



**Resolution # 1671 in support of  
The New York DREAM Act of 2013**

**Testimony Submitted to the  
New York City Council**

**March 19, 2013**

Emerald Isle Immigration Center is a 501(c) (3) organization providing immigration, social services and employment related services to immigrants through its offices in Woodside, Queens, and Woodlawn in the Bronx. We assist more than 20,000 clients annually by providing case assistance, information, and referrals. EIIC offers legal counseling on immigration and naturalization matters to indigent immigrants and New York City residents.

EIIC would like to thank the New York City Council for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding this legislation affecting immigrant students in New York. We especially thank Chairperson Daniel Dromm, the Committee on Immigration and the New York City Council for their continued support of our work to assist the New York City immigrant community through the Immigrant Opportunities Initiative (IOI).

On June 15, 2012, the Obama Administration has moved the country forward by providing the nation's youth with the discretionary relief of *Deferred Action*. By passing the New York State Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act of 2013 (S.2378/A.2597), New York State will become one of the pioneering jurisdictions providing youth the opportunity to reach higher education.

**I. EIIC supports the passage of the New York DREAM Act of 2013, S. 2378/A. 2597, in the New York State Legislature and urges the Governor to sign the New York DREAM Act of 2013, which would grant educational benefits to qualifying undocumented immigrant students and establish the DREAM fund commission.**

There are currently 1.8 million undocumented immigrant youths living in the United States.<sup>1</sup> Sixty-five thousand are undocumented youths who graduate from high schools

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<sup>1</sup> N.Y.C. Council Res. 803 (2011).

throughout the United States each year,<sup>2</sup> and 400,000 are immigrant youths living in New York that would benefit from the passage of the New York DREAM Act of 2013.<sup>3</sup> The United States Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS) provided statistics as to the federal progress of *Deferred Action*. As of January 17, 2013, 407,899 undocumented youths nationwide submitted *Deferred Action* requests, of that number, 23,489 came from the state of New York.<sup>4</sup>

On February 27, 2013, EIIC's executive director, Siobhan Dennehy, united in Albany with other proponents during the New York Immigration Coalition's Immigrant Leadership Summit. In Albany, Immigrant Leaders provided support for empowering legislation such as the New York Dream Act of 2013.

More specifically, the New York Dream Act of 2013 allows all students—regardless of their immigration status access to financial aid such the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), Higher Education Opportunity Program, Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program, Educational Opportunity Program which is already in other community colleges<sup>5</sup> Allowing undocumented students to be eligible for financial aid also has tremendous benefits for the economy. According to the Fiscal Policy Institute, the “median earned income for a New York State worker with a bachelor's degree is \$25,000 higher per year” than someone with just a high school diploma.<sup>6</sup> The “additional taxes paid by the bachelor's degree holders would amount to about \$3,900 per year to state and local governments, and a 2-year degree would entail an \$8,000

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<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup>

<http://www.uscis.gov/USCIS/Resources/Reports%20and%20Studies/Immigration%20Forms%20Data/All%20Form%20Types/DACA/DACA%20Monthly%20Report%20AVer%20II%20PDF.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> David Dyssegaard Kallick, *The New York State DREAM Act: A Preliminary Estimate of Costs and Benefits*, Mar. 9, 2012

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

state investment in aid, [which means] a maximum TAP aid of \$4,000 at 2-year colleges.”<sup>7</sup> The median income of a 2-year college graduate would amount to about “\$10,000 more per year, higher” than a worker with just a high school diploma. The state and local taxes paid each year would also be about \$1,000 higher.<sup>8</sup> Thus, there is quite a huge return on investment for the State of New York. Further, if New York allows all of its students—both documented and undocumented more access to higher education, New York will also have an increase in highly educated workers, which means more productivity.<sup>9</sup>

Also, the New York Dream Act of 2013 is not a route to providing legal residency for undocumented youths.<sup>10</sup> In fact, not all undocumented youths would be affected by the New York Dream Act of 2013, since there are certain requirements for eligibility. The New York Dream Act of 2013 eligibility requirements include: (1) attended a registered New York high school for two or more years, graduated from registered New York high school, and applied for attendance at the institution of higher education for undergraduate study for which an award is sought within five years of receiving a high school diploma; (2) attended an approved program for a state high school equivalency diploma, received a diploma, and applied for attendance at the institution of higher education for undergraduate study for which an award is sought within five years of receiving such diploma; or (3) is otherwise eligible for the payment of tuition and fees at a rate no greater than that imposed for resident students of the State University of New York, the City University of New York or community colleges.

In order to help make the New York DREAM Act a reality, there must be funding to provide for the financial goals of the Act. Also, because the students of New York colleges and

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<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> N.Y.C. Council Res. 803 (2011).

universities consist of both documented and undocumented students, the New York DREAM fund commission would not just benefit the “DREAMers” but also the documented students as well.

On January 2013, New York State Assemblyman Francisco Moya and New York State Senator Jose Peralta modified and combined previous bills to make the pursuit of higher education possible to all the children of immigrants in New York. The New York Dream Act of 2013 requires the creation of the New York DREAM fund commission.<sup>11</sup> The commission would raise private funds in order to provide financial assistance to the children of immigrants to obtain degrees from higher education.<sup>12</sup>

Thus, EIIC urges the New York State Legislature to pass the New York Dream Act of 2013 and for Governor Cuomo to sign the Act making the pursuit of a higher education for all students possible, regardless of one’s immigration status.

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<sup>11</sup> N.Y.C. Council Res. 1219 (2012).

