

Immigration Legal Services

We provide legal consultations, application assistance, and direct representation to low income or indigent immigrants. Every Thursday we provide legal consultations at our offices at 80 Maiden Lane in New York City, where our lawyers and paralegals take on many immigration matters, including family reunification, citizenship, work authorization, status for victims of crime, trafficking, domestic violence, asylum and defense in the immigration and federal courts. We also provide services in our South Bronx office and otherwise conduct appointment-based consultations outside of New York City.

Additionally, we provide legal assistance through specialized programs, including:

- Community Legal Clinics, providing scalable access to legal consultations in rural areas of the Hudson Valley;
- Nuanced legal assistance events at schools, churches, and in underserved immigrant communities;
- Pro Bono Project: Legal representation through matching and supervision of cases placed with volunteer advocates.



Need immigration assistance or know someone who does?

Call The New York New Americans
Hotline 1-800-566-7636

Want to get involved?

For more information about volunteering, please email
ImmigrationVolunteers@archny.org
or visit
www.catholiccharitiesnyvolunteer.org



Immigrant & Refugee Services
Catholic Charities Community Services,
Archdiocese of New York
80 Maiden Lane, 13th Floor
New York, New York 10038
<https://catholiccharitiesny.org/get-involved/solidarity-immigrants-and-refugees>



Immigrant and Refugee
Services Division
*Welcoming and
Integrating Immigrants
and Refugees*

Catholic Charities' Immigrant and Refugee Services work is rooted in the mission to uphold the dignity of every immigrant and refugee and to build a just and compassionate society. We help newcomers reunify with their families, resettle in a safe place, and apply their talents and skills in New York. Our services include assistance with immigration applications and court defense, work authorization, integration and case management support, support to unaccompanied minors, job development, English and civics, and citizenship preparation. We also assist immigrants in avoiding exploitation by unscrupulous practitioners by providing reliable information and realistic counsel about immigration status. Our work covers New York City and the Lower Hudson Valley, including Westchester, Rockland, Sullivan, Putnam, Orange, Dutchess, and Ulster Counties.



Unaccompanied Minors Program

We help young immigrants make informed decisions about their lives by providing legal and social services to children who have arrived to the United States without the care of a parent or guardian. Many of them have fled from domestic and community violence in their home countries around the world. We give age-appropriate know-your-rights presentations to children residing in federal shelters and in long-term foster care, we inform their parents and custodians of rights and responsibilities through group legal orientations, and we represent children released from shelters and families seeking immigration status before immigration courts and agencies. Those in need of specialized medical or psychological care due to past trauma may be serviced through *Terra Firma*, an innovative medical-legal partnership Catholic Charities operates with Montefiore



Hospital and the Children's Health Fund in the Bronx. All unaccompanied minor clients have access to dedicated case management to assist with procuring social services and are welcome to play in our youth recreational soccer league, La Union FC.

Refugee Resettlement

In helping to create a new, safe home, we assist refugees to become self-sufficient through intensive case management, cultural orientation, and job preparation and placement. We assist refugees and other



vulnerable individuals, including asylees, victims of trafficking, and special immigrants, in securing housing, food, clothing and other necessities. Our clients work with experienced case managers, obtain life and language skills, secure jobs, and work closely with volunteers to integrate into their new community.

ESOL—International Center

Our Center provides high quality, free ESOL programming to immigrant and refugee newcomers throughout New York City and the Lower Hudson Valley. Offerings include



English classes at multiple proficiency levels, citizenship preparation classes, one-on-one conversation practice, and community English programs tailored to specific needs and held in underserved communities throughout the Archdiocese. With the help of a large and dedicated volunteer corps we are able to create a warm and welcoming community for English language learners working to improve their communication skills.

Community Outreach, Education, and Engagement

As government policies and priorities shift, clear and reliable information and community support is important. We provide expert outreach and educational support in communities and to agencies across the Archdiocese and can quickly coordinate with our affiliates and other partners to organize and present informational programming and volunteer assistance when needed and requested. In addition, our case management staff provides assistance to immigrants who may have other kinds of social and human needs.

Hotline

Dispelling false rumors and providing accurate information is paramount for immigrant communities. Our New Americans Hotline (1-800-566-7636) counselors answer questions, provide referrals to nonprofit legal service providers, and facilitate reports from those who have been victimized by unscrupulous attorneys or notarios. We take calls in over 200 languages and can expand our operations and work with media partners to offer broader, live coverage when needed. We also operate a national call center for custodians of unaccompanied children (1-888-996-3848), which provides important information about rights and responsibilities.

