

San Mateo County Immigrant Forum

Meeting Notes 7/20/2023

1. Welcome and Introductions: Carolina Salinas:

- a. Thanks to our partners for joining us for the July meeting of the Immigrant Forum. The Forum meets every month on the third Thursday, and our next meeting will be on August 17th. Meetings are taking place on Zoom at this time.
- b. While we have been meeting with many of you throughout the month, we have heard that these two topics have been two common themes that will arise no matter the type of service you are providing a client, whether you're helping a client apply with searching for a place to live or helping with them with improving their job skills, health coverage and access to healthy and nutritious food always comes up. Presenters today are County of San Mateo HSA and Second Harvest Food Bank.

2. USCIS Updates: Sai Phavisith

- a. Rescission of Prior TPS Terminations and Extension of TPS for El Salvador, Honduras, Nepal, and Nicaragua: The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced it is rescinding its prior terminations of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for El Salvador, Honduras, Nepal, and Nicaragua and extending TPS designations for all four countries for 18 months. DHS also published Federal Register notices (FRNs) to explain the eligibility criteria, timelines, and procedures necessary for current beneficiaries under the TPS designations for El Salvador, Honduras, Nepal, and Nicaragua to re-register for TPS and renew EADs.
 - i. El Salvador: The extension of TPS for El Salvador from Sept. 10, 2023, through March 9, 2025, allows approximately 239,000 current beneficiaries to re-register to retain TPS under the extension if they still meet TPS eligibility requirements. Only beneficiaries under El Salvador's existing designation or Salvadoran nationals (and individuals having no nationality who last habitually resided in El Salvador) who have continuously resided in the United States since Feb. 13, 2001, and have been continuously physically present since March 9, 2001, are eligible under this extension.
 - ii. Honduras: The extension of TPS for Honduras from January 6, 2024, through July 5, 2025, allows approximately 76,000 current beneficiaries to re-register to retain TPS under the extension if they still meet TPS eligibility requirements. Only beneficiaries under Honduras' existing designation or Honduran nationals (and individuals having no nationality who last habitually resided in Honduras) who have continuously resided in the United States since Dec. 30, 1998, and have been continuously physically present since Jan. 5, 1999, are eligible under this extension.
 - iii. Nepal: The extension of TPS for Nepal from Dec. 25, 2023, through June 24, 2025, allows approximately 14,500 current beneficiaries to re-register to retain TPS under the extension if they still meet TPS eligibility requirements. Only beneficiaries under Nepal's existing designation or Nepali nationals (and individuals having no nationality who last habitually resided in Nepal) who have

continuously resided in the United States since June 24, 2015, and have been continuously physically present since June 24, 2015, are eligible under this extension.

- iv. Nicaragua: The extension of TPS for Nicaragua from Jan. 6, 2024, through July 5, 2025, allows approximately 4,000 current beneficiaries to re-register to retain TPS under the extension if they still meet TPS eligibility requirements. Only beneficiaries under Nicaragua's existing designation or Nicaraguan nationals (and individuals having no nationality who last habitually resided in Nicaragua) who have continuously resided in the United States since Dec. 30, 1998, and have been continuously physically present since Jan. 5, 1999, are eligible under this extension.
- b. Processing Times for Adoption-Based Form I-130: Petitions Are Now Live! USCIS has been working to make our adoption-based Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative, processing times publicly available. As of June 20, these processing times are now live on our Processing Times page. Posting these times gives stakeholders accessible information about how long it may take to receive a decision on their petition. USCIS remains committed to processing adoption-based Form I-130 cases as quickly and efficiently as possible.
- c. USCIS Announces Online Self-Service Tool to Reschedule Biometric Services Appointments: On June 28, USCIS launched a new self-service biometric services appointment rescheduling tool on my.uscis.gov. Benefit requestors, and their attorneys and accredited representatives, can now reschedule most biometric services appointments online, without calling the USCIS Contact Center. The biometric services appointment rescheduling tool is available for both paper- and online-filed benefit requests. To use the biometric services appointment rescheduling tool, individuals who have good cause to reschedule must first create a USCIS online account (if they do not already have one) and visit my.uscis.gov before their scheduled appointment date.
- d. Implementation of New Family Reunification Parole Processes for Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras to Begin: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security today announced the posting of Federal Register notices to implement family reunification parole (FRP) processes for Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. FRP processes allow certain vetted beneficiaries of an approved Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative, to be temporarily paroled into the United States on a case-by-case basis. These processes are part of comprehensive measures announced in April by DHS and the Department of State to further reduce dangerous, irregular, migration across the Western Hemisphere, expand lawful pathways, and facilitate safe, humane, processing of migrants. U.S. citizen and lawful permanent resident petitioners with an approved Form I-130 who receive an invitation from the Department of State can file Form I-134A, Online Request to be a Supporter and Declaration of Financial Support, to initiate the process for the principal beneficiary of the Form I-130, and their derivative family members, to be considered for advance authorization to travel and parole into the United States.
- e. USCIS Expands myProgress to Form I-765 and Form I-131: On July 12, we announced the availability of myProgress (formerly known as personalized processing times) for Form I-