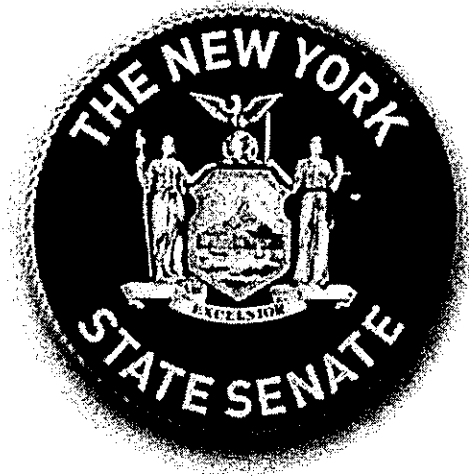
<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

For The Record

**Testimony Submitted By:**

**Jose Peralta**

**New York State Senator, 13<sup>th</sup> District**



**New York City Council Public Hearing on Resolution 1671-2013:**

**Calling for the Passage and Enactment of the NYS DREAM Act**

**Before the New York City Council Committee on Immigration**

**Tuesday, March 19, 2013**

Thank you to the New York City Council, the Committee on Immigration, and Chair Person Daniel Dromm for holding this hearing and giving me the opportunity to submit testimony on this critical issue. Thank you as well to Chair Person Dromm and Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez for introducing this resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, the New York State Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act of 2013.

Across the centuries of its existence, New York has been the Promised Land for immigrants looking for a better life. We have been a beacon of hope, a singular manifestation of the American DREAM. We have also been a place that is never afraid to innovate, to take chances, to lead. We are not a place that punishes children for the acts of their parents; we are a place that offers a chance to succeed to anyone willing to work for it.

Now is the time to show we are worthy of that mantle, by passing the DREAM Act and passing it now.

The New York State DREAM Act (S. 2378/ A. 2597), which I sponsor along with Assemblyman Francisco Moya, would make New York one of just four states to offer state financial aid to the children of immigrants. It would give young immigrants access to a broad range of educational opportunity programs including New York's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). The measure would also create a DREAM Fund Commission dedicated to advancing the educational goals of the children of immigrants through privately-funded scholarships.

For what amounts to a budget increase of one one-hundredth of one percentage point, we can give hope and open up boundless opportunity to hard-working young New Yorkers wherever their place of birth. The cost of passing the DREAM Act has been estimated to be as low as \$17 million annually, and the Assembly has already found \$25 million for funding in its One House Budget Proposal.

This \$25 million represents a cost of only 87¢ to your average New York taxpayer. You can't buy a candy bar for that price these days, but you can help thousands of young New Yorkers earn their piece of the American dream. That is a bargain by any standard.

Moreover, we should not think of this as a cost, but an investment in our future economic growth. The average college graduate pays nearly \$4,000 a year more in state taxes, so the DREAM Act should begin paying for itself a few short years after the first class of DREAMers graduates from college. While this is uncharted territory for the undocumented, there is no question that graduating from college will significantly increase their earning power and, thus, the amount they pay in taxes.

Passing the DREAM Act will help give us the kind of diverse, educated, multi-talented workforce we will need to compete in tomorrow's economy. In the future that we should all be working towards, we need to build a ladder of opportunity that extends to every child who reaches

our shores, no matter his or her place of birth. These hard working young New Yorkers have done everything we could ask of them, and they deserve a real chance to succeed.

We simply cannot afford to wait on a gridlocked federal government to act. We must be able to look our children in the eye and say, 'your dreams mean something, your hard work means something' and when we pass the New York DREAM Act, we will be saying that loud and clear.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jose Peralta', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jose Peralta  
New York State Senator, 13<sup>th</sup> District



## TESTIMONY

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*In Support of the New York City Council Resolution on the Proposed New York State  
Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act of 2013 (S.2378/A.2597)-*

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New York City Council

Committee on Immigration



199 Water Street  
New York, NY 10038

March 19, 2013

Contact: Jojo Annobil (212) 577- 3292; [jannobil@legal-aid.org](mailto:jannobil@legal-aid.org)  
The Legal Aid Society, Civil Practice, Immigration Law Unit



TESTIMONY  
PRESENTED ON 03/19/2013

This testimony is submitted on behalf of The Legal Aid Society ("Legal Aid"). We commend Committee Chair Dromm and members of the Committee on Immigration for your insightful and innovative work on behalf of New York City immigrants, and we thank you for the Council's IOI support for The Legal Aid Society's comprehensive legal assistance for immigrants in all five boroughs.

The Legal Aid Society supports the proposed New York City Council resolution that calls on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, the New York State DREAM Act of 2013 (S.2378/ A.2597). We appreciate the opportunity to participate in today's hearing because it reflects the City Council's understanding of the needs of the undocumented youth of this City. Many of these young people are eligible for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), but have no access to state or city funding that enables them to pursue higher education. The proposed bill will, among other benefits, grant undocumented students access to higher education by creating the New York State Dream Fund. This fund will provide financial assistance to undocumented youth. The bill will also amend eligibility requirements and conditions governing the award of education related benefits and allow immigrant families to use their tax identification numbers to open New York State 529 family tuition accounts under the New York State College Tuition Savings Program.

