

Immigrant Justice Legal Services (IJLS) Grantee Program Descriptions

Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center (APALRC)

KYR • Eligibility Screenings • Extended Services

- The APALRC will conduct “Know Your Rights” workshops for the District’s API community to educate them on the new executive orders, the impact of these orders on their immigration status, their civil and legal rights, and safety planning.
- During these workshops, the APALRC plans to conduct screenings of those in attendance to determine whether they may be eligible for any form of immigration relief. The APALRC will provide advice, brief services, full representation or legal referrals to those individuals that may be eligible for immigration relief.

Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project

Specialized Workshops for Survivors • Referrals • KYR

- DVRP will facilitate 2 rounds of “Immigration Relief for Survivors” workshops comprised of 5 sessions each. (Topics will include: eligibility criteria for obtaining a VAWA self-petition, Battered Spouse Waiver, and U-Visa; understanding the dynamics of DV and SA; the elements of emotional safety planning; how to draft an affidavit; required documentation and cultural/emotional support.) By the conclusion of each round participants will have compiled most of the basic elements of a petition which they can then share with an immigration attorney thereby significantly reducing the attorneys’ time on the case.
- DVRP will provide referrals to immigration attorneys who will review survivors’ documentation and determine whether they can provide representation. DVRP will leverage its preexisting relationships with organizations like APALRC, DCVLP and Tahirih – and other IJLS grantees.
- DVRP will conduct two “Know Your Rights” sessions in the district’s API communities to raise awareness regarding DV/SA and the types of immigration relief available to survivors.

Ayuda

Educational Outreach • Clinics • Case Placements • Online Videos

- Ayuda will conduct monthly educational outreach events that have alternating themes, depending on the needs and concerns identified by the communities to whom we will present. These themes will include: know-your-rights presentations; eligibility for basic forms of immigration relief; avoiding immigration fraud schemes; immigration law updates as laws and policies evolve under a new administration; and other themes that emerge as relevant to the foreign born community as the grant period progresses.
- Ayuda will conduct clinics that include:
 - Monthly Consult & Safety Planning Clinics: Individual immigrant participants will be provided an individual consultation with a volunteer attorney who will assess eligibility for various types of affirmative and defensive immigration relief.

- Safety Planning Clinics: Individual participants from families where members have different immigration statuses will be assisted in drafting and formalizing safety plans to ensure that children remain stable and cared for should any family member fall victim to an immigration enforcement action.
- Ayuda will place individual client cases with pro bono attorneys who will provide legal representation with ongoing mentorship by experienced Ayuda immigration staff. These cases may arise through the monthly Consult and Safety Planning clinics.
- Ayuda staff attorneys will work in collaboration with the Hispanic Bar Association of DC (HBA) to write content and scripts for informational videos on immigration issues that will be shared online with potential clients and pro bono partners.

Briya Public Charter School

KYR • Individual Legal Consultations • Extended Representation

- Via Know Your Rights information fairs, attorneys from Julia M. Toro Law Firm will share information about the rights of immigrants and residents of the District. After attending a fair, parents will be able to identify at least two rights they possess in the District.
- Attorneys from Julia M. Toro Law Firm Parents will provide individual legal consultations so that individuals can determine the legal viability of their particular immigration situation and identify next steps in their case.
- Julia M. Toro Law Firm will identify at least 20 families who will receive full legal representation in applications and proceedings regarding asylum, deportation, S,T, U, Special Immigrant Juvenile visas and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) petitions on a pro bono basis.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, Inc.

Extended Representation • Pro Bono Attorney Training

- At Catholic Charities' four current office locations, foreign-born individuals and their families receive direct legal advice and representation in a range of immigration legal services including: naturalization and citizenship, asylum, family and employment based immigrant petitions, relief from removal in Immigration Court, VAWA self-petitions for survivors of domestic violence, U and T visas for victims of crime and trafficking, Temporary Protected Status, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), and consular processing.
- ILS also conducts workshops that focus on training lawyers to provide pro bono services and educating community groups on the latest immigration issues.

