

A SPECIAL EDITION: IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

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Message from the CEO

A Special Edition: Immigrant Justice

Welcome to this special edition of our newsletter! It has been a significant time for immigration reform, and we wanted to take a moment to acknowledge what has happened and what is ahead.

On June 18, President Biden used his executive authority to keep families together. This action strengthens the economy and our social fabric. It was taken on the 12th anniversary

of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

In Illinois, 880,000 people live [in mixed-status households](#) while DACA recipients wield more than [\\$1.3 billion in spending power](#) and pay more than \$217 million in state and local taxes. The President's Executive Action positively affects hundreds of thousands of DACA recipients, DREAMers, and noncitizen spouses and children. Learn details [here](#).



On Juneteenth, elected officials, immigration advocates, and community members gathered at TRP for a press conference to mark this milestone. The President's action is a direct response to the organizing and advocacy by TRP and others across the country, particularly by leaders in Illinois and Washington, D.C. A heartfelt thank you to our elected officials and advocates: [U.S. Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin \(D-IL\)](#), [U.S. Rep. Jesús "Chuy" García \(D-IL\)](#), [U.S. Rep. Delia C. Ramirez \(D-IL\)](#), [Illinois State Sen. Karina Villa \(D-West Chicago\)](#), [State Rep. Lisa Hernandez \(D-Cicero\)](#), [City of Chicago Deputy Mayor for Immigrant, Migrant, and Refugee Rights Beatriz Ponce de Leon](#). [Watch the press conference here](#).



Eréndira "Ere" Rendón, who leads our Immigrant Justice work has shared her personal story as a DACA recipient, which you can read in [The New York Times](#). Ere attended

President Biden's announcement at the White House days after being awarded the esteemed Immigration Impact Award from the American Immigration Council.

We celebrate this victory for the families who will experience relief and justice. However, these actions are narrow as they do not include protections or work permits for the long-term undocumented who have contributed and labored in our country for decades. We will continue to advocate on their behalf until there is comprehensive immigration reform.

It is crucial that the immigrant community is well-informed and does not fall victim to misinformation. TRP's Immigrant Justice team is hosting a webinar to discuss the executive order and details on who qualifies and how to avoid scams during this process.

[Join the conversation here.](#)



Expanding the legal services landscape in Illinois is now more critical than ever. We're proud of the second cohort of Colibrí Fellows, who celebrated their graduation on June 7, 2024. The Colibrí Fellowship facilitates Department of Justice (DOJ) Accreditation to bolster the capacity of community-based legal aid organizations, increase the number of bilingual/bicultural legal professionals, and promote DOJ accreditation as a career pathway. Our fellows' impact on immigrant families and communities has been truly inspiring. Interested applicants for the 2025 Cohort can apply [here](#). **The deadline is July 12, 2024.**

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In partnership,
Raul I. Raymundo

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