

January 11, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
President-Elect of the United States  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear President-Elect Biden:

As organizations representing immigrant families, health care access, children, people with disabilities, nutrition, public health, housing, and economic opportunity, we appreciate your commitment to reversal of the Trump administration's dangerous public charge regulations. These cruel rules are directly harming immigrants and their families and undermining our country's pandemic response. We urge you to begin work immediately after your inauguration, by issuing an Executive Order that includes directing agencies to rescind the public charge regulations and committing the White House to swift, bold and comprehensive policy and outreach strategies aimed at ensuring immigrants and their families feel safe in accessing public benefits and services.

The Department of Homeland Security implemented Trump's public charge policy on February 24, 2020. Since then, [research has shown](#) that the Trump public charge regulation has effectively denied millions in immigrant families the help they need, contributing to rising hunger, poverty, and unmet health care needs, even before the COVID-19 pandemic began. The Department of State adopted a similar policy that led to [skyrocketing denials](#) of immigrant visas and deepened the policy's dangerous "chilling effect." An immediate commitment to reverse these reckless policies would send a critical message to immigrant families that the federal government is not a threat.

Urgent action isn't just about symbolism — in fact, it's a matter of life and death. The pandemic has taken the heaviest toll on those already bearing the burdens of health disparity and economic marginalization resulting from centuries of institutional racism. According to the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), the COVID-19 case rate, hospitalization rate, and death rate are all significantly higher for persons of color. And as both [clinicians](#) and [researchers](#) have documented, immigrants and their families face additional obstacles, including policies like public charge that discourage needed testing and care.

The Trump public charge policy also poses a significant threat to effective COVID-19 vaccine distribution. To the degree that immigrant families consider vaccination a potential threat to immigration status, vaccination efforts will suffer, prolonging the health crisis and delaying economic recovery.

That is why you must act with urgency. Immigrants must hear from the highest office in the land that they are again welcome and valued members of our society. A reference in your inaugural address or some other public statement during your first few days in office would provide critical

assurances. Those assurances would have even more effect backed by the launch of a robust public engagement campaign by federal agencies, offering clear and transparent information about the limitations of the Trump public charge policy as it concerns public programs. In addition, work to repeal and replace the public charge rules should begin immediately-during the transition, given the urgent need for change and the time-consuming nature of regulatory development. We know that it may take time to formally roll back the public charge regulation but taking these first steps, while work advances, can do much to begin thawing the policy's chilling effect and rebuilding trust.

We know you understand the danger posed by this policy and, again, appreciate your leadership in committing to its reversal. But the need is urgent, and time is not on our side. You must act quickly to set in motion the needed steps.

Thank you for your consideration and your leadership in building a nation where all families can thrive.

Sincerely,

ABC for Health, Inc.  
ABLE NH (Advocates Building Lasting Equality in NH)  
About Fresh  
ACCESS  
Access Alaska, Inc.  
ACLU of West Virginia  
ACLU People Power Fairfax  
African Services Committee, Inc.  
AHRI Center  
Alabama Arise  
Alabama Coalition for Immigrant Justice  
Alameda County Community Food Bank  
Aldea - The People's Justice Center  
Alianza Nacional de Campesinas  
Alliance of People with DisAbilities  
Aloha Immigration  
AltaMed Health Services  
Amani Community Services  
American Association of People with Disabilities  
American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD)  
American Friends Service Committee  
American Gateways  
Americans for Immigrant Justice  
Anti-Hunger & Nutrition Coalition  
Arab-American Family Support Center

Arizona ADAPT  
Arizona Center for Disability Law  
Arizona Food Bank Network  
Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance  
Arkansas Immigrant Defense  
Ascentria Care Alliance  
Asian American Health Coalition dba HOPE Clinic  
Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF)  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles  
Asian Americans for Community Involvement  
Asian Health Services  
Asian Law Alliance  
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO  
Asian Pacific Environmental Network  
Asian Pacific Fund  
Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence  
Asian Resources, Inc  
Asian Services In Action (ASIA)  
Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence  
Association for Special Children and Families  
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)  
Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)  
Association to Benefit Children  
Autistic Self Advocacy Network  
Badass Teachers Association  
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law  
Benefits Data Trust  
Beyond Visions, Inc.  
Boston Center for Independent Living (BCIL)  
Boston Children's Hospital  
Boston Medical Center  
Boston Senior Home Care  
Bread for the World  
Building Audacity  
Building One Community  
C.A.R.E.  
Cabrini Immigrant Services of NYC  
California Association of Food Banks  
California Central Valley Journey for Justice  
California Immigrant Policy Center  
California Pan-Ethnic Health Network  
California Partnership to End Domestic Violence  
California Primary Care Association (CPCA)  
Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee

