



National Partnership for New Americans

Annual Report 2022

NPNA
NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP
FOR NEW AMERICANS

PartnershipforNewAmericans.org

NPNA's mission is to advance an immigrant equity and inclusion agenda at the state, local and federal level through policy, advocacy and service programs that create vast opportunities for immigrant and refugee communities to achieve full civic, social and economic justice.

We achieve our mission through these 5 pillars.



Democracy Building

Promote democracy building and work toward a representative democracy by eliminating barriers to naturalization and encourage the full civic participation among the newly naturalized.



Drive Federal Inclusion Policy

Advance Federal Immigrant Inclusion Policy through legislative campaigns and administrative advocacy to promote racial justice and the full inclusion of immigrant and refugee communities.



Network Capacity Building

Build the capacity of NPNA members through a service-to-organizing model. These initiatives include immigration legal services, legal defense work, community-based English instruction, and community navigator trainings.



Field Leadership

Drive an immigrant inclusion agenda at the state and local levels through our network via campaigns, cohort development, and convenings that address immigrant inclusion through an intersectional lens.



Pro Immigrant Narratives and Communications

Develop new narratives that foster greater inclusion of long-established immigrant communities, recognize our diverse BIPOC communities and their history while addressing future flows of migrants to our nation.



Dear Stakeholders,

As we close out the first quarter of 2023, we reflect on 2022 as a year of evolution and growth for NPNA. With a clear roadmap for our advocacy strategy for year two of the Biden administration, NPNA leveraged the power of our membership to achieve some of our key advocacy goals in 2022. And we activated our strengths to develop greater synergy across programs, campaigns, and special initiatives within the organization.

This synergy was most evident in the **New American Voters** campaign. Throughout the year, our campaign powerfully activated the membership to amplify their outreach strategies and mobilize newly naturalized voters. The campaign garnered national media attention with over 400 earned media pieces that elevated our members' role in shaping and engaging an emerging electorate of naturalized voters.

Our longstanding advocacy efforts have centered on ensuring that citizenship remains accessible to low income immigrants through community-based legal services. In 2022, USCIS was funded at a record \$469 Million- a significant victory for NPNA and the legal services field. **These resources helped double the Community Integration Grants from 10 million to 20 million dollars, with 2.5 million dollars going to the network.** We are encouraged to see greater government investment in legal services and the expansion of new models to support the naturalization process.

In the second half of the year, members in New York, California, Chicago, and other cities faced the immense challenge of welcoming thousands of asylum seekers. In response, the programs team was able to quickly activate our Cities and Counties for Citizenship (CC4C) network to lift up values based messaging and best practices to welcome newcomers through the Always Welcome Building Solutions for Local Governments to Welcome Newcomers Toolkit. We continue to offer the network and municipal stakeholders guidance to support inclusion strategies as they provide services and support to asylum seekers.

Field building has always been at the heart of NPNA's theory of change and the We Are All America (WAAA), the Climate Justice Collaborative, and the Vera/NPNA Fairness to Freedom initiatives allow us to test field building models, deepen our leadership development work, and develop our narrative potential. These initiatives shape the evolution of the immigrant advocacy landscape while engaging new constellations of stakeholders that will respond to emerging threats and new political realities.

Lastly, in December, we celebrated the 15th Anniversary of the National Immigrant Inclusion Conference (NIIC) where we took an intersectional approach to content development with mainstage conversations that were honest and inspirational. The NIIC is and will remain our contribution to developing a space for learning and renewal for the growing immigrant inclusion stakeholder field.

In summary, 2022 was an incredible year and we want to thank you for being a part of our momentous growth and evolution. We look forward to our continued partnership as we advance our vision of full immigrant inclusion in 2023 and beyond.

