



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.

Campaigns

[A Wish for the Holidays](#) (We Belong Together Campaign). Every day, families across the country are separated by deportation and immigrant detentions. Between now and the end of November, help collect 20,000 children's letter expressing one, shared wish: stop deportations so that all our families can stay together. In December, these letters will be delivered to Congress.

[Prison Industry Divestment Campaign](#) (Enlace). Campaign to convince shareholders (banks, hedge funds, etc.) to divest their funds from the prison industry who have influenced politicians to pass anti-immigrant laws.

News and Opinions

[Democrats see strengthened hand on pushing immigration](#) (Washington Times, Nov 7, 2012).

[Maryland supports DREAM Act](#) (Governing, Nov 7, 2012). Maryland is one of 11 states (along with California, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin) to have passed some version of the DREAM Act.

[Reid Vows Renewed Push for DREAM Act](#) (Washington Times, Nov 7, 2012). Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said Wednesday that he will insist the upper chamber hold votes on immigration legislation, calling the issue "very, very high" on his to-do list, after Hispanics voted overwhelmingly for President Obama on Tuesday.

[GOP Candidate was Undocumented Child, Received Amnesty](#) (Nation of Change, Nov 6, 2012). Pedro Rios was 9 years old when he arrived to the U.S. and he's now a Republican candidate for the California's state legislature, running for the 32rd Assembly District in the Bakersfield area. But what Rios consistently avoided saying was that he started out as a young illegal immigrant who was smuggled as a child over the border from Mexico.

[ICE's S-Comm Review Delayed](#) (USA Today, Nov 5, 2012). Seventeen months has passed since DHS announced it would create an internal civil rights review of the S-Comm program, which screens all individuals booked into local jail for federal immigration violations. Despite calls from a DHS task force and outside groups to complete the review, officials are not sure when that will be possible.

[More Mexicans Seek Asylum in the U.S.](#) (Los Angeles Times, Oct 28, 2012). Compared with those fleeing other countries, relatively few Mexicans have been granted asylum. Still, the number of applications has risen rapidly and reflects, Spector says, the collapse of order in parts of Mexico.

[New Russia-U.S. Adoption Pact in Effect](#) (Radio Free Europe, Oct 19, 2012). A new Russia-US adoption pact aimed at strengthening the adoption guidelines for all parties involved was signed July 2011. One major provision of the new pact is the banning of individual adoptions. All prospective parents need to get into contact with authorized US agencies that abide by the provisions of the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption.

[Supreme Court to Consider Reach of Padilla v Kentucky](#) (Immigration Impacts, Oct 2012). In its landmark decision in Padilla v. Kentucky, the Supreme Court confirmed that criminal defense attorneys have a constitutional obligation to advise their clients if pleading guilty to a particular offense could lead to deportation. The Supreme Court now considers a follow-up question of whether the ruling applies to cases that became final before the decision was issued.

[Illegal Immigration on the Rise as Economy Improves](#) (USA Today, Oct 25, 2012). Immigration from Mexico fell to historic lows during the worst years of the recession. But the study by the University of Southern California and El Colegio de la Frontera Norte in Tijuana, a Mexican government sponsored research group, estimates that immigrants headed north in the first half of 2012 outnumbered those heading back for the first time since 2007.

[California considers strategies for treating uninsured immigrants](#) (California Healthline, Oct 24, 2012). California officials and health care providers are considering different strategies for treating immigrants who will remain uninsured after implementation of the federal health reform law.

[Policies make fewer foreign children available for adoption](#) (Scrips-Howard News Service, Oct 23, 2012). Most experts bring up two issues when asked to explain the decline in international adoptions by Americans: the rise in nationalistic policies by foreign countries favoring domestic adoption, and The Hague Adoption Convention, which was fully implemented in 2008. The U.S. recorded a peak number of adoptions of children from foreign countries in 2004 – 22,991 but international adoptions have fallen steadily since then. In 2011, slightly more than 9,300 children were brought into the U.S. from another country.

[Groups Protest Operation near Michigan public school by Immigration Agents](#) (New York Times, Oct 17, 2012). The presence of ICE agents spread alarm among arriving parents and children in a Latino neighborhood in Detroit. More than 100 people rallied on Wednesday to protest.

[Caught in the current of reverse migration](#) (Los Angeles Times, Oct 21, 2012). Like other children whose parents or other family members were deported, story of Luis, a 13-year old US citizen born child swept into the current of reverse migration. Thousands of US born children of former undocumented immigrants now live in cities and towns across Mexico.

