

Plenary Session Speakers

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Tuesday, December 8, 8:30 - 9:45 a.m.

■ Senator Robert Menendez

United States Senator for New Jersey

Bob Menendez's story is a quintessential American one. He grew up the son of immigrants in a tenement building in Union City and has risen to become one of 100 United States Senators and a member of the Senate leadership. He has earned the reputation of a fighter for New Jersey families who puts their economic security and hometown security ahead of powerful special interests.

A product of New Jersey's public schools and a graduate of the state's universities, Bob learned early on the importance of standing up for what's right, no matter how powerful the opposition. He first entered public service as a 19-year-old college student when he witnessed shortcomings in the public education system and launched a successful petition drive to reform his local school board. He stood up to corruption in Union City as a witness against the political machine in a federal trial.

He has served as a school board member, a mayor, a state legislator, a congressperson, and now a senator. In the House of Representatives, to which he was elected in 1993, he rose to become the third-highest ranking Democrat. He was sworn in to the Senate on Jan. 18, 2006, having been appointed by New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine to fill the remainder of his term. Later that year, New Jerseyans elected Bob to serve a full six-year term as United States Senator.

He currently serves on the Senate Committees on Finance; Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; Energy and Natural Resources;

Budget; and Foreign Relations. Bob is also the chairman of the Banking Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and Community Development; and the Foreign Relations Subcommittee on International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs, and International Environmental Protection.

In Congress, Bob is working to make a real difference in the lives of New Jerseyans. That includes working to achieve economic security for families by creating jobs, promoting clean energy development, providing tax relief, investing in education, making health care more affordable and protecting consumers. Siding with hard-working New Jerseyans against powerful interests, Bob has helped author and enact legislation to make credit card contracts fairer and make the products we use every day safer. He has also championed legislation to support the production of clean energy and energy efficiency. With health care too often a strain on family budgets and the national economy, he is using his Finance Committee seat to help craft reform legislation that makes quality health care more affordable for New Jersey families. Throughout his career, he has worked to improve schools so they prepare our children for a successful future and helped pass the law to make college more affordable for the next generation of leaders.

Bob has been widely recognized for his leadership on promoting safe and healthy families. He has championed legislation to support mothers suffering from postpartum depression, help families overcome the challenges of autism, and educate kids about Internet safety. In the face of a national

housing crisis, he sponsored legislation to help keep families in their homes, and make it easier for children whose families face foreclosure to stay in their schools.

After September 11, 2001, Bob earned national recognition for his leadership in reforming the country's intelligence and public health systems and for fighting to establish an independent commission to investigate the terrorist attacks on our country. He was a leader in the fight to successfully implement the 9/11 Commission's national security recommendations.

Bob voted against authorizing President Bush to invade Iraq. He has an extensive record of supporting our troops by consistently voting to give them the equipment they need, along with the quality medical care and education benefits they deserve—and he has been a strong advocate of a responsible foreign policy that only sends our servicemen and women into harm's way when absolutely necessary. He was proud to vote for the largest funding increase for veterans' programs in history.

Bob's first book, *Growing American Roots*, was released in October 2009. It examines the deep influence of the Latino population on American society and, from his unique perspective as the only Latino member of the Senate, lays out his vision how for the Latino community can help America prosper.

Bob was born on New Year's Day, 1954. He received his B.A. from St. Peter's College in Jersey City and his law degree from Rutgers University. He currently lives in Hoboken and has two children, Alicia and Robert.

Conveners

American Civil Liberties Union -
Immigrants' Rights Project
(ACLU/IRP)

American Federation of Labor
and Congress of Industrial
Organizations (AFL-CIO)

Asian American Justice Center
(AAJC)

Asian & Pacific Islander American
Health Forum (APIAHF)

Change to Win (CtW)

Detention Watch Network (DWN)

Jobs with Justice (JwJ)

Mexican American Legal Defense
and Educational Fund (MALDEF)

National Asian Pacific American
Women's Forum (NAPAWF)

National Council of La Raza
(NCLR)

National Day Laborer Organizing
Network (NDLON)

National Employment Law Project
(NELP)

National Immigration Forum

National Immigration Law Center
(NILC)

National Immigration Project of the
National Lawyers Guild NLG/NIP)

National Korean American Service &
Education Consortium (NAKASEC)

Landmark Campaigns for Grassroots Power

Sunday, December 6, 12:15 – 1:45 p.m.

GRASSROOTS ORGANIZERS DISCUSS their strategies, victories, and the challenges they have faced in their campaigns, ranging from grounds zero in Arizona and the Gulf Coast to youth organizing for the DREAM Act and online organizing to counter purveyors of hate speech such as Lou Dobbs.

■ **Marcela Díaz**

Executive Director
Somos Un Pueblo Unido

Marcela Díaz is executive director of Somos Un Pueblo Unido, northern New Mexico's only comprehensive immigrant resource center, where immigrant families can obtain information regarding rights, remedies, and available resources. Last year, more than 2000 immigrant families and service providers obtained information and/or advocacy support at Somos's office.

■ **Carlos Garcia**

Community Organizer
Tonatierra

Carlos Garcia is community organizer in Phoenix, Ariz. For the last two years, he has organized local and national resistance to Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio. After working as a union organizer, Mr. Garcia joined Tonatierra in 2007. There, he has worked with the Macehualli Day Labor Work Center and with Somos America, a coalition of community partners responding to anti-immigrant policies in Maricopa County. In addition, he has participated in the creation and expansion of the PUENTE Movement, dedicated to emancipating migrants and ending the localized criminalization of immigrants. He is currently working to organize a large demonstration in Phoenix, which is to take place on Jan. 16, 2010.

■ **Julieta Garibay**

DREAM Campaign Director
University Leadership Initiative

Julieta Garibay co-founded the University Leadership Initiative (ULI) in 2005 and currently is director of its DREAM Campaign. ULI conducts outreach programs at the local,

state, and national levels to address the importance of higher education and civic participation among immigrant youth and to promote passage of the DREAM Act. Ms. Garibay graduated with honors from the University of Texas at Austin in 2005, with a bachelor's degree in nursing. By 2008, she had obtained a master's of science degree in public health nursing from the University of Texas at Austin and was inducted into Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society of Nursing. She is a member of United We DREAM's founding board.

■ **Roberto Lovato**

Co-Founder, Presente.org
Writer & Commentator,
New America Media

Roberto Lovato is a writer and commentator with New America Media, and a co-founder of Presente.org, the country's preeminent online Latino advocacy organization. He is also a frequent contributor to *The Nation* and the *Huffington Post* and his work has appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Salon*, *Der Spiegel*, *Utne Magazine*, *La Opinion*, and other national and international media outlets. Mr. Lovato also has appeared as either a source or commentator in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Washington Post* and *Le Monde* and in English and Spanish language network news shows on Univision, CNN, Democracy Now and Al-Jazeera. Recently, he was a guest on PBS's "Bill Moyers Journal" and figured prominently in an hour-long PBS documentary, "Latinos 08."

Formerly, Mr. Lovato served as executive director of CARECEN in Los Angeles, leading CARECEN during the fight against California's Proposition 187. He posts regularly on media, migration, politics and other issues at www.ofamerica.wordpress.com.

■ **Chris Newman**

Legal Director
National Day Laborer
Organizing Network

Chris Newman is legal director for the Na-

tional Day Laborer Organizing Network, based in its Los Angeles office. He began his work at NDLO in 2004 when he was the recipient of an Academy of Educational Development New Voices Fellowship. Before working at NDLO, he was the founding coordinator of the Wage Clinic and Legal Program at El Centro Humanitario para los Trabajadores, a day laborer worker center in Denver, Col. He also was a co-founder of the Colorado Immigrant Worker Rights Task Force. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Working Hands Legal Clinic in Chicago. He earned his J.D. from the University of Denver College of Law.

■ **Saket Soni**

Executive Director
New Orleans Workers' Center for
Racial Justice

Saket Soni is executive director of the New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice, which organizes African American and immigrant workers to advance racial equity and economic justice in the post-Hurricane Katrina Gulf Coast. The Center's constituents are day laborers, guest workers, and displaced African American residents of the Gulf Coast — those hardest hit by the disaster of post-Katrina public policy. In the last three years, the Workers' Center has combated wage theft, fought for the inclusion of poor and displaced communities in affordable housing, and exposed labor trafficking, involuntary servitude, and forced labor. The Center has won historic organizing, policy, and court victories to advance a poor peoples' agenda in the region. Mr. Soni has testified in Congress on issues of racial justice and workers' rights, and has co-authored numerous reports on racial equity and workers' rights in the Gulf Coast region. Previously, Mr. Soni was an organizer in Chicago. He hails from New Delhi, India, and came to the U.S. in 1997 to study theater. Before switching to a far more lucrative career in labor and community organizing, he worked as a director and playwright.

A Dialogue with the Obama Administration on Current Policy Priorities

Monday, December 7, 12:15 – 2:15 p.m.

KEY MEMBERS OF the administration discuss their top policy priorities impacting low-income immigrants. Conference participants will have ample time to dialogue with our distinguished guests.