DC Affordable Law Firm

Comprehensive Legal Services • KYR • Safety Planning for Deportation

- The D.C. Affordable Law Firm will provide up to 1,000 pro bono hours of legal services. Additionally, Arent Fox and DLA Piper attorneys and Georgetown University Law Center professors will provide necessary pro bono assistance and expertise. DCALF may take on affirmative USCIS filings, asylum applications and hearings, deportation proceedings, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status visas, S/T/U visas, and more. Additionally, DCALF will assist with non-immigration law matters such as trusts and regulatory compliance.
- The Ethiopian Community Center will organize Know-Your-Rights workshops, provide interpretation services, refer clients to DCALF and other attorneys, provide citizenship education, and connect clients to social services.
- Lutheran Social Service of the National Capital Area will use the grant funding to assist families facing separation due to deportation. This will include safety planning for deportation, as well as related mechanisms of support.

Human Rights First

Asylum Cases • KYR • Pro Bono Attorney Trainings

- HRF will prepare asylum and other affirmative applications, attend asylum interviews and hearings, and provide on-going pro bono legal representation for 50 current cases, serving over 60 Washington, D.C. residents.
- HRF will accept an additional 8-10 asylum cases (that will touch 10-15 D.C. residents) to be matched with pro bono attorneys at Washington, D.C. law firms and/or to be represented by Human Rights First staff.
- HRF will conduct two (2) Know-Your-Rights briefings and workshops.
- HRF will enable pro bono attorneys to learn and gain experience in asylum law and procedure that they can then apply prospectively. To do this, HRF will conduct four (4) asylum law and procedure trainings for 40 pro bono attorneys.
- HRF will continue representing its asylum-seeker clients in deportation proceedings as necessary.

Kids in Need of Defense

Pro Bono Attorney Mentoring • Referrals • Pro Bono Attorney Trainings • Direct Representation

KIND provides pro bono legal representation to unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children through both in-house representation, as well as through pro bono attorneys whom KIND proactively recruits, trains and mentors. The IJLS-affiliated attorney will focus exclusively on DC resident children in need of these services. His/her work will include:

- Recruiting and training pro bono attorneys from law firms, corporations and law schools;
Conducting intake interviews with every child referred to the office to assess legal and other needs;
- Matching children with trained pro bono attorneys;
- Mentoring each pro bono attorney throughout the duration of each child's case; and

- Providing direct representation to children with sensitive or particularly complex cases.

Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition International

Pro Bono Attorney Mentoring • Referrals • Pro Bono Attorney Trainings • Direct Representation

- TASSC supports torture survivors in navigating the asylum process. To facilitate this, TASSC will use IJLS funds to hire a part-time attorney who will serve 40 new DC residents over three years. He/she will:
 - Build a personal statement describing the persecution they suffered;
 - Secure medical and psychological forensic reports to support their cases from TASSC's Mental Health and Social Services Program expert staff;
 - Help survivors collect evidence, and review the evidence submitted;
 - Organize the reviewed evidence and prepare it for submission to the asylum office or the immigration court; and
 - Represent clients as they secure an asylum interview or are referred to immigration court. The part-time attorney will also collaborate with TASSC's staff to facilitate Know Your Rights workshops every other month for at least 70 total survivors who live in DC by September 30, 2017.

Whitman-Walker Health

Pro Bono Attorney Trainings • Eligibility Screenings • Trainings for Social Service Providers • Referrals • Help DC Immigrants Access Benefits • Pro Bono Attorney Mentoring

- WWH will lead the client outreach and education efforts building on existing community relationships.
- WWH will organize trainings for law firm pro bono volunteers to grow its already robust base of 34 firms involved in pro bono immigration work for WWH clients.
- WWH will offer trainings to DC social service providers on issues impacting LGBT and HIV+ DC immigrants;
- WWH will meet with and screen all potential clients;
- WWH provide detailed counseling and/or referrals in appropriate cases;
- WWH place selected cases with pro bono attorneys (other than D&P);
- WWH mentor pro bono attorneys;
- WWH will help individuals and families access health insurance and public benefits; and (9) accept clients for direct representation. Specifically, direct legal work will include representing individuals in (a) asylum applications; (b) applications for green cards and U.S. citizenship; (c) applications/renewals of DACA (including litigation to challenge use of DACA information for purposes of enforcement, if appropriate); (d) applications under VAWA and U, T, and SIJS status; and (e) petitions for family reunification.