**The Legal Aid Society**

The Legal Aid Society, the nation's oldest and largest not-for-profit legal services organization, is more than a law firm for low-income families and individuals who cannot afford to pay for counsel. It is an indispensable component of the legal, social and economic fabric of New York City - passionately advocating for low-income individuals and families across a variety of civil, criminal and juvenile rights matters, while also fighting for legal reform. Legal Aid has performed this role in City, State and federal courts since 1876. With its annual caseload of more than 300,000 legal matters, Legal Aid takes on more cases for more clients than any other legal services organization in the United States, and it brings a depth and breadth of perspective that is



TESTIMONY  
PRESENTED ON 03/19/2013

unmatched in the legal profession. Legal Aid's law reform social justice representation for clients also benefits some two million low-income families and individuals in New York City and the landmark rulings in many of these cases have a national impact. Legal Aid does this with a full-time staff of more than 1,700, including more than 1,000 Legal Aid Society lawyers working with nearly 700 social workers, investigators, paralegals and support and administrative staff through a network of borough, neighborhood, and courthouse offices in 25 locations in New York City. Legal Aid's legal program operates three major practices – Civil, Criminal and Juvenile Rights – and receives volunteer help from law firms, corporate law departments and expert consultants that is coordinated by the Society's Pro Bono program. For the last annual reporting period, law firm attorneys and paraprofessionals donated over 90,000 hours of pro bono service to the Society's clients and the total valuation of pro bono services contributed to Legal Aid nearly \$70 million.

#### Immigration Law Unit

Although Legal Aid has evolved since its establishment in 1876 as a German immigrant-rights organization, it has not wavered in its commitment to immigrants and immigrant communities in New York City. For several decades Legal Aid has maintained a robust and nationally-recognized Immigration Law Unit based in the Civil Practice. The Unit provides low-income New Yorkers with free comprehensive and high caliber immigration services ranging from deportation defense to adjustment of status to Legal Permanent Residence and citizenship applications. The Unit specializes in the intersection between immigration and criminal law and works collaboratively with all practice areas to serve the Society's diverse immigrant clients through a comprehensive service model. Unit staff represents immigrants before U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), before immigration judges in removal proceedings, the Board of Immigration Appeals and in federal court on habeas corpus petitions and petitions for review, and on administrative and judicial appeals. The Unit also partners with 14 community-based organizations in New York City to provide application assistance, comprehensive advice and workshops to low-income immigrants, refugees and asylees. For the last annual reporting period, the Unit provided direct legal representation and/or advice in over 5,200 client matters.

The Unit is committed to providing free high-quality legal representation, comprehensive advice and educational training to low-income immigrant clients and advocates. For more than 25 years, the Unit's staff have advised criminal defense attorneys on the immigration consequences of criminal convictions. In addressing the needs of immigrants who have come into contact with the criminal justice system, the Unit assists these clients and their criminal defense attorneys with fashioning favorable case resolutions to avoid deportation and also assists those in removal proceedings because of criminal convictions avoid deportation.

**We Support the New York State DREAM Act of 2013 (S.2378/ A.2597)**

In 2002, Legal Aid's Immigration Law Unit and the Society's Juvenile Rights Practice launched the Immigrant Youth Representation Project (located within the Immigration Law Unit) to respond to the special needs of undocumented youth in New York City. Through our work with this vulnerable population we have gained a unique perspective of their resiliency and potential to achieve the American dream. However, at every turn these resourceful youth face enormous barriers including gaining lawful status and access to higher education.

In August 2012, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) implemented the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program which defers the deportation of children brought to the United States before they turned 16 years of age. During the first six months of this program, Legal Aid hosted multiple application assistance events and maintained an active telephone Hotline to assist eligible applicants seeking application assistance and information. Most of the applicants we met were interested in going to college or graduate school or in continuing their college education and wanted to know if Deferred Action status will make them eligible for in-state tuition rates and state-funded financial aid. They were disappointed when our staff informed them about their ineligibility for either of these benefits, even though DACA is deemed lawful status and allows recipients to work lawfully with employment authorization. The New York State Dream Act of 2013 will therefore make a tremendous difference in the lives of Deferred Action recipients who will not only be able to work but will also be able to learn and develop intellectually.

Making it possible for New Yorkers to access higher education will benefit New York State by increasing the State's taxpayer rolls and decreasing dependence on social services. Studies show that college graduates earn 74% more in their lifetime than high school graduates and are more likely to obtain employer provided health care.<sup>1</sup>

Furthermore, these undocumented youth, could provide the United States and New York State with a pool of talented professionals urgently needed to staff essential services. The United States has for several years experienced a shortage of qualified professionals in several key areas such as nursing, teaching, science, technology, engineering and mathematics. To address this need, Congress has in the past sought to pass legislation granting permanent residence status to foreign students who graduate from U.S colleges and universities.<sup>2</sup> Children brought here at a young age, educated with public tax dollars from K-12, patriotic to the core, have the potential to fill this need if given full access to the higher education system of this state.

New York State has always welcomed immigrants with open arms. Passing this bill demonstrates the state's sympathy for these undocumented youth. The provision of in-state tuition rates and access to state funded financial aid for sponsored undocumented students has been neglected by the federal government and New York State for too long. It is unfair to punish these young people who were brought to the United States by their families at a young age. The right to an education should be a universal human right enjoyed by all.