In solidarity and gratitude,

Nicole Melaku, Executive Director

2022 HIGHLIGHTS

- + NPNA welcomed **26 new member organizations**
- + In the 2nd year of the New American Youth Leadership Council, over **100 students participated in our nationally recognized leadership program** and received specialized mentorship
- + **Launched the Climate Justice Collaborative** with inaugural cohort
- + Successfully advocated for **USCIS appropriation to expand Community Integration Grants to 20 million dollars**
- + With members, community partners, and local governments, **NPNA developed the *Always Welcome Toolkit***, a resource and messaging guide with an affirmative and welcoming frame that offers a contrast to harsh anti-migrant narratives
- + Our “Naturalize 2 Million by 2022” tour **visited 20 cities and partnered with 9 Mayors** from our Cities and Counties for Citizenship (CC4C) network
- + With the Vera Institute of Justice, NPNA **launched *Fairness to Freedom: A Campaign for Universal Representation***
- + NPNA **celebrated its 15th Anniversary of the National Immigrant Inclusion Conference** at National Harbor, MD. Over 1,500 movement advocates were in attendance

AXIOS

Jul 20, 2022 - Politics & Policy

Newly naturalized citizens could sway elections in key states

NEW AMERICAN VOTERS

The **New American Voters 2022** campaign, led by NPNA, gathered our members, municipal and national partners, to reach new citizens across the country in a 20 city tour.

New American Voters impacted a national narrative which centered the diverse stories of newly naturalized citizens for increased engagement and impact in the 2022 midterms.



“It took me a long time to become a citizen because I thought it was hard, so much paperwork – I didn't know where to begin. Here at CASA they made it easier, I had a team that took care of my process and it was quick. Not only did it benefit me, but my kids became citizens automatically. I encourage all [eligible people] to become citizens, don't waste your time in this country – you can access so much more with citizenship.”

LUCIANO EMÍLIO, CASA member, influencer, former MLS soccer player and naturalized citizen from Brazil

OUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS



- Over **60% of NPNA members** engaged in the campaign and held special initiatives to reach naturalized voters.
- Held press events with **9 mayors and 16 municipalities** from the Cities and Counties for Citizenship Network who joined our call to naturalize 2 million by 2022
- **Covered by 22 media outlets** including [Good Morning America](#), [Axios](#) and [Houston Chronicle](#)
- Over **5 million** people reached
- Produced **16 data reports** on naturalized citizens

FEDERAL POLICY & ADVOCACY

AP AP NEWS

Biden restarts task force on immigrants' success in US

By COLLEEN LONG December 12, 2022

Increased the FY 22 USCIS Citizenship Grant programs' appropriations funding from \$10M to \$20M

9 NPNA members secured \$2.4M in USCIS grants

Increased the FY 23 USCIS Citizenship Grant programs' appropriations funding to \$25M

Reinstatement of the Task Force for New Americans – announced at NIIC on December 13, 2022



Women from all over the world take an oath of allegiance to officially become U.S. citizens during a ceremony on International Women's Day Tuesday. Credit: Bria Woods / San Antonio Report

\$2,450,655

CHIRLA, ACRS, APDC, YWCA Tulsa, Make the Road NY, MIRA, LORI, LAC, HICA

2022

\$500,000

CHIRLA, ACRS

2021

NPNA Network USCIS Grants

Our network saw a near 400% increase in federal naturalization funding for the field!

FAMILY PROTECTION NETWORK



NPNA's Family Protection Network (FPN) is the largest immigrant rights legal services network in the United States consisting of **135 attorneys**, DOJ-accredited staff, and **12,000 trained community navigators** who outreach to and **assist over 328,000 immigrants** each year.

