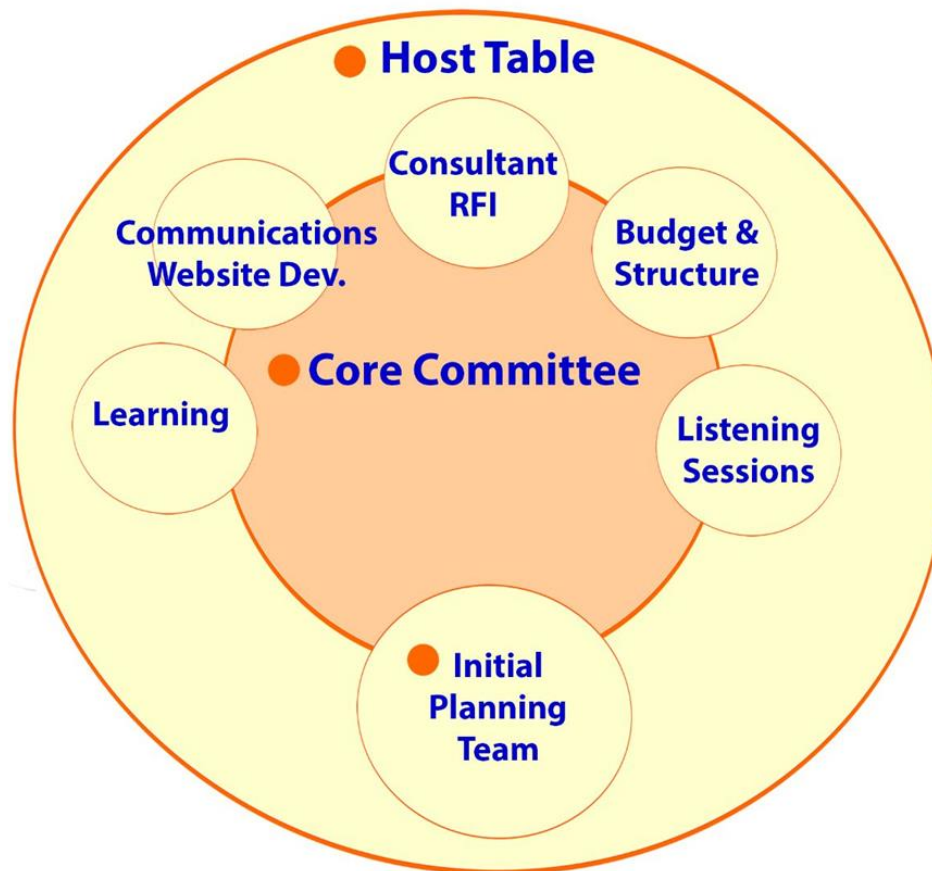


City of Residence (n=277)





Contra Costa County Planning Structure for the Office of Racial Equity & Social Justice



A community planning process grounded in active listening, witness-bearing, truth and healing.



Contra Costa County

Planning Process for Designing the Office of Racial Equity & Social Justice Phase I

A community planning process grounded in active listening, witness-bearing, truth and healing.

Listening
Sessions



Work
Group Mtgs



Host Table
Mtgs



Core Comm.
Mtgs



Community
Sessions

Community
Informational
Session
12/16/20

Learning Session
w/ Dr Ken Hardy
1/21/21

Community Update
8/21

Nov 2020 Dec 2020 Jan 2021 Feb 2021 Mar 2021 Apr 2021 May 2021 Jun 2021 Jul 2021

Planning Outcomes

Acknowledgement and understanding of racial harms and burdens

A cohesive County ecosystem grounded in and responsive to needs of residents most burdened by racial inequity

A plan to launch the CCC Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice

A more committed & collectivized base of residents that ensures accountability and transparency and ability to mobilize to emergent conditions and opportunities





Intersectional & Culturally Responsive
Community Engagement:
Building Trust, Changing Lives

Lanett Williams, Project Manager

www.standtogethercontracosta.org



An innovative approach to safety net legal services built around community-based partnerships

- ▶ Community Education
- ▶ Hotline Services
- ▶ Legal Services



Collaboration matters!



And many more!



Robust community engagement is critical to building trust and providing services for immigrant families

- ▶ Community Engagement
- ▶ Continued Partnerships and Outreach





Intersectional & Culturally Responsive Community Engagement Building Trust, Changing Lives

Use Measure X revenue to serve immigrant families through Stand Together Contra Costa partnerships!

INCLUDING FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SPECIALISTS AT LOCAL NON-PROFITS TO:

- ▶ Use intersectional partnerships to provide accurate and culturally-responsive information to immigrants
- ▶ Engage immigrant families where they feel safe to connect them with critical safety net services
 - ▶ Free legal clinics, trainings, resource fairs, etc
- ▶ Improve and expand outreach to immigrant families (particularly south Contra Costa, non-Latinx populations, new arrivals, etc)

The Stakes Are High



BRINGING ROBUST AND HOLISTIC REPRESENTATION TO CONTRA COSTA JULY 21, 2021



Heliodoro Moreno, Jr.
Senior Removal Defense Attorney
Stand Together Contra Costa

Keeping Contra Costa Families Together

- ▶ **Noncitizens do not have the right to a court-appointed attorney when facing deportation proceedings**
- ▶ So, we represent detained noncitizen Contra Costans in deportation proceedings before the Immigration Courts at no cost to the noncitizen.
 - ▶ In 2020: Provided free representation to 87 Contra Costan noncitizens in deportation proceedings.
 - ▶ In 2020: Conducted 735 free consultations to Contra Costan noncitizens.
- ▶ **Unique:** Only **three** California counties provide free removal defense to their noncitizen residents.

* Bottom Picture: STCC client and family.

Serving Contra Costans from Around the World

- ▶ Marie, who fled political persecution and Torture in Uganda.
- ▶ Ken, a refugee from Laos, seeking to remain with U.S. citizen family.



* A supporter of Bobi Wine protesting his arrest in Uganda.



* STCC client and family.

Measuring the Need in Contra Costa County

- ▶ **Contra Costa Residents in Immigration Court not Represented: 4,442***
 - ▶ (4,312 nondetained; 3,625 never detained)
 - ▶ (Fifth largest amount throughout CA; behind San Francisco, Santa Clara, San Mateo, Alameda)
 - ▶ Amount unrepresented before the San Francisco Immigration Court where county not known: 1,048
- ▶ **Legal Representation Matters**
 - ▶ In San Francisco Immigration Court rate of represented asylum cases granted is: 65%
 - ▶ In San Francisco Immigration Court rate of unrepresented asylum cases granted is: 19%
- ▶ **Average time of case completion in San Francisco Immigration Court: 3 years.**

* All statistics are from TRAC Immigration run by Syracuse University. Statistics were accessed on June 18, 2021, and are current through May 2021. The tracking tool is available at https://trac.syr.edu/phptools/reports/reports.php?layer=immigration&report_type=tool

* Picture: STCC client with family





Our Strategy for Keeping Contra Costa's Immigrant Families Together



* Picture: STCC client with Mother

- ▶ **Robust and Free Removal Defense Representation for Contra Costa Families**
 - ▶ Legal representation across the labyrinth of court systems (*i.e.* Immigration Court, U.S. Citizenship and immigration Services, Board of Immigration Appeals, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, State Court).
 - ▶ Needed now more than ever.
- ▶ **Social Workers to Provide Holistic Social Services**
 - ▶ Language accessible and culturally responsive social work services and navigation is essential for the immigrant clients we serve.
- ▶ **STRATEGY AND COST: \$2 Million**
 - ▶ **Double our county's capacity to provide free removal defense representation including representation across systems.**
 - ▶ **Advance immigrant community engagement throughout the county in partnership with community-based organizations.**
 - ▶ **Provide intersectional holistic assistance by providing culturally responsive access to social work services and navigation for our clients and their families.**



AN INTRODUCTION TO ASYLUM FOR LGBTQ+ IMMIGRANTS

ARI JONES (they/they) RESIDENCY & NATURALIZATION PROGRAM MANAGER



oasis
LEGAL SERVICES™

Est. 2017



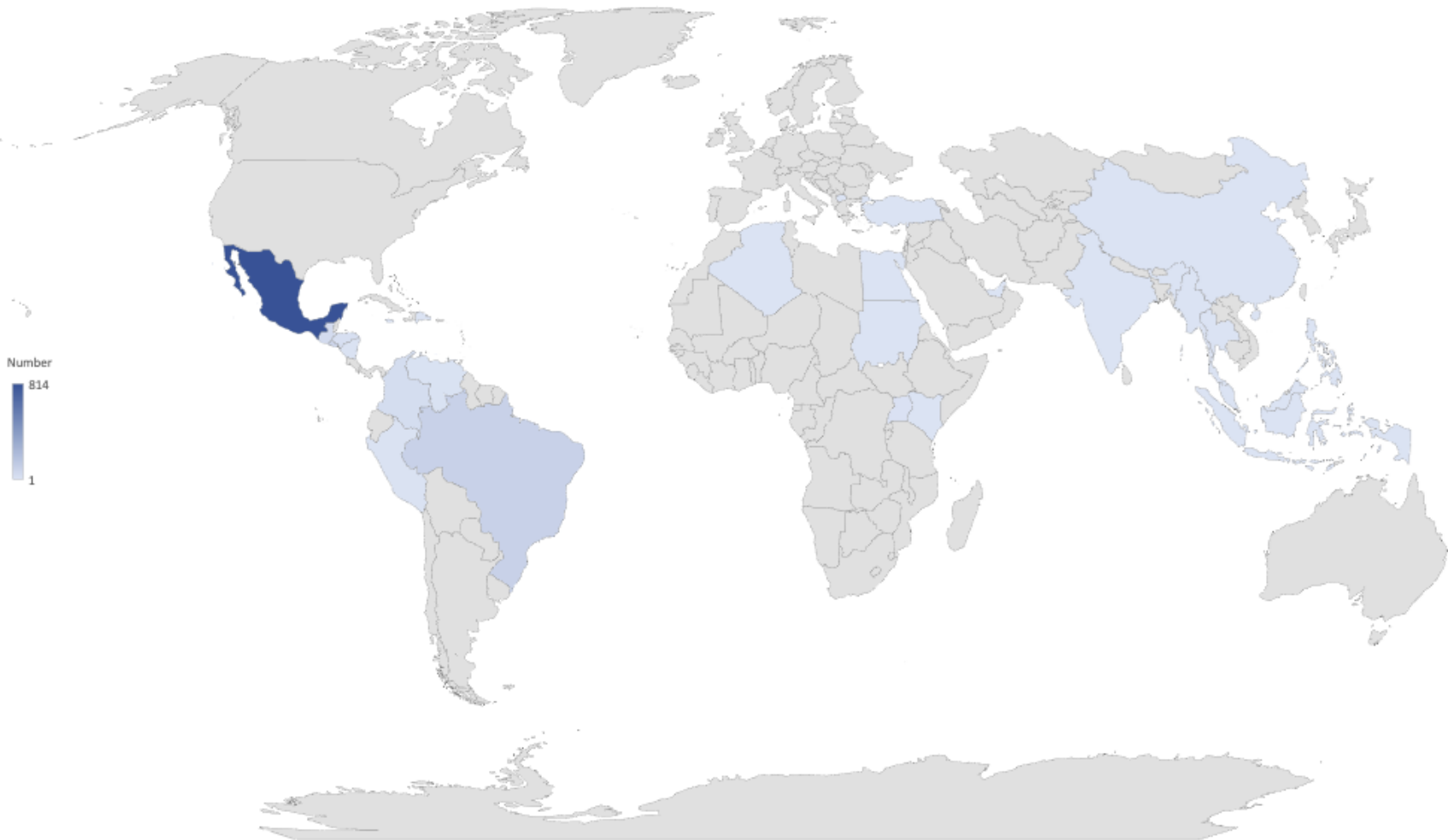
Oasis Legal Services: An Introduction

- **Our mission:** Oasis Legal Services proudly provides quality legal immigration services to under-represented low-income groups with a focus on LGBTQIA+ communities. By acknowledging, respecting, and honoring their struggles, we empower immigrants so that dignity grows and integrity blooms.
- We are a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization providing comprehensive legal services to assist LGBTQIA+ immigrants:
 - Screening for immigration relief
 - Affirmative asylum
 - Residency
 - Citizenship
 - Family petitions (limited)

Our Clients

- Approximately 10,000 undocumented LGBTQ people living in the Bay Area
- Living anywhere served by the San Francisco Asylum Office
- Countries of Origin —

Oasis Asylum Clients by Country of Origin



Contra Costa County Residents

- 4th most common county of residence for Oasis clients
- About 11% of our active clients currently live in Contra Costa County

Asylum

WHAT IS ASYLUM?

Definition of a Refugee

A refugee is any person who is outside any country of such person's nationality or, in the case of a person having no nationality, is outside any country in which such person last habitually resided, and who is unable or unwilling to return to, and is unable or unwilling to avail himself or herself of the protection of, that country because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.

-INA § 101(a)(42)(A); see also 8 C.F.R. § 208.13 (establishing eligibility for asylum).

Benefits of Asylum



- Permanent status to live and work in the U.S.
- Permanent status for spouses and children
- Freedom to travel
- Access to physical and mental health support
- Feeling safe coming out as LGBTQIA+
- Pathway to citizenship



LGBTQ asylum

WHY DOES OASIS FOCUS ON LGBTQ ASYLUM-SEEKERS?

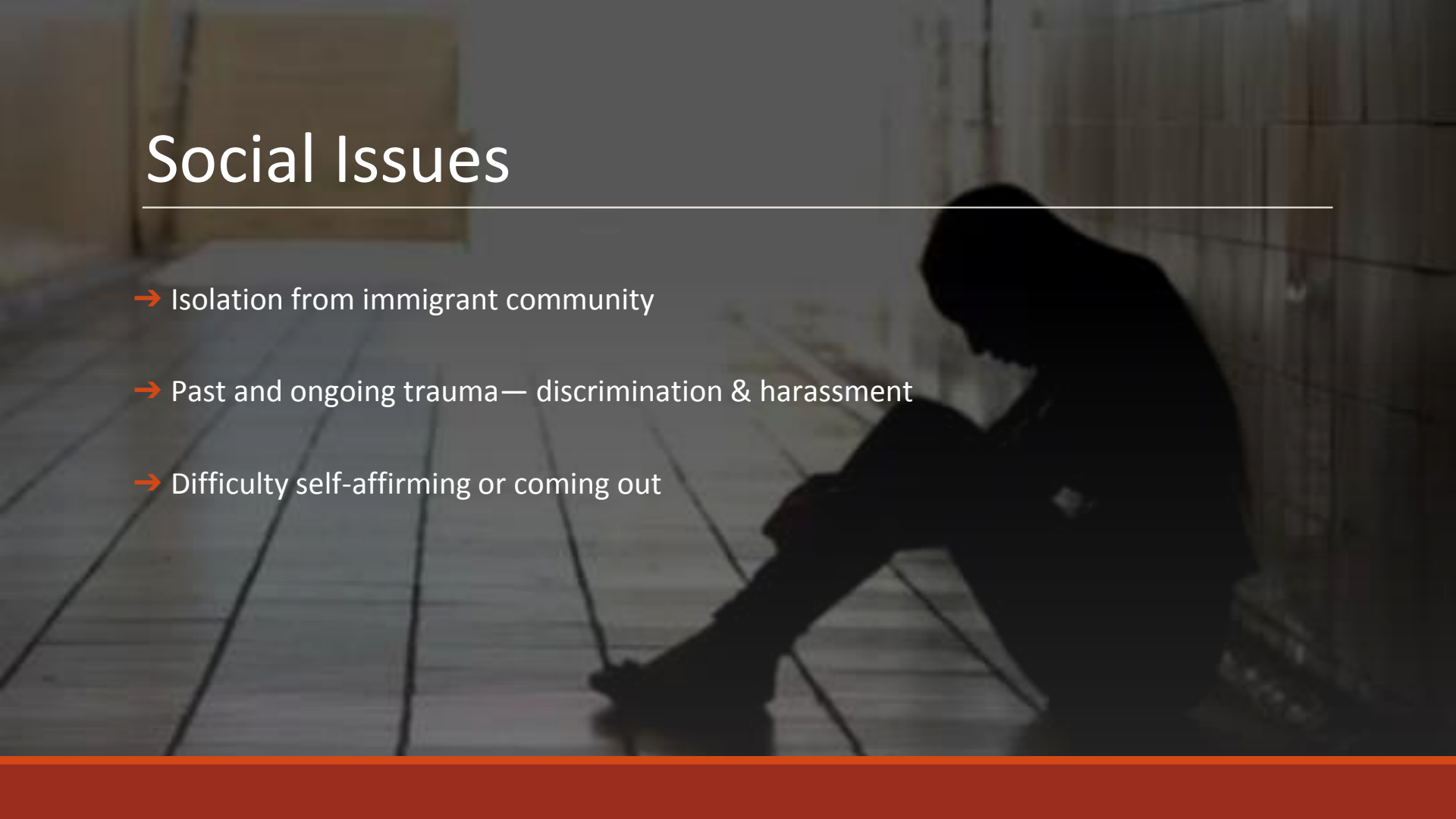
Barriers for LGBTQ Asylum-Seekers

WHY IS THIS PROCESS SO DIFFICULT?



Social Issues

- Isolation from immigrant community
- Past and ongoing trauma— discrimination & harassment
- Difficulty self-affirming or coming out



Mental Health Issues

- PTSD, anxiety, depression
- Telling story is re-traumatizing
- Difficulty trusting authority & seeking help
- Intense fear of return to country of origin



Legal Issues

- One-year-bar
- Proving sexual orientation and/or gender identity
- SF asylum approval rate is approximately 40-60%



Case Examples



JESSE

“In Dubai, it is illegal to be gay. I saw an execution broadcast live on TV. In the Philippines, I went through conversion therapy and I felt hated.

“Oasis made me feel welcome and safe. I still have a lingering fear of leaving the house, but I feel safer experiencing the world and creating my life here.

“Asylum gave me a second chance at life. In the United States, I can be myself 100%. ”



Opportunities to Support

HOW CAN CONTRA COSTA SHOW UP FOR LGBTQ+ ASYLEES?

Primary Areas of Need

- Contra Costa CARES expansion:
 - Greater transparency and access-related support for new CARES sign-ups interested in mental health coverage
 - Increased navigation support for enrollment in CARES coverage
 - Especially related to financial navigation and the logistics of switching insurances and providers when entering or exiting CARES coverage
- Services for undocumented immigrants, especially meet service gaps for asylum seekers
- Overall suggestion:
 - Model county-based on Santa Clara County, which has an Office of LGBTQ Affairs and Office of Immigrant Affairs, and also provides funding directly to legal service providers assisting undocumented county residents in applying for immigration relief. SF, LA, and San Mateo are other models.
- Explore options to provide additional programming for low English-proficiency (LEP) community members
 - Both job training and ESL classes/assessments that are community based specifically for immigrant communities
- Clients have expressed dissatisfaction with transportation and connectivity options for those that live further from urban centers and need to get to work, healthcare services, and county services. For example, Richmond residents getting to Martinez.

Questions?

OASISLEGALSERVICES.ORG

ARI.JONES@OASISLEGALSERVICES.ORG



Measure X: July 21, 2021

Our History

- The Contra Costa Immigrant Rights Alliance (CCIRA) was established in 2017 by legal and community-based organizations aiming to advance immigrant rights and promote resources for all Contra Costa residents regardless of immigration status.
- CCIRA was formed after an article was published in the East Bay Express about the Probation Department and the Custody Alternative Facility turning people over to ICE during appointments.
- Originally sponsored by EBASE, CCIRA is now a hosted coalition within Monument Impact's community engagement programs.



Ambushed: Contra Costa County Law Enforcement Sets Up Surprise Stings To Help Federal Immigration Agents Arrest and Deport Immigrants

Chris Kim said his arrest and detention by ICE, with assistance from the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office, cost him his jobs, car, and apartment.

