



Coalition Speaks!

The latest from the New York Immigration Coalition

United for Justice and Opportunity

Upcoming Events and Deadlines:

- **April 10th, 12:00 pm:** New Yorkers for Real Immigration Reform Rally! More info [HERE](#).
- **April 17th:** Education proposals are due. To learn more on how to apply for this funding opportunity - click [HERE](#).
- **April 23-27:** Multi-consular ID Event at Port Richmond, More info [HERE](#).
- **April 9, 9:00 am:** Media training - "Getting Out Your Message," and April 23, 9:00 am: Media training - "Mastering the On-Camera Interview." Sign up [HERE](#).

NYIC events - check out our [calendar!](#)

NYIC in recent media:

- [Two Years After Obama Program launched, NYC advocates reach deeper for young immigrants](#) | NY Daily News
- [NY Affordable Healthcare Latino Outreach Effort Questioned](#) | Public News Service
- [Program Already in Place Could Help Get Municipal IDs Going](#) | NY1
- [Univision coverage of NYC's Key to the City Initiative](#) | Univision

Read more media featuring the NYIC by visiting the news section on our website, [HERE](#).

NYIC is hiring!

- [Deputy Director](#)
- [Director of](#)



[Photo above] A packed auditorium in the Legislative Office Building in Albany on Wednesday, March 5th, 2014. Two hundred and fifty immigrants, community leaders, elected officials, and advocates gather to discuss NYIC's Immigrant Equality Agenda before heading to lobby visits with legislators.

We started off March with a bang in Albany and New York City. On March 3rd, we held a **legislative breakfast in New York City to announce our 2014 City Agenda**, hosted by Councilmember Carlos Manteca. A panel of experts, including advocates from the New York Immigration Coalition, the MinKwon Center for Community Action, and Make the Road NY (MRNY) spoke about our top City agenda items, including the importance of **implementing municipal IDs for all New York City residents and ensuring adequate resources for immigrant services such as ESL classes, legal services, and integration efforts.**



[Photos left] Advocates and City Council staff listen to presentation on NYIC's City Agenda. **[Photo center]** *left to right* Angela Fernandez of the Northern Manhattan Coalition for Immigrant Rights; Jacki Esposito, director of immigration advocacy at the NYIC; Daniel Coates of MRNY; Marika Dias of MRNY; Lucia Russetof Little Sisters of the Assumption; Christina Chang of MinKwon Center for Community Action. **[Photo right]** Councilmember Carlos Menchaca, Chair of the Committee on Immigration addresses audience.

On **March 5th**, two hundred and fifty immigrants, workers, DREAMers, family members, and supporters converged in Albany from across the state for the **Coalition's 17th Annual Immigrant Day of Action!** Assemblymembers Marcos Crespo, Ron Kim, Francisco P. Moya, Félix Ortiz, Luis Sepulveda and Senator José Peralta addressed our contingent, and advocates

[Civic Engagement](#)

- [Regional Coordinator - Long Island](#)
- [Legal Fellow \(unpaid\)](#)

Other Announcements

- [Apply TODAY](#) to join the [Civilian Emergency Response Corps \(CERC\)](#)! CERC volunteers deliver specialized services to New York immigrant and at-large communities still recovering from Superstorm Sandy, and to be on-call for recovery services in the event of future disasters in New York State.

representing over forty organizations met with key allies in the State Assembly and Senate to push forward our 2014 [Immigrant Equality Agenda](#), including pushing for the New York State DREAM Act, drivers' licenses for all and ensuring critical statewide resources for immigrant services.



[Photos left] Panelists including Mario Russell, senior attorney at Catholic Charities New York; SJ Jung, president of the MinKwon Center for Community Action; Judy Wessler, health advocate, former director of CPHS; Claire Sylvan, founding executive director of Internationals Network for Public Schools; and State Assemblymember Ron Kim discuss NYC's top priorities for 2014 in New York State. [Photo center] A packed auditorium of 250 advocates, immigrants, families, farmworkers, and DREAMers from across the state attend the morning plenary at the 17th Annual Immigrant Day of Action. [Photo right] NYC members attend lobby visits with legislators in Albany.

Immigration

- **Continuing the fight for immigration reform:** On March 14th, the NYC met with Senator Charles Schumer to discuss next steps for immigration reform in Congress. As part of our continuing efforts to lead our statewide *New Yorkers for Real Immigration Reform* campaign, we urged the Senator to keep up the pressure and to keep advocating on behalf of families in New York and across the nation who are in desperate need of fix to our broken immigration system!



[Photo above] left to right: SJ Jung, board president of MinKwon Center for Community Action; Steven Choi, executive director of the NYC; Laura Garcia, community organizing coordinator at Hudson Valley Community Coalition; Daniel Coates, lead organizer at Make the Road NY; Donna Schaper, senior minister, Judson Memorial Church; Ravi Rabir, Sanctuary for Families; Manuel Castro, campaign organizer at NYC with Senator Charles Schumer.

