



News from the MCWNN - October 19th, 2011

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. Have you missed a recent e-news? They are now [available online!](#) Follow the MCWNN on [Twitter](#).

Call for Abstracts - The MCWNN is excited to release the Call for Abstract on the *Intersection of Immigration, Child Welfare and the Criminal Justice Systems*. As part of our continued commitment to the safety, permanency, and well-being of vulnerable children, American Humane Association will publish an issue of *Protecting Children*, a peer-reviewed journal, dedicated to advancing knowledge about immigrant children and families involved in both the child welfare and justice systems (juvenile or adult criminal justice systems, and federal immigration systems). Abstracts are due by December 15th, 2011.

[Learn more about the Call for Abstracts.](#)

Resources for Child Welfare Agencies & Service Providers

[Online Nonprofit Immigration Legal Services Directory Launched](#) (Immigrant Advocate Network and Pro Bono Net, Sept 26, 2011). A new online resource provides searchable listings for more than 900 free or low-cost immigration legal services providers in all 50 states, available at <http://www.immigrationadvocates.org/nonprofit/legaldirectory>

Department of Homeland Security two announcements regarding temporary protected status (TPS) for nationals of [Sudan](#) and newly recognized [Southern Sudan](#) (Oct 14, 2011).

[Justice Department Establishes Hotline, E-Mail for Alabama H.B.56 Civil Rights Concerns](#) (LexisNexis.com, Oct 13, 2011). Via email, [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), the Department of Justice *broadcast the following message*: "To report potential civil rights concerns related to Alabama's HB 56, contact 1-855-353-1010 or hb56@usdoj.gov."

[State recognition of intercountry adoptions finalized abroad](#) (Child Welfare Information Gateway, May 2011, 46 pages). This factsheet discusses the requirements and restrictions set by the Federal Government and by States that apply to adoptions finalized in another country by U.S. citizens. In order for a child who has been adopted abroad to enter the U.S., the adoptive parents must fulfill the requirements set by USCIS, the foreign country in which the child resides, and sometimes the adoptive parents' State of residence. Depending on the country, Hague Convention laws may also apply.

[The Future of Foster Care: A Revolution for Change](#) (Congressional Coalition on Adoption, October 2011). A report written by former foster youth to Congress on recommendations for policy report. See "Serving the Underserved: Children of Undocumented Immigrants" by Marjorie Delgadillo, P34.

News & Opinions

[Alabama parents fearing deportation make plans for kids](#) (Associated Press, Oct 9, 2011). Terrified by Alabama's strict new immigration crackdown, parents living in the state illegally say they are doing something that was unthinkable just days ago — asking friends, relatives, co-workers and acquaintances to take their children if they're arrested or deported.

[Alabama immigration law marked by Hispanic school absences](#) (USA Today, Oct 4, 2011). School officials estimate that school districts will lose \$2 million if the 231 students who were absent on Thursday decided to stay away for good.

[Eleventh Circuit enjoins portions of Alabama law: Chicago lawmaker welcomes “refugees” from Alabama](#) (LexusNexus Communities, Oct 14, 2011). In a [16-page order](#) dated October 14, 2011, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit enjoined the enforcement of Sections 10 and 28 of the Alabama immigration law, H.B. 56. In a [press release](#) dated October 14, 2011, Rep. Luis V. Gutierrez (D-IL-4) applauded the ruling and "offers Chicago as a suitable destination to anyone choosing to flee Alabama anyway."

[Court blocks Ala. from checking student status](#) (Associated Press/Salon.com, Oct 14, 2011).

[Calls to Southern Poverty Law Center hotline show Alabama anti-immigrant law creating humanitarian crisis](#) (SPLC Website, Oct 12, 2011). Since SPLC established a hotline last week to report issues with Alabama's new anti-immigrant law, we have received more than 1,000 calls, illustrating clearly that the law is on the verge of creating a humanitarian crisis for immigrants in the state — regardless of their immigration status. See SPLC One-Page Fact Sheet (English/Spanish), "What you need to know about HB56." http://splcenter.org/sites/default/files/HB56_flier.pdf

[Dayton, Ohio passes plan to revitalize economy through immigration integration](#) (Immigration Impacts, Oct 14, 2011). Shortly after Alabama began implementing HB56, Dayton, Ohio passed legislation that welcomes and integrates immigrants with the hope that they will revitalize their slowing economy. Faced with a declining population, Dayton's City Commission voted unanimously last week to adopt the Welcome Dayton Plan—a plan that is tapping into the very economic stimulus that Alabama is driving out.

Michelle Brané, director of the Detention and Asylum program, responded to a [New York Times article](#) on the rise of for-profit immigrant detention companies in this [letter to the editor](#) (Oct 9, 2011). Her blog on the [Huffington Post \(Oct 9, 2011\)](#) is focused on the need for immigration detention reform.

