



FYI from the MCWNN (Oct 19, 2012)

The Migration and Child Welfare National Network (MCWNN) is a [FREE membership](#) coalition targeted for individuals and agencies focused on the intersection of immigration and child welfare.

News and Opinions

[Court still undecided on custody of deported Mexican's kids](#) (latino.foxnews.com, Oct 13, 2012). Judge Michael Duncan has said that in Nov that he will have to give further study in the case of a deported Mexican who returned with special permit to North Carolina in order to fight for the custody of his three children. The magistrate said the court will have to be in session two more days in November to reach a decision on whether to restore custody to the father, even as time runs out for the Mexican Felipe Bautista Montes to remain in the country legally.

[Georgia Law Requiring Proof of Legal Residency Creates Licensing Backlog](#) (New York Times, Oct 9, 2012). The law was designed to prevent illegal immigrants from getting professional licenses. It has led to weeks of waiting time.

[New Mexico Immigrant Advocates Hail Court Actions](#) (The Cutting Edge News, Oct 8, 2012). Immigrant advocates in New Mexico praised a court settlement announced last week effectively laid to rest a controversial driver's license certificate program implemented by the state Motor vehicle Division last year. Since 2003, undocumented residents of New Mexico have been able to acquire driver's licenses if they could pass the appropriate tests and prove state residency.

[Los Angeles to stop turning some illegal immigrants over to feds](#) (New York Times, Oct 5, 2012). Los Angeles Police Chief Charlie Beck stepped into the [national immigration debate](#) Thursday, announcing that hundreds of illegal immigrants arrested by his officers each year in low-level crimes would no longer be turned over to federal authorities for deportation. The new rules, which are expected to affect about 400 people arrested each year, mark a dramatic attempt by the nation's second-largest police department to distance itself from federal immigration policies that Beck says unfairly treat undocumented immigrants suspected of committing petty offenses.

[Phoenix City Council Considering Local ID for Undocumented Immigrants](#) (New America Media, Oct 4, 2012). A member of the Phoenix City Council is exploring the possibility that the local government could create a form of identification care to help undocumented immigrants identify themselves with police when they enforce the "show me your papers" portion of Arizona's SB 1070, the immigrant-crackdown law.

[Rutgers-Camden Law Students Provide Free Legal Services Through Immigrant Justice Clinic](#) (Rutgers University – Media Relations, Oct 3, 2012). At the Rutgers School of Law–Camden, students are now providing crucial legal counseling and pro bono representation through the school’s new Immigrant Justice Clinic, which aims to help the immigrant population navigate a complex legal system.

[Insight on Immigration: Children of Deportees](#) (by Elizabeth Aguilera, utsandiego.com, Sept 29, 2012).

[Immigrants helped by UC Davis Law Students](#) (Sacramento Bee, Sept 29, 2012). Founded in 1982, the clinic was the first in the nation to train law students to represent non-citizens in immigration court, said Dean Kevin Johnson. Guided by supervising attorneys, about 30 law students per semester have represented clients from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Jamaica, Romania, Fiji, Laos, Cambodia, India, China and the Philippines.

[Children of immigrants who ‘aged out’ of visas can get their place back in line](#) (by Leslie Berstein Rojas, scpr.org, Sept 26, 2012). The now-adult children of immigrant parents who "aged out" of obtaining derivative visas while their parents waited for green cards can get their place back in line, a federal appeals court has ruled. The decision in the class-action lawsuit against U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and other federal officials is a victory for thousands of young people who lost their priority status for family-sponsored visas upon turning 21, as their parents faced long waits due to backlogs in the immigration system.

Research

[Presentation on Immigration and Child Welfare Data for the CA Dept of Social Services’ Latino Advisory Committee](#) (PPT presentation by Dr. Barbara Needell, UC Berkeley and Dr Alan Dettlaff, Univ of Illinois, Sept 20, 2012).

[AAP Issues Guidance on Adopted Children](#) (MedPage Today, Sept 24, 2012). According to a [new report](#) released by the American Academy of Pediatrics, adoptive parents should tell children that they are adopted, and pediatricians should help adoptive parents address challenges in rearing an adopted child.

[Study examines well-being of Latino immigrant families](#) (Medical Xpress, Oct 4, 2012). Wiley and Raffaelli’s study explored the well-being of immigrant Latino families living in six Central Illinois counties.

[Effective ways of supporting families that are immigrants and/or refugees: Annotated Bibliography](#) (National Resource Center for In-Home Services, 2012).

