**Registration**
All attendees must collect their materials in Indigo.

**Daily Liturgy**
Mass will be celebrated Thursday and Friday from 7-7:30 a.m. in Sonoran. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Materials**
Materials can be downloaded at cliniclegal.org/convening/materials.

**Lunch**
Lunch will be provided on Thursday and Friday in the Grand Pavilion.

**Tweet and win!**
Tweet about Convening by the Awards Lunch on Friday with #ConveneAZ. Follow us at @ cliniclegal. Our favorite tweet will win a prize!

**Internet**
Complimentary Wi-Fi will be available in guest rooms, meeting rooms and the lobby. To access Wi-Fi in the guest rooms, connect to the network “GUEST” and it should connect automatically. If prompted, enter your room number and last name.

To access Wi-Fi in meeting rooms, connect to the network with the username “CLINIC” and use “C2018” as the password.

**Evaluation**
We want to hear about your experience at Convening and how we can best assist you. Please complete an evaluation at cliniclegal.org/convening/eval. Submit your feedback by June 15 and your name will be entered in a drawing to win a free 2019 Convening registration. Convening 2019 will be May 29-31 in Pittsburgh.

**Transportation Options**
Taxi and ride-sharing services are available for travel around Tucson. Prices range from $30-$50 for the 30-minute drive between the airport and the hotel. The Tucson Stagecoach Express Shuttle provides airport shuttle services. Use the code "CLINIC" at stagecoachexpressshuttle.com for a discounted $20 rate. If you would like a private sedan and driver, try diamondtransportation.com and use the discount code "CLINIC."

**Thursday Night Shuttle**
CLINIC will provide complimentary shuttle buses for attendees to and from downtown Tucson on Thursday evening. The first two buses will load at the hotel main entrance at 5:30 p.m. and the second two buses at 6 p.m. Buses will leave downtown to return to the hotel at 8 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. The drop-off and pick-up location in downtown Tucson is North Toole Avenue between the rear deck entrance of the Congress Hotel and the Amtrak station. All CLINIC shuttle buses will say “Mountain View Tour Buses” and will have the Convening logo in the window.

**Dietary Restrictions**
If you indicated a dietary restriction during registration, you will find two tickets in your name badge holder. Present a ticket to your server during the anniversary and awards lunches to receive the correct meal. Vegetarians will not need tickets.

The Statue of Liberty has long greeted immigrants, whether in person at Ellis Island or in spirit across the country.
**Open Door General Skills Development**  
**WEDNESDAY | 9:30 A.M.-3:15 P.M. | MURPHEY I-III**  
Open to all, these skills sessions cover everything from fundraising to client interviews. Learn more on page nine.

**LawLogix by Hyland Edge Power User Training**  
**WEDNESDAY | 8:30 A.M.-3 P.M. | CANYON II AND IV**  
The LawLogix Edge immigration case management certification covers new techniques on the cutting edge system. Lunch will be provided to those who pre-registered.

**Catholic Charities USA Immigrant & Refugee Community of Practice Meeting**  
**WEDNESDAY | 2:30-4:30 P.M. | FINGER ROCK I-III**  
CCUSA invites staff and volunteers who work at Catholic Charities agencies to a meeting of the Immigration and Refugee Services National Impact Community of Practice.

**Department of State CEAC Demonstration**  
**WEDNESDAY | 3:30-4:30 P.M. | VERBENA**  
The National Visa Center will review the Department of State’s newly modernized Consular Electronic Application Center system. First previewed at Convening 2016, the system has undergone changes that will affect visas that are processed in Ciudad Juárez. NVC will demonstrate the new modules, provide an overview of its benefits, and take questions and feedback.

**Opening Reception**  
**WEDNESDAY | 6:30-8:30 P.M. | GRAND PAVILION**  
Join us for live Latin music and great food as we wish CLINIC’s Jack Holmgren a happy retirement and thank him for 26 years of service.

**Roundtable Breakfast: CIS Ombudsman Listening Session**  
**THURSDAY | 7:30-8:10 A.M. | LANTANA**  
Join CLINIC’s advocacy team and representatives from the CIS Ombudsman Office for an interactive session on the services they offer. Participants will leave with tools on how to seek assistance on specific cases. Includes breakfast.

**Break Bread with RIS!**  
**THURSDAY | 7:30-8:10 A.M. | COTTONWOOD**  
Join the RIS attorneys for a healthy breakfast and a little shop talk on all your favorite religious worker immigration issues! Classics like “why is my case taking so long?” and “my visa expired, is that bad?” Includes breakfast.

**30th Anniversary Lunch**  
**THURSDAY | 11:45 A.M.-1:30 P.M. | GRAND PAVILION**  
Join us for lunch as we celebrate CLINIC’s 30th anniversary! See page 25.

**Meet Your Field Support Coordinator Happy Hour**  
**THURSDAY | 5:30-6:30 P.M. | COTTONWOOD**  
CLINIC field support coordinators look forward to meeting with affiliate staff over drinks at this happy hour. A cash bar will be available.

**Roundtable Breakfast: Immigration Services Scams: Empowering Clients to Protect Themselves and their Families from Fraud**  
**FRIDAY | 7:30-8:10 A.M. | LANTANA**  
Immigrants are often targeted by fraudulent legal services providers. During this roundtable, attorneys and program administrators will discuss how to educate the public about the dangers of immigration services scams, and provide tools to empower and assist victims to report fraud and pursue justice. Includes breakfast.

**Awards Lunch**  
**FRIDAY | 11:45-1:30 P.M. | GRAND PAVILION**  
CLINIC will close Convening by celebrating all of our affiliates at our annual awards lunch.

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Immigration has always been a powerful force in America’s development.
FIVE THINGS TO DO IN TUCSON

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum
WWW.DESERTMUSEUM.ORG
Explore the Sonoran Desert through the museum's 97 acres of walking paths, featuring more than 1,200 native plant species and 230 varieties of wildlife.

Sabino Canyon Tours
WWW.SABINOCANYON.COM
Sabino Canyon is a natural desert oasis located in Tucson’s Coronado National Forest and is home to spectacular desert landscapes and abundant wildlife.

San Xavier Mission
WWW.SANXAVIERMISSION.ORG
A National Historic Landmark, San Xavier Mission was founded as a Catholic mission in 1692. Still an active parish on the Tohono O’odham reservation, the church’s interior is filled with original statuary and recently restored murals.

Enjoy an Eegees
WWW.EEGEES.COM
When Tucsonans move away, their first stop when they come back is to get an Eegee’s Italian ice. Find out the local secret to surviving 110 degree heat, deliciously!

