# **ROUNDTABLE REPORT**

# Mitigating Risks of Child Welfare Involvement for Children and Families Affected by Immigration Enforcement

Hosted by the Center on Immigration and Child Welfare

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO NOVEMBER 6-7, 2017



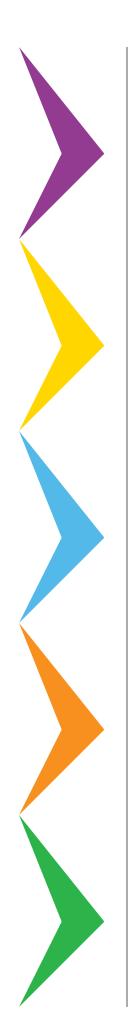
Hotel Albuquerque

800 Rio Grande Blvd. NW Albuquerque, NM 87104 **New Mexico State University** 

School of Social Work 4700 Morris Street Northeast Albuquerque, NM 87111







# Leadership and Sponsorship

Mitigating Risks of Child Welfare Involvement for Children and Families Affected by Immigration Enforcement is hosted by the Center on Immigration and Child Welfare, with generous sponsorship from:

Annie E. Casey Foundation
Walter S. Johnson Foundation
Brindle Foundation
University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work
New Mexico State University College of Health & Social Services

The Center on Immigration and Child Welfare would like to thank our supporting partner organizations for their generous contributions to make this roundtable a success:

American Bar Association, Center on Children and the Law Center for Law and Social Policy Immigrant Legal Resource Center Women's Refugee Commission

# Roundtable Planning Members

**Megan Finno-Velasquez,** Director, Center on Immigration and Child Welfare, & Assistant Professor, School of Social Work, New Mexico State University

Serina Apodaca-Peckham, MSW Student, New Mexico State University

Elisha Geoffrion, MSW Student, New Mexico State University

**Sophia Sepp,** MSW/MPH Student, New Mexico State University

Margaret White, MSW Student, New Mexico State University



# Introduction

One quarter of all children in the U.S. today are children of immigrants. Children whose parents are detained or deported experience trauma and emotional stress, and are at risk of unnecessarily entering the child welfare system. Additionally, unprecedented numbers of unaccompanied migrant children arriving to the U.S. in recent years have threatened the federal child welfare system unlike ever before. Once children in immigrant families come to the attention of the child welfare system, they face considerable barriers to achieving positive outcomes.

The Center on Immigration and Child Welfare (CICW) is a national peer-led organization whose mission is to improve programs and policies related to immigrant children and families involved in the public child welfare system to achieve positive outcomes of safety, permanency and well-being. The CICW fosters cross-sector collaboration by linking and supporting professionals across the child welfare, immigration, and legal fields. For the past decade, the work of the CICW has focused on building capacity of the U.S. child welfare system to respond to the unique needs of immigrant families and children, through: (1) original research, (2) resource development and dissemination focused on the needs of front line practitioners, (3) training and technical assistance, and (4) national leadership, including sponsoring cross-sector conferences, workgroups, and advocacy.

Formerly the Migration and Child Welfare National Network (MCWNN), the CICW was founded in an era of increasingly punitive immigration policies and programs that systematically separated families and threatened the foundations of child protection and well-being. In 2006, in Chicago, IL, the American Humane Association and Loyola University Chicago convened the first Roundtable to identify key policy and practice issues impacting child welfare practice with immigrant families. Since its inception, the network has expanded, and there have been several advances in practice, policy, and research. In 2014, the MCWNN moved from its administrative home at the American Humane Foundation to the University of Illinois Jane Addams College of Social Work, and under the leadership of Dr. Alan Dettlaff, became the Center on Immigration and Child Welfare (CICW). In 2017, Dr. Megan Finno-Velasquez took over direction of the CICW and the

center moved to New Mexico State University's School of Social Work.

Changes in immigration policy and enforcement activities in the past year have brought a renewed urgency to revive and elevate the work of the CICW. Since the inception of the Trump administration, enforcement priorities that previously safeguarded many parents and long-time residents whose only violation was living in the country without documentation have begun to target a much larger group of immigrants for deportation. Immigration raids have terrorized cities and communities across the country. Children live in fear of being separated from their parents every day. The dire consequences of these activities and the anti-immigrant sentiment pervading public discourse will be felt by the child welfare system and by communities and families for years to come.

More a decade after the first meeting of leaders in the areas of immigration and child welfare, the CICW brought together a diverse group of professionals and stakeholders, including social workers, lawyers, advocates, and academics, to take on these issues with new eyes. This year's Roundtable, Mitigating Risks of Child Welfare Involvement for Families Affected by Immigration Enforcement, held on Nov. 6, 2017, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, focused on the impact of the past year's changing immigration policies and political environment on children and families, and implications for and needs of the child welfare system. The Roundtable included panel presentations and group discussions with national and local stakeholders to share information and resources on policy and legal concerns, front-line practice issues, research and data needs, and their implications for child welfare agencies.

The goal of the Roundtable, and of the CICW Strategic Planning meeting that occurred the following day, was to create opportunities for collaboration, resource sharing, and establishment of new practice, policy, and research priorities.



# **Roundtable Opening Remarks**

#### Setting the Stage for the Day – Monday November 6, 2017

PRESENTER: Megan Finno-Velasquez, Director, Center on Immigration and Child Welfare

Following the 2016 presidential election, the threats to immigrant children and families, the pervasive culture of fear and trauma surrounding family separation and the trauma to children, the questioning of the role of social services in supporting these families, all again became very real and very urgent. The weekly and sometimes daily policy changes sent agencies and communities across the country into a tailspin as they tried to form responses to the harsh new enforcement actions they have been witnessing for the past year. We've been trying to find a way to systematically keep track of these changes and their impacts.

These events coincided with the transition of the CICW to New Mexico State University's School of Social Work, an ideal given its position on the border with Mexico, the child welfare system's positive history of working with immigrants, and the welcoming attitude toward immigrants throughout many areas of the state. We anticipated a great partnership, an opportunity to shine light on some of the innovative practice models and advocacy strategies on immigration issues in New Mexico, and to bring national resources and expertise to the resource-poor state.

There was an overwhelming feeling among advocates and among our partners that we need to do something new to organize and stay relevant. Realizing that the last large formal convening of the CICW had been held in 2009, we decided to regroup, re-prioritize, re-launch our efforts with fresh eyes. Many more groups and individuals around the country had begun working on immigration and child welfare issues since we first started, and we were delighted to expand our network by including them in this new initiative.

Today we have in this room more than 60 people with diverse perspectives from many different disciplines, including former high-level government officials and lifelong direct practice social workers, child welfare and early childhood experts, advocates, community organizers, faith leaders, lawyers and judges, academics and researchers. We come from near and far, from Washington, D.C.; Los Angeles; Chicago; from Yakima, WA; and Socorro, NM; and

from Mexico City. Some of us work within one community, and some of us work nationally, or transnationally. Although everyone brings a unique perspective, all have one very important thing in common—an investment in child welfare and child well-being, a devotion to immigrant children and children of immigrants in the U.S., and an interest in protecting them from the negative effects of anti-immigrant policies. In essence, all are the voices for these children. Everyone in this room is an expert and everyone has something to contribute.

This Roundtable is comprised of panels of policy experts, practice experts, and data experts and researchers who spark dialogue and set parameters around our conversations. The program was designed so that participants can hear about national issues, but also spend time intentionally delineating regional, state, and local differences in context and practice. Spaces for dialogue as small groups and larger groups have been carved out so that participants have opportunity to connect over these issues. There are no media or federal government officials present, and no one from the enforcement side, because we wanted people to speak freely, think critically, be creative, without worrying about censoring. That said, there is enough local interest that field representatives from the offices of our U.S. Senators Udall and Heinrich have requested to attend the closing plenary and discussion, to hear the outcomes of our discussions today, and learn about how they can better support us.