### Conclusion

The proposed New York State Dream Act is long overdue. Passing this bill will be a tremendous boost to the undocumented population who have for many years been unable to pursue their dreams of becoming doctors, lawyers, teachers and nurses because of the barriers created by the

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<sup>1</sup> See Anthony Carnevale, Stephen J. Rose and Ban Cheah, The College Payoff: Education, Occupations, Life Time Earnings, Georgetown University Center in Education and Workforce at pg. 4. Available at [www9.goergetown.edu/grad/gppi/hpi/cew/pdfs/collegepayoff-complete.pdf](http://www9.goergetown.edu/grad/gppi/hpi/cew/pdfs/collegepayoff-complete.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> On November 30, 2012, the House of Representatives passed the STEM Jobs Act (HR6429). The bill would grant legal permanent residency to 55,000 foreign students who graduate from U.S. universities with advanced degrees in science, technology, engineering and math fields. The Gang of Eight senators drafting a comprehensive immigration bill is considering this bill in its deliberations.



TESTIMONY  
PRESENTED ON 03/19/2013

federal government for undocumented immigrants. We thank the New York City Council Committee on Immigration for the opportunity to testify about this important matter and we look forward to further discussions regarding our comments. Thank you.

The Legal Aid Society

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By: Jojo Annobil



**TESTIMONY OF THE  
NEW YORK PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP  
BEFORE THE  
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE  
REGARDING RESOLUTION-1671-2013  
TUESDAY, MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup> 2013**

Hello my name is Kathleen Jordan. I am the chair of NYPIRG's Board of Directors and a student at Brooklyn College. I would like to thank the Immigration Committee for holding this important hearing. We appreciate the opportunity to share our support for Resolution 1671-2013 calling upon the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, the New York State DREAM Act (S.2378/A.2597).

The New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) is the state's largest student directed non-partisan research and advocacy organization. Our board of directors consists of college and university students elected from campuses with NYPIRG chapters from across the state.

The comprehensive state **Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act** would, for the first time, allow immigrant students to apply for state financial aid, as well as create a private DREAM Fund that would provide private scholarships.

New York is the gateway to the great American melting pot and since its inception has been a global beacon for hope and opportunity. In turn, New York's waves of immigrants have contributed greatly to the state's vitality and success. In light of this longstanding and mutually beneficial relationship, it is time for New York to join other states by further extending a helping hand to immigrant children who arrived in New York through circumstances beyond their control, yet who share the same hopes, aspirations and potential of their citizen counterparts.

**Federal and State DREAM Legislation**

This DREAM legislation is distinguished from similarly named federal legislation that would create a path to citizenship. The federal **Development Relief & Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act** legislation, first introduced in Congress in 2001, would offer a rigorous path to citizenship either through higher education or military service.

**The critical distinction is that the national DREAM legislation is primarily focused on immigration policy—an area where the state is preempted from acting—while this state level DREAM legislation aims to improve access to higher education for undocumented immigrant children who have successfully navigated the state's public school system.**

### **Why DREAM on a State Level?**

While Congressional gridlock has made comprehensive reform out-of-reach, states have taken the initiative to create their own solutions. Texas, New Mexico, and California have already passed legislation that grants undocumented students access to public resources to attend college, such as TAP, similar to the proposed NY DREAM Act.<sup>ii</sup> TAP is an independent state program, a cornerstone of NY's commitment to access to higher education for qualified students with financial need. It is separate, distinct and wholly unconnected to current federal DREAM immigration reform legislation.

Ultimately, it is up to Congress to address whether and how to integrate undocumented youth into the nation. However, national politics have created a more than ten-year standstill, leaving undocumented youth in our communities without adequate resources and equal opportunities to pursue their dreams. New York cannot wait for Congress to address this issue. Each year opportunities slip away—perhaps for good—for bright, ambitious undocumented immigrant children in the state to enter college.

### **New York State**

Undocumented immigrants make up a substantial part of the New York State economy. In 2008, unauthorized immigrants contributed \$28.7 billion in economic activity, \$12.7 billion in gross state product, and approximately 137,013 jobs to the state, according to a recent study.<sup>iii</sup> In 2010, undocumented immigrants paid \$662,439,624 in taxes to New York State, ranking among the top five states in terms of receiving tax revenue from households headed by undocumented immigrants.<sup>iv</sup>

New York has long recognized the importance of supporting New York's immigrant students, including funding programs to support English Language Learners and college readiness programs. In 2001, Governor Pataki's proposal to grant undocumented students access to in-state tuition rates was enacted with bipartisan support.<sup>v</sup>

Approximately 65,000 undocumented students graduate from U.S. high schools each year (an estimated 4,550 of these graduates are in New York State), but because of the barriers they face accessing higher education, only 5-10% of these undocumented high-school graduates go to college.<sup>vi</sup>

It is well documented that investments in higher education contribute to the overall quality of life in the state and serve as a catalyst for economic growth. An investment in undocumented student higher education will reap returns many times over for New York.

### **DREAM & TAP**

Expanding the reach of TAP to include eligible undocumented students would increase the expenditure of TAP by roughly 2%; the estimated cost of the NY DREAM Act would be about \$17 million, or about two percent of the total TAP budget of about \$885 million for 2011-2012.<sup>vii</sup>

### **The Peter F. Vallone Scholarship**

Resolution 1671-2013 not only calls on the state to take immediate action so that all New Yorkers have access to college, but it also reinforces the New York City Council's commitment to ensuring that all students have access to an affordable higher education. That's why we feel strongly that the council should restore the recently eliminated Peter F. Vallone Scholarship. This was New York City's only merit-based higher education scholarship award and was also the only avenue for qualifying New York City public high school undocumented students to receive



any public financial aid to help in attending a CUNY school. While CUNY tuition has skyrocketed and overall college costs have risen, Vallone scholars have lost their entire award; threatening access to education for some of the city's best and brightest including undocumented students.