Historic Bike Tour
WWW.TUCSONBIKETOURS.COM
For a great outdoors experience, schedule a beautiful bike ride through downtown Tucson. You will ride along a river trail, pedal past artists’ cooperatives and check out all the interesting neighborhoods.

EXHIBIT HALL

This year’s exhibitors include:

CLINIC
Consulate of Mexico in Tucson
Consulate of El Salvador in Tucson
LawLogix by Hyland
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services

Consulate of Honduras in Phoenix

National Catholic Reporter
Santa Rita Abbey
UNITE HERE/Fair Hotel
USCIS

Visit them all in the Arizona Foyer. Don't forget to fill out your exhibitor card to win a prize! The winner will be announced at the Awards Lunch on Friday.

Wednesday: Noon-4:30 p.m.
Thursday: 8 a.m.-Noon, 2-6 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m.-Noon, 2-4 p.m.
PREMIUM WORKSHOP

ICE Detention: What You Need to Know to Safeguard Due Process for Detained Clients

WEDNESDAY | 8:15 A.M.-3:30 P.M. | GRAND I-II

Representing immigrants in detention centers comes with a unique set of challenges. As the government expands the use of these facilities across the country, we must get serious about how we strategically fight not only our clients’ cases, but the challenges associated with their detention. This interactive training will test and strengthen your client advocacy skills.

Your CLINIC experts are:
Bradley Jenkins, Michelle Mendez, Rachel Naggar, Victoria Neilson and Rebecca Scholtz

AGENDA:
8:15-8:30 a.m. Welcome
8:30-10 a.m. Overview of Detention Authority
10-10:15 a.m. Break
10:15-11:45 a.m. Strategies for Release from Detention
11:45-1 p.m. Lunch (Sonoran)
12:45-2 p.m. ICE Detention Overview and Working with Detained Clients
2-3:15 p.m. Bond Hearings in Small Groups
3:15-3:30 p.m. Final remarks

This workshop requires pre-registration.

The State Bar of Arizona does not approve or accredit CLE activities for the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education requirement. This training may qualify for up to 5 hours toward your annual CLE requirement for the State Bar of Arizona, including 1 hour of professional responsibility. See page 15.

OPEN DOOR WORKSHOPS

General Skills Development

WEDNESDAY | 9:30 A.M.-3:15 P.M. | MURPHEY I-III

The foundational skills presented in these one-hour sessions are accessible at every level, whether you are an immigration advocate, legal services staff member or a volunteer. Drop in whenever you have time or attend all four!

9:30-10:30 a.m.

Essential Immigration Practice Skills: Legal Research and Client Interviews

What is the best approach to interviewing new clients? How do you find the answer to that tricky legal question? The presenters will discuss the fundamentals of conducting legal research and techniques for successful client interviews. We will practice with specific legal questions.
Sarah Bronstein | CLINIC
Martin Gauto | CLINIC

10:45-11:45 a.m.
Is Full Accreditation for You?

Are you a partially accredited representative who wants to expand your work to include representing clients in immigration court? Join us for a discussion about the requirements for full accreditation and how CLINIC can help you obtain the training you need to advocate in the courtroom.
Laura Burdick | CLINIC
Susan Schreiber | CLINIC

1-2 p.m.

Social Media Boot Camp

Take your defense of the American Dream online! Through an interactive discussion, learn how to promote your services, as well as identify and share accurate information with the public.
LaRia Land | CLINIC
Nathaly Perez | CLINIC

2:15-3:15 p.m.

Engaging Your Board in Your Fundraising Plan

Who knows your organization better than the board of directors? Don’t ignore this valuable resource! Learn how to work with your board leaders to raise money in ways that go beyond writing a check themselves.
Jackie Thomas-Suggs | CLINIC
Sr. Sally Duffy | Sisters of Charity
Border policy is an important piece of the national immigration conversation. More than ever, it is crucial that we advocate for just border policies and work to protect the most vulnerable immigrants among us.

For our opening plenary session, Father Sean Carroll, Executive Director of the Kino Border Initiative, will speak about the realities of immigration in the border region and local responses to immigration and border policies over the years.

Jeanne Atkinson
Executive Director, CLINIC

Jeanne Atkinson has led CLINIC since 2013. Prior to joining CLINIC, she served as the Director of Catholic Charities’ Immigration Legal Services program and the Refugee Center for the Archdiocese of Washington. Atkinson speaks nationally and works with local, national and international partners to protect the rights of immigrants and to ensure the smooth implementation of immigration legal programs. She has participated in delegations to southern Mexico, Central America and Haiti. During her tenure with CLINIC, she has overseen the development of the CARA Family Detention Pro Bono Representation Project, the Committee for Immigration Reform Implementation, the Defending Vulnerable Populations Project and the CLINIC Fellows program.

Jesuit Father Sean Carroll
Executive Director, Kino Border Initiative

Father Sean Carroll has been the executive director of the Kino Border Initiative since 2009. The Kino Border Initiative promotes US/Mexico border and immigration policies that affirm the dignity of all people. The organization provides humanitarian aid to migrants in the border region, educates pastoral and community leaders in the United States and Mexico and participates in local and national advocacy campaigns for humane border and immigration policies.

Prior to KBI, Father Carroll helped coordinate pastoral ministries for 12 Jesuit parishes in the California Province, while serving as associate pastor at the historic Dolores Mission Church. A native of South Weymouth, Massachusetts, Father Carroll graduated from Stanford University with a bachelor’s degree in history before entering the Society of Jesus in 1989. He was ordained in 2000.
Arriving as affiliates, leaving as friends

It’s difficult to imagine, as you walk from one end of this sprawling desert resort to another, that CLINIC’s annual Convening started as a modest legal training with 50 participants. Former CLINIC executive director Don Kerwin planned the first gathering after the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 became law. The goal was to bring CLINIC affiliates together from around the country to learn from each other and hone their legal skills. The event was small, but successful. So in New Orleans in 1998, the CLINIC Convening was born.

The following year, the CLINIC network gathered in San Diego for a much more traditional conference. That two-day gathering, focused on family reunification, offered two plenaries, 20 workshops and the celebratory awards lunch we all know and love. Notably, the last day featured a mock trial led by the inimitable Jack Holmgren.

Those first Convenings were an exciting time for “CLINICians” (as CLINIC staff are sometimes called) and affiliates alike. It was clear the annual conferences filled a void in the field of charitable immigration legal service providers by providing the means to build a community and advance its mission.

By the time the conference was first held in Tucson in 2007, Convening had expanded to reflect the growth of the CLINIC network. It offered more workshops on a wider variety of issues, including public policy, faith expression and media outreach. In addition to affiliate staff, attendees now included employees of other non-profit agencies and private attorneys. Then, as now, there were concerns over the militarization of the border and discussions on alternative approaches to security.

