



Community-Based Resources

City Colleges of Chicago acknowledges the work done by many reputable community organizations who assist undocumented immigrants through resources and advocacy. CCC is committed to building relationships with these community groups as we strive not only to improve services for undocumented students, but also to increase our advocacy for the retention of these students.

How to seek legal help?

It is important to find an immigration attorney (either in private practice or at a non-profit) or Department of Justice (DOJ) accredited representative (at a nonprofit organization) who can adequately consult and represent you, especially if you have a complex case. There are two common ways to find an immigration attorney or accredited representative to meet your needs:

Private Immigration Attorneys: Private immigration attorneys are often able to take on a wide range of cases. They also have more time to discuss and update their clients on their specific cases. Unfortunately, greater attention often comes at a higher cost. Private immigration attorneys offer their services at a higher price than non-profit agencies. It is important to research a private immigration attorney's background to make sure they are a good attorney and a good fit for your case. To find a list of private immigration attorneys in your area visit <https://ailalawyer.com/>.

Non-Profit Legal Service Agencies: Immigration non-profit agencies offer free or low-cost help to community members. These organizations often have staff that are experts in their fields. However, non-profit agencies often have many clients and limited resources. This can lead to the non-profit imposing certain limitations on clients. These limitations can include: only taking local clients, limiting services to clients that meet certain requirements (e.g. income level), or generally taking longer to get through a client's case. The list below provides several non-profit organizations in the Chicagoland area, and one may be near you. You can also visit <https://www.immigrationlawhelp.org/>.



THE CHICAGO LEGAL CLINIC

Harold Washington College
30 E. Lake St., 10th Floor, Room 1027
Chicago, IL 60610
(312) 553-3172

With an office on the 10th floor of Harold Washington College, room 1027, the [Chicago Legal Clinic](#) is an eleemosynary organization that provides community-based legal services and education to the underserved and disadvantaged at no cost. The clinic is staffed by volunteer attorneys that provide a plethora of legal services on a variety of issues including, but not limited to immigration, domestic violence, eviction, among other situations. For more information, please contact Brian Nix, Esq., Legal Clinic Director at bnix@ccc.edu.

APNA GAHR

4350 N. Broadway, 2nd Fl.
Chicago, IL 60613

[Apna Ghar](#) provides critical, comprehensive, culturally competent services, and conducts outreach and advocacy across communities to end gender violence.

AFIRE CHICAGO

4300 N. Hermitage Ave.
Chicago, IL 60613
(773) 580-1025

[Alliance of Filipinos for Immigrant Rights and Empowerment](#) (AFIRE) supports comprehensive immigration reform and more just treatment of undocumented immigrants. AFIRE has been using conversation about readings by Pablo Neruda, Franz Kafka, Toni Cade Bambara and others to develop its organizational structure and mission.

BEYOND LEGAL AID

17 N. State St., #1380
Chicago, IL 60602

[Beyond Legal Aid](#) unites lawyers and activists in a collaborative pursuit for justice by leveraging legal services to benefit the most marginalized communities and individuals. Beyond Legal Aid only provide services through its community partners and Helpline.



CAMBODIAN ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

2831 W. Lawrence Ave.
Chicago, IL 60625
(773) 878-7090

The [Cambodian Association of Illinois](#) (CAI) is comprehensive social service organization founded in 1976 by a group of Cambodian refugee volunteers who responded to the needs of Cambodians who were resettling in Chicago after fleeing the tyranny, brutality and torture of the Khmer Rouge genocide in which two million Cambodians perished. CAI services some 5,000 Cambodians in Illinois—over 3,000 in Chicago—all of whom are Cambodian refugees or the children of refugees who escaped the atrocities of the Khmer Rouge and the Cambodian Killing Fields. The Cambodian Association of Illinois is the only non-profit organization in the Chicago metropolitan area that provides bilingual programming to address the interrelated social and economic needs of the local Cambodian American population.

COMMUNITIES UNITED

4749 N. Kedzie Ave.
Chicago, IL 60625
(773) 583-1387

[Communities United](#) (CU) is an intergenerational, grassroots, community-based organization that serves the neighborhoods of Albany Park, Austin, Belmont Cragin, Roseland, and West Ridge, on the northwest, west, and south sides of Chicago. Through a transformational approach to youth and intergenerational leadership development and community-driven systems change, CU focuses on advancing health equity, affordable housing, education justice, youth investment, immigrant rights, police accountability, and shifting resources from the criminal justice and juvenile justice systems into restorative justice alternatives.



