



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.

### Information on DACA

[Analysis Finds GOP DREAM Alternative Falls Short](#) (First Focus Campaign for Children, Nov 28, 2012). [Analysis](#) by First Focus comparing ACHIEVE (S. 3639) vs. DREAM (S. 952/H.1842) finds that the GOP sponsored legislation imposes several bureaucratic obstacles to educational success and immigration relief.

[DREAM Act Alternative Introduced by GOP Senators](#) (Los Angeles Times, Nov 28, 2012). Under political pressure to take action on immigration reform, three Republican senators introduced an alternative version of the DREAM Act.

[DREAM Act, not the ACHIEVE Act, is the right solution for undocumented youth](#) (The Hill by Cesar Vargas, Director, DREAM Act Coalition, Nov 19, 2012). Republicans, fresh from their electoral defeat, are considering their own legislation to compete with the DREAM Act. Sen. Kay Hutchinson (R-Texas) and Jon Kyl (R-Ariz.) have put forward the ACHIEVE Act, similar to the alternative that Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) worked on last summer and which would offer a untenable type of legal status for undocumented youth. However, a significant difference between this bill and the original DREAM Act is that the ACHIEVE Act does not even guarantee a path to citizenship.

[Among young immigrants, applications for deportation relief have slowed](#) (Washington Post, Nov 27, 2012). As many as 1.7 million people are potentially eligible for DACA, but so far only about 264,000 applied between August and end of October. Some held back, saying they feared a Republican president would rescind the policy. But even though Obama won, the hordes of applicants have not materialized.

[DACA Monthly Report](#) (USCIS, Nov 16, 2012). Intake (Aug 15-Nov 15, 2012), Total Accepted = 298,834. Total Rejected = 10,101, Total received 308,935. Average request/day = 4,827. Top Countries of origin = Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala. Top States of Residence = California, Texas, New York, Florida.

[FAQs on DACA](#) (USCIS, Sept 2012). Available in three new languages – Korean, Portugese, and Tagalog.

[Fact Sheet for DACA individuals to apply for a Social Security Number](#) (Social Security Administration, Nov 2012).

### News & Opinions

[A Deported Father Wins a Long, Painful Fight to Keep His Kids](#) (Colorlines, Nov 28, 2012). Felipe Montes' story drew national attention and rare federal intervention.

[North Carolina Judge: Return US born children to deported dad](#) (Associated Press, Nov 27, 2012). A North Carolina judge ordered three US children to be reunited with their deported Mexican father, a move towards resolving a 2-year legal fight that has drawn international attention.

[More Children Growing Up with Parents Behind Bars](#) (ABC Univision, Nov 27, 2012). A Latino child is more than twice as likely to have an incarcerated parent as a white child. One in 42 Latino children has a parent in prison, compared to 1 in 111 white children, according to [a 2009 report](#) from The Sentencing Project. But it's not just incarceration that leaves Hispanic children without parents in the U.S. – deportations have taken parents away from thousands of children in the U.S. in recent years.

[Family forced to abandon the US in order to be together](#) (New America Media, Nov 27, 2012). Growing number of American families forced to abandon their lives in the U.S. to stay together. ICE reports that 45,000 parents of American citizen children are deported in the first half of 2012.

[Returning Migrant Children Pose Educational Challenge in Mexico](#) (New America Media, Nov 24, 2012). In different migrant-sending regions in Mexico, educators are coping with the new challenge of teaching children of returning migrants who speak little or no Spanish. In addition to language problems, new students also confront problems in having their U.S. studies properly accredited.

[Push is on for law to create driver's license for illegal immigrants](#) (Chicago Tribune, Nov 20, 2012). Gov. Quinn, Senate President Cullerton, and Mayor Emanuel said today they will push the state legislature to once again try to pass a measure creating a special driver's license for illegal immigrants. This time, the Democrats who control state government say they hope to get the help of Republicans who were stung by a lack of Latino support in the national election earlier this month.

[Immigrant to Pay Tuition at Rate Set for Residents](#) (New York Times, Nov 20, 2012). Massachusetts will provide an in-state discount at its public colleges for young people in the country illegally.

[Massachusetts to widen tuition breaks to include immigrants](#) (Boston Globe, Nov 19, 2012). Governor Patrick will direct state colleges and universities to allow young immigrants to pay the lower resident rate for tuition and fees as they obtain work permits through a new federal program.