■ **Tyler Moran**

Policy Director
National Immigration Law Center

As NILC's policy director, Tyler Moran coordinates the development and implementation

of NILC's policy agenda, which is concerned with both federal and state policies that affect immigrants' access to public benefits and health care, immigrants' working conditions and rights as workers, and their rights and

responsibilities under immigration law. She is one of the U.S.'s leading experts on how immigration and employment policies impact low-wage immigrant workers. Prior to being appointed policy director, Ms. Moran directed NILC's employment policy work, and she has played a key role in focusing attention on problems inherent in the federal government's electronic employment eligibility verification systems. She also has worked on workforce development issues and on immigrants' access to public benefits and to driver's licenses. Prior to joining NILC in 2002, Ms. Moran was a public policy consultant and the policy director for the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition.

■ Cecilia Muñoz

*Deputy Assistant to President Obama
& Director of Intergovernmental Affairs*

Cecilia Muñoz serves as deputy assistant to President Barack Obama and director of intergovernmental affairs, where she oversees the Obama administration's relationships with state and local governments. Prior to joining the Obama administration, Ms. Muñoz served as senior vice president for the Office of Research, Advocacy, and Legislation at the National Council of La Raza, the nation's largest

Latino civil rights organization. She supervised NCLR's policy staff, covering a variety of issues of importance to Latinos, including civil rights, employment, poverty, farm worker issues, education, health, housing, and immigration. Her particular area of expertise is immigration policy, which she covered at NCLR for twenty years.

Ms. Muñoz is the daughter of immigrants from Bolivia and was born in Detroit, Mich. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and her master's from the University of California at Berkeley. In June 2000, she was awarded a MacArthur Foundation fellowship in recognition of her work on immigration and civil rights. In 2007, she served as the Towsley Foundation Policymaker in Residence at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan. She has received numerous other awards and recognitions from various organizations, including the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation.

■ Esther Olavarria

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy
U.S. Department of Homeland Security*

Esther Olavarria is the deputy assistant secretary for policy at the Dept. of Homeland Security,

serving as Secretary Napolitano's senior advisor on immigration policy, including comprehensive immigration reform. Before joining DHS, Ms. Olavarria was a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress. She also served as senior advisor for the UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency. From 1998 to 2007, she was chief immigration counsel to Sen. Edward Kennedy on the Senate Judiciary Committee, advising him on all immigration and border security matters before the Immigration Subcommittee. Ms. Olavarria began her career as an immigration attorney in Miami, Fl., working at several nonprofit organizations. She cofounded the Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center and supervised the direct service work of that organization. She also worked at Legal Services of Greater Miami as the directing attorney of the American Immigration Lawyers Association Pro Bono Project, and at the Haitian Refugee Center as a staff attorney. Esther was born in Havana, Cuba, and raised in Florida.

■ Participants from the U.S. Departments of Justice and Labor (TBA)

Lessons Learned from the Health Care Reform Debate and Their Implications for Immigration Reform

Tuesday, December 8, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

THE UNITED STATES is on the verge of enacting an overhaul of its health care system, and Congress is about to begin the debate on immigration reform within the next month. This plenary explores the lessons learned from the health care reform debate, ranging from the politics and underlying policy issues to the messages and alliance-building needed to ensure the best outcomes for immigrants within health care and immigration reform.

■ Sonal Ambegaokar

*Health Policy Attorney
National Immigration Law Center*

As NILC's health policy attorney, Sonal Ambegaokar monitors, analyzes and makes recommendations concerning federal, state and local policies affecting low-income immigrants' access to affordable health care. Prior to joining NILC in 2005, she served as supervising attorney of the Health Consumer Center of Los Angeles, a project of Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County, overseeing a multi-language consumer hotline that provides callers with help on a variety of health-related issues. Prior to her law career, Ms. Ambegaokar worked for several years as a business analyst. She earned her juris doc-

tor degree from the University of California at Davis.

■ Marielena Hincapié

*Executive Director
National Immigration Law Center*

Before assuming the position of NILC executive director in September 2008, Marielena Hincapié served as NILC's director of programs, managing the organization's employment, public benefits, and immigration work. Ms. Hincapié specializes in and has dedicated her legal career to protecting and advancing the rights of immigrant workers, particularly those who are undocumented. She has authored numerous publications and policy analyses, provided strategic assistance and training to thousands of legal and social service providers, and to labor unions and community-based organizations. Her work also has focused on using legal tools to help support community and labor organizing efforts, as well as to help build and strengthen community coalitions working to improve working conditions for all low-wage workers. Ms. Hincapié is also a frequent lecturer at national and international conferences addressing issues of migration. She has litigated law re-

form and impact litigation cases dealing with the intersection of immigration laws and employment/labor laws, and she specializes in cases following the *Hoffman Plastic Compounds, Inc. v. NLRB* decision.

Before joining NILC, she worked for the Legal Aid Society of San Francisco's Employment Law Center, where she founded the Center's Immigrant Workers' Rights Project. Ms. Hincapié holds a J.D. degree from Northeastern University School of Law. She serves on the American Bar Association's Commission on Immigration, and on the executive committee of the National Lawyers Guild's Labor and Employment Committee. She is the youngest of ten children, and an immigrant from Medellín, Colombia.

■ Congressman Mike Honda

*Representative for the 15th
Congressional District of California*

Since 2001, Mike Honda has represented the 15th Congressional District of California in the U.S. House of Representatives. He has been a public servant for decades, during which he has been lauded for his work on education, transportation, civil rights, national

service, the environment, and high-tech issues.

Rep. Honda was born in California, but spent his early childhood with his family in an internment camp in Colorado during World War II. After a decade living in Chicago, his family returned to California in 1953, becoming strawberry sharecroppers in San José's Blossom Valley. Beginning in 1965, Rep. Honda served in the Peace Corps for two years in El Salvador, returning with a passion for teaching and fluent in Spanish. He earned bachelor's degrees in biological sciences and Spanish, and a master's degree in education from San José State University. In his career as an educator, he was a science teacher, served as a principal at two public schools, and conducted educational research at Stanford University.

Rep. Honda serves on the House Appropriations Committee, with postings on that body's Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, Commerce, Justice, and Science, and Legislative Branch Subcommittees. He is serving his sixth year as chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, coordinating with his colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus and the Congressional Hispanic Caucuses to champion the causes of underrepresented communities by promoting social justice, racial tolerance, and civil rights. In 2007, he was named House Democratic senior whip by House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn (D-SC). In 2009, he was reelected as vice chair of the Democratic National Committee. Working with DNC Chair Tim Kaine, some of what Rep. Honda will do is help new Americans register to vote, outreach to ethnic and specialty media, ensure that Democrats' voices and votes abroad are counted, and reach out to the Spanish-speaking community. In all this work, his priority is to make sure that the DNC, state and local Democratic parties/bodies are more reflective of America.

■ **Jennifer Ng'andu**
Deputy Director, Health Policy Project
National Council of La Raza

Jennifer Ng'andu joined the National Council of La Raza in 2004. As deputy director of NCLR's Health Policy Project, her work focuses on advancing federal proposals that address injustices in health care for Latinos. Ms. Ng'andu works to achieve parity in health care by increasing health coverage in the Latino community and improving access to quality health care.

Outside of her work at NCLR, Ms. Ng'andu engages in other activities to strengthen health care in the U.S. Currently, she sits on the National Physicians Alliance Board of Directors and Council of Consumers to encourage service, integrity, and advocacy among the medical professions. She also is a board member of the Herndon Alliance, an organization dedicated to the dissemination of information that ensures advocates can pursue strategies to make health care affordable and accessible for all Americans.

Prior to joining NCLR, Ms. Ng'andu worked at the National Immigration Law Center and helped to advance legislation that improved health and social services for low-income immigrants and increased educational opportunities for immigrant students.

■ **Ali Noorani**
Executive Director
National Immigration Forum

Ali Noorani has been executive director of the National Immigration Forum since March 2008. Based in Washington, DC, the Forum is one of the nation's premier pro-immigrant advocacy and policy organizations. Prior to joining the Forum, Mr. Noorani was executive director of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition. Before becoming MIRA's director, he worked on a variety of community health and social justice issues. He managed efforts, ranging from HIV/AIDS-related to youth development, for the Dorchester House Multi-Service Center

and Codman Square Health Center, two large community health centers in Dorchester, Mass. Prior to that, he worked for the City of Boston, coordinating funding and technical assistance to environmental justice projects across the region.

Mr. Noorani has been a guest on "The O'Reilly Factor," "Lou Dobbs Tonight," Fox News, and programs on other national cable and local broadcast stations. He has been quoted by the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Boston Globe* and *Washington Post*. Born in California, Mr. Noorani is the son of Pakistani immigrants. He is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley and received a master's in public health from Boston University.

■ **Frank Sharry**
Executive Director
America's Voice

Frank Sharry is founder and executive director of America's Voice. With the support of allies in the immigration reform community, he created the new organization in early 2008 to focus on communications and media as part of a renewed effort to win comprehensive immigration reform. Prior to heading America's Voice, Mr. Sharry served as executive director of the National Immigration Forum for 17 years. The Forum, based in Washington, DC, is one of the nation's premier immigration policy organizations, and has been at the center of every major legislative and policy debate related to immigration for the past quarter of a century.

Before joining the Forum, Mr. Sharry was executive director of Centro Presente, an organization working with Central American refugees in the greater Boston area. He initially became interested in immigrants and refugees while teaching in Singapore in the late 1970s. He was hired to assist with the rescue and relocation of boat refugees fleeing war-torn Vietnam and landing in Indonesia. Mr. Sharry is a native of Connecticut and a graduate of Princeton University.

