

# City of San Diego

## Weekly Immigrant Affairs Update

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced new [Guidelines for the Enforcement of Civil Immigration Law](#) that focus on prosecutorial discretion in apprehension and removal of noncitizens, and on threats to national security, public safety, and border security instead of categorical criteria. They also emphasize protection of civil rights and civil liberties, and guard against the use of immigration enforcement as a tool of retaliation for a noncitizen's assertion of legal rights, such as the right to exercise workplace or tenant rights.

DHS [intends to issue a new memorandum terminating the Migrant Protection Protocols \(MPP\)](#) in the coming weeks.

Governor Newsom [signed early childhood legislation](#) focused on developing procedures to identify and report data on dual-language learners at state pre-schools, and improving access to child care for migrant agricultural workers by aligning voucher-based child care programs. The California Comeback Plan achieves free, high-quality universal Pre-K for all four-year-olds by 2025 and creates college savings accounts for 3.7 million kids.

### CITY PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- Effective Jan. 1, 2022, employees who perform at least two hours of work in one or more calendar weeks per year within the geographic boundaries of the City of San Diego [will receive](#) a **minimum wage increase to \$15 per hour**.
- The [City Council approval Mayor Gloria's proposal](#) to establish a **\$5 million legal defense fund to help struggling tenants potentially facing eviction** due to non-payment of rent during the COVID-19 pandemic. The legal aid program will use \$5 million in federal CARES Act dollars to provide eviction-prevention education and legal assistance. It will be administered by the San Diego Housing Commission and will be open to undocumented residents.

### NEW DATA, REPORTS, & PODCASTS

- Refugee Council USA put together a [helpful fact sheet](#) with a run-down of **additional funding in the Continuing Resolution** passed by the House of Representatives to support Afghan parolees/evacuees.
- New American Economy has released the [findings of a 5-city COVID-19 Community Impact Survey](#) designed to gather insights directly from Black, Indigenous, & other People of Color (BIPOC) and immigrant residents about **the impact of COVID-19 on their economic & social well-being**.
- A new brief by the Migration Policy Institute, [Immigrants' U.S. Labor Market Disadvantage in the COVID-19 Economy: The Role of Geography and Industries of Employment](#), examines the extent to which immigrant employment has recovered. The analysis shows that **there has been a steeper drop in the number of employed immigrants than U.S.-born adults** during the periods surveyed, in part due to border closures, slowdowns in visa processing and other immigration restrictions.

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- The City of San Diego has released guidelines for **two funding opportunities to support arts and culture activities**, programming and projects that will take place between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023. Guidelines for the funding opportunities can be found [here](#). Deadline to apply is Oct. 31, 2021.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

- Hosted by Welcoming America, the **Fostering Belonging Individually and Structurally series** features three videos and accompanying webinars on belonging: what it means, what it looks like, and how we can create belonging as individuals with structural impact. Learn more and register [here](#).
- New Asylee Orientation videos** are now available in English, Spanish, and Mandarin on the SF-CAIRS website [here](#).

*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).*