[ID Cards for Illegal Immigrants in L.A. Winning Strong Support](#) (Los Angeles Times, Oct 17, 2012). A Los Angeles City Council committee has approved the concept of photo IDs for illegal immigrants after hearing from a wide array of supporters who said it was a practical way to incorporate into civic life the area's large undocumented population.

Announcement from ICE

[ICE Introduces Community Hotline](#) (Department of Homeland Security – Office of the Public Advocate, Sept 27, 2012). ICE introduces the launch of its new Community Hotline (1-888-351-4024) available during regular business hours (8am – 5pm EST) or through the Public Advocate mailbox at EROPublicAdvocate@ice.dhs.gov. Hotline inquiries can include questions about DACA, prosecutorial discretion request, detention concerns, enforcement activities, etc. In the coming month, ICE will expand the Hotline to all immigration detention facilities.

[USCIS offers temporary immigration relief for individuals affected by hurricane Sandy](#) (Press Release, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Nov 2, 2012). USCIS reminds customers affected by Hurricane Sandy of certain immigration benefits or relief that may be available to them. USCIS understands that a natural disaster can affect an individual's ability to maintain lawful immigration status or obtain certain other immigration benefits. Eligible individuals may request or apply for temporary relief measure including: a change or extension of nonimmigrant status for an individual current in the U.S., even when the request is filed after the authorized period of admission has expired; extension or re-parole of individuals previously granted parole by USCIS; expedited adjudication of off-campus employment authorization for F-1 students experiencing severe economic hardship; etc.

Legislation from California

[California passes groundbreaking legislation to prevent “shattered families”](#) (by Yali Lincroft, Immigration Impacts, Oct 15, 2012). Late last month, California Governor Jerry Brown signed into law two bills – AB2015 and SB1064 – which address the nightmare scenarios that can befall parents and their children caught up in the immigration system.

Research

[Seeking Asylum for Former Child Soldiers and Victims of Human Trafficking](#) (by Tina Javaherian, Pepperdine Law Review, Sept 2012, 61 pages).

[Slavery Out of the Shadows: Spotlight on Human Trafficking](#) (Texas Bar Journal, Nov 2012). This issue is dedicated to the issue of human trafficking with five

[Young Mexican Immigrants in the U.S.](#) (Health Initiatives of the Americas, UC Migration and Health/UC Berkeley, Oct 1, 2012). About 65% of young Mexican immigrants in the U.S. lack health insurance, more than 50% don't have a regular source of care, and are likely to delay needed health services.

[The Affordable Care Act \(ACA\) and the Future of the Uninsured](#) (UC Berkeley Labor Center and the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Oct 2012). After millions of Californians gain health coverage under ACA by 2019 through the expansion of Medi-Cal and the availability of subsidized coverage in the California Health Benefit Exchange. However, 3-4 million Californians could remain uninsured even after the law is fully implemented. Two thirds of Californians remaining uninsured will be Latino.

[The Role of Language Literacy in College- and Career-Ready Standards: Rethinking Policy and Practice in Support of English Language Learners](#) (Alliance for Excellent Education, Oct 2012). Report suggests that family economic status is a contributing factor to language fluency and can create barriers to academic success. The report argues that in the face of growing demographic diversity, many secondary schools

fail to provide enough opportunities for ELL students to speak, read, and write about the content they are learning, leaving them to fall behind their peers.

[Substance abuse facilities with services in Spanish are available in all regions for Hispanic clients admitted to treatment in 2010](#) (SAMHSA, Oct 15, 2012)

[Mexican Immigrant Women in the US](#) (Health Initiative of the Americas, UC Migration and Health, 2010).

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

[Angy Rivera, Columnist for Undocumented Youth, may find citizenship through dark past](#) (Huffington Post, Nov 3, 2012). Angy Rivera, member of the New York State Youth Leadership Council and a visible leader in the nationwide movement for young people brought here illegally as children, learns from her attorney that she is not only eligible for deferred action but a special visa granted only to victims of serious crime which can lead to a green card and citizenship. NOTE: This article includes a ppt explaining DACA.

[DACA Practice Advisory Updated](#) (American Immigration Lawyers Association and the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guide, Oct 25, 2012). This practice advisory incorporates recent DHS guidance regarding fraudulent Social Security numbers, required evidence, and travel considerations for individuals who are requesting Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). It also offers strategic advice for attorneys representing individuals who may qualify for DACA.

Forum for DACA applicants/[posting of their RFEs](#) and [approved DACA applications](#) (DREAM Act Portal)

[DACA Work Permits Begin to Arrive](#) (San Antonio Express News, Oct 27, 2012). When Fernando Alquicira got the text from his mom, he saw that his life had changed — at least for the next two years. After nearly two decades in the U.S., the 24-year-old medical student at the University of Texas Health Science Center finally can work legally.

