

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP *for* NEW AMERICANS

Annual Report 2023





Dear colleagues, supporters and friends of NPNA

It is with great pride and humility that we share the National Partnership for New Americans 2023 Annual Report with you. As we embrace the full pace of another Presidential election year, we offer our reflections on an incredible year of scaling the impact of our work as a multi-ethnic, multi-racial immigrant and refugee advocacy coalition.

Over the last year, NPNA has continued to experience a major expansion of our membership and by the end of last year, **we welcomed a total of 69 members to the network with presence across 40 states.** Our members are deeply committed to advancing immigrant inclusion and their organizations represent a myriad of strategies to address the needs of the 47 million foreign born that call this country home. And because of this vast membership - we continually push ourselves to take a holistic approach to advance an inclusion agenda that encompasses an array of policy and advocacy strategies, service to organizing work, campaigns and special initiatives to advance our work in new and innovative ways.

In 2023, we hit several significant milestones in our legislative and advocacy efforts. Along with the re-introduction of our signature legislative proposals – the New Deal for New Americans, the National Office of New Americans Act,

and our administrative advocacy to promote access to citizenship – **we continued to drive a framework for how this country can better invest in and treat New Americans.**

By April, with the Vera Institute of Justice, we spearheaded the introduction of the Fairness to Freedom Act, led by Senator Gillibrand and Representative Norma Torres, the first effort of its kind to ensure that anyone facing the immigration system will have access to legal representation. We expanded our presence in the beltway by hosting three Congressional briefings, co-hosted 2 field mobilizations with our members and partners, and in October gathered over 175 leaders from the membership for a summit in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Keeping true to the essential core of NPNA, our programming and special initiatives remain rooted in capacity strengthening and innovation to meet movement moments. **We are proud that in 2023 for the first time, we were able to move 1.6 Million dollars to our members for programs, campaigns, and initiatives.** In addition, nearly 11% of USCIS Citizenship and Integration highly competitive grant dollars were awarded to our members to advance their citizenship and inclusion programming. We also celebrated the 10th anniversary of Cities and Counties for Citizenship, which now

comprises 113 local governments advancing naturalization and inclusion strategies at the local level.

All this, as we continued to keep our pulse on humanitarian reception efforts underway in cities across the country. Through the emerging work of Always Welcome initiative, we are seeing in real-time the future of inclusion work that must not miss the opportunity to broaden our approach to multi-issue advocacy and to build lasting infrastructure that will live beyond any administration, will prepare us for future flows of migration related to climate disaster and other destabilizing world events.

There is no doubt we will face many challenges in this critical election year but we hope you will join us in taking a moment to collectively celebrate some of the many accomplishments we've highlighted in this report. And as we fully step into the work together for whatever we may face beyond November 5th, we trust you can see the intersections of our work with yours, and that we find the opportunity to deepen our partnership as we build forward together.

In community,

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

5 pillars of Impact

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.



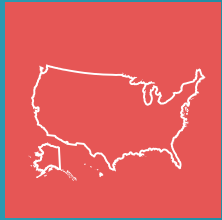
Drive Federal Inclusion Policy

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



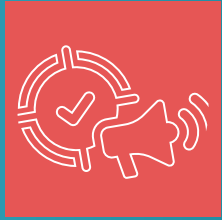
Network Capacity Building

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 & 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.

2023 Highlights

Introduced 4 Federal Pro-Immigrant Legislative Proposals and Held 3 Congressional Briefings

Regranted \$1.6 Million to NPNA Members for Immigrant Inclusion Initiatives

Launched the Multi-Year Naturalize Now! Initiative in Greater Houston

Expanded Citizenship, English and Immigration Legal Service Capacities in the South through a Federal USCIS Regional Hub Grant

Developed *Always Welcome: A Narrative Framework and Field Toolkit for Organization and Local Governments Welcoming Newcomers*



Federal Policy & Advocacy

This year, NPNA and its members actively worked to advance pro-immigrant policies at the local, state, and federal level, and made great strides forward to align advocacy efforts on policies that impact immigrants and immigrant communities, including language access, legal services, community integration, healthcare, and employment support.