BUILDING NATIONAL CAPACITY TO PROTECT AND DEFEND IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

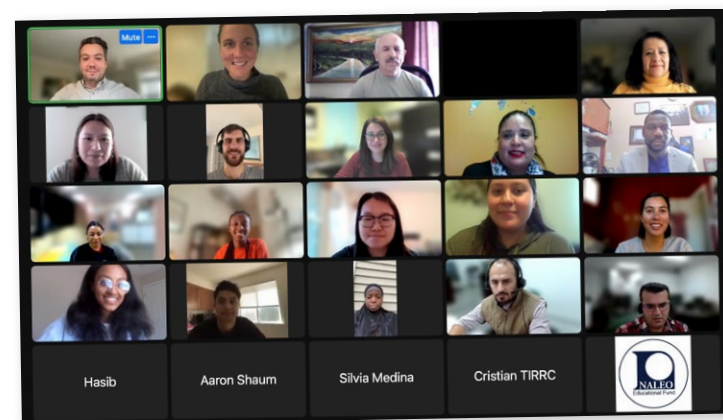
NPNA's **Family Protection Network** leads a coordinated legal service delivery strategy and aligns national efforts for the implementation of immigration programs, community education, and capacity building. The FPN advances the goals of protecting and defending immigrant families by strengthening the legal services and removal defense systems and training infrastructures of NPNA members which, in return, results in more families and communities knowing their rights, receiving more legal services, increasing legal representation, and keeping families together.



2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS INCLUDE:

The Family Protection Network convened and trained over 700 legal practitioners representing over 120 organizations. Below is a list of some of the training and achievements in 2022:

- **NPNA led and organized two 40-hour Overview of Immigration Law Courses** to provide an introduction to immigration law for practitioners new to the field. A total of 73 individuals from organizations across the country completed the full training and are now in the process of obtaining accreditation.
- **Organized Asylum Seeker Response** by creating a member directory of legal services and a toolkit with resources and communication strategies. NPNA also organized a national call with over 40 of our members to coordinate response to Asylum Arrivals as well as training for practitioners on asylum and related forms of relief.
- **2022 Citizenship Day** – partnered with member organizations and national groups to host citizenship day events throughout the month of September. A total of 52 citizenship events took place throughout the month of September supporting thousands of immigrants in the citizenship process. See total event list [here](#).
- **AILA Citizenship Day** – NPNA collaborated with the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and other groups to organize the AILA Citizenship Day in February 2022, with over 23 events taking place across the country.



NPNA served as a co-chair and anchor for the Ready to Stay Coalition,

a national coalition working to build field capacities and coordination for effective implementation of a immigration programs. Given the absence of a large-scale legalization program, Ready to Stay pivoted its focus to the new and redesignation for TPS population, asylum, DACA updates, capacity building and fraud prevention. New resources were created in over 10 languages by Ready to Stay and are [linked to the website](#), which had over 7,000 user visits in 2022 alone.

- **Hosted a National Community Navigator Training** in partnership with the Ready to Stay Coalition, United Farmworkers Foundation, We Are All America, and NPNA members. 116 individuals participating and the topics covered included:
 - Community Navigator model and best practices
 - Avoiding the unauthorized practice of law
 - Know your rights for immigrants & advocates
 - Fraud prevention & screening for immigration relief
 - Community Navigators working with Afghan refugees and Haitian communities
- **Secured NPNA's first federal grant via the USCIS Regional Hub grant**, creating a Southern Regional Cohort to increase and expand Citizenship and Civic Instruction services and capacities
- **Created an [American Rescue Plan \(ARPA\) Toolkit](#)** and hosted a webinar to highlight successful campaigns that secured ARPA funding and strategies across organizations with over 58 organizations participating. NPNA member, TIRRC secured \$1.8 million in ARPA funding for immigration legal services.



NAYLC youth came together at the 2022 NAYLC Youth Summit at the NIIC

NEW AMERICAN YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (NAYLC)

"I learned that advocacy is much more important to change than I realize. I have spent so much of my life being silent and that my voice didn't matter. So hearing what others want to do or have already done is helping me find my own drive and voice."

Grace D, NAYLC leader with Asian Pacific Development Center (APDC)

In 2022, the second year of the New American Youth Leadership Council launched with over 100 immigrant and refugee youth leaders from ten states participating in virtual national classes alongside local community engagement with their host organizations. This year's six NAYLC partner organizations, Asian Pacific Development Center, Asian Texans for Justice, CASA, Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA), Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC), and We Are All America (WAAA), all supported

the planning and facilitation of the customized leadership development training that covered topics ranging from civic engagement to the power of storytelling. Additionally, eight of NAYLC youth from the first year cohort engaged in the yearlong NAYLC Alumni cohort that came together to support through mentorship and program support. The NAYLC alumni were paired with an NPNA staff to receive mentorship on their educational and career development and work in the immigrant and refugee rights movement.