COUNCIL OF ISLAMIC ORGANIZATIONS OF GREATER CHICAGO

231 S. State St. Suite #300
Chicago, IL 60604
(312) 506-0077

The [Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago](#) (the Council) is the unifying force that brings together a wonderfully diverse American Muslim community in the greater Chicago region, Northern Illinois, and now increasingly, all of Illinois!

DEPAUL COLLEGE OF LAW LEGAL CLINICS

25 E. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604
(312) 362-8701
lawinfo@depaul.edu

Community-based service learning has a long tradition at DePaul University, and the College of Law exemplifies this practice through its clinical programs. Under faculty supervision and guidance, students sharpen their skills and knowledge while engaging in legal practice outside the formal classroom setting.

DePaul's legal clinics allow students to contribute to the community beyond the University by fulfilling fundamental societal needs. Such experiences help students to better understand the type of legal work they want to pursue after graduation and provide them with a strong sense of professional accomplishment.

ENLACE CHICAGO

2756 S. Harding Ave.
Chicago, IL 60623
(773) 542-9233

[Enlace Chicago](#) is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of the residents of the Little Village community by fostering a physically safe and healthy environment in which to live and by championing opportunities for educational advancement and economic development.



ERIE NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

Various Locations

Main Line: 312.666.3430

Since 1870, [Erie Neighborhood House](#) has provided the most comprehensive support immigrant and low-income families in Chicago need to thrive and has constantly evolved to meet their needs. Today, Erie House is a modern social services nonprofit with programming and resources for children & youth, mental health & community wellness, adult education & training, legal services, and more. Through these programs, Erie empowers the people they work alongside to build powerful communities.

ILLINOIS COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS

55 E. Jackson Blvd. Suite #2075

Chicago, IL 60604

(312) 332-7360

The [Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights](#) (ICIRR) is dedicated to promoting the rights of immigrants and refugees to full and equal participation in the civic, cultural, social, and political life of our diverse society.

HANA CENTER

4300 N. California Ave

Chicago, IL 60618

(773) 583-5501

The [HANA Center](#) seeks to empower Korean American and multiethnic immigrant communities through social services, education, culture, and community organizing to advance human rights.

LATINOS PROGRESANDO

3047 W. Cermak Rd.

Chicago, IL 60623

(773) 542-7077

The mission of [Latinos Progresando](#) is to deliver high quality information and resources for people to build secure, healthy, and productive lives. The organization was built from the ground up, and even after 20 years, the vision continues to be shaped and led by people in the community.



LEGAL AID CHICAGO

Get help: (312) 341-1070

[Legal Aid Chicago](#) is free representation in civil legal matters for clients who lack the resources to hire an attorney on their own. The American legal system promises equal justice to all citizens, but it's also enormously complex, and hiring a lawyer to navigate through it can be prohibitively expensive. Too often, the high costs of representation block people living in poverty from participating in the legal system that is meant to protect them.

LOGAN SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

2840 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Chicago, IL 60618
(773) 384-4370

The mission of [Logan Square Neighborhood Association](#) (LSNA) is to convene networks of neighbors, schools, businesses, social service agencies, faith communities, and other organizations to collaborate for thriving communities in Logan Square, Avondale, and Lathrop Homes. LSNA is committed to empowering and maintaining these communities as diverse, safe, and affordable neighborhoods in which to live and work, learn, and grow.

MEXICAN AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND

11 E. Adams Suite #700
Chicago, IL 60603
(312) 427-0701

The [Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund](#) (MALDEF) is the nation's leading Latino legal civil rights organization. Often described as the "law firm of the Latino community," MALDEF promotes social change through advocacy, communications, community education, and litigation in the areas of education, employment, immigrant rights and political access.



NATIONAL IMMIGRANT JUSTICE CENTER

208 S. La Salle Suite #1818
Chicago, IL 60604
(312) 660-1370

Heartland Alliance's [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (NIJC) is dedicated to ensuring human rights protections and access to justice for all immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. NIJC provides direct legal services to and advocates for these populations through policy reform, impact litigation, and public education. Since its founding three decades ago, NIJC has been unique in blending individual client advocacy with broad-based systemic change.

