
New York Immigration Coalition

7th Annual Member Congress

**Building Immigrant
Power and a
Welcoming New York**

**Albany, New York
January 21-23, 2024**



Contents

Program	Pages 3–6
NYIC 2024 State Priorities	Pages 10–26
Summary	Pages 11–12
CARE for Immigrant Families	Pages 13–14
Language Access	Pages 15–16
Housing	Pages 17–18
New York for All	Pages 19–22
Working Families Tax Credit	Pages 23–26
Support for New York's Recent Arrivals	Page 27
Messaging in the Current Political Landscape	Pages 28
Blueprint 3.0	Pages 29–33
Entertainment	Page 34

January 21, 2024

3:00PM **Registration**

5:00PM Welcoming Ceremony

Robert Agyemang
Vice President of Advocacy

5:15PM Executive Director Remarks

Murad Awawdeh
Executive Director

5:30PM Schedule Overview

Robert Agyemang
Vice President of Advocacy

5:45PM Dinner

Lovelie Tejada
Chief of Staff

6:30PM Networking Hour

8:00PM End

January 22, 2024

9:30AM Registration & Breakfast	
10:30AM Welcoming Remarks	Murad Awawdeh Executive Director
10:35AM State Leadership Address	
10:40AM Schedule Overview	Bryan Lee Director of Community Engagement
10:50AM Program & Conference Materials	Lovelie Tejada Chief of Staff
11:00AM State Campaigns	Liza Schwartzwald, Director of Economic Justice & Family Empowerment
11:30AM Lunch	Hagar Hafez, Manager of Organizing & Strategy, Western NY
12:00PM Support for New York's Recent Arrivals	Patrick Young Director of Organizing & Strategy
12:45PM Legislative Strategy Sessions	Meghan Maloney de Zaldivar Senior Director of Advocacy
1:15PM Budget Strategy Sessions	
2:00PM Lobby Visits Overview	Coralie Jean-François, Manager of Political Engagement
2:10PM Lobby Meet & Greet	
2:40PM Messaging in the Current Political Landscape	The Opportunity Agenda
4:00PM Networking Activity	Angela Castrillo-Vilches, Manager of Community Programming, Capitol Region

January 22, 2024

4:45PM	Closing Remarks	Valeria Paz Reyes Manager of Organizing & Strategy, NYC
5:00PM	Story Collection	Diana Rodriguez Davila Senior Communications Associate
6:30PM	Dinner Reception	Kayla Kelechian, Senior Manager of Organizing & Strategy, Central NY
10:00PM	End	

January 23, 2024

9:00AM **Registration & Breakfast**

9:15AM **Welcoming Remarks** Cassandra Bocanegra, Manager of Organizing & Strategy, Finger Lakes

9:30AM **Blueprint 3.0** Kim Sykes, Director of Policy Operations

10:30AM **Lobbying 101 & Meeting Assignments** Coralie Jean-François Manager of Political Engagement

11:00AM **Lobby Group Meetings & Lunch**

11:10AM **Closing Statement** Wennie Chin, Senior Director of Community & Civic Engagement

12:30PM **Press Conference**

1:30PM **Lobby Meetings**

4:00PM **Bus Departures**

NYIC 2024

State Priorities



NYIC 2024 State Budget Priorities

Campaign for Access, Representation, and Equity (CARE) for Immigrant Families

Invest \$150 million in FY25 in specific target areas to support legal services for immigrants in New York and pass the Access to Representation Act ([S.999A/A.170A](#)) to guarantee the right to counsel for immigrants facing deportation.

With the unrepresented population doubling in the past year, it is imperative that this investment surpasses the current \$63 million funding level, addressing the pressing needs of immigrants statewide and providing sustained support for long-term immigrant residents. The state must invest in three critical areas: Deportation Defense; Training, Recruitment, Retention, and Rapid Response; and Education and Integration, to ensure due process and healthy services infrastructure.

Language Access

Invest \$10M to build New York's bilingual workforce by funding the creation of a Learning Language Justice Cooperative, and pass the Language Access Expansion Act ([S.3381A/A.7235](#)) to expand access to language services in regional areas.

The State must invest and allocate funding to support the development of worker-owned cooperatives to create a pipeline of language services professionals for hard-to-reach communities located in regional areas of the state. This is crucial to help improve the quality and availability of skilled, trained, and culturally competent interpreters and translators.

Housing Access

Invest \$250 million in the budget for the NYS Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP) to create a flexible, statewide Section 8-like voucher to be used by people at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

Currently, there are more than 90,000 New Yorkers without a home and more than 150,000 households at risk of eviction. HAVP can combat the homelessness crisis, providing up to 20,000 vouchers and helping as many as 50,000 New Yorkers avoid the trauma of homelessness.

NYIC 2024 State Legislative Priorities

New York for All

Pass the New York for All Act ([S.987/A.5686](#)) which broadly prohibits state and local officers from enforcing federal immigration laws, funneling people into ICE custody, and sharing sensitive information with ICE.

New York for All prohibits ICE from entering non-public areas of state and local property without a judicial warrant. It also ensures that people in custody are given notice of their rights before being interviewed by ICE, and starts the process of limiting ICE access to state information databases. ICE leans on local law enforcement and local government agencies as multiplier forces, to search for, arrest, and deport New Yorkers. When local agencies conspire with ICE, it leads not only to unconstitutional racial profiling, but also to the misuse of our local tax dollars and resources for ICE's racist and abusive agenda.

Working Families Tax Credit

Pass the Working Families Tax Credit Act ([S.--/A.--](#)), which would consolidate the state's Empire State Child Tax Credit (ESCC) and Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), making both credits more efficient, filling the gaps in their current versions, and increasing access and allocations for New York's children and workers.

The Working Families Tax Credit Act includes families regardless of citizenship status and eliminates the punitive phase-in, providing New York families with the lowest income the largest credit. The new system would also increase the credit provided to all families by increasing the maximum credit to \$1,500 per child, providing a minimum \$500 credit per child regardless of income, and eliminating the cap on the number of children eligible to receive a credit.



Invest \$150M in immigration legal services in FY25 and pass the Access to Representation Act (S999/A170) to guarantee a right to counsel for immigrants facing deportation

Whether newly arriving in hopes of finding safety or long-time New Yorkers, immigrants at risk of deportation do not have the right to a lawyer if they cannot afford one. New York State has long been the national leader in supporting legal services for immigrants. Yet, even with strong existing programs, as of September 2023, nearly 145,000 people in New York were fighting for their lives in immigration court without a lawyer.

Over the past year, New York has gained a sizeable number of new residents who urgently need legal services to navigate our complex immigration system, obtain work authorization, and build stable lives. In the short-term, New York must increase funding in the FY25 budget for existing and new immigration legal services—including investments in infrastructure to sustainably recruit and train immigration legal teams. Investing in humane immigration policies that enable more community members to remain at home, on the job, and with their families makes our state safer for everyone and benefits our economy.

