



Catholic Legal Immigration Network 2021 Advocacy Priorities

CLINIC's Advocacy Priorities serve as a guide for CLINIC's work at the local, state, and federal levels to create law, policy, and systems that ensure the rights and dignity of immigrants. CLINIC's advocacy work is pulled from the expertise of in-house staff, our network of more than 400 nonprofit immigrant legal services providers — who are serving hundreds of thousands of immigrants on any given days — and advocacy partners. Every aspect of our advocacy work is guided by Catholic social teaching and following the lead of impacted communities.

1. **Access to Counsel/Recognition and Accreditation:** CLINIC advocates for access to counsel for low-income immigrants through a robust Recognition and Accreditation program.
2. **Access to Immigration Benefits/Protections for Low-Income Immigrants:** CLINIC advocates for a U.S. immigration system where life-saving protections and benefits are available to all, not just the wealthy.
3. **Asylum Access:** CLINIC advocates for access to asylum with particular focus on access for particular social groups, including those fleeing family-based and gang violence.
4. **DACA Protections:** CLINIC advocates for a regulatory structure and policy at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, or USCIS, that promotes access to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program.
5. **Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Program:** CLINIC advocates for a successful implementation of the Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness, or LRIF, program, which ensures that the maximum number of potentially eligible Liberians apply and receive green cards/citizenship.
6. **Naturalization Access:** CLINIC advocates to ensure that naturalization is accessible to vulnerable populations including low-income immigrants and immigrants with disabilities.
7. **Protection for Immigrant Survivors of Violence:** CLINIC advocates at the local, state, and federal level for laws and policies that prioritize protecting immigrant survivors of violence and minimizing re-traumatization in the immigration and criminal legal systems.

8. **Religious Workers Program:** CLINIC advocates for an accessible religious workers program in service to ensure the spiritual needs of American communities are met.
9. **Supporting Immigrant Family Unity:** CLINIC advocates for programs and policies that keep families together.
10. **Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure:** CLINIC advocates for the bold and broad use of Temporary Protected Status, or TPS, and Deferred Enforced Departure, or DED, to further domestic and foreign policy interests. CLINIC also advocates to ensure that implementation of TPS and DED decisions provide access to those these blanket protections are intended to benefit.
11. **White House Task Force on Black Immigrants:** CLINIC advocates for the creation of a dedicated White House Task Force to address systemic anti-Black racism in the U.S. immigration system.