**We urge City Council to not only pass Resolution 1671-2013, but to also do its part and restore the Peter F. Vallone Scholarship to its 2007 level of providing 14,000 NYC public high school students with an annual award of \$1,250 to help offset the rising costs associated with attending college.**

### **Conclusion**

The DREAM Act enjoys widespread support in New York: SUNY and CUNY Board of Trustees and Chancellors; NYS Board of Regents; former SUNY Board of Trustees Chair Carl Hayden; Professional Staff Congress; United University Professions; University Student Senate; New York State United Teachers; New York City Council; New York City Mayor Bloomberg; college presidents from NYU, Fordham, Manhattanville, and Sarah Lawrence; and more than 20 diverse groups representing a wide range of constituents across the state.

**NYPIRG implores you to pass Resolution 1671-2013, without delay.**

<sup>i</sup> Immigration Policy Center, "The DREAM Act: Creating Opportunities for Immigrant Students and Supporting the U.S. Economy," May 2011, <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/dream-act> (8 May 2012).

<sup>ii</sup> Center for American Progress, "Keeping the DREAM Alive: States Continue the Fight to Give Undocumented Students Access to Higher Education," Philip E. Wolgin & Maya Edelstein, June 2011, [http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/06/keeping\\_dream\\_alive.html](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/06/keeping_dream_alive.html) (8 May 2012).

<sup>iii</sup> The Perryman Group, "AN ESSENTIAL RESOURCE: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry," April 2008, [http://americansforimmigrationreform.com/files/Impact\\_of\\_the\\_Undocumented\\_Workforce.pdf#page=48](http://americansforimmigrationreform.com/files/Impact_of_the_Undocumented_Workforce.pdf#page=48) (9 May 2012).

<sup>iv</sup> Immigration Policy Center: American Immigration Council, "UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANTS PAY TAXES, TOO: Estimates of the State and Local Taxes Paid by Unauthorized Immigrant Households," April 2011, Table 1, [http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/Tax\\_Contributions\\_by\\_Unauthorized\\_Immigrants\\_041811.pdf](http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/Tax_Contributions_by_Unauthorized_Immigrants_041811.pdf) (9 May 2012).

<sup>v</sup> See NYS S.7784/A.9612-A <http://assembly.ny.gov/leg/?sh=printbill&bn=A09612&term=2001>.

<sup>vi</sup> New York Immigration Coalition, "New York State DREAM legislation Update," December 2011, [http://www.thenyic.org/sites/default/files/NYS\\_DREAM\\_Update\\_Dec52011\\_FINALFINAL.pdf](http://www.thenyic.org/sites/default/files/NYS_DREAM_Update_Dec52011_FINALFINAL.pdf) (9 May 2012).

<sup>vii</sup> Fiscal Policy Institute, "The NY DREAM Act: A preliminary estimate of costs and benefits," March 2012, <http://www.fiscalpolicy.org/FPI-CostBenefitAnalysis-NYS-DREAM-Act-20120309.pdf> (11 May 2012)

Testimony of the Professional Staff Congress to  
The Higher Education and Immigration Committees of  
New York City Council

March 19, 2013

By Arthurine DeSola, PSC Secretary

Good afternoon Chairmen Daniel Dromm and distinguished members of the Immigration Committee, and thank you for the opportunity to testify for the Professional Staff Congress in support of the City Council Resolution No. 1671.

Our union strongly supports the NYS Dream Act (S 2378/ A 2597) currently before the Legislature. The bill would provide the opportunity for undocumented youth, who were brought to New York as children and who graduate from high school or earn their GED here, to have access to state financial aid programs including Tuition Assistance Program benefits. The bill also establishes a fund with privately-raised donations, and extends state-sponsored 529 college savings accounts by allowing individuals to sign up with a tax identification number.

As a counselor at Queensborough Community College for many years and now an elected officer of the PSC, I witnessed just how hard immigrant students struggle to complete college. I know them to be hungry for a college education. Like most CUNY students, they come from families of very modest means. But unlike CUNY students who are citizens or legal residents, undocumented students cannot receive federal or state financial aid, or even qualify for education loans. For this reason, many of them work long hours "under the table" and frequently take time off from school to earn enough money to pay for the next semester's tuition and fees.<sup>1</sup>

Research by CUNY's Office of Policy Research in 2011 compared the experience of undocumented students to citizen and legal resident students. The researchers speculated that "given the challenges associated with the lack of documentation, undocumented college students might be expected to struggle academically"<sup>2</sup> However, this turned out not to be the case. Researchers found that undocumented students at CUNY out-performed their peers during their first years of college as measured their grade point average, retention rates and course completion. However undocumented students were not able to maintain this level of performance over time because they were more likely to go to college part-time. In conclusion, data suggested "the lack of financial supports (e.g. Pell grants) available to undocumented students as takes its toll over the longer-term."

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<sup>1</sup> These students may be eligible for modest support through the College Discovery and some private scholarship aid, but these are small programs and do not meet the needs for the majority of students.

<sup>2</sup> Educational Experiences and Outcomes of Undocumented College Students," CUNY Office of Policy Research 2011-12 [http://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/ira/opr/briefs/Undocumented\\_Brief\\_v2.pdf](http://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/ira/opr/briefs/Undocumented_Brief_v2.pdf)

It is time to correct this problem. It is estimated that 65,000 undocumented students graduate high schools in the United States every year, but only 5% ever attend college. Many undocumented students look forward to the hurdles of *paying* for college, and give up before they even graduate high school. This is a terrible waste.