Additionally, the imperative is clear: New York must pass the Access to Representation Act (ARA) to build long-term stability in New York's immigration legal services, support strong communities, and foster economic stability. The ARA establishes a right to **universal representation**, meaning anyone at risk of deportation who cannot afford a lawyer will be provided one. Our immigration system is nearly impossible to navigate without counsel, and legal assistance should not depend upon one's ability to afford it. The stakes could not be higher: detention in dangerous facilities, permanent family separation, and deportation to unsafe conditions. By passing the ARA, New York can be prepared to respond to any future changes in migration like the one we have experienced this year.

Why should New York invest in immigration legal services and advance universal representation?

- **Long-term stability:** Increased immigration has highlighted New York's critical shortage of not only housing, but also immigration legal services. Fully funded universal representation will ensure that the state is prepared to welcome newly arriving immigrants for years to come.
- **Dignity and fairness:** Everyone deserves a fair day in court even if they cannot afford a lawyer.
- **Racial equity:** Access to legal representation disrupts the pipeline that unfairly subjects Black immigrants and other immigrants of color to detention and deportation.
- **Representation works:** Detained immigrants with lawyers win their cases at up to 10.5 times the rate of those who without legal help. For non-detained people, 60 percent with lawyers win their cases compared to 17 percent of those without a lawyer.
- **Strong economy, safe families, and stable communities:** There are currently more job openings in New York than workers to fill them. Immigrants comprise over one quarter of the state's workforce—including 280,000 of its entrepreneurs—and more than one in three New York children has an immigrant parent. Immigrants have helped revitalize New York communities suffering from depopulation and economic stagnation. Countless studies demonstrate the economic benefits of immigration, including increasing per capita income overall and of U.S.-born workers specifically.

How should New York invest in immigration legal services and advance universal representation?

Pass the ARA and invest a total of \$150 million in holistic immigration services in FY25, comprising:

- \$62 million to provide deportation defense services for immigrants;
- \$65 million to fund recruitment and training of legal teams, build needed infrastructure, and responsibly expand rapid-response services like support with applications for Temporary Protected Status (TPS), work authorization, and asylum; and
- \$23 million to fund and connect immigrants with programs that help them preserve their rights, gain citizenship and other immigration benefits, participate in the workforce, and learn English.

Invertir \$150 millones en servicios legales de inmigración en el año fiscal 2025 y aprobar la Ley de Acceso a la Representación (S999/A170) para garantizar el derecho a un abogado a los inmigrantes que se enfrentan a la deportación

Tanto si son recién llegados con la esperanza de encontrar seguridad como si llevan mucho tiempo en Nueva York, los inmigrantes en riesgo de deportación no tienen derecho a un abogado si no pueden pagarla. El estado de Nueva York ha sido durante mucho tiempo el líder nacional en el apoyo a los servicios legales para inmigrantes. Sin embargo, incluso con los sólidos programas ya existentes, a septiembre de 2023, [casi 145,000 personas](#) en Nueva York luchan por sus vidas en los tribunales de inmigración sin un abogado.

En el último año, Nueva York ha recibido un [número considerable de nuevos residentes](#) que necesitan urgentemente servicios legales para navegar por nuestro complejo sistema de inmigración, obtener autorización de trabajo y construir vidas estables. En el corto plazo, Nueva York debe aumentar la financiación en el presupuesto del año fiscal 2025 para los servicios legales de inmigración existentes y nuevos, incluidas las inversiones en infraestructura para reclutar y capacitar de manera sostenible a los equipos legales de inmigración. Además, el imperativo es claro: Nueva York debe aprobar la Ley de Acceso a la Representación (ARA) para crear estabilidad a largo plazo en los servicios legales de inmigración de Nueva York, [apoyar a las comunidades fuertes y fomentar la estabilidad económica.](#)

Además, el imperativo es claro: Nueva York debe aprobar la Ley de Acceso a la Representación (ARA) para crear estabilidad a largo plazo en los servicios legales de inmigración de Nueva York, apoyar a las comunidades fuertes y fomentar la estabilidad económica. ARA establece el derecho a la [representación universal](#), lo que significa que cualquier persona en riesgo de deportación que no pueda pagar un abogado recibirá uno. Nuestro sistema de inmigración es casi imposible de navegar sin un abogado, y la asistencia legal no debe depender de la posibilidad que uno tenga de pagarla. Lo que está en juego no podría ser mayor: [detención en instalaciones peligrosas](#), separación permanente de las familias y deportación a condiciones inseguras. Con la aprobación de ARA, Nueva York puede estar preparada para responder a cualquier cambio futuro en la migración, como el que hemos experimentado este año.

¿Por qué Nueva York debería invertir en servicios legales de inmigración y promover la representación universal?

- **Estabilidad a largo plazo:** el [aumento de la inmigración](#) ha evidenciado la grave escasez que sufre Nueva York no solo de vivienda, sino también de servicios legales de inmigración. La representación universal plenamente financiada garantizará que el estado esté preparado para acoger a los inmigrantes que lleguen en los próximos años.
- **Dignidad y equidad:** todas las personas merecen un día justo en el tribunal, incluso si no pueden pagar un abogado.
- Igualdad racial: el acceso a la representación legal interrumpe el proceso que somete [injustamente a los inmigrantes negros](#) y a otros inmigrantes de color a la detención y la deportación.
- **La representación funciona:** los inmigrantes detenidos con abogado ganan sus casos [hasta 10.5 veces más](#) que los que carecen de ayuda legal. En el caso de las personas no detenidas, [el 60 por ciento de las que tienen abogado](#) ganan el caso, frente al 17 por ciento de las que no lo tienen.
- **Economía fuerte, familias seguras y comunidades estables:** [actualmente hay más ofertas de empleo](#) en Nueva York que trabajadores para cubrirlas. [Los inmigrantes constituyen](#) más de una cuarta parte de la fuerza laboral del estado, incluidos 280,000 de sus empresarios, y más de [uno de cada tres](#) niños neoyorquinos tienen un progenitor inmigrante. Los inmigrantes han contribuido a revitalizar las [comunidades de Nueva York](#) afectadas por la despoblación y el estancamiento económico. Innumerables estudios demuestran los beneficios económicos de la inmigración, incluido el aumento de la renta per cápita [en general](#) y de los trabajadores nacidos en los EE. UU. [en particular](#).

¿Cómo debería Nueva York invertir en servicios legales de inmigración y promover la representación universal?