While the political environment of immigration legal work has constantly changed over the years, the CLINIC network continues to rise to the challenge. Convening 2018 may look very different from the early ones, but it continues to deliver timely, high quality trainings. After two decades, Kerwin’s vision to bring affiliates together has become an established summit where legal practitioners share their accomplishments and collectively strategize ways to advocate for our immigrant brothers and sisters.
Fundamentals of Immigration Law

Workshops designed to give new practitioners a strong foundation in immigration law – recommended for those who are just getting started.

Participants who attend all eight sessions in the fundamentals track will complete CLINIC’s Introduction to Immigration Law Practice: A Course for New Practitioners. This fulfills the Department of Justice’s formal overview training requirement, the first step towards partial accreditation. We encourage experienced practitioners to explore other tracks, so that new practitioners can focus on the basics.

Advanced Immigration Law

Workshops that delve deep into complex immigration law topics – recommended for experienced practitioners.

Selected Issues in Immigration Law

Workshops that provide an understanding of hot topics in immigration law – recommended for new and experienced practitioners alike.

Community Outreach and Advocacy

Workshops that explore advocacy strategies to protect and defend immigrants – recommended for legal and non-legal advocates.

Program Management

Workshops that address program best practices to serve immigrant communities – recommended for nonprofit staff.

TRACKS AND CLE

The State Bar of Arizona does not approve or accredit CLE activities for the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education requirement. Workshops on Thursday and Friday may qualify for up to 12 hours toward your annual CLE requirement for the State Bar of Arizona, including 1.5 hours of professional responsibility.

CLINIC will provide attorneys with a certificate indicating the number of CLE qualifying credits you may apply for through your own state bar.

All attorney attendees who request CLE credits must record their attendance on CLINIC’s website at cliniclegal.org/convening/submit. Unique codes will be announced at the end of each legal session. Attorneys who do not submit attendance codes on the CLINIC website by June 15 will not receive certificates. If you have any questions about applying for CLE credit, please speak to a CLINIC staff member in the registration room.

Workshops that may qualify for CLE are marked with ★.
**Basics of Asylum Law**

**CANYON I AND III ★**

What are you waiting for? Asylum seekers need you! Join us for an overview of asylum, including a discussion of the history of asylum law, its international origins, concepts of past persecution and well-founded fear, the five protected grounds and establishing a nexus to these grounds, and a look at humanitarian asylum. We will also discuss the one-year filing deadline and bars to asylum.

**Reena Arya**
**CLINIC**

**Victoria Neilson**
**CLINIC**

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**Adjustment of Status and Family Reunification for Refugees and Asylees**

**GRAND I-II ★**

Asylees and refugees have specific adjustment of status provisions and mechanisms for petitioning for spouses and children. In this workshop, panelists will discuss the particular rules for adjustment of status, along with inadmissibility waiver provisions. Panelists will also cover asylee and refugee relative petitions.

**Sarah Bronstein**
**CLINIC**

**Kristina Karpinski**
**CLINIC**

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**Introduction to Immigration Law and Family-Based Immigration**

**CANYON IV ★**

This workshop reinforces introductory concepts in immigration law, including an overview of the immigration system and paths to permanent residence. We will review immigration through a family relationship, either as an immediate relative or through the family preference system. Presenters will cover the I-130 relative petitioning process and how to read and apply the Visa Bulletin.

**Ilissa Mira**
**CLINIC**

**Jen Riddle**
**CLINIC**

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**Top Ten Challenges for Immigration Program Directors**

**FINGER ROCK I-III**

In this interactive workshop, you’ll tackle common challenges faced by directors of charitable immigration legal services programs. Participants will work together to consider possible solutions to hypothetical scenarios and hear from seasoned CLINIC staff on how to make use of best practices from the field.

**Jeff Chenoweth**
**CLINIC**

**Shaila Rahman**
**CLINIC**

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**Immigration Consequences of Controlled Substance Offenses**

**MURPHEY I-III ★**

How can a controlled substance arrest affect my client? What if my client was arrested, but never convicted? In this workshop, we’ll address the immigration consequences surrounding controlled substances, including the different grounds of inadmissibility and deportability, and how to handle a case involving a controlled substance arrest.

**Bradley Jenkins**
**CLINIC**

**Rachel Naggar**
**CLINIC**
THURSDAY WORKSHOPS

Catholic Call to Action
Michelle Sardone
CLINIC
Jim Kuh
Catholic Charities
USA

FINGER ROCK I-III
Catholics are called to “welcome the stranger” now more than ever. Parishes, dioceses and Catholic Charities agencies are answering that call in new and innovative ways. Come hear about different initiatives within the Catholic Church aimed at creating a welcoming culture, and how to get your community connected.

Changes to Adjustment of Status Procedures and Trends in Adjudication
Margaret Gleason
CIS Ombudsman Office
Kristina Karpinski
CLINIC
Charles Wheeler
CLINIC

CANYON I AND III ★
Last year, USCIS issued new editions of the I-485 adjustment of status and I-485A supplement forms. The new forms include additional questions on eligibility and admissibility, plus lengthier declarations from applicants, interpreters and preparers. Join us to discuss these changes and trends.

Don’t Lose Hope after Setbacks: Problem Solving in Immigration Case Work
Allison Posner
CIS Ombudsman Office
Karen Sullivan
CLINIC
Conn Schrader
National Visa Center

MURPHEY I-III ★
Is your case taking too long to be adjudicated? Have you called to check its status, but not heard back? This panel will discuss escalation in case processing, customer service tools and what to do when your client’s case encounters roadblocks. Learn about case advocacy options from this panel of experts from government agencies, as well as CLINIC’s updated resources to help get your problem cases back on track.

How Can Arrests Affect Your Client’s Immigration Case?
Rachel Naggar
CLINIC
Rebecca Scholtz
CLINIC

GRAND I-II ★
Whether your client is seeking lawful permanent residence, renewing Temporary Protected Status or applying for citizenship, an arrest can affect the case. We will discuss the criminal grounds of inadmissibility and deportability, the criminal bars to different immigration applications, and how to handle a case when the client has an arrest record.

Religious Formation and Religious Form-Action! Immigration Forms Made Easy
Kate Adams
CLINIC
Miguel Naranjo
CLINIC
Minyoung Ohm
CLINIC

VERBENA ★
Join RIS attorneys as they review the most common immigration forms used in religious worker immigration law and discuss legal strategies on addressing questions on immigration forms. They will also look at current trends in religious worker immigration law, including R-1 visas and permanent residence.