Cambridge Health Alliance  
Care For the Homeless  
Casa Myrna Vazquez, Inc.  
Casa San Jose  
Catalyst of San Diego & Imperial Counties  
CathARTic Breakthroughs  
Catholic Charities of Idaho  
CBR YouthConnect  
Center for Employment Training  
Center for Health Progress  
Center for Independence  
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)  
Center for Pan Asian Community Services  
Center for Public Representation  
Central West Justice Center  
Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy  
Charlton Chip In Food Pantry  
Children's Alliance  
Children's Defense Fund  
Children's Defense Fund - Texas  
Children's HealthWatch  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Children's Institute  
Children's Wisconsin  
Children's Hospital Los Angeles  
Children's Emergency Medical Fund of New Jersey  
Chinese for Affirmative Action  
Chinese Progressive Association  
Church World Service  
CIANA Inc.  
Citizen Action of Wisconsin  
City Harvest  
Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center  
Clinica Colorado  
Coalition for Immigrant Health  
Coalition on Homelessness  
Coalition on Human Needs  
Code for America  
Colorado Association for School-Based Health Care  
Colorado Center on Law and Policy  
Colorado Children's Campaign  
Colorado Consumer Health Initiative  
Colorado Latino Leadership Advocacy and Research Organization  
Common Good Iowa

CommunicationFIRST  
Community Action Agency of Somerville  
Community Catalyst  
Community Clinic Association of LA County  
Community Clinic Consortium  
Community Council of Idaho  
Community Enabler Developer, Inc.  
Community Food Advocates  
Community Health Care Association of New York State  
Community Health Councils  
Community Health Initiative of Orange County, Director of Programs & Policy  
Community Health Network of Washington  
Community Health Partnership of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties  
Community Health Plan of Washington  
Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.  
Community Legal Services of Philadelphia  
Community Medical Centers  
Compass Family Services  
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals  
Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants  
Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center  
Connecticut Shoreline Indivisible  
Connecticut Voices for Children  
Cook County Health  
Council of Administrators of Special Education  
Covenant House  
Crisis Intervention Service  
CRLA Foundation  
CSA San Diego County  
D.C. Hunger Solutions  
Daily Bread Food Pantry  
DC Primary Care Association  
Decency & Clarity  
Desert Progressives Indivisible  
Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation  
Direct Advocacy & Resource Center  
Disability Law Center of Alaska  
Disability Law Colorado  
Disability Resource Center  
Disability Rights Advocates  
Disability Rights California  
Disability Rights Center of the VI  
Disability Rights Connecticut  
Disability Rights Florida

Disability Rights Michigan  
Disability Rights Nebraska  
Disability Rights New Jersey  
Disability Rights North Carolina  
Disability Rights Oregon  
Disability Rights Pennsylvania  
Disability Rights South Carolina  
Disability Rights Tennessee  
Disability Rights Vermont  
Disability Rights Washington  
Doctors for America Immigrant Health Justice Working Group  
Dolores Street Community Services  
Domestic Violence Intervention Program  
Dominican Sisters ~ Grand Rapids  
DOVE (DOMestic Violence Ended), Inc.  
Dream Action Oklahoma  
East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation  
East Bay Community Foundation  
East Bay Community Law Center  
East Bay Sanctuary Covenant  
East Boston Neighborhood Health Center  
East Colfax Community Collective  
East Harlem Community Health Committee, Inc.  
East Harlem Health Outreach Partnership  
El Centro, Inc.  
Emerald Isle Immigration Center  
Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC)  
Enlace Chicago  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Equality California  
Equality North Carolina  
Espacio Migrante  
EverThrive Illinois  
Eviction Defense Collaborative  
Faith in the Valley  
Family Crisis Services, Inc.  
Family Resources  
Family Voices  
Family Voices NJ  
Family Voices of California  
Farmworker Justice  
Federation for Children with Special Needs  
Feeding America  
Feeding Texas