Through NAYLC leaders have developed skills in the following areas:

- Story of self
- Advocacy 101
- Story of Self
- Navigation of Higher Education
- Career Readiness
- Mentorship
- Pipeline to fellowships, internships, and paid movement work

"I come to the USA in 2021. I am a housewife and I needed to learn English. My family encouraged me to learn English. I became happy when the online English class was created for people from Afghanistan. Me and my friends registered for class because we wanted to learn English...I hope one day, we learn English more and I achieve my objective."

Fatima, Student, English for Afghan Newcomers Program

ENGLISH AS A GATEWAY

■ **NPNA's English as a Gateway initiative continues to build NPNA members' field capacity** through English language to reach over 1000 students across 13 states; advocate for digital literacy funds available at state and local levels; and work to advance language access policy efforts. Monthly, NPNA convenes partner organizations, as well as organizations seeking deeper understanding of the model, to share lessons learned, best practices, adaptations of the curriculum model, digital literacy tools, and additional resources for the classroom space.

■ **Language Access Working Group –** Alongside the programmatic arm, NPNA prioritizes the language justice advocacy taking place at the local, state, and federal levels. The NPNA Language Access Working Group was launched in Spring 2022, bringing together language access advocates within organizations, municipalities, and agencies to strategize current and anticipated language access campaigns and advocacy and build community and relationships across partners to support and win local, state and national efforts around language access. Over 400 advocates have participated in the quarterly

meetings, including the culminating National Language Access Convening, which took place at the NPNA's National Immigrant Inclusion Conference.

- **Launched the English as a Gateway for Afghan Newcomers program**, a 10-week, two-level national virtual english class designed to reach newly resettled Afghan evacuees. In 2022, this program served 115 students across 14 states through virtual classes.
- **Developed a new 15- week curriculum** that covers basic English, a conversational English booklet, and traffic road signs.

Over **1000 students** reached across 13 states

Served **115 students** across 14 states, predominately Afghan women, via new English for Afghan Newcomers program

WE ARE ALL AMERICA

We Are All America (WAAA) works to uphold and strengthen our nation's commitment to welcome and protect those seeking freedom, safety and refuge in the United States. We organize people across religious and cultural differences to build inclusive communities where we all belong.

Over the past several years, We Are All America has led the emergence of an effective national organizing infrastructure that mobilizes public support for people fleeing violence and persecution, counter nationalist forces, and develop more welcoming policies and practices in this area at the federal and state levels. Along with national partners, the WAAA campaign has significantly increased the number of state-based organizers, from five states in 2017, to 21 states presently. Our collective field represents the largest national grassroots organizing effort on behalf of refugees and immigrants in the nation.

TRAINED
400+
LEADERS
IN 2022

HELPED
4250
FAMILIES

55
CONGRESS-
IONAL
MEETINGS



2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS INCLUDE

- **Refugee Development Training Program:** provides workshops to refugee and immigrant organizers/advocates across the United States. Led by refugees for refugees, this training series is an opportunity to learn more about advocacy tactics being used to advance pro-refugee/pro-immigrant policy on the state and national level, story-telling narrative shifting, and connecting with resources and local networks to build more welcoming and inclusive communities.
- **Afghan Pilot Program:** WAAA launched an Afghan Refugee Housing & Welcoming Navigator program in 2022. The pilot program is working to build local response to programming, provide direct service and advocate for the needs of Afghan families. This pilot program is currently in 3 states including; Florida, Arizona, and California.
- **National Refugee Advocacy Days:** In 2022, WAAA launched its first National Refugee Advocacy Days during the Congressional August visits. The purpose of WAAA Advocacy Days is to hold elected officials accountable for their promises to rebuild and strengthen the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program.



Art by Mike Centano

Vera is proud to partner with NPNA and its powerful network of members across the country on the Fairness to Freedom campaign and to continue to drive forward the movement for universal representation.

