Catholic Legal Immigration Network
2022 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 day — 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/Department of Justice Recognition and Accreditation of Non-Attorney Representatives**: CLINIC advocates for access to affordable 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 special focus on access for particular social groups, including those fleeing family-based and gang violence.

4. **Challenging Racism in the Immigration System**: CLINIC actively supports and partners with Black-led immigrant advocacy organizations and other partners in strategies to address racism in the immigration system.

5. **Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Program**: CLINIC advocates for a successful implementation of the LRIF program which ensures that the maximum number of potentially eligible Liberians apply and receive green cards/citizenship.

6. **Naturalization Access and Integration**: CLINIC advocates to ensure that naturalization is accessible to vulnerable populations, including low-income immigrants and immigrants with disabilities. CLINIC promotes immigrant integration in state and local policy, particularly ensuring that low-income immigrants are affirmatively included in those efforts.
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. **Rapid Response and Special Projects:** In 2022, CLINIC will respond to emerging advocacy issues in support of our affiliate network.

9. **Religious Workers Program:** CLINIC advocates for an accessible religious workers program to ensure that religious workers are able to fulfill their callings and so that the social services and spiritual needs of American communities are met.

10. **Supporting Immigrant Family Unity:** CLINIC advocates for programs and policies that keep families together.

11. **Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure:** CLINIC advocates for the bold and broad use of TPS and DED to further domestic and foreign policy interests. CLINIC also advocates to ensure that implementation of TPS and DED decisions provide access to all who these blanket protections are intended to benefit.