Aprobar ARA e invertir un total de \$150 millones en servicios integrales de inmigración en el año fiscal 2025, que comprenden:

- \$62 millones para proporcionar servicios de defensa contra la deportación de inmigrantes;
- \$65 millones para financiar la contratación y capacitación de equipos legales, construir la infraestructura necesaria y ampliar responsablemente los servicios de respuesta rápida, como el apoyo a las solicitudes de Estatus de Protección Temporal (TPS), autorización de trabajo y asilo; y
- \$23 millones para financiar y poner en contacto a los inmigrantes con programas que les ayuden a preservar sus derechos, obtener la ciudadanía y otros beneficios de la inmigración, participar en la fuerza laboral y aprender inglés.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Marlene Galaz (mgalaz@nyic.org).

Language Access

Building Political Power and Guaranteed Civil Rights

Expanding Language Access

New York State has one of the largest immigrant populations in the nation, with more than 5.7 million New Yorkers speaking a language other than English in their homes from 2017 - 2021, according to the American Community Survey. Of these, about 2.5 million New Yorkers do not speak English proficiently, and often encounter hurdles in communicating with English speakers. Lack of language access is one of the most significant barriers New York's immigrant communities face to accessing critical government services ranging from finding employment or long-term and affordable housing, applying for identification cards or opening bank accounts, communicating with government or school officials, accessing health services or real-time life saving information, and more.

Despite enactment of a statewide Language Access policy, interpretation and translation services remain inconsistent across the state, particularly at the county level. The current law, codified April 2022 under section 202-A of the Executive Law, directs all 45 Executive State agencies to provide interpretation services, and translate vital agency documents into the top 12 most commonly spoken non-English languages (**Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Bengali, Yiddish, Haitian Creole, Korean, Italian, Arabic, Polish, French, Urdu**). However, due to lack of enforcement, political will and available resources, the implementation of language access plans has been deeply inadequate at certain agencies like the Department of Motor Vehicles.

In a state where there are more languages spoken than nations recognized by the United Nations, the need for in-person, real-time interpretation and translation services is higher than ever. Our government must invest adequate funding in the development of a bilingual state workforce to address the growing need for trained interpreters and translators.

Recommendations:

Secure commitment of \$10M to expand language access and build New York's bilingual workforce by funding the creation of a learning language justice cooperative. The State must invest and allocate funding to support the development of a learning cooperative to create a pipeline of language services professionals for hard-to-reach communities located in regional areas of the state. This is crucial to help improve the quality and availability of skilled, trained, and culturally competent interpreters and translators.

Pass the Language Access Expansion Act (S.3381-A/ A.7235) to expand access to language services to regional areas by: directing county agencies to provide interpretation and translation services, including local languages to the statewide language list, and requiring public-facing county agencies such as the Department of Motor Vehicles and Department of Education to provide in-person interpretation.

Ensure the Office of Language Access (OLA) is accessible to community members and community-based organizations (CBOs) and Increase collaboration with the new Director to assist with implementation of the law, provide expertise and knowledge from community organizations interacting directly with immigrants, create a process to collect and report complaints and community feedback, as well as to provide regional language data and policy recommendations.

For more information, contact Taina Wagnac (twagnac@nyic.org) and K'Sisay Sadiki (ksadiki@nyic.org).

Acceso a los Servicios Lingüísticos

Construir poder político y garantizar los derechos civiles: Ampliar la asistencia lingüística

El estado de Nueva York tiene una de las poblaciones inmigrantes más grandes de la nación, con más de 5.7 millones de neoyorquinos que hablan un idioma distinto del inglés en sus hogares entre 2017 y 2021, según la Encuesta sobre la Comunidad Estadounidense. De ellos, unos 2.5 millones de neoyorquinos no dominan el inglés y a menudo encuentran obstáculos para comunicarse con personas de habla inglesa. La falta de asistencia lingüística es uno de los obstáculos más importantes a los que se enfrentan las comunidades inmigrantes de Nueva York para acceder a servicios públicos esenciales, desde encontrar empleo o una vivienda asequible y a largo plazo, solicitar documentos de identidad o abrir cuentas bancarias, comunicarse con funcionarios públicos o escolares, acceder a servicios de salud o a información vital en tiempo real, y más.

A pesar de la promulgación de una política estatal de asistencia lingüística, los servicios de interpretación y traducción siguen siendo irregulares en todo el estado, especialmente en los condados. La ley actual, codificada en abril de 2022 bajo la [sección 202-A](#) de la Ley Ejecutiva, ordena a las 45 agencias estatales ejecutivas que proporcionen servicios de interpretación y traduzcan documentos vitales de la agencia a los 12 idiomas distintos del inglés más hablados (**español, chino, ruso, bengalí, yiddish, criollo haitiano, coreano, italiano, árabe, polaco, francés y urdu**). Sin embargo, debido a la falta de cumplimiento, de voluntad política y de recursos disponibles, la implementación de planes de asistencia lingüística ha sido muy inadecuada en ciertas agencias, como el Departamento de Vehículos Motorizados.

En un estado en el que se hablan más idiomas que naciones reconocidas por las Naciones Unidas, la necesidad de servicios de interpretación y traducción en persona y en tiempo real es más alta que nunca.

Recomendaciones:

Garantizar el compromiso de \$10 millones para ampliar la asistencia lingüística y construir la fuerza laboral bilingüe de Nueva York mediante la financiación de la creación de una cooperativa de aprendizaje de justicia lingüística. El estado debe invertir y asignar fondos para apoyar el desarrollo de una cooperativa de aprendizaje con el fin de crear una fuente de profesionales de servicios lingüísticos para las comunidades de difícil acceso situadas en las zonas regionales del estado. Esto es crucial para ayudar a mejorar la calidad y disponibilidad de intérpretes y traductores calificados, capacitados y culturalmente competentes.

Aprobar la Ley de Ampliación de la Asistencia Lingüística (S.3381-A/ A.7235) para ampliar el acceso a los servicios lingüísticos a las zonas regionales: ordenando a las agencias de los condados que proporcionen servicios de interpretación y traducción, incluyendo los idiomas locales en la lista estatal de idiomas, y exigiendo a las agencias estatales orientadas al público, como el Departamento de Vehículos Motorizados y el Departamento de Educación, que proporcionen servicios de interpretación en persona.

Garantizar que la Oficina de Asistencia Lingüística (OLA) sea accesible para los miembros de la comunidad y las organizaciones comunitarias (CBO) y aumentar la colaboración con el nuevo director para ayudar en la implementación de la ley, aportar la experiencia y los conocimientos de las organizaciones comunitarias que interactúan directamente con los inmigrantes, crear un proceso para recopilar e informar de las quejas y los comentarios de la comunidad, así como para proporcionar datos lingüísticos regionales y recomendaciones sobre políticas.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Taina Wagnac (twagnac@nyic.org) y K'Sisay Sadiki (ksadiki@nyic.org).