Image credit: Bert Johnson

From:

Story: Ambushed: Contra Costa County Law Enforcement Sets Up Surprise Stings To Help Federal Immigration Agents Arrest and Deport Immigrants (January 10, 2017)

Uploaded: | [Post](#) / [Read Comments](#) (14)

Credit: Bert Johnson / East Bay Express



Mission & Purpose

CCIRA works to collectively move campaigns forward by drawing on the experience and best practices of organizations doing local and regional work to engage the broader community in supporting immigrants. **Our mission is to help make Contra Costa a county that welcomes, honors and protects the rights of immigrant members of our communities.** We seek to:

- Advocate for city and county policies that protect the rights and due process of immigrants;
- Improve access to resources and services for immigrant communities;
- Lift up the voices and leadership of the most vulnerable immigrants; and
- Educate, train and foster a deeper analysis of the broken "crimmigration" system among immigrant communities and allies.



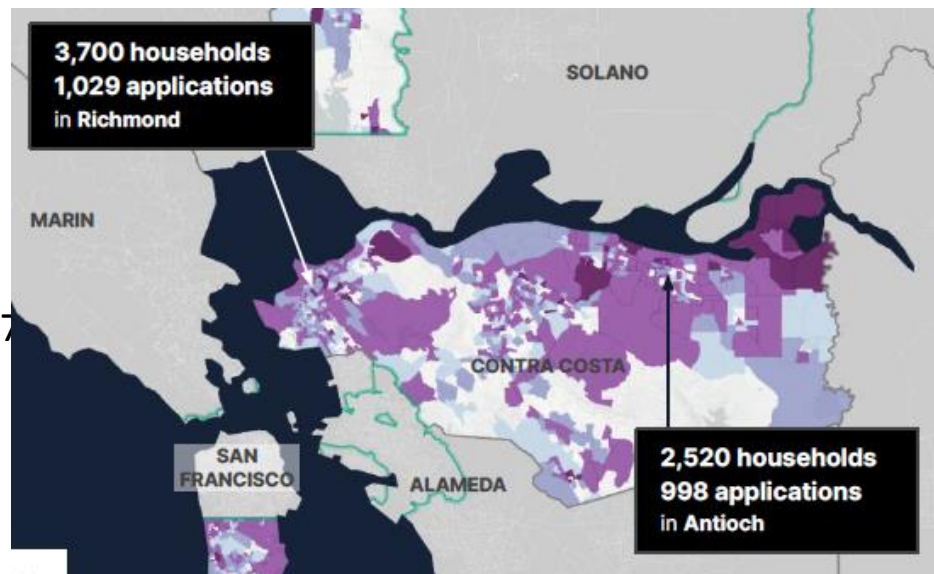
Immigrants & BIPOC Tenants Most at Risk of Eviction

In Contra Costa County:

Households at Risk 20,980

ERAP Applications 5,944

Application Gap



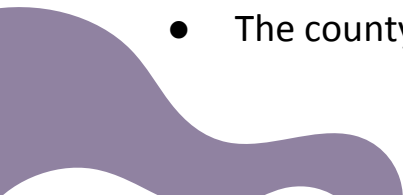
Manuel & Family: Evicted April 30, 2021



What's the problem?



- Nearly 21,000 Contra Costa residents are facing houselessness and evictions (Urban Footprint), exacerbated by the pandemic, majority of whom are immigrants and BIPOC. Unhoused residents need resources and a pathway to long-term housing options.
- Despite the housing moratorium, landlords continue to find loopholes to evict immigrant and often undocumented tenants who do not have access to legal eviction defense or KYR information in order to fight these discriminatory claims. The sheriff's office plays an instrumental role by carrying out these eviction notices.
- Families impacted by having a loved one detained by ICE, are especially vulnerable to housing and insecurity and eviction.
- Immigrant rights and tenants' rights are interconnected. Bad actor landlords threaten to call ICE, harass and attempt illegal evictions because of the tenant's language barriers and status.
- The county currently does not sufficiently invest in race and health equity.





Our Asks for Measure X Funding

- Fund eviction defense services for our immigrant, BIPOC, low-income communities facing housing insecurity and evictions (beyond CARES Act funding) - \$2M/yr
- Fund tenants' rights attorney available at the Court Houses during UD proceedings - 1 FTE @ \$150,000/yr (Bay Area Legal Aid)
- Fund attorneys & social workers who can work in the County Courts' self-help systems. The goal of these workers must be to fight for tenants, not to mediate conflicts.
- As the original group to identify the need and create a proposal for Stand Together Contra Costa, CCIRA supports Measure X funding for holistic deportation defense teams through Stand Together Contra Costa.



Measure X funds should go towards...

01

Eviction Defense

Legal services for residents experiencing housing insecurity; support attorneys at the courthouse

02

Rental Assistance

Rental assistance for tenants even after the pandemic

03

Public Defenders

Hiring social workers to connect clients to resources at first contact and fund deportation defense teams



Thanks!

Do you have any questions?
Contact us here:

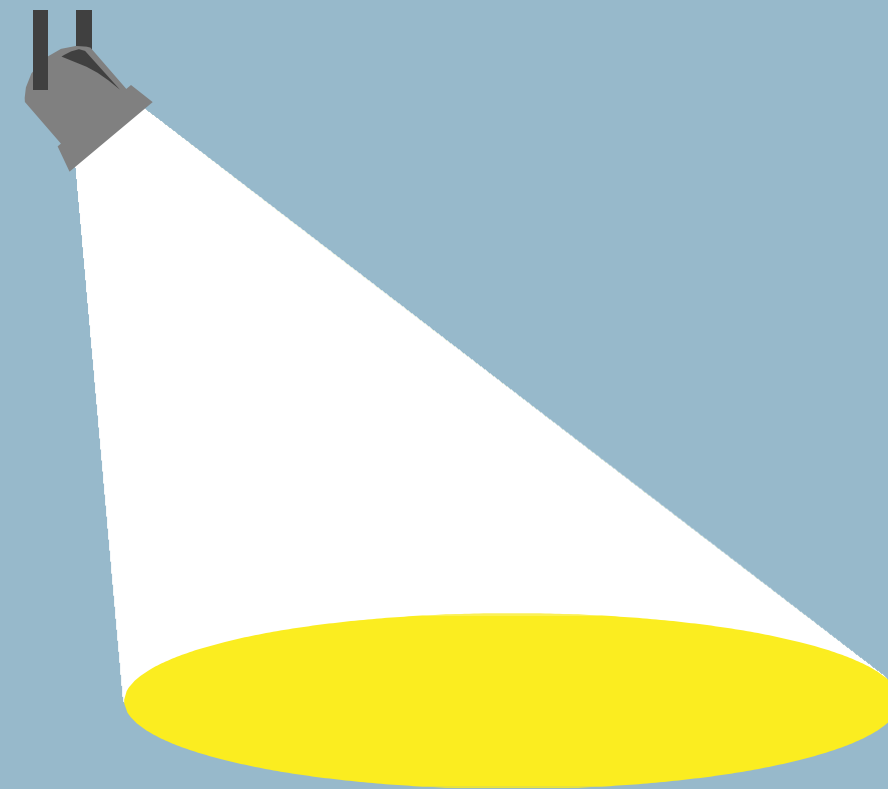
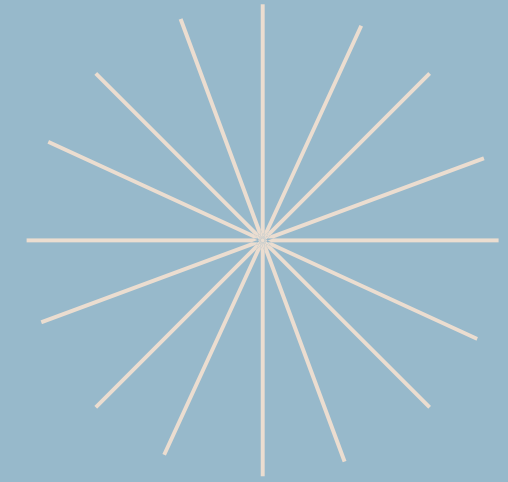
debra@monumentimpact.org



CREDITS: This presentation template was created by **Slidesgo**, including icons by **Flaticon** and infographics & images by **Freepik**.



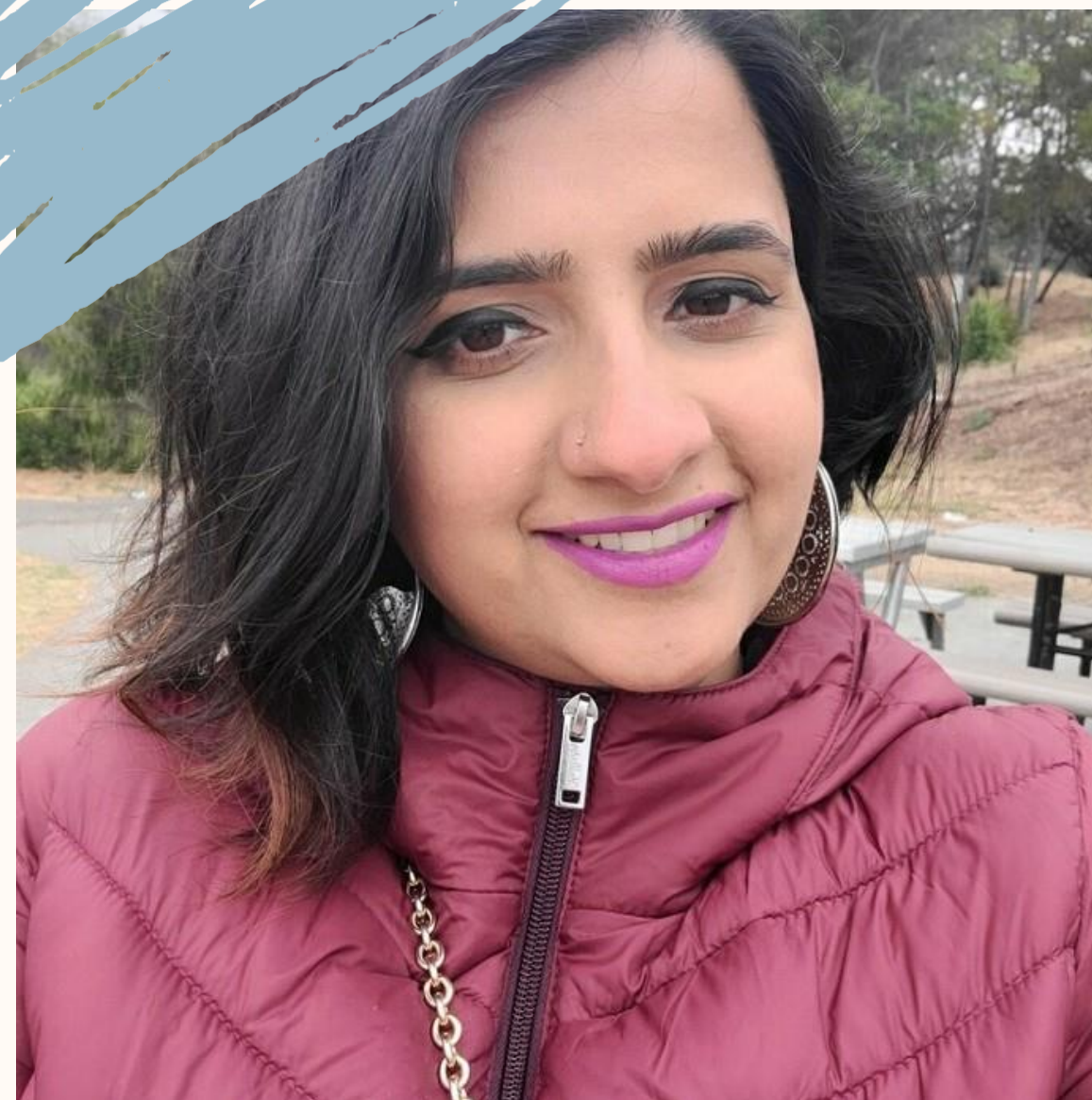
Contra Costa County Asian Pacific Islander Community Spotlighting



Introducing the Nepali Community and Nepali
Health Advocates



ANUPAMA CHAPAGAIN
RICHMOND RESIDENT



SANGITA GAUTAM
EL CERRITO RESIDENT



Who are the Nepali community?



Who are the Nepali community?



Who are the Nepali community?



Who are the Nepali community?

Who are the Nepali community?

Around 50,000 in the bay area

Most are Asylees and/or undocumented immigrants or refugees after the 10-year Maoist movement in Nepal

Recently discovered many human trafficking cases in this community

Who are the Nepali community?

Labor exploitation happens to a large part of this community.

Many Nepali community members in the Bay Area work as
domestic workers,
care givers, restaurant workers and drivers.

Proper statistics and qualitative data regarding the lives of Bay
Area

Nepali have not been gathered.



Nepali Folks are asylum seekers, refugees, frontline workers, virtually undocumented, and are pushed out of systems and under/un-served

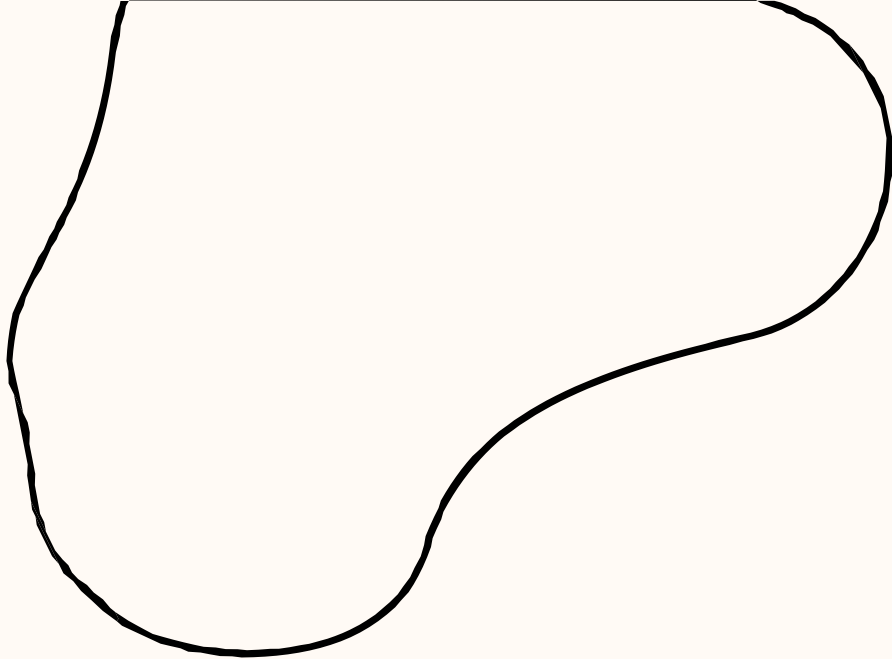
Partnership with Healthy Richmond and Contra Costa API COVID Coalition

1. Have been working with the Healthy Richmond and Contra Costa Health Services API COVID Coalition since last year.

2. Working to pass out COVID support supplies as well as recently - participating in advocacy spaces/meetings for example:

- a. Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice Listening Sessions (how we were introduced to Susun)

- b. Presented to Contra Costa Health Services Historically Marginalized Communities Engagement Unit where they provided policy recommendations



Description of Nepali Health Advocates Work

1. Needs of the community
 2. How we have been meeting these needs
- 

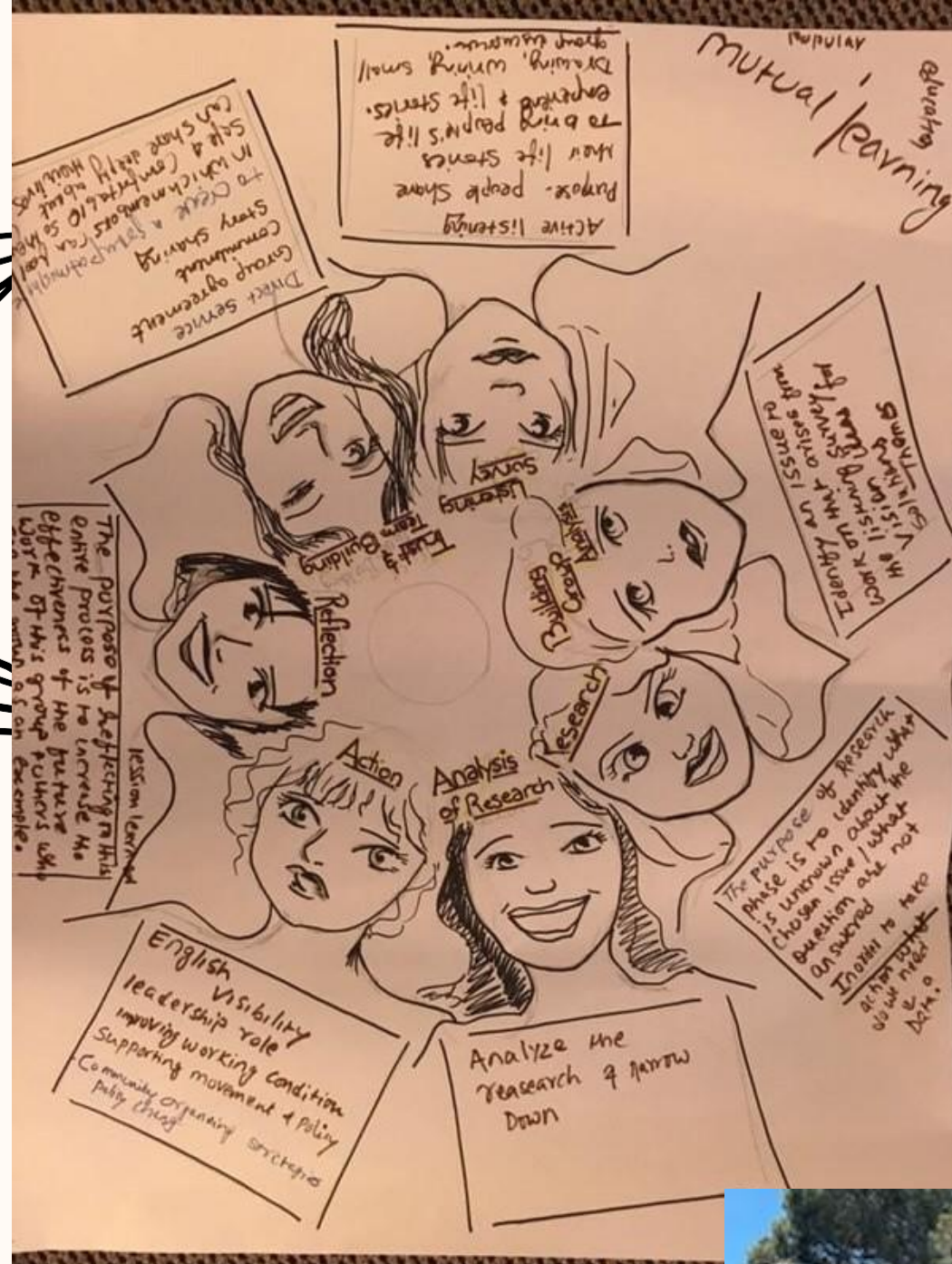
Community Issues

- Cannot afford rent
- Unaware of available resources
- Health and aging issues
- Legal/Family issues
- Feeling hopeless and cheated by existing community leaders

1. Needs of the community

- Our language and culture needs to be recognized
- Our needs as a community need to be recognized
- New community members should have something to start with and a place to communicate for basic information
- A handful of volunteer social workers for this community are already overwhelmed by helping people with their daily issues

2. How we have been meeting these needs



2. How we have been meeting these needs

- Community Support group started during the COVID time, to share resources and help lift community voices



But we need more support
because we have been doing
this for free!

