

FOR YOUR INFORMATION from Migration and Child Welfare National Network (MCWNN)/American Humane Association

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This newsletter is available for MCWNN members. Membership to MCWNN is free and only requires registration at <http://www.americanhumane.org/children/programs/child-welfare-migration/about.html>

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NOTE FROM MCWNN: Welcome to our first edition of the MCWNN newsletter with information targeted for individuals and agencies focused on the intersection of immigration and child welfare. We welcome your suggestions and resource recommendations – we hope you find this information useful.

NEW POSTINGS ON THE MCWNN WEBSITE: The MCWNN website includes reports, ppt and other information written by and for child welfare agencies and partners working with immigrant families. Here are two new resources recently posted on the website:

... A Social Worker's Tool Kit for Working With Immigrant Families – Healing the Damage: Trauma and Immigrant Families in the Child Welfare System (September 2010, 35 pages). Primary author – Elena Cohen, MSW, JBS International Inc./Washington DC.

<http://www.americanhumane.org/assets/pdfs/children/pc-toolkit-trauma-immigrant-families.pdf>

... Third National Forum of the MCWNN – Immigration, Child Welfare and Borders (San Antonio, TX/Jan 26-29, 2009, 26 pages). Conference summary edited by Alan Dettlaff, PhD, Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago)

<http://www.americanhumane.org/children/programs/child-welfare-migration/history/mwcnn-2009.html>

RESOURCES

GRANDFAMILIES STATE LAW AND POLICY RESOURCE CENTER – This national legal resource center is a partnership between the American Bar Association and Generations United staff. The center provides support to grandfamilies both within and outside the child welfare system and includes a searchable database of laws and legislation, personal stories and relevant resources.

<http://www.grandfamilies.org/>

IMMIGRANT SERVICES DIRECTORY – A NATIONAL GUIDE FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS, 2ND EDITION (Dec 2010, 523 pages). Developed by the ACLU Immigrants Rights Project, this directory includes information from service organizations in all 50 states and includes information on the area and detention facilities served, non-English language services, and other relevant information.

http://www.aclu.org/files/assets/ImServDir_20101229.pdf

TALKING WITH WEST AFRICAN IMMIGRANT PARENTS: USING FOCUS GROUPS AND INTERVIEWS TO GAIN IMPORTANT PERSPECTIVE (May 2010, 4 pages). Written by the International Rescue Committee, this publication was written to assist agencies working with refugee and immigrants from West African, based on focus group interviews with mostly Liberian parents in New York.

<http://www.ethniccommunities.org/library/SOARFY2010ParentFocusGroupTool6.25.10.pdf>

FINANCIAL AID GUIDE FOR COLLEGE-BOUND UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS (24 pages). This guide contains information about California legislation AB540 and in-state tuition, privacy concerns, applying to private colleges, scholarships, and other sources of financial aid.

http://www.e4fc.org/images/E4FC_FinAidGuide.pdf

Their website also includes a 12-page resource guide for counselors and educators working with college-bound undocumented students.

http://www.e4fc.org/images/E4FC_EducatorGuide.pdf

POLICY/RESEARCH REPORTS

Dettlaff, A.J., & Johnson, M.A., Child maltreatment dynamics among immigrant and U.S. born Latino children: Findings from the National Survey of Child and Adolescent, Children and Youth Services Review (2011), doi:[10.1016/j.chilyouth.2010.12.01](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2010.12.01)

INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN'S POLICY RESEARCH REPORT – Organizations Working with Latina Immigrants – Resources and Strategies for Change (March 2011, 108 pages). IWPR's study explored the challenges many Latina immigrants face and the ways that nonprofit organizations strive to address them in three areas with rapidly growing immigrant populations: Atlanta, GA, Phoenix, AZ, and Northern Virginia.

<http://www.iwpr.org/publications/pubs/organizations-working-with-latina-immigrants-resources-and-strategies-for-change/>

IMMIGRATION BRIEFING NEWSLETTER – From Kafka to Wilberforce: Is the U.S. Government's Approach to Child Migrants Improving? By Jacqueline Bhabha and Susan Schmidt, February 2011

NOTE: The appendix includes Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) Application by State of Resident for FY 2004-10. The Top 10 States with SIJS Applications for 2009 were California (394), Texas (171), Florida (160), New York (149), New Jersey (69), Michigan (56), Arizona (41), Massachusetts (40), Georgia (39), and Virginia (35). Most legal organization have membership to access this newsletter.

<http://west.thomson.com/productdetail/5086/15867088/productdetail.aspx>

THE FUTURE OF CHILDREN - IMMIGRANT CHILDREN (Spring 2011, 270 pages) – This journal by Princeton-Brooking features articles on the well-being of immigrant youth, with policy recommendations.

http://www.princeton.edu/futureofchildren/publications/journals/journal_details/index.xml?journalid=74

Map of State Immigration Laws (Latina.com)
<http://www.latina.com/immigration-by-state>

US STATE DEPARTMENT 2010 COUNTRY REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES (April 2011). This annual report provides detail on human rights conditions in over 190 countries for 2010.
<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2010/index.htm>

USCIS POLICY MEMO – Implementation of the Special Immigrant Juvenile Perez-Olano Settlement Agreement (April 4, 2011, 5 pages)
<http://www.uscis.gov/USCIS/Laws/Memoranda/2011/April/perez-olano-settlement.pdf>