Inadmissibility and Deportability Concepts and Selected Grounds of Inadmissibility
Sarah Bronstein
CLINIC
Martin Gauto
CLINIC

CANYON IV ★
Get an overview of the concepts of inadmissibility and deportability, including when they apply and to whom; and what it means to be inadmissible or deportable. The presenters will also discuss the common grounds of inadmissibility, including those related to health, crimes, immigration violations, smuggling, fraud and misrepresentation, and false claims to citizenship.

CLASSROOMS AND ROOMS

CANYON IV

Get an overview of the concepts of inadmissibility and deportability, including when they apply and to whom; and what it means to be inadmissible or deportable. The presenters will also discuss the common grounds of inadmissibility, including those related to health, crimes, immigration violations, smuggling, fraud and misrepresentation, and false claims to citizenship.
Representing Clients Along the Border

Bradley Jenkins
CLINIC
Michelle Mendez
CLINIC
Nora Phillips
Al Otro Lado

All About Adjustment of Status

Kristina Karpinski
CLINIC
Ilissa Mira
CLINIC

State and Local Defenses amid Changes in Federal Immigration Policies

Christy Williams
CLINIC
Amelia McGowan
Catholic Charities of Jackson, Mississippi
Glenn Tebbe
Indiana Catholic Conference

In Your Backyard: How to Grow Immigrant Integration in Your Community

Benjamin Brokaw
CLINIC
Leya Speasmaker
CLINIC

U Nonimmigrant Status: Approaches to Problem Scenarios

Sarah Bronstein
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Susan Schreiber
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### THURSDAY WORKSHOPS

**3:30-5 P.M.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Are You Struggling to Understand Smuggling?</strong></td>
<td>CANYON I AND III</td>
<td>Kristina Karpinski, Charles Wheeler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Consular Processing, the Affidavit of Support and Waivers of Inadmissibility</strong></td>
<td>CANYON IV</td>
<td>Co-hosted by Kristina Karpinski and Charles Wheeler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adding Federal Litigation to Your Tool Chest</strong></td>
<td>MURPHEY I-III</td>
<td>Melissa Crow, Law Office of Melissa Crow, Bradley Jenkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good Moral Character in Naturalization Cases: Can This Case Be Filed?</strong></td>
<td>GRAND I AND II</td>
<td>Sarah Bronstein, Susan Schreiber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Communications Strategies for National-Level Advocacy</strong></td>
<td>FINGER ROCK I-III</td>
<td>Lisa Parisio, Lynn Tramonte, Rachel Gumpert, M. Lucero Ortiz, CARECEN – DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>To B1/B2 or Not B1/B2? That is the Question! Immigration Options for Religious Workers</strong></td>
<td>VERBENA</td>
<td>Nicole Bonjean, Megan Turngren</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Are You Struggling to Understand Smuggling?**

What does it mean to assist someone to enter the United States unlawfully? When does this trigger inadmissibility or deportability, serve as a bar to good moral character, or expose someone to criminal charges, even when unaccompanied minors seek to reunify with their parents? This workshop discusses what may constitute smuggling and the possible immigration consequences in today’s climate, in order to screen and advise clients.

**Consular Processing, the Affidavit of Support and Waivers of Inadmissibility**

This workshop covers the path to lawful permanent residence through consular processing and related issues. Presenters will discuss the process at the National Visa Center for obtaining an immigrant visa at a U.S. consulate abroad and review the affidavit of support requirements and waivers of inadmissibility eligibility.

**Adding Federal Litigation to Your Tool Chest**

Have a naturalization case that is STILL pending? Tired of explaining that there is nothing more you can do to move that petition along? Has your client served his criminal sentence but is still in detention on an “immigration hold?” Learn how you can use the federal courts to remedy unlawful delays, overturn improper denials and protect your client’s rights.

**Good Moral Character in Naturalization Cases: Can This Case Be Filed?**

Should you file your client’s naturalization application if she had a DUI four years ago? What if she mistakenly registered to vote, or has a three-year-old misdemeanor theft conviction? Circumstances like these can affect the assessment of good moral character. This workshop will address how good moral character is defined by law and policy, and what factors to consider as you counsel your clients about whether to pursue naturalization.

**Communications Strategies for National-Level Advocacy**

Organizations of all sizes must take a public stand against anti-immigrant rhetoric and policies. Using the lens of the national Temporary Protected Status and DACA campaigns, this workshop will explore how to produce effective communications for immigration advocacy. Topics will include the role of media, lessons on messaging and best practices going forward.

**To B1/B2 or Not B1/B2? That is the Question! Immigration Options for Religious Workers**

Join RIS attorneys on a fun-filled journey through the (Sonoran) desert as they discuss and examine immigration options for religious workers. Topics include the visa waiver program, B1/B2 tourist visas, F1 student visas and the fan favorite, R-1 religious worker visa. What an excellent adventure it will be!
THURSDAY LUNCH PLENARY

30 YEARS OF DEFENDING THE AMERICAN DREAM

11:45 A.M.-1:30 P.M. | GRAND PAVILION

As we celebrate CLINIC's first 30 years, we've asked some of our esteemed veterans to highlight some of our historic challenges and successes. Join us as they put this history into context with the current environment for immigration interests.

Donald Kerwin, executive director of the Center for Migration Studies, and Sacramento Bishop Jaime Soto have collectively been involved with CLINIC over most of its history, in two very different roles. Kerwin served as CLINIC's executive director for 11 years, overseeing the organization from a modest network to the largest of its kind in the United States. Bishop Soto has been active on CLINIC's Board of Directors for 14 years, serving as chairman of the board from 2008-2010.

Both men have seen CLINIC grow and respond to the needs of the immigrant communities and those who serve them. We are honored to welcome them to celebrate CLINIC's journey.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Donald Kerwin
Executive Director, Center for Migration Studies of New York

Donald Kerwin was CLINIC's longest-serving executive director. After arriving at CLINIC in 1992 to coordinate a political asylum project for Haitians, he served as executive director from 1997 through 2008. He returned to serve as interim director for six months in 2012-2013. Since 2011 Kerwin has been executive director of the Center for Migration Studies of New York. He oversees the think tank and educational institutes’s study of international migration and its efforts to promote understanding of immigrants.

Kerwin also has served as an associate fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center; as a non-resident senior fellow at the Migration Policy Institute; on the American Bar Association's Commission on Immigration; and on the Council on Foreign Relations' Immigration Task Force.

Most Reverend Jaime Soto
Bishop of the Diocese of Sacramento

Bishop Jaime Soto is a California native and the eldest of seven siblings in a Mexican-American family. He earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy at St. John's Seminary College in 1978 and completed a master’s in divinity the same year he was ordained, 1982.

After serving at a Santa Ana parish for two years, he went on to Columbia University for a master’s in social work, setting the stage for his next post: associate director of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Orange. He quickly became director of the agency's Immigration and Citizenship Services.