42 NPNA members plugged into immigrant inclusion policy initiatives at the local, state & federal level

4 Federal Inclusion Bills Introduced

3 Congressional Briefings

"**The Legal Clinic (TLC)** is a 3-year old immigrant justice nonprofit in Honolulu, Hawai'i, where nearly one out of five residents is born outside of the U.S. Hawai'i has the unfortunate distinction of being the state with the fewest charitable immigration attorneys for the number of low-income immigrant residents in need. Facing this daunting service gap, TLC has been blessed to learn from and collaborate with NPNA through its Family Protection Network and the Cities for Citizenship Initiative, to provide ongoing immigration legal services (also remotely during the pandemic), and to advocate "upstream" with legislators for more resources to support immigration legal services. We are indebted to NPNA for taking on the broader congressional campaigns such as the one in pursuit of Universal Representation. These efforts have inspired and equipped us to pursue similar advocacy efforts in our region, with surprising legislative wins this past year. A big Mahalo to NPNA's hardworking and courageous team!"

BETTINA MOK, Executive Director
The Legal Clinic, Hawaii

IMMIGRANT INCLUSION AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL

Flagship Immigrant Inclusion Bills

NPNA continued our federal inclusion advocacy by continuing to advance the new both the **New Deal for New Americans** and on July 27th, NPNA reintroduced the **National Office of New Americans legislation**, HR 1643/S883 led by Senator Markey, and Representative Grace Meng, Garcia, and Jayapal. This priority legislation for NPNA includes provisions from the New Deal for New Americans and we were pleased to host our first Congressional briefing with three NPNA members, NYIC, CHIRLA, and MIRA providing testimony on the importance of advancing a national inclusion strategy within the executive branch.

Reintroduced the **Climate Displaced Persons Act**.

Fairness to Freedom: The Campaign for Universal Representation

We are pleased that in early April, we introduced the **Fairness to Freedom Act**, S1187/H.R. 2697, in collaboration

with the Vera Institute of Justice and 170 organizations that form the Fairness to Freedom Coalition. This flagship legislation is the first of its kind that will establish the right to legal representation for individuals facing detention or deportation. NPNA members have been key players in establishing legal representation programs at the state level and now through the Fairness to Freedom work, we will advance the framework for right to counsel by focusing on issue education, message testing and field building.

Following introduction of the bill in April and a digital day of Action with over 77 organizations participating in digital advocacy. In May, Vera and NPNA gathered the field bringing together 15 NPNA member organizations and over 165 leaders to share the progress of universal representation at the state and local level and engaged in our first advocacy day on the hill where directly impacted leaders had 40 meetings with legislators on this issue.

IMMIGRANT INCLUSION AT THE STATE AND LOCAL LEVEL

Currently, approximately half of the 69 NPNA members are actively working within advocacy and policy for pro-immigrant issues at the local and state level.

NPNA's team provides in-depth support and technical assistance for its coalition members, to assist them in advancing pro-immigrant policies or programs. During 2023 NPNA assisted 42 members with this work; examples include:

Working with **Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition** on language to secure \$1.8mil in ARPA funding for immigration legal services.

Working with **The Legal Clinic (Hawaii)** to secure funding for immigration legal services, resulting in a \$245,000 being awarded to TLC. We also have worked closely with TLC and Hawaii Immigration Coalition around their Digital Equity Act planning, which was one of the most comprehensive and inclusive plans in the country for immigrants and refugees.

Supported our members in accessing and securing the federal USCIS Citizenship and Integration Grant. The FY23 awardees included eight NPNA members which secured \$2.4 million of the \$20 million allocated to organizations.

Regranted \$1.6M capacity building dollars to NPNA members in 2023 for immigrant and refugee inclusion programs and campaigns.

Naturalize NOW! Campaign

In an effort to realize our vision of a truly inclusive and participatory democracy, we believe that increasing the number of naturalized citizens is a key strategy that will not only benefit immigrant and refugee communities but our country as a whole.