Throughout the day, we will document themes and contributions from all of the discussions, and the information we gather will follow in a report.



# **Panel Summaries**

#### **PANEL 1**

The Current Status of Policy Affecting the Welfare of Children of Immigrants

MODERATOR: Angie Junck, Immigrant Legal Resource

Center, San Francisco, CA

PANELISTS: Emily Butera, Women's Refugee

Commission, Washington, D.C.

Wendy Cervantes, Center on Law and Social Policy (CLASP), Washington, D.C. Cristina Ritchie Cooper, American Bar

Association, Washington, D.C.

#### Historical Context & Federal Immigration Policy Shifts

Emily Butera of the Women's Refugee Commission provided historical background for current immigration policy in the U.S., reinforcing that although the expansion of immigration enforcement and detention are not new in U.S. history, this is an unprecedented time of discrimination and trauma due to an unpredictable and ever-changing system. White House policy now makes virtually every undocumented person an enforcement priority, incentivizes local and state law enforcement cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security, expands detention and removal authority, and restricts family-based immigration.

#### Impacts on Children in Immigrant Families

Wendy Cervantes of the Center on Law and Social Policy discussed the impacts of U.S. immigration policy on children in immigrant families. In the U.S., 5 million children living in mixed-status families are now at heightened risk of separation from their parents due to deportation, increasing risk of entry in to the child welfare system. The decision to terminate the DACA program puts 1400 DACA youth at risk of losing their documented status per day starting March 6, 2018. Many DACA recipients (25%) have U.S. citizen children or have been designated as guardians for children with undocumented parents. In losing their DACA status, thousands will lose access to jobs, drivers licenses, and employee benefits, which enable them to support their families and contribute to society. Unaccompanied

children also face significant challenges related to transition to new culture, school, environment, etc., putting them at increased risk of child welfare system involvement. Under weakened legal protections, these children are subject to faster deportations, longer stays and poorer conditions in detention facilities, and other due process violations. The constant fear of deportation and family separation causes toxic stress which has significant consequences for brain and long-term development in children. Immigrant families also face restricted access to healthcare, nutrition assistance, and other programs that are crucial to healthy childhood development and economic security. Two main categories of risk for child welfare system involvement are: 1) direct, when immigration enforcement (detention, deportation) causes family separation, leaving no one to care for the children, and 2) indirect, when the additional stress and pressures on immigrant communities lead to increased vulnerabilities for children. However, the public child welfare system is neither appropriate nor equipped for addressing immigrant enforcement-related experiences.

# Legal responses and practices to mitigate unnecessary involvement in the child welfare system

Cristina Cooper-Lewter of the American Bar Association discussed approaches to navigating the current realities at the intersection of immigration and child welfare. There are many strategies that immigrant families and the professionals and advocates working on their behalf can employ in order to mitigate the risks of unnecessary child welfare system involvement, including:

- Helping families establish contingency and back-up plans in the event of parental detention.
- Helping parents prepare for possible deportation and return to another country.
- Challenging the legal basis for family separation at the border and for any DHS determinations of parental fitness.
- Advocating for releasing accompanied and unaccompanied children to a relative.
- Working with local child-serving entities to make clear that they are not obligated to report information to immigration authorities.
- · Helping these groups communicate the boundaries of



their roles to immigrant communities to promote trust.

- · Identifying and connecting immigrant families with health and social services that don't require sharing information with the government.
- · Offering legal assistance to help answer questions families have about risks.
- Helping unaccompanied minors (UACs) identify alternative sponsors as back up options as needed.

Moderator Angie Junck of the Immigrant Legal Resource Center concluded the panel, based on her work across California, with a summary of guiding practices for legal professionals and advocates working at the intersection of immigration and child welfare in this political environment:

- · Focus on intervening at the local level.
- · Counter the fear-based narrative.
- · Reduce family reunification barriers for detained and deported parents.
- · Push for actual implementation and integration of existing policies that protect children and promote family unification.
- · Implement more micro-level models, policies, and best practices, i.e., California's SB1064.
- Find the common ground in political discussions.
- · Access protective factors and resources.
- Create more short-term contingency planning resources.
- Engage in interdisciplinary work and community engagement.
- Create and disseminate trauma-informed resources.

#### PANEL 2

The Current Status of Immigration and Child Welfare Best Practices

MODERATOR: Robin Hernandez-Mekonnen, Stockton

University, Child Welfare Education

Institute, Stockton, NJ

PANELISTS: Judge Kathleen Quigley, Pima County

Superior Court, Tucson, AZ

Julie Rosicky, International Social

Services (ISS), Baltimore, MD

Cecilia Saco, Dept. of Child and Family

Services, Los Angeles, CA

The task of supporting children and families engaged

in the immigration and child welfare systems is very complex, particularly because of the increasing number of persons requesting and receiving services or representation in this environment. Nonetheless, there have been significant improvements in various practices and processes over recent years that serve as models for response. Panelists highlighted the critical nature of collaborative effort among networks, organizations, and service providers to serve affected children and families optimally, as well as the need for continued work to improve support of affected children, especially due to the impact of politics on immigrants and systems.

#### **Pima County Collaboration**

Judge Kathleen Quigley of the Pima County Superior Court in Tucson, AZ, highlighted the collaborative effort of the Pima County Court and social services agencies on the U.S. and Mexico sides of the border that has resulted in the creation of a best practices toolkit for judges and attorneys who are involved in cases that include immigration and child welfare. The systems work parallel to one another but generate better outcomes when collaboration occurs for the unified goal of the best interest of a child. Sensitivity to parental fears of court appearances improves the prospects of good outcomes. Cooperative networking with foreign consulates and international organization such as IMUMI (EI Instituto para Las Mujeres en la Migración) is also essential to providing services for children who are engaged with immigration and child welfare systems.

#### International Social Services

Julie Rosicky of the International Social Services in Baltimore, MD, described the networks of social work agencies working internationally among 140 countries to promote best practices in serving families who are separated by national boundaries. Some of these best practices include Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with foreign consulates to facilitate family reunification and better manage relationships with other countries' systems. Culturally fluent practitioners are also vital to the process as well as transition plans and follow-up. Education moves both directions from ISS to families and from families to ISS, particularly in situations when reunification is not desired by parents who hope for better opportunities for their children than they can provide. Child safety is paramount in all instances.



#### Los Angeles County Department of Child and Family Services Special Immigrant Juvenile Unit

Cecilia Saco of the Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in Los Angeles, CA, works in the county with the greatest number of undocumented immigrants in the U.S. For well over a decade, the LA County DCFS special immigrant juvenile unit has used best practices to identify children engaged in the child welfare system who need immigration relief and provided references and contacts for legal and other assistance as needed. Recent slowing of Special Immigrant Juvenile Status and green card processing have created concerns that permanency may be delayed for children in foster care and that cases may be closed without resolution for legal status for immigrant children. These challenges require that the special immigration juvenile unit and the family interact with multiple systems simultaneously, systems that may not communicate with each other. Circumstances of deportation can include consequences for which there are no easy solutions for families; nonetheless, this unit continues to look for alternative approaches to help children while changing the negative image of child welfare in the community. These multiple initiatives are changing how families feel about being engaged with the child welfare system.