Then-Msgr. Soto was named auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Orange in 2000. In 2007, he was named coadjutor bishop of Sacramento. He assumed leadership of the diocese in 2008.
The existence of CLINIC might just have been inevitable. That’s not to downplay the visionary concept of a network of nonprofit immigration legal services agencies. Nor does calling it “inevitable” give short shrift to the creativity and dedication of CLINIC’s early leaders—both among affiliates and at the national level—in seeing a need and creating a response.

But Catholic organizations in the United States have been involved in helping immigrants in their new home since Catholics arrived here among the earliest settlers. The Dominican, Jesuit and Franciscan missionaries who came to the New World in search of converts also saw their mission as ministering to other new arrivals. There is a steady line through American history of the universities, hospitals, parish schools, social services and legal aid agencies that were created by the Catholic Church to serve immigrants and their children.

The late 1980s were a time of dramatic changes in U.S. immigration laws. Flows of undocumented immigrants into the United States surged in the 1980s, fueled in part by civil wars in Latin America. The 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act created new sanctions for hiring undocumented immigrants and increased border enforcement. But the law also made it possible for 2.7 million people to obtain permanent resident status. That system was limited.

In 1987, a pilot project took on the question of how to expand legal services at the level of dioceses. The Archdioceses of New York and Newark, and other dioceses in New York state and New Jersey, tested the concept. A 1988 report co-authored by then-Msgr. Nicholas DiMarzio, head of Migration and Refugee Services, “Providing Legal Services to Newcomers: the Church Expands its Role,” laid out the objective of establishing a nationwide support network for diocesan agencies.

CLINIC was born.

It officially came into being when articles of incorporation for The Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc., were filed that same year. Through CLINIC’s earliest years, funding from the conference of bishops paid the salaries of CLINIC staff who worked in some of the first affiliates. That system evolved as the number of affiliates grew. Through successive immigration laws, court rulings and events such as the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001, CLINIC has adapted with the times, steadily growing and adjusting its programming to accommodate new legal twists.

Today CLINIC has grown into the vision outlined in those early proposals. The network now numbers about 330 organizations across the country. It’s evolved beyond a Catholic diocese-based system to include other faith-based agencies, non-denominational nonprofits and public libraries. Last year, more than 9,000 participants joined trainings on topics ranging from the basics of immigration law to the complexities of representing clients in detention.

At 30, CLINIC is, as ever, in the forefront of ensuring that all people have access to affordable immigration legal services. The struggles of the early immigrants to find a place in the New World are echoed in today’s challenges for the 11 million people who lack documentation, those with Temporary Protected Status or DACA that may soon expire and those who arrive at our borders daily in search of protection and better lives.

It is our place. We’re proud to continue the vision of CLINIC.
FRIDAY WORKSHOPS
8:15-9:45 A.M.

Overview of Humanitarian Relief

Reena Arya
CLINIC
Martin Gauto
CLINIC

CANYON IV ★

Identifying eligibility for humanitarian relief is more important than ever in this age of enhanced immigration enforcement. Does your program serve clients who were victims of domestic violence or persecution in their home country, who came to the United States as children or who are victims of crime? Presenters will cover a variety of humanitarian relief options.

While You Wait to Immigrate: Twists and Turns in Family-Based Immigration

Kristina Karpinski
CLINIC
Susan Schreiber
CLINIC

CANYON I AND III ★

Life marches on while a petition is pending and your client waits for a current priority date. How do events including age, marriage, divorce, death of the petitioner and failure to take timely action affect your client’s eligibility to immigrate? This workshop will review the twists and turns of life as they influence an individual’s eligibility to immigrate through a family-based petition.

Waivers of Inadmissibility

Margaret Gleason
CIS Ombudsman Office
Ilissa Mira
CLINIC
Charles Wheeler
CLINIC

GRAND I-II ★

This workshop covers the theory and practice of preparing successful waiver applications. Presenters will discuss how to identify possible hardship factors, create a theory of the case, gather supporting documentation and establish positive discretionary factors. They will also review agency guidance on extreme hardship.

Obtaining and Maintaining DOJ Recognition and Accreditation

Laura Burdick
CLINIC
Luis Guerra
CLINIC

FINGER ROCK I-III

A new rule for Department of Justice agency recognition and staff accreditation (DOJ R&A) took effect in 2017. Changes were made to the eligibility requirements and the documentation required for applications. Most organizations that currently have recognition will need to renew by 2020. We will provide an overview of the changes, talk about maintaining R&A and discuss requirements for extension of recognition to sub-offices.

Immigration Law and Policy Hot Topics

Jill Marie Bussey
CLINIC
Donald Kerwin
Center for Migration Studies of New York
Wendy Young
Kids in Need of Defense

MURPEY I-III ★

Immigration law and policy are changing rapidly under the Trump administration. This panel will offer an overview and analysis of proposals that may affect your program and community.

No one who comes to us seeking help is seen as a “problem to be solved” or merely as a “client.”

– Sister Donna Markham OP, PhD, President and CEO

Visit www.CatholicCharitiesUSA.org to learn more.
FRIDAY WORKSHOPS
10:15-11:45 A.M.

**Overview of Removal Proceedings: Court is Now In Session**

Sarah Bronstein
CLINIC
Susan Schreiber
CLINIC

**CANYON IV ★**

What happens in immigration court when a person seeks bond, appears at a master calendar hearing, or applies for relief from removal? If you haven’t been to an immigration court hearing, this workshop will help you understand the basic components of a removal hearing. We’ll review the process from the issuance of a Notice to Appear to how to seek relief from removal before an immigration judge.

**Keeping Your Cool: Community Outreach Events**

Michelle Sardone
CLINIC
Benjamin Brokaw
CLINIC

**FINGER ROCK I-III**

Have you avoided serving your community via workshops because you are unsure of what to expect? Learn how to prepare, organize and execute successful Know Your Rights, naturalization and screening events. We will practice responding to tough questions from the audience, surviving unexpected obstacles at your venue and tackling the unknown. Hear from experts about keeping your cool and serving the masses.

**Fraud and Misrepresentation**

Michelle Mendez
CLINIC
Charles Wheeler
CLINIC

**GRAND I-II ★**

The fraud ground is the second most common way for an applicant to be found inadmissible. We will define the term and illustrate the ways that it is likely to present itself. We will also cover defenses and eligibility for the waiver.

**New Developments in Asylum Law**

Reena Arya
CLINIC
Bradley Jenkins
CLINIC
Victoria Neilson
CLINIC

**CANYON I AND III ★**

When does family count as a particular social group? How do I prove that my asylum client’s government is unable or willing to protect her? How much corroboration is needed to win an asylum claim? Will the government bar my client’s asylum because they believe he is a persecutor? The answers to these questions, and more, are constantly changing. Join us for a discussion on the latest developments in asylum law.