765, Application for Employment Authorization, and Form I-131, Application for Travel Document. Applicants with a pending Form I-765 or Form I-131 can now log in to their USCIS online account to view confirmation of completed steps and estimated wait times until the next step in their case processing is completed, including: 1. Confirmation that the application was received; 2. Biometric services appointment (if required) has been completed; and 3. The decision on the pending case. This is an important step in our efforts to improve the experience of the people we serve, increase transparency of adjudications, and reduce Contact Center wait times. myProgress updates will be available for applications filed online or for paper-filed cases later linked to a USCIS online account using an online access code. Visit our [How to Create a USCIS Online Account](#) webpage for instructions on linking a paper-filed form to a USCIS online account. To view myProgress, applicants must visit my.uscis.gov and:

- i. Log into their USCIS online account;
 - ii. Select the pending application for which myProgress is available; and
 - iii. Click on the myProgress tab for the pending application.
- f. myProgress is now available for the following forms:
- i. Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization;
 - ii. Form I-131, Application for Travel Document;
 - iii. Form N-400, Application for Naturalization;
 - iv. Form I-90, Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card; and
 - v. Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative.
- g. Updates Policy Manual to Make It Easier to Identify Who Is Subject to the Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility: We have incorporated important information regarding the categories of adjustment of status applicants to whom the public charge ground of inadmissibility applies from the appendices in Volume 8, Part G, of the USCIS Policy Manual, to Chapter 3, Applicability, to make it easier to identify whether the public charge ground of inadmissibility applies to a specific adjustment of status category. This update is intended to help applicants respond accurately to questions related to the public charge ground of inadmissibility on Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status, which will provide officers with the information they need to adjudicate an application for adjustment of status, and, if applicable, make a public charge inadmissibility determination without issuing a Request for Evidence for this information.

3. ILRC Updates: Andrew Craycroft

- a. Ninth circuit cases: *Figuerro Ochoa v Garland*: denial of cancellation of removal. Ninth circuit applied *Patel v Garland* decision and determined it did not have jurisdiction to review denial. This is limiting judicial review of denials.
- b. *Ramirez Muñoz v Garland*: false claim of citizenship—the board of immigration appeals determined that a false claim made in the process of a DUI arrest made him inadmissible. The Ninth Circuit reversed this decision as the claim to citizenship was only to avoid potential transfer to DHS during arrest.
- c. *Pugin v Garland*: supreme court ruled an offense leading to deportation can be related to obstruction of justice even if there is not an investigation or proceeding pending.

