WELCOMING City of San Diego Weekly Immigrant Affairs Update

There are *reports* that President Biden has signed an executive order directing the Department of Homeland Security to consult with the CDC and Department of Health and Human Services to review Title 42 about the potential "termination, rescission or modification" of the policy.

The immigration court backlog grew to 1.6 million cases, according to a Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC) report released in January. The average wait time for a decision on an open immigration court case is currently 58 months, or nearly 5 years.

President Biden addressed over 200 bipartisan mayors during the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) Winter Meeting. Secretary Mayorkas also delivered remarks.

CITY PROGRAMS, SERVICES, & UPDATES

- The City of San Diego is inviting residents to participate in a series of virtual community events focused on engaging San Diegans in the infrastructure planning process. The first of several virtual events will be held this week.
- San Diego Public Library is celebrating the history and achievements of Black Americans with a full schedule of programs and events at several library locations and online for Black History Month.
- In support of the <u>#Naturalize2MillionBy2022 campaign</u>, the City is highlighting stories of community members and leaders who have become naturalized citizens. If you'd like to share your story, please email fpopal@sandiego.gov. City employees are also welcome to share their stories!

NEW DATA, REPORTS, & PODCASTS

- The Black Alliance for Just Migration (BAJI) has a number of resources including published reports, community resource guides, and moreaddressing the state of Black immigrants, Black lives at the border and the impact of anti-Black racism, and Black immigrant women and girls.
- In Four Years of Profound Change: Immigration Policy during the Trump **Presidency**, the Migration Policy Institute breaks down the Administration's 472 executive actions on immigration and their lasting effects.
- King County, Washington has translated the instructions for the BinaxNOW COVID-19 at-home rapid test into multiple languages and a simplified version.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Social Entrepreneurs for Economic Development (SEED) Grant 2.0 seeks to support the entrepreneurship of immigrants and limited English proficient individuals who face significant employment barriers. Deadline is February 8.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

- The Central County Housing Forum on February 11 (11:30 am) will allow property management associations to connect with resettlement agencies and learn more about the resettlement process. See the attached flyer.
- The Love Your Heart Community Fair on February 12 (12-4 pm) will provide blood pressure checks, gift bags, COVID vaccines, & more. See attached flyers.
- A Better Life Together, alongside the San Diego Regional Center, offers a variety of services through the B.R.I.D.G.E Project (Bringing Resources Into Diverse Groups Everywhere). Their goal is to assist minority individuals who have been diagnosed by a physician with an intellectual or physical disability. See attached flyers in various languages to share with your networks.
- The next New Asylee Orientation on Benefits & Services is on February 8.
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is holding their asylum program quarterly stakeholder engagement on February 23 (11-12:30 pm). See attached flyer for additional USCIS webinars in February.
- NALEO will be holding a virtual citizenship workshop to assist community members in filling out their citizenship application for free. See attached flyers.

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.