“After seeing that my green card was set to expire in a few months, I thought about inquiring about citizenship since I saw that an upcoming info session was being put on by ACDC. The staff and lawyer on site helped me with the process and filled out my N-400- since I had all of my documentation set, the process was swift, I’m so glad I didn’t renew my green card and instead opted for citizenship, all I needed was the information on how to get the process started.”

BHAKTA, Legal Clinic Participant, Las Vegas Nevada, Asian Community Development Council (ACDC)

Advocacy: Comment Period Field Activation

Shortly after USCIS’ proposed fee rule entered its comment period in early 2023, NPNA along with UnidosUS, CHIRLA, ILRC and OneAmerica launched a landing page to activate our networks and encourage organizations & individuals to submit comments to oppose fee increases. A significant share of comments submitted came from our landing page. Although USCIS will increase fees on April 1, 2024, these will be nominal for naturalization. Another significant win is the codification of the fee waiver while extending eligibility for low-income lawful permanent residents.

Field Efforts: Three State Tour Calling on Eligible Communities to Naturalize Now!

While the campaign held events all year, in September NPNA held a 3-state Naturalize NOW tour alongside NPNA members PLAN, ACDC, CHIRLA, and other organizational and municipal partners. Together, we were able to reach and share resources on naturalization to over half a million people.

Partnership with Millennial Loteria

NPNA was excited to partner with influencer and entrepreneur Mike Alfaro of Millennial Loteria to not only create two dynamic designs just in time for Citizenship Day, but also share his story of applying for US citizenship through CHIRLA in his home state of California with the hope of voting in 2024.



Naturalize NOW! Houston Campaign

In September 2023, NPNA launched the **Naturalize Now, Houston!** campaign, together with NPNA members, local partners and the City of Houston and Harris County, to support the estimated 300,000 eligible lawful permanent residents across Greater Houston on their pathway to becoming a U.S. citizen. As part of this initiative, NPNA will train teams of “Citizenship Community Navigators”, together with partners **Woori Juntos, Mi Familia Vota, SAAVETX Education Fund** and **OCA-Greater Houston**, to reach eligible residents.

Since its launch some impact highlights include:

- Mayor Turner introduced the first ever Citizenship Day Proclamation in Houston
- Harris County Commissioner Garcia introduced a Citizenship Day Resolution
- Ethnic Media Roundtable on Sept 17th with over 60 ethnic media news outlets resulting in over 175 published articles and a commitment to continue to diffuse naturalization information across greater Houston.
- Houston Landing and Houston Public Media, Bayou Beat News and Houston Forward Times
- NPNA regrants \$200,000 to local members and partners - Woori Juntos, Mi Familia Vota, SAAVETX Education Fund and OCA-Greater Houston
- Harris County passed \$5M to support citizenship services over the next 3 years

“Our commitment to engaging and empowering the community, starting with the Korean community and now extending to other linguistic groups through the addition of Citizenship Navigators, is a substantial endeavor. Through our participation in the Houston Natz Now Initiative, we are not merely reaching out to people; we are reaching out to those who are most in need of our assistance, offering unwavering support from the initial contact to the triumphant culmination of their citizenship journey. This shift ensures that their voices are not only heard but also amplified, heralding a positive change and contributing significantly to the expansion of democracy.”

HYUNJA NORMA, Woori Juntos, Houston Texas



Universal Representation



"**URGENT** offers participants a unique perspective in leadership development. The program empowers both experienced and newly engaged community stakeholders with hands-on tools and skills to organize and mobilize ourselves and others in the search for social justice. As an URGENT fellow, I learned about many moving stories of personal and community struggles and the ways in which we can turn leadership into heroism!"

CARLOS JAVIER TORRES,
Programs Director, HICA

Universal representation – the idea that every immigrant facing deportation should have the right to a publicly funded lawyer if they cannot afford one – has gained significant momentum at state and local levels, thanks to many NPNA members' efforts and victories. In April 2022, building off of this momentum, NPNA and the Vera Institute of Justice, launched a national initiative, "**Fairness to Freedom**" (F2F), a movement to create a federal right to legal representation, at government expense for those who can't afford it, for people facing removal.