- d. US v Texas: The 2021 Mayorkas memo provided framework for prosecutorial discretion: prioritizing national security, public safety, and border security. The Supreme Court found states lacked standing to block this memo. Memo has not yet been reinstated. This will go into effect after July 24th.
- e. State of California: \$4.5 million pilot program announced for undocumented farmworkers. This will include case review and legal representation for farmworkers. It is unclear as of now who the grantees will be or if it will fund removal defense. This is a big step as half of California farmworkers are undocumented and employers do take advantage. This program will work hand in hand with the Biden administration's labor deferred action program (this program grants prosecutorial discretion, not permanent status). The process begins with investigation from a labor agency. Once this process is complete someone can apply for deferred action and work authorization.
- f. Passports are no longer stamped with date for tourist visa entry (i94 stamp changed to digital stamp a few years ago). This information should be accessible on [CBP I-94 website](#) or through a FOIA request with CBP or OBIM.

4. County of San Mateo Human Services: Rommel Silva

- a. Self-sufficiency programs include CalWORKS, CalFresh, Medi-Cal, General Assistance, and CAPI.
- b. CalWORKS is a temporary cash assistance program for families with minor children who meet financial eligibility.
 - i. Eligibility determined by age, deprivation, residency, property/resources, income, citizenship, and identification.
 - ii. Only citizens and certain categories of noncitizens are eligible. Visitors/tourists, diplomats/consuls, and student noncitizens are ineligible.
 - iii. Eligible noncitizens include LPR, Refugee, Asylee (claim is granted), TPS recipient, Conditional Entrant Refugees prior to 4/1/1980, noncitizens granted indefinite voluntary departure, noncitizens granted indefinite stay of deportation, trafficking victims certified by ORR, domestic violence or serious crime victims, battered noncitizens, SIV holders, SI CPRS from Afghanistan, Humanitarian Parolees, Cuban and Haitian entrants.
- c. CalFresh: food assistance benefits that are deposited to EBT card. Eligibility factors include SSN, citizenship status, residency, resources/property, income, students ages 19-49 have special criteria.
 - i. County has 30 days to process application unless the applicant is eligible for expedited services (expedited services are determined within 3 calendar days).
 - ii. Eligible noncitizens include Lawful Permanent Residents (Green Card holders), individuals born on or before 08/22/1931 and who were in the us before 08/22/1996, refugees, and parolees.
 - iii. CFAP: these are state-funded CalFresh benefits for non-citizens. Eligible immigrants include: LPR with less than 5 years in the US, individuals who have filed or preparing to file for a T Visa, and U visa holders (approved or pending).
 - iv. Sponsor Deeming: Under CFAP, LPR year 1-3 are subject to sponsor deeming. LPR year 4-5 are exempt, after year 5 it goes back to sponsor deeming. Sponsor deeming means counting the sponsor's income when determining eligibility.

Sponsor deeming ends when the LPR becomes a citizen, sponsor dies, or LPR gains sufficient work quarters.

1. There are exemptions to sponsor deeming, including for children under the age of 18.
- v. Immigrants who are ineligible for benefits include: visitors, tourists, diplomats, student visa, TPS, work permit only, DACA/PRUCOL.
- d. MediCal:
 - i. MAGI MediCal: based on federal tax rules. Must be US citizen or qualified resident.
 - ii. Non-MAGI MediCal: aged, blind, disabled (65 yrs plus or disabled/blind); long term care needs; eligibility for Medicare Savings programs.
- e. Helpful Links:
 - i. [Apply for California Food Stamps Online | GetCalFresh.org](#)
 - ii. [Health Coverage | County of San Mateo, CA \(smcgov.org\)](#)
 - iii. [CalFresh | County of San Mateo, CA \(smcgov.org\)](#)
 - iv. [Community Resources | County of San Mateo, CA \(smcgov.org\)](#)