We are confident that these young immigrants will use their college education to contribute to New York's future economy as productive workers and professionals. For these reasons, we of the Professional Staff Congress recommit ourselves to working for passage of the NYS Dream Act into law.

I wish to make two final points. First, there have been attempts to bypass the comprehensive Dream Act which extends TAP and introduce the privately-subsidized "Dream Fund" as a stand-alone bill. The PSC strongly opposes this action as insufficient and encourages the Council to denounce such half-way measures. Second, we encourage the City Council to restore funding to CUNY for the merit-based Vallone and/or needs-based Safety Net scholarship programs in budget deliberations. CUNY's ability to assist undocumented students was severely reduced when these scholarship programs were defunded several years ago.

We commend the Council Members for introducing Resolution 1671 and urge its swift passage by the entire Council to send a message to the New York State Legislature and to the Governor as soon as possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak about this important resolution.

**Statement of  
Haitian-Americans United for Progress**

**on  
Resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature to pass, and  
the Governor to sign, the New York State Development, Relief and  
Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act of 2013 (S.2378/A.2597)**

**Council of the City of New York  
Committee on Immigration**

March 19, 2013

My name is Jocelyn McCalla and I am pleased to testify today before the Committee on Immigration regarding the proposed resolution that urges passage of the DREAM Act by NY State's legislature and its signing by Governor Andrew Cuomo. I am testifying on behalf of the Haitian-Americans United for Progress (HAUP).

HAUP was founded 38 years ago by Haitian-American community leaders and advocates to help resettle and integrate Haitian asylum-seekers and immigrants in New York City. These leaders included the Most Rev. Guy Sansaricq, auxiliary bishop of Brooklyn and Ms. Carolle Berotte Joseph who is currently serving as President of Bronx Community College.

HAUP is located in Cambria Heights which is home to the largest Haitian-American enclave outside of Brooklyn. While HAUP began as a volunteer-based organization focused initially on responding to the needs of Haitian immigrants and refugees, it has since expanded and offers its multitude of services to newcomers and citizens alike. Under the leadership of Executive Director Elsie Saint-Louis, HAUP has risen to serve annually several thousand people in Brooklyn, Queens and Nassau County with an array of programs that include services to the elderly and disabled, women victims of domestic violence, out-of-school programs for middle and high school students, and assistance to immigrants.

**Regarding the Resolution**

HAUP rises in support of the Resolution. Indeed we join with our colleagues and partners in the NY immigrant community, namely members of the New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC) to urge adoption of the resolution by our representatives in NY City's legislature.

DREAM is not a uniquely Latino issue, nor an Asian issue, or a Caribbean or African matter: it's an immigrant fairness issue. As such it concerns all of us who advocate fairness and equity under the law for all New Yorkers.

Emily Seonhye Park

NYC the Council's Immigration Committee

MinKwon Center for Community Action

March 19, 2013

### Testimony

My name is Emily Park. I am a 24 year old undocumented young adult living and working in Flushing, Queens. I recently graduated from Queens College majoring in Neuroscience and received deferred action as well as work authorization. I now work at the MinKwon Center for Community Action as the Youth Program Associate, which is a community advocacy organization located in Flushing, NY. I also am an active member of MinKwon's KORE (Koreans Organized for Reform and Equality), which is a group of undocumented young adults fighting for immigration reform at MinKwon Center. I am here to testify on behalf of MinKwon Center as well as MinKwon's KORE members.

In KORE, there are so many motivated, hardworking students who strive to fulfill their educational dreams. Unfortunately, some of us take 6,7 years or even longer to finish college because we have to take double shifts at work to support our family and to pay for the college tuition. I myself have gone through the journey. At times, I was scared that I might lose focus on studying, on my dream, because going to school and supporting myself without any financial aid was difficult. There are very a few private scholarships that are available to undocumented students but they are so rare. They only cover a very small percentage of the population. Without the DREAM Act, without New York State's Tuition Assistant Program (TAP), we are forever part-time super seniors who are stuck in limbo.

I ask you to remember your high school senior year. All the exciting plans and dreams you had for yourself. I vividly remember mine. In high school, I was a good student in every possible way. I had 95 GPA, had taken five college level Advance Placement (AP) classes, and had a good amount of extracurricular activities. I was the president of Korean Club for 2 years. At the end of my junior year, I was excited to apply to colleges and universities just like every other student in my class. I had planned out my next four years thinking about every possible opportunity out there for me. However, the moment I realized that I was not eligible for any financial aid, which meant that my options were extremely limited, I felt hopeless. I felt like not only my dream of becoming a doctor to help others one day, but also my parents American dream of making their daughter a successful, independent career woman, was mercilessly crushed. I do not think anyone should go through what I went through when I was 17. I hope you can put yourselves or your children in our shoes and think about this issue carefully.

It is in your hands to provide motivated hardworking young New Yorkers with the tools they need to make their dreams a reality.

Thank you

# FOR THE RECORD

## **New York State Interfaith Network for Immigration Reform**

*Co-Chairs:* Josefa Castro, *Catholic Charities of Brooklyn and Queens*; Minister Patricia Malcolm, *CUSH*  
*Director:* Dr. Diane Steinman ([steinmandiane@gmail.com](mailto:steinmandiane@gmail.com)) (718-544-7289)

### **Testimony of The New York State Interfaith Network for Immigration Reform Submitted to the New York City Council Immigration Committee Regarding Resolution 1671-2013 Tuesday, March 19, 2013**

On behalf of the New York State Interfaith Network for Immigration Reform, I want to thank Immigration Committee Chair Daniel Dromm and the Immigration Committee for introducing Resolution 1671-2013, which calls on the New York State Legislature to pass the New York State DREAM Act (S. 2378/A.2597), and urges Governor Cuomo to sign it into law.