OFFICE OF NEW AMERICANS OFFICE OF THE MAYOR CITY OF CHICAGO

The [Office of New Americans \(ONA\)](#) is dedicated to improving services and engaging Chicago's diverse immigrant and refugee communities through enhanced collaboration with community organizations, academic institutions, and the private sector. Through the ONA, Mayor Lightfoot is committed to working to improve the day-to-day experiences of the city's foreign-born residents while delivering economic, social, and cultural benefits for all Chicagoans.

PILSEN NEIGHBORS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

2026 S. Blue Island Ave.
Chicago, IL 60608
(312) 666-2663

By focusing on the development of community leaders, the [Pilsen Neighbors Community Council](#) (PNCC) has worked in alliance with churches, other community-based organizations and schools to make people's voice heard on a path to citizenship, education funding reform, economic development, and health care.



UNITED AFRICAN ORGANIZATION

3424 S. State St.
Chicago, IL 60616
(312) 949-9980

[United African Organization](#) (UAO) is a dynamic coalition of African community-based organizations that promote social and economic justice, civic participation, and empowerment of African immigrants and refugees in Illinois. UAO advocates on behalf of the African community through democratic and inclusive organizational structures, as well as partnership with other immigrant rights organizations.

WORLD RELIEF

3507 W. Lawrence Ave.
Chicago, IL 60625
(773) 583-9191

The mission of [World Relief](#) is empowering the local church to serve the most vulnerable.



National Resources

MENTAL WELLNESS

[UndocuBlack Network - Mental Wellness Initiative](#)

[10 Affirmations to Help Undocumented Immigrants Turn Panic into Resistance](#)

[Define American's #UndocuJoy - Undocumented Americans send authentic messages of joy!](#)

[Mental Health and Civil Rights Resources by NILC](#)

[National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#) 1-800-273-TALK (8255), en Español 1-888-628-9454.

[Coalition for Immigrant Mental Health \(CIMH\) List of Resources](#)

ORGANIZATIONS TO FOLLOW

[National Immigration Law Center](#)

[Immigrant Legal Resource Center](#)

[United We Dream](#)

[Immigrants Rising](#)

[Informed Immigrant](#)

[Fwd.Us](#)

[Generation Progress](#)

[President's Alliance on Immigration and Higher Education](#)



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

[Immigration Legal Resource Center](#) (pocket-size Know Your Rights cards)

[American Civil Liberties Union](#)

[Mijente: Prepare for raids](#)

[Notifica - Deportation Defense](#) (downloadable app)

[Raids Resource List](#)

[We Have Rights Video Series in seven languages](#)

[Immigrant and Refugee Children: A Guide for Educators and School Support Staff](#)

[American Federation of Teachers - Know Your Immigrant Rights Factsheet](#)

DACA AND EMPLOYMENT

[National Immigration Law Center - About DACA and Employment](#)

[Immigrants Rising - Making Money](#)

Spark: A free program by Immigrants Rising where folks with and without DACA can learn ways to generate income through contracting and business start-up opportunities

DACA FAQ

[Immigration Legal Resource Center - The Fate of DACA](#)

[DACA Decision Overview and What Educators Can Do by Teaching Tolerance](#)

[Department of Justice press release in regard to DACA](#)

[Latest on DACA from Department of Homeland Security](#)

DACA RENEWALS

[National Immigration Law Center - How to renew DACA](#)

[Mission Asset Funds](#)

[United We Dream DACA renewal fund](#)



ADVOCACY EFFORTS TO DEFEND IMMIGRANT RIGHTS

[Ways to protect immigrant youth and take action](#)

[UndocuBlack Network](#)

[Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project](#)

[The Movement for Black Lives](#)

[Asian Americans Advancing Justice](#)

[National Korean American Service and Education](#)

[Generation Progress: Support Undocumented Students Toolkit](#)

[Mijente](#)

[Informed Immigrant](#)

[Movimiento Cosecha](#)

Education Resources

[College Guide for Undocumented Students](#)

[IACAC College Advising Guide for Undocumented Students \(state level\)](#)

[Immigrants Rising - Guide to Building On-Campus Undocumented Student Programs](#)