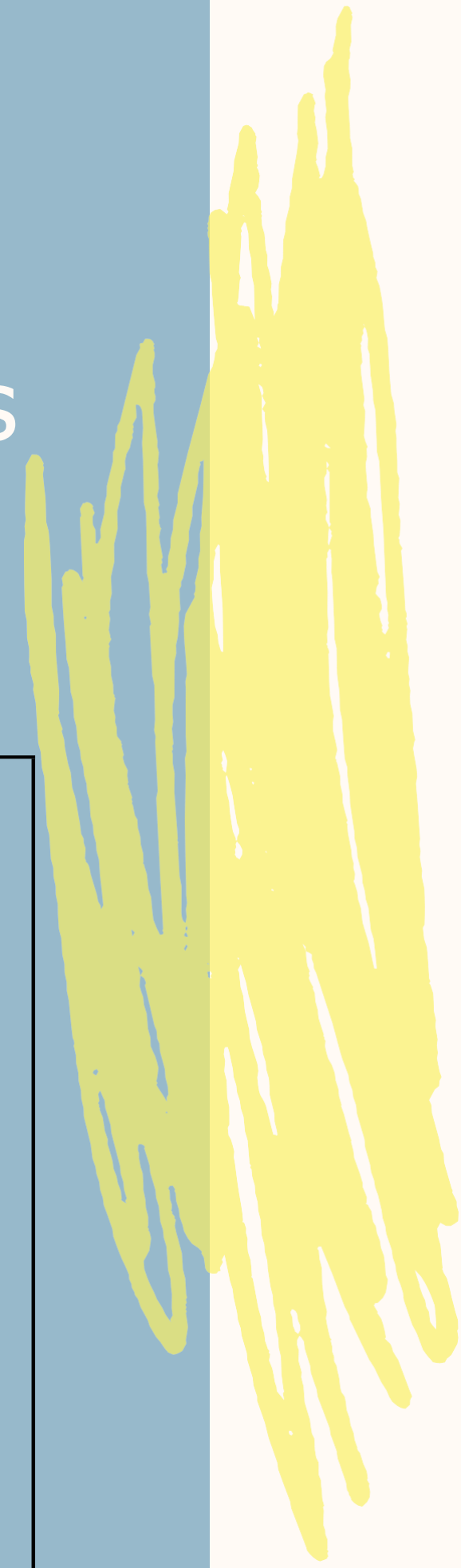
3

Would like to present one of
the recommendations which
has had a lot of support

DEDICATE MEASURE X FUNDS TO
ESTABLISH A MULTICULTURAL
WELLNESS CENTER IN CONTRA COSTA
COUNTY.

Recommendation language (which was collectively created by the Healthy Richmond Contra Costa Health Services API Advocates):

“Provide a multicultural, multilingual community wellness center for the API community where materials, events, information, services, and more are API-centered and available in multiple languages.”

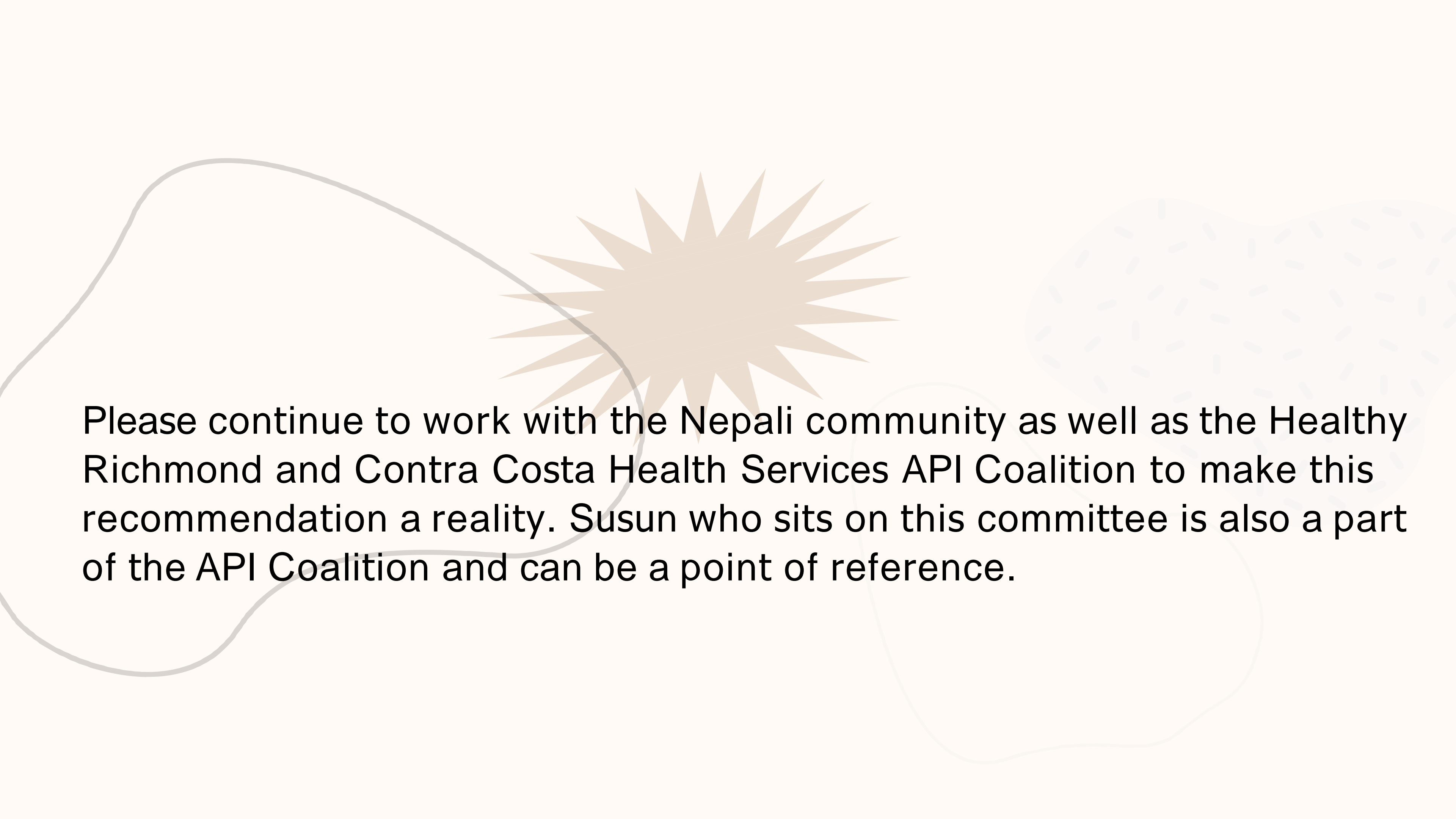


age (which was
the Healthy
Health Services

ilingual community
community where
n, services, and
vailable in multiple

Justification

Similar to community health centers in other counties, an API-centered community center could be greatly beneficial as a safe space for the API community to access health services, resources, events, information, and other gatherings that promote health, wellness, community, and more. This could help the API community access important resources, build community and support, and access important information they otherwise wouldn't.



Please continue to work with the Nepali community as well as the Healthy Richmond and Contra Costa Health Services API Coalition to make this recommendation a reality. Susun who sits on this committee is also a part of the API Coalition and can be a point of reference.



ANUPAMA

Nepali Health Advocate

anuchapa@gmail.com



SANGITA

Nepali Health Advocate

whiteorchid1389@gmail.com



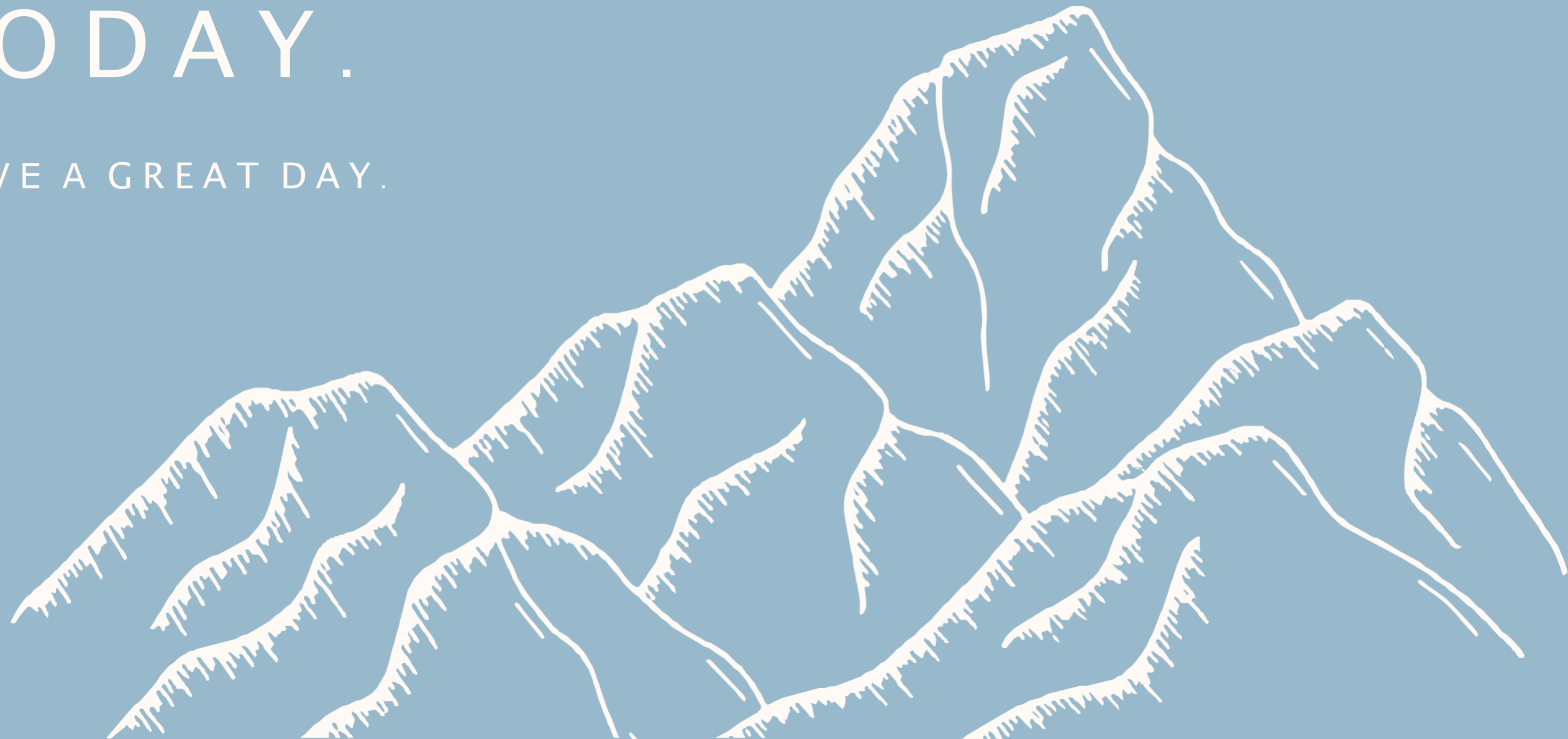
VYVO

Healthy Richmond Contra
Costa Health Services API
Coalition

vvo@richmondcf.org

THANK YOU COMMITTEE
MEMBERS FOR YOUR TIME
TODAY.

HAVE A GREAT DAY.



Rose Muñoz

Stand Together Contra Costa Volunteer



- ▶ My Story
- ▶ Immigrant Families live in fear

Rose Muñoz

Stand Together Contra Costa Volunteer



- ▶ Wide ranging impacts
- ▶ Trusted information
- ▶ Life-Changing Consequences

New Americans in Contra Costa County

The Demographic and Economic Contributions of Immigrants¹ in the County²

POPULATION GROWTH

292,211

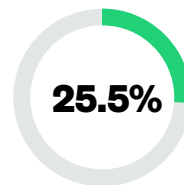
Immigrant population in 2017

Population growth

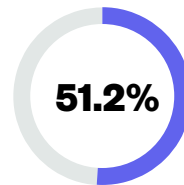
2012-2017

IMMIGRANT POPULATION - **13.5%**

OVERALL POPULATION - **6.3%**



..... Immigrant share of the population

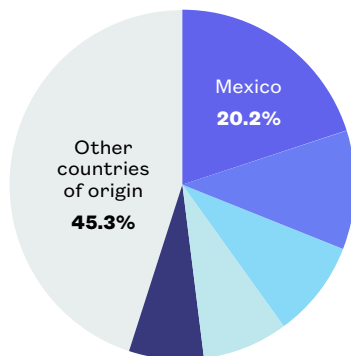


..... Share of total population growth in the county attributed to immigrants

20 years

Median length of stay in the U.S.

Top five countries of origin:



1	Mexico	20.2%
2	Philippines	11.1%
3	El Salvador	9.1%
4	India	7.5%
5	China	6.8%

Concentration of immigrants in Contra Costa County:

Region*	Share of total immigrants
FAR SOUTHWEST —Richmond (Southwest) & San Pablo Cities	16.7%
FAR NORTHWEST —Richmond (North), Hercules, & El Cerrito Cities	14.6%
SOUTH —San Ramon City & Danville Town	13.8%
NORTH CENTRAL —Pittsburg & Concord (North & East) Cities	11.8%
NORTHWEST —Concord (West), Martinez, & Pleasant Hill Cities	10.6%
CENTRAL —Concord (South), Walnut Creek (East), & Clayton Cities	10.4%
NORTHEAST —Antioch City	9.0%
WEST —Walnut Creek (West), Lafayette, Orinda Cities, & Moraga Town	6.7%
EAST —Brentwood & Oakley Cities	6.6%

* These regions are defined by Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs), geographic units that contain at least 100,000 people in the U.S. Census.

SPENDING POWER & TAX CONTRIBUTIONS

Given their income, immigrants contributed significantly to state and local taxes, including property, sales, and excise taxes levied by state and local governments.

GDP contribution by immigrants:

\$18.5B

Amount earned
by foreign-born
households in 2017:

\$13.4B

\$2.8B went to
federal taxes.³

\$1.1B went to state
& local taxes.⁴

Leaving them with **\$9.5B** in spending power.

This means that foreign-born households held **27%** of all spending power in the county, more than their 25.5% share of the population.

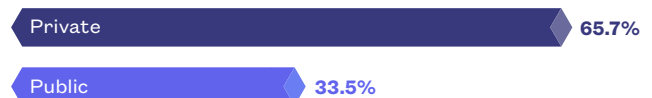
Foreign-born residents in the county also supported federal social programs.

In 2017, they contributed **\$1.2B** to Social Security and **\$354.4M** to Medicare.

33.2% of immigrants in the county received Medicare or Medicaid, compared with **32.0%** of U.S.-born residents in 2017.



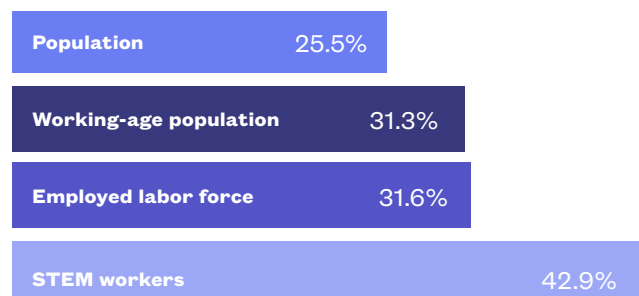
About **65.7%** of immigrants had private healthcare coverage, while **33.5%** had public healthcare coverage.



LABOR FORCE

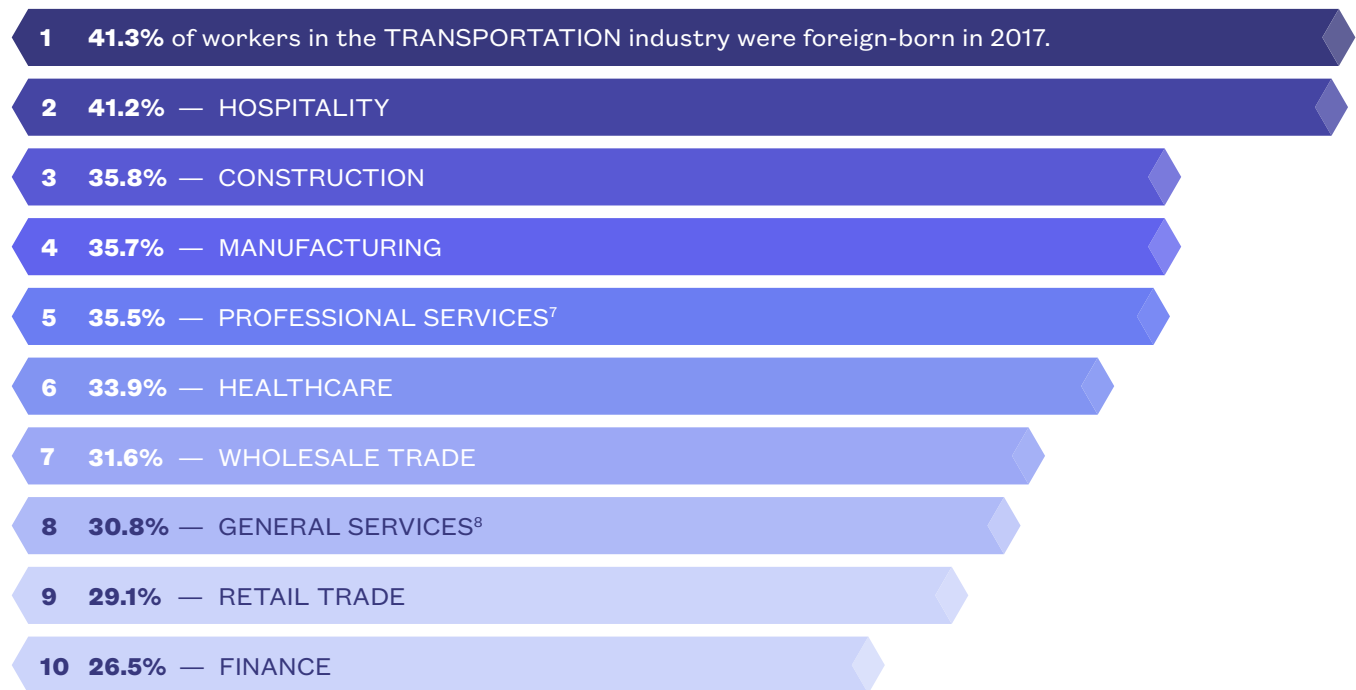
Although the foreign-born made up **25.5%** of the county's overall population, they represented **31.3%** of its working-age⁵ population, **31.6%** of its employed labor force, and **42.9%** of its STEM⁶ workers in 2016.

Immigrant shares of the...



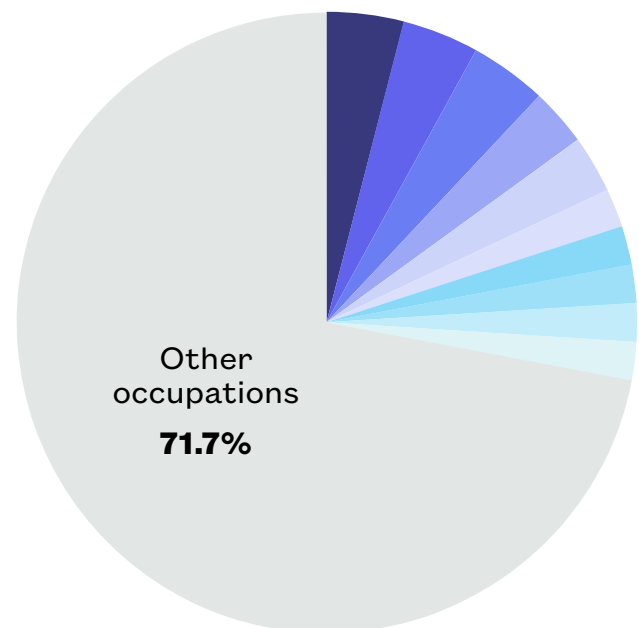
LABOR FORCE CONT.

Immigrants played a critical role in several key industries in the county. This includes:



Immigrants tended to work in these occupations in the county in 2017:

- 1 Software Developers 4.3%
- 2 Maids & Housekeepers 4.0%
- 3 Janitors 3.7%
- 4 Miscellaneous Managers 3.1%
- 5 Registered Nurses 2.7%
- 6 Grounds Maintenance Workers . . 2.2%
- 7 Construction Laborers 2.2%
- 8 Cashiers 2.2%
- 9 Personal Care Aides 2.1%
- 10 Waiters & Waitresses 1.8%



Arturo Fernandez

SPOTLIGHT ON

Ph.D. Statistics Candidate, University of California, Berkeley

Arturo Fernandez's parents brought him to America from Mexico when he was three months old. He grew up undocumented, but thanks to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program was able to graduate college, earn a PhD in statistics, and become a data scientist for Uber. "DACA was completely life-changing," he says. "It's given me opportunities I would never otherwise have had, and allowed me to give so much back, too."

Fernandez's parents came to America in search of a better life. His mother worked as a housekeeper, and his father became a farm laborer and then a landscaper. They eventually saved enough money for Fernandez's dad to buy a truck and start his own landscaping business. But they pushed Fernandez to put his studies first. "When I was a kid, my mom would say 'Put your education first, and everything else will fall into place,'" he says.