Since launching the Fairness to Freedom Campaign in April 2022, we have: developed and introduced federal legislation (Fairness to Freedom Act) in the House and Senate; garnered over thirty Congressional sponsors, garnered 200 campaign organizational endorsements; mobilized the universal representation field in a national convening and lobby day, begun to develop some public momentum primarily on digital channels; and set up the infrastructure of the campaign, including the campaign's Advisory Committee, and launched a leadership training program called URGENT (Universal Representation Galvanizing Empowering Networking Training).

2023 Highlights

In April, NPNA together with the **Vera Institute of Justice** introduced the **Fairness to Freedom Act** in the House of Representatives and the Senate

34 sponsors in the House and
7 in the Senate for the F2F Act

100 Social justice advocates, legal services providers and campaigners marched to the Capitol and lobbied for the Fairness to Freedom Act

200 campaign organizational endorsements

Launched the **Universal Representation Galvanizing Empowering Networking Training (URGENT) Fellowship** with...

20 participants from immigrant rights organizations from
16 different states

OVER 80 participants in quarterly coalition calls

OVER 70 meetings lobbying for the F2F Act

Truth on Borders

CLIMATE
Migration is also a climate solution



Climate Justice Collaborative

The **Climate Justice Collaborative** works to build the capacity of the immigrant rights movement to engage in climate justice campaigns and to make immigrant inclusion and migration pillars of the climate justice movement through capacity building, policy advocacy, powerbuilding, and narrative change.

Immigrant communities are on the frontlines of nearly every aspect of the climate crisis as it reshapes our economy, politics, and lives. In the United States, many immigrant communities are among those hit first and worst by climate impacts and extreme weather, but are often left behind in recoveries and adaptation. Immigrant workers both face disproportionate risk from climate impacts like heat and smoke and play a critical role in building more resilient communities and infrastructure. Globally, climate change is already one of the largest

root causes of migration, with three times more people displaced by weather-related disasters than conflict in 2020.

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 increasingly forced to migrate across borders due to climate impacts. Our communities can be a powerful constituency in the movement to win major action to slow climate change and mitigate its impacts. The immigrant justice movement can fight to ensure that climate policy is inclusive of immigrants, that all frontline communities are equitably protected from the worst impacts of climate change, and that the U.S. is a global leader in preparing for and welcoming migrants displaced by climate change.

"One of the things that I really appreciate about the Climate Justice Collaborative is that it connects us to others who share our immigrant based powerbuilding, workers rights lends, and are looking deeply at how climate is causing internal migration and external migration."

Marcela Diaz, Somos Un Pueblo Unido

2023 Highlights

Expanding Protections for Climate Displaced People

- Led a coalition of immigrant, refugee and climate advocates to update, strengthen, and reintroduce the Climate Displaced Persons Act, a bill that creates a new legal migration pathway for people displaced by climate change, and recruited over 130 organizations to endorse its reintroduction.
- Convened a movement table to develop effective narrative strategies around climate and migration and counter dangerous, far right narratives.
- Developed and piloted popular education workshops on climate migration for members and staff of NPNA organizations

Immigrant Inclusion in a Just Transition

- Successfully advocated for the Department of Energy to make home energy rebates, authorized by the Inflation Reduction Act, available to non-citizen residents, and created resources for NPNA members to advocate with their State Energy Offices for equitable access to these new programs.
- Created and distributed resources on new federal climate programs like the Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and held two webinars attended by dozens of NPNA members and allies.

Equity in Resilience and Recovery

- Following up on last year's release of *On the Frontlines of Response and Recovery*, we continue to support the NPNA network and broader immigrant justice movement to organize in response to extreme weather and [toolkit](#), including through a webinar that reached more than 300 people and a hurricane preparedness meeting in the Gulf South.
- We created a toolkit and framework and provided technical assistance for organizations to design and distribute community surveys about climate and extreme weather.

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.

Working as one of NPNA's campaigns, this movement is led by refugees and immigrants across the United States, with the goal to build a strong organizing infrastructure that brings people together to support and welcome those escaping

violence and persecution. WAAA aims to counter anti-immigrant sentiments and work towards creating more inclusive policies and practices at both the federal and state levels.