NYS Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP)

Creating Healthy Communities

Expanding Access to Safe, Affordable and Equitable Housing

Housing insecurity, eviction, and homelessness cause devastating financial, health, and educational impacts. Currently, there are more than 90,000 New Yorkers without a home and more than 150,000 households at risk of eviction. As federal aid and eviction protections from the pandemic have lapsed and asylum seekers continue to arrive in New York, even more people across the state are at risk of becoming homeless. Housing vouchers are one of the best tools we have to fight homelessness and provide essential security for our families—but they remain inaccessible to far too many New Yorkers.

Investing in greater housing stability will yield cost savings of at least \$67 million from decreased spending on shelter, hospital stays, prison, housing court, and more. It will save millions in reduced shelter costs for New York State.

HAVP can combat the homelessness crisis, providing up to 20,000 vouchers and helping as many as 50,000 New Yorkers avoid the trauma of homelessness. Cities and towns across the state will be able to use these vouchers to help people experiencing homelessness find permanent homes or can issue them to low-income New Yorkers at risk of becoming homeless. It is time to ensure that all of New York's diverse, vibrant communities have equitable access to housing vouchers.

Recommendation:

New York State must include \$250 million in the budget for the NYS Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP) to create a flexible, statewide Section 8-like voucher to be used by people at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

For more information, contact Liza Schwartzwald (lschwartzwald@nyic.org).

El Programa de Vales de Acceso a la Vivienda (HAVP)

Crear comunidades sanas

Ampliar el acceso a una vivienda segura, asequible y equitativa

La inseguridad de la vivienda, el desalojo y la falta de hogar tienen efectos devastadores en la economía, la salud y la educación. En la actualidad, hay más de 90,000 neoyorquinos sin hogar y más de 150,000 hogares en riesgo de desalojo. Como la ayuda federal y las protecciones contra el desalojo por la pandemia han caducado y los solicitantes de asilo siguen llegando a Nueva York, aún más personas en todo el estado corren el riesgo de quedarse sin hogar. Los vales para adquirir una vivienda son una de las mejores herramientas que tenemos para luchar contra la falta de hogar y proporcionar una seguridad esencial a nuestras familias, pero siguen siendo inaccesibles para un gran número de neoyorquinos.

Invertir en una mayor estabilidad de la vivienda producirá ahorros en los costos de al menos \$67 millones por la disminución del gasto en refugios, hospitalizaciones, prisión, tribunales de vivienda y más. Se ahorrarán millones al reducir los costos de refugios del estado de Nueva York.

El Programa de Vales de Acceso a la Vivienda (HAVP) puede combatir la crisis de la falta de vivienda, proporcionando hasta 20,000 vales y ayudando a hasta 50,000 neoyorquinos a evitar el trauma de la falta de hogar. Las ciudades y pueblos de todo el estado podrán utilizar estos vales para ayudar a las personas sin hogar a encontrar un hogar permanente o podrán destinárselos a neoyorquinos de bajos ingresos en riesgo de quedarse sin hogar. Es hora de garantizar que todas las comunidades diversas y dinámicas de Nueva York tengan un acceso equitativo a los vales de vivienda.

Recomendación:

El estado de Nueva York debe incluir en el presupuesto \$250 millones para el Programa de Vales de Acceso a la Vivienda (HAVP) del estado de Nueva York, con el fin de crear un vale flexible, similar al de la sección 8, que abarque todo el estado y que pueda ser utilizado por personas en riesgo de quedarse sin hogar o que no tengan hogar.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Liza Schwartzwald (lschwartzwald@nyic.org).

PROTECT IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES ACROSS NEW YORK

NEW YORK FOR ALL ACT S987/A5686

All New Yorkers, regardless of immigration status, want to lead open lives, participate in their communities, provide for their family, and access health care without intimidation. The New York for All Act offers protections that help make this possible, by prohibiting all local law enforcement and state agencies from conspiring with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), or participating in its cruelty.

THE PROBLEM

For years, some of our leaders have used ICE to divide us, determined to cruelly target, demonize, and demoralize immigrants and separate families. ICE's raids and scare tactics have cruelly separated families, and ICE has leaned on local law enforcement and government agencies to aid their arrests, deportations, and family separation.

Because of this, many immigrant New Yorkers and their families live with the anxiety that living daily life in the open and interacting with government – whether in a police traffic stop, attending school, or visiting a public hospital for care – could lead to being torn away from family. This fear is especially damaging during the COVID-19 pandemic, pushing key communities away from the help they need to protect themselves and neighbor New Yorkers.

When local agencies work with ICE, it leads not only to unconstitutional racial profiling, but also to the misuse of our local tax dollars and resources to serve the agenda of those who want to stoke fear and divide us.

THE SOLUTION

Scapegoating and targeting immigrant communities for arrests and deportation is both wrong and costly. We need our leaders to focus on creating a path to citizenship, not enabling ICE cruelty.

Where Washington has failed to take action, Albany can take the lead in keeping New York out of ICE's cruelty and keeping all New Yorkers safe.

The New York for All Act, S987 (Gounardes) / A5686 (Reyes), helps immigrant New Yorkers lead freer lives and take care of family, preserves state and local resources for our communities, and ensures New York dollars cannot be diverted to carry out a cruel, politicized immigration agenda.

Where Washington has failed to take action, Albany can take the lead in keeping New York out of ICE's cruelty and keeping all New Yorkers safe.



**NEW YORK
FOR ALL**

www.nyclu.org/nyforall

HOW IT WORKS

The New York for All Act, S987

(Gounardes) / A5686 (Reyes) broadly prohibits state and local officers from enforcing federal immigration laws, funneling people into ICE custody, and sharing sensitive information with federal immigration authorities. It prohibits ICE and CBP from entering non-public areas of state and local property without a judicial warrant. It also ensures that people in custody are given notice of their rights before being interviewed by ICE, and starts the process of limiting ICE and CBP access to state information databases.

WHY WE NEED NEW YORK FOR ALL

COMMUNITIES THAT REFUSE TO CONSPIRE WITH ICE ARE SAFER.

Since its founding in 2003, ICE has acted with impunity, using lies, deception, and excessive force to storm their way into our homes and disappear our loved ones and community members. The Trump administration may be over, but its legacy of targeting immigrant communities continues. No one should have to fear that calling the

police or emergency services may bring ICE to their door. When people are too scared to call for help or trust their neighbors and communities, we are all less safe. In fact, data shows that crime is lower in places where officials do not divert time and resources for a hostile immigration agenda. The Major Cities Chiefs Association, the Presidential Task Force on 21st Century Policing, the New York State Attorney General, and the New York State Police have all adopted positions or policies to keep out of federal immigration enforcement on the grounds that it harms public safety.