#### PANEL 3

The Status of Immigration and Child Welfare Research

MODERATOR: Megan Finno-Velasquez, PhD, Director,

Center on Immigration and Child Welfare; Assistant Professor, School of Social Work, New Mexico State University

**PANELISTS:** 

**Dominique Apollon, PhD,** Race Forward, New York, NY

**Alan Dettlaff, PhD,** Graduate College of Social Work, University of Houston, Houston, TX

**Monica Faulkner, PhD,** Steve Hicks School of Social Work, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

**Heather Koball, PhD,** National Center for Children in Poverty, Columbia University, New York, NY Although the most recent (2011) conservative estimate is that there are 5,100 children involved with the child welfare system as a result of parental detention and deportation, there continues to be a lack of documented evidence around the impact of immigration enforcement on immigrant families. This data is difficult to capture as it is not recorded at the federal or state levels, and state and local levels often lack the ability or motivation to systematically collect and analyze this data. The majority of research to date has been conducted using administrative data systems; however, there is also less rigorous research that has evaluated the experiences of immigrant children and families with certain programs.

Alan Dettlaff, PhD, of the University of Houston, discussed research conducted with data from the National Survey on Child and Adolescent Wellbeing which provides relevant statistics on the immigrant and child welfare system intersection. Information about parental nativity can be used to answer questions about the number of children of immigrants in the child welfare system. This data shows that 8.6% of all children involved in the child welfare system have at least one immigrant parent, approximately 1 in 10 children. This data contradicts the prevailing narrative of children of immigrants which stipulates that children of immigrants are at greater risk for child welfare involvement due to immigration-related stressors (i.e. poverty, domestic violence, family stress), especially among Latino immigrant families. In fact, there is no difference in the proportion of confirmed maltreatment victims between Latino immigrants and U.S.-born parents. Rather, risk factors for maltreatment are more likely to be present for U.S.-born Latino parents. This data highlights the strengths and protective factors in immigrant families that mitigate risks.

Dominique Apollon, PhD, of Race Forward described the scope and process of the November 2011 report "Shattered Families: The Perilous Intersection of Immigration Enforcement and the Child Welfare System." The result of an 18-month project across six states (CA, AZ, FL, TX, NY and NC), the report highlights parental deportation and the loss of parental rights as well as the resulting number of children involved in the welfare system. Race Forward has received seed money to begin identifying the pathways through which children are entering the child welfare system upon deportation of their parents and other outcomes of deportation, such as exile. The media provides a rich, new source of data about family separation that did not exist seven years ago when the first study was conducted. As



such, Race Forward plans to do a media content analysis to track the number of affected and the nature in which families are affected by immigration enforcement.

Monica Faulkner, PhD, of the University of Texas at Austin described her recent work around immigrant families' contingency plans in cases of detention or deportation. Overwhelmingly, plans are not being made due a belief that making a contingency plan would be willing family separation to happen. Families have also expressed some unique dynamics, such as power and control issues in mixed status families, where children have more power than they would in their countries of origin due to their role as translators for their families in the U.S. Another recent study interviewed 100 workers and 40 parents at child maltreatment prevention programs in Texas. Although they were not asked about immigration, this was the prominent issue discussed. People reported living in fear, experiences with raids, and fear of accessing social services and public benefits. Pervasive trauma stood out as the main takeaway of that study, highlighting a gap in evidence-based practices to address trauma in immigrant families.

Heather Koball, PhD, discussed her recent study of a range of immigrant enforcement policies and state policies related to public welfare which showed that material hardship was higher in states with stricter immigration enforcement laws and provided insight about health outcomes and access to preschool. It is critical to frame immigration enforcement to policymakers as a children's issue by highlighting the impacts on access to public benefits, preventative healthcare, and preschool, as well as the resulting exacerbation of material hardship for immigrant families.

Moderator Megan Finno-Velasquez led a discussion on promising approaches to research at the intersection of immigration and child welfare, the most prominent challenges to conducting this research, and areas for future research to fill the most pressing gaps knowledge.

#### Promising Research Approaches and Best Practices

Collaboration with consulates has become an increasingly promising approach across the practice, policy, and research realms. Many consulates provide local-level data on categories like the number of dependency cases and family reunifications as tools for research and data collection. Collaboration among academics and community-based organizations to conduct research is

another effective approach to fill this research gap and provide corroboration for the anecdotal information and evidence that exists. Furthermore, community-driven research is often more effective in driving a policy agenda forward.

# Challenges to Conducting Immigration and Child Welfare Research

Collecting data relevant to the intersection of immigration and child welfare entails many risks and challenges. Foremost among these are concerns about data confidentiality and the ethics around potentially putting individuals at increased risk for contact with immigration officials due to revealing documentation status. Additionally, in the current political environment there is a lack of federal funding for immigration-related research, nor is there enough funding for national organizations to do the same research in each state. This means that researchers spend more time raising money and less time conducting actual research.

#### The Future of Immigration and Child Welfare Research

Important questions for future research include:

- To what extent and by with pathways does immigration enforcement leads to child welfare system involvement?
- What are the needs of immigrant children who are in the child welfare system due to "traditional" means?
- How are child welfare workers trained to talk about immigration status and needs?
- To what extent do strategies that are considered "best practices" actually improve safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for children of immigrants involved with the child welfare system?
- How is trauma manifested and passed along from immigrant parents to children in families, and what are strategies for addressing trauma in immigrant communities in families?
- How do state variations in enforcement policies and in child welfare policies around serving immigrants impact child welfare outcomes?
- How are child welfare policies aimed at protecting children of immigrants at the local level?
- What are short- and long-term costs of changing immigration enforcement policies on the life course of children of immigrants and on our economy at large?



# Plenary: Looking Back & Moving Forward

Mark Greenberg, Migration Policy Institute, Washington, D.C.

#### Context for Understanding Current Immigration Enforcement

Recent references to immigration policy and activity describe a climate of heightened immigration enforcement this year, but it's important to understand what has and hasn't changed over the past year (2017). The political rhetoric has certainly changed, as has media coverage of arrests and deportations. The Obama Administration had historically high levels of removals, particularly in its early years, but in 2014 implemented priority criteria for enforcement that focused on national security risks, serious criminals, recent arrivals, and recent orders of deportation. In 2016, 99 percent of removals were in those priority categories. The Trump Administration has abandoned those criteria, making clear that any unauthorized immigrant is potentially at risk of deportation.

What is most notable about this year is not the total number of removals. However, it is important to note that removals are characterized as either border removals (at or near border or ports of entry) or interior removals which are those affecting most communities in most states. Although the number of removals hasn't yet changed significantly, the number of removals that are outside of the border (interior removals) is up 34 percent. The share of removals that were interior removals grew from 27 percent in 2016 to 38 percent thus far this year. The share of removed individuals who are categorized as criminals has not changed significantly, but in 2016 almost everyone removed without a criminal conviction had been apprehended at or near the border. It is currently unclear if that is changing. In addition to removals, arrest statistics are informative. In 2017, ICE arrests are up 43 percent over the same period in 2016. Arrests of non-criminals have more than tripled, now representing 30 percent of total arrests. Finally, the Trump administration has also stopped giving prosecutorial discretion to officials who are processing those arrested, i.e., those who are reviewing cases after arrests to see whether deportation is warranted based on factors like long U.S. residence, U.S. citizen children, clean criminal or only minor criminal records. In the Obama administration, many who were arrested were later released; under the Trump administration almost everyone is being detained and deported.

In sum, removals are not up, but the share that are internal is up; arrests are up; arrests of non-criminals are up, and arrests are now more likely to eventually lead to deportation. And the elimination of the Obama Administration priorities means that a vastly greater group of unauthorized immigrants is potentially at risk of arrest and deportation. Despite the numbers that are not dramatically different, there are clear reasons why more people are afraid, and the numbers may change over time.