Training, Workshop & Strategy Session Presenters

■ **Joan Alker**
Georgetown University Center for
Children and Families
STRATEGY SESSION
Children's Health: Strategies for
Expanding and Preserving Coverage

Joan Alker is co-executive director of the Center for Children and Families and a senior researcher at the Georgetown University Health Policy Institute. Her work focuses on

health coverage for low-income children and families, with an emphasis on premium assistance policies, immigrant issues, cost-sharing, and state Medicaid initiatives. Some of her recent publications include *Premium Assistance Programs: How Are They Financed and Do States Save Money?*, *Immigrants and Health Care: A Primer*, and state-specific analyses of Medicaid changes in Florida, Connecticut, and Georgia.

Her previous positions include associate di-

rector of government affairs at Families USA and assistant director of the National Coalition for the Homeless. She holds a master of philosophy in politics from St. Antony's College, Oxford University, and a bachelor of arts with honors in political science from Bryn Mawr College.

■ Sonal Ambegaokar

National Immigration Law Center

STRATEGY SESSION

Children's Health: Strategies for Expanding and Preserving Coverage

STRATEGY SESSION

Next Steps in Health Care Advocacy, Part 1

As NILC's health policy attorney, Sonal Ambegaokar monitors, analyzes and makes recommendations concerning federal, state and local policies affecting low-income immigrants' access to affordable health care. Prior to joining NILC in 2005, she served as supervising attorney of the Health Consumer Center of Los Angeles, a project of Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County, overseeing a multi-language consumer hotline that provides callers with help on a variety of health-related issues. Prior to her law career, Ms. Ambegaokar worked for several years as a business analyst. She earned her J.D. degree from the University of California at Davis.

■ Terry M. Ao

Asian American Justice Center

Census 2010

Terry M. Ao is director of the census and voting programs for the Asian American Justice Center. An expert on decennial census and census policy matters, Ms. Ao co-chairs the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights' Census Task Force with the National Association of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials (NALEO) and sits on the U.S. Dept. of Commerce's 2010 Census Advisory Committee as a permanent substitute advisor to the secretary of Commerce.

Ms. Ao also is a leading expert on section 203 of the Voting Rights Act, reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act, and other voting related issues. Recently, she was counsel on the amicus brief filed in the matter of *Northwest Austin Municipal Utility District Number One v. Holder*, highlighting the continuing disparities faced by Asian American populations in Section 5-covered jurisdictions with respect to voter registration and turnout, electoral representation and racial discrimination in voting and the continuing need for Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

Ms. Ao received her J.D. from American University Washington College of Law and her bachelor's degree in economics at the University of Chicago.

■ Rocío Alejandra Avila

La Raza Centro Legal, Inc.

STRATEGY SESSION

How Workplace Verification Systems Affect Immigrant Workers

At La Raza Centro Legal, Inc., Rocío Alejandra Avila directs the Workers' Rights Unit's

legal services and litigation. She represents low-wage, predominately immigrant workers in employment matters, with a focus on wage enforcement, employment discrimination and verification issues. She also provides legal support to community-based organizations on workplace-related issues. In 2006, Ms. Avila joined La Raza in its Senior and Housing Law units, where she represented tenants, seniors, and persons with disabilities. Prior to joining La Raza, she was a fellow at the Women's Employment Rights Clinic in San Francisco, Calif. She is a graduate of Golden Gate University School of Law and the University of California, Santa Cruz. Prior to law school, she worked as a community organizer in San Francisco's Mission District.

■ Orrin Baird

Service Employees International Union, CTW

STRATEGY SESSION

Immigration Enforcement at Workplaces and Homes

Orrin Baird has been an associate general counsel of the Service Employees International Union, CTW, since 1990. He is the union's chief counsel to its Property Services Division and on immigration issues. Before that, he was a partner in the Washington, DC, labor law firm of Connerton, Ray & Simon from 1980 to 1990. He also worked for the legal department of the Laborers' International Union from 1977 to 1980. Prior to attending law school, he was a VISTA volunteer and community organizer in south Texas and an organizer for the United Farm Workers in Florida. His practice has been restricted exclusively to representing labor unions, their members and individual workers. He received a J.D. degree from Antioch School of Law in 1977 and a B.A. degree from Wesleyan University in 1969.

■ Ann Benson

Immigration Project of the Washington Defender Association

Immigration Enforcement by State and Local Law Enforcement (ADVANCED)

Immigration Law 201:

Crimes and Immigration Law (ADVANCED)

Ann Benson is directing attorney of the Washington Defender Association's Immigration Project. She provides training and technical assistance to defense attorneys, judges, and prosecutors to understand the severe immigration consequences of criminal convictions facing noncitizen defendants and their families. In addition, Ms. Benson works collaboratively with organizations in Washington and the U.S. to defend the due process rights of immigrant defendants and to reverse the increasing trend of criminalizing immigrant communities. Along the way, she has

worked as the legal director of the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, taught immigration law at the University of Washington School of Law, and served on the board of directors for the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild, One America (formerly Hate Free Zone), and the National Network to End Violence Against Immigrant Women. In 2005, she received the Lexis Nexis Daniel Levy Memorial Award for Outstanding Achievement in Immigration Law.

■ Josh Bernstein

Service Employees International Union

Overview of Immigration Reform Bills

STRATEGY SESSION

Immigrant Worker Issues Within Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Josh Bernstein, SEIU's immigration director, is responsible for directing, developing, and leading the union's activities to build power for its immigrant members and their families through national lobbying, grassroots activism, and internal capacity building. Mr. Bernstein joined SEIU's staff in January 2009 after more than 14 years at the National Immigration Law Center, where he most recently served as director of federal policy. At NILC, he was a trusted national leader on immigration reform and immigrant worker rights issues.

Mr. Bernstein's organizing and advocacy on behalf of low-income workers dates back to 1982, when he was director of Californians for a Fair Share, a grassroots statewide coalition of low-income families and their allies that was formed to combat welfare cuts. He subsequently served as a welfare advocate for the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles and the Inner City Law Center, a Los Angeles skid row legal clinic, providing direct services to homeless families and coordinating a coalition pressing for improved city and county services. He holds a J.D. from the University of California (Boalt Hall).

■ Milan Bhatt

Workers' Rights Law Center

From the Ground Up: Addressing Key Challenges Facing Grassroots Immigrant Organizations

Milan Bhatt began serving as executive director of the Workers' Rights Law Center in February 2009. Prior to joining the WRLC, he coordinated the Worker's Rights Advocacy Program at the New York Immigration Coalition, leading campaigns seeking to enhance workplace protections, expand immigrant access to driver's licenses, and develop immigrant advocacy throughout New York State. In 2002, he spearheaded an HIV/AIDS awareness program in rural South Africa. He also has served with Amnesty International's Refugee Program in Washington, DC, and the

Office of the Secretary-General at the United Nations. Mr. Bhatt received a B.A. in psychology from Columbia University in 2001 and a J.D. from the University of Iowa in 2005.

■ Leone Jose Bicchieri

Chicago Workers Collaborative

No-Match Training 101

From the Ground Up:

Addressing Key Challenges Facing Grassroots Immigrant Organizations

STRATEGY SESSION

Immigrant Worker Issues Within

Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Currently the executive director of the Chicago Workers Collaborative, Leone Jose Bicchieri has over 20 years' of organizing experience, which includes working with immigrants and workers of all backgrounds. He has organized farm laborers and working class communities in the Northwest, as well as poultry and meat processing workers in southern and midwestern states, and workers in the service sector in midwestern cities, and he now focuses on contingent workers in the Chicago region.

He has worked as an organizer, lead organizer, and regional/national campaign coordinator with labor unions, religious organizations, political campaigns, community-based groups, and national coalitions, including: Interfaith Worker Justice, the Immigrant Worker Freedom Ride, the Center for New Community, the Oregon Farmworker Union (PCUN), SEIU Local 1, and the Restaurant Opportunities Center. Mr. Bicchieri is the son of Italian and Mexican immigrants and speaks several languages.

■ Jonathan Blazer

National Immigration Law Center

Eligibility for Public Benefits 101

STRATEGY SESSION

Public Benefits and Comprehensive Immigration Reform

As a NILC public benefits policy attorney, Jonathan Blazer's main focus is on promoting immigrant access to critical safety-net programs, particularly within state and local programs. Prior to joining NILC, he was a national coordinator of Project Voice, the nationwide immigrants' rights organizing initiative of the American Friends Service Committee. From 1997-2003, he worked as a legal services attorney in Philadelphia, where he specialized in welfare law and founded the Language Access Project of Community Legal Services. Mr. Blazer holds an M.A. in political theory from the University of Toronto and a J.D. from Stanford Law School. He lives and works in Philadelphia.

■ Tanya Broder

National Immigration Law Center

Barriers to Public Benefits 101

STRATEGY SESSION

The Right to an Identity: Access to ID for U.S. Citizens and Immigrants

As NILC's public benefits policy director, Tanya Broder focuses primarily on analyzing the ways in which federal, state, and local governments have been implementing the welfare and immigration laws passed in 1996. She writes articles and policy analyses, provides technical assistance, co-counsels litigation, and presents trainings to legal and social service providers, legislative staff, and community-based organizations. Before joining NILC in 1996, she worked as a policy analyst for the Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights and as a staff attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Alameda County in Oakland. Ms. Broder holds a J.D. from Yale Law School.

