

# City of San Diego

## Weekly Immigrant Affairs Update

Mayor Todd Gloria joined more than 50 mayors and local government executives from around the world in signing a [statement welcoming Afghan refugees](#) and calling on national governments and the international community to expand pathways and provide humanitarian support. They're joined by seven endorsing organizations, including the Mayors Migration Council, Cities for Action, UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments), and Welcoming America.

On Aug. 24, the Supreme Court issued an unsigned ruling that ordered the Biden Administration to reinstate the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP) program. Here's a [resource from the American Immigration Lawyers Association](#).

### CITY PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- The [City of San Diego](#) COVID-19 emergency housing assistance programs can pay **100% of unpaid and future rent** to landlords and tenants for eligible households, [regardless of immigration status](#).
- The City of San Diego [launched](#) the **Office of Emergency Services**, formerly the City's Office of Homeland Security, to refocus efforts on disaster preparedness.
- The **County of San Diego** has updated information on the County's ERAP program as well as **two new programs** to provide additional support to tenants and landlords who have experienced negative economic impacts resulting from the pandemic. Please see [here](#) for more.

### NEW DATA, REPORTS, & PODCASTS

- A new report from the [U.S. Immigration Policy Center](#), [Public Preferences for Admitting Migrants Displaced by Climate Change](#), reveals that **Americans believe displacement by climate change makes a prospective migrant as deserving of humanitarian immigration relief as those migrants fleeing persecution**—the criterion for asylum or refugee status currently recognized in our refugee and asylum laws. Given that no such form of relief currently exists for climate-displaced persons under U.S. refugee and asylum laws, the findings identify a gap between public preferences and existing law.

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- The City of San Diego in partnership with The San Diego Foundation is pleased to provide the **Small Business and Nonprofit Relief Fund**. The deadline to apply is Friday, Sept. 24, 2021 by 5 p.m. See [here](#) and [here](#) for more.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

- The **Asylum Seeker Health Services Program (ASHS)** can help Asylum Seekers get enrolled in Medical Insurance, receive health screenings and treatment, and get connected to a primary care provider. The program is a partnership between the California Department of Public Health, San Diego County and Family Health Centers. Contact Family Health Centers of San Diego at 619-515-2448 or [biancava@fhcsd.org](mailto:biancava@fhcsd.org).
- [Immigration Center for Women and Children \(ICWC\)](#) is a non-profit legal organization that provides affordable immigration services to victims of **domestic violence, sexual assault, and other violent crimes**. Contact Intake Coordinator, Alan Castillo, at [alan@icwclaw.org](mailto:alan@icwclaw.org).
- USCIS is conducting a listening session in advance of announcing a **proposed rule on Public Charge**. There will be a session on [Sept. 14 at 11 am PT for the general public](#), and on [Oct. 5 at 11 am PT for state, territorial, local, and tribal benefits granting agencies and nonprofit organizations](#).
- [Welcoming Week](#) is **September 10-19**, and [Citizenship Day/Constitution Day](#) is **September 17**.

If someone at your organization would like to receive this update, you have ideas for improvement, or you no longer wish to receive these updates, please email Farhat Popal, Immigrant Affairs Manager, at [FPopal@sandiego.gov](mailto:FPopal@sandiego.gov).