Fernandez excelled in school and was accepted to UC Berkeley for his bachelor's. It wasn't easy to cover the tuition, but DACA allowed Fernandez to legally support himself. Later, as a PhD candidate in statistics, he led a Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory team that developed a more accurate method of predicting tropical storms. "I love using mathematics to help people, and make a difference in the real world," he says.

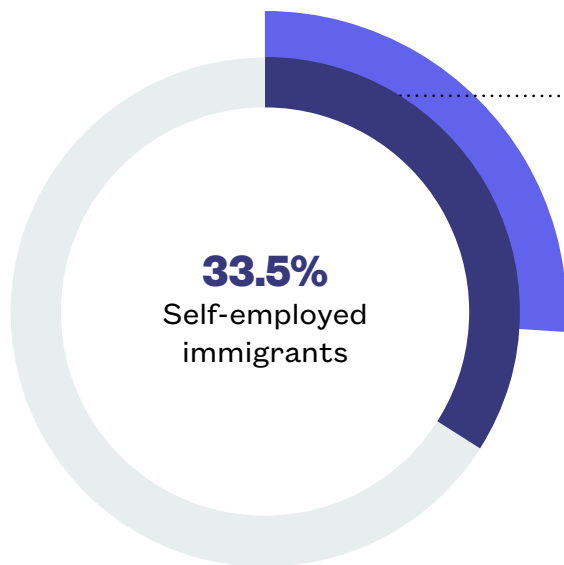
Fernandez is also giving back as a community leader in Contra Costa. He founded East County For Immigrant Rights and Education (EC FIRE), which provides education and support for local immigrants, and runs free legal clinics attended by hundreds of people. He has provided his statistical expertise to companies like Target to Hewlett-Packard, and just accepted a job with Uber, where he'll use his talents to fine-tune the Uber Eats platform. "I want to see what I can learn from them," he says. "It's my next big adventure."

LABOR FORCE CONT.

Because of the role immigrants play in the workforce helping companies **keep jobs on U.S. soil**, we estimate that immigrants living in the county helped create or preserve

13,442 local manufacturing jobs
that would have otherwise vanished or
moved elsewhere.⁹

ENTREPRENEURSHIP



In 2017, **33.5%**, or **19,764**, of entrepreneurs in the county were immigrants.

Compared to...

■ **25.5%** Immigrant share of population

That year, they generated **\$589.2M** in business income.

11.2%

Share of foreign-born residents who worked for their own businesses, compared with

10.3%

of U.S.-born residents in 2017.

IMMIGRANTS



U.S.-BORN



This made immigrants in the county **9%** more likely to be entrepreneurs than their U.S.-born counterparts.

Immigrant entrepreneurs tended to start businesses in these key industries:

1 **30.6%** of immigrant entrepreneurs worked in the PROFESSIONAL SERVICES industry in 2017.

2 **14.8%** — GENERAL SERVICES

3 **10.5%** — HEALTHCARE

EDUCATION

Share of the county's population aged 25 or older that held **a bachelor's degree or higher** in 2017:



Share of the county's population aged 25 or older that held **an advanced degree** in 2017:



1,896

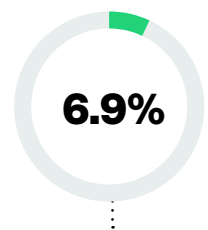
students who were enrolled in colleges and universities in the county during the fall of 2015 were temporary residents.¹⁰

314

local jobs were supported by international students.

\$53.0M

was spent by international students in the 2017-18 academic year.¹¹



Share of public school students under 18 who were born abroad

Menbe Aklilu

Philanthropist

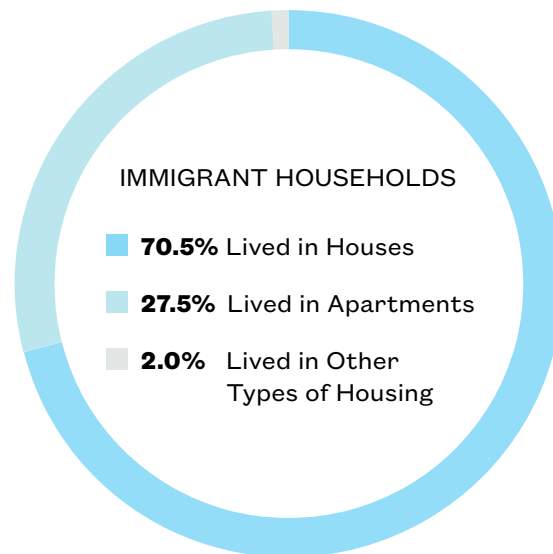
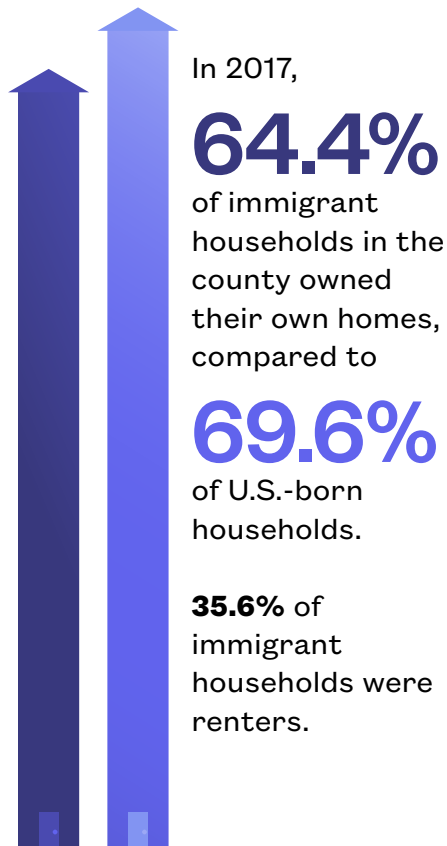
SPOTLIGHT ON

Menbere “Menbe” Aklilu, who the East Bay Express named “Best Do Gooder Business Owner” in 2018, is the definition of resilience. In her native Gojjam Ethiopia, Aklilu saw her mother shot to death and became an orphan at 10. She later survived sexual assault and an abusive husband. And she gave birth to her son in an Italian homeless shelter. After all of this, Aklilu immigrated to Oakland in 1995 and became a hostess at the Italian restaurant Salute e Vita. She worked her way up to general manager, then bought the restaurant, hiring dozens of new employees.

Along the way, Aklilu won recognition for her charitable spirit. Over 15 years as owner of Salute e Vita, she donated 30,000 meals to needy community members and created the Menbe’s Way Fund to grant scholarships to underprivileged girls in the East Bay. She won the Contra Costa Business Woman of the Year Award in 2009, serves on the board of the Richmond Community Foundation, and regularly gives commencement speeches. She was also granted an honorary doctorate from Oakland’s Holy Names University.

After closing her business last summer, Aklilu started a memoir and turned to fulltime philanthropy. Last year, her Thanksgiving celebration at the Richmond Memorial Auditorium served over 1,000 homeless people. She is also working with the Help A Life Foundation to open a school for 80 girls in her home village in Ethiopia, and has opened her home to an Ethiopian refugee blinded in an acid attack. Having experienced so much hardship, Aklilu says she’s determined to keep helping others. “I am absolutely blessed and fortunate,” she says. “In America, it doesn’t matter who you are or where you came from. It matters where you are going.”

HOUSING WEALTH



The total property value of immigrant households:

\$50.9B

Their total annual rent paid:

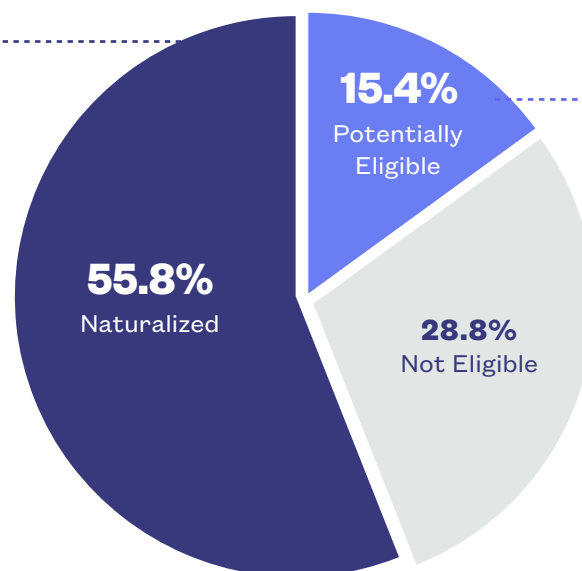
\$733.4M

NATURALIZATION

Share of immigrants in the county who were naturalized U.S. citizens. This represents a total of

162,954 immigrants.

Nationally, **49.4%** of all immigrants are naturalized.



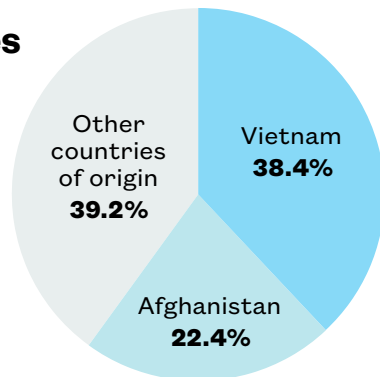
Share of immigrants in the county who were likely eligible to naturalize. This represents a total of

45,042 immigrants.

REFUGEES

In 2017, **19,298 people**, or **6.6%** of the immigrant population in the county, were likely refugees.¹²

Top countries of origin for refugees:



\$90,000

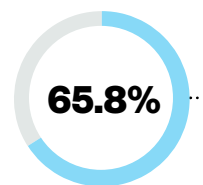
Median annual household income of refugees

39.5%

Share of refugees aged 25 or older that held a **bachelor's degree or higher** in 2017

13.6%

Share of refugees aged 25 or older that held an **advanced degree** in 2017

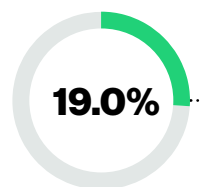


Share of refugees who were naturalized U.S. citizens. This represents a total of **12,700** refugees.

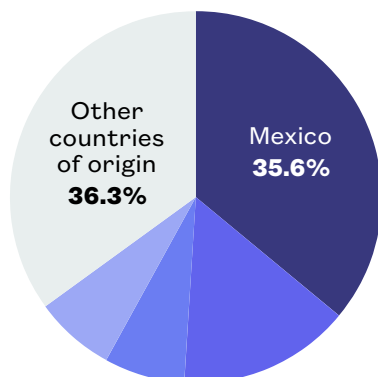
UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS

55,499

Undocumented immigrants in 2017



Share of immigrants who were undocumented



Top countries of origin for undocumented immigrants:

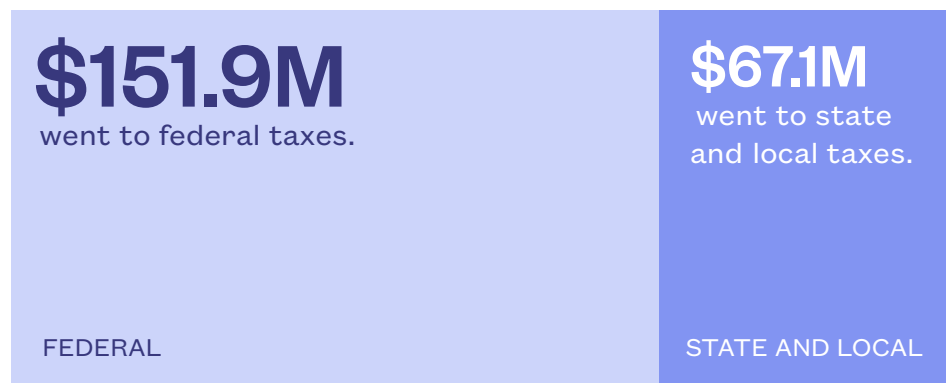
- 1 Mexico35.6%
- 2 El Salvador14.5%
- 3 China6.9%
- 4 Philippines6.7%

UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS CONT.

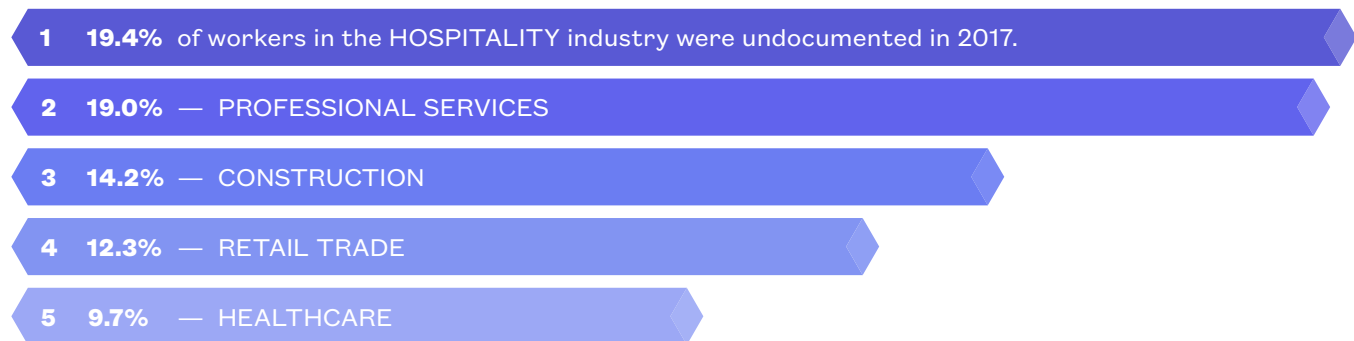
Amount earned
by undocumented
immigrant households
in 2017:

\$1.6B

After taxes, this leaves
them with **\$1.4B** in
spending power.



Undocumented immigrants tended to work in these key industries:



For more city, district, and state-level data, visit
MapTheImpact.org and explore our interactive map.



- 1 We define an immigrant and foreign-born as anyone born outside the country to non-U.S. citizen parents who is a resident in the United States. This includes naturalized citizens, green card holders, temporary visa holders, refugees, asylees, and undocumented immigrants, among others.
- 2 Unless otherwise specified, data comes from 1-year samples of the American Community Survey from 2012 and 2017 and figures refer to Contra Costa County, California.
- 3 U.S. Congressional Budget Office. 2018. "The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes, 2015."
- 4 Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. 2015. "Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems in All Fifty States."
- 5 We define working age as 16-64 years of age.
- 6 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
- 7 Professional services: Most of these industries include professions that require a degree or a license, such as legal services, accounting, scientific research, consulting services, etc.
- 8 General services include personal services (e.g. laundry services, barber shops, and repair and maintenance), religious organizations, social services, and labor unions.
- 9 Vigdor, Jacob. 2013. "Immigration and the Revival of American Cities: From Preserving Manufacturing Jobs to Strengthening the Housing Market." New American Economy.
- 10 Data on total student enrollment in the county is derived from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System maintained by the National Center for Education Statistics. Temporary residents refer to people who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- 11 Economic data is derived from the International Student Economic Value Tool maintained by NAFSA, the association of international educators.
- 12 New American Economy. 2017. "From Struggle to Resilience: The Economic Impact of Refugees in America."

WELCOME DINNER

2019

The Welcome Dinner 2019 was a community event intended to welcome newcomers to Contra Costa County over a shared meal and enriching conversations. The Welcome Dinner took place on June 11th, 2019 at the Pleasant Hill Community Center.

This event was hosted by the Family Justice Center, Stand Together Contra Costa, East Bay Refugee Forum, Catholic Charities, International Rescue Committee and Jewish Family and Community Services.



ABOUT THE EVENT

GUESTS

A total of 82 individuals from the community attended this event. This ranged from newcomers, residents, elected officials, and social service providers. Upon their arrive, guests were asked to participate in an activity that asks where they were born and what languages they speak.



WHERE WERE YOU BORN?

Korea • Mexico • New York • Iran • Ghana
California • Afghanistan • Guatemala
Central America • Bogota Colombia
South America • Puebla • France • El Salvador
Massachusetts • Ecuador • Pennsylvania • Jalisco
Arizona • Oregon • Thailand • Paraguay
Michigan • Illinois • Khmu Laos • Granada
Nicaragua • South Carolina • Mexico City

LANGUAGES

Korean • Spanish • French • Fanti • Persian
Chinese • Pashto • Dari • ASL
Vietnamese • Hebrew • Romanian
Portuguese • Thao • Lao • German
Cantonese • Loong Doo

FOOD



Food was provided by Oakland Bloom. Oakland Bloom nurtures and supports refugee chefs by training and giving instructions on how to run a food business. This includes marketing, recipe creation and testing, operating a commercial kitchen, and showcasing their work. The welcome dinner menu included Halal Chicken Skewers, Samosas, and Afghan Bolani with sauces and compostable utensils.



PERFORMANCES

Lao Khmu Dancers (Alida and Ashley Phuthama) danced to two Lao songs, Dok Champ and Lao Phaen. Dok Champ is a song in honor of the Lao national flower which is also known as plumeria alba. Lao Phaen is a song that honors beauty and the delicate qualities of a Laos female.

Ballet Folklorico Netzahualcoyotl is a group of dancers that performs Mexican Folkloric dance. Ballet Folklorico Netzahualcoyotl is a group of people from many different cultures of all different ages including those as young as five.



ACTIVITIES



After dinner, guests were encouraged to interact with each other through activities centered around community, culture, and acceptance. Guests shared narratives about where they were from based on items listed on a prompt. Other activities included getting to know each other at the table by sharing memories from sensory triggers such as smells, touch, and sounds that are associated with individual experiences.

Guest participated in a big group activity that inquired what a welcoming community means to them. Groups were encouraged to interact with each other to come up with answers which included, “safe”, “share”, “inviting”, “respect”, “culture”, “hello”, “unidos”, “love” and “time”. Responses were written on butterfly cut-outs and added to the butterfly garden as pictured to the right.



Guests were invited to participate in a final activity which involved every individual in the room. Everyone gathered into a circle with held together as pictured below. This allowed everyone to be present and connected to each other. We were encouraged to squeeze each other's hands and appreciate each other's presence.



STAND TOGETHER CONTRA COSTA
A Project Status Report Submitted to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
July 21, 2020

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Since March 2018, Stand Together Contra Costa continues an innovative partnership between Contra Costa County, philanthropy, and community-based organizations to ensure that all people in Contra Costa County, regardless of citizenship or immigration status, are afforded the rights established by the United States Constitution and are protected from actions or policies that result in disparate, discriminatory, or unlawful treatment. In the face of continuous threats posed by the federal government's discriminatory and anti-immigrant policies and actions, Stand Together Contra Costa represents the commitment of Contra Costa County's elected officials, nonprofit organizations, faith leaders, funding partners, and community leaders to collectively demonstrate extraordinary support to the immigrant community. The members of this community are our neighbors, teachers, students, friends, family, coworkers, supervisors, leaders, health professionals, first responders, dreamers, and hard-working people who make our Contra Costa County unique, diverse, and vibrant. They are not a separate community, but they are us! We are pleased to submit this report to highlight the accomplishments of this important project.

As you know, Stand Together Contra Costa provides no-cost rapid-response support, civil deportation defense legal services and clinics, immigrant rights education and training, and direct-service support for immigrant individuals and families in Contra Costa County. As a public-private initiative managed by the Office of the Public Defender in partnership with nonprofit organizations and community members, this year completes its pilot period and third year of operation, ending on June 30, 2020. We now enter our fourth year starting July 1, 2020, and significant changes have impacted how the project will function and be funded going forward.

Catholic Charities of the East Bay continues as lead agency of the coalition of five nonprofit agencies and is the project's primary community-based partner. The remaining coalition agencies include Monument Impact, Bay Area Community Resources, Jewish Family and Community Services East Bay, and the Immigration Institute of the Bay Area (formerly International Institute of the Bay Area).

After receiving the approved proposal on September 19, 2017, the Board of Supervisors voted to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee and to commit \$500,000 in County funds for FY 17/18, with continuing commitments in FY 18/19 and FY 19/20, contingent on ongoing contributions by external funders. These contributions have been received and/or committed and the project continues with philanthropic and County AB109 funding into its fourth year, FY 20/21.

II. KEY COMPONENTS

A. COMMUNITY VERIFICATION AND RESPONSE

The backbone of Stand Together Contra Costa is the Rapid Response Hotline, which is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide a single point of contact for people who witness or are targeted by federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) actions undertaken in our community.