# Situating the Needs for Child Welfare Research, Policy and Practice Going Forward

Often, in reference to child welfare implications, the focus is exclusively on detention and deportation, but different circumstances pose different issues. First, because one in four children in the U.S. are children of immigrants and most immigrants aren't unauthorized, there are many instances in which families with immigrants come to the attention of the child welfare system in circumstances that have nothing to do with unauthorized status, detention, or deportation. There may be significant issues for such cases relating to language access and cultural sensitivity, and some families could be facing other issues relating to immigration status, but not the distinct challenges faced when family members are unauthorized. Second, at least currently, while unauthorized immigrants are at heightened risk of deportation, the actual number deported last year (2016; 240,000) represented about 2 percent of the unauthorized population, so there are many instances of families with an unauthorized member who aren't in deportation proceedings.

In one important respect, however, examining a single year's figures can be misleading. A literature review conducted for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) concluded that more than half a million children have experienced parental deportation in recent years. The number of such parents of U.S. citizens reached 90,000 in 2011 and 2012, and fell to 29,000 in 2016. Assuming two children per parent, even at last year's pace, that's 60,000



children per year. Not all, and not even most, children with a deported parent enter the child welfare system, but adequate data are currently not available. Probably the most frequently cited figure is from the 2011 Shattered Families report from the Applied Research Center that estimated there were 5100 children in child welfare with a detained or deported parent. That figure is often misunderstood as representing all of the children who recently entered child welfare due to detention or deportation; in fact, the deportation could have occurred months or years prior. Years from now more information will available from AFCARS. In last year's AFSCAR regulations, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) originally proposed to ask for information on whether the child or parent was born in the U.S. There was strong opposition, so instead the final rule includes parental detention or deportation as a possible response for the specification of child and family circumstances at removal. That information will be available, but not until the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2019.

As a result of the troubling Shattered Families report, HHS officials performed site visits in high-enforcement communities. Most frequently, reports explained that a direct route from detention or deportation to a child welfare case was infrequent, for two main reasons: 1) often, only one parent, typically the father, was being deported, and whether or not that was the case, 2) families had often engaged in safety planning with a back-up caregiver (an aunt, grandparent, or other close relative). It could be the case that the new and stressed, economically fragile setting could fall apart over time, eventually leading to child welfare engagement, but the immediate cause might not be identified as the original deportation. There were some cases in which parents in detention had open child welfare cases, sometimes because the case was already open before detention, sometimes because the same set of facts that led to arrest also led to opening a child welfare case. There is also the set of issues about ensuring that individuals in detention are able to engage with their caseworker, participate in hearings on their case, have visitation, and receive access to needed services were crucial for those families. The ICE Parental Interests Directive highlighted ICE's commitment to work with families in these circumstances. The current status of the Directive isn't completely clear, and there are some indications that a revised version may be coming out at some point. Until it does, it's helpful to ensure key staff are familiar with this one

Finally, there is a distinct set of issues for unaccompanied children who have been placed with a parent, relative, or family friend. When the federal government places these children with sponsors, there's typically little federally funded follow-up, and the federal government generally takes the position that if the arrangement has problems or breaks down, it then falls under the responsibility of the state's child welfare system to address. Many of these children may have claims for immigration relief, but federal funding for legal services for them is very limited.

At HHS in the last administration, an ACYF Information Memorandum was developed that includes both guidance and linkages to resources and a companion issue brief on Immigration and Child Welfare from the Children's Bureau at the Child Welfare Information Gateway. In addition, HHS generated a guide for working with consulates, including samples of MOUs and agreements. HHS also funded a couple valuable research efforts: a literature review not just about child welfare but more broadly about implications of immigration enforcement activities for child wellbeing; and a five-site study of both the challenges families faced and promising local responses. There is much to be gained by states sharing with each other the issues they're facing and the policies and practices they've developed.



# Closing Plenary: Implications & Next Steps

The Roundtable concluded with a plenary discussion about the implications, priorities, and next steps for the CICW network based on the information, insight, and experiences shared throughout the day. The following themes emerged from the discussion.

#### Communication

#### Priorities should include:

- Amplifying stories of resistance as told by those affected by immigration enforcement.
- Creating a platform for compiling best practices and policies.
- · Increasing ally-ship for unaccompanied minors.
- Creating more effective and accessible education and awareness tools using social media, videos, novelas,
- Creating and promoting counter-narratives that strategically counter anti-immigration sentiments.

#### Research

#### Priorities should include:

- Continuing to use CICW as a hub to: 1) connect research to policy, and 2) provide a repository for data.
- Pursuing participatory research with affected communities to appropriately frame communications and advocacy priorities.
- Developing a CICW collaborative research agenda.
- Developing and disseminating effective state-level research agendas.
- Pooling foundation funds for a broad-based research agenda.
- Exploring potential CICW research fellowships for community and policy research.

#### Policy

#### Priorities should include:

- Creating and disseminating an immigration legal resource for child welfare agencies in all 50 states.
- · Countering attacks on immigrant kids and families.
- Replicating successful state-level models on privacy protections and eligibility rules for public benefits.
- · Coordinating litigation against the federal government.
- · Centralizing good state policy and research.

- Providing two additional phone calls for primary caregivers at the time of arrest.
- Conducting more trans-discipline and bi-national education and professional development exchanges.

#### **Practice**

#### Priorities should include:

- Creating and disseminating trauma-informed services for immigrant families and professionals working with immigrant families and children.
- · Improving cross-state collaborations.
- Replicating effective models like the Quigley-Southern Arizona Model.
- Conducting more cross-disciplinary communication, training, and practice that includes community-based groups and agencies.
- · Collaborating with faith-based networks.
- Encouraging professional development partnerships, especially between social worker groups and the child welfare community.
- · Encouraging international case staffing.
- Creating and disseminating legal and practice guidance for reunifying transnational families.
- Identifying resources and networking with organizations in other countries.
- Discussing the pros and cons of relative/fictive kin placement for immigrant families in the child welfare system.
- · Distributing best practices.
- Encouraging routine Immigration 101 in child welfare training academies.
- · Creating CICW learning communities.
- Coordinating efforts to secure legal representation for immigrant children in removal proceedings.
- Developing training curriculum for stakeholders on immigration and cultural competency issues.



# Strategic Planning Meeting

#### Tuesday November 7, 2017

A strategic planning meeting with key CICW partners was held the day following the Roundtable to discuss and brainstorm the future scope of work at the intersection of immigration and child welfare across the practice, policy, and research realms. The day began with two primary objectives: 1) to identify projects, initiatives and/or actions to meet the challenges identified during the Roundtable; and 2) to strength a sense of alignment and support for these initiatives across disciplines and regions. The agenda for the strategic planning meeting was developed by participants via the "open space marketplace" model. In this model, participants with ideas for projects or initiatives briefly presented and posted their ideas on a board. Once all the ideas were posted, participants signed up for at least two ideas they were interested in discussing and planning in working groups over two 90-minute sessions. Participants formed 11 different working groups total and collectively shared their main takeaways at the concluding session. Summaries of the work done in each group follow.

#### Best Practices in Child Welfare

This working group highlighted the necessity of assessing the needs of the child welfare system, including what resources already exist. The group discussed the importance of operating from a lens on race, equity, and cultural sensitivity. They identified a need for cross-sector training about the systems impacting those involved in the child welfare system, namely the immigration system as well as Child Protective Services. Additional best practices include identifying partnerships and Memorandums of Understanding with the Office of Refugee Resettlement and providing information about parental rights to child welfare workers and social workers. Tangible next steps for establishing and improving best practices include updating and disseminating existing toolkits with real-life examples and assessing the system-level needs.

#### CICW Mission, Structure, and Scope

This working group included many of the founding members of the CICW who discussed the future mission, structure, and scope of the CICW. This discussion centered around which aspects of the intersection of immigration and child welfare the CICW should prioritize, what the leadership structure and decision-making would look like going forward, and next steps for continued conversation.