**Options as TPS and DACA End**

Ilissa Mira
CLINIC
Jennifer Riddle
CLINIC

**MURPEHY I-III ★**

How do we counsel clients who are facing the expiration of their DACA or TPS? This workshop will discuss educating clients about the consequences they face, screening for other relief and helping clients make informed choices in light of enforcement risks. We will also cover strategies for DACA and TPS recipients to adjust status through family relationships.

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FRIDAY WORKSHOPS
1:30-3 P.M.

**U.S. Citizenship: Acquisition, Derivation and Naturalization**

Kristina Karpinski
CLINIC
Jennifer Riddle
CLINIC

**CANYON IV ★**

Get an overview of the main avenues to U.S. citizenship. We will discuss the requirements for acquiring U.S. citizenship at birth abroad and deriving citizenship from a parent after birth. Presenters will review the requirements for naturalization, including good moral character, continuous residence, physical presence, English language, civics requirements and exemptions.

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**Updates on the Travel Ban**

Bradley Jenkins
CLINIC
Kiyanoush Razaghi
CLINIC

**CANYON I AND III ★**

Under the Trump administration, many harsh policies have been implemented against immigrants, in particular those from certain Muslim-majority countries including Iran, Syria and Yemen. The travel ban is a new chapter in immigration law. We will discuss the executive orders that created the ban, the subsequent court rulings, along with the most recent developments and what you can do to help clients from the banned countries.

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**Potential Changes to Public Charge**

Susan Schreiber
CLINIC
Charles Wheeler
CLINIC

**GRAND I-II ★**

Plans are underway to change the interpretation of public charge. New guidance in the Foreign Affairs Manual and drafts of proposed USCIS regulations require adjudicators to consider other factors in addition to the I-864 affidavit of support. They could be required to consider the applicant’s age, work history, family size, health, prior receipt of benefits, and prospective income. Come hear more about these developments, what CLINIC is doing to respond, and how you can get involved.

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**It Takes a Village**

Luis Guerra
CLINIC
Jack Holmgren
CLINIC

**FINGER ROCK I-III**

Your agency is not alone in its mission to serve immigrants. Come learn about the new and exciting roles of libraries, labor unions and other community organizations in assisting immigrants. Hear about the challenges and opportunities of new groups applying for Department of Justice Recognition and Accreditation, and how to partner on community education, screening and legal services.

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**Motions to Reopen in Immigration Court**

Michelle Mendez
CLINIC
Rebecca Scholtz
CLINIC

**MURPHEY I-III ★**

Clients with removal orders face a high risk of detention and swift removal from the United States. However, removal orders issued by immigration judges may be reopened. Learn what it takes to reopen a removal order issued by an immigration judge.
**FIDEBES**

**FRIDAY WORKSHOPS**

**3:30-5 P.M.**

**Should I...? Ethical Considerations in Immigration Law Practice**

**CANYON IV ★**

Immigration practitioners often face thorny ethical issues, such as what to do if you discover your client has submitted a false document. Using case examples and hypothetical situations, the presenters will provide an overview of the rules of ethics and describe how they apply to accredited representatives.

**An Overview of Cancellation of Removal**

**CANYON I AND III ★**

Was your LPR client convicted of a crime and placed in removal proceedings? Was your undocumented client abused by an LPR or U.S. citizen spouse? Has your undocumented client lived in the United States for more than 10 years? Cancellation of removal is an immigration court remedy that could apply to your client. This workshop will review this important remedy in the new age of enforcement.

**Ask The Experts: One Last Chance to Figure it Out**

**GRAND I AND II ★**

It’s the last day of Convening and the last workshop session before you go home. Do you still have a legal question you just can’t figure out? Take advantage of the cumulative expertise of CLINIC presenters and Convening colleagues to discuss your case and see if you can leave with an answer.

**Perspectives on Border Life**

**FINGER ROCK I-III**

Join our diverse group of panelists for an exploration of what the word “border” means to different people. Leaving the simple legal definition behind, led by moderator and CLINIC board member Peg Harmon, we will look at the border as a place and an experience, sharing stories and discussing how historical and current immigration and security policies change these unique places around the world.

**Advocating for a brighter future for the most vulnerable in our society**
Each year, CLINIC presents a participating attorney or law firm with the Pro Bono Award for their outstanding commitment to CLINIC’s Board of Immigration Appeals Pro Bono Appeals Project.

CLINIC is delighted to recognize the law firm Jenner & Block this year for its full commitment to providing pro bono representation to immigrants in removal proceedings. We are grateful for the firm’s support and dedication to defending immigrants.

Most notably, we recognize the work of several Jenner & Block attorneys, including Danielle Nicholson, Irene Ten Cate and Michael Price. In 2017, Jenner & Block took three cases through the BIA Pro Bono Project and secured protection for an asylum seeker in each. In one case, Nicholson and Ten Cate won a case after petitioning the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to review the firm resettlement bar for a client who had been persecuted both in his home country, Somalia, and in his first country of refuge, South Africa. In other cases, Price continued to represent a client after winning an appeal before the BIA, ultimately securing him asylum, and obtained bond for a client who was facing threats of gang violence in his home country.

CLINIC manages the largest pro bono appeals project in the United States. We couldn’t do it without partners like Jenner & Block helping us meet the needs of countless immigrants who find themselves caught in the U.S. immigration system, many risking persecution or death if sent back to their home country. Thank you to the attorneys at Jenner & Block for remaining committed to defending immigrants and for supporting CLINIC. The BIA Pro Bono Appeals Project would not be possible without the contributions of volunteers such as you!

CLINIC is honored to recognize Juan Osuna with a posthumous CLINIC Champion award for his lifelong commitment to immigrant justice. Osuna, originally from Colombia, was caring, thoughtful, and generous. He dedicated his career to advocating for due process and access to justice.

Osuna’s career included 17 years at the Department of Justice. Before his tenure as director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review, he was chair of the Board of Immigration Appeals and Associate Deputy Attorney General. He fought tirelessly to expand legal protections for immigrants and ensure they were aware of their due process rights. He was a dedicated public servant who remained committed to his vision of justice for all.

CLINIC would not be the organization it is today if it were not for Osuna’s initiative and strong leadership. He was instrumental in expanding the number of recognized organizations and accredited staff and supported CLINIC’s endeavors as we built our network. He eagerly spoke at CLINIC events, including Convening, enhancing discussions with his open commentary on the realities of immigration policy.

Juan Osuna was a compassionate man who touched so many immigrants’ lives in his fight for justice. We honor him this year and will continue to honor him for years to come through our efforts to protect the rights of the most vulnerable among us.