[Young Immigrants Wary About Delayed Deportation Policy](#) (Associated Press, Oct 27, 2012). DACA, the policy shift announced by President Barack Obama in June provides a two-year protection from deportation to certain young people brought to this country illegally and the chance to apply for a work permit.

[Schools swamped with DACA records requests](#) (Press Enterprise, Oct 23, 2012). Some school districts have been slammed by records requests from immigrant students applying for temporary residence. Some parents have waited up to three weeks for their requests to be fulfilled.

[No GED? Some Undocumented Immigrants Hit Barriers in Quest for Legal Status](#) (NBC News, Oct 16, 2012). The government's new program offering young undocumented immigrants a reprieve from deportation presents an opportunity but also many challenges for an estimated 350,000 youths who didn't finish high school, many of whom may not be able to qualify because the barriers are too high, experts say.

[The Intersection of Administrative Amnesty and Health Reform](#) (Rightsidenews.com, Aug 28, 2012). Examines how the administration bars individuals benefitting from DACA from also gaining access to expanded health coverage through the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Policy/Child Welfare Forms

[Save the Adoption Tax Credit](#) (by Jillian Kay Melchoir, National Review, Nov 5, 2012). On January 1, 2013, the adoption tax credit will expire, despite the fact that at least one-fourth of the 408,000 children in the American foster care system are hoping to be adopted and a significant barrier for many families is the cost of an adoption.

[CA CHILD WELFARE FORM - Attachment – Additional Findings and Order for Child Approaching Majority – Dependency](#) (Welfare & Institutions Code 366.3, CA Rules of Court, July 1, 2012) – See question #5, “The child has an in-progress application pending for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status or other application for legal residency for which an active juvenile court case is required.

[Governors! Seize the Law – A Call to Expand the Use of Pardons to Provide Relief from Deportation](#) (by Stacy Caplow, Brooklyn Law School, Boston University Public Interest Law Journal, Brooklyn Law School, Legal Studies Paper No. 306, Sept 18, 2012). An obscure provision of the INA allows an immigrant convicted of a wide range of crimes that are grounds for deportation to avoid this fate if pardoned by a chief executive. During a few months in 2010, NY Governor Patterson established a pardon panel specifically to consider applications from immigrant.

[ATEST Guide to Anti-Slavery Funding – Appropriation Briefing book FY 2013](#) (Alliance to End Slavery & Trafficking, A Project of Humanity United, June 2012, 88 pages).

Resources for Direct Service Providers

[Emerge - Counseling to Stop Domestic Violence Newsletter](#) (Fall 2012). Includes interview with Teresa Martinez, Latino Program Coordinator.

[Supporting and Educating Traumatized Students – A Guide for School-Based Professionals](#) (by Eric Rossen and Robert Hull, Oct 2012).

[Simple Activities for Children and Adolescents](#) (National Child Traumatic Stress Network, English and Spanish). In response to Hurricane Sandy, the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) has created these activity sheets, which offer ideas to parents and caregivers on ways to keep children and adolescents entertained while waiting out a power outage or help youth from getting bored if stuck inside. The NCTSN website also offers a variety of resources related to hurricane recovery, including [Parent Guidelines for Helping Children After a Hurricane](#) (in English and Spanish).

[Caring for Kids: What Parents Need to Know about Sexual Abuse](#) (National Child Traumatic Stress Network, English/Spanish). A resource kit to help them support children who have been victims of sexual abuse, information on the importance of talking to children and youth about body safety, and guidance on how to respond when children disclose sexual abuse, including advice on how to cope with the shock of intrafamilial abuse and the emotional impact of legal involvement in sexual abuses.

[Adoption and Best Care of Children – Islam and the Best Interest of the Child](#) (Wise Muslim Women, Aug 2011, Brochure).

[NEW – Spanish version - Making Healthy Choices: A Guide on Psychotropic Medications for Youth in Foster Care](#) (National Resource Center for Youth Development). Written specifically for youth in foster care with input from youth and professionals, this guide looks at ways to handle powerful feelings and behaviors and make healthy choices. Understanding how psychotropic medication can help and what other options are available can be challenging.

Webinar/Trainings

[Strengthening Services for LGBT Refugees & Asylees: Understanding Terms, Concepts, and Conditions](#) (Heartland Alliance Webinar, Nov 1, 2012, 2-3:30 EDT). This webinar is the first in a series of four webinars for refugee settlement agencies to improve services to lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) refugees. Presenter: Scott Portman, Senior Technical Advisor and Director of Special Projects at Heartland Alliance International and Daniel Weyl, International Programs Associate.

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