#### Developing a Research Agenda

This working group discussed what a potential research agenda might look like with respect to the scope and capacity of the CICW. They noted the need for a sound rationale, linking the research agenda to the CICW mission, and the challenge of balancing broad research questions

with the need to show a link to the child welfare system. They also discussed next steps for continued conversation and collaboration.

#### Identifying and Coordinating Bi-National Research, Advocacy, Training

This working group discussed the most prominent challenges in bi-national work at the intersection of immigration and child welfare. Among these challenges were continuity of legal services, lack of understanding between U.S. and non-U.S. child welfare systems and their capacities, as well as lack of access to services for U.S.-citizen children who must return to their parent's country of origin. They also discussed how best to facilitate transnational placements and safe repatriation as well as the concerning trend of Mexico emulating U.S. detention and deportation models for dealing with unaccompanied minors. Tangible next steps to improve bi-national work on these issues include updating relevant reports, promoting current best practices and connection, exploring educational exchange programs, and disseminating more bi-national resources.

#### Legal Communications Strategy

This working group highlighted the need for judges in immigration court to have knowledge about working well with children, especially due to the increasing number of children coming into contact with the immigration system, i.e., unaccompanied minors. They also discussed the importance of increasing awareness around child welfare-related legal issues for attorneys handling immigration cases and of sensitivity to immigration implications due to cross-over from dependency to delinquency court.



They suggested collaborating with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges to better engage judges and encouraging training for immigration judges to better prepare them for working with children. They also recommended clarifying issues of federal and state law regarding reporting to ICE and encouraging collaboration between immigration and child welfare attorneys on crossover issues for their clients.

#### Melrood-Quigley-Southern Arizona Model

This working group discussed the need to conduct research and evaluation of the Southern Arizona model, which entails a collaborative effort of Pima County Court and social services agencies to create a best practices toolkit for judges and attorneys who are involved in cases that include immigration and child welfare, and ultimately compile a report that can be broadly disseminated. This process might include developing a "recipe" for apply this model in other states as well.

# Preserving and Protecting Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)

This working group highlighted the importance of transmitting accurate information about SIJS to state child welfare agencies, including recent changes in the process, and training opportunities. Additional support for preserving and protecting SIJS may come from recruiting and collaborating with child welfare agencies to put pressure on legislators and the presidential administration. The CICW may be able to act as a conduit for sharing this information and encouraging such trainings. The group also identified the Parental Interests Directive as an area of shared interest and need. They suggested writing and publishing educational pieces on the topic to be disseminated to state agencies as well as op-eds and letters to Senators and Representatives.

#### Preserving Access to Social Services

This working group noted a drop in the enrollment and use of social services by immigrant families due to fear of immigration enforcement and concerns about confidentiality. These fears have increased families' risks for child welfare system involvement. The group identified a need to combat misinformation and develop policy guidance and resources for social service provides and immigrant families. Use of promotoras stood out as a best practice model for communicating effectively with

immigrant families. Currently the Protecting Immigrant Families (PIF) Campaign is working on this issue. Other steps included working groups on federal advocacy, technical assistance, communications, research, and field work. The group also discussed creating an inventory of best practice models for social service enrollment and education as well as a longer-term goal of changing the overall narrative on immigrant and their families' right to public benefits.

#### Rapid Advocacy Response on Children Affected by Immigration Enforcement

This working group focused on how to educate and mobilize child welfare and child protection groups at key moments on threats to children posed by immigration enforcement. Ideas included educating child welfare and child protection groups via webinars, identifying leaders in the child welfare and child protection spaces to serve as bridges to immigration advocates, cultivating relationships in key states, and improving messaging and framing away from an immigration-centric narrative.

#### Scope and Impact Analysis of Family Separation: Creating Shared Data Sources

This working group discussed potential data sources, locales, and strategy for analyzing the scope and impact of family separation due to immigration enforcement. This would necessitate careful selection of how to measure the impact, i.e., its monetary costs vs. human costs with respect to the child welfare system, immigration detention, and the education system. This issue also requires intentional framing and communication strategy, especially to avoid creating harm to immigrant families. This initiative would also entail developing relationship with various organizations that might act as potential data sources, addressing IRB issues, identifying funding sources, and creating a budget.

# Trauma-Informed Resource Development with Immigrant Populations

This working group focused on how to go about updating and operationalizing trauma-informed toolkits and resources. The group noted that immigrant families have been asking for these types of resources and that caregivers and case-workers are increasingly experiencing vicarious or secondary trauma issues. This process requires a comprehensive understanding of the available resources, social supports, and network as well as working with various audiences to create effective dissemination strategies.



# Recommendations

Participants in both the Roundtable and Strategic Planning meeting were asked to provide recommendations for prioritizing the direction of future work to continue to advance the mission of the CICW, "to improve programs and policies related to the safety, permanency, and well-being of immigrant children and families involved in the public child welfare system." Recommendations were compiled and categorized by theme to guide the development of the CICW's 5-year strategic plan. Recommendations in general fell into 5 broad categories: 1) Information Sharing and Communications; 2) Research; 3) Policy and Advocacy; 4) Child Welfare Practice; and 5) Training and Technical Assistance. Specific recommendations include:

# Information Sharing and Communication

#### **RECOMMENDATION #1:**

The CICW should provide a repository for data, best practices, policies, at federal, state, and local levels.

As a resource repository, the CICW should:

- Review and update existing resources.
- Make the CICW website more user-friendly for practitioners looking for information and create a menu of options for agencies looking for support.
- Disseminate promising models and practices (such as Southern AZ model).
- · Identify and promote binational work and resources.

#### **RECOMMENDATION #2:**

The CICW should serve as the coordinator of communications, networking, and collaborative work among partner agencies.

Specifically, the CICW should:

- Facilitate ongoing communications through calls and through the newsletter mailing list.
- Host periodic in-person work gatherings to strengthen the collaborative network.
- Foster more cross-disciplinary communications that include community-based groups, faith-based networks, international groups.

#### **RECOMMENDATION #3:**

The CICW should be a leader in creating and supporting a new immigration narrative focused on family strengths.

Specifically, the CICW should:

 Create counter-narratives that strategically counter anti-immigration sentiments and change discourse

- on immigrants' and their families' rights to public benefits
- Seek out new approaches to changing the narrative, including seeking out powerful financial groups and funders to elevate.
- Release a statement on immigration that articulates our stance on immigration to encourage other organizations to come forward and release statements of their own.

#### Research

#### **RECOMMENDATION #4:**

The CICW should develop a clear research agenda and plan for increasing knowledge around immigration and child welfare issues.

Specifically, the CICW should:

- Create broad research agenda to prioritize research questions that have child welfare implications.
- Pursue CICW research fellowships for otherwise unfunded community and policy research.
- Pursue a pooled foundation fund to support this broadbased research agenda.

#### **RECOMMENDATION #5:**

The CICW should engage in and support specific types of research, that include:

- Participatory research with affected communities that frames communications and advocacy priorities.
- Impact analyses of family separation on child well-being and implications for child welfare systems.
- · Evaluations of existing best practice models.
- Binational and border area research that highlights the needs of these special populations.



#### Policy and Advocacy

#### **RECOMMENDATION #6:**

The CICW should serve as a centralized hub for disseminating legal resources for child welfare practitioners around immigration issues in all 50 states.

#### **RECOMMENDATION #7:**

The CICW should be involved in coordinating legal strategy around immigration and child welfare issues, specifically around:

- Replicating state models on privacy protections and eligibility rules for benefits.
- Engaging judges in immigration courts working with children.
- Increasing awareness of legal issues for attorneys handing immigration cases.
- · State and federal litigation.
- Securing legal representation for immigrant children in removal.