The Interfaith Network is a network of diverse NYS religious leaders launched in 2009 to advocate for just and humane comprehensive immigration reform (CIR). Since that time, the Network has advocated for both federal and state immigration laws and policies that adhere to moral principles shared by faith communities across the religious spectrum: the belief in the dignity of all human beings; the belief that we must welcome and honor the strangers among us; the obligation to treat others as we ourselves would wish to be treated. These principles have led us to advocate passage of the Federal DREAM Act; urge Governor Cuomo to end New York State's participation in Secure Communities; and support passage of the City Council bills that restrict the City's honoring of ICE detainers except in limited circumstances. We commend the City Council for passing these bills, and the Mayor for signing them.

The Network is currently working in collaboration with immigrant advocates to promote passage by Congress of CIR, and is a member of the New York State Dream Coalition, organized to promote passage of the New York State DREAM Act, that would provide access for all qualified young people to state tuition assistance, regardless of immigration status, and create the DREAM Fund to provide access to private scholarships.

We very much hope that Congress passes CIR this year that provides a clear and direct path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, enabling millions of immigrants, including DREAMers, to come out of the shadows and become full, equal participants in the mainstream of American life. But the legalization process will take time, and it is vital for qualified undocumented youth to gain access to state tuition assistance *without delay*, so they can receive the higher education they need to develop their skills, follow their dreams and help promote a sound economic future for our City and State.

Although the Assembly passed the DREAM Act and included funding in its budget, passage in the Senate and support by the Governor are by no means assured. By passing Resolution 1671-2013, the City Council will send a clear message: Do the right thing. Follow the example set by Texas, California and New Mexico by extending state funded tuition assistance to undocumented youth. Be true to New York's proud history as the immigrant capitol of America, and empower all young immigrants to thrive and succeed. Pass the NYS DREAM Act!

We also urge the City Council to restore to its 2007 level of funding the recently eliminated Peter F. Vallone Scholarship that provided 14,000 NYC public high school students, including qualifying undocumented students, with an annual award of \$1,250 to help offset the rising costs associated with attending college. The future of many of these students hangs in the balance.

**Testimony of Allan Wernick**

**Director, CUNY Citizenship Now!**

**before**

**The New York City Council**

**Immigration Committee**

**Tuesday, March 19, 2012**

Good afternoon Chairperson Dromm and Committee Members Barron, Eugene, Rodriguez, and Williams. My name is Allan Wernick. I am a professor at Baruch College and Director of CUNY Citizenship Now!, the largest citizenship and immigration law service provider in New York City. In the past year alone we assisted more than 10,000 individuals on their path to U.S. Citizenship. Almost half were helped apply for naturalization. Close to 1000 were applicants for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). Our ability to serve New York's immigrants is due in substantial part to the support provided by this committee and your colleagues on the City Council. We give you our heartfelt thanks.

I am pleased to report that CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein supports efforts to make federal and state financial aid available to undocumented students.

CUNY Citizenship Now!, as a front-line immigrant service organization, is keenly aware of the challenges faced by individuals seeking higher education who are here without legal status.

CUNY does its best, under existing laws, to assist undocumented students. We provide limited privately-funded scholarships to deserving undocumented students and our Macaulay Honors

College admits students no matter their immigration status. And as you know, most undocumented students qualify for in-state tuition. Nevertheless, we know that college expenses are often an obstacle to educational advancement.

Chancellor Goldstein is a long standing advocate for providing opportunities for undocumented students. He was one of our nation's first higher education leaders to call for passage of the federal Dream Act and is encouraged that Congress is considering legislation that will provide a path to citizenship for undocumented students and their families. In the meantime, we need our own Dream Act in New York State to make college truly accessible to undocumented students.

As the Chancellor pointed out in November, the access of undocumented students to higher education is limited by their inability to receive financial assistance, including aid from the state's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). He stated then that

*If they have earned their high school degrees in New York, and under state law are eligible to attend public colleges, they ought to have access to the support they need to advance their education—especially at a time when New York needs a skilled workforce.*

The proposed state legislation must be viewed in the context of the coming federal legislation that will provide a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants. I expect that legislation to pass Congress this year. The legislation will almost certainly include an expedited path to permanent residence for undocumented youth, known as Dreamers. The debate of whether the Dreamers will qualify for federal financial aid however, will be intense, and it's outcome



uncertain. Undocumented immigrants deserve the same opportunities as other students seeking higher education. It is time that New York joined California, New Mexico and Texas in ending a financial aid system that discriminates against undocumented youth.

I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have at this time.



# HELP IMMIGRANTS IN NEW YORK

## Donate Now!

**F**or the past 15 years, it has been the mission of CUNY Citizenship Now! to provide New Yorkers with free high quality immigration services. Now we need your help to ensure that we are able to continue offering these free immigration services to the New York community. Your contribution would be used by CUNY Citizenship Now! to help New York's immigrant communities with their immigration issues, most of all to help permanent residents apply for citizenship. The services that we provide at CUNY Citizenship Now! greatly impact the lives of those who we have helped. We would like to share a few of their stories.