- 25 state based organizers
- Refugee and immigrant-led
- Builds collaboration, leadership, mentorship, and organizing infrastructure

In 2023, **WAAA's Refugee and Immigrant National Table** empowered local leaders to be part of a collective effort at the forefront of the refugee and immigrant movement.

18 States

26 Languages Spoken

43 Table Leaders

16 Countries Represented

[CLICK TO ACCESS 2023 Annual Report](#)

2023 Highlights

WAAA was represented at the 2023 **Global Refugee Forum** – held in Geneva, Switzerland from December 13th-15th, with over 300 refugee leaders including **Nejra Sumic**, WAAA's National Field Manager, and **Anahita Panahi**, WAAA Organizer and CHIRLA's Deputy Director of Refugee Affairs at the Global Refugee Forum

Distributed **\$130,000** to our state and local partners

Held 11 monthly workshops for **355 leaders**

Held 5 webinars for **382 attendees**

Equipped 100+ grassroots refugee and immigrant leaders for National Advocacy Days

Convened 37 leaders at the NPNA Member Summit to plan for the future based on the campaign's 3 pillars



NAYLC and WAAA youth leaders celebrate the completion of the program's training at their end of year party.

Legal Services Collective (LSC)

NPNA's Legal Services Collective (LSC), formerly Family Protection Network, is the largest immigrant rights legal services network in the United States consisting of 175 attorneys, DOJ-accredited staff, and 12,000 trained community navigators who outreach to and assist over 320,000 immigrants each year across 40 states. The LSC provides legal services and information regarding citizenship, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), screening for immigration relief, deportation defense, and community education. The LSC bridges services

and organizing to build power, develop leaders, and strengthen immigration legal services across the country.

In 2023, the Legal Services Collective trained immigrant leaders and legal service providers, coordinated resources, and facilitated peer exchanges to strengthen legal service capacity across the immigrant rights field. Legal Services Collective members have been at the forefront of the rapid response efforts to support new immigrants seeking asylum, work permits, or other immigration relief.



2023 Highlights

Organized our largest **40-hour Overview of Immigration Law Course** in the Spring of 2023 with **63 participants** from **26 different organizations** completing the entire course.

NPNA secured its first-ever federal grant to establish a Southern Regional Cohort of NPNA members to promote naturalization and expand legal services and citizenship instruction in Alabama, Louisiana, and North Carolina

1,188 individuals participated in LSC training in 2023, on relevant topics such as Citizenship/Naturalization, the latest on DACA, CrimImmigration (intersection of immigration and criminal systems), and service to organizing models, among others.

35 NPNA member organizations engaged in the Legal Services Collective in 2023

Supported NPNA members applying for the USCIS Citizenship & Integration grant resulting in **over \$2.5M going to NPNA member organizations**

Collaborated with the **American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)** and other groups to organize the 2023 Citizenship Day.

- Citizenship Day events included training on the naturalization application process, fee waivers, and best practices with a total of 307 citizenship service providers participating

- Dozens of events took place throughout the country in the month of September where **183 volunteers completed 375 citizenship applications**

English as a Gateway



Alongside the programmatic arm, NPNA prioritizes the language justice advocacy taking place at the local, state, and federal levels by convening a quarterly Language Access Working Group. NPNA's Language Access Working Group brings 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.

English as a Gateway is a national model and strategy anchored by NPNA to expand English language acquisition and language access policies across the United States. It continues to build NPNA members' field capacity through English language to reach over 1400 students across 13 states; advocate for digital literacy funds available at state and local levels; and work to advance language access policy efforts.

In 2023, NPNA expanded 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. **This program has served 250 students, predominantly Afghan women across 14 states through virtual classes, featuring a new 15-week curriculum that covers basic English, a conversational English booklet, traffic road signs, and digital literacy skills.**

2023 Highlights

1320 students served directly through English Instruction

210 language access advocates across 47 cities/counties and 74 organizations form the Language Access Working Group, including 15 NPNA member organizations



Cities & Counties for Citizenship



Cities & Counties for Citizenship (CC4C) is a growing national initiative of currently 115 cities and counties aimed at increasing citizenship among eligible U.S. permanent residents and encouraging cities and counties across the country to invest in citizenship and immigrant inclusion programs.