First 5 LA  
First Focus on Children  
Florida Health Justice Project  
Food Bank of Northern Nevada  
Food Research & Action Center  
Fools Mission  
Freedom Network USA  
Futures Without Violence  
Gender Justice LA  
Georgia Advocacy Office  
GLIDE  
Golden Valley Health Centers  
Granite State Interfaith Action Fund  
Granite State Organizing Project  
Granite State Progress Education Fund  
Greater Boston Legal Services  
Greater Chicago Food Depository  
Greater Hartford Legal Aid  
Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger  
Guttmacher Institute  
HANA Center  
Hathaway -Sycamores  
Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center  
Health Care For All  
Health Law Advocates  
Heartland Alliance  
Hep B United  
Hep Free Hawaii  
Hepatitis B Foundation  
HIAS Pennsylvania  
Hispanic Outreach Ministry  
Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA-JPIC  
Home Forward  
Housing Action Illinois  
Human Impact Partners  
Human Rights Initiative of North Texas  
Human Services Consortium of East Harlem  
Hunger Free Colorado  
Hunger Free Oklahoma  
Hunger Solutions New York  
Hunger-Free Oregon  
Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence  
Idaho Hunger Relief Task Force Inc.  
Idaho Interfaith Roundtable Against Hunger

Idaho Voices for Children  
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR)  
Illinois Hunger Coalition  
Illuminate Colorado  
Immigrant Hope - Wyoming Idaho  
Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota  
Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project  
Independence Northwest, Inc.  
Indivisible Western Springs  
Innovation Law Lab  
Interfaith Food Pantry Network  
International Community Health Services  
Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Iowa Coalition For Collective Change  
Jesuit Social Research Institute/Loyola University New Orleans  
Jewish Family & Children's Service of Greater Boston  
Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles  
Jewish Family Service of San Diego  
Just Harvest  
Justice Center of Southeast Massachusetts  
Justice in Aging  
Justice Resource Institute, Inc.  
Kansas Appleseed Center for Law and Justice  
Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence  
Kent Street Coalition  
Kentucky Equal Justice Center  
Khmer Girls in Action  
Kids Forward  
La Casa de Amistad, Inc.  
La Clinica de La Raza, Inc.  
Lanai Community Health Center  
Larkin Street Youth Services  
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California  
Latino Community Center  
Latino Policy Forum  
LatinoJustice PRLDEF  
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley  
Legal Aid Justice Center  
Legal Aid of Marin  
Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County  
Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia  
Lifelongmedicalcare  
Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry



Logan Square Neighborhood Association  
Los Angeles Regional Food Bank  
Louisiana Budget Project  
Maine Business Immigration Coalition  
Maine Community Integration  
Maine Parent Federation  
Massachusetts Councils on Aging  
Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition  
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute  
Massachusetts Public Health Association  
Massachusetts Senior Action Council  
Maternal and Child Health Access  
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger  
MetroWest Legal Services  
Michigan Family Voices  
Michigan Immigrant Rights Center  
Michigan League for Public Policy  
Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid - Minnesota Disability Law Center  
Migrant Clinicians Network  
Mississippi Center for Justice  
Mixteco Indígena Community Organizing Project  
Montana Budget and Policy Center  
Montana Women Vote  
Montgomery County Food Council  
Mountain State Justice  
Muslim Public Affairs Council  
NAKASEC Virginia  
NASTAD  
National Alliance for Safe Housing  
National Asian Pacific American Families Against Substance Abuse  
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF)  
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities  
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators  
National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy and Community Empowerment (National PLACE)  
National Coalition for Latinxs with Disabilities (CNLD)  
National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low-income clients)  
National Council of Asian Pacific Americans  
National Council on Independent Living  
National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)  
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association  
National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA)  
National Health Law Program  
National Homelessness Law Center

National Immigration Law Center  
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice  
National Low Income Housing Coalition  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
National Network for Arab American Communities  
National Network to End Domestic Violence  
National Respite Coalition  
National Skills Coalition  
NC Child  
NC Farmworker Advocacy Network  
NCAAT in Action  
Nebraska Appleseed  
Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence  
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice  
Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center  
Nevada Primary Care Association  
Never Again Coalition  
New Hampshire Legal Assistance  
New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty  
New Mexico Immigrant Law Center  
New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC)  
New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Nicaragua Center for Community Action  
NICOS Chinese Health Coalition  
North Carolina Asian Americans Together  
North Carolina Justice Center  
North Dakota KIDS COUNT  
North East Medical Services (NEMS)  
North Marin Community Services  
Northeast Valley Health Corporation  
Northern Illinois Food Bank  
Northwest Harvest  
Northwest Health Law Advocates  
Northwest Immigrant Rights Project  
Northwest Regional Primary Care Association  
Nourish California  
Oasis Legal Services  
OCA — Asian Pacific American Advocates  
OCA Asian Pacific Advocates - Greater Seattle  
OCA Greater Chicago  
Ohio Domestic Violence Network  
Oklahoma Policy Institute  
OLA of Eastern Long Island  
Old Mill Center for Children and Families, Inc.

