IMMIGRANT/REFUGEE SPECIFIC RESOURCES

Each person's journey through life is a unique narrative shaped by their experiences and aspirations. We recognize and embrace this diversity as we extend a warm welcome to anyone seeking resources and support from organizations that serve immigrants and refugees.

Whether you're seeking legal assistance for yourself or a loved one, embarking on the journey of immigration to the United States, or needing any other service, this guide is your compassionate companion. Our mission is to provide a comprehensive approach that acknowledges individuals' diverse experiences and challenges while pursuing new beginnings in a foreign land.

We have listed many resources, including legal aid, resettlement programs, cultural organizations, and educational resources. We aim to provide hope, understanding, and the assistance every person deserves as they navigate the path toward a brighter future in a new home.

We invite you to explore the resources in this guide at your own pace, seeking the support and knowledge that resonate with you. If you have any questions or concerns about an agency listed in this guide, please do not hesitate to contact our offices at 225-342-1570 for more information.

Health & Happiness,

ASISTA

Click here for website

ASISTA is a network of attorneys and advocates across the nation working at the intersection of immigration and genderbased violence. Through policy change and legal support, we are challenging the oppressive systems that endanger survivors. ASISTA's mission is to advance the dignity, rights and liberty of immigrant survivors of violence. Our vision is that immigrants live in a just world free from violence.

BOAT PEOPLE SOS (BPSOS)

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Over the past decades, we have expanded our services to aid immigrants, refugees, victims of trafficking, disadvantaged students, and survivors of violence in the United States. Presently, BPSOS has come full-circle by expanding its international initiatives to provide assistance to victims of human rights violations in Vietnam, protecting Vietnamese asylum seekers in neighboring countries and rescuing victims of human trafficking around the globe.

FREEDOM FOR IMMIGRANTS

Click here for website

Hotline for people in detention: Dial 9233# from a facility phone

Hotline for people outside detention: 209-757-3733

Freedom for Immigrants is devoted to abolishing immigration detention, while ending the isolation of people currently suffering in this profit-driven system. We are the only nonprofit in the country monitoring the human rights abuses faced by immigrants detained by ICE through a national hotline and network of volunteer detention visitors, while also modeling a community-based alternative to detention that welcomes immigrants into the social fabric of the United States. Through these windows into the system, we gather data and stories to combat injustice at the individual level and push systemic change.

INFORMED IMMIGRANT

Click here for website

Informed Immigrant is dedicated to increasing access to resources and knowledge for the undocumented. Our name, Informed Immigrant, directly evokes our deep hope and ambitious mission of providing all undocumented immigrants with the knowledge and resources they need to feel prepared in our unpredictable political and enforcement environment. We collected a list of more than 1,000 organizations offering on-the-

ground legal support, healthcare services, and more to undocumented families. We sought answers and resources, and compiled them into one easy-to-access online resource. Since then, Informed Immigrant has become both a digital hub and offline network offering the most up-to-date and accessible information and guidance for the undocumented immigrant community.

ACLU - IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS

<u>Click here for website</u>

When the government has the power to deny legal rights and due process to one vulnerable group, everyone's rights are at risk. The ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project is dedicated to expanding and enforcing the civil liberties and civil rights of immigrants and to combating public and private discrimination against them. Using targeted impact litigation, advocacy, and public outreach, the ACLU protects the rights and liberties of immigrants.

CATHOLIC LEGAL IMMIGRATION NETWORK (CLINIC)

Click here for website

<u>Find legal help</u>

The Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc., has protected the legal rights of immigrant families and promoted their dignity in the Catholic tradition of welcoming the stranger. CLINIC provides training and support to a dedicated network of more than 400 Catholic and community-based immigration law providers in 49 states. In addition to supporting the network, CLINIC offers highly specialized direct legal representation, and training and technical assistance for immigrant defenders about current practice and strategy before the courts. We are guided by the Catholic principle of subsidiarity — to support our affiliate network in doing their best work within their communities, stepping in to provide direct legal service only when necessary.

IMMIGRATION ADVOCATES NETWORK

Click here for website Find Help

The Immigration Advocates Network (IAN), a program of Pro Bono Net, is dedicated to expanding access to immigration legal resources and information through collaboration and technology. IAN was created by leading immigrants' rights organizations, to increase access to justice for low-income immigrants and strengthen the capacity of organizations serving them. We create our own tools, build platforms for others, and work with partners to harness the power of technology and collective action to better support immigrants and their advocates.

IMMIGRATION LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER (LIRC)

Click here for website

The Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) is a national nonprofit resource center that provides immigration legal trainings, technical assistance, and educational materials, and engages in advocacy and immigrant civic engagement to advance immigrant rights. The ILRC publishes expert immigration practice manuals used by legal services providers nationwide. By providing education and leadership development, the ILRC helps immigrant communities and organizations advocate for improved policies, better access to services, and safer communities. ILRC attorneys are experts in the field of immigration law. Through our advocacy work at local, state, and federal levels, we work to ensure that policies and procedures impacting immigrant communities are fair and just.