5. Second Harvest of Silicon Valley: Patricia Cervantes

- a. Second Harvest offers food to anyone who needs it regardless of age, family composition or zip code. Must live or work in San Mateo or Santa Clara county.
 - b. Clients can attend as many distributions as needed.
 - c. Drive through, market style, and pantry distributions are available.
 - i. Home delivery is available for homebound/disabled clients
 - d. Produce, eggs, milk, meat, and pantry staples are provided at each distribution.
 - e. Client receives client ID card with client number.
 - i. Clients can pick up for another family/neighbor if they have the family's ID number.
 - f. Prepared meals: partners offer ready to eat meals at 30+ locations across the two counties
 - g. Summer meals: free for all kids 18 and under, some sites require that the child is present and some permit pickup without child present.
 - i. Check food locator tool or call 800 number.
 - h. Nutrition center offers recipes, cooking videos, nutrition and food safety tips.
 - i. Food locator tool shows map of food distributions.
 - j. Outreach Partner Engagement Network (OPEN): training to help connect clients to resources, outreach materials and support, etc.
 - k. In house languages are English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Tagalog. Language interpretation is available for other languages.
 - l. It is ideal but not required that client registers before getting food.
 - m. Helpful Links:
 - i. [Client Inquiry Form - English \(tfaforms.net\)](#)
 - ii. [Nutrition Center | Second Harvest of Silicon Valley \(shfb.org\)](#)
 - iii. [Get Food | Second Harvest of Silicon Valley \(shfb.org\)](#)
6. OCA Updates:

- a. On June 11th, the Board of Supervisors voted to approve funds to the Middlefield Road Small Business Assistance Program which will help eligible business in North Fair Oaks to apply for grants for up to \$10,000 to help make payroll, pay rent and keep their doors open for the remaining construction that is estimated to continue until September of this year. Joshua Caspillan, the new associate management analyst overseeing the North Fair Oaks construction plan along with the OCA outreach team will begin helping small business apply for the North Fair Oaks small business grants. Again, this grant is only open for business located from Douglas Ave to Fifth Avenue in North Fair Oaks. If a business owner in North Fair Oaks has any questions or would like to apply, they can call 650-649-9004 or send an email to communityaffairs@smcgov.org.
 - b. [Immigrant Resource Guides | County of San Mateo, CA \(smcgov.org\)](#): We have been delivering the Immigrant Resource Guides in the last few weeks to different offices that have requested them. If you would like to order some, please use the link to request your set. Due to limited printing guides, we are trying to fulfill your request as best as we can. If you need more, please let us know or fill in a new request.
 - c. Immigrant Services has started to work on Welcoming Week planning that is set to take place from September 8th-17th. We are still in the planning stage of different activities to welcome Immigrants to the County of San Mateo, please stay tuned to flyers and information to be posted on social media, our county website and emails to be sent out once dates and partners are booked.
 - d. School is coming up! Children in California are required to receive certain immunizations and health screenings to attend school. For more information on what immunizations needed please visit [School & Childcare Health Requirements - San Mateo County Health \(smchealth.org\)](#)
 - i. The SMC Health Coverage Unit can also be contacted via telephone at (650) 616-2002.
 - ii. Apply early for Medi-Cal, as the process may take 1-2 months. If you need a health exam or immunizations sooner, the clinics listed below may be able to provide services to income eligible children and teens who do not have health coverage/health insurance. By appointment only. Please call the clinic for more information:
 - iii. San Mateo Medical Center and Outpatient Clinics Locations: Daly City, South SF, San Mateo, Redwood City, Half Moon Bay
 - iv. North East Medical Services (650) 550-3923 211 Eastmoor Avenue, Daly City, CA 94015
 - v. Gardner Packard Children's Health Center (650) 362-2500 3351 El Camino Real, Suite 100, Atherton, CA 94027
 - vi. Ravenswood Family Health Network (650) 330-7400 1885 Bay Road, East Palo Alto, CA 94303
7. Agency Updates:
- a. SMC Office of Education: Safe Routes to School upcoming event: Friday July 28th, 4-7 pm at Cunha Intermediate School. Hosting special event in collaboration with ALAS for families and children of farmworker families. Bicycle obstacle course, food, bike giveaway, helmet fittings and giveaway will take place.

- b. Office of Education is working on efforts to improve services for immigrant families. Reach out to Niambi Clay to get involved in these efforts and conversations.