Hotline staff verify ICE activity or dispel rumors, dispatch legal observers, provide accompaniment to family members to gather information to support legal defense for a person detained by ICE, and coordinate with the project's deportation-defense attorneys for individuals in bond and removal proceedings.

However, Hotline usage has gone down significantly since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Early in the pandemic, U.S. immigration authorities announced that they would temporarily halt enforcement across the United States, except for efforts to deport foreign nationals who have committed crimes or who pose a threat to public safety. As a result, enforcement in the community has decreased, and it is reflected in the low numbers of Hotline calls.

Nevertheless, one of the community members of the Stand Together Contra Costa Steering Committee reminded all of us that despite low numbers, having the Hotline available provides reassurance to a community that is constantly living in the shadows and in fear. This is only exacerbated by the pandemic. Thus, integrating our legal services with a hotline will remain an integral mechanism to ensure utilization of our immigration rapid response and legal removal defense services.

"Thanks for connecting my husband and I to an attorney close to us in El Sobrante, CA. After paying a Notary Public in San Francisco so much money to help with our case, she only made it worse, and we're out of a lot of money we had to borrow to pay her. The attorneys you referred us too were knowledgeable and patient with our financial situation. I feel more comfortable knowing that they have a good reputation in town and have been working with us. Thank you". – Hotline Caller (Translated to English from Spanish)

B. LEGAL SERVICES (CLINICS, CONSULTATIONS, AND REMOVAL-DEFENSE REPRESENTATION)

Stand Together Contra Costa conducts no-cost legal clinics in safe and familiar community settings to provide immigrants and their families with individualized legal consultations and structured and customized referrals.

"My wife and I have no words to express our gratitude to STCC for saving our and our children's lives. I was attacked and threatened with death if I returned to Mexico. We thank God that Helio was placed in our path to help my family and I live safely in the United States!" -STCC Client

Individuals detained by ICE are eligible to receive no-cost legal representation in pursuing bond or release, and to receive legal representation in removal defense and applications for relief before the Executive Office of Immigration Review (immigration court).

Before the COVID-19 pandemic began and Contra Costa County Health Officials declared a shelter-in-place there were many community events scheduled that would have afforded access to immigration legal consultations. Because of the shelter-in-place, these events moved to an online format, which proved to be challenging.

It is important to be mindful of the fact that there were zero free immigration removal defense services available in Contra Costa county three years ago. Because of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors' clear commitment to immigrant families in our community by funding these crucial services, there is now capacity in the county for ongoing free removal defense services provided by the Office of the Public Defender as well as through three of the leading non-profit agencies in the County – Catholic Charities East Bay, Jewish Family Community Services East Bay, and the Immigration Institute of the East Bay. We are very proud of this accomplishment and will continue to provide excellent no-cost immigration representation to current and future clients in need of immigration removal defense legal services.

C. CAPACITY-BUILDING, EDUCATION, AND OUTREACH

Stand Together Contra Costa continued to provide a wide array of no-cost informational presentations, public forums, direct-service workshops (such as Clean Slate and Public Charge), and leadership development opportunities, along with public communications about immigration-related issues to expand knowledge, dispel myths, and enhance both individual and collective capacity. We continue our efforts to promote and execute our county's Census Complete Count 2020 strategy and strongly feel that our community engagement efforts during the past three years have paid off in successful census education and engagement with immigrant families in Contra Costa County. We are proud to have built improved trust with immigrant families on behalf of the County through our responsive and flexible community education and outreach efforts.

The fourth year of Stand Together Contra Costa will focus heavily on sustaining and improving the immigration removal defense services of the project with an emphasis on creating and fostering new relationships with community-based organizations given the loss of our funded Community Engagement Specialists. Despite the many challenges of the pandemic, our legal team will continue to provide excellent legal representation to immigrant families in Contra Costa who are facing deportation and separation from their families.

D. SERVICES IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

In March 2020, when the County Health Officer issued an Order directing all individuals to shelter in place, this included our project suspending all upcoming community immigration forums

and consultation events to comply with the prohibition of all public and private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit. However, Stand Together Contra Costa remained committed to serving the community during this pandemic. To do this, we had to be innovative and pivot the way we provide the services to using social media, online tools, and other creative solutions.

Some of the activities we provided included: outreach to the immigrant community using social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. We shared information on Census as well as information and resources regarding COVID-19. The Community Engagement Team continued to offer virtual workshops for topics including Cal-Fresh, Census 2020, Family Preparedness Plan, Know Your Rights, Public Charge and Unemployment. The community was also reminded that they could call the Hotline at any time for information and assistance with any of these topics.

Additionally, we planned and held a telephone consultation day where callers could speak to an immigration specialist regarding their issue and discuss options for resolution. We had five clients released from custody due to COVID-19 concerns (as ordered by a Federal District Judge after a lawsuit was filed). Our partner agencies (Bay Area Community Resources, Jewish Family & Community Services and Monument Impact) assisted families that were struggling with finances, food and finding work.

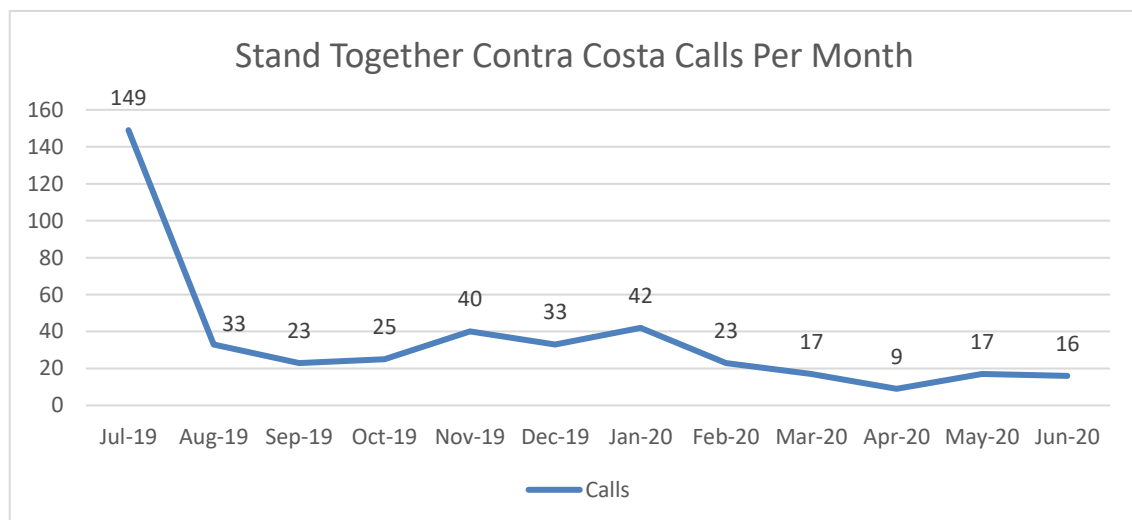
"Thank you for helping me find resources for myself and my family. I'm a day worker and couldn't find work after the shelter in place. I didn't know how I was going to feed my family or if we even had options. I spoke to you guys and you helped us apply for food stamps. You even gave us a list to pick up food from the Food Bank so our benefits would stretch. 1000 Thank yous." - Hotline Caller (*Translated to English from Spanish*)

III. PROGRESS IN YEAR 3 (JULY 1, 2019 – JUNE 30, 2020)

Over the past year, Stand Together Contra Costa has achieved all the following deliverables:

i. Information and Dispatch

- Maintained the 24/7 Hotline (phone and data system): 925-900-5151
- Fielded 427 calls. The chart below shows the call volume per month:



- The numbers reflect a decrease in the volume of calls, especially since enforcement activities have lessened as a result of the pandemic. Nevertheless, the Hotline remains a critical lifeline for members of our community, reassuring them that the help is there when needed.
- For Year 4, we have plans to reduce costs and improve efficiency by exploring collaboration with other networks to ensure that the Rapid Response hotline services remain available to Contra Costa residents. We plan to phase out the direct staffing of dispatch shifts and are awaiting news

about whether an emerging east bay immigrant hotline (proposed by Centro Legal de la Raza and the Alameda County Immigrant Legal and Education Partnership) could potentially provide consolidated services to Contra Costa County immigrant families without being staffed by STCC-funded partners.

ii. Governance and Communications

- Maintained website: <https://standtogethercontracosta.org>, with a repository of videos, downloadable documents in multiple languages, along with a calendar of upcoming events
- Maintained social media pages including:
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StandTogetherContraCosta>
 - Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/standtogethercontracosta/>
 - Twitter: <https://twitter.com/StandTogetherCC>
- Designed, printed, and distributed thousands of bilingual Know Your Rights “green” cards
- Produced Know Your Rights documents in Arabic, English, Persian, Punjabi, Spanish, traditional Chinese, Vietnamese, and Urdu
- Convened regular Steering Committee governance meetings to steward program through pilot phase, including three members of the community as leader from the Local Leadership Councils representing West, Central and East
- Concluded Steering Committee governance meetings through pilot phase

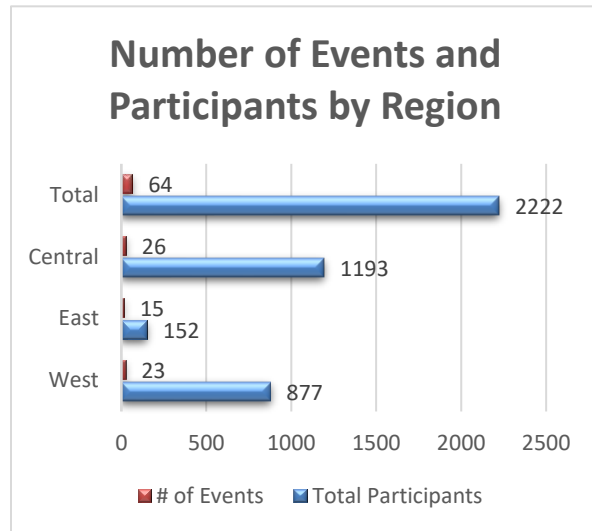
iii. Education, Leadership Development, and Capacity-Building

- Conducted 64 workshops and presentations, including Know Your Rights workshops, informational presentations about immigration and the program, educating 2,222 people in immigration rights, services and information
- Supported all three Local Leadership Councils in all three geographic regions of the County, leading monthly meetings and actively participating in Steering Committee functions
- Once the health orders were initiated, we were considered an essential service allowing our partner agencies to continue the work remotely

iv. Outreach

- Established a single point of contact with 19 schools within multiple County school districts (elementary, high school, and community colleges) and six faith-based organizations, provided information, resources, links to additional information, and collaborated to host events
 - In addition, provided informational materials to all 36 Catholic parishes in Contra Costa County, and
 - Provided informational materials to Muslim mosques, Jewish temples, and ecumenical faith-based organizations in Contra Costa County
- Continued in the development of a comprehensive plan with community college district to increase information and direct services for their students and families

- Provided information about Stand Together Contra Costa, including but not limited to the distribution of flyers and cards, to over 2,000 community members at various outreach events in community organizations, faith-based locations, and schools. The chart below shows the breakdown of outreach efforts in the geographic regions of the County:



- In addition to the above outreach, our team participated in several media events on Univision and Telemundo, with an estimated 100,000 viewers during the local news broadcasts.

- The chart to the left also illustrates the challenges we have faced given the recent shelter-in-place orders, resulting in our cancelling of all events from March 2020 to the present. We have had to pivot to find ways to still be able to meet the need by using social media and online tools to achieve this deliverable.

v. Legal Services and Consultation

- Conducted 1,189 immigration consultations
- Completed 139 intakes for legal representation on the Hotline
- Represented/representing 128 cases in bond and removal proceeding
- As a result of COVID-19 and shelter in place orders we could no longer provide in-person events to provide free legal consultations. In order to ensure that these critical opportunities for accurate legal assistance would continue during the pandemic, our Community Engagement and Legal Teams worked together to hold a free legal clinic event via our Hotline so that we could still connect with the community and provide free legal consultations via telephone.

"I want to thank STCC for helping me not be deported to my home country where I would surely be tortured and killed." -STCC Client

IV. EMERGING LESSONS

A. THE NEED FOR STAND TOGETHER CONTRA COSTA IS REAL.

In July 2019, we received 149 calls on the Hotline. In the months following we noticed a decline in the number of calls being received. Although we confirmed continuing ICE arrests in Contra Costa through our legal team, the hotline activity for reporting suspected active ICE arrests was low; yet the community continued to call the Hotline to ask for help navigating to other services, such as how to apply for public benefits, requests for immigration legal services for those not-detained, and accompaniment support for families, such as accompanying to appointments or advocacy with government agencies. Our program's commitment to language access and our culturally responsive approach to services has established our hotline as a trusted resource among immigrant families throughout Contra Costa and has revealed the real need for enhanced and holistic service navigation services that are accessible and trusted by immigrant families in our community. These requests encouraged our project leaders to look at a possible pivot of our use of dispatchers on the Hotline from having them solely report and record ICE activity, to consider functioning in a community service navigator role.

In the most recent months, even with reduced reports of ICE activity, we see a steady call volume because people need to feel reassured that the service is still there. We are here to continue to provide rapid, responsive, reliable, trustworthy, and culturally appropriate services to an underrepresented and vulnerable population while building the county's capacity to recognize and respond to the needs of our county's immensely vital immigrant families.

In addition, given the ongoing horrifying policies and actions being executed by the federal government – tearing families apart with no regard for their safety or reunification, even in an ongoing global pandemic – Stand Together Contra Costa has served as a beacon of hope for the tens of thousands of immigrant residents who are inextricably woven into the fabric of our County.

B. PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP IS POWERFUL. PUBLIC MANAGEMENT IS VALUABLE.

Per the plan presented to and approved by the Board of Supervisors, the Office of the Public Defender serves as the administrative authority and manager for Stand Together Contra Costa. In the time since the Board's approval of the plan, the value of locating this initiative inside the County's administrative infrastructure has been unmistakable.

Stand Together Contra Costa is a complex undertaking: Born of grassroots advocacy, it is funded by both the public sector and philanthropic entities, authorized by the County's leadership, administratively managed by the Public Defender's Office, conducted in integral partnership with community-based organizations, and stewarded by government representatives and community advocates alike.

It is certainly not easy to design, launch, or manage such a complex structure; having fewer moving parts makes a machine easier to run. But the success of Stand Together Contra Costa is a product of the commitment, capacity, and connections brought to the project by its many constituent members. By embedding management of this complex structure into the institutional framework intrinsic to a public department, the County Board of Supervisors offered the project a level of legitimacy, rigor, visibility, impact, and accountability that might otherwise have taken far longer to achieve.

C. COLLECTIVE STEWARDSHIP BRINGS VOICES TO THE TABLE.

Stand Together Contra Costa is a testament to the power of dedication, partnership, and inclusion, embodied in the project's Steering Committee of representative leaders who volunteer their time to support this work.

The Steering Committee meets regularly and provides stewardship, critical inquiry, and collective wisdom to explore what's working, what needs adjustment, and what it takes to accomplish the project's important and ambitious mission. We have all three Local Leadership Councils (West, Central, East) actively participating in the Steering Committee meetings. Translation services are provided at every meeting, and for the past several months we have consistently been meeting at the Family Justice Center offices in Richmond and Concord. This unique approach of providing both a physical meeting space and using technology to link the two offices during the meeting, especially during the shelter-in-place, facilitates access to those community members who may be travelling from farther parts of the County, specifically East County. Before the pandemic, we would have also utilized the Antioch office of the Family Justice Center to afford community members access to that office as well. In the meantime, all of our meetings will remain virtual.

Members of the Local Leadership Councils who have attended the Steering Committee meetings have shared that they feel empowered and that their voices have been heard. In one session where a discussion was held to determine whether we should continue a 24/7 Hotline given that the call volume was going down, the Local Leadership Council members strongly supported maintaining a 24/7 Hotline. It reassures the community, one member said, to know that they can call at any time and speak to a live person. And given the current uncertainty of threats of ICE activity, it is more important that we maintain a 24/7 Hotline, but perhaps explore opportunities for collaboration to more efficiently maintain this critical service. Our Local Leadership Councils and their participation in our steering committee have demonstrated that centering community through a commitment to collective stewardship truly improves the quality and responsiveness of innovative county programs like Stand Together Contra Costa.

D. LOOKING AHEAD TO YEAR FOUR: ADJUSTMENTS FOR FUTURE SUSTAINABILITY.

In reviewing Year 1-3, the Steering Committee and project leaders have identified several opportunities for adjustment:

- i. **Legal Staffing:** Having access to quality legal representation is a cornerstone of due process and is critical to ensuring that the constitutional rights of Contra Costa's immigrant families are protected, regardless of their ability to afford an attorney. As mentioned earlier, only three years ago there were *zero* free legal immigration removal defense services in Contra Costa County. Through Stand Together

Contra Costa, there is now capacity in the County for free removal defense services provided by the Office of the Public Defender as well as by three of the leading non-profit agencies in the County – Catholic Charities East Bay, Jewish Family Community Services East Bay, and the Immigration Institute of the East Bay. All agencies have hired competent, caring and compassionate attorneys and have built an infrastructure that is conducive to the long term sustainability of this work.

In Year 4, we intend on fully staffing the legal services team by pursuing a one-to-one staffing ratio of attorney to legal assistant, that will provide critical support to the busy deportation defense attorneys on the Team and will continue to support the high quality of our overall service provision flow by holding the vast majority of the administrative work for our hundreds of legal consultations.

ii. Community Engagement:

- Partner with a wider array of CBO partners in order to facilitate improved outreach and community engagement with immigrant families throughout Contra Costa County, with a focus on establishing new collaborations with East County and South County organizations serving immigrant families.
- Determine improved digital and virtual tools and strategies for community outreach given COVID-19 pandemic by strengthening our social media footprint, maintaining contact with constituents via monthly newsletters and periodic social media and email updates and by continuing legal presentations on topics requested by immigrant residents.

- iii. Support Staffing/Hotline Coverage: The staffed, 24/7 rapid-response Hotline is a cornerstone of Stand Together Contra Costa, serving as the hub for information, verification, and service dispatch. Yet staffing such a line 24 hours a day and seven days a week through both peak periods and slow times is challenging in terms of both cost and shift-coverage. Given this fact, the Steering Committee last year directed the project leads to explore options for ensuring adequate and appropriate coverage while reducing both cost and staff burden. To this end, the project leads explored options to partner with another network, the Alameda County Immigrant Legal & Education Partnership (ACILEP). ACILEP, led by Centro Legal de la Raza, absorbed the evening and weekend shifts. Conversations are ongoing to determine if ACILEP will support the Hotline fully, thus consolidating the immigrant hotline services throughout the East Bay. This type of inter-regional planning and resource-sharing can enhance collective capacity while providing useful leverage to each of the partner agencies. In Year 4, we will continue to strengthen the relationship with ACILEP to ensure Contra Costa County residents continue to have access to essential immigration hotline services.

"I originally spoke to Ms. Adriana when I called the hotline. She was so nice and helpful. She connected me with a nice attorney that said he would be helping my son that was detained while on his way to work. It has been nothing but blessings with all the resources she gave my daughter in law and myself. Thank you. – Hotline Caller (Translated to English from Spanish)

V. BUDGET

Sources	FY17-18 (six months)	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21 *Projected*
Nonprofit Philanthropies	\$85,000	\$500,000	\$675,000	\$351,195
Contra Costa County (AB109)	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Total sources	\$585,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,175,000	\$851,195

For its fourth term (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021), Stand Together Contra Costa is operating on a total budget projection of \$851,195. Of this, the Office of the Public Defender, as the project's administrative manager, would retain \$444,014 to cover the costs for one full-time Program Manager (Administrative Services Assistant III) and one full-time Senior Attorney/Legal Coordinator (Deputy Public Defender III), and a set of operational

items, including the Hotline infrastructure, website design, contract supervision, legal services coordination, translation services, and communications.