■ Christopher Calabrese

American Civil Liberties Union's
Washington Legislative Office

STRATEGY SESSION

The Right to an Identity: Access to ID for U.S. Citizens and Immigrants

Christopher Calabrese is the legislative counsel for privacy-related issues in the American Civil Liberties Union's Washington Legislative Office (WLO). Prior to joining the WLO, Mr. Calabrese served as project counsel to the ACLU Technology and Liberty Project. As legislative counsel, he leads the office's advocacy efforts related to privacy and the responsible use of technology, developing proactive strategies on pending federal legislation and executive branch actions concerning data collection, surveillance, and identification systems. Mr. Calabrese is a graduate of Harvard University and holds a J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center.

■ Alice Dembner

Community Catalyst

STRATEGY SESSION

Next Steps in Health Care Advocacy, Part 2

Alice Dembner manages Community Catalyst's team of policy analysts, which helps advance state and national health care reform. She also oversees Community Catalyst's work to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities. Ms. Dembner's background is in investigative and analytic journalism. During 30 years as a reporter and editor, she informed policymakers, influenced public opinion and spurred change. She won national awards for her health coverage at the *Boston Globe*, which focused on gaps in care for uninsured, seniors and children with mental illness. As

an editor, she also supervised coverage of science, environment and education. She has also founded and run volunteer programs to improve the health and well-being of women, minorities, and people with AIDS.

■ Bhairavi Desai

New York Taxi Workers Alliance

From the Ground Up:

Addressing Key Challenges Facing Grassroots Immigrant Organizations

Bhairavi Desai, executive director of the New York Taxi Workers Alliance in New York City, has been organizing in the taxi industry since 1996, and she cofounded NYTWA in 1998. She is a Mets fanatic, a Bollywood buff, loves the poetry of Mahmoud Darwish, and is convinced the sun sets and rises around her mother's smile and father's laughter.

■ Marcela Diaz

Somos Un Pueblo Unido

STRATEGY SESSION

Immigration Enforcement by State and Local Law Enforcement

Marcela Diaz is executive director of Somos Un Pueblo Unido, northern New Mexico's only comprehensive immigrant resource center, where immigrant families can obtain information regarding rights, remedies, and available resources. Last year, more than 2000 immigrant families and service providers obtained information and/or advocacy support at Somos's office.

■ Mary Jo Dudley

Cornell Farmworker Program and
Cornell University

From the Ground Up:

Addressing Key Challenges Facing Grassroots Immigrant Organizations

Mary Jo Dudley is director of the Cornell Farmworker Program and a faculty member of the Department of Development Sociology at Cornell University. She is bilingual and has years of experience working with issues related to migration and Latin American-U.S. relations. Currently, she is involved in research that examines the factors that motivate farm workers to leave their home communities, their views on their journey to where they are currently employed, how they view their social and economic contributions in New York as well as in their home communities, and what they envision for their future.

Ms. Dudley also currently trains immigrant farm workers on "emergency planning." These trainings include discussions of how to respond to law enforcement encounters in the home, while driving, or when stopped in the street or in the workplace. The trainings also include discussions of guardianship, power of attorney, and other preparations for families

of mixed immigration status. To support these trainings, she coordinated the production of Spanish-language skits on “Derechos de Inmigrantes” that are available to the broader public in DVD format.

■ Kety Esquivel

National Council of La Raza

COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP

Using Social Media for Social Justice

Kety Esquivel is new media manager at National Council of La Raza. In that capacity, she focuses on Latinos in new media, the pro-migrant blogosphere, the blogosphere in general, and issues that impact the Latino community. Previously, she held positions at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the Eastman Kodak Company, the General Wesley Clark presidential campaign, Latinos for America, and the Institute for Progressive Christianity. She has a master’s degree in public administration (public and nonprofit management and policy) from the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University, and a bachelor’s degree in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University.

■ Suzanne Foster

Pomona Economic Opportunity Center

STRATEGY SESSION

Immigration Enforcement at Workplaces and Homes

Suzanne Foster is executive director of the Pomona Economic Opportunity Center, a nonprofit organization working with day laborers in southern California. The PEOC operates a day labor center in the city of Pomona and organizes day laborers on street corners in the Inland Empire region, including the cities of Riverside, San Bernardino, and Rancho Cucamonga. Before assuming the position of PEOC executive director in March 2007, Ms. Foster worked as program manager of the day laborer program at the Institute of Popular Education of Southern California (IDEPSCA), where she oversaw the operation of six day labor centers in Los Angeles. She then went on to become a policy analyst for Community Health Councils, where she organized the Coalition for Health and Justice to ensure access to quality healthcare for underserved residents of South Los Angeles. Ms. Foster holds an M.A. in urban planning with an emphasis in community economic development from UCLA.

■ Joan Friedland

National Immigration Law Center

Immigration Enforcement by State and Local Law Enforcement (ADVANCED)

STRATEGY SESSION

The Right to an Identity: Access to ID for U.S. Citizens and Immigrants

STRATEGY SESSION

Immigration Enforcement by State and Local Law Enforcement

As NILC’s immigration policy director, Joan Friedland focuses on enforcement, documentation, verification, and information-sharing policy issues affecting low-income immigrants. Before joining NILC in 2002, she had a long career as a lawyer for nonprofit organizations and in private practice in New Mexico and Florida, and she has litigated many civil rights and immigration cases. Ms. Friedland holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School.

■ Ellen Gallagher

Welcoming America

Getting on the Offensive: How to Improve the Climate, and Recruit New Allies, for Immigrants in Your Community

Ellen Gallagher is national coordinator for Welcoming America. Previously, she was coordinator of Welcoming Massachusetts, one of the premier immigrant welcoming campaigns. She worked extensively on the campaign and through her organizing work succeeded at taking it statewide. The efforts of the campaign thus far have resulted in 5,278 state residents signing the pledge to make Massachusetts a more welcoming state. In addition, 80 organizations have also signed the pledge confirming their organizational support for the campaign. Seven mayors have signed the pledge, and four cities have passed welcoming resolutions. Before acting as the coordinator for Welcoming Massachusetts, Ellen was the eastern Massachusetts organizer for the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition. Prior to her work at MIRA, she was in charge of advocacy and organizing efforts for the International Institute of Rhode Island, where she helped defeat several pieces of anti-immigrant legislation.

■ Fernando Garcia

Border Network for Human Rights

STRATEGY SESSION

The Border: Defending Against Misguided Immigration Enforcement

Fernando Garcia is the founding executive director of the Border Network for Human Rights in El Paso, Tex. In addition to his work as director of BNHR, he directly oversees the human rights organizing process of immigrant communities in West Texas-southern New Mexico and coordinates the policy efforts of those border communities to achieve

comprehensive immigration reform and the respect of their human rights.

From 2000 to 2005, Mr. Garcia was national coordinator for the National Movement for Legalization and Human Rights. He has worked on the Immigrant Freedom Ride, the “One Million Postcards for Legalization” campaign, and on community survey consultation for comprehensive immigration reform. Since 2005, Mr. Garcia has co-coordinated the U.S./Mexico Border and Immigration Task Force, a multi-sector border coalition that aims to proactively change ill-conceived border enforcement policies.

■ Matthew Ginsburg

Cornfield & Feldman

State Laws Expanding the Use of Immigration Verification Systems (ADVANCED)

Matthew Ginsburg is an attorney at Cornfield & Feldman, a union-side labor law firm in Chicago, Ill. Previously, he worked at the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, where he completed a Skadden Public Interest Fellowship focused on representing low-wage and immigrant workers in employment matters. Mr. Ginsburg clerked for Judge Diane P. Wood of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit and is a graduate of the New York University School of Law. He was a union organizer for several years prior to becoming a lawyer.

■ Mary Giovagnoli

Immigration Policy Center

STRATEGY SESSION

Immigration Reform: Proposals for Legalization and Immigrant Integration

Mary Giovagnoli is director of the Immigration Policy Center, a division of the American Immigration Law Foundation. Prior to joining IPC, she was senior director of policy for the National Immigration Forum. From 1996 to 2004, she practiced law as an attorney with the Departments of Justice and Homeland Security, serving first as a trial attorney and associate general counsel with the Immigration and Naturalization Service and then, following the creation of DHS, as an associate chief counsel for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. During that time she specialized in refugee and asylum law.

In 2005, Ms. Giovagnoli became the senior advisor to the director of congressional relations at USCIS. In 2007, she received a Congressional Fellowship from USCIS to serve for a year in Sen. Edward Kennedy’s office, where she worked on comprehensive immigration reform and refugee issues. Prior to joining the government, she clerked for two years for the Hon. William T. Hart, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Ms. Giovagnoli received a master’s degree in

rhetoric and a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin and spent over ten years teaching public speaking, argumentation and debate, and parliamentary procedure while pursuing her education.