VERA INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

UNIVERSAL REPRESENTATION

Fairness to Freedom: The campaign for universal representation is a campaign led by the National Partnership for New Americans with the Vera Institute of Justice that pushes for legislation that establishes a universal right to federally funded legal representation for anyone facing deportation.

Our vision is a system in which all people whose life, liberty, or ties to the community are at risk in the immigration system have access to quality and independent legal representation.

By establishing universal representation, we will not only help bring fairness to our immigration system but also create a future where people can fight their deportations from their community, with the support of their families and loved ones, free of detention or surveillance.

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS INCLUDE:

- Launched campaign in April 2022
- Drafted Fairness to Freedom Act
- Established Advisory Committee
- Grew coalition to 141 endorsers
- Engaged over 5k petition signatories
- Mobilized 19 NPNA members
- Visited 11 members of Congress



CLIMATE JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE

The Climate Justice Collaborative is working with NPNA's membership network to organize immigrant communities for climate justice – both as frontline communities in the United States and as people who are increasingly forced to migrate across borders due to climate impacts.



"**Woori Juntos** has been trying to fill in the gaps by providing in-language (Korean) and culturally competent resources, support, and an ear to our community members during disaster response, relief, and recovery stages... Through the incredible technical, strategic, and financial support the Climate Justice Collaborative has been providing, we're now able to think more long term and strategic so we can build a better Houston."

Steven Wu, Organizing and Policy Director, Woori Juntos

Inaugural Cohort Members: Coalition for Humane Immigration Reform (CHIRLA - California), Florida Immigrant Coalition, Louisiana Organization for Refugees and Immigrants, Somos Un Pueblo Unido (New Mexico), Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition, Woori Juntos (Houston, TX)

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS INCLUDE

- **Provided seed funding and technical assistance** to an initial cohort of six NPNA member organizations creating local demonstration projects at the intersection of climate change and immigrant rights.
- **Worked with over a dozen NPNA members and partners to create Relief and Recovery on the Frontlines of Disaster:** a rapid response toolkit for immigrant and refugee organizations responding to extreme weather.
- **Led the creation of a Post-Disaster Climate Migration Messaging Guide,** and provided training on its material to over two dozen climate organizations.
- **Facilitated two movement convenings on climate displacement,** migration and narrative strategy (Virtual Convening in February, In-Person convening at NIIC)
- **Held 8 trainings on Climate and Immigrant Justice** for NPNA Members, Staff and NAYLC participants.
- **Organized the first ever track on Climate Justice** at the NIIC



NATIONAL IMMIGRANT INCLUSION CONFERENCE

2022 marked the third pandemic-era NIIC and drew a record attendance of **1,355 attendees from 477 organizations, 41 states and 5 countries**; over 100K were engaged on social media. 67% of participants were attending NIIC for the first time, and 87% are leaders directly involved in long haul change and/or community services.



65 organizations across the immigrant and refugee sector played a role in building NIIC 2022, including a diverse leadership table of 11 National Partner organizations and:

31 Steering Committee Members

45 Track Leads (64 Leaders)

17 Affinity Group Anchors



NIIC's dynamic 3-day program included 54 sessions featuring 228 speakers – over 85% of whom are BIPOC – from 172 organizations, including remarks from our first-ever international keynote speaker, a film-screening, reception, 5 Affinity Group Caucuses, and in honor of NIIC's 15th anniversary, the presentation of NPNA's first Catalyst Award.

NPNA is particularly proud that NIIC continues to be a powerful gathering space that of strong interest to and composed of directly affected and rising leaders.

Participants are:

61.5% Immigrants or Children of Immigrants

69.5% BIPOC

81% 25-50 Years Old

66% Women

14% LGBTQIA+



Newsweek 90

Making a Bigger Push for Naturalization in Houston | Opinion

OPINION

SYLVESTER TURNER AND ELSA CABALLERO, MAYOR OF HOUSTON;
PRESIDENT OF SEIU TEXAS
ON 10/28/22 AT 7:00 AM EDT



CITIES & COUNTIES FOR CITIZENSHIP



“Welcoming immigrants and refugees into our community enriches our entire city. CC4C’s leadership and advocacy has enhanced our work to ensure new residents experience Saint Paul as a place of belonging.”