September 2023 kicked off the 10th Year Anniversary of Cities & Counties for Citizenship with over 115 cities & counties celebrating the impact of a growing network that is advancing citizenship with local governments. In honor of the ten-year anniversary, CC4C released a video of CC4C Mayors and Commissioners congratulating CC4C on its momentous milestone representing a decade of unwavering commitment to championing citizenship, fostering immigrant inclusion, and creating vibrant, prosperous communities

nationwide. In addition, many CC4C partners from coast to coast will be hosting local events nationwide. Events include press conferences, citizenship workshops, oath ceremonies, and more.

[CLICK TO ACCESS CC4C 10th Anniversary Digital Toolkit](#)



Click to watch the 10th anniversary video

CC4C added 7 NEW partners in 2023!

- Oakland County, MI
- West Jordan, UT
- Ogden, UT
- Kansas City, MO
- Harris County, TX
- Salt Lake City, UT
- Dane County, WI



New American Youth Leadership Council (NAYLC)

“One of the most impactful parts of the **New American Youth Leadership Council (NAYLC)** curriculum for me was digging deeper on giving support to the marginalized communities that are currently being negatively impacted by topics such as climate change. We don’t often see our communities represented in these issues that impact us the most. It’s important for us to uplift the real world stories told about our communities and what that looks like when applied to real world causes. NAYLC provides the space for us to own our power and allow us to make the change we want to see.”

MALLIKA J., Austin, TX

The New American Youth Leadership Council (NAYLC) is a project of NPNA, to expand youth leadership development that grows and sustains the field to advance full inclusion and integration of immigrants, refugees, and all marginalized communities.

Over the course of the program, NAYLC has trained 209 immigrant and refugee youth leaders of color ages 15 to 24, providing 92 hours in the virtual national classroom space where youth engaged in a first-of-its-kind curriculum of storytelling, higher education and career opportunities, and learned to advocate for the rights of their communities. Youth were provided hands-on experience at the local and federal level on issues that matter most to them, by connecting with NPNA member organizations through service outside the classroom space.

2023 Highlights

- 209 immigrant and refugee youth leaders served
- 2300 hours of volunteer service logged collectively
- Six organizations engaged in NAYLC: **We Are All America**, **Asian Texans for Justice**, **Aurora Mental Health & Recovery** (Formerly Asian Pacific Development Center), **Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition**, **Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)**, and **CASA**



Ready to Stay

Ready to Stay, co-chaired by the **National Partnership for New Americans (NPNA), CLINIC** and **UnidosUS**, is a national coalition of organizations increasing capacities and coordination efforts for effective implementation of current immigration legal service programs while also preparing for a large-scale legalization implementation. While the efforts to win a legalization program are at a standstill in Congress, Ready to Stay continues to focus on building national infrastructure to address pressing legal program needs and build immigration legal capacities across the country.

In 2023, Ready to Stay focused on the implementation of the new Deferred Action for Workers in Labor Disputes policy, an opportunity created by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) due to pressure from advocates. This policy created a “streamlined process” for workers involved in a labor dispute at their workplace to request temporary protection from deportation and a work permit. Ready to Stay partners

worked together to educate the immigration field on the new policy, share legal service delivery models and create community education materials. Additionally, Ready to Stay focused on accessing funding for immigration legal services through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), applying for the federal USCIS Citizenship and Integration grant program and increasing immigration legal service capacities through the Department of Justice (DOJ) Recognition & Accreditation program.

Ready to Stay hosted three field webinars with high attendance on topics like *"Immigration Legal Clinics and Expanding Capacity for Labor-Based Deferred Action"* and *"Applying for the USCIS Citizenship and Integration Grants - Tips from the Field"*. New materials were also developed, including an Updated ARPA Funding for Immigration Legal Services Tracker & Toolkit [here](#).