[More young illegal immigrants apply for, and receive, reprieves](#) (New York Times, Nov 16, 2012). Three months after the Obama administration started a program that gives temporary reprieves from deportation to young immigrants here illegally, nearly 309,000 of them have applied and 53,273 have received deferrals.

[Majority Supports Path to Citizenship for Illegal Immigrants](#) (The Hill, Nov 14, 2012). More than half of all Americans support a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants, according to recent poll, giving further ammunition to those pressing for comprehensive immigration reform.

[Georgia Immigration Law Hurting Doctors, Nurses](#) (NPR, Nov 14, 2012). The law requires everyone – no matter where they were born – to prove their citizenship or legal residency to renew their professional licenses. With too few state workers to process the extra paperwork, licenses for doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and other health professionals are expiring.

[Suffolk County, NY passes progressive language access policy](#) (New York State Immigrant Action Fund, Nov 15, 2012). Steve Bellone signed an executive order on Wednesday requiring that county agencies provide translation services for non-English speaking residents and for those who do not speak English well. All agencies must now translate public documents into Spanish, Italian, Mandarin Chinese, Polish, French Creole, and Portuguese, as well as provide interpreters for the 120,000 residents of limited English proficiency. While New York state and New York City have enacted similar laws, Suffolk County is one of the first suburban counties in the nation to implement such a policy.

[Defense Lawyers: Some Witnesses Deported Too Soon](#) (USA Today, Nov 13, 2012). Defense attorneys and public defenders across the country says Garcia's case illustrates what has become a troubling, systemic problem in the criminal justice system. They say defendants facing charges are having a hard time keeping people who could help in their defense, blaming a fractured federal justice system, where government prosecutors select who they want to use as witnesses, and the rest get deported.

[State Child Care Policies for Limited English Proficient Families](#) (Center for Law and Social Policy, CLASP, 2012). Summary of state-reported activities to better serve and engage with LEP families and providers through state child care assistance programs.

### **Resources for Direct Service Providers**

[USCIS expands e-Request Services](#) (USCIS Press Release, Nov 19, 2012). USCIS has expanded the services offered by their e-Request system, a web-based tool allowing customers to inquire about applications and petitions submitted to USCIS.

[NEW Community and Detainee Helpline](#) (ICE Press Release, Nov 16, 2012). Detainees from ERO Washington, Baltimore, Atlanta, Miami, and New Orleans will now be able to contact the Office of Public Advocates by telephone through toll-free telephone systems in the facilities (1-888-351-4024). Trained operators are available from 8am-5pm EST, M-F, for individuals in the community and for those currently in detention in an ICE facility. Questions can be sent to [EROPublicAdvocate@ice.dhs.gov](mailto:EROPublicAdvocate@ice.dhs.gov).

[Disaster Distress Helpline Provides Immediately Counseling](#) (SAMHSA). This Helpline, 1-800-985-5990, is currently responding to those affected by Hurricane Sandy.

[Updated National Directory of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Treatment Programs](#) (SAMHSA). The Directory provides information on thousands of alcohol and drug treatment programs located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and four U.S. territories.

[Screening for Relief Options](#) (Legal Aid Society, Aug 24, 2012). One-page checklist for immigration relief options.

[Sample SIJS Request and Declaration](#) (by Kristen Jackson, Public Counsel, Nov 8, 2012). Sample declaration for a court finding of SIJS eligibility.

[Side by Side Chart of Provisions of Law that Protect Abused Immigrants](#) (by Attorney Christie Popp, Immigration Center for Women and Children, and Immigrants' Language Rights Center, Jan 2012)

[NEW website for the National Child Abuse Coalition](#) (Nov 2012).

[USCIS Intercountry Adoption Memo](#) (USCIS, Nov 5, 2012). Policy Memorandum provides guidance in two distinct areas pertaining to suitability determinations in intercountry adoption cases: (1) Jurisdiction over the suitability determination when an approved Form I-600A, Application for Advance Processing of Orphan Petition, expires, but a Form I-600, Petition to Classify Orphan as an Immediate Relative is pending; and (2) Applying the age range of the prospective adoption child(ren) specified in the home study restrictions to USCIS Form I-600A and Form I-800A, Petition to Classify Convention Adoptee as an Immediate Relative, adjudications.

[Improving the Adjudication of Applications and Petitions Under Section 204\(l\) of the Immigration and Nationality Act](#) (Office of Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman, Nov 26, 2012). Formal recommendations to USCIS on how to improve 204(l) section of the INA on protecting and expanding the rights of surviving beneficiaries and derivatives to afford a fair and consistent delivery of immigration services to qualifying surviving relatives and their families.