Mayor Melvin Carter, Saint Paul, Minnesota

In 2022, the Cities and Counties for Citizenship (CC4C) network celebrated its 9th year with its largest membership yet: Over 100 cities and counties committed to promoting, advancing and investing in naturalization and immigration inclusion initiatives. Additionally, CC4C successfully rebranded its previous name, “Cities for Citizenship,” to Cities and Counties for Citizenship allowing it to engage new partners at the county level as part of the network.

CC4C continued to serve as a prominent network for localities to convene, share best practices and learn from each other's efforts to advance citizenship, inclusion and rapid response efforts for new arrivals.



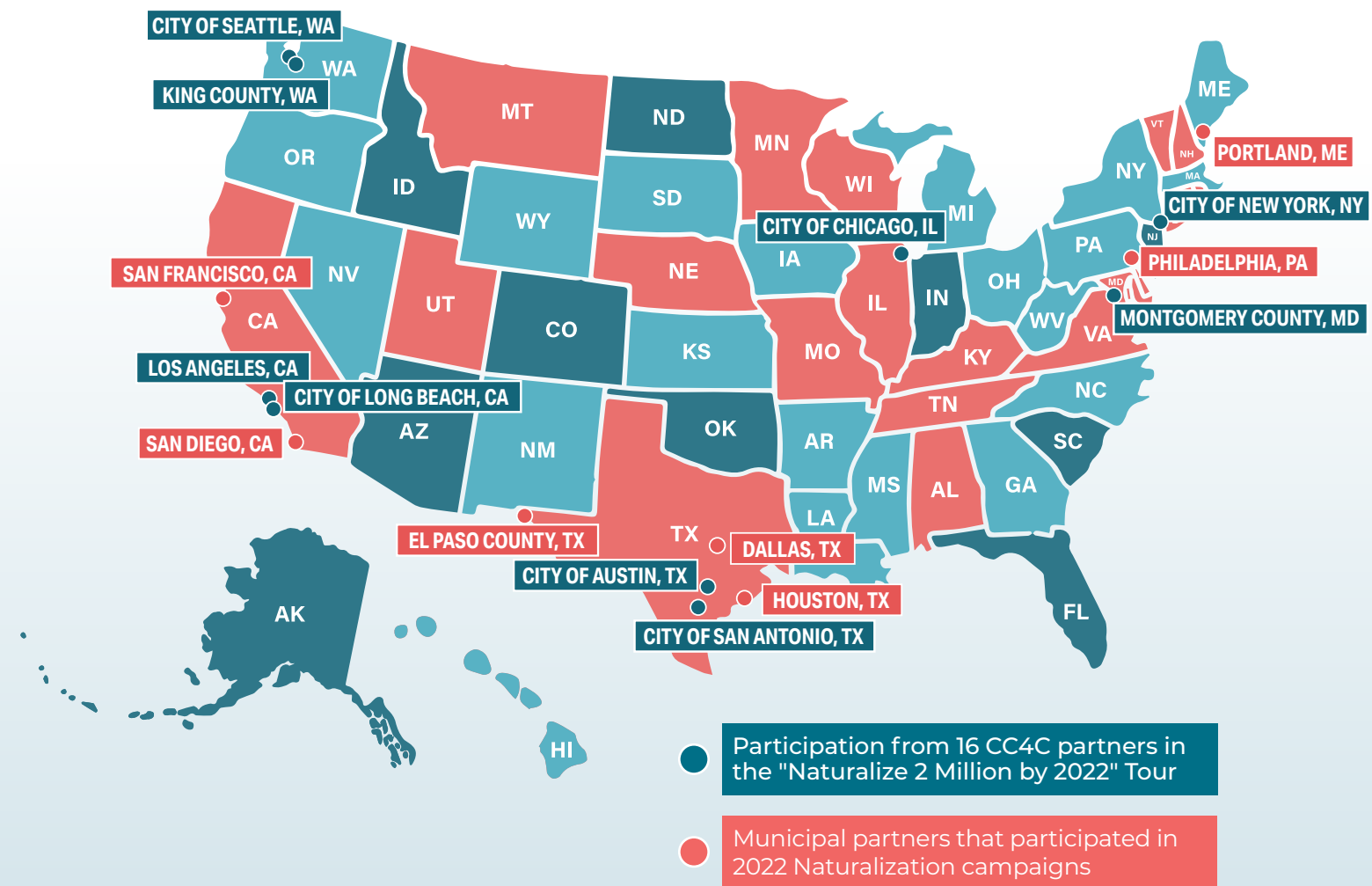
107 city and county partners

Over **630 people** convened via network calls, trainings and webinars

5 new reports and toolkits created that reached over 10,000 individuals

Below is a list of CC4C’s 2022 resources:

- [Cities and Counties for Citizenship: Five Insights to Advance Naturalization with Local Government](#) (Report)
- [Always Welcome](#): Building Solutions for Local Governments Receiving Newcomers (Webinar)
- [American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\) Funding for Immigration Legal Services](#)
- [Cities and Counties for Citizenship: Five Insights to Advance Naturalization with Local Government](#) (Webinar)
- Engaged over 630 municipal staff from across the network in webinars, and convenings.
- [Always Welcome Toolkit](#): A toolkit of humanitarian response models, legal service orientation, advocacy strategies, and narrative/messaging resources to support the efforts led by organizations and localities to welcome new arrivals.
- Closed the year with 106 partners
- Celebrated the 7th Annual CC4C Gathering at the NIIC with 123 attendees