Always Welcome

“As always, NPNA has done an excellent job of harnessing the knowledge and experience of its partner organizations across the country. Sharing information, resources and best-practices is central to increasing capacity to respond to new arrivals in our state.”

JESSICA CHICCO, Director of Citizenship & Training, MIRA

The **Always Welcome** Initiative aims to effectively receive, welcome and support new arrivals while building short-term and long-term infrastructure for immigrant inclusion policies and programs throughout the country. NPNA members and our local government partners through our **Cities and Counties for Citizenship (CC4C)** initiative have been on the frontlines since the first buses of new arrivals began to arrive in cities in Spring of 2022. For the past year and a half, NPNA and members have worked to respond to the immediate needs, advocate for increased resources and policy changes, build long term welcoming infrastructure and influence the narrative to reflect our values and counter anti-immigrant rhetoric.

NPNA launched its Always Welcome Initiative to support our network of organizations and local governments in responding to welcome new arrivals into our cities, developing an **Always Welcome Toolkit**, forming an Always Welcome National Directory and holding national webinars and calls with hundred of partners looking to learn from one another, share resources and learn best practices.

Through Always Welcome in 2023, NPNA organized 17 cohort calls and field webinars for over 700 organizational and local government leaders focused on response work for new arrivals, sharing best practices and resources and strategizing on how to effectively welcome and



support new arrivals. Below are a few of the webinars and resources created and shared:

- Field Call: Sunset of Title 42 & Welcoming New Arrivals
- New Arrival Rapid Response Webinar: Organizing TPS, EAD Clinics
- Updated and shared the **Always Welcome Toolkit** with narrative guidance, legal services resources and local models to welcome and receive newcomers.

2023 Highlight

NPNA member **I-ARC** in New York City hosted a two-week long legal clinic in partnership with USCIS that served over 2000 individuals in receiving screening and assistance in applying for work authorization. NPNA members, **The Resurrection Project** and **MIRA**, learned from I-ARC's model and conducted similar TPS, EAD and Legal Screening clinics in their cities. **New York Immigration Coalition** has also been a major partner for TPS and asylum clinics upstate, distributing a statewide grant for immigration legal services for new arrivals.

Member Summit

NPNA hosted its first in person Member Summit since the height of the pandemic in Charlotte, North Carolina Oct 2-4. It was a powerful gathering of NPNA members from across the country for focused days of strengthening relationships, deeper dives on program and policy initiatives, and where we began to chart our path into 2024 and beyond as a network.



The Member Summit provided a key point of connection across the NPNA network. Its dynamic workshops, panels and town halls provided an assessment of the field, engaged organizer and legal service providers in DACA scenario planning, and uplifted strategies for Naturalized voter engagement work and pro immigrant narratives. Much of the narrative and leadership development strategies are driven through the **New American Voters**, **Climate Justice Collaborative** and **We Are All America** campaigns. It was exciting to continue the integration of Coulter Conveners into NPNA's work and meet the newest NPNA members. Our time together can be summed up as momentum building for 2024 – including the critical election cycle and urgency of New American voter engagement.

"The NPNA Member Summit was a testament to the power of diverse voices forging an inclusive America. It was an invaluable space for partners from across the nation to share learnings and build relationships crucial in our pursuit of equity and justice for all."

JIMMY PATEL-NGUYEN & PHIAN TRAN,
North Carolina Asian Americans Together
Member Summit Regional Host Organization

"It was a great time and opportunity for me and my co-workers. We learned a lot, and we will implement and use the resources that were shared with us. The workshops had an immense impact on our organization."