[Undocumented women forced to give birth while shackled and in police custody](#) (by Cristina Costantini, Huffington Post, Sept 21, 2011). Interview with women about experience of being shackled to hospital beds while in labor.

[Utah Wants More Latinos to Adopt to See Fewer Kids in Foster Care, More with Families](#) (Hispanically Speaking News, Oct 12, 2011). The Utah Foster Care Foundation says it is looking for permanent homes for the thousands of children currently in the state's foster care system, and have stated that they would like to see more Latino families bring the children into their homes. There are currently more than 2,600 children in the state's foster care system and that 26 percent of those children are Hispanic.

[Newly-formed Orem family touts need for more Latino foster parents](#) (Desert News/Utah, Oct 5, 2011).

[Fairfax beer quaffer acquitted in child endangerment case](#) (Marin Independent Journal/CA, Oct 13, 2011). Legal permanent resident Ukrainian released from custody in local child endangerment case but stays in jail while he fights a no-bail federal immigration hold.

[Physicians treating Latinos have high hurdles to jump, study shows](#) (UCLA Newsroom, Oct 10, 2011). Research out of UCLA and the City University of New York has found that primary care physicians who treat Latinos are less likely than physicians treating primarily white patients to believe they can provide high-quality care. Among the reasons: inadequate time with patients, patients' lack of ability to afford care, patients not adhering to recommended treatments, and difficulties in communicating.

[A Sensible Path In California](#) (New York Times Editorial, Oct 16, 2011). Gov. Jerry Brown of California took a stand for immigrants' rights and humane, sensible government when he signed several new bills into law including the CA DREAM Act, a law prohibiting city and county government from enacting laws forcing employers to use E-Verify, a law requiring public schools to accept a broad range of proof-of-residency documents, and a law to restrict the ability of law enforcement to seize the vehicles of drivers whose only violation is a lack of license. It is a welcome change from the intolerance and counterproductive policies being adopted in so many other states around the country.

[Sentencing in Slavery Case: 140 months in prison, denaturalization, deportation](#) (Posted by Daniel M. Kowalski, LexusNexus Communities, Oct 14, 2011). Georgia Woman Sentenced to 140 Months in Prison for Human Trafficking of Two Young Women from Nigeria.

[State Will Allow Undocumented Students to Pay In-State Tuition](#) (Providence Journal/RI, Sept 28, 2011). The Board of Governors for Higher Education unanimously adopted a policy that allows undocumented students to pay resident tuition rates at public colleges, making Rhode Island the first state in the nation to decide the question as a matter of policy. A dozen other states have legislated in-state tuition rates for undocumented students.

[New York regents plan a push for the dream](#) (Oct 15, 2011).

[Three short videos in its Campaign to Reform the PreTrial Detention Abuses in Many Countries](#) (International CURE, Oct, 14, 2011). These videos are: PreTrial; the Problem, PreTrial; Solutions, PreTrial; What YOU can do! Further background information on PreTrial Detention is in three papers presented at the 5th CURE International Conference held in Abuja, Nigeria (Feb 2011) also found at the same website.

Research

[No Place for Kids – the Case for Reducing Juvenile Incarceration](#) (Annie E. Casey Foundation, Oct 4, 2011). Locking up juvenile offenders in correctional facilities is not paying off from a public safety, rehabilitation or cost perspective, according to a new report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Released Oct. 4, "No Place for Kids" documents four decades of allegations of abusive conditions in juvenile institutions and argues that the current incarceration model provides little public safety benefit.

[Brain Research Fuels Rethinking of Foster Care Services](#) (NPR Radio, Oct 10, 2011). Child advocate Gary Stangler is the executive director of the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative. He's hoping to use research about the incomplete brain development of e18-year olds to extend services for foster children up to age 21.

[Brief Examines Solutions to High Poverty and Low Marriage Rates in Latino and African American Communities](#) (Economic Policy Institute, Sept 8, 2011). A brief argues that persistent high poverty rates among blacks and Latinos are the result of high unemployment and incarceration rates, and the lack of good family-sustaining jobs. It notes a decline in marriage for both groups, as well as whites, as more people find marriage too expensive. However, it does not attribute rising poverty to the decline in marriage.

[Widespread Border patrol Abuse Goes Unchecked](#) (Colorlines, Sept 26, 2011) People who are crossing the border or are in the process of being deported are routinely abused by members of the nation's largest federal

law enforcement agency, which consistently fails to keep its officers in line and has no mechanism for oversight, a new report has found.

[Perpetuating the Marginalization of Latinos: A Collateral Consequence of the Incorporation of Immigration Law into the Criminal Justice System](#) (Yolanda Vazquez, University of Pennsylvania Law School). This paper discusses the intertwining of immigration and criminal law and affects all aspects of enforcement, detention, and removal of immigrants in the criminal justice system. At the same time, several systemic changes have spurred an increase in removals of non-citizens based on criminal convictions.

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, American Humane Association Child Welfare Specialist.