### **Policy & Legislation**

[Hispanic Caucus Principles of Immigration Reform and Commitment to the American Dream](#) (Press Release, Issued Nov 28, 2012).

[The Child Trafficking Victims Protection Act](#) (HR 2235 - Roybal-Allard). Introduced June 2012, this federal legislation which would require Department of Homeland Security to hire licensed social workers to ensure child migrants receive proper care.

### **Research**

[Women in El Salvador Considered a Social Group for Asylum](#) (Matter of X, San Francisco, Nov 7, 2012). Court opinion showing that respondent has demonstrated that she is a member of a particular social group consisting of women in El Salvador and that the persecution she fears is on account of her membership to that group. Respondent's application for asylum under section 208(a) of the Act should be and hereby is granted.

[Report: Juvenile justice system must be overhauled](#) (University of Virginia, Nov 13, 2012). A new federally commissioned report lead by University of Virginia law professor Richard Bonnie lays out a blueprint to reform the nation's juvenile justice system to better hold youth offenders accountable prevent recidivism and ensure adolescent offenders are treated fairly, incorporating an emerging body of knowledge about adolescent development and effective interventions.

[Detention Reforms Needed](#) (Dallas Morning News, Nov 14, 2012). A report from Detention Watch Network calls for changes in the nation's growing immigration detention system, where Texas provides more than a quarter of beds for those charged with violating civil immigration laws. The review followed publicly about poor medical care, abuse and even deaths in facilities that now serve more than 33,000 daily.

Immigration Detention Fact Sheet (Human Rights First, Sept 2012). Fact Sheets on Immigration Detention for [Texas](#), [Arizona](#), [California](#), and [Louisiana](#).

[Jails and Jumpsuits: Transforming the U.S. Immigration Detention System – A Two Year Review](#) (Human Rights First, Feb, 2012). Despite a 2009 commitment made two years ago to overhaul the immigration

detention system, the U.S. continues to hold the overwhelming majority of its nearly 400,000 detained asylum seekers and other civil immigration law detainees in jails and jail-like facilities across the country. The facilities are expected to cost American taxpayers more than \$2 billion in 2012.

[Black and Immigrant: Exploring the Effects of Ethnicity and Foreign-Born Status on Infant Health](#) (by Green, Tiffany L. Migration Policy Institute. National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy. Young Children in Black Immigrant Families Research Initiative. Virginia Commonwealth University. 2012)

[Parenting Behavior, Health, and Cognitive Development Among Children in Black Immigrant Families: Comparing the United States and the United Kingdom](#) (by Jackson, Margot. Migration Policy Institute. National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy. Young Children in Black Immigrant Families Research Initiative. Brown University. 2012)

[Patterns and Predictors of School Readiness and Early Childhood Success among Young Children in Black Immigrant Families.](#) (by Crosby, Danielle A. Dunbar, Angel S., Migration Policy Institute. National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy. Young Children in Black Immigrant Families Research Initiative. University of North Carolina at Greensboro. 2012)

[Black Immigrant Mothers in Palm Beach County, Florida, and Their Children's Readiness for School.](#) (by Rich, Lauren. Spielberg, Julie. D'Angelo, Angela Valdovinos., Migration Policy Institute. National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy. Young Children in Black Immigrant Families Research Initiative. Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. 2012)

### **Webinars & Trainings**

[Returning Home, Reintegration and Family Reunification for Foreign Human Trafficking Victims in the United States](#) (USHHS, Nov 5, 2012). Webinar presentation by Ms. Mariana Rendon and Mr. Emmanuel Martinez of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Recorded session, with audio and video, is available until Feb 21, 2012.

[Sharing the Hope 2012](#) (hosted by Shared Hope International, Nov 29-30, 2012, Washington DC). Two – day training on domestic minor sex trafficking.

### **Internships**

[The Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute's \(CCAI\) Foster Youth Internship \(FYI\) Program](#) is a competitive, highly esteemed Congressional Internship for young adults who spent (1) at least 24 consecutive months or (2) at least a total of 36 months in the U.S. foster care system. All applicants must have completed at least four semesters of schooling at an accredited institution of higher learning, such as a college, university, or vocational school. Participants will be placed in the Washington, DC offices of Members of Congress. The dates for the 2013 Foster Youth Internship Program are May 28 - July 31, 2013, and the candidate must be available for the entirety of the program to qualify.

**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.