The balance of the project's fourth year budget – \$407,181 – serves to underwrite contracts with Catholic Charities of the East Bay, Immigration Institute of the Bay Area, and Jewish Family & Community Services East Bay, for the provision of removal defense and immigration legal services. This will provide for two full-time Removal Defense Attorneys, two Legal Assistants, including supervision and a set of operational items. Due to the drastic reduction in available funding, Stand Together Contra Costa will no longer be able to fund community engagement and dispatch staffing, meaning we will no longer be able to fund the staffing costs of the four Community Engagement Specialists and dispatchers at our partner CBOs. We are grateful for the

"My family will always trust and be grateful for the work done by Stand Together. With your help, we won our asylum case in 2020, and our lives changed forever. We will never forget that you always remember us and support us. I'm thankful with all of my heart for your constant help." - STCC Client

incredible work of our community engagement partners and Stand Together Contra Costa will forever be indebted to them for truly making this a program that is dedicated to being community-centered. Although we will no longer be able to fund community engagement work due to a steep decline in philanthropic contributions, Bay Area Community Resources and Monument Impact will continue to do the

important work of community engagement and public education and we will continue to collaborate on bringing culturally-responsive immigrant legal defense services to the community in trusted and innovative settings.

VI. FINAL THOUGHTS: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Contra Costa County has accomplished an extraordinary collective achievement. Given the intensifying measures being deployed by the federal administration, marked by anti-immigrant rhetoric, confusion, reversals, and national debate, the existence of Stand Together Contra Costa is even more important than ever before. Immigrant families in Contra Costa need access to timely and accurate information about this constantly shifting landscape and access to critical legal due process services should they be at risk of deportation.

As we enter Year 4 of this collective endeavor, we are deeply committed to excellence, transparency, and ongoing partnership between the county and the county's grassroots coalitions, nonprofit and faith-based partners, public agencies, and elected leaders. It is with gratitude, humility, and unwavering dedication that we submit to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors this report on the project's third year.

"I am very thankful for everything you did for us. We had to leave Nicaragua because my wife, daughter and I could no longer be safe, and we arrived here not knowing what was going to happen. The help you provided us was beyond anything we expected, and we are forever grateful for you helping us win asylum and start a new life in the United States." -STCC Client

We look forward to continuing to provide no-cost immigration legal services to immigrant families in Contra Costa County and will continue serving as a key point of contact between Contra Costa County and the thousands of immigrant families in our community. We have built trusted relationships throughout the County and will continue to provide excellent immigration legal services as well as innovative and responsive community engagement partnerships. We hope to continue to build on the many successes of our pilot phase and to continue to serve the community through providing excellent no-cost immigration legal services and community education through Stand Together Contra Costa.

A SINGLE DEPORTATION HAS COMMUNITY-WIDE CONSEQUENCES



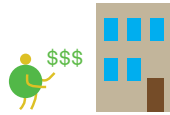
Bao Vo is an undocumented resident of the U.S. He came in search of a better life. He lives with his partner **Saira**, a U.S. citizen. Because **Bao** entered the country without documentation he cannot gain status through marriage.



THE VOS ARE A PART OF OUR COMMUNITY



Bao works at a factory.
Saira is a teacher.



They pay rent to a landlord.



Saira buys food and clothing at local stores.



Their children, **Bina** and **Rami** go to grade school in town.



They volunteer with their local church.

BUT, THEN ONE DAY ...



As **Bao** is leaving for work, ICE agents arrest him in front of his home



He is detained for several months in an out-of-state prison.



He is eventually deported, never to return.

SO...



Bao stops coming to work. Other workers are afraid they might get picked up. Some stop coming to work too.



Without the support of **Bao's** income, **Saira** cannot afford the rent. She is evicted and moves in with cousins who live in a different town. The psychological strain is enormous because **she** is financially strained and her **kids** have become despondent and worried.

AND...



Employers lose experienced workers. Families lose income. Landlords lose tenants. Storeowners lose revenue. The small town starts to lose its tax base, people begin to leave and the town's economic activity declines.



Bina and **Rami** switch schools suddenly because of the move. They feel abandoned and isolated in their new environment.



Bina and **Rami's** friends and former class-mates hear of the deportation, become fearful and miss days of school.



Saira's cousins are stretched thin and overcrowded with three new family members, their household goes from four to seven overnight.*

*Bina and Rami were lucky to have two parents present. At any given moment 5,000 foster care children are children of deported parents.

DEPORTATION POLICY CREATES A CLIMATE OF FEAR AND PARALYSIS IN COMMUNITIES.



People are afraid to drive,



afraid to use parks and exercise outdoors,



afraid to use public services like clinics



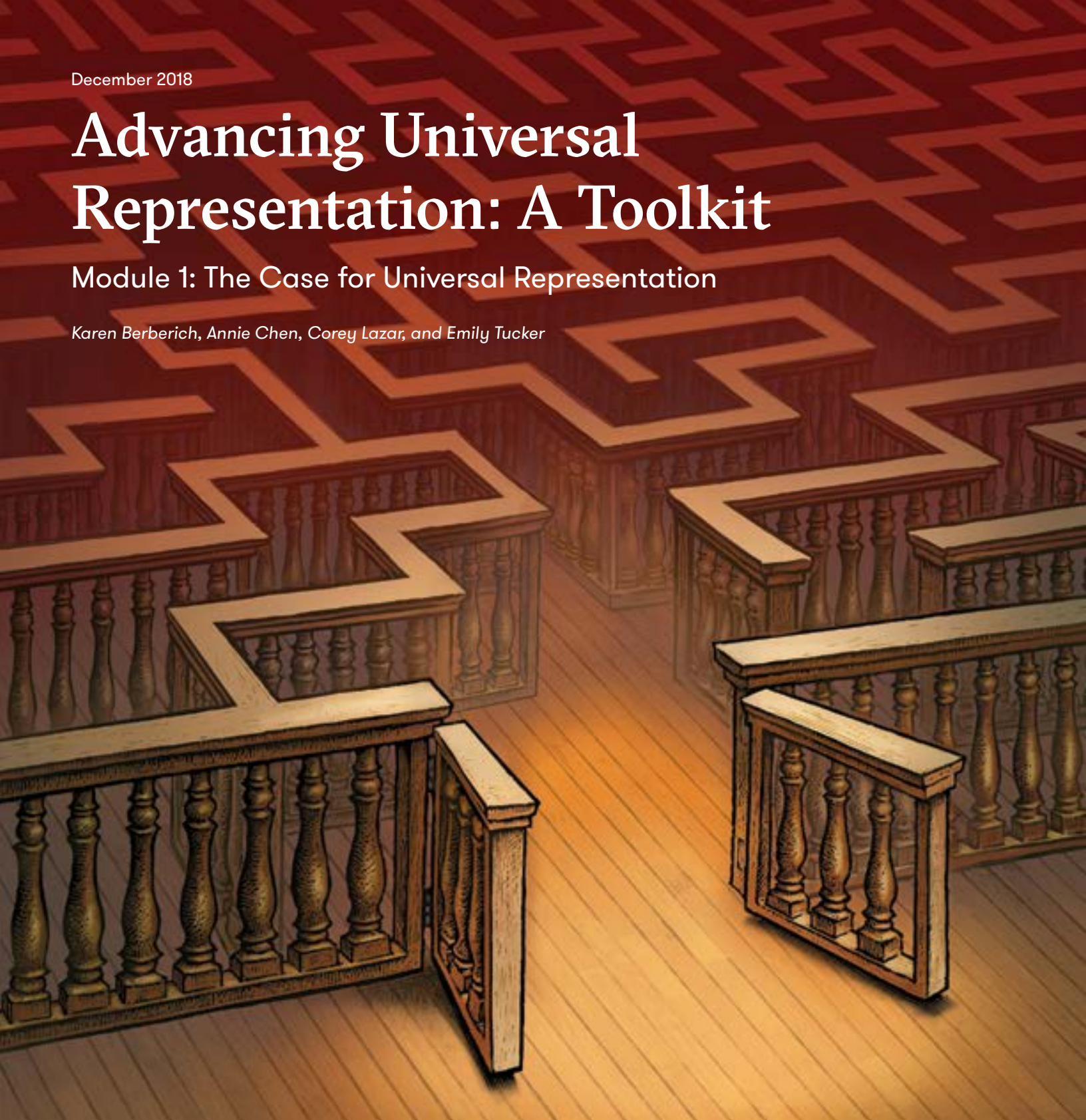
and afraid to get involved in their communities.

December 2018

Advancing Universal Representation: A Toolkit

Module 1: The Case for Universal Representation

Karen Berberich, Annie Chen, Corey Lazar, and Emily Tucker



About this report

The Center for Popular Democracy (CPD), the National Immigration Law Center (NILC), and the Vera Institute of Justice (Vera) work together to expand the national movement for publicly funded universal representation. CPD and NILC provide strategic support to local and state advocacy campaigns. In 2017, Vera launched the Safety and Fairness for Everyone (SAFE) Network in partnership with a diverse group of local jurisdictions, all dedicated to providing publicly funded representation for people facing deportation. Through the SAFE Network, Vera provides strategic support to government partners, legal service providers, and advocates. Collectively, CPD, NILC, and Vera also coordinate at a national level, creating resources and space for advocates advancing universal representation to share, strategize, and learn from one another.

This report is the first component of a three-part toolkit (Modules 2 and 3 forthcoming in 2019) informed by CPD, NILC, and Vera's experiences advancing the universal representation movement. These experiences have been guided by the expertise of advocates, organizers, legal service providers, and policymakers across the country who have led publicly funded deportation defense efforts. The toolkit is intended to equip these same stakeholders with strategies to make the case for implementing and sustaining universal representation programs. For more information, see www.vera.org/universal-rep-toolkit.



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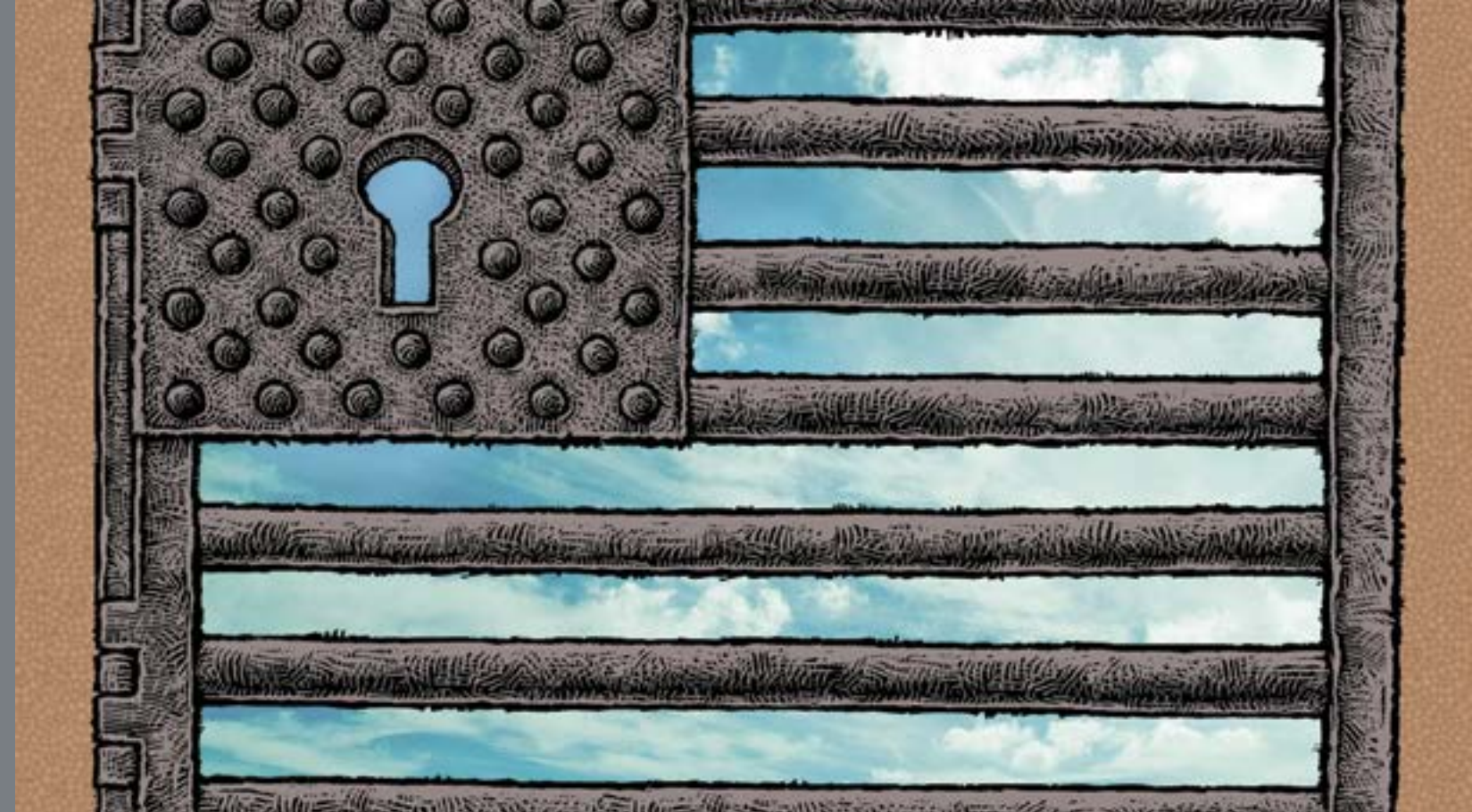
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The Problem

The lack of a right to government-funded counsel in the immigration justice system eviscerates due process

One way in which the government deports immigrants from the United States is by placing them in *removal proceedings* in immigration courts administered by the U.S. Department of Justice. Removal (also known as *deportation*) is one of the most severe penalties a person can face under law.¹

For those deported, these proceedings carry dire consequences—physical exile from one’s home, separation from one’s family, loss of employment, and potential violence or death on return to the country of origin. Despite the high stakes, people in immigration proceedings do not have the right to government-funded counsel. They must navigate the notoriously

complicated and ever-changing labyrinth of immigration law alone against a trained government attorney, without the help of a lawyer.²

Considering the severe consequences of deportation, the lack of a right to government-funded counsel in removal proceedings violates due process and the basic fairness considered fundamental to the justice system and American society as a whole. As the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which has been held applicable to deportation proceedings, states, “No person shall . . . be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.”³

The right to appointed counsel, which the U.S. Supreme Court describes as “necessary to insure fundamental human rights of life and liberty,” has thus far only been applied in criminal proceedings.⁴ Yet the complexities of immigration law and the severe consequences at stake make it unjust and unreasonable to expect individuals to represent themselves competently in immigration court.

Indeed, it is nearly impossible to win relief from deportation without the assistance of counsel—only 5 percent of those who won relief between 2007 and 2012 did so without an attorney.⁵

Nonetheless, the lack of appointed counsel means that tens of thousands of people each year go unrepresented, including asylum seekers, longtime legal residents, immigrant parents or spouses of U.S. citizens, and even children. In some cases, unrepresented U.S. citizens have been detained and deported despite their citizenship.⁶

The result is an immigration court system that appears more like a mass deportation pipeline than a venue where people can fairly present the individual circumstances of their cases.

Immigrants in detention are the least likely to secure representation and the most vulnerable to deportation

Compounding the lack of government-appointed counsel for immigrants in removal proceedings, *detained* immigrants face particularly significant challenges in accessing representation. In recent years, representation rates for those detained have hovered around 30 percent, leaving the remaining 70 percent to fend for themselves without the benefit of counsel.⁷

Detention centers are often located in remote areas of the country, away from where attorneys are likely to be concentrated.⁸ Yet even in major cities like New York, rates of representation were abysmal before the introduction in 2013 of an appointed counsel program for indigent immigrants facing deportation.⁹

The loss of liberty and free movement that characterize detention introduce additional obstacles into the already daunting process of individuals trying to represent themselves effectively. It is extraordinarily difficult to gather evidence in support of one’s legal case from the confines of detention. Without internet access and with telephone access that is both expensive and highly restricted, it can be challenging—often impossible—for detained immigrants to obtain documents from other countries.¹⁰ These documents may include police reports, hospital records, local news articles, supporting affidavits, and certificates of birth, marriage, or death: the kind of evidence that is critical to securing release from detention on bond while the case is pending or establishing a defense to deportation.

Detained, unrepresented immigrants therefore face potentially insurmountable challenges to effectively presenting their cases.

Due process for immigrants has been under attack for decades—and recent policy changes bring renewed urgency to the crisis

Two laws enacted in 1996 dramatically expanded the government’s unchecked authority to punish people using immigration detention and deportation: the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRAIRA) and the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act (AEDPA).¹¹

These laws significantly expanded who could be subject to mandatory detention, eliminated the right of some immigrants to make their case before a judge, and exacerbated the racially disproportionate impacts of detention and deportation.¹² The impact of these and related policies have been startling, with more immigrants deported between 2000 and 2015 than were deported in the entire 150 years prior.¹³

The situation has only worsened in recent years, as the federal executive branch has instituted policies that broaden who is targeted for enforcement while limiting available defenses. Immigration judges have largely been stripped of their discretion to decide many potential issues that come before them, and, in the face of a constantly burgeoning caseload, have been put under pressure to complete cases faster.¹⁴

✦ In recent years, representation rates for those detained have hovered around 30 percent, leaving the remaining 70 percent to fend for themselves without the benefit of counsel. ✦

Attempts to radically limit the scope of who is eligible for asylum (a form of immigration relief for individuals fleeing persecution) and other relief have threatened to overturn decades of established precedent.¹⁵ Those previously granted the right to remain in the country—including recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Temporary Protected Status (TPS)—have been forced to file litigation in federal courts to protect the sudden loss of their right to remain in the United States.¹⁶ Immigrant children have been forcibly torn from their parents and detained.¹⁷ Even naturalized U.S. citizens have been targeted for enforcement after decades of lawful residency due to minor inconsistencies on their citizenship applications.¹⁸



The Solution

Universal representation—publicly funded deportation defense for all—is more urgent now than ever before

In this treacherous environment full of new policies that sow uncertainty and fear in immigrant communities, widespread access to counsel is urgently needed. Recognizing the need to act, communities have begun to organize with a growing and diverse group of state and local governments around the country moving to fill the gaping hole left by the failure of the federal system. These local and state governments have led the way by dedicating public taxpayer dollars for sorely needed deportation defense programs.

The six pillars of the universal representation model

This guide advocates for a “universal representation” model of deportation defense. Under this model:

- 1. Every person facing imminent threat of deportation is represented by an attorney.**
- 2. Where resources are limited, representation for those in detention is prioritized.**
- 3. There are no eligibility criteria other than income and a lack of private counsel.**

Akin to public defense in criminal cases, no one is excluded on the basis of a prior criminal conviction, residency outside of the funded jurisdiction, or any other reason.

- 4. Representation is merits-blind.**

Clients are represented without considering the likelihood that the case will have a “successful” outcome in immigration court.

- 5. Representation is continuous and begins at the onset of the case.**

Attorneys represent clients until there is a final decision on the case: from bond hearing to hearings challenging underlying criminal convictions or other collateral proceedings, through to appeal. This continuity of representation exists even if the person is transferred to a different jurisdiction or voluntarily moves upon release from custody.

- 6. Public taxpayer dollars fund representation.**

Protecting the basic right of due process is a public duty. Investing public money is also critical to sustaining and institutionalizing universal representation locally while building toward a national system of deportation defense.

It will not always be feasible—due to limitations of funding, local political landscapes, or local legal services infrastructure—to meet all of these criteria at the outset of a deportation defense program. However, these principles together establish a “North Star” that sets a course toward fully funded and sustainable programs in individual jurisdictions and a federally recognized right to government-funded counsel in removal proceedings for everyone.



Advantages of the Universal Representation Model

Universal representation is based on a steadfast belief that everyone deserves due process

Universal representation means representation for all, regardless of the perceived likelihood of the case succeeding, the client’s residency, or the client’s previous contact with the criminal justice system.¹⁹ Without a universal system, such case characteristics can compound the challenges that immigrants in detention face in obtaining counsel.

Universal representation does not predict the outcome of a case, but it does ensure access to due process for all. In contrast, relying on a small pool of available attorneys to represent only those clients with the most

winnable or otherwise appealing cases creates a hierarchy of who deserves representation. This limits the likelihood that the most vulnerable people and those with the most challenging cases will ever be represented. It also ensures that cases that could be won with the assistance of an attorney or through vigorous and persistent legal advocacy end instead in deportation. Although selecting cases for representation based on the initial perceived likelihood of success might garner more wins in the short term, this practice undermines the principle that everyone facing deportation should receive due process. Everyone deserves an opportunity to be treated fairly and with dignity, including those who do not even wish to fight their cases.