His wife, Wendy Young, (who many of you know for her own immigrant advocacy work at Kids in Need of Defense) joins us to accept this award in his memory and to celebrate his life.
Humanitarian immigration policies allow the United States to show compassion to those in need. As these programs face scrutiny, advocates become essential. CLINIC would like to thank our affiliates and allies who have joined us in the effort to preserve Temporary Protected Status.

TPS allows certain immigrants to remain in the U.S. if, while they were here, something catastrophic happened in their home country that prevents their safe return. There are more than 320,000 TPS holders. Over the last year, the administration has announced decisions for several countries and it is preparing to decide on two more this year—Yemen and Somalia. Due to your diligent efforts, more communities are educated and more immigrants are seeking legal assistance.

As we continue championing security for TPS holders and their families, take a moment to reflect on what we accomplished together:

- We released reports highlighting the ongoing struggles of Haiti, Syria and Nepal and why continuing their TPS designations is mutually beneficial to the United States and those nations.
- More than 20 new resources have been collected on cliniclegal.org/tps, and shared thousands of times, including by governments of some of the affected TPS-designated countries.
- More than 80 organizations joined the national TPS Working Group, lending a strong voice to the national advocacy agenda.
- Thousands of people of faith have signed advocacy letters that were sent to federal officials.

Thank you for Defending Temporary Protected Status
Don’t fall victim to immigration fraud

cliniclegal.org/notario
Get flyers and information about preventing immigration fraud in your state, then learn where to get help.

Know your rights

cliniclegal.org/KYR
Find materials in nine languages about immigrant rights in the workplace, at school and when interacting with law enforcement.

Prepare for emergencies

cliniclegal.org/emergency-planning-for-immigrant-families
Visit for information about sensitive locations, emergency planning and state-specific family law resources.

Howdy Partner!

Partner with LawLogix, the exclusive immigration case management provider to CLINIC and its affiliates.

Visit www.lawlogix.com to Learn More
Selena Santiago, a legal advocate in Fall River, Massachusetts, who came to the job by way of AmeriCorps, is one of this year’s recipients of the Lily Gutierrez scholarship.

Gutierrez was a longtime CLINIC staffer and board member who dedicated her life to the service of immigrants. This year’s scholarships in her name enabled four people to attend Convening more affordably.

Santiago joined the Immigration Law Education and Advocacy Project at Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Fall River as a legal advocate in September 2016, as the result of a special partnership between the charity and a local legal advocacy program run by AmeriCorps.

Santiago said she was excited to begin to work on legal cases from immigrants. But she also was a bit anxious about using the skills she gained at the University of Massachusetts, where she earned degrees in legal studies and political science. Her apprehension was replaced quickly by the need to act. Waves of fear erupted in the Fall River immigrant community after the 2016 presidential election and there were only two full-time attorneys at her agency to address people’s legal worries. The experience tested those recently learned job skills.

“During my first term of service, I completed more than 450 intakes and assisted attorneys in our office on more than 100 cases while managing about 40 of my own,” said Santiago.

Since then, while sorting out policy changes and rhetorical attacks against immigrants, Santiago has strengthened her pledge to peers and clients. To keep up with the increasing demand at Catholic Social Services, she is helping expand community outreach. She is also aggressively networking in the legal community—including with AmeriCorps legal advocates for their insight on housing, health care and other areas of poverty law in Massachusetts—and she plans to take on more advanced trainings to become an accredited representative.

Santiago said the Lily Gutierrez Memorial Scholarship can help her accomplish all three. She said she expects that attending Convening will guide her in reaching low-income immigrants who are unaware of their eligibility for relief. She also expects to learn strategies for addressing difficult legal issues, such as the dangers of spreading false or outdated information.

“I am eager to expand my skill set to continue serving as many clients as possible, while also building capacity within my organization,” said Santiago.

The Lily Gutierrez Scholarship is made possible by donations to CLINIC. Your generous gift makes it possible for dedicated immigration legal services providers such as Selena Santiago to attend Convening.

To learn more, please visit the Lily Gutierrez Memorial Fund page at cliniclegal.org/lily-gutierrez-memorial-fund.
Defending migrants with faith and law books

CLINIC was founded in 1988 to support nonprofit immigration legal programs at a time of rapid growth. Reforms to U.S. law had given millions of undocumented immigrants a path to legal status, prompting a greater need for immigration legal services. The U.S. bishops established CLINIC with just a handful of Catholic agencies. Through three decades of ever-shifting laws, policies and enforcement approaches, CLINIC has steadily grown along with the demand for professional assistance in coping with all those changes. Our network of more than 330 affiliates now includes organizations sponsored by various faiths as well as non-religious community groups. Through it all, our core commitment to the Catholic values on which we were founded remains integral to our principles.

CLINIC’s mission to promote the dignity and protect the rights of immigrants is grounded in Catholic social teaching on migration. These teachings, stemming from Scripture, papal encyclicals, bishops’ statements and pastoral letters, call us to “treat the stranger as we would welcome Christ himself.” They say people have the right to migrate to support themselves and their families when they cannot support themselves in their homeland. They explain that although sovereign nations have the right to control their borders, those laws should be administered with respect for human dignity. They demand that refugees and asylum seekers be afforded protection.

CLINIC incorporates these lessons into its work by prioritizing causes like family reunification, humanitarian relief and workers’ rights. We train passionate legal practitioners to construct cases that place human dignity at their core. We create resources for parishes to become bridges between migrant communities and agencies that can offer legal guidance. Our Religious Immigration Service represents immigrant priests, sisters and lay workers, many of whom minister to other immigrants.

Our resources on Catholic social teaching, from prayer cards to discernment guides, fly off our exhibit tables. And CLINIC is often called upon to provide a faith-based perspective in advocacy matters and news that touches on the treatment of immigrants.

Among our most visible champions in these efforts are our board members, the majority of whom are bishops. They promote our work by penning op-eds, speaking at immigration events, and leading by example to welcome immigrants in their dioceses, workplaces and communities.

CLINIC is active in the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Justice for Immigrants campaign, in which we work closely with our Catholic partners.

The Catholic Church in the United States has always been an immigrant church, continuously welcoming and caring for new arrivals who are in search of the American dream. CLINIC is proud to be an extension of that commitment to the care of people from all backgrounds, faiths and traditions.
GUEST SPEAKERS

Diego Adame  
Community Organizer, Hope Border Institute

Father Sean Carroll, S.J.  
Executive Director, Kino Border Initiative

Melissa Crow  
Attorney, Law Office of Melissa Crow

Ryan Dinzeo  
Immigrant Visa Specialist, National Visa Center

Sister Sally Duffy, SC  
Sister of Charity of Cincinnati  
CLINIC Board Member

Jesse Evans-Schroeder  
Director of Immigration Law, The Law Offices of Matthew H. Green

Sarah Flagel  
Legal Supervisor, World Relief DuPage/Aurora

Margaret “Peggy” Gleason  
Senior Advisor, CIS Ombudsman’s Office

Rachel Gumpert  
National Press Secretary, UNITE HERE!