Join the New Yorkers for Real Immigration Reform Rally for Immigration Reform, April 10th! Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

<p>Demand fairness and equality for immigrants in New York and all across the nation.</p> <p>#A10NYC</p> <p>NEW YORKERS FOR REAL IMMIGRATION REFORM</p> <p>Foley Square April 10th, Thursday 12:00 p.m.</p> <p><small>Mobilization Committee: 300i (USA) • Acluar • Asian Student Services • Arab American Association of NY • Central Immigrant Services (NYC) • Jacob A. Fink Neighborhood Settlement • La Fianza • Latino Justice PULSE • Make the Road NY • MinKwon Center for Community Action • New York Immigration Coalition • The Asian Network</small></p> <p><small>Endorsing Organizations: Alliance of South Asian American Leaders • American Immigration Lawyers Association-NY Chapter • Asian American Bar Association of New York • Central American Legal Assistance • Chinese Progressive Association • Churches United to Serve and Heal • Civil Liberties for Immigrants • Greater New York Latino-Raigien Coalition • Hong Kong and China Support Center • Long Island Immigrant Alliance • New York State • New Sanctuary Coalition of NYC • New York Immigrant Community Empowerment • New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health • NY State Council on Immigration • OCCANY • Open Immigrant • Urban Neighborhood Houses of New York • Worker Action Center of New York • YWCA of Queens</small></p> <p>For more info, please contact advocacy@thenyc.org</p>	<p>Demande justicia e igualdad para los inmigrantes en Nueva York y en toda la nación</p> <p>#A10NYC</p> <p>NEOYORQUINOS POR LA REFORMA MIGRATORIA REAL</p> <p>Foley Square Jueves, 10 de abril 12:00 p.m.</p> <p><small>Comité de Movilización: 300i (USA) • Acluar • Asian Student Services • Arab American Association of NY • Central Immigrant Services (NYC) • Jacob A. Fink Neighborhood Settlement • La Fianza • Latino Justice PULSE • Make the Road NY • MinKwon Center for Community Action • New York Immigration Coalition • The Asian Network</small></p> <p><small>Organizaciones Respaldadas: Alliance of South Asian American Leaders • American Immigration Lawyers Association-NY Chapter • Asian American Bar Association of New York • Central American Legal Assistance • Chinese Progressive Association • Churches United to Serve and Heal • Civil Liberties for Immigrants • Greater New York Latino-Raigien Coalition • Hong Kong and China Support Center • Long Island Immigrant Alliance • New York State • New Sanctuary Coalition of NYC • New York Immigrant Community Empowerment • New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health • NY State Council on Immigration • OCCANY • Open Immigrant • Urban Neighborhood Houses of New York • Worker Action Center of New York • YWCA of Queens</small></p> <p>Para más información, por favor contacte advocacy@thenyc.org</p>
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- **Fighting for DREAMers:** The NYC joined our allies with the DREAM Act Coalition in expressing frustration and anger when the New York State DREAM Act failed to pass the Senate by two votes on March 17th. We quickly shifted gears to demanding

that Governor Klein and the Senate Co-Leaders Klein and Skelos include DREAM in the State Budget, however on April 1st the budget was finalized without the inclusion of DREAM.

Despite this failure, the Coalition and our allies will continue to support and empower New York's undocumented youth. The fight is not over and we will return even stronger in the years to come! Click [HERE](#) to read out statement on the New York State DREAM Act.



Education

- **Fighting for immigrant students:** This March, NYC sent the Department of Education a policy document from the NYC and our Education Collaborative, calling for ten actions to support English Language Learner (ELL) students. Click [HERE](#) to read our recommendations.
- **Getting immigrant students to college:** Our guide for immigrant parents, *Your Children Can Go to College. Yes They Can!*, is now available in [Bengali](#), [Arabic](#), and [Haitian Creole](#)! The newly translated guides are available at the NYC and through our member groups! For a copy of the guide, [contact us](#), or access all existing guides [HERE](#)!



[Photo above] NYC's parent guides are in Arabic, Bengali, and Haitian Creole.

- **Supporting NYC member groups:** We released **two Request for Proposals (RFPs)** for NYC members to support immigrant students. The first RFP supports immigrant organizations' participation in the Education Collaborative's ongoing advocacy work, and the second supports agencies to give in-school "college prep" workshops to immigrant parents and students in conjunction with our college guide.

All NYC members in good standing are eligible to apply for either one or for both. **Applications are due April 17th** and decisions will be announced by May 12th, 2014. For how to apply, click [HERE](#)!

Training

- **Providing critical training resources for NYC members:** The NYC's Immigrant Concerns Training Institute has expanded to provide even more trainings, including trainings on effective communications, media messaging, and use of social media. Check out photos from our March 13th joint communications training with the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) on how to effectively use social media:



Click [HERE](#) to see a complete list upcoming trainings.