LOCAL POLICIES THAT PROTECT IMMIGRANTS FROM ICE HAVE ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR ALL.

The pandemic highlighted how much we all depend on each other, and by protecting all workers, we can ensure New York state's recovery. When residents trust local officials, they participate more in the local economy. Data shows that household income is higher and the poverty rate is lower in places that do not divert resources for ICE's agenda.

OTHER STATES HAVE PASSED LEGISLATION TO KEEP LOCAL RESOURCES OUT OF FEDERAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT.

New York should follow other states who recognize the importance of protecting immigrant residents. New Jersey, Washington, and California already have state-wide sanctuary policies or legislation, and New York City and other local jurisdictions have already passed strong citywide policies to keep police and other agencies out of ICE's agenda.

IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES DESERVE RESPECT AND A CHANCE TO PURSUE CITIZENSHIP WITHOUT FEAR.

ICE raids instill fear in immigrant families who courageously endured significant hardship to build better lives here. We need to make sure divisive politics don't continue to create mistrust and fear. Immigrant communities continue to wait for our leaders to develop a reasonable roadmap to citizenship. They have had to wait too long and the process is too broken. We need to take steps to ensure New York works for all, now.



PROTEGE A LAS COMUNIDADES INMIGRANTES EN TODO EL ESTADO DE NUEVA YORK

LA LEY DE NUEVA YORK PARA TODOS

S987/A5686

Todos los neoyorquinos, independientemente de su estatus migratorio, quieren vivir libremente, participar en sus comunidades, proveer a sus familias y acceder a atención médica sin ser intimidados. La Ley de Nueva York para Todos ofrece protecciones para que esto sea posible al prohibir a todas las fuerzas de seguridad y orden público locales y a las agencias estatales a que conspiren con el Servicio de Control de Inmigración y Aduanas (Immigration and Customs Enforcement, ICE) o y que sean partícipes de su crueldad.

EL PROBLEMA

Por años algunos de nuestros dirigentes han usado a ICE para dividirnos, determinados en señalar, demonizar y desmoralizar cruelmente a los inmigrantes y disgregar a las familias. Las redadas y tácticas de intimidación de ICE han separado familias despiadadamente. ICE se ha apoyado en las fuerzas de seguridad locales y en las agencias de gobierno para llevar a cabo sus arrestos, deportaciones y disgregación familiar.

Debido a esto, muchos inmigrantes neoyorquinos y sus familias se llenan de ansiedad a la hora de tener una rutina diaria normal y libre o cuando interactúan con el gobierno, ya sea en cualquier punto de control, cuando asisten a la escuela o cuando se dirigen a un hospital público para recibir atención médica, temiendo poder ser arrancados de sus familias. Cuando las agencias locales trabajan con ICE, se genera no sólo una caracterización anticonstitucional de un perfil racial, sino también un uso indebido de nuestros impuestos y recursos locales para servir a la agenda de aquellos que quieren alimentar el miedo y dividirnos.

LA SOLUCIÓN

Convertir a las comunidades de inmigrantes en chivos expiatorios y en objeto de las detenciones y deportaciones es erróneo y costoso. Necesitamos que nuestros dirigentes se enfoquen en la creación de un camino hacia la ciudadanía, no en permitir la crueldad de ICE. Donde Washington ha fallado en actuar, Albany puede tomar el liderazgo, conservando a Nueva York alejado de la crueldad de ICE y manteniendo a salvo a todos los neoyorquinos.

La Ley Nueva York Para Todos, S987 (Gounardes) / A5686 (Reyes) ayuda a los inmigrantes neoyorquinos a vivir sus vidas más libres y a cuidar de sus familias, a preservar los recursos estatales y locales para nuestras comunidades y a garantizar que el dinero de Nueva York no sea desviado para continuar una cruel y politizada agenda de inmigración.



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CÓMO FUNCIONA

La Ley de Nueva York para Todos, S987 (Gounardes) / A5686 (Reyes) en general prohíbe que los funcionarios estatales y locales apliquen las leyes federales de inmigración, que pongan a las personas bajo custodia de ICE y que compartan información sensible con las autoridades federales de inmigración. La Ley prohíbe a las agencias ICE y CBP entrar en áreas no públicas de propiedad estatal y local sin una orden judicial; garantiza que las personas en custodia sean notificadas de sus derechos antes de ser entrevistadas por ICE e inicia el proceso para limitar el acceso de ICE y CBP a las bases de datos con información estatal.

POR QUÉ NECESITAMOS LA LEY NUEVA YORK PARA TODOS

LAS COMUNIDADES QUE SE NIENGAN A CONSPIRAR CON ICE ESTÁN MÁS SEGURAS.

Desde su fundación en 2003, ICE ha actuado de manera impune, utilizando mentiras, engaños y fuerza excesiva para irrumpir en nuestros hogares y desaparecer a nuestros seres queridos y miembros de la comunidad. Puede que la administración de Trump haya finalizado, pero su legado de señalar a las comunidades inmigrantes continúa. Nadie debería tener miedo de que, al llamar a la policía o a

los servicios de emergencia, pueda atraer a ICE a su puerta. Cuando las personas están demasiado aterradas para pedir ayuda o para confiar en sus vecinos y sus comunidades, todos vivimos menos seguros. De hecho, los datos muestran que el crimen es menor en lugares donde los funcionarios no desvían tiempo y recursos hacia una hostil agenda de inmigración. La Asociación de Comisionados de las Ciudades Principales (Major Cities Chiefs Association), la Fuerza de Trabajo Presidencial sobre la Vigilancia Policial del Siglo 21 (Presidential Task Force on 21st Century Policing), la Fiscalía General del Estado de Nueva York (New York State Attorney General) y la Policía Estatal de Nueva York (New York State Police) han adoptado posturas o políticas para mantenerse al margen de las fuerzas federales de inmigración sobre el fundamento de que dañan la seguridad pública.

LAS POLÍTICAS LOCALES QUE PROTEGEN A LOS INMIGRANTES DEL ICE APORTAN BENEFICIOS ECONÓMICOS PARA TODOS.

La pandemia puso de manifiesto lo mucho que dependemos unos de otros. Al proteger a todos los trabajadores podemos asegurar la recuperación del estado de Nueva York. Cuando los residentes confían en los funcionarios locales, participan más en la economía local. Los datos muestran que el ingreso familiar es más alto y el índice de pobreza es menor en lugares donde no se desvían los recursos hacia la agenda de ICE.

OTROS ESTADOS HAN APROBADO LEYES PARA MANTENER LOS RECURSOS LOCALES FUERA DEL CONTROL FEDERAL DE INMIGRACIÓN.