DIEGO TORRES, Latin American
Coalition Member Summit
Regional Host Organization

2023 Highlights

52 of NPNA's 66 member groups across 33 states were involved – a total of 177 total attendees representing 80% of NPNA's network and 75% of the Coulter Conveners that are also NPNA members

46% of the attending groups filled out our feedback survey and overall gave the Summit a score of 4.8 out of 5

Over 35 leaders shared expertise in 3 Town Halls, 8 Workshops and a special Welcome Dinner

Included the annual We Are All America gathering of leaders in the refugee advocacy field



69 Members with presence in 40 States

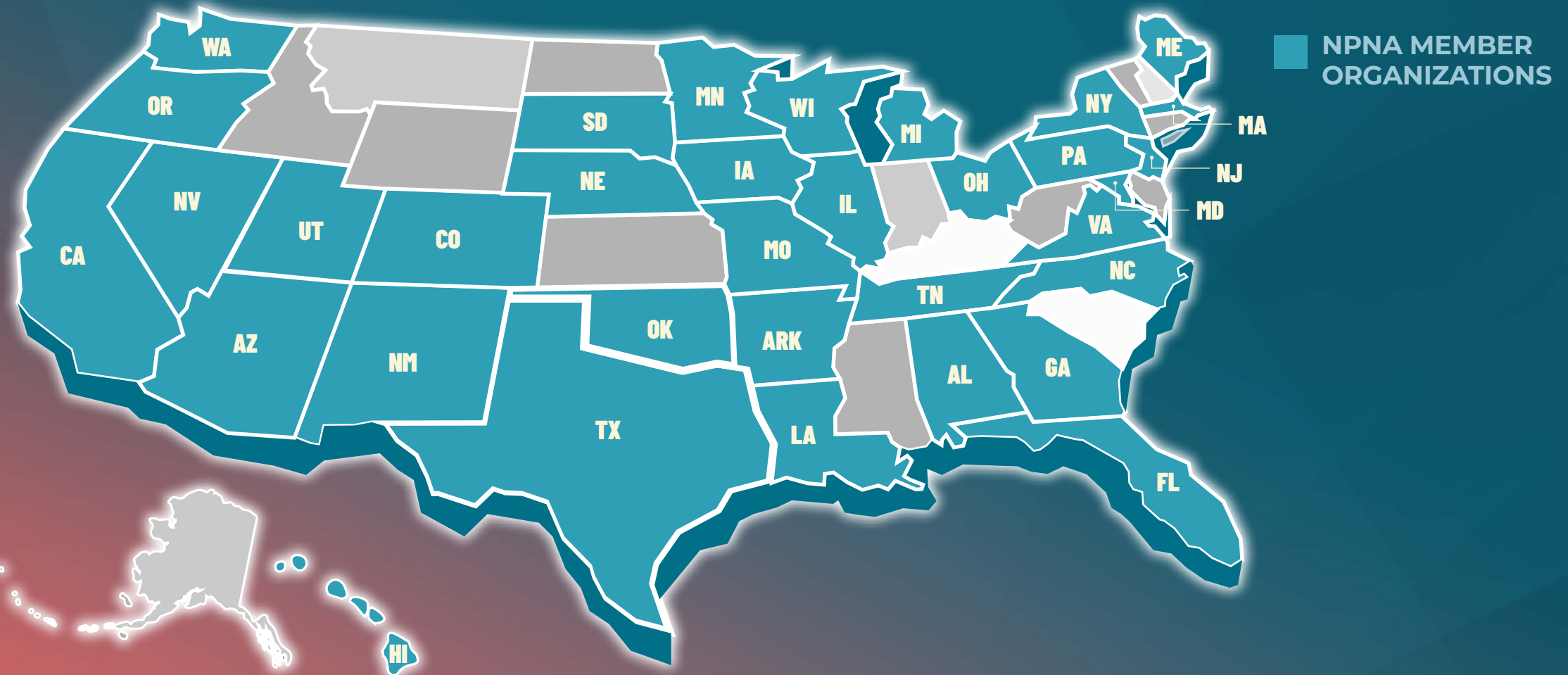
In 2023, NPNA added 8 new members and expanded the footprint of our membership to South Dakota. New members include: **Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice, Refugee & Immigrant Voices in Action** (Iowa), **Immigrant Advocates Response Collaborative** (New York), **South Dakota Voices for Peace, Colonias Development Council** (New Mexico), **South Asian Americans for Voter Education + Engagement + Empowerment** (Texas), **Arizona AANHPI for Equity**, and **Arizona Center for Empowerment**.

- 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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