#### Child Welfare Practice

#### **RECOMMENDATION #8:**

The CICW should conduct an assessment of best practice resources to map out:

- The repository of existing tools and best practices.
- Ongoing child welfare system level needs in practice with immigrants.

#### **RECOMMENDATION #9:**

The CICW should update existing resources and toolkits with:

- · New and updated policies.
- Real-life examples, including videos, novelas, social media.
- Evaluation components.

#### **RECOMMENDATION # 10:**

The CICW should develop a template for established best practice models that can be disseminated to other jurisdictions.

#### **RECOMMENDATION #11:**

The CICW should develop new topic-specific resources, including:

- The pros and cons of relative/fictive kin placement with immigrant and transnational family members.
- · Trauma-informed resources and tools.
- · Guidance for reunifying transnational families.
- The relationship between the use of health and social services and risk for child welfare involvement.

# Training and Technical Assistance

#### **RECOMMENDATION #12:**

The CICW should develop routine Immigration 101 curricula for use in child welfare training academies.

#### **RECOMMENDATION #13:**

The CICW should develop and conduct individual child welfare workforce trainings on:

- · Special Immigrant Juvenile Status updates.
- · Rapid advocacy response.
- · Immigrant parents' rights.

#### **RECOMMENDATION #14:**

The CICW should conduct cross-sector trainings for immigrant rights groups, legal organizations, child welfare agencies, family and immigration courts, the faith-based and community non-profit sector.

#### **RECOMMENDATION #15:**

The CICW should develop higher educational opportunities to increase capacity in immigration and child welfare issues through:

- Educational exchange programs with universities in countries with high immigrant populations in the U.S.
- Certificate programs or elective university course development.
- Partnerships with professional organizations such as the Council on Social Work Education and the Society for Social Work and Research, American Bar Association, and the Association of American of Law Schools).



# **Panelists**

**Dom Apollon** is Vice President of Research at Race Forward, a national racial justice organization based in New York City and Oakland, CA. He has served the organization as Research Director and supported the focus group and quantitative research of principal investigator Seth Freed Wessler for the 2001 report, "Shattered Families: The Perilous Intersection of Immigration Enforcement and the Child Welfare System." Dom has also led or supported research projects on racial justice narrative change, the racial attitudes of millennials, occupational segregation, and anti-discrimination protection. He is currently developing and supervising Race Forward's update of Shattered Families data for forthcoming coverage on the organization's daily news site, Colorlines.

**Prudence Beidler Carr** is the Director of the American Bar Association's Center on Children and the Law in Washington, DC, where she manages a team of attorneys and core staff who work on children's law projects throughout the country. She joined the ABA Center in 2016 with a background in government, nonprofit management, and children's advocacy. Formerly, Prudence lived in Mexico City where she partnered with JUCONI, a Mexican organization that helps street-living youth reintegrate with their families. She spent six years at the Department of Homeland Security Office of General Counsel, where she managed class action, appellate, and Supreme Court litigation and advised senior leaders on the legal effects of immigration and national security policies. She also served as the office's Deputy Managing Counsel. Prudence has also worked on numerous children's advocacy projects in child welfare, early care and education, and afterschool program contexts and has an undergraduate degree from Harvard University and a JD from Northwestern.

**Wendy Cervantes** is a Senior Policy Analyst at CLASP where she works across the organization's policy teams to develop and advocate for policies that support low-income immigrants and their families. As a member of the child care and early education team, she also focuses on improving access to these programs for children of immigrants and children of color.

Prior to joining CLASP, Ms. Cervantes was Vice President of Immigration and Child Rights at First Focus where she led the organization's federal policy work on immigration and established the Center for the Children of Immigrants. Ms. Cervantes also served as Director of Programs at La Plaza, a Latino community-based organization in central Indiana, where she oversaw the implementation and evaluation of education, health, and social service programs. Earlier in her career, Ms. Cervantes worked at the Annie E. Casey Foundation where she managed the national immigrant and refugee families and the District of Columbia portfolios. She also has experience as a community organizer and an adult ESL instructor.

Ms. Cervantes currently serves on the Advisory Board of the Center on Immigration and Child Welfare and the Board of Welcome.US. The proud daughter of Mexican immigrants, Ms. Cervantes holds an M.A. in Latin American Studies and Political Science from the University of New Mexico and a B.A. in Communications from the University of Southern California.

**Emily Butera** is Senior Policy Analyst for Migrant Rights and Justice at the Women's Refugee Commission. An expert on the protection of families dually affected by the immigration and child welfare systems, Emily's work focuses on mitigating the effects of enforcement, detention, and removal on family unity, parental rights, and child wellbeing. Emily served as lead author for WRC's 2014 toolkit for detained parents and conducted the first ever national research study on the effects of detention on parental rights, detailed in the organization's 2010 report "Torn Apart by Immigration Enforcement." Emily has worked nearly twenty years as an advocate, policy strategist, and program manager for numerous local and national immigrant and refugee rights organizations including Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Catholic Legal Immigration Network, and Asian Human Services, as well as for the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR). Emily holds a B.A. from Kenyon College and an M.A. in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University.



Alan J. Dettlaff is Dean of the Graduate College of Social Work at the University of Houston and the inaugural Maconda Brown O'Connor Endowed Dean's Chair. Prior to joining the University of Houston, Dean Dettlaff served on the faculty of the Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He received his bachelor's degree in social work from TCU, and master's in social work and PhD from the University of Texas at Arlington. Dean Dettlaff's research focuses on improving outcomes for children and youth in the child welfare system through examining and addressing the factors contributing to racial disparities and improving cultural responsiveness.

Monica Faulkner, PhD, is the Director of the Texas Institute for Child and Family Wellbeing and a Research Associate Professor at the Steve Hicks School of Social Work at The University of Texas at Austin. Her direct practice experience involved working with survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and child maltreatment, many of whom were undocumented immigrants. She also worked in the Texas Legislature on policy issues related to health and human services. Her research focuses on child welfare and, along with colleagues, she completed a qualitative study on undocumented Latino parents and a home visitation services on the Texas border. She co-founded and facilitates the Social Work Detention Response Team which provides students opportunities to volunteer at detention centers in Central Texas.

Megan Finno-Velasquez, PhD, LMSW, is an Assistant Professor at New Mexico State University's School of Social Work and serves as Director of the CICW. A Doris Duke Fellow at the University of Southern California (USC) recognized for her research on the service needs of immigrant families with child welfare contact, she also received an ACF Children's Bureau University-based fellowship that explored the dynamics in immigrant neighborhoods with unusual rates of child maltreatment. She worked as a child welfare administrator at the New Mexico Children Youth and Families Department from 2006-2010 and spearheaded policy and programmatic initiatives to improve practice with immigrant families. Her publications include examination of the characteristics and experiences of immigrants involved with the child welfare system. Her research interests include the impact of immigration policy on child welfare, maltreatment prevention in Latino immigrant communities, and cultural competence in child welfare services.

Mark Greenberg is a Senior Fellow at the Migration Policy Institute in Washington, DC, where his work focuses on the intersections between immigration and human services policies. Before coming to MPI, Mark spent seven years at the US Administration for Children and Families, where he was ACF Acting Assistant Secretary for the last three years of the Obama Administration. During his career, he has also been a legal services lawyer in Florida and California, the Director of Policy at the Center for Law and Social Policy, director of a Task Force on Poverty for the Center for American Progress, and director of the Georgetown University Center on Poverty, Inequality and Public Policy.