61 MEMBERS WITH PRESENCE ACROSS 40 STATES

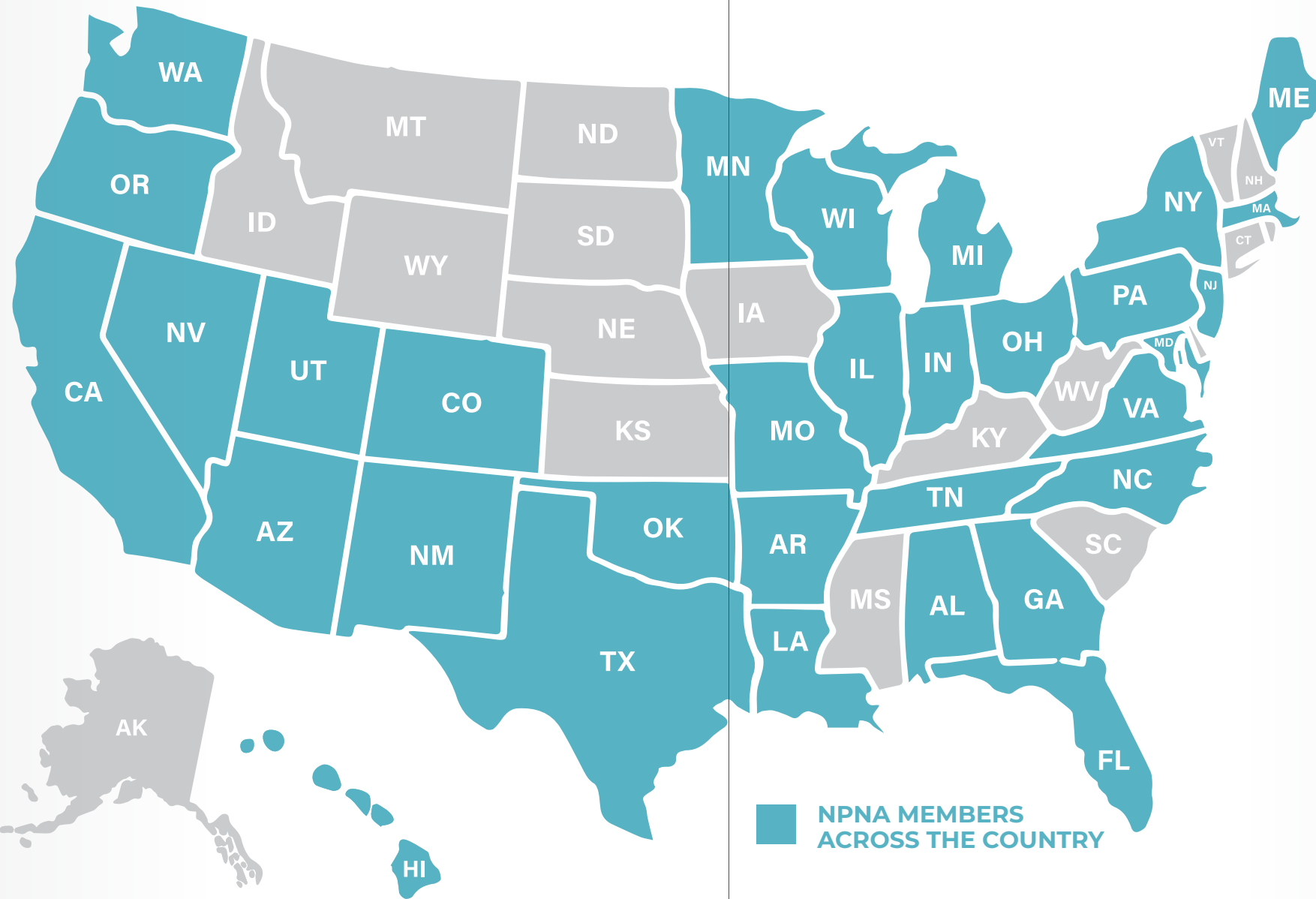
NPNA MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alabama Coalition for Immigrant Justice (ACIJ) – AL
 Asian Pacific Development Center (APDC) – CO
 Asian Americans Advancing Justice Atlanta – GA
 Asian American Advancing Justice - Chicago – IL
 Asian American Federation (AAF) v New York
 Asian American Organizing Project (AAOP) – MN
 Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS) – WA
 Asian Law Alliance v California
 Asian Community Development Council (ACDC) – NV
 Asian Services In Action, Inc. – OH
 Asian Texans for Justice – TX
 Austin Asian Community Civic Coalition – TX
 APIAVote – National
 Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO) – OR
 APIAVote Michigan – MI
 Arkansas United (AU) – AR
 CASA - (MD, PA, VA, DC)
 Center for Asian and Pacific Islanders USA (CAPI USA) – MN
 Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA) – CA
 Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Inc (CPACS) – MN
 Chinese Progressive Association Boston – MA
 Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition (CIRC) – CO
 Comunidades Unidas (CU) – UT
 El Centro de Igualdad y Derechos – NM
 Florida Immigrant Coalition (FLIC) – FL
 Global Cleveland – OH
 Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama (HICA) – AL
 Isuroon – MN
 Latin American Coalition (LAC) – NC