✦ **Universal representation means representation for all, regardless of the perceived likelihood of the case succeeding, the client’s residency, or the client’s previous contact with the criminal justice system.** ✦

Universal representation does not permit exclusions from representation based on residency in a particular jurisdiction or based on previous arrests, convictions, or other encounters with the criminal justice system (“due process exclusions”).²⁰ Restricting eligibility to clients who are residents of a jurisdiction has the effect of excluding some of the most vulnerable clients: asylum seekers and youth in detention, who have just arrived in the country and have not yet had the opportunity to establish residency in a community.

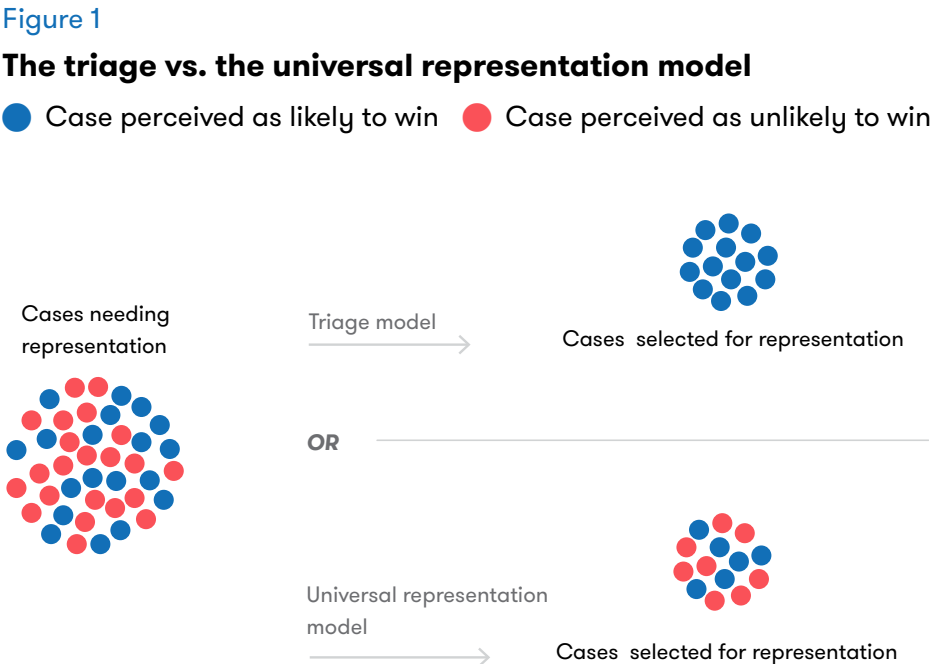
Additionally, exclusions based on contact with the criminal justice system run counter to the fundamental principle of due process in accepting and perpetuating the biases baked into the criminal justice system that contribute to

system involvement in the first place.²¹ *Due process exclusions* bar people who may have valid legal defenses from even being eligible for representation.

Adopting *due process exclusions* further eliminates the opportunity to provide a critical check on how the immigration enforcement system treats criminal convictions. For example, although the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) can attempt to deport someone based on a past conviction, DHS’s characterization of that conviction can be inaccurate or insufficient to warrant deportation, often requiring complex legal arguments to challenge DHS’ allegations. An attorney is crucial to holding the government to its burden to prove that the law requires that an individual be deported. Moreover, there are avenues by which criminal convictions can be challenged and overturned—a process that is complicated and likely nearly impossible to do without counsel.²²

A universal representation approach challenges these injustices by insisting that representation is about the fundamental fairness to which all human beings are entitled.

Figure 1 below demonstrates the distinction between the people served by a universal representation program and those served by a triage model,



where attorneys perform a preliminary review of cases before selecting whom they want to represent. The universal representation system ensures that people with all types of cases and backgrounds have access to expert legal support, preventing prejudice in who receives legal services and promoting fairness for all.

Universal representation safeguards due process by allowing all immigrants to access the rights afforded to them under existing law

While the universal representation model succeeds by bringing due process to individuals who would otherwise be denied that basic right, it also yields “traditional” successes in the form of positive case outcomes.

Many people in removal proceedings have valid legal claims to remain in the United States but no feasible way to articulate these claims without the assistance of counsel.

Research has consistently demonstrated a strong relationship between the assistance of counsel and case outcomes in general. One study found that detained immigrants are up to 10.5 times more likely to succeed in their legal cases when represented than when unrepresented, and other studies have found similar results.²³

The universal representation model, specifically, also generates positive outcomes even when cases are not selected based on their perceived likelihood of success. Notwithstanding the lack of screening for likelihood of success, cases accepted under the universal representation model frequently win. Vera’s evaluation of the New York Immigrant Family Unity Project (NYIFUP), the first publicly funded universal representation program in the nation, demonstrated that representation has a significant effect on case outcomes, independent of other factors. Under NYIFUP’s universal representation model, detained immigrants in New York City saw the odds of winning their cases increase by 1,100 percent.²⁴

The success of NYIFUP demonstrates how universal representation generates positive case outcomes for clients even when such outcomes were initially thought improbable. If not for universal representation,

such clients would most likely go unrepresented and eventually be deported. Because their defenses are not immediately apparent from a single legal screening, they would be barred from exercising their legal rights. For example, cases may involve sensitive or traumatic facts a client is not comfortable sharing right away. The case may also contain novel, harder-to-identify issues that can require further legal research or litigating on appeal. Universal representation protects against this unfairness.

✍ **Detained immigrants are up to 10.5 times more likely to succeed in their legal cases when represented than when unrepresented.** ✍

The universal representation model can also help legal service providers attain more balanced caseloads. Cases that lack valid defenses or claims for relief, which demand less time and effort from attorneys, can be resolved quickly and removed from caseloads. This frees up resources for cases that require multiple applications and court appearances.

Universal representation enhances procedural justice and restores dignity

While helping the client remain legally in the United States is often the goal of representation, the universal representation model achieves a different kind of success regardless of the ultimate legal outcome. For clients, obtaining due process and support from someone who can explain their options—a modicum of fairness and dignity in an otherwise daunting immigration system—is, in itself, a substantial success.

Regardless of a case’s ultimate result, there is real value in empowering clients to understand the options before them and subsequent outcomes.

Representation gives clients an opportunity to have their voices heard, becoming more actively engaged in their own fate, rather than being silenced. This is known as *procedural justice*, where the fairness and transparency of the proceedings themselves bring a form of justice regardless of the case outcome.²⁵

By preserving the fairness of immigration court, representation upholds trust in the legal process and strengthens the legitimacy of the very institution itself.²⁶ Treating clients fairly and respectfully restores their human dignity—a significant departure from the dehumanization that immigrants may have felt up to that point.

That clients and their families recognize that someone is fighting for them and protecting their rights, even if there is no path to avoid deportation, is therefore a critically important value of universal representation. It also promotes trust in public institutions so that residents see their justice systems—from policing to the courts—as delivering on the promise of fairness.

Universal representation is scalable and can begin with a pilot program

The universal representation model is scalable in a way that a triage model is not. While true universal representation—in which all immigrants are represented in their proceedings—often requires a substantial investment, a jurisdiction can begin with a small pilot program.

A pilot program using a universal representation model funds representation for a limited number of clients selected on a merits-blind basis. A universal representation pilot program lets program managers develop long-term strategic plans and test and identify appropriate levels of staffing, caseloads, and other resources before expanding to serve larger numbers of people with the goal of full-scale universal representation. The early successes of the pilot can further demonstrate the need for and impact of representation, cultivating support that helps the program grow and build on its solid organizational foundation with best practices that can be readily scaled.

Attorneys working under a universal representation model will become accustomed to representing clients in a broad variety of circumstances. They will see themselves as public defenders who understand the

challenges of counseling clients with and without defenses. This dexterity of practice makes it easier to scale up the size of a universal representation program than to scale up a program that triages cases.

For example, a triage model can keep attorneys returning to familiar fact patterns and legal issues with which they feel comfortable in an effort to preserve time and resources. This specialization limits the expertise of the legal team, making it far more difficult to expand to meet the needs of the broader client population.

✦ Employing a universal representation model from the inception increases the likelihood of eventual funding for all eligible immigrants in a jurisdiction. ✦

Moreover, a triage model decreases the likelihood that people with complicated criminal justice involvement will be served, perpetuating the injustices of the criminal enforcement system. In contrast, the diversity of experience among lawyers trained in the universal representation model equips them with the skills to support the complex and diverse needs of immigrant communities while promoting fundamental fairness for all people at risk of deportation.

Employing a universal representation model from the inception of a project increases the likelihood of eventual funding for all eligible immigrants in a jurisdiction. There is a clear path from a pilot program implementing a universal representation approach to a full-scale universal representation program. However, starting with, and building on, a triage model creates challenges for scaling up to full universal representation. A triage model means that at a certain level of funding, all those whose cases are considered “winnable” will receive counsel. At that point, policymakers may have a hard time justifying allocating additional resources to deportation defense if they think the outcomes for remaining unrepresented cases are likely to be negative.

Universal representation helps ease the suffering associated with prolonged detention

For many immigrants, being released from detention may be almost as important as the ultimate legal outcome. People who are accused of being in the country without authorization can be detained for the entire duration of their legal proceedings. Representation is critical to releasing them from custody, just as it is to the ultimate outcome of the case. For those who are represented, the odds of being granted bond are 3.5 times more likely than unrepresented people, even controlling for other factors.²⁷

Attorneys play a crucial role in not only securing their clients' release from custody—allowing them to return to their families and livelihoods in the community—but in ensuring that those clients subsequently appear in court. When the government detains people during their removal proceedings, one of the primary reasons is to ensure that they make their upcoming court appearances.²⁸ Representation aids in this goal: between 2007 and 2012, only 7 percent of represented people were ordered removed *in absentia* for failing to appear in court, compared to 68 percent of those unrepresented.²⁹ Similarly, less than 2 percent of NYIFUP clients released on bond were ordered removed *in absentia*.³⁰

The influence of representation on rates of release has profound, tangible impacts for clients by offsetting the negative impacts of detention. Detention results in loss of income and often in loss of employment, significantly hindering immigrants' ability to financially support themselves and their families. The financial instability this causes can mean losing housing and access to medical care, often for the entire family, including members who are U.S. citizens. As one immigration lawyer notes, “On almost every case, we represent an entire family.”³¹ Further, because immigration is a federal system, detainees can be held anywhere in the country, rendering visits to faraway families next to impossible.

Beyond the obvious trauma of separation, children suffer in other ways when their parents are detained or deported. Facing mental health concerns and financial instability in the home, some children may drop out of school.³² Given that almost 18 million children living in the United States (one-quarter of all children) have at least one foreign-born parent, the

devastating consequences of parental detention and deportation are felt in every corner of the country.³³

Universal representation expands access to the economic advantages of representation, is cost-effective, and maintains stability in communities and economies

Representation generates practical cost savings for communities and the economy at large. These economic ripple effects extend beyond any individual client.

When someone wins a legal case in immigration court, that person also obtains—or maintains, for those with existing legal status—work authorization. Work authorization allows people to participate in the formal economy by holding jobs, generating tax revenue that benefits all levels of government. For example, NYIFUP was estimated to lead to a \$2.7 million increase annually in federal, state, and local tax revenue due to clients gaining or maintaining work authorization.³⁴

The potential economic benefits of representation in immigration court extend far beyond tax revenue. A report coauthored by the Center for Popular Democracy (CPD) projected that NYIFUP clients who win their legal cases would retain their jobs, likely reducing unnecessary turnover-related costs for employers.³⁵

Further, available evidence indicates that the unimaginable trauma for children of parental detention and deportation could have unforeseen economic consequences, such as limiting their lifetime earning potential and increasing healthcare-related costs for the state.³⁶ Representation that offsets these negative impacts therefore likely also yields associated economic benefits.

NILC's report *Blazing a Trail* suggests that representation reduces financial costs to the federal government associated with prolonged detention.³⁷ Universal representation would also generate other system efficiencies, such as reducing the time needed to find an attorney and reducing the time those without relief spend languishing in detention.³⁸

Universal representation in the immigration system promotes racial equity

The universal representation model ensures that representation in the immigration system operates in a racially equitable way. Universal representation mitigates bias from the distribution of legal services, whereas a triage model reinforces the notion that some are worthier of due process and representation than others. This perpetuates the unequal treatment of immigrants, disproportionately people of color, who have been previously subjected to contact with the criminal justice system.

The close linkage between the U.S. immigration and criminal justice systems has resulted in disparate impacts on communities of color.³⁹ The unequal treatment of people of color in the criminal justice system is well documented: people of color are more likely to be stopped by police, searched, charged with crimes, prosecuted, and convicted, and are sentenced more severely.⁴⁰

✦ As the disparate racial impacts of policing, and the criminal justice system more generally, cascade into the immigration system, immigrants of color are disproportionately targeted for immigration enforcement actions. ✦

In legislation passed in 1996, Congress linked the immigration system with the criminal justice system more closely than ever, amplifying the effects of this racial inequity. This legislation established harsh new consequences for a broad range of criminal convictions and, in some instances, even for arrests. Contact with the criminal justice system could now result in mandatory detention, ineligibility for certain forms of relief, and

permanent bars to re-entering the United States.⁴¹ In addition, local police and federal immigration enforcement now work in tandem with increasing regularity across the country, meaning that routine interactions with the criminal justice system—even without any arrest or conviction—have led to increased numbers of immigrants being referred to immigration authorities and routed into removal proceedings.⁴²

As the disparate racial impacts of policing, and the criminal justice system more generally, cascade into the immigration system, immigrants of color are disproportionately targeted for immigration enforcement actions. A wrongful arrest on the basis of race can lead easily to deportation.⁴³ In this respect, the same prejudices that pervade the criminal justice system extend to the immigration system: black people are more likely than white people to be targeted by police and black immigrants are more likely to face immigration enforcement.⁴⁴

Immigrants of color who face detention and deportation on criminal grounds therefore face a double penalty. Denying representation—and thus due process—to individuals with criminal histories therefore compounds this inequity and exacts a triple penalty.



Conclusion

Expanding universal representation programs in communities across the country is crucial to building the national movement to uphold due process for all people at imminent risk of deportation. These programs bolster the vibrancy and stability of communities, keep families united, and build toward the goal that everyone at risk of deportation has a strong, effective advocate. Universal representation promotes racial equity, preventing the further amplification of racially disparate outcomes. As a result, everyone involved with the immigration system achieves better outcomes.

As jurisdictions demonstrate success building scalable and replicable programs that offer representation for all, CPD, NILC, and Vera expect that support for the universal representation model will continue to expand nationwide. These models will help lay the groundwork for a federally funded system of representation and ultimately a right to government-funded counsel that is desperately needed in the national immigration justice system.

Endnotes

- ¹ The terms *removal* and *deportation* are used interchangeably, though there are distinctions under the law.
- ² On the labyrinthine nature of immigration court, see *Drax v. Reno*, 338 F.3d 98, 99 (2d Cir. 2003); and Noel Brennan, “A View from the Immigration Bench,” *Fordham Law Review* 78, no. 2 (2009), 623-31, 624, <https://perma.cc/VEU8-GJ3L>.
- ³ The U.S. Supreme Court has held that the right to due process applies to deportation proceedings. See *Reno v. Flores*, 507 U.S. 292, 306 (1993) (“It is well established that the Fifth Amendment entitles aliens to due process of law in deportation proceedings”).
- ⁴ *Johnson v. Zerbst*, 304 U.S. 458 (1938); and *Gideon v. Wainwright*, 372 U.S. 335 (1963).
- ⁵ Ingrid V. Eagly and Steven Shafer, “A National Study of Access to Counsel in Immigration Court,” *University of Pennsylvania Law Review* 164, no. 1 (2015), 22-24 & figure 4, <https://perma.cc/7J65-CZCM>.
- ⁶ Deportation Research Clinic, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University, *United States Citizens in Deportation Proceedings: Immigration Court ‘Code 54’ Adjournments, January 1, 2011 to June 9, 2017* (Evanston, IL: Deportation Research Clinic, 2017), <https://perma.cc/3BKR-9FK6>.
- ⁷ Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC), “Who Is Represented in Immigration Court?” figure 1, October 16, 2017, <https://perma.cc/HPX7-GPF6>.
- ⁸ Eagly and Shafer, “National Study of Access to Counsel,” 2015, 40-43.
- ⁹ Sixty percent of detained immigrants were unrepresented by the time their cases were completed. See Study Group on Immigrant Representation, *Accessing Justice: The Availability and Adequacy of Counsel in Immigration Proceedings* (New York: Cardozo School of Law, 2011), 3, <https://perma.cc/9DAW-ZDDJ>.
- ¹⁰ On the expense of phone access for detained immigrants seeking to mount a defense, see Leticia Miranda, “Dialing with Dollars: How County Jails Profit from Immigrant Detainees,” *Nation*, May 15, 2014, <https://perma.cc/Z948-YGEC>.
- ¹¹ Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-208 (September 30, 1996); and Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-132 (April 24, 1996).
- ¹² The processes that allow the federal government to deport certain categories of individuals without an opportunity to present their cases in front of an immigration judge are known as expedited removal (permitting summary removal of non-citizens who seek entry at a port of entry or those found within 100 miles of the border within 14 days of their arrival to United States who lack proper entry documents), reinstatement of removal (permitting summary removal of non-citizens who return to the United States unlawfully after having previously been deported), and administrative removal (permitting summary removal of non-lawful permanent residents convicted of an aggravated felony). They were established through IIRAIRA in 1996. On the racially disproportionate impacts of detention and deportation, see Juliana Morgan-Trostle and Kexin Zheng, *The State of Black Immigrants—Part II: Black Immigrants in the Mass Criminalization System* (New York: Black Alliance for Just Immigration and NYU School of Law Immigrant Rights Clinic, 2016), <https://perma.cc/NHM8-CFFZ>.
- ¹³ Office of Immigration Statistics, *2015 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics* (Washington, DC: DHS, 2016), 103 & table 39, <https://perma.cc/6ZQ9-ATKV>.
- ¹⁴ See U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of the Attorney General, *Matter of L-A-B-R- et al.*, 27 I&N Dec. 405 (A.G. 2018); and Laura Meckler, “New Quotas for Immigration Judges as Trump Administration Seeks Faster Deportations,” *Wall Street Journal*, April 2, 2018, <https://perma.cc/VM34-W4S3>.
- ¹⁵ See DOJ, Office of the Attorney General, *Matter of A-B-*, 27 I&N Dec. 316 (A.G. 2018); and Aliens Subject to a Bar on Entry Under Certain Presidential Proclamations; Procedures for Protection Claims, 83 Fed. Reg. 55,934 (November 9, 2018) (to be codified at 8 C.F.R. Parts 208, 1003, & 1208), <https://perma.cc/7BQL-URS5>.
- ¹⁶ Under DACA, children under the age of 18 who were brought to the United States without authorization prior to 2012 are not targeted for deportation and are eligible to work lawfully. TPS provides temporary legal status to citizens of certain countries affected by armed conflict or natural disasters. For DACA, see *Regents of University of California v. United States Department of Homeland Security*, 279 F. Supp. 3d 1011 (N.D. Cal. 2018). For TPS, see *Ramos v. Nielsen*, 321 F. Supp. 3d 1083 (N.D. Cal. 2018).
- ¹⁷ On family separation, see DHS, Office of Inspector General, *Special Review—Initial Observations Regarding Family Separation Issues Under the Zero Tolerance Policy* (Washington, DC: DHS, 2018), <https://perma.cc/KP59-V64B>.
- ¹⁸ Amy Taxin, “US Launches Bid to Find Citizenship Cheaters,” Associated Press, June 11, 2018, <https://perma.cc/AK83-PRXT>.
- ¹⁹ For a discussion of the current and historical context for the universal representation model, see Lindsay Nash, “Universal Representation,” *Fordham Law Review* 87, no. 2 (2018), 503-29, <https://perma.cc/8XZ8-CVHC>.

20 See Lindsay Nash, “Universal Representation,” 2018, arguing that while some limits on the scope of the coverage in a universal representation model may be justifiable, restrictions like the convictions-based eligibility carveout threaten the most basic underpinnings of the universal representation project.

21 Elizabeth Hinton, LeShae Henderson, and Cindy Reed, *An Unjust Burden: The Disparate Treatment of Black Americans in the Criminal Justice System* (New York: Vera Institute of Justice, 2018), <https://perma.cc/S3LD-TRAU>.