Marguerite “Peg” Harmon  
Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Community Services of Southern Arizona  
CLINIC Board Member

Donald Kerwin  
Executive Director, Center for Migration Studies of New York

Jim Kuh  
Senior Director, Immigration and Refugee Services, Catholic Charities USA

Amelia McGowan  
Program Director/Immigration Attorney, Catholic Charities, Jackson

M. Lucero Ortiz  
Director of Legal Services, CARECEN – DC

Nora Phillips  
Legal Director, Al Otro Lado

Guadalupe Perez  
Member Organizer, United Farm Workers Foundation

Marc Pinate  
Producing Director, Borderlands Theater

Allison Posner  
Chief of Casework, CIS Ombudsman Office

Margaret Regan  
Author, Journalist

Conn Schrader  
Director, National Visa Center

Most Reverend Jaime Soto  
Bishop of the Diocese of Sacramento  
CLINIC Board Member

Glenn Tebbe  
Executive Director, Indiana Catholic Conference

Lynn Tramont  
Deportation Defense Coordinator, America’s Voice

Andre Valotaire  
Minister Counsellor (Immigration), Embassy of Canada

Dr. Scott Wilson  
El Rio Community Health Center

Wendy Young  
President, Kids in Need of Defense

STAFF SPEAKERS

Kate Adams  
Staff Attorney, Religious Immigration Services

Reena Arya  
Senior Attorney, Training and Legal Support

Jeanne Atkinson  
Executive Director

Nicole Bonjean  
Staff Attorney, Religious Immigration Services

Benjamin Brokaw  
Project Coordinator Capacity Building

Sarah Bronstein  
Senior Attorney, Training and Legal Support

Laura Burdick  
Field Support Coordinator, Capacity Building

Jill Marie Bussey  
Director of Advocacy

Jeff Chenoweth  
Director of Capacity Building

Martin Gauto  
Senior Attorney, Training and Legal Support

Luis Guerra  
Strategic Capacity Officer, Advancement/Capacity Building

Jack Holmgren  
Strategic Capacity Advisor

Bradley Jenkins  
BIA Pro Bono Appeals Project Manager, Training and Legal Support

Kristina Karpinski  
Senior Attorney, Training and Legal Support

LaRia Land  
Communications Outreach Coordinator

Michelle Mendez  
Defending Vulnerable Populations Managing Attorney, Training and Legal Support

Ilissa Mira  
Staff Attorney, Training and Legal Support

Rachel Naggar  
Staff Attorney, Training and Legal Support

Miguel Naranjo  
Director of Religious and Immigration Services

Victoria Nielson  
Staff Attorney, Training and Legal Support

Minyoung Ohm  
Staff Attorney, Religious Immigration Services

Lisa Parisio  
Staff Attorney, Advocacy

Nathaly Perez  
Section Manager/Field Support Coordinator, Capacity Building

Shaila Rahman  
Field Support Coordinator, Capacity Building

Kiyanoush Razaghi  
Staff Attorney, Training and Legal Support

Jen Riddle  
Staff Attorney, Training and Legal Support

Michelle Sardone  
Director of Strategic Initiatives

Susan Schreiber  
Managing Attorney, Training and Legal Support

Rebecca Scholtz  
Staff Attorney, Training and Legal Support

Leya Speasemaker  
Integration Program Manager/Field Support Coordinator, Capacity Building

Karen Sullivan  
Staff Attorney, Advocacy

Jackie Thomas-Suggs  
Director of Advancement

Megan Turngren  
Staff Attorney, Religious Immigration Services

Charles Wheeler  
Director of Training and Legal Support

Christy Williams  
Staff Attorney, Advocacy
The heart of CLINIC

The year was 1988. Catholic nonprofits were responding to massive changes in immigration law by providing low-cost legal services. The newly created CLINIC began providing training and technical support to those first affiliates. The structure of a network of local nonprofit legal experts was unlike any other in the nation. It also was a key to CLINIC’s success and growth.

Nearly 20 years later, with the addition of Jewish Social Services of Madison, Wisconsin, we renewed this commitment by expanding our network to include non-Catholic organizations as subscribers.

Today, CLINIC’s network has grown to include more than 330 organizations across the United States. From large programs like Catholic Charities Community Services of New York, with about 100 employees, to smaller nonprofits like the four-staffer Apostle Immigration Services in New Haven, Connecticut, these programs work tirelessly to assist immigrants of any background to navigate the complex immigration system. Some of our affiliate leaders have even come from the immigrant communities they serve. For example, Aden Batar, a Somali-American, was once a refugee who settled in Utah. He now is the Immigration and Refugee Resettlement Director for Catholic Community Services of Utah in Salt Lake City.

CLINIC’s soon-to-retire strategic capacity advisor, Jack Holmgren, has worked with our network for 26 years. He describes the growth as "a local incarnation of charitable acts." Holmgren adds that CLINIC’s success is often because "most of the services our affiliates provide are done at a grassroots level."

"Our program benefits by participating in trainings and webinars, getting up-to-the-minute information on changing immigration laws and policies, and having access to experts and excellent resources from CLINIC," said Jacqueline Rishty, director of the Immigration Legal Services program at Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington. This program has been a CLINIC affiliate for 30 years.

Rishty added that any local nonprofit that offers legal services to immigrant communities would greatly benefit from joining CLINIC’s network because, according to her, "the resources, guidance, and support CLINIC has provided to our program have been invaluable."

Steven Lee, the director of Immigration and Refugee Services at Catholic Charities of Los Angeles said that he has recommended that other local nonprofits in the greater Los Angeles area join CLINIC’s network.

The network is a crucial part of CLINIC’s framework, and has been since the beginning. And while affiliates and CLINIC staff alike are proud of what we have become, there are always new ways to make an impact. The introduction of non-traditional organizations, such as libraries, has been one such step. CLINIC welcomed Hartford Public Library into the network in 2014. Since then, we have consulted with many other library systems on how to bring legal services to their communities.

CLINIC’s director of Capacity Building Jeff Chenoweth, believes that the network will continue to “grow more diverse.” And all the while CLINIC will continue to expand “to reach more vulnerable populations who are especially in need of finding affordable, quality legal immigration services.”
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Diocese of Austin

Diocese of Las Vegas

HOTEL MAP

LOBBY LEVEL

TERRACE LEVEL

MEZZANINE LEVEL