

National Immigration Law Center



Promoting and advancing the rights of
low-income immigrants and their families.



NILC – Los Angeles (Headquarters)
3435 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 2850
Los Angeles, CA 90010
(phone) 213.639.3900 (fax) 213.639.3911

NILC – Washington, D.C.
1444 Eye Street NW, Suite 1110
Washington, DC 20005
(phone) 202.216.0261 (fax) 202.216.0266

Established in 1979, the National Immigration Law Center is a legal advocacy organization that promotes and advances the rights of low-income immigrants and their families. We believe that the U.S.'s core principles of justice, equal opportunity, and equal protection under the law apply to everyone who works, lives, raises a family here, or otherwise contributes to our communities. We therefore work to defend and preserve low-income immigrants' rights in the areas of immigration law, labor and employment, education, health care, and other basic services.



The Impact

NILC seeks to ensure that immigrants are treated fairly in the courts and the workplace, and that they are able to provide and care for their families. A few of our accomplishments over the past decade include:

- Protecting the rights of Central American refugees to apply for asylum.
- Helping preserve prenatal care for immigrant women in California.
- Helping restore Supplemental Security Income disability benefits and food stamps for many immigrants unfairly targeted by the 1996 welfare law.
- Defending the rights of asylum-seekers to work in the U.S.
- Preventing employers from using workers' immigration status to retaliate against them for filing labor violation lawsuits.
- Protecting the right of U.S. citizen infants born to undocumented immigrant mothers to obtain health care.
- Organizing legal defense teams and supporting local efforts to defend the rights of workers detained in immigration raids.

“NILC has played a crucial role in providing legal and organizational capacity to poor communities organizing for justice.”

— Saket Soni, Executive Director,
New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice

Our Expertise

Nationally recognized as a leading expert on immigration, employment, and public benefits issues affecting low-income immigrants, NILC is constantly called upon to decipher rapidly changing immigration laws, provide strategic advice to state and local advocates about their potential impact, and respond to a broad range of issues affecting low-income immigrants in the U.S. Many groups and individuals rely on our expertise to support and inform their work, including:

- Immigration, labor, and civil rights attorneys
- Legal service providers
- Immigrants' rights advocates
- Social service providers
- Health care practitioners
- Community and labor organizers
- Government agencies
- Workers' rights and other labor groups
- Research institutions
- Local, state, and federal policymakers
- Journalists

“NILC's astute analysis and leadership are indispensable to Congressional efforts to achieve fairness and balance in the laws affecting immigrants.”

— Senator Edward M. Kennedy



NILC – Los Angeles (Headquarters), 3435 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 2850, Los Angeles, CA 90010 (phone) 213.639.3900 (fax) 213.639.3911
NILC – Washington, D.C., 1444 Eye Street NW, Suite 1110, Washington, DC 20005 (phone) 202.216.0261 (fax) 202.216.0266

Multiple Strategies

Policy Research & Analysis

We analyze legislative and regulatory changes that affect the lives of low-income immigrants and their families. We try to ensure that the needs and concerns of immigrants are heard by policymakers, and help immigrant advocates voice their perspectives regarding policy changes at the local, state, and federal levels.

Impact Litigation

We conduct impact litigation to challenge policies and laws that violate the rights of low-income immigrants. We work closely with other public interest lawyers and private law firms working pro bono to develop legal strategies that bolster the policy work and organizing campaigns of immigrants and their supporters.

Legal Analysis & Strategic Advice

We respond to thousands of requests each year for legal advice and assistance. These include answering questions about the impact of laws and policies affecting immigrants, reviewing research and educational materials for technical accuracy, and helping think through organizing and advocacy campaign strategies.

Training & Education

We educate thousands of advocates across the country each year through trainings and conference presentations. Every two years, we convene the National Low-Income Immigrants' Rights Conference. Our highly regarded trainings not only inform advocates about laws and policies affecting immigrants, they also create important opportunities for participants to meet each other and to strategize.

Publications & Resources

Trusted as sources of accurate information on the latest legal and policy developments affecting low-income immigrants, our advocacy guides, fact sheets, analyses, and community education materials are regularly used by advocates, policymakers, the media, and others. Most of our publications and resource materials are posted on our website, www.nilc.org.

Coalition-Building

We have helped assemble several important coalitions to address complex welfare implementation issues, identify responses to policy and service gaps, and fight the exploitation of low-wage immigrant workers. We form strategic alliances with other national, state, and local immigrant rights advocates to develop joint policy agendas, advocacy strategies, and organizing campaigns.

“NILC not only helped me become a national spokesperson and visit my congressional representatives, but also publicized my case through their website, which led to more than 5,000 people writing letters on my behalf.”

— Marie González, immigrant university student

Be a Supporter

Our work is made possible by grants from private foundations and government agencies, as well as individual donations. Become a NILC supporter by making a tax-deductible donation now. Please send your check to:



National Immigration Law Center
3435 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2850
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Visit www.nilc.org to donate online.
For more info send an email to info@nilc.org