22 Jennifer Stave, Peter Markowitz, Karen Berberich, Tammy Cho, Danny Dubbaneh, Laura Simich, Nina Siulc, and Noelle Smart, *Assessing the Impact of Legal Representation on Family and Community Unity* (New York: Vera Institute of Justice, 2017), <https://perma.cc/3BWE-KSFD>.

23 Eagly and Shafer, “National Study of Access to Counsel,” 2015, 9. See also Study Group on Immigrant Representation, *Accessing Justice*, 2011, 19; and Northern California Collaborative for Immigrant Justice, *Access to Justice for Immigrant Families and Communities: Study of Legal Representation of Detained Immigrants in Northern California* (Palo Alto, CA: 2014), 18, 24, <https://perma.cc/P5YK-KBDS>.

24 Vera found that the chances of a positive outcome went from 4 percent when clients were unrepresented to a projected 48 percent with an attorney. Vera developed a statistical model to estimate outcomes for cases that remained open at the time of the evaluation, given that longer cases are also most likely to win. See Stave et al., *Assessing the Impact of Legal Representation*, 2017.

25 See Steven L. Blader and Tom R. Tyler, “A Four-Component Model of Procedural Justice: Defining the Meaning of a ‘Fair’ Process,” *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin* 29, no. 6 (2003), 747-58.

26 Research has shown that impressions of fairness in interactions with courts, law enforcement, and other authorities can influence perceptions around the quality and ethicality of decision making. See Tom Tyler and Robert Bies, “Beyond Formal Procedures: The Interpersonal Context of Procedural Justice,” in *Applied Social Psychology and Organizational Settings*, edited by John Carroll, 77-98 (Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum 1990).

27 Emily Ryo, “Detained: A Study of Immigration Bond Hearings,” *Law & Society Review* 50, no. 1 (2016), 117-53.

28 DOJ, Office of the Attorney General, *Matter of Patel*, 1 & N Dec. 666 (BIA 1976).

29 Eagly and Shafer, “National Study of Access to Counsel,” 2015, 74 & figure 20. Immigrants who fail to appear in court may be ordered deported *in absentia* for that reason alone, no matter what the merits of the case.

30 Only 10 of the 611 NYIFUP clients released on bond received orders of removal *in absentia* for failing to appear for a subsequent court date. Stave et al., *Assessing the Impact of Legal Representation*, 2017, 49, n. 64.

31 Stave et al., *Assessing the Impact of Legal Representation*, 2017, 53.

32 Center for Popular Democracy, Northern Manhattan Coalition for Immigrant Rights, Cardozo School of Law, and Make the Road New York, *The New York Immigrant Family Unity Project: Good for Families, Good for Employers, and Good for All New Yorkers* (New York: Center for Popular Democracy, 2013), 11-12, <https://perma.cc/J37B-YPAB>.

33 Urban Institute, “Children of Immigrants Data Tool,” 2018. Data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series datasets drawn from the 2005-2015 American Community Survey, <https://perma.cc/7R7Q-75H5>.

34 Stave et al., *Assessing the Impact of Legal Representation*, 2017, 55 & 59.

35 Center for Popular Democracy et al., *New York Immigrant Family Unity Project*, 2013, 5.

36 Ibid.

37 The cost to the U.S. government of detaining a single person is between \$119 and \$159 per day. See National Immigration Law Center, *Blazing a Trail: The Right to Fight for Counsel in Detention and Beyond* (Los Angeles: National Immigration Law Center, 2016), 9, <https://perma.cc/3SYJ-CUEH>.

38 Eagly and Shafer, “National Study of Access to Counsel,” 2015, 59-72.

39 See generally The Sentencing Project, “Report to the United Nations on Racial Disparities in the U.S. Criminal Justice System,” April 19, 2018, <https://perma.cc/4KLR-2GAA>.

40 Hinton, Henderson, and Reed, *Unjust Burden*, 2018.

41 See Randy Capps, Muzaffar Chishti, Julia Gelatt, et al., *Revvng Up the Deportation Machinery: Enforcement under Trump and the Pushback* (Washington, DC: Migration Policy Institute, 2018), <https://perma.cc/DT7N-NZ3K>.

42 Ibid.

43 Juliana Morgan-Trostle and Kexin Zheng, *The State of Black Immigrants—Part II: Black Immigrants in the Mass Criminalization System* (New York: Black Alliance for Just Immigration and NYU School of Law Immigrant Rights Clinic, 2016), <https://perma.cc/NHM8-CFFZ>. Black people are arrested at 2.5 times the rate of

whites. They are more likely than whites to be sentenced to prison and less likely to be sentenced to probation. These disparities exist even when crime rates are the same; for example, although black and white Americans use marijuana at roughly equal rates, black Americans are 3.7 times more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession. Ibid.

44 Hinton, Henderson, and Reed, *Unjust Burden*, 2018. Black immigrants comprise 20 percent of immigrants facing deportation on criminal grounds, despite making up only 7 percent of the immigrant population in the United States. In general, 10 percent of all immigrants have criminal grounds for removability. See Morgan-Trostle and Zheng, *The State of Black Immigrants Part II*, 2016, 20.

Acknowledgments

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About citations

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Credits

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The **Center for Popular Democracy (CPD)** works to create equity, opportunity and a dynamic democracy in partnership with high-impact base-building organizations, organizing alliances, and progressive unions. CPD strengthens our collective capacity to envision and win an innovative pro-worker, pro-immigrant, racial and economic justice agenda. For more information, visit populardemocracy.org.

For more information about this report, contact Annie Chen, program director, SAFE Network, at achen@vera.org.

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Vera Institute of Justice
233 Broadway, 12th Floor
New York, NY 10279
T 212 334 1300
F 212 941 9407

Washington DC Office
1111 14th Street, Suite 920
Washington, D.C. 20005
T 202 465 8900
F 202 408 1972

New Orleans Office
1307 Oretha Castle
Haley Blvd., Suite 203
New Orleans, LA 70113
F 504 312 4517

Los Angeles Office
634 S Spring Street, #300A
Los Angeles, CA 90014
T 213 416 0058
F 213 416 0075

Immigration Court Statistics
Contra Costa County

1. CoCo Residents in IC not Represented: 4,442 (4,312 nondetained; 3,625 never detained)¹
(Fifth largest amount throughout CA; behind SF, SanClara, SanMateo, Alameda)
2. Amount unrepresented before SFIC where county not known: 1,048
3. In SFIC rate of represented asylum cases granted is: 65%
4. In SFIC rate of unrepresented asylum cases granted is: 19%
5. Average time of case completion in SFIC: 3 years

¹ All statistics are from TRAC Immigration run by Syracuse University. Statistics were accessed on June 18, 2021, and are current through May 2021. The tracking tool is available at https://trac.syr.edu/phptools/reports/reports.php?layer=immigration&report_type=tool



Keeping Families Together Client Testimonials

Marisol, El Salvador:

Thank you for being part of a great dream to come true. We are beyond grateful and thankful to STCC for taking my case and helping me and my family secure our future and being stable. May God bless you and the program for this amazing opportunity. We will no longer live in fear, worry, stress and hopelessness. Thank you for your hard work for making me believe again that things are possible when all I saw was doors getting shut due to the dishonesty of many immigration lawyers out there that steal lots of money and do not finish helping people like me. You are a true example of compassion, motivating care and honesty. Thank you for helping me get to this place and making the process so smooth. Thank you for assuring me that there are still good people in the world that are willing to help people like me. My family and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts. You will always be someone we will remember, and I pray that our heavenly father continues putting special grace upon you and give you the guidance and wisdom to continue helping others. Blessings to you and your family.

Luisa & Carlos, Peru:

We are very grateful for the help received from STCC throughout the process. Mr. Moreno is not only an excellent professional, he has been also attentive and thoughtful. Thank so much for your excellent service.

Roberto, Guatemala:

I thank god that Helio and STCC were there to help me and my son win asylum. I never would have been able to do it without them. Now I can be reunited with my wife and children who remained in Guatemala.



Erika, Honduras:

I am very grateful to the attorneys and legal assistants who worked with me on my asylum case, which was recently approved. They always made time for me, answered all my questions and most importantly, provided rental and legal assistance to me, all for no charge. Today, I have my work permit and am excited to be starting a new chapter of my life in the United States.

Elizabeth, Nicaragua:

From helping me fill out my asylum application to preparing me for court, the staff at Stand Together were devoted and worked very hard to help me win my case. I am eternally grateful to you.

Francisco, Mexico:

I would like to thank Stand Together Contra Costa for the help provided. I especially would like to thank and say that my attorney Lydia Sinkus has been very attentive in my case being very supportive in everything that her job requires. She helped me on overturning one of my convictions that was making me deportable to a non-deportable conviction. She's been very supportive, and I'm glad that she takes her job serious.

Bryan, Peru:

I am very happy and thankful to be free. I thank God and STCC who worked hard to return me to my family.

Arbey, Mexico:

My wife and I have no words to express our gratitude to STCC for saving our and our children's lives. I was attacked and threatened with death if I returned to Mexico. We thank God that Helio was placed in our path to help my family and I live safely in the United States!



Juan, El Salvador:

I feel very grateful to this program that helped me with such professionalism, courtesy, and respect, and always kept me informed of every step of the process or decision that was made in my case. Thanks to that, my PETITION (for residence) was APPROVED.

I spent years waiting to get a legal immigration status, but now, me and my family are happy, unconcerned, and at peace here in this country that has given me the opportunity to advance and create a better future for my children. Thank you, Lydia Sinkus, for her excellent work and I hope to return for services in the future.

Jose, Mexico:

My STCC attorney didn't just save me when he won my bond hearing, he also saved my wife and my children – including one of my sons who has a disability. I work two jobs to keep a roof over our heads and food on the table. My wife can only work a little because she is so busy taking care of our son. So, it was a disaster when ICE arrested me. My STCC attorney had me out and working again in just a few weeks. Me and my family are so thankful. God bless STCC.

Darwin, Guatemala:

When ICE arrested me, I lost all hope. I felt completely alone and lost. Then I found STCC. My attorney spent hours speaking with me about why I was afraid to return to Guatemala. He called me regularly to update me about my case. He always had answers to my questions. In the end, he convinced an immigration judge to release me on bond. My friends and family couldn't believe it when I was released. Even they had given up on me. Everyone had given up on me – everyone except my STCC attorney.



Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

MEASURE X COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Date: 07/21/2021
Subject: Plan for Series of Focused Presentations and Discussion
Submitted For: MEASURE X Com Advisory Board,
Department: County Administrator
Referral No.: 2/2/21 D.4
Referral Name: Community Advisory Committee for Measure X
Presenter: Mariana Moore **Contact:** Lisa Driscoll, County Finance
Director (925) 655-2047

Referral History:

Item was introduced at the April 21, 2021, MXCAB meeting (item #6). The draft plan was discussed on the April 28, 2021 meeting. At the June 9, 2021 meeting it was requested that this item be added to each agenda as a standing discussion item.

Referral Update:

Updated plan is attached for discussion and recommendations of presenters.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

Discuss/modify attached plan for presenters.

Attachments

MXCAB Suggested Speakers - Revised 7-16-21

Measure X Community Advisory Board - Suggested Speakers - updated July 16, 2021

Shaded areas = past meeting. **Bold** names - speakers invited. ***Bold/italic*** = speaker confirmed.

MEETING DATE	TOPIC(S)	COUNTY PRESENTERS	RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION PRESENTERS (and source)	RECOMMENDED RESIDENT PRESENTERS (and source)
12-May	Seniors, disabled people, veterans	EHSD Aging & Adult Services, Tracy Murray Veterans Services - Nathan Johnson, Veterans Service Officer, Contra Costa Veterans Services	Caitlin Sly, Executive Director of Meals on Wheels Diablo Region Nicole Howell, Executive Director, Ombudsman Services of Contra Costa, Solano, and Alameda Counties (Debbie Toth)	Myrtle Braxton, Chair, Richmond Commission on Aging (Debbie Toth)
19-May	Community safety: fire protection	Paige Meyer, Fire Chief, San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District, Lewis Broschard, Fire Chief, Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, and Brian Helmick, Fire Chief, East Contra Costa County Fire Protection District		
26-May	Early childhood	Camilla Rand, Deputy Director, First 5 Contra Costa Christina Reich, Division Manager, Contra Costa Community Services Bureau Francine Jolton, MD FAAP, Chair, Department of Pediatrics, CCHS	John Jones, Executive Director, CocoKids (All recommended by Ruth Fernandez)	Micaela Mota, Parent and Resident, Parent Voices
9-Jun	Youth, young adults	-Kathy Marsh, Employment and Human Services Department/Children and Family Services Bureau Director -Health Services (Public Health, Behavioral Health), Erika Jenssen, Contra Costa Health Services	Carol Carrillo, Executive Director of Child Abuse Prevention Council, Lynn Mackey, County Office of Education, County Superintendent of Schools, Kanwarpal Dhaliwal, RYSE Center (M. Moore)	-Eric Wagoner, a former foster youth and former youth partner -Youth presenters Isaiah Grant and Ann Guiam, RYSE Center

MEETING DATE	TOPIC(S)	COUNTY PRESENTERS	RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION PRESENTERS (and source)	RECOMMENDED RESIDENT PRESENTERS (and source)
16-Jun	Healthcare	Health Services- Dr. Samir Shah and Dr. Ori Tzvieli Gilbert Salinas (D. Honig)	Alvaro Fuentes , executive director, Community Clinic Consortium of Contra Costa and Solano (A. Saidi) Concepcion James , United Latino Voices (G. Calloway) CHD Black Healthcare Navigators (M. Stewart)	Maria Bernal (R. Carillo Garza) Jose Rizo (R. Carillo Garza)
23-Jun	Mental and behavioral health & disabled residents	Kennisha Johnson - BH staff Debbie Thomas - BH staff Vi Ibarra , CC Council on Developmental Disabilities (D. Toth) Jovanka Beckles , West County Child and Adolescent Services (BK Williams)	Tamara Hunter & Selah Baker , Putnam Clubhouse (S. Quezada Jenkins) Susannah Marshland , Fred Finch Youth Services (D. Geiger) Aracelia Aguilar , Deaf Hope (A. Saidi) Shelly Ji , NAMI Contra Costa	Greg Beckner and Isabella Quinto , NAMI family members Anna Lubarov , peer advocate Grace and Raquel Herrera (E. Jenssen)
30-Jun	Housing & homelessness	Lavonna Martin & Jenny Robbins , Health, Housing & Homeless division (D. Honig, M. Moore) John Kopchik & Amalia Cunningham , Dept. of Conservation & Development Joseph Villareal , Housing Authority of CC	Tony Bravo , Monument Impact (K. Laughlin, RTR) Mia Carbajal , Richmond LAND (BK Williams) Daniel Barth , SOS (BK Williams); Kenneth Modica	William Goodwin (D. Leich, D. Honig) Betty Gabaldon (K. Laughlin/RTR) Jocelyn Foreman (BK Williams)

MEETING DATE	TOPIC(S)	COUNTY PRESENTERS	RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION PRESENTERS (and source)	RECOMMENDED RESIDENT PRESENTERS (and source)
7-Jul	Community safety: justice systems	<p>Diana Becton , District Attorney</p> <p>Esa Ehmen-Krause , Chief Probation Officer</p> <p>Patrice Guillory , Director, Office of Reentry & Justice</p> <p>Robin Lipetzky, Public Defender/ Brandon Banks, Public Defender Managing Attorney</p> <p>Angelene Musawwir, Public Defender Social Work Supervisor</p> <p>David Livingston, Sheriff; Lt. David Hall , Sheriff's Dept.</p>	<p>Melvin Willis, CC Racial Justice Coalition (A. Saidi)</p> <p>Donté Blue, Dr. Carole Dorham-Kelly, Rhody McCoy, Rubicon (A. Saidi)</p> <p>Pat Mims, Director of Reentry Success Center Rubicon (A. Saidi)</p> <p>Chelsea Miller, CHaT (Restorative Justice) (A. Saidi)</p> <p>Veronica Benjamin/Danny Espinoza, Reimagining Public Safety CC Campaign (RPS) (A. Saidi)</p> <p>Tamisha Walker, Safe Return Project (A. Saidi, D. Honig, D. Leich)</p>	<p>Adey Teshager, Safe Return Project</p> <p>Randy Joseph, Richmond Reimagining Public Safety</p>
14-Jul	Safety net (e.g., employment, cash aid, food security, interpersonal violence, etc.)	<p>Claudia Gonzalez & Hisham Alibob , Alliance to End Abuse</p> <p>Kelley Curtis , EHSD CalFresh/CalWORKs division</p> <p>Patience Ofodu, Workforce Development Board</p> <p>Melinda Self, Director of Child Support</p> <p>Salina Mansapit , Child Support Specialist II</p>	<p>Maria Solorzano , Family Justice Center (S. Kim)</p> <p>Vic Baker, Equitable Economic Recovery Task Force (L. Lavender)</p> <p>Dr. Carol Doham-Kelly, Kimi Barnes , Rubicon (A. Saidi)</p> <p>Alissa Friedman , Opportunity Junction (L. Lavender)</p> <p>Kim Castaneda, Cheo Gonzalez - Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano (M. Stewart, D. Honig)</p>	<p>Janell Coleman , Community Speaker</p> <p>Jessica Reid-Ozalp, resident speaker</p> <p>Je'Sha Hunt, resident speaker</p> <p>Keva Dean, Food Bank-Resident Advocacy (S.Kim)</p>

MEETING DATE	TOPIC(S)	COUNTY PRESENTERS	RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION PRESENTERS (and source)	RECOMMENDED RESIDENT PRESENTERS (and source)
21-Jul	Immigration Racial equity across systems	<i>Lanett Williams</i> , Stand Together Contra Costa	<i>Ari Jones</i> , Oasis Legal Services	<i>Rose Muñoz</i> , Resident Speaker
		<i>Heliodoro Moreno</i> , Stand Together Contra Costa	<i>Debra Ballinger</i> , Contra Costa Immigrant Rights Alliance	
			<i>Anupama Champagain Parajuli</i> - Lead Community Organizer of Nepali Health Advocates	
			<i>Sangita Gautuam</i> - Nepali Health Advocates Community Engagement and Planning effort for the Office of Racial Equity & Social Justice: <i>Solomon Belette, Arielle Danzy, Karen Perkins, Anh Ta, Pastor Chris Williams</i>	
28-Jul	Library, arts & culture, agriculture, environment, transportation	<i>Alison McKee</i> , Librarian	Urban Tilth (Marti Roach)	
		<i>Jenny Balisle and Ben Miyaji</i> , Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa (BK Williams)	<i>Tony Tamayo</i> , artist, advocate, Poetry Out Loud and ABOUTFACE Technical Assistant	<i>Marva Reed</i> , Art of the African Diaspora Curator
		<i>Silvia Ledezma</i> , Vice Chair AC5, Arts-in-Corrections: County Jail Project	<i>Naina Shastri</i> , Founder/Artistic Director at Ushanjali School of Dance, San Ramon Social Justice Collective	LACOG (Local Arts and Cultural Organizations) grantee RYSE, youth artist performance

MEETING DATE	TOPIC(S)	COUNTY PRESENTERS	RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION PRESENTERS (and source)	RECOMMENDED RESIDENT PRESENTERS (and source)
			Donte Clark , Poetry Out Loud Coordinator East Bay Center for the Performing Arts Shailaja Dixit , San Ramon Social Justice Collective Winefred Day - Richmond Arts and Culture Manager (BK Williams)	Dedan Ji Jala , ABOUTFACE Veteran artist Tiffany Conway , Richmond Artist Keertana Srekkuma r, youth artist, advocate, student, San Ramon Youth Art Committee President/Founder Transit Consumer (D.Toth)
		Matthew Slattengren , Agricultural Commissioner - Director of Weights and Measures; Jose Arriaga , Asst.	Michael Gliksohn or other rep from Voices for Public Transportation (VPT) (BK Williams)	
		Brian Balbas , Public Works Director	Darnell Grisby, E.D. of TransForm (D.Toth)	
		John Cunningham , Principal Planner, Accessible Transportation	Jovanka Beckles, Transit Board. (BK Williams)	
		Jody London , Principal Planner, Sustainability		
		John Kopchik , Conservation & Development, Economic Development and Illegal Dumping Initiative		

4-Aug

Develop draft priorities

11-Aug

Finalize priorities &