 Louisiana Organization for Refugee Rights (LORI) – LA
 Maine Immigrant Rights Coalition – ME
 Maine People's Alliance – ME
 Make the Road (NY, NJ)

Massachusetts Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA) – MA, NH
 Michigan United – MI
 National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC) – CA, IL

HANA Center – IL
 Nebraska Appleseed – NE
 New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC) – NY
 New Virginia Majority – VA
 North Carolina Asian Americans Together – NC
 OneAmerica – WA

Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA) – CA
 OCA Greater Houston Chapter – TX
 Pennsylvania Immigration and Citizenship Coalition (PICC) – PA
 Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN) – NV
 Promise Arizona – AZ
 Rising Voices Asian American Fund – MI
 Somos Un Pueblo Unido – NM
 Southeast Asian MAA Coalition (SEAMAAC) – PA
 Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC) – TN
 The Resurrection Project (TRP) – IL
 Texas Organizing Project (TOP) – TX
 The Legal Clinic – HI
 Vietnamese American Young Leaders Association of New Orleans (VAYLA) – LA
 Voces de la Frontera (VOCES) – WI
 Unidos Minnesota – MN
 Unite Oregon – OR
 Greater Portland Immigrant Welcome Center – ME
 YWCA Tulsa – OK
 Vitendo4Africa – MO



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NPNA
NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP
FOR NEW AMERICANS