USCIS POLICY MEMO – Implementation of the Help HAITI Act of 2010 (March 13, 2011, 4 pages)
http://www.uscis.gov/USCIS/Laws/Memoranda/2011/April/Help_HAITI_Act_PM.pdf

USCIS FACT SHEET – Information on the Legal Rights Available to Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence in the United States and Facts about Immigrating on a Marriage-Based Visa (Jan 11, 2011)
<http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.5af9bb95919f35e66f614176543f6d1a/?vgnextoid=8707936ba657d210VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=8a2f6d26d17df110VgnVCM1000004718190aRCRD>

NEWS AND OPINIONS

AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION'S AGENDA FOR THE 112TH CONGRESS – WHAT CHILDREN NEED (50 Pages) See Action 8 – Address the complex needs of immigrant children in the child welfare system. Rationale: The intersection between child welfare and immigration unveils contradictions and gaps in knowledge, policy, law and practice that affect many social and ethnic groups. In addition to linguistic and cultural factors, there are complex legal issues related to immigration, social welfare and civil rights that should be considered in child welfare practice with immigrant children and families. Child welfare practitioners are commonly unfamiliar with federal and state policies that affect immigrant children and families. Unfortunately, they may not be aware of how these policies directly affect their services to clients. <http://www.americanhumane.org/assets/pdfs/children/what-children-need-leg-agenda.pdf>

FIRST FOCUS BLOG – Ensuring Opportunity for Every Child (March 28, 2011) by Wendy Cervantes, Vice President Immigration and Child Rights Policy. A new paper by First Focus and the Foundation for Development finds that children in immigrant families and those in native-born families often face similar challenges, yet the same policies and programs aimed at safeguarding children in low-income families often simultaneously impose significant barriers to children in immigrant families.
<http://www.firstfocus.net/news/reading-list/ensuring-opportunity-for-every-child>

COMMENTARY BY ANGIE JUNCK AND RAJ JAYADEV – Little-Known High Court Case Could Beat Deportation, New American Media, March 30, 2011
The Padilla court decision, requiring adequate immigration advice for defendants, holds important lessons for public defenders that must learn to protect clients. Immigration Attorney and MCWNN Public Policy Co-Chair Angie Junck share her experience in defending a legal permanent resident, whose crime was graffiti, from deportation using Padilla.
<http://newamericamedia.org/2011/03/little-known-high-court-case-could-help-beat-deportation.php>

“New Faces of Childhood – Census Shows Hispanic and Asian Children Surging as Whites, Blacks Shrink” (Wall Street Journal, April 6, 2011)

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703806304576245030067903412.html?mod=WSJ_hp_MIDDLENexttoWhatsNewsSecond

“ICE agents improperly targeted Detroit school parents, feds admit” (Detroit Free Press, April 7, 2011).

“A federal agency said today that its immigration agents in Detroit appear to have violated policies when they targeted last week a school where immigrant parents were dropping off and picking up their children.”

<http://www.freep.com/article/20110407/NEWS01/110407041/Immigration-agents-improperly-targeted-Detroit-school-parents-feds-admit>

“Emily Ruiz, 4-year-old American sent to Guatemala by U.S. immigration, reunited with NY family” (NY Daily News, March 30, 2011)

http://articles.nydailynews.com/2011-03-30/local/29381844_1_guatemala-undocumented-immigrants-border-agent

“Restrictionist Group Blames the Children of Immigrants for America’s Budget Woes”

(ImmigrationIMPACTS/American Immigration Council, April 5, 2011)

<http://immigrationimpact.com/2011/04/05/restrictionist-group-blames-the-children-of-immigrants-for-america%e2%80%99s-budget-woes/>

“A long wait, mother looks to court for reunion” (Associated Press, April 5, 2011). Story about abused mother’s application for asylum and reluctance among immigration judges to tackle cases involving battered women.”

<http://www.ajc.com/news/nation-world/a-long-wait-mother-899689.html>

“Abused and Deported: Immigrant Women Face Double Disgrace” (New American Media, March 17, 2011) <http://newamericamedia.org/2011/03/abused-and-deported-immigrant-women-face-double-disgrace.php>

CONFERENCES AND TRAININGS

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY – J Paul Taylor Social Justice Symposium (Las Cruces, March 31 – April 1, 2011). This seventh annual conference, located miles from the NM/Mexico border, brings attention to the issues facing children of the incarcerated and detained parents, bring together experts from the field of criminal justice/corrections, immigration, detention, education, and child welfare. MCWNN steering committee member Yali Lincroft was a keynote presenter and conference ppt are available at <http://jpts.nmsu.edu/>. Video of presentations are also available at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hS9LIHv-DA>

OPPORTUNITIES

2011 PROGRESSIVE LEADERSHIP ADVOCACY NETWORK (PLAN) TRAINING INSTITUTE of the National

Women's Law Center is now accepting applications. The application is due MAY 20, 2011 (partial and full scholarship available).

<http://www.nwlc.org/progressive-leadership-advocacy-network>

DISCLAIMER: The information in this newsletter does not represent the opinion of MCWNN/AHA, nor does MCWNN/AHA necessarily endorse these resources. This information is intended to provide general discussion on the topic and should not be used as a substitute for professional advice which takes into consideration specific circumstances of the situation. Those seeking case consultation should seek the services of a competent professional. Please contact larab@AmericanHumane.org if you would like to be removed from this listserv.