■ James A. Goddard

Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest

State Laws Expanding the Use of Immigration Verification Systems
(ADVANCED)

James A. Goddard is a staff attorney at the Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest, located in Lincoln, Neb. Nebraska Appleseed is a nonprofit public interest law firm that works for equal justice and fair opportunity for all Nebraskans. Appleseed does this through litigation, public policy work, and community education and outreach. At Appleseed, Mr. Goddard works on the Welfare Due Process Project, which is designed to provide legal advice and assistance to those who are having problems dealing with public assistance programs. He graduated from the University of Nebraska, College of Law, in 2009. In the summer of 2008, Mr. Goddard was a law clerk at the Mexico Appleseed Center in Mexico City. Prior to attending law school, he taught English at a Russian university and volunteered at an air base in the Peruvian jungle city of Pucallpa. In 2004 he completed his undergraduate degree in social work at Union College in Lincoln, Neb..

■ John Grant

United Food & Commercial Workers
Local 770

No-Match Training 101

John Grant is director of the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 770's Packinghouse, Manufacturing and Food Processing Division. He worked nine years at a Los Angeles slaughterhouse prior to coming on staff in 1985. He also serves as vice-president and in-house counsel for the Local. He graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in urban studies from University of California in 1973 and received his J.D. from Loyola School of Law in Los Angeles in 1976, where he was the recipient of the Law School Civil Rights Research Grant. He interned with CASA in 1974 and edited the National Lawyers Guild's first *Immigration Defense Manual* in 1975.

■ Adam Gurvitch

National Immigration Law Center

STRATEGY SESSION

Next Steps in Health Care Advocacy, Part 2

Adam Gurvitch, a consultant to NILC, focuses

on policies and advocacy to preserve and expand immigrants' access to health care and insurance. Before beginning his work at NILC in 2009, he was director of health advocacy at the New York Immigration Coalition, where he led legislative, civil rights and policy advocacy campaigns to improve the social safety net and increase health insurance coverage, hospital financial assistance, and interpreter services for immigrants.

Prior to joining the NYIC, Mr. Gurvitch established the first national HIV/AIDS prevention program in Hungary with support from the Levi Strauss Foundation, and earlier worked with the American National Red Cross to develop and evaluate HIV prevention programs and coalitions throughout the U.S. Mr. Gurvitch holds a master of science degree from the New School University – Milano Graduate School of Management and Urban Policy, and a bachelor of business administration degree in finance and marketing from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

■ Margaret Hu

Office of Special Counsel for
Immigration-Related Unfair
Employment Practices (OSC)

Immigrant Workers' Rights 101

Margaret Hu serves as special policy counsel in the Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC), Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice, in Washington, DC. As special policy counsel, Ms. Hu manages a team of attorneys and investigators in the enforcement of the antidiscrimination provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act and is responsible for federal immigration policy review and coordination for OSC. She has served in various leadership positions, including on the National Governing Board of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum.

She received her B.A. in East Asian languages and cultures from the University of Kansas and her J.D. from Duke Law School. She clerked for Judge Rosemary Barkett on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and subsequently joined the U.S. Dept. of Justice through the Attorney General's Honors Program under Attorney General Janet Reno.

■ Omar Jadwat

ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project

State Laws Expanding the Use of Immigration Verification Systems
(ADVANCED)

Omar Jadwat is a staff attorney at the ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project, which he joined as a Skadden Fellow in 2002. He is IRP's primary counsel in numerous challenges to state and local anti-immigrant initiatives,

including the Hazleton, Penn., ordinance and the Arizona employer sanctions statute. His practice also includes litigation on a number of other due process, enforcement, and judicial review issues. He graduated from NYU Law School and clerked for Judge John G. Koeltl of the Southern District of New York. Before entering the legal profession, he was a development researcher in South Africa.

■ Benita Jain

Immigrant Defense Project

Immigration Law 201:

Crimes and Immigration Law (ADVANCED)

Benita Jain is co-director at the Immigrant Defense Project, where she advises criminal defense and immigration attorneys, community groups, and families on the immigration consequences of criminal dispositions. She has written several *pro se* guides for immigrants fighting deportation and is an original co-author of the "Deportation 101" curriculum, which has trained more than 1,000 people about the American detention and deportation system, its interaction with criminal justice, and legal and community responses. Ms. Jain serves on the board of directors of Families for Freedom, a multiethnic network by and for immigrants facing and fighting deportation. She is a graduate of NYU School of Law and joined IDP on a Soros Justice Fellowship in 2003.

■ Deena Laurie Jang

Asian and Pacific Islander American
Health Forum

Barriers to Public Benefits 101

Deena Laurie Jang is the policy director for the Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum, where she heads up the Washington, DC, office. She returned to the Health Forum in April 2007 after working as a senior policy analyst at the Center for Law and Social Policy. She also worked on California and federal health policy issues at the Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum from 1996 to 2000. She moved to Washington, DC, in the fall of 2000 to work for the Office for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, serving for five years as the lead senior policy analyst, working to ensure that health and human services programs are accessible to immigrants with limited English skills under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. She was a legal services attorney for many years, representing low-income families in domestic violence, immigration, school discipline and housing issues at San Francisco Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation, Asian Law Alliance and the Asian Law Caucus. She received her B.A. from Oberlin College and her J.D. from King Hall School of Law at U.C. Davis.

■ Dan Kesselbrenner

National Immigration Project of the
National Lawyers Guild

Immigration Law 201:

Crimes and Immigration Law (ADVANCED)

Dan Kesselbrenner is executive director of the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild, the co-author of *Immigration Law and Crimes*, and a clinical visiting lecturer in law at Yale Law School.

■ Bruce Lesley

First Focus

STRATEGY SESSION

*Children's Health: Strategies for
Expanding and Preserving Coverage*

Bruce Lesley, the president of First Focus, has more than 20 years of public policy experience at all levels of government and a demonstrated commitment to making children's lives better. He directs all aspects of policy development and internal operations at First Focus.

In 12 years on Capitol Hill, Mr. Lesley worked on health care, education, human services, and immigration issues in several different capacities. Most recently, he served as senior health policy advisor on the Senate Finance and Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committees for U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman. He also worked for U.S. Senator Bob Graham on the Senate Finance Committee, served as minority chief of staff for the Senate Special Committee on Aging, and was an aide in the offices of U.S. Reps. Ronald Coleman and Diana DeGette. Mr. Lesley advocated for better healthcare for children as the director of congressional relations for the National Association of Children's Hospitals and as director of government relations for Thomason General Hospital, a public hospital in El Paso, Tex. He holds a B.A. in government and politics from the University of Maryland University College, in College Park, Maryland.

■ David Lubell

Welcoming America

*Getting on the Offensive: How to Improve
the Climate, and Recruit New Allies, for
Immigrants in Your Community*

David Lubell became executive director of Welcoming America in September 2009. Previously, he was the founder and executive director of the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition. In seven years, he helped turn TIRRC from an idea into one of the most respected state-based immigrant rights organizations in the country. While at TIRRC, he founded Welcoming Tennessee, the model for all subsequent Welcoming campaign projects. In June 2009, Mr. Lubell received a master's in public administration from the Harvard Kennedy School of Gov-

ernment. He spent much of his time at the Kennedy School researching how to make Welcoming America stronger and worked extensively with experts in diverse fields such as program evaluation, messaging, polling, persuasion, immigrant integration, and online community organizing.

■ Vivek Malhotra

ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project

State Immigration-related Laws 101

As national state strategist for the ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project, Vivek Malhotra coordinates the IRP's support of the 53 ACLU affiliate offices throughout the U.S. through a comprehensive program of advocacy, education and litigation, and provides affiliates with strategic legislative and pre-litigation counsel on the rights of immigrants.

Before joining the ACLU/IRP, Mr. Malhotra was a state lobbyist for five years with both the ACLU California Legislative Office and Asian Americans for Civil Rights and Equality, in Sacramento. He developed legislation and lobbied state lawmakers on a range of civil liberties and civil rights issues, including immigrants' rights. He began his career as a civil litigation attorney in the Los Angeles office of Loeb & Loeb, LLP. He is a graduate of Pomona College and New York University School of Law

■ Grisella M. Martinez

National Immigration Forum

Overview of Immigration Reform Bills

STRATEGY SESSION

*Public Benefits and Comprehensive
Immigration Reform*

Grisella M. Martinez is legislative director for the National Immigration Forum, a nonpartisan organization that advocates for the rights of immigrants and immigration in the national interest. The Forum is dedicated to embracing and upholding America's tradition as a nation of immigrants and does so through building alliances with other national and local organizations, engaging in direct advocacy with members of Congress, and effective media and communications outreach. As legislative director, Ms. Martinez is responsible for monitoring, developing, promoting and coordinating legislative strategies and campaigns. She covers a broad portfolio of immigration issues, including undocumented students and the DREAM Act, electronic employment verification systems, access to economic supports, border security, and fiscal appropriations. Prior to joining the Forum, she was a policy analyst at the National Immigration Law Center. She has a J.D. from the Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America and an LL.M. from the Washington School of Law at American University.

■ Mark Meinster

United Electrical, Radio & Machine
Workers of America (UE)

STRATEGY SESSION

*How Workplace Verification Systems
Affect Immigrant Workers*

Mark Meinster is an international representative for the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE), a union known for its focus on international worker solidarity and its commitment to aggressive, militant and member-run trade unionism. Mr. Meinster coordinates UE's organizing, collective bargaining, and education work in Illinois and southern Wisconsin. He led UE's successful efforts over the past seven years to organize thousands of immigrants working in Chicago's manufacturing sector. In coalition with community partners, he developed a citywide workplace-based rapid response network addressing employer abuse of Social Security Administration "no-match" letters. Last year, he coordinated UE's successful occupation of Republic Windows and Doors in Chicago, Ill. Before joining UE in 1997, Mr. Meinster worked as a community organizer in Washington, DC.