Nueva York debería seguir a otros estados que reconocen la importancia de proteger a los residentes inmigrantes. Nueva Jersey, Washington y California ya cuentan con políticas o legislaciones a nivel estatal que los designa como estados santuario; la ciudad de Nueva York y otras jurisdicciones locales ya han aprobado sólidas políticas municipales para mantener a su policía y otras agencias fuera de la agenda de ICE.

NEGARSE A HABILITAR AL ICE AYUDA A PREVENIR LA PROPAGACIÓN DE LA COVID-19.

Las redadas de ICE infunden miedo en las familias inmigrantes, quienes valientemente han sobrellevado un camino de penurias para construir aquí una mejor vida. Debemos asegurarnos de que las políticas divisivas no continúen generando desconfianza y miedo. Las comunidades inmigrantes continúan esperando que nuestros dirigentes elaboren una ruta razonable hacia la ciudadanía. Ellos han tenido que esperar demasiado tiempo y el proceso está demasiado deteriorado. Ahora, debemos tomar medidas para asegurar que Nueva York funciona para todos.



Support The NY Working Families Tax Credit!

A Bill to Provide 3 Million New York Families up to \$1,500 per year

New Yorkers are struggling with the high cost of living. Currently, the wealthiest New Yorkers and corporations are paying less in taxes than hard-working poor, working, and middle class New Yorkers. By making some changes to our tax code, we can give economically burdened workers and families cash to pay for what they need – food, rent, utilities, child care, and more.

The Working Families Tax Credit ([S277A](#)/[A4022A](#)) makes our tax code more fair and ensures families can make ends meet.

What will the Working Families Tax Credit do?

- Gives \$500 per child to every family, except for those earning the highest incomes
- Offers low- and middle-income families an average income boost of almost \$1,300 next year
- Targets relief to lowest income earning families who could get up to \$1,500 per child in boosted income
- Offers quarterly payments, provides families with 4 checks so they can better plan their finances

The WFTC will remove the inequities of the current federal Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit.

- Includes families regardless of citizenship status- currently, the EITC excludes many contributing \$23.5B in taxes to NYS each year.
- Eliminates the phase-in and income requirements to allow those with the lowest incomes, or no income, to receive the largest amount of money
- Removes the cap on the number of children eligible to receive a credit

Why Now?

- The WFTC will result in a **13.4% reduction in children under the age of 18 living in poverty** with a 19.6% reduction for those under 18 living in deep poverty
- **We're building on our wins for families:** Last year we won the inclusion of kids under 4 in the New York Child Tax Credit. Now, almost ONE MILLION more households have access to an average of \$340 per child

This year, we're coming back to continue to win the FULL WFTC so that working families have what they need to live with dignity.

It will take people coming together and fighting for change to make this work.

Join the coalition to win a Working Families Tax Credit! Email Valeria Paz Reyes at vreyes@nyic.org or Liza Schwartzwald at Lschwartzwald@nyic.org to join.

¡Apoye el crédito tributario para familias trabajadoras de Nueva York!

Un proyecto de ley para brindar a 3 millones de familias neoyorquinas hasta \$1,500 por año.

Los neoyorquinos están teniendo dificultades debido al costo de vida elevado. En la actualidad, los neoyorquinos y las corporaciones de clase alta están pagando menos impuestos que los neoyorquinos de clase baja trabajadora, de clase trabajadora y de clase media. Mediante algunos cambios en nuestro código tributario, podemos brindarles a los trabajadores y familias que atraviesan una carga económica dinero en efectivo para que puedan costear sus necesidades, como la comida, la renta, los servicios públicos, el cuidado infantil, y más.

El Crédito Tributario para Familias Trabajadoras (S277A/A4022A) hace que nuestro código fiscal sea más justo y garantiza que las familias puedan sobrevivir.

¿Qué hará el crédito tributario para familias trabajadoras?

- **Les dará \$500 por hijo(a) a cada familia**, excepto a aquellas que tienen los ingresos más altos
- Les ofrecerá a las familias de bajo y **mediano ingreso un aumento en el promedio de los ingresos de casi \$1,300 el año que viene**
- Les brindará alivio a las familias con los ingresos más bajos que pueden alcanzar **hasta \$1,500 por hijo(a) en un aumento de los ingresos**
- **Ofrecerá pagos trimestrales** y les brindará a las familias 4 cheques para que puedan planificar mejor sus finanzas.

Con el crédito tributario para familias trabajadoras (WFTC) se eliminará la inequidad que actualmente implican el crédito tributario federal por hijo y el crédito tributario por ingresos

- **Incluirá a las familias sin importar el estado de su ciudadanía** -- en la actualidad, el crédito tributario por ingresos (EITC) excluye a muchas familias que aportan \$23.5 mil millones en impuestos para el estado de Nueva York cada año.
- **Eliminará los requisitos de incorporación y de ingresos** para permitir que las personas con ingresos más bajos o sin ingresos reciban la mayor cantidad de dinero
- **Eliminará el límite de la cantidad de hijos elegibles** para recibir un crédito

¿Por qué ahora?

- WFTC supondrá una reducción del **13.4 % de los niños menores de 18 años que viven en la pobreza**, con una reducción del 19.6 % para los menores de 18 años que viven en la pobreza extrema
- **Expandiremos nuestros logros para las familias:** el año pasado logramos incluir a los niños menores de 4 años en el crédito tributario por hijos de Nueva York. En la actualidad, casi UN MILLÓN más de hogares acceden a un promedio de \$340 por hijo(a)

Este año, volveremos para seguir trabajando y así alcanzar un WFTC COMPLETO para que las familias trabajadoras obtengan lo que necesitan para vivir con dignidad.

Para que esto funcione, la gente deberá unirse y luchar por un cambio.

¡Únase a la coalición para obtener un crédito tributario para familias trabajadoras! Comuníquese por correo electrónico con Valeria Paz Reyes (vreyes@nyic.org) o con Liza Schwartzwald (Lschwartzwald@nyic.org) para unirse.

Biographies: Support for New York's Recent Arrivals



Murad Awawdeh is a strategist, organizer, and advocacy expert currently serving as the Executive Director at the New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC). The son of Palestinian immigrants, Murad has dedicated over two decades of his life fighting for low-income communities of color across the State of New York. He grew up organizing to stop dangerous and hazardous developments in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, and engaging community residents to build power and bring transformational change to their neighborhoods. As the NYIC's Executive Vice President of Advocacy & Strategy he successfully led electoral, legislative, and policy campaigns at the federal, state and local levels, and mobilized hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers at demonstrations against anti-immigrant policies. As the Executive Vice President of NYIC Action, the NYIC's sister 501(c)4 political advocacy and action organization, he has successfully led grassroots electoral campaigns to elect progressive candidates. Murad has been featured in VICE and the Huffington Post, and was honored with a U.S Congressional Recognition, and Public Service Awards from the NYS Senate and Assembly. He serves as a Trustee of the New York University Family Health Centers Board, as a member of the Justice 2020 Committee, and as Commissioner of the New York City Civic Engagement Commission.



