



CIMH Policy & Advocacy Workgroup Update

APRIL 2022



Action Alert

ILLINOIS

A series of wins and successes in Springfield for immigrant communities!

- \$38M for immigrant services line
- \$105M for Welcoming Centers
- Earned Income Credit expansions will cover 1 million new residents, including ITIN filers
- [HB 4343](#) Medicaid coverage for 42+ regardless of status (see [here](#))
- Right to Counsel in Immigration Proceedings Act (SB 3144)

Follow [ICIRR](#) news

- Sen. Durbin (D-IL) calls for [bipartisan group](#) to review & reform current immigration bills

FEDERAL

Our workgroup created a CIMH sign on letter for the DHS Public Charge comment period ending 4/25. Stay tuned for a listserv e-mail this week.

- On April 1st, Biden Administration announced plans to end Title 42, but upholds MPP
- [Time article](#) comments on the Administration's contradictory immigration policy actions
- April 15 Biden announced [TPS designation for Cameroon](#)

Policies we are tracking

→ Title 42

- Title 42 expulsion order [effective May 23](#)
- [21 states join lawsuit](#) against Biden Administration

→ Federal Budget

- \$81 Billion in [DHS funding](#)
- Homeland Security budget proposed [\\$97.3 Billion](#)
- ICE funding [includes requirement](#) to publish data on those in their custody

→ DACA

- USCIS opens online [renewals](#)
- No updates on January public comment period

→ Immigration Enforcement

Memo to OLPA advising dismissal of non-priority cases (See [Borderlines summary](#))

- Highest priority to threats to national security; lowest priority to "border security" (recent border crossers)
- Instructs attorneys not to file Notice to Appear, preventing the filing of non-priority cases

→ Asylum

EOIR/DHS/USCIS release interim rule based on public comments from Oct 2021 NPRM

- Transfers decision making to [USCIS officials](#) (See [Human Rights First](#))
- Public comment closes **May 31**
- Please contact us with any information to guide CIMH response

Transgender Visibility and Immigration

Transgender and LGBTQ+ immigrants often face persecution, violence, and discrimination in their home countries, prompting them to seek asylum in the U.S.



14%

of surveyed transgender immigrants in 2015 reported being held in solitary confinement for more than 6 months during their detention

<https://transequality.org/sites/default/files/docs/usts/USTS-Full-Report-Dec17.pdf>



29%

of surveyed transgender immigrants in 2015 were denied access to gender affirming care such as hormone treatment in detention

<https://transequality.org/sites/default/files/docs/usts/USTS-Full-Report-Dec17.pdf>



LGBTQ+ asylum seekers entered the U.S. between 2007 and 2017



CIMH Resources



Research and Data Corner

- California-based study highlights that anti-immigrant rhetoric impacts Latinx parents sense of their child's safety. [Find it here.](#)

Local Spotlight ✨

- Dr. Ferrera & Dr. Giri publish in AMA Journal of Ethics on best practices for asylum forensic evaluations. [Find it here.](#)
- [Injustice Watch x Chicago Tribune](#) report calls for attention to advocacy actions to support undocumented immigrants over age 65 in Chicago.

Please let us know about any local research spotlights for upcoming updates.



Want more information? Join our [monthly workgroup meetings](#) and see [previous updates!](#)

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