■ Isaac Menashe

California Immigrant Policy Center

STRATEGY SESSION

*Immigration Enforcement by State and
Local Law Enforcement*

Isaac Menashe is a policy analyst at the California Immigrant Policy Center, where he focuses on state budget and legislative issues that affect low-income immigrants, particularly in health care, public benefits, and law enforcement. Before joining CIPC's staff, he worked as a paralegal at the Immigrants Rights' Project of the American Civil Liberties Union, at Bay Area Legal Aid, and as a teacher. He is a graduate in politics of the University of California at Santa Cruz.

■ Eva Millona

Massachusetts Immigrant and
Refugee Advocacy Coalition

STRATEGY SESSION

*Immigration Reform: Proposals for
Legalization and Immigrant Integration*

Eva A. Millona is executive director of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition. Previously, as MIRA's director of policy and advocacy, she focused on providing analyses of federal and state legislation on immigration/naturalization issues. Prior to joining MIRA she directed a refugee resettlement program in central Massachusetts. In her native Albania, she practiced civil and criminal law. From 1989 to 1992, Ms. Millona served as a judge in Tirana's District Court. She currently is the co-chair of

the Massachusetts Governor's Advisory Council on Refugees and Immigrants. She is a graduate of Clark University and Tirana University School of Law. She is the recipient of the 2007 Political Asylum Immigration Representation Project (PAIR) Detention Attorney Award, the 2007 National Lawyers Guild Legal Professional Award, and the 2009 USCIS Citizens by Choice Award.

■ Gloria Montañó Greene

National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund

Census 2010

Gloria Montañó Greene became director of the NALEO Educational Fund's Washington, DC, office in Sept. 2009. There, she oversees the organization's policy development and advocacy activities with regard to Latino access to the democratic process, including naturalization, comprehensive immigration reform, Census 2010, Latino appointments, and election policy. Ms. Montañó Greene came to the NALEO Educational Fund with over seven years' experience working in various positions for Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva (D-AZ), most recently as his chief of staff. She has also served as the executive director of Tucson Latina Action, a nonprofit Latina empowerment group. In 2007, *Hispanic Business Magazine* named her one of the 100 most influential Hispanics. Ms. Montañó Greene earned her B.A. from the University of Arizona, Tucson.

■ Tyler Moran

National Immigration Law Center

Overview of Immigration Reform Bills

STRATEGY SESSION

How Workplace Verification Systems Affect Immigrant Workers

STRATEGY SESSION

Immigrant Worker Issues Within Comprehensive Immigration Reform

As NILC's policy director, Tyler Moran coordinates the development and implementation of NILC's policy agenda, which is concerned with both federal and state policies that affect immigrants' access to public benefits and health care, immigrants' working conditions and rights as workers, and their rights and responsibilities under immigration law. She is one of the U.S.'s leading experts on how immigration and employment policies impact low-wage immigrant workers. Prior to being appointed policy director, Ms. Moran directed NILC's employment policy work, and she has played a key role in focusing attention on problems inherent in the federal government's electronic employment eligibility verification systems. She also has worked on workforce development issues and on immigrants' access to public benefits and to driver's licenses.

Prior to joining NILC in 2002, Ms. Moran was a public policy consultant and the policy director for the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition.

■ Javier Morillo-Alicea

Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 26

Worksite Enforcement Tools (ADVANCED)

Javier Morillo-Alicea is the president of Service Employees International Union Local 26, which unites more than 5,000 property service workers in the Twin Cities (Minnesota) metro area. As president, he leads the organizing, legislative, and political activities of the local union representing Minnesota's union janitors and private security guards.

Since Morillo was elected president, SEIU Local 26 has grown by roughly 1,200 members. In the past two years, as a result of two public contract campaigns, Local 26 won affordable healthcare for janitors and security officers, along with dramatic wage increases. In addition, the local has participated in national campaigns, including traveling to Houston to support 5,000 newly united janitors. Local 26 has also led on legislative and political action with regard to the issues of quality, affordable health care and immigration reform.

Mr. Morillo was previously a historian and anthropologist, teaching courses in Latin American history, comparative colonial cultures, and globalization at Carleton and Macalester College. He is a Fulbright Scholar and has a bachelor's degree in history from Yale University.

■ Jumana Musa

Rights Working Group

Overview of Immigration Reform Bills

STRATEGY SESSION

The Border: Defending Against Misguided Immigration Enforcement

Jumana Musa is a human rights attorney and activist. Currently, she is the policy director for the Rights Working Group, a national coalition of civil rights, civil liberties, human rights and immigrant rights advocates working to defend certain inalienable rights, including the right to a fair trial, freedom from arbitrary detention, and protection from discriminatory application of the law. Formerly, she served as the advocacy director for domestic human rights and international justice at Amnesty International USA, where she addressed the domestic and international impact of U.S. counterterrorism efforts on human rights.

Ms. Musa also has worked as a policy attorney for the National Network to End Domestic Violence and handled international relations and immigration issues as a fellow in

the office of Rep. Jesse L. Jackson Jr. She holds a B.A. in international relations from Brown University and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

■ Christine Neumann-Ortiz

Voces de la Frontera

No-Match Training 101

Christine Neumann-Ortiz is the founding executive director of Voces de la Frontera, a low-wage and immigrant workers center with chapters in Milwaukee and Racine, Wis., including student chapters called Students United for Immigrant Rights that has members from six high schools. Voces de la Frontera is increasingly recognized as Wisconsin's leading voice for immigration reform.

Ms. Neumann-Ortiz is recognized as a national leader in immigration reform, serving on the board of the Fair Immigration Reform Movement coalition and featured in interviews on National Public Radio and CNN. She serves on the board of the Wisconsin Legalization Coalition and the Wisconsin Citizen Action board.

Prior to directing Voces de la Frontera, Ms. Neumann-Ortiz was the coordinator of the High School Equivalency Program at Milwaukee Area Technical College, advancing migrant education in Wisconsin. She also served as director of the Wisconsin Committee on Occupational Safety. She earned her master's degree in U.S./Chicano history at the University of Texas at Austin and her B.A. in English at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

■ Jennifer Ng'andu

National Council of La Raza

STRATEGY SESSION

Next Steps in Health Care Advocacy, Part 1

Jennifer Ng'andu joined the National Council of La Raza in 2004. As deputy director of NCLR's Health Policy Project, her work focuses on advancing federal proposals that address injustices in health care for Latinos. Ms. Ng'andu works to achieve parity in health care by increasing health coverage in the Latino community and improving access to quality health care.

Outside of her work at NCLR, Ms. Ng'andu engages in other activities to strengthen health care in the U.S. Currently, she sits on the National Physicians Alliance Board of Directors and Council of Consumers to encourage service, integrity, and advocacy among the medical professions. She also is a board member of the Herndon Alliance, an organization dedicated to the dissemination of information that ensures advocates can pursue strategies to make health care affordable and accessible for all Americans.

Prior to joining NCLR, Ms. Ng'andu worked at the National Immigration Law Center and helped to advance legislation that improved health and social services for low-income immigrants and increased educational opportunities for immigrant students.

■ Andrea Nill

Work Room, Center for American Progress

COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP
Using Social Media for Social Justice

Andrea Nill is an immigration researcher/blogger for ThinkProgress.org and *The Progress Report* at the Center for American Progress Action Fund. She holds a bachelor's degree from Cornell University in political science with a concentration in Latin American studies and law and society. Prior to joining the Center, Ms. Nill was a communications associate at the Immigration Policy Center, where she founded the "Immigration Impact" blog. She also was a communications specialist at the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, specializing in bilingual public relations. Ms. Nill was born in Guatemala and grew up in upstate New York.

■ Kerry O'Brien

CASA de Maryland

STRATEGY SESSION
Immigration Enforcement at Workplaces and Homes

Kerry O'Brien is director of services at CASA de Maryland, an 80-person service and organizing group focused on the Latino immigrant community in Maryland. She leads a dynamic team of four programs, including English instruction, legal services, health promotion, and social services.

From 1998 to 2005, she was engaged in building and growing the District of Columbia's first workers' rights project. From 1998 to 2000, she was the Crowell & Moring Equal Justice Works fellow at Bread for the City, where she started an employment practice. In 2000, she co-founded the D.C. Employment Justice Center with Judy Conti and was co-director until 2005. The EJC is an employment rights center for low-wage workers that provides legal services, mainly through a weekly Wednesday workers' rights clinic; lobbies for positive workplace laws; and organizes workers to build power. She took a one year sabbatical in 2003 to serve as a rule of law liaison for the American Bar Association in Yerevan, Armenia. She is a 1998 cum laude graduate of Georgetown University Law Center and a 1992 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin.

■ Tolu Olubunmi

National Immigration Law Center

STRATEGY SESSION: DREAM Act

Tolu Olubunmi, a DREAM Fellow, joined NILC in December 2008 and focuses on advocating for passage of the Development Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. She is also a board member of the United We DREAM Network and manages the media and communications efforts of that organization. Ms. Olubunmi is a graduate of Washington and Lee University, with a degree in chemical engineering.

■ Lewis Papenfuse

Farmworker Legal Services of New York, Inc.