Catharine Grainge was raised in WNY and attended SUNY Buffalo where she majored in Philosophy. During her undergraduate studies she became fluent in Spanish after living for a year in Argentina and also worked in interpretation and front desk reception at Jericho Road Community Health Center. In 2016, she moved to Philadelphia, PA and began law school at Drexel University. After graduating, she went on to work as a public defender for the Defenders Association of Philadelphia. In March 2023, she returned to Buffalo and became the Director of Advocacy at Jericho Road Community Health Center. Catharine has also been on-the-ground in the hotels where many folks were bussed in from NYC and has supported them with advocacy, case management, and legal connections. She hopes that her work at Jericho Road will lead to more equity, better care for the poor, and the break down of systems and practices that make all of us.



Yamina Kezadri, a Public health enthusiast, transplanted Brooklynite from Algeria at the ripe age of 8 years old. Spearheading Muslims Giving (MGB), a non profit community based organization that addresses the multitude social determinants of health through meeting the food insecurity needs of the community at large. As part of her work, she collaborates with organizations and advocates that are committed to combating inequitable access of services to the communities of need. Her goal is to respond to the emergency situations that arise throughout NYC to provide access to services through multitude programs for the community, including the current migrant crisis.



Vianey Romero-Mendez, LMSW is the Director of Programs at Mixteca. She received her bachelor's degree from CUNY City College of New York and her MSW from Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College. Vianey's experience includes working with children, youth, and adults, immigrant survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking. Through years of experience working with immigrant communities, Vianey became aware this target population requires services that are not only linguistically accessible to them; they must also incorporate culturally relevant practices. With an understanding of intergenerational trauma, Vianey strives to provide culturally appropriate services that educate and empower the Latinx immigrant community.



Patrick Young is the Director of Organizing & Strategy, Downstate, of the New York Immigration Coalition. He served for three decades as the Program Director at CARECEN and he was the co-founder of the Long Island Civic Engagement Table, which works to increase civic activism in immigrant communities. He is Special Professor of Immigration Law at Hofstra University School of Law and in 2012 he was named Director of Hofstra's Immigration Law Clinic. He blogs on the immigration website Long Island Wins and he is the author of the history series The Immigrants' Civil War.

Messaging in the Current Political Landscape



Britney Vongdara

Research Coordinator
The Opportunity Agenda
bvongdara@opportunityagenda.org

Britney Vongdara (she/her) is the Research Coordinator at The Opportunity Agenda, a non-profit organization dedicated to building narrative and cultural power to move our nation toward a vision of justice, equity, and opportunity for all. At TOA, Britney manages the Narrative Research Lab online library and their monthly webinar series and contributes to research and narrative team projects. Britney has a background in research, advocacy, and media production. Her research experience includes a

Narrative Impact Fellowship with PopShift where she studied effective storytelling methods on socioeconomic inequality. Prior to joining The Opportunity Agenda, she served as a paralegal at Lutheran Social Services of New York where she gave immigration-specific Know Your Rights presentations around the Bronx and Queens and helped manage the array of resources and shelters that they offered. Britney holds a Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University with a concentration in Sociology and minor in Art, Film, and Visual Studies.

The Opportunity Agenda is a community dedicated to building narrative and cultural power to move our nation toward a vision of justice, equity, and opportunity for all.

We build the public imagination and cultural will to challenge white supremacy and its pervasive impact, work in community to overcome opposition narratives that exclude and divide us, and advance narratives that support opportunity for all.

Blueprint 3.0: Creating A New Roadmap for Transformational Change

The NYIC's Blueprint 3.0 will present New York with a bold, sweeping agenda for the next decade where all immigrant New Yorkers can flourish. The Blueprint will go beyond the constraints of what is politically feasible for immigrant communities now, and truly envision the ambitious goals of the next ten years.

Help us envision a better future for New York's immigrant communities by considering the following questions:

- **What are the biggest challenges your community faces?**
- **If you were in charge of making rules that impact your community, what rules would you make or erase?**
- **If money were no issue, what type of investments would you have the state make in your communities?**
- **What broader changes do you see impacting immigrant communities in NY over the next 10 years?**

Have further thoughts to share?

For general questions on the Blueprint Process, please contact

Kim Sykes, Director of Policy Operations,
at KSykes@nyic.org.

For subject matter input, please contact:

Ensuring Economic Justice and Good Jobs

Liza Schwartzwald, Director of Economic Justice and Family Empowerment
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Building Political Power and Guaranteed Civil Rights

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Creating Healthy Communities

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Ending State Support for Deportation, Detention, and Mass Incarceration

Marlene Galaz, Director of Director of Immigrant Rights Policy
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Quality Education

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ENDING STATE SUPPORT FOR DEPORTATION, DETENTION AND MASS INCARCERATION

Overall Vision

We envision a country that ensures the basic human dignity, and core constitutional and human rights of everyone, regardless of race or immigration status, especially in the immigration and criminal legal systems. To achieve this, we must end all state involvement in the federal detention and deportation system, end state violence against Black and brown people, and ensure everyone has the right to true due process. As part of this vision we are calling on our states to ensure all immigrants facing deportation have the right to an attorney, cease over policing and unconstitutional stops by law enforcement, and prohibit all state and local government employees from collaborating with federal immigration authorities to facilitate immigration related arrests and detention.

Political, Social and Economic Context

The over-policing of communities of color is not accidental. Whether it's the NYPD, LAPD, Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) or Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), these institutions are all part of a system of repression that goes back hundreds of years and is designed to surveil, intimidate and inflict brutality and cruelty without any accountability. Racial profiling and over-policing in communities of color results in thousands of arrests for minor offenses and a single one of these arrests can have enduring and immense consequences throughout an individual's life, especially for immigrants, both with or without legal status.

In the last 20 years, under both Republican and Democratic administrations, spending on federal immigration enforcement has ballooned. Year after year, agencies like ICE and CBP have bigger budgets to arrest, detain and deport immigrant families. This has meant Border Patrol agents terrorizing border communities while violating the civil rights of residents, children being separated from their parents and held in cages, and ICE officers perpetrating military style arrests of long standing members of immigrant communities. These brutal tactics, while amplified under the Trump administration, are at the core of these agencies' mission, putting pressure on the question of the overall value of these agencies.



To achieve this, we must end all state involvement in the federal detention and deportation system, end state violence against Black and brown people, and ensure everyone has the right to true due process.