[Black Immigrant Mothers in Palm Beach County, Florida and their Children’s Readiness for School](#) (Migration Policy Institute’s National Center on Immigrant Integration, Oct 2012).

[Self care among school aged children of immigrants](#) (by Kaylin Greene, Kathryn Hynes, and Emily Doyle, Department of Human Development and Family Studies and Demography, Pennsylvania State University,)

[Immigrant children and families and the public child welfare system: Considerations for legal systems](#)(by Alan Dettlaff, Juvenile and Family Court Journal, Winter 2012).

[Effective Ways of Supporting Families that are Immigrants and/or Refugees: Annotated Bibliography](#) (National Resource Center for In-Home Services, 2012).

[National Alliance for Hispanic Families Release Hispanic Data Source](#) (Press Release, National Alliance for Hispanic Families, Sept 26, 2012, 26 page report).

[The Flow of Unaccompanied Children Through the Immigration System: A Resource for Practitioners, Policy Makers, and Researchers](#) (Vera Institute of Justice, March 2012).

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

[Slower pace for New Closures in ICE Prosecutorial Discretion Program](#) (TRAC, Sept 2012). September 2012 Immigration Court figures show a slowing in the pace of new closures under ICE's Prosecutorial Discretion (PD) program. There were only 1,093 new PD closures during September, the second straight month that PD closures have declined. PD closures now total 9,616 cases since the program was launched last year, or only 3.2 percent of the Court backlog as of the end of last September.

[Origins of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals](#) (Wall Street Journal, Oct 15, 2012).

[Many young immigrants wary of applying for Obama backed work permit](#) (Los Angeles Times, Oct 2, 2012).

Policy/Legislation.

[The Economic Benefits of Passing the DREAM Act](#) (Center for American Progress, Oct 2012, 29 pages).

[Gov Brown's Veto of Domestic Workers Bill Angers Caregivers](#) (Asian Journal, Oct 3, 2012). LOS ANGELES – Saying that signing the bill into law could cost the state nearly \$200 million, Gov. Jerry Brown vetoed AB 889, better known as the Domestic Workers Bill of Right

[President signs S3245 into law, extending EB-5 regional centers, E-verify, religion workers and comrade state 30-J-1](#) (White House Press Release, Sept 28, 2012). On Friday, September 28, 2012, the President signed into law S. 3245, which extends to September 30, 2015, the expiration dates of key requirements of four immigration programs administered by the Department of Homeland Security.

[DHS : Same-Sex Partners are 'Family' for Prosecutorial Discretion](#) (Press Release from Janet Napolitano, DHS, Sept 27, 2012). In an effort to make clear the definition of the phrase "family relationships," I have directed ICE to disseminate written guidance to the field that the interpretation of the phrase "family relationships" includes long-term, same-sex partners. As with every other factor identified in Director Morton's June 11 memorandum, the applicability of the "family relationships" factor is weighed on an individualized basis in the consideration of whether prosecutorial discretion is appropriate in a given case.

International

[Family First: Prioritising Support to Kinship Carers, Especially Older Carers](#) (EveryChild, 2012). This paper is the latest in EveryChild's Positive Care Choices series of papers on children's care options and demonstrates how the vast majority of children outside of parental care are cared for by relatives, most

commonly grandparents. Yet, support to kinship care is woefully inadequate, with most kinship carers bringing up often traumatised and vulnerable children with little or no assistance.

INFORMATION FOR DIRECT SERVICE PROVIDERS

The Office of Refugee Resettlement has moved from a telephone Hotline to a web-based interface to offer information for asylees seeking benefits and services supported by ORR. Please note that the toll-free Asylee Hotline number listed on the asylum grant letter is no longer in service. Instead, please visit the [ORR website](#), where you will find the poster below, with a link to “[Asylee Eligibility for Assistance and Services](#)”, and fact sheets in eight languages (plus English). Contact information for local service providers can be found on the [ORR Map](#); click your state for full details. Please visit <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr> for more information.

DISCLAIMER: The information in this e-news does not represent the opinion or endorsement of MCWNN. 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. Much apologizes in advance for any typographical or grammatical errors. If you are interested in sharing information on FYI from MCWNN, please contact co-editors, [Yali Lincroft](#), MBA, First Focus Policy Consultant, and [Lara Bruce](#), MSW, Program Specialist, Butler Institute for Families/Graduate School of Social Work at the University of Denver.