From the Ground Up:
Addressing Key Challenges Facing Grassroots Immigrant Organizations

Lewis Papenfuse has been executive director of Farmworker Legal Services of New York, Inc. since 2007, after serving as co-director from 2004 to 2006. FLSNY is a statewide nonprofit law project that provides direct legal assistance to all farm workers regardless of their immigration status. In addition, FLSNY provides information and assistance on gender discrimination, civil rights violations, domestic violence, and issues involving trafficking and smuggling of workers for employment and sex. Mr. Papenfuse has worked for FLSNY since 1993. He has coordinated several civil rights and workplace safety projects for FLSNY, served as supervising paralegal for five years, and was president of the local Farmworker Legal Service Workers Union, NOLSW/2320 UAW for seven years.

■ Myrna Pérez

Brennan Center for Justice

STRATEGY SESSION
The Right to an Identity: Access to ID for U.S. Citizens and Immigrants

Myrna Pérez works on a variety of voting rights-related issues, including the Brennan Center's efforts to restore the vote to people with felony convictions. Prior to joining the Center, Ms. Pérez was the civil rights fellow at Relman & Dane, a civil rights law firm in Washington, DC. She graduated from Columbia Law School in 2003, where she was a Lowenstein Public Interest Fellow. Following law school, Ms. Pérez clerked for the Hon. Anita B. Brody of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and for the Hon. Julio M. Fuentes of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Prior to law school, she was a Presidential Management Fellow, serving as a policy analyst for the U.S. Government Accounting Office, where she covered a range of issues, including housing and health care.

■ Raymond Pocino

Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA)

From the Ground Up:
Addressing Key Challenges Facing Grassroots Immigrant Organizations

Raymond Pocino is vice president and Eastern Region manager of LIUNA. He joined Local 172 in 1956 and served in various leadership positions, helping to mold it into one of New Jersey's most progressive and community-minded trade unions. He served four successive terms as president and business manager of the 3,500-member local. Mr. Pocino was appointed Eastern Region manager in 1995 and elected Eastern Region vice president in 1998. He also serves on numerous commissions and coalitions devoted to improving the economy and quality of life in his native state, including the New Jersey Turnpike Authority.

■ Allison Posner

Center for Immigrant Rights at the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)

STRATEGY SESSION
Immigration Reform: Proposals for Legalization and Immigrant Integration

Allison Posner is the director of the Center for Immigrant Rights at CLINIC. The Center for Immigrant Rights identifies legal trends and issues affecting immigrants and pursues responsive solutions through administrative and legislative advocacy, education, pro bono representation, litigation and media. She first joined CLINIC in 2004 — its Center for Religious Immigration and Protection — after working in private practice. Ms. Posner is a member of the New York State Bar and the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

■ Nora A. Preciado

National Immigration Law Center

Immigrant Workers' Rights 101

No-Match Training 101

Worksite Enforcement Tools (ADVANCED)

STRATEGY SESSION
Immigration Enforcement at Workplaces and Homes

As NILC's employment policy attorney, Nora Preciado focuses on promoting the rights of low-wage immigrant workers through litigation, technical assistance, and administrative advocacy. Before joining NILC, Ms. Preciado was an Equal Justice Works Fellow at the ACLU of Southern California Orange County office, where she litigated cases dealing with immigrants' rights issues and conducted extensive community outreach and education. She then joined the ACLU of Southern California's Los Angeles office as an immigration detention attorney, focusing on immigration detention-related litigation

and advocacy on conditions of detention. Ms. Preciado holds a J.D. from the University of California at Berkeley (Boalt Hall).

■ **Sonia Ramirez**

AFL-CIO

STRATEGY SESSION

Immigrant Worker Issues Within Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Sonia Ramirez is a government affairs representative for the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, a federation of 56 national and international labor unions that represents over nine million working women and men. She lobbies Capitol Hill legislators on behalf of working families in support of an agenda that will improve workplace standards and living conditions for low-wage and immigrant workers. A veteran Capitol Hill staffer, Ms. Ramirez most recently served as a legislative aide to Rep. Ciro D. Rodriguez (D-TX).

Ms. Ramirez is an alumnus of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI) graduate fellowship program and was awarded a Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship in public policy. She currently represents the AFL-CIO on the board of directors of the CHCI. A native Californian, Ms. Ramirez attended Occidental College in Los Angeles and New School University in New York.

■ **Diana Rashid**

East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy

STRATEGY SESSION

How Workplace Verification Systems Affect Immigrant Workers

Diana Rashid is immigrant rights organizer at the East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy (EBASE), where she has been since June 2008. She works with a coalition of labor unions and community groups to protect immigrant worker rights at the local level and fight for immigration reform that prioritizes immigrant worker rights at the federal level. Ms. Rashid has been a leader in the immigrant rights movement since her high school days of organizing youth and their parents to fight for financial aid and access to higher education for immigrant students. As a high school student, she was instrumental in getting legislation passed in Illinois that granted in-state tuition to immigrant students, as well as in advancing the DREAM Act and the struggle for comprehensive immigration reform on the national level. Previously, Ms. Rashid worked for the Northwest Federation of Community Organizations and the Washington Community Action Network. She developed democracy schools for immigrant communities, won community benefits agreements at local hospitals, and advanced language access at local health care centers.

■ **Jenny Rejeske**

New York Immigration Coalition

STRATEGY SESSION

Next Steps in Health Care Advocacy, Part 2

Jenny Rejeske is the health advocacy coordinator at the New York Immigration Coalition, an umbrella advocacy organization for nearly 200 groups in New York State that work with immigrants and refugees. At the NYIC, Ms. Rejeske coordinates legislative and policy campaigns aimed at improving immigrants' access to health care and defending immigrants' rights. She coordinates campaigns to improve access to language assistance services and financial assistance at hospitals and mobilizes member groups to ensure immigrant inclusion in national health reform. Ms. Rejeske also coordinates the Immigrant Health Access and Advocacy Collaborative, which provides a forum for training, education, and advocacy among nine diverse community-based organizations.

Prior to joining the NYIC, Ms. Rejeske worked at community health centers in New York City and Estes Park, Colo. She received an M.S. in nonprofit management from Milano the New School for Management and Urban Policy and a B.A. in international studies from the Clark Honors College at the University of Oregon.

■ **Eric Rodriguez**

National Council of La Raza

STRATEGY SESSION

Moving Forward on Benefits Restorations

Eric Rodriguez's title at National Council of La Raza is vice president, Office of Research, Advocacy and Legislation. Over his long tenure at NCLR working for the rights of immigrants and Latinos, he has developed policy expertise in the areas of budget, tax, pension, banking, homeownership, Social Security reform, welfare reform, and transportation equity issues. He has served on numerous boards and has many publications to his credit. He holds a master's degree in public administration from American University and a bachelor's degree in history from Sienna College.

■ **Marc R. Rosenblum**

Migration Policy Institute

Overview of Immigration Reform Bills

Worksite Enforcement Tools (ADVANCED)

Marc R. Rosenblum is a senior policy analyst at the Migration Policy Institute, where he works on the Labor Markets Initiative, U.S. immigration policy, and Mexico-U.S. migration issues. Dr. Rosenblum's book *Defining Migration: America's Great Debate and the History of U.S. Immigration Policy* analyzes U.S. immigration policy since the Civil War,

with a focus on the post-IRCA and post-9/11 periods (forthcoming, 2009), and he is the coeditor, with Daniel Tichenor, of *The Oxford Handbook of International Migration* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming).

Dr. Rosenblum earned his B.A. from Columbia University and his Ph.D. from the University of California, San Diego, and is currently an associate professor of political science and the Robert Dupuy Professor of Pan-American Studies at the University of New Orleans. He was a Council on Foreign Relations Fellow detailed to the office of U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy during the 2006 Senate immigration debate, and was involved in crafting the Senate's immigration legislation in 2006 and 2007. He also served as a member of President-Elect Obama's Immigration Policy Transition Team in 2009.

■ **Carlos Saavedra**

United We DREAM

STRATEGY SESSION: DREAM Act

Carlos Saavedra has been organizing in the immigrant community for many years. He is an immigrant himself, having moved from Peru to Massachusetts with his parents at age 12. Seeing the hardships of being an immigrant in Massachusetts led him to become involved in campaigns related to educational access for immigrant students in the state. In 2006, Mr. Saavedra became lead organizer for the Student Immigrant Movement (SIM), a youth-led organization in Boston that works to gain equal rights for the immigrant community. For his work, he received the 2006 New Bostonian Youth Leadership Award presented by the Mayor's Office of New Bostonians. Most recently, SIM succeeded in getting all members of the Massachusetts congressional delegation to cosponsor the DREAM Act. Mr. Saavedra recently moved to Washington, DC, to become national coordinator for the United We DREAM Network, an emerging national organization that seeks to develop leadership within the growing immigrant youth community.

■ **Paromita Shah**

National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild

Immigration Enforcement by State and Local Law Enforcement (ADVANCED)

Paromita Shah is the associate director of the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild. She provides technical assistance and trainings to attorneys and advocates, and to detained immigrants and their family members, on deportation defense and immigration enforcement.

Previously, she was the detention project director of the Capital Area Immigrants' Rights (CAIR) Coalition in Washington, DC, where she represented detained immigrants,

mentored and trained pro bono attorneys for direct representation, and coordinated local advocacy efforts in the Washington, DC/Virginia area. She also worked at Greater Boston Legal Services in Boston, Mass., from 1998 to 2002.