Robin Hernandez-Mekonnen, PhD, MSW (University of Pennsylvania), is an Associate Professor of Social Work and faculty of the Child Welfare Education Institute at Stockton University. She has 20 years of child welfare experience and has been engaged research and policy work for the past decade. Her areas of interest are child welfare, system reform, Title IV-E and workforce improvement, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), the intersection of child welfare and immigration, Mexican diaspora, and mixed method research and policy. With an emphasis on interdisciplinary collaboration, Dr. Hernandez-Mekonnen has worked on numerous projects and reform efforts on the behalf of children and families in the Delaware Valley and nationally. Currently, her work focuses on the New Jersey Child Welfare system reform.

**Angie Junck** is a Supervising Attorney at the Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) in San Francisco. Her expertise is on immigrant youth issues, immigration consequences of crime and delinquency, and immigration enforcement. She regularly provides immigration trainings and technical assistance to social workers, indigent defenders, prosecutors, criminal and juvenile court judges, and law enforcement officials. She is a co-author of numerous publications including ILRC's "Special Immigrant Juvenile Status and Other Immigration Options for Children & Youth and Immigration Benchbook for Juvenile and Family Courts." She also is the author of an article on SIJS in a special issue of the Juvenile and Family Court Journal for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. She sits on the American Bar Association's Immigration Commission and is the co-chair of the Immigration Committee of the ABA's Criminal Justice Section.



**Tim Karpoff,** Roundtable Facilitator, has over 35 years of experience in community and organizational development, meeting facilitation, strategic planning, and multi-party collaboration. After receiving a B.A in History from Yale University, he worked for 16 years as a regional director and vice president of the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA) in the United States, the Philippines and Malaysia, organizing community-based integrated development programs, and providing strategic planning consulting for national and multinational organizations. Based in Albuquerque since 1992, he helps community groups, businesses, and government organizations plan effectively and explore complex issues through well-designed workshops and conversations. Tim's strengths include working collaboratively and appropriately with people from a wide variety of cultural and educational backgrounds, and the ability to summarize and integrate ideas from different perspectives.

Heather Koball, PhD, is the director of the family economic security unit at Columbia University's National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP). Her research includes rigorous quantitative analyses of the impact of state immigration policies on immigrant families' experiences of material hardship and food insecurity. She has completed studies on barriers to preschool enrollment among children of immigrants and qualitative studies of the effects of parental deportation on children. Her doctorate in sociology is from Brown University and her master's degree in statistics is from Virginia Tech.

**Kathleen Quigley** is Presiding Judge of Pima County Juvenile Court. Raised in Tucson, AZ, she attended Northern Arizona University and University of Arizona Law School and was admitted to the Arizona State bar in 1987. She served in the Pima County Attorney's Office 1987-2003 in various capacities, including supervisor. In 2009, she was appointed by the Honorable Patricia Escher to serve as a Commissioner at the Pima County Juvenile Court. In 2012, she was appointed by Gov. Jan Brewer to the Pima County Superior Court Bench. Kathleen is deeply committed to improving processes and practices to benefit families, the court systems, and the community to improve outcomes in child welfare cases. Kathleen is married to Chris Wassenberg, and they have four children.

**Julie Rosicky** is the Executive Director of International Social Service, a national organization that is part of a global network to ensure that children and families separated by international borders are protected and have access to the necessary services and information they need to be together. She has overseen the growth of services: to U.S. states who have children in their care with cross-border protection issues; to unaccompanied minors who are US citizens abandoned abroad, to US and non-US citizens in the US with family abroad; and to Central American and Mexican ISS working partners. Julie's early career focused on youth and families as a child/family therapist at the Oregon Social Learning Center and at the Oneida Indian Nation. She also ran a Court Appointed Special Advocate Program and was the Executive Director of a child advocacy/dispute resolution/mediation center. Julie has two boys at university and when not paying college tuition bills, she travels as much as possible, and when not traveling, she recently learned to row and joined a rowing team in Annapolis, Maryland.

Cecilia Saco, MSW, is a Supervising Children's Social Worker with Los Angeles County Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS). She supervises a countywide specialized Unit dedicated to the filing of Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) on behalf of qualifying dependent undocumented immigrant children; she also completes U-Visa Certifications on behalf of DCFS. Cecilia also is a member of the DCFS Hague Unit representing her agency in other countries on cases of international parental abductions. She chairs the Southern California Counties International Services Committee and is a member of the Migration and Child Welfare National Network.



# **Participants**

#### Mayra Alvarez

President
The Children's Partnership
Los Angeles, CA
malvarez@childrenspartnership.org

#### Francine Anaya

Division Director, Protective Services NM Children, Youth and Families Department Santa Fe, NM Francine.Anaya@state.nm.us

#### Serina Apodaca-Peckham

MSW Student, New Mexico State University/ Center on Immigration and Child Welfare Albuquerque, NM serinam@nmsu.edu

#### **Dominique Apollon**

Research Director
Race Forward
New York, NY
Dapollon@raceforward.org

#### Marcos Arias

Protection and Legal Affairs Consul Consulate of Mexico in Albuquerque, NM marias@sre.gob.mx

#### Ines Maxaira Baltazar

Deputy Consul Consulate of Mexico in Albuquerque, NM ibaltazar@sre.gob.mx

#### **Beth Beers**

Director of Community-Based Programs, Socorro General Hospital Circle of Security-Socorro Socorro, NM bbeers@phs.org

#### Prudence Beidler Carr

Director, Chief Counsel

American Bar Association Center for Children and the Law

Washington, DC

Prudence.BeidlerCarr@americanbar.org

#### Claudia Benavidez

Program Director
PB&J Family Services, Southeast Site
Albuquerque, NM
Claudia@pbjfamilyservices.org

#### Leonel Briseno

Deacon
Roman Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces
Las Cruces, NM
LBriseno@rcdlc.org

#### Lara Bruce

Program Associate
Butler Institute for Families, University of Denver
Denver, CO
lara.bruce@du.edu

#### **Emily Butera**

Sr. Policy Advisor, Migrant Rights and Justice Women's Refugee Commission (WRC) Washington, DC EmilyB@wrcommission.org

#### Jorge Cabrera

Senior Director
Casey Family Programs
San Diego, CA
Jcabrera@casey.org

#### **Betsy Cahill**

J. Paul Taylor Endowed Professor New Mexico State University-Early Childhood Las Cruces, NM bcahill@nmsu.edu

#### **Wendy Cervantes**

Senior Policy Analyst, Immigration and Immigrant Families Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) Washington, DC WCervantes@clasp.org



#### Berizana Cline

Certified Child Safety Seat Technician Circle of Security-Socorro Socorro, NM bcline@phs.org

#### Julie Collins

VP, Practice Excellence
Child Welfare League of America (CWLA)
Washington, DC
jcollins@cwla.org

#### Cristina Ritchie Cooper

Senior Counsel
ABA Center on Children and the Law
Washington, DC
cristina.cooper@americanbar.org

#### Stephanie Kripa Cooper-Lewter

Vice President of Initiatives & Public Policy Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina Columbia, SC sclewter@sistersofcharitysc.com

#### Ivan de la Rosa

Interim Director, School of Social Work New Mexico State University Las Cruces, NM Iilo@nmsu.edu

#### Neha Desai

Senior Attorney
National Center for Youth Law
Oakland, CA
ndesai@youthlaw.org

#### **Alan Dettlaff**

University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work Houston, TX ajdettlaff@uh.edu

#### Marcela Diaz

Executive Director

Somos un Pueblo Unido

Santa Fe, NM

marcela@somosunpueblounido.org

#### Elena Dineen

Staff Attorney
Futures without Violence
San Francisco, CA
EDineen@futureswithoutviolence.org

#### Jackie Duron

Assistant Professor, School of Social Work Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey New Brunswick, NJ jduron@ssw.rutgers.edu