One Nation Commission Co Chairs Sherry Hirota and Mike Honda  
Operation Access  
Orange County United Way  
Our Children Oregon  
Our Future West Virginia  
Pacific Gateway Center  
PAVE  
Pennsylvania Council of Churches  
Pennsylvania Immigration and Citizenship Coalition  
People's Community Clinic  
Philanthropy California  
Pilgrim United Church of Christ, Carlsbad CA  
Placer Independent Resource Services  
Positive Women's Network-USA  
Prairielands Freedom Fund  
PRC (Positive Resource Center)  
Preble Street  
Presentation Sisters Justice Commission  
Prevention Institute  
Project Bread  
Provincial Council Clerics of St. Viator  
Public Health Justice Collective  
Public Justice Center  
Redwood Community Health Coalition  
Restore Hope Ministries  
RESULTS  
Rhode Island KIDS COUNT  
Rights & Democracy NH  
Rosie's Place  
San Diegans for Healthcare Coverage  
San Diego Hunger Coalition  
San Diego Immigrant Rights Consortium  
San Francisco-Marin Food Bank  
Saratoga Immigration Coalition  
SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center  
Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness  
Second Harvest Food Bank Orange County  
Second Harvest of Silicon Valley  
Services, Immigrant Rights & Education Network (SIREN)  
Share Our Strength  
Sheng-Yen Lu Foundation (SYL Foundation)  
Shriver Center on Poverty Law  
Silver State Equality-Nevada  
Sisters and Brothers of Immigrants (SBI)

Soft Landing Missoula  
South Asian Network (SAN)  
South Central Family Health Center  
South Dakota KIDS COUNT  
South Dakota Voices for Justice  
South Dakota Voices for Peace  
Southeast Kansas Independent Living  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
SPAN Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN)  
Spanish American Center, Inc.  
Still Waters Anti-trafficking Program  
Tennessee Justice Center  
Texas Council on Family Violence  
The AIDS Institute  
The Arc of the United States  
The Children's Partnership  
The Coelho Center for Disability Law, Policy and Innovation  
The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts  
The Food Project, Inc.  
The Greater Boston Food Bank  
The Legal Aid Society (New York)  
The Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health  
The Open Door  
The Parents' Place of MD  
The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies  
The Statewide Independent Living Council of Illinois  
The Workers Circle  
Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center  
TN Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition  
TODEC Legal Center  
Treatment Action Group  
UCLA School of Law, Immigrant Family Legal Clinic  
UndocuHealth Advocates  
UnidosUS  
Union for Reform Judaism  
United Cerebral Palsy  
United Parent Leaders Action Network (UPLAN)  
United Way of New York City  
Universidad Popular  
University YMCA New American Welcome Center  
URI Feinstein Center for a Hunger Free America  
Venice Family Clinic  
Vermont Family Network  
Vermont Foodbank

Veterans For Peace Linus Pauling Chapter  
Violence Free Colorado  
Virgin Islands Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.  
Virginia Coalition of Latino Organizations  
Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy  
Visión y Compromiso  
Voces  
Volunteers of Legal Service  
Waimanalo Health Center  
Wallingford Indivisible  
Washington Association for Community Health  
Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights  
Waypoint Services  
WeCount!  
Welcome Project, Inc.  
West Central Initiative  
West Marin Community Services  
West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy  
West Virginia Council of Churches  
West Virginia Interfaith Refugee Ministry  
West Virginia University Center for Resilient Communities  
West Virginia University Immigration Law Clinic  
West Virginians for Affordable Health Care  
Western Center on Law & Poverty  
Westside Family Healthcare  
William E. Morris Institute for Justice (Arizona)  
Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice  
Woburn Public Schools  
Women for Afghan Women  
Worcester County Food Bank, Inc.  
WV FREE  
Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic  
Yonkers Sanctuary Movement  
YPN (Young Parents Network)  
ZERO TO THREE