LOUISIANA ADVOCATES FOR IMMIGRANTS IN DETENTION (LA-AID)

Click here for website

Family Text Line: 318-769-0852

Louisiana Advocates for Immigrants in Detention is an allvolunteer state-wide organization that assists immigrants in the 8 Louisiana detention centers and 1 Mississippi detention center in Natchez. LA-AID Volunteers are on the ground working in Lafayette, Monroe, Alexandria, and Shreveport to provide transportation, meals, and overnight hosting for released immigrants as they travel to their family/sponsor. We also visit and write letters to people in detention, advocate for humane treatment and medical care within detention through ICE, monitor the population in detention centers, and communicate with detained immigrant's families to provide resource materials for them to navigate the DHS/ICE process. We are not attorneys and do not provide legal representation for immigrants.

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS

<u>Click here for website</u>

The National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (NNIRR) is a national organization composed of local coalitions and immigrant, refugee, community, religious, civil rights and labor organizations and activists. It serves as a forum to share information and analysis, to educate communities and the general public, and to develop and coordinate plans of action on important immigrant and refugee issues. We work to promote a just immigration and refugee policy in the United States and to defend and expand the rights of all immigrants and refugees, regardless of immigration status.

REFUGEE COUNCIL USA

Click here for website

Refugee Council USA (RCUSA) is a coalition of more than thirty U.S.-based nonprofit organizations supporting and protecting the rights of forcibly displaced people. Our work focuses on advocacy, strategic communications, and programmatic coordination. Since 2000, we have served as the only national coalition devoted to forcibly displaced people in the United States. As a thought leader and convener, we advance collective learning and action to respond to crises, transform humanitarian systems, and help affected communities thrive.

USAHELLO

Click here for website

USAHello is a free online center for information and education for refugees, asylum seekers, immigrants and welcoming communities. USAHello's platform serves as a hub for trustworthy information and educational resources. We work hard to be relevant to the communities we serve. Our information is written in plain English and translated into additional languages to ensure it is accessible to as many people as possible. Our website covers a wide range of topics, and our FindHello app connects people to local services. Our popular online classroom offers free citizenship and GED® preparation classes.

LOUISIANA ORGANIZATION FOR REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS (LORI)

Click here for website Phone: 225-239-7819

LORI acknowledges the gap of services and establishes an organization by refugees and immigrants alike to serve the needs of refugees and immigrants in Baton Rouge and Louisiana

at large. Our mission is to assist refugees and immigrants throughout their various stages of integration in Louisiana and other states, enabling them to become self-reliant. At Louisiana Organization For Refugees and Immigrants, we always look out for the welfare of refugees, asylum seekers, and immigrants. We also cater to Louisiana's residents who are interested in learning about different cultures.

THE NATIONAL IMMIGRANT WOMEN'S ADVOCACY PROJECT

Click here for website

The National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) addresses the needs of immigrant women, immigrant children and immigrant victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other crimes by advocating for reforms in law, policy and practice. NIWAP is a national provider of training, legal and social science research, policy development, and technical assistance to advocates, attorneys, pro bono law firms, law schools, universities, law enforcement, prosecutors, social service and health care providers, justice system personnel, and other professionals who work with immigrant women, children and crime victims. Our work supports those in the field and in government who work to improve laws, regulations, policies, and practices to enhance legal options and opportunities for immigrant women and children.

UNHCR

Click here for website

Help for refugees and asylum-seekers

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency works to ensure that everybody has the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge, having fled violence, persecution or war at home. We lead international action to protect refugees, forcibly displaced communities and stateless people. We provide life-saving assistance, including shelter, food, water and medical care for people forced to flee conflict and persecution, many of whom have nobody left to turn to. We defend their right to reach safety and help them find a place to call home so they can rebuild their lives. Long term, we work with countries to improve and monitor refugee and asylum laws and policies, ensuring human rights are upheld. In everything we do UNHCR considers refugees and those forced to flee as partners, putting those most affected at the centre of planning and decision-making.

WOMEN'S REFUGEE COMMISSION

Click here for website

The Women's Refugee Commission (WRC) is creating a better world for refugees. WRC catalyzes transformative change to protect and empower women, children, and youth displaced by conflict and crisis. WRC's mission is to improve the lives and protect the rights of women, children, and youth displaced by conflict and crisis. We research their needs, identify solutions, and advocate for programs and policies to strengthen their resilience and drive change in humanitarian practice.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE – VISAS FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Click here for website

Victims of severe forms of human trafficking are provided relief under U.S. immigration law by the Victims of Trafficking in Persons (T) nonimmigrant visa. This status allows victims of human trafficking to remain in the United States to assist in investigations or prosecutions of human trafficking violators. The purpose of this webpage is to explain the visa application process at U.S. Embassies and Consulates abroad for family members of trafficking victims.