#### Frida Espinosa Cárdenas

Transnational Family Advocacy Coordinator Institute for Women in Migration (IMUMI) Mexico City, Mexico frida.imumi@gmail.com

#### Monica Faulkner

Research Associate Professor Steve Hicks School of Social Work, UT Austin Austin, TX Mfaulkner@austin.utexas.edu

#### Ken Ferrone

Executive Director
Catholic Charities of Southern NM
Las Cruces, NM
kf@catholiccharitiesdlc.org

#### Megan Finno-Velasquez

CICW Director, Assistant Professor New Mexico State University/ Center on Immigration and Child Welfare Albuquerque, NM mfv@nmsu.edu

#### Christina Garcia

DOJ Accredited Representative/CVP Coordinator Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center El Paso, Texas christinagarcia@las-americas.org

#### Elisha Geoffrion

MSW Student, New Mexico State University/ Center on Immigration and Child Welfare Albuquerque, NM Ieesha@nmsu.edu



#### Mark Greenberg

Senior Fellow
Migration Policy Institute
Washington, DC
mgreenberg@migrationpolicy.org

#### Maria Gurrola

Associate Professor New Mexico State University Las Cruces, NM gurrola@nmsu.edu

#### **Audrey Hartley**

Executive Director Jardin de los Ninos Las Cruces, NM ahartley@jardinlc.org

#### Robin Hernandez-Mekonnen

Associate Professor of Social Work Stockton University, Child Welfare Education Institute Galloway, NJ Robin.Hernandez-Mekonnen@stockton.edu

#### Kristen Jackson

Senior Staff Attorney
Public Counsel
Los Angeles, CA
kjackson@publiccounsel.org

#### **Lupie Janos**

Sr. Social Worker/International Liaison
Orange County Social Services Agency/Children and Family
Services
Orange, CA
Lupie.janos@ssa.ocgov.com

#### **James Jimenez**

Executive Director

New Mexico Voices for Children

Albuquerque, NM

jjimenez@nmvoices.org

#### **Angie Junck**

Supervising Attorney
Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)
San Francisco, CA
ajunck@ilrc.org

#### Elisa Kawam

Executive Director
NASW-NM
Albuquerque, NM
ekawam.naswnm@gmail.com

#### Heather Koball

Director of Family Economic Security
National Center for Children in Poverty, Columbia University
New York, NY
hk2163@cumc.columbia.edu

#### Yali Lincroft

Program Director
Walter S. Johnson Foundation
San Francisco, CA
yali@childpublicpolicy.com

#### Iris Lopez

Social Worker
Casey Family Programs - Yakima
Yakima, WA
ilopez@casey.org

#### Kristina Lovato

Assistant Professor
California State University Long Beach
Long Beach, CA
Kristina.Lovato@csulb.edu

#### Annette LoVoi

Director
Appleseed
Austin, TX
ALoVoi@appleseednetwork.org

#### Randi Mandelbaum

Distinguished Clinical Professor of Law Rutgers Law School Newark, NJ rmandelbaum@kinoy.rutgers.edu

#### Rricha Mathur

Senior Policy Director, Child Welfare and Child Rights First Focus Washington, DC rricham@firstfocus.org



#### Laurie Melrood

LMSW Independent Consultant Advocacy & Consulting Tucson, AZ Imelrood@gmail.com

#### Michelle Mendez

Sr. Attorney, Training & Legal Support
Project Manager, Defending Vulnerable Populations
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)
Baltimore, MD
mmendez@cliniclegal.org

#### Jennifer Nagda

Director, Programs & Policy Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights Chicago, IL jnagda@theyoungcenter.org

#### Elisa Ortiz

Director of Network Collaboration Appleseed Network Washington, DC eortiz@appleseednetwork.org

#### Michelle Salazar Pérez

Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education New Mexico State University-Early Childhood Las Cruces, NM msp@nmsu.edu

#### Jennifer Podkul

Director of Policy
Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)
Washington, DC
jpodkul@supportkind.org

#### **Kaitlin Porter**

Social Services Coordinator
Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project (FIRRP)
Florence, AZ
kporter@firrp.org

#### Judge Kathleen Quigley

Presiding Judge, Pima County Juvenile Court Pima County Superior Court Tucson, AZ Kathleen.quigley@pcjcc.pima.gov

#### Robby Rodriguez

Program Officer
W. K. Kellogg Foundation
Albuquerque, NM
robby.rodriguez@wkkf.org

#### **Sunny Harris Rome**

Professor of Social Work George Mason University Fairfax, VA srome@gmu.edu

#### Cecilia M. Rosales

Southwest Regional Manager for Protective Services Children, Youth and Families Department Las Cruces, NM cecilia.rosales@state.nm.us

#### Julie Gilbert Rosicky

Executive Director
International Social Services – USA
Baltimore, MD
jrosicky@iss-usa.org

#### Cecilia Saco

Supervising Children's Social Worker LA County DCFS Los Angeles, CA SACOCE@dcfs.lacounty.gov

#### **Aaron Salas**

County Office Manager CYFD-Las Cruces Las Cruces, NM aaron.salas@state.nm.us

#### Sophia Sepp

MSW Student, New Mexico State University/ Center on Immigration and Child Welfare Las Cruces, NM ssepp@nmsu.edu

#### Laura Speer

Associate Director, Policy Reform and Advocacy The Annie E. Casey Foundation Baltimore, MD Lspeer@aecf.org



#### **Gretchen Test**

Operations Director, Quality Parenting Initiative Youth Law Center San Francisco, CA gtest@qpiylc.org

#### **Amy Thompson**

PhD Candidate
Steve Hicks School of Social Work, UT-Austin
Austin, TX
amy.thompson@utexas.edu

#### Liz Thornton

Attorney/Consultant
Federal Consultant
Washington, DC / California
eliz.thornton.sf@gmail.com

#### **Delphine Trujillo**

Regional Manager Children, Youth and Families Department/PSD Santa Fe, NM delphine.trujillo@state.nm.us

#### Anita Weinberg

Clinical Professor and Director of ChildLaw Policy Institute Loyola University Chicago School of Law Chicago, IL aweinbe@luc.edu

#### Margaret White

MSW Student, New Mexico State University/ Center on Immigration and Child Welfare Albuquerque, NM marwhite@nmsu.edu



# Mitigating Risks of Child Welfare Involvement for Children and Families Affected by Immigration Enforcement

# A Roundtable hosted by the Center on Immigration and Child Welfare Schedule at a Glance

Monday November 6, 2017 – Hotel Albuquerque		
8:00 AM	Registration and Breakfast	
8:30 AM	Welcome and Introductions	
9:30 AM	Panel 1: The Current Status of Policy Affecting the Welfare of	
	Children of Immigrants	
11:00 AM	Break	
11:15 AM	Panel 2: The Current Status of Immigration and Child Welfare Best	
	Practices	
12:30 PM	Lunch Plenary: Looking Back and Moving Forward	
1:30 PM	Table Discussions: Policy and Practice in Your Area	
2:15 PM	Break	
2:30 PM	Panel 3: The Current Status of Immigration and Child Welfare	
	Research	
3:30 PM	Break	
3:45 PM	Table & Plenary Discussions: Implications & Next Steps	
5:00 PM	Adjourn	
5:30 PM	Networking Reception	

# Tuesday November 7, 2017 – Hotel Albuquerque

rucsuuy i	November 7, 2017 Moter Albaquerque
8:00 AM	Breakfast
8:30 AM	Welcome and Overview
9:00 AM	Open Space Marketplace: Developing the Agenda for the Day
9:45 am	Planning Groups-Round 1
11:15 AM	Break
11:30 AM	Working Lunch
11:45 AM	Planning Groups-Round 2
1:15 PM	Plenary: Reports
2:00 PM	Adjourn