■ Debbie Smith

Immigration Advocates Network

Immigration Law 101:

Overview of Immigration Process

Debbie Smith is an attorney specializing in immigration law who has practiced for more than 20 years in the nonprofit, private, and public sectors. She is the director of the Immigration Advocates Network, a collaborative project of ten of the nation's leading immigration programs and advocacy organizations, at Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. Previously, Ms. Smith was an appellate staff attorney at the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals in San Francisco, where she handled a wide range of motions and emergency matters; a partner at Simmons & Ungar, one of San Francisco's leading immigration firms; and she served as national coordinator of the landmark *American Baptist Churches* class action settlement, representing more than 300,000 class members. She has been honored for her work by the American Immigration Lawyers Association (Jack Wasserman Excellence in Litigation Award), the National Lawyers Guild (Carol King Award for Outstanding Contribution to Immigration Law), and the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Silver Jubilee Advocate's Award). She has argued successfully in the Ninth Circuit, served on a variety of nonprofit boards, is a regular speaker at national and regional immigration conferences, and has lectured at Hastings and Stanford Law Schools.

■ Saket Soni

New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice

STRATEGY SESSION

Immigrant Worker Issues Within Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Saket Soni is executive director of the New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice, which organizes African American and immigrant workers to advance racial equity and economic justice in the post-Hurricane Katrina Gulf Coast. The Center's constituents are day laborers, guest workers, and displaced African American residents of the Gulf Coast — those hardest hit by the disaster of post-Katrina public policy. In the last three years, the Workers' Center has combated wage theft, fought for the inclusion of poor and displaced communities in affordable housing, and exposed labor trafficking, involuntary servitude, and forced labor. The Center has won historic organizing, policy, and court victories to ad-

vance a poor peoples' agenda in the region. Mr. Soni has testified in Congress on issues of racial justice and workers' rights, and has co-authored numerous reports on racial equity and workers' rights in the Gulf Coast region. Previously, Mr. Soni was an organizer in Chicago. He hails from New Delhi, India, and came to the U.S. in 1997 to study theater. Before switching to a far more lucrative career in labor and community organizing, he worked as a director and playwright.

■ Aimee Stowe

Georgia Legal Services Program, Inc.

STRATEGY SESSION

The Right to an Identity: Access to ID for U.S. Citizens and Immigrants

Aimee Stowe has been a staff attorney with the Gainesville office of Georgia Legal Services Program, Inc., since 2004. As a bilingual attorney, she represents mainly non-English-speaking and immigrant clients. Her practice focuses on eliminating access barriers to public benefits, public housing, and unemployment and Social Security benefits, targeting national origin and race discrimination. She addresses immigrant access issues, including opening doors to courts and governmental agencies. She conducts local and national trainings on the rights of non-English-speakers. She also handles family law and immigration cases for immigrant victims of domestic violence. She graduated summa cum laude from Emory University with a B.A. in psychology and was a social worker before entering law school. She is a 2004 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law. She presently serves on the State Bar of Georgia's Unauthorized Practice of Law Standing Committee and has a particular interest in stopping *notarios* who target and defraud Latino immigrant communities.

■ Madeleine Sumption

Migration Policy Institute

Overview of Immigration Reform Bills

Madeleine Sumption is an associate policy analyst at the Migration Policy Institute, where she works on the labor markets initiative and the International Program. She holds a master's degree with honors from the University of Chicago's Harris School of Public Policy Studies. There, she focused on labor economics and wrote a thesis on the development of social networks among Eastern European immigrants to the United Kingdom and its labor market implications. She also holds a First Class Degree in Russian and French from New College, Oxford.

Before coming to the United States, Ms. Sumption worked on education policy at the New Local Government Network in London.

■ Catherine Tactaquin

National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

STRATEGY SESSION

Immigration Reform: Proposals for Legalization and Immigrant Integration

Catherine Tactaquin is executive director of the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, an alliance that promotes the rights of all immigrants and refugees, regardless of citizenship or immigration status, and that promotes human rights as essential to securing healthy, safe, and peaceful lives for all. Her commitment to immigrant rights was motivated by her own experience as the U.S.-born daughter of an immigrant farm worker from the Philippines.

Before joining the National Network, she was involved for many years in grassroots organizing and advocacy in the Filipino community on issues of discrimination and foreign policy. Ms. Tactaquin helped to found the global advocacy network Migrant Rights International in 1994 and is a member of its steering committee. She is presently a member of the board of the Poverty, Race and Research Action Council in Washington, DC, and of the advisory board of the Alston-Bannerman Fellowship Program, and is a former recipient of the Bannerman Fellowship, awarded to outstanding activists of color.

■ Sarahi Uribe

National Day Laborer Organizing Network

STRATEGY SESSION

Immigration Enforcement by State and Local Law Enforcement

Sarahi Uribe is an organizer with the National Day Laborer Organizing Network, an organization dedicated to protecting and advancing the civil and labor rights of day laborers. At NDLO, she focuses on strengthening union and worker center partnerships as a board member of Local 55 and Local 10 Laborers in New Jersey and New York. She also organizes nationally to challenge the criminalization of communities through programs such as 287(g) that relinquish the power to enforce immigration law to local law enforcement and corrections agencies. Previously, she worked with community-based organizations in New Haven, Conn., to defend raids' victims rights and advocated on behalf of asylum-seekers with the Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization. While at Junta for Progressive Action, a community-based organization in Connecticut, she worked on several leading immigrant integration initiatives, including the nation's first municipal ID card given to all residents irrespective of their status. She is a graduate of Yale University.

■ **Laura Vazquez**

National Council of La Raza

Overview of Immigration Reform Bills

Laura Vazquez is the immigration legislative analyst for the National Council of La Raza, the largest national Latino civil rights and advocacy organization in the U.S. She monitors immigration policy and conducts legislative and administrative advocacy in order to advance just and humane reforms to the current immigration system. Previously, she served as a constituent caseworker for Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton, assisting D.C. residents with their immigration applications. As a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Fellow, she monitored efforts to address laws passed in 1996 that impacted immigrants. Her background includes research on Mexican migration to the U.S. and the role of nonprofits in advocating for Latino immigrants. Laura holds an M.A. in Latin American studies from the University of California, San Diego, and a B.A. in political science and Spanish from Kenyon College. She was born in Puebla, Mexico, and grew up in Ohio.

■ **John Wancheck**

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

STRATEGY SESSION

Public Benefits and Comprehensive Immigration Reform

John Wancheck is the earned income credit campaign coordinator for the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a Washington, DC-based nonprofit organization that conducts research and policy analysis on issues that have an impact on low- and moderate-income Americans. The Center has spearheaded a national public education campaign on the earned income tax credit each year since 1989 and distributes a widely-used "Tax Credit Community Outreach" kit.

■ **Dinah Wiley**

National Immigration Law Center

STRATEGY SESSION

Moving Forward on Benefits Restorations

As a NILC public benefits policy attorney, Dinah Wiley focuses on preserving and broadening immigrants' access to health care and other critical public benefits and services. Before rejoining NILC's Washington, DC, office in 2006, she had served since 2000 as senior civil rights analyst at the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights. She was a policy analyst at NILC from 1997 to 2000, specializing in public benefits issues affecting low-income immigrants and their family members. Prior to that, she was legal services director at Whitman-Walker Clinic, the largest HIV/AIDS service organization serving the Washington, DC, metropolitan area.

■ **Chris Williams**

Working Hands Legal Clinic

Worksite Enforcement Tools (ADVANCED)

Chris Williams is executive director of the Working Hands Legal Clinic in Chicago, a nonprofit that works with a network of community-based worker centers to support workplace justice campaigns and to bring access to legal services for low-wage Illinois workers in the area of labor and employment law. He has been lead counsel in over 250 wage-and-hour and employment discrimination cases. In addition, Mr. Williams has worked extensively on issues related to abuse of employment eligibility verification systems. In 2006, he worked with a number of community-based worker centers to draft one of the strongest laws protecting day laborers in the nation, the Illinois Day and Temporary Labor Services Act. Prior to practicing law, Mr. Williams spent over a decade as a union

organizer for Chicago area labor unions and was a founding member of a Chicago-based worker center. He currently is coordinating a community/state agency task force to evaluate and make recommendations for improvements in Illinois' wage theft statute, and recently he was nominated to serve on the Labor Advisory Board of the Illinois Department of Labor.

■ **Corrine Yu**

Leadership Conference on Civil Rights

Census 2010

Corrine Yu is senior counsel and managing policy director for the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR), the nation's oldest, largest, and most diverse civil and human rights coalition, and the coalition's education and communications arm, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund (LCCR/EF). Ms. Yu is responsible for seeking and developing new program opportunities; coordinating policy development on priority issues within the coalition and devising coalition-based strategies; and assisting in the day-to-day management of the policy department. She previously served as LCCR/EF's director of special projects, where she developed concepts for, planned, and implemented new and groundbreaking initiatives for the organizations; and as director of education, with oversight responsibilities for all LCCR-LCCR/EF offline and online communications, publications, and research.

Previously, Ms. Yu was director and counsel of the Citizens' Commission on Civil Rights, a bipartisan organization established to monitor the civil rights policies and practices of the federal government and to examine important policy issues affecting equal opportunity. She is a graduate of Brown University and Boston College Law School.