For years, states and local governments have been active participants in this deportation machine. Local law enforcement, including sheriffs and police, work closely with ICE to share information and facilitate ICE arrests. However, faced with the extreme cruelties of the Trump administration's white nationalist, anti-immigrant agenda, states like New York and California have begun to question their role and take a more active approach to ending unjust deportations. As cities, counties and, more recently, states have taken on this important work, we have invaluable research that demonstrates that ending state support for deportation not only protects our residents, but lowers crime rates, increases annual median incomes and reduces poverty.⁹

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For those in jails, prisons, and immigration detention, COVID-19 has confirmed the racist and heartless underpinnings of our criminal legal and immigration systems.

For those in jails, prisons, and immigration detention, COVID-19 has confirmed the racist and heartless underpinnings of our criminal legal and immigration systems. In the early months of the pandemic, it was two detention centers in New York and California, the Buffalo Federal Detention Facility in Batavia and Otay Mesa Detention Center in San Diego, that reported the highest numbers of COVID-19 positive cases.¹⁰ Rather than take immediate steps to slow the spread of the disease and protect immigrants detained at these facilities, ICE ignored the problem, restricted access to personal protective equipment (PPE), and fought against attempts to release vulnerable immigrant detainees on bond. Nearly a year later, people across the country are languishing in detention, prisons, and jails and continue to be denied basic protective equipment, social distancing measures, access to necessary health care services, and potentially life saving release programs, resulting in a death sentence for many with no repercussions for those responsible.

States must do everything they can to defend their residents from the federal deportation machine and ensure families can stay together, not languish in jails, prisons or detention centers.

New York State

In the last three years, New York State, and cities and counties within New York, have taken meaningful steps to end their support for deportation, including increased funding for immigrant legal services and passing measures to prevent immigration enforcement activities at New York courthouses. However, New York still lags far behind other states in ensuring that all of New York State is brought into this effort to protect residents. As a Northern border state, New York's upstate immigrant communities continue to be regularly harassed, arrested, and detained by Border Patrol officers, who many times are directly assisted by local law enforcement engaged in racial profiling. New York must continue to enact policies that prevent resources from being spent to aid the federal deportation machine.

Some important past policy victories include:

2014

New York City begins funding for immigration legal services that has steadily increased, including: the pilot and expansion of the New York City New York Immigrant Family Unity Project, which provides public defender-type services to immigrants appearing before New York City's detained immigration courts, the Immigrant Children Advocates Response Effort to provide representation to unaccompanied children and Central American families, and the Immigrant Opportunity Initiative.

2017

The Legislature allocated \$650,000 to create the Statewide New York Immigrant Family Unity Project (NYIFUP) to provide legal representation to immigrants detained at Batavia Federal Detention Center and the Ulster County Correctional Facility.

2018

A New York state appeals court ruled that it is illegal under state law for local law enforcement agencies in New York to make immigration arrests at the request of federal immigration officials. This includes the honoring of ICE detainers.

2018

New York State more than doubled funding for civil immigration legal services, mainly through the creation of the Liberty Defense Project (LDP). The LDP was funded at an initial \$10,000,000 and an additional \$1,000,000 was raised in private funds for the development of a pro-bono representation network.

2020

New York City allocated \$58,231,800 to legal services funding for immigrants.

2020

New York State passes the Protect Our Courts Act to ensure all immigrants can access New York State and local courthouses free from ICE enforcement actions.

New York Ending State Support for Deportation Demands

1

Place strict limits on how police, peace and probation officers, and other state, city, town, or village employees may engage in immigration enforcement or interact with immigration authorities to ensure state and local resources are not used to help ICE and federal immigration authorities target and separate immigrant families, and sow fear in our communities.

2

Create a statutory right to a lawyer, rooted in the New York State constitution, for any New Yorker facing deportation who cannot afford an attorney on their own. Ensure that every New Yorker is entitled to true due process in immigration court by appointing a lawyer to anyone in New York who has a case before an immigration judge or who has a basis to file an appeal of a request to reopen an old deportation order.

3

Provide \$25 Million in state funding for immigration legal services to fund the Liberty Defense Project, Opportunity Centers and community based organizations to provide legal services, ongoing community outreach, education and know your rights presentations.

4

Reduce unconstitutional and unnecessary stops and arrests by law enforcement, including through the legalization of marijuana.

5

Implement the New York Justice Roadmap, a collection of legislation that addresses harms caused by the deeply entangled criminal and immigration systems, from street stops through parole and probation.

6

Require all employers regardless of size to comply with strict rules limiting when ICE can be given access to a worksite or employee records and to follow specific notice obligations to employees. Enact rules prohibiting employers from contacting ICE or threatening to contact ICE, particularly as a retaliation tactic. Prevent employers from voluntarily allowing ICE to enter nonpublic work areas or to access company records without legal documentation in the form of a warrant or subpoena. Require employers to follow specific requirements related to Form I-9 inspections and notifying affected employees—and their union if applicable—of the action.



DJ Rekha

IG and Twitter: @DJRekha

DJ Rekha, née Rekha Malhotra, pioneered the merging of Bhangra and Bollywood sounds with contemporary electronic dance music. Rooted in hip-hop and dub their DJ sets range from Brazilian Baile Funk to Balkan Beats and everything in between. They founded Basement Bhangra, one of NYC's

longest-running club nights (1997-2017). Their debut album "DJ Rekha presents Basement Bhangra" (featuring a track with Wyclef Jean) won much critical acclaim and was nominated for best DJ album by the 2008 Plug Awards. They are the founder of Basement Bhangra TM, Bollywood Disco, and co-founder of Mutiny Club nights.

They were named "Ambassador of Bhangra" by the New York Times. Rekha was the sound designer for the TONY award-winning Broadway Show, "Bridge and Tunnel," and received a Drama Desk Award nomination for their work on the play "Rafta Rafta." Rekha was also the associate producer for the NPR Radio Documentary, "A Feet in Two Worlds." They have done remixes for artists that range from Meredith Monk to Priyanka Chopra.

Rekha was NYU's A/P/A Artist-in-Residence for 2006-2007. They have received numerous community awards and in 2009 was inducted into the New York City's Peoples' Hall of Fame. They have curated events for Celebrate Brooklyn, Central Park Summerstage, and has performed at the Obama White House and internationally. Rekha was a Grand Marshall of the 9th Annual NYC Dance Parade in 2015. In January of 2017, they performed at the historic Women's March on D.C. They graduated with a Master's of Science in Comparative Media Studies from MIT in 2019. Most recently DJ Rekha produced the 2022 Basement Bhangra 25th Encore at Central Park's SummerStage with 5,500+ attendees and a line-up of heavy hitters such as Jasmine Sandlas, Raaginder, Red Baraat, Ganavya Doriswamy and more.

Prepared by
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