Health

- **Educating immigrants on the Affordable Care Act:** Continuing our efforts to educate our communities on the Affordable Care Act, we conducted a Spanish-language town-hall meeting in Sunset Park with the [Center for Family Life in Sunset Park](#) to address healthcare access issues and answer questions. Dozens of Sunset Park community members were in attendance! On March 20th, the NYC also joined worked with the Minkwon Center for Community Action and Korean Community Services to hold a "Life After DACA" training for more than 20 participants to address the health care options and needs of DACA recipients.
- **Leading the fight for language access on health care:** Jackie Vimo, director of Health Advocacy at the NYC, has been spearheading our work on language access in health care. Check out the New York Daily News feature on our efforts [HERE!](#)



Special Projects

- **Providing Consular IDs to immigrants:** From March 19th to the 23rd, the NYC's Special Projects team provided assistance to 700 immigrants at a Consular ID Initiative event, together with the Mexican Consulate and NYC member the [Garifuna Coalition](#) at Pan-American High School in the Bronx. Our ID initiative provides much-needed foundational documents - including foreign passports and consular IDs - to New York's immigrants. Participants were also screened for eligibility for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.



[Photos above] Pictures from our March 19th - 23rd Consular ID Initiative event with the Mexican Consulate at Pan American High School in the Bronx. **Left:** Community members line up to receive services from the consular of Mexico. **Center:** The Mexican Consulate providing consular IDs and passports in the Pan American High School auditorium. **Right:** Sulma Arzu-Brown of the Garifuna Coalition, an NYC member group, helps screen attendees

- **Educating our Community on DACA:** On March 25th, NYC organized a community briefing for District 8 with City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito to discuss DACA outreach and how providers can better assist their community. The event was attended by over 50 community members and service providers.
- **Bringing DACA providers together:** Our DACA initiative members from the Bronx attended a "meet & greet" on March 12th to further connect outreach, legal providers, and adult education providers. The 30-plus attendees discussed how to better coordinate their DACA outreach efforts for communities in the Bronx.



[Photos above] DACA outreach providers in the Bronx discuss how to better coordinate efforts at reaching the most vulnerable populations.

Around the Coalition

- **Supporting services for immigrants:** On March 18th, the NYC held a press conference at the Albany Public Library with New York's **Secretary of State Cesar Perales** to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the [Office for New Americans \(ONA\)](#). Through ONA, **27 Opportunity Centers** were created throughout New York to provide quality legal help, English-for-Speakers-of-Other-Language (ESOL) training, and entrepreneurship support for New York State's newcomers.

While the creation of the Office has been critical, the Coalition continues to call for even more resources available for this important statewide initiative.



[Photo Above] right to left: Monsignor Kevin Sullivan, executive director of Catholic Charities NY; Zoila Martinez, new American who received assistance from the ONA Albany Opportunity Center; Steven Choi, executive director of NYIC; Sylvia Jimison, executive director of ONA Albany Opportunity Center; Cesar Perales, Secretary of State; Zach Garafalo, assistant director, Youth Power NY.

- **Convening immigrant organization statewide:** We have been busy meeting with advocates from across the state to continue to expand the Coalition and meet the diverse needs of our communities across the State. So far, we have met with dozens of community groups, immigrant service providers, advocates, and affected individuals in **Long Island, Westchester, Rochester and Buffalo** throughout the months of **February and March!**



[Photo above] NYIC meets with 15 immigrant community representatives in Buffalo, NY at the [International Institute of Buffalo](#). NYIC staff discussed the needs of immigrant communities in Buffalo and provided a training together with Shena Erington, director of the Health Justice Program at [New York Lawyers of the Public Interest](#) on language access and immigrants' health care needs.

- **A Conversation with New York Ethnic and Local Media:** On February 13th, the NYIC teamed up with [Voices of New York](#) to host a panel featuring ethnic and local media members, as well as communications experts from the NYIC and VONY to discuss how to pitch stories, do's and don't of working with the media, and media trends for immigrant communities. The panel included Erica Pearson of the New York Daily News, Rong Xiaoqing of SingTao Daily and Jehangir Khattik of Voices of New York, and was moderated by NYIC communications coordinator Thanu Yakupitiyage.



[Photo Above] left to right: Thanu Yakupitiyage, communications coordinator of NYIC; Rong Xiaoqing, reporter at Sing Tao Daily; Erica Pearson, reporter at New York Daily News; Jehangir Khattik of Voices of New York discuss media and immigration in New York and nationally.

The New York Immigration Coalition is an umbrella policy and advocacy organization for nearly 200 groups in New York State that work with immigrants and refugees. The NYC aims to achieve a fairer and more just society that values the contributions of immigrants and extends opportunity to all by promoting immigrants' full civic participation, fostering their leadership, and providing a unified voice and a vehicle for collective action for New York's diverse immigrant communities.

Support the NYC! Click [here](#) to make to a donation.

www.thenyc.org

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