### From July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 We Have...

**...Helped  
12,571 People  
During Our  
Annual Call-In**

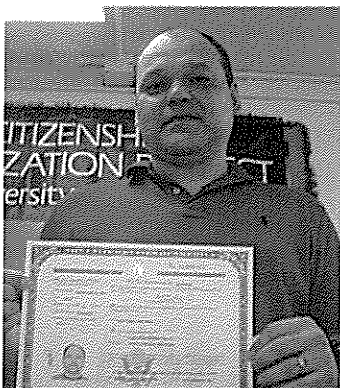
Emma Dyer has lived in the United States for the past ten years. While living here Emma has experienced hardship looking for work. She felt that if she were a citizen she would have more opportunities to find a job.

In April 2011, while watching Univision Emma saw an interview with volunteers at the CUNY/Daily News Citizenship NOW! Call-In. She thought "I didn't have a job, but I had some money so this was a great opportunity for me to become a citizen." She called the Call-in and asked how she could have her N-400 checked by a professional for free. She was referred to a CUNY application assistance event in Jackson Heights and from there she finished her application at the York College Immigration Center.



**EMMA DYER**

Now as a citizen Emma has been applying for better work positions and is very excited to vote in the upcoming presidential election. "I have been around for two presidential campaigns (2004 and 2008), but it will be in this third campaign (2012) that I am going to participate by voting. This is important for me because I know that if I don't vote I don't count".



**CARLOS REYES**

Carlos Reyes came to the United States nine years ago with his wife and children. He has since worked in construction. Last year, work slowed down. However, he had his heart set on applying for his citizenship. Carlos learned about the free immigration services that CUNY offers, and thought this was his chance to finally apply, since he could afford the fees, but he would get reliable assistance at no cost. So he went to one of the CUNY Citizenship Now! application assistance events. There he got the assistance he needed, and soon after, he and his wife became U.S. citizens. Now, they are in the process of requesting proof of citizenship for their two children, 9 and 17. And CUNY Citizenship Now! is helping them again.

When asked about what is the best thing about having become a U.S. Citizen, Carlos says without hesitation, "Having the same rights as someone born here."

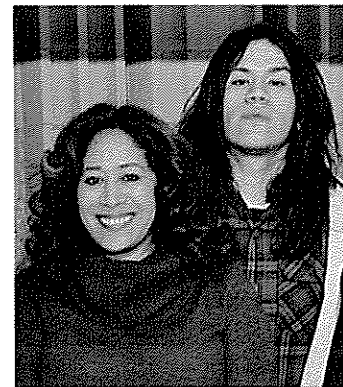
**...Helped 5,968  
People Get  
Closer to the  
American Dream**

## ...United 2,765 People with Their Families

When Diana Zambrano first contacted CUNY Citizenship Now! she was interested in becoming a U.S. citizen. What Ms. Zambrano didn't know is that not only would CUNY Citizenship Now! help her become a citizen; we would also reunite her with her son.

Diana Zambrano is originally from Colombia and lives in Flushing (Queens). She came to our Flushing Immigration Center where she received assistance to file the N-400 Application for Naturalization. Once she became a United States Citizen the Flushing staff helped her file a petition for her son Sergio who she hadn't seen in seven years.

The Flushing staff was able to help Ms. Zambrano with the forms necessary to bring her son Sergio just before he turned 21. He was reunited with his mother in January 2011. Sergio Zambrano, who plays both piano and guitar, is now learning English and hopes to study music here in New York. About her experience with CUNY Citizenship Now! Ms. Zambrano said "Because of the help that they gave me, I was able to bring him," and "finally, I achieved my goals - my citizenship and my son."



DIANA ZAMBRANO



NAIKA F. JOSEPH

Naika Fatima Joseph, a student at New York City College of Technology, came to CUNY Citizenship Now! for a consultation to see if there were any options available for her to legalize her status. She was having trouble paying for school since at the time she was not eligible to work.

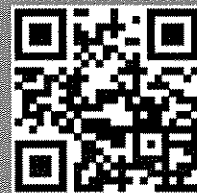
At the time, Naika's mother was the beneficiary of a green card petition through a family member, but Naika could not benefit from that petition. Naika also heard of the Dream Act and wondered if it could help people in her situation. One of our attorneys explained the Dream Act was only a proposal and not yet the law. Given the lack of options, Naika dropped out of school.

After the earthquake in Haiti in January 2010, Naika learned about an immigration benefit that the U.S. government made available to people from her country who could not come back to their country due to the magnitude of the tragedy. The benefit, Temporary Protected Status (TPS), would allow her to stay temporarily in the United States and would provide her with work authorization. Naika participated in a CUNY Citizenship Now! Haitian TPS application assistance event, the largest Haitian TPS application assistance event ever held in New York State, where our staff and volunteers assisted her in completing her application. In April 2010 Naika's application was approved. Soon after, she started working and attending school at City Tech again.

## ...Helped 365 People with Humanitarian Petitions and Human Rights Issues

**DONATE  
NOW!**

Help us improve the lives of immigrants in New York;  
visit [www.cuny.edu/donatecitizenship](http://www.cuny.edu/donatecitizenship) and click on the  
"Donate Now!" button, or snap the QR code to the right.





# THE CUNY/ DAILY NEWS CITIZENSHIP NOW! CALL-IN

[www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow/call-in](http://www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow/call-in)

Since 2004, the annual CUNY/ Daily News Citizenship NOW! Call-In has provided over 100,000 callers with free, confidential information on immigration issues ranging from U.S. citizenship to residency to family petitions. Hundreds of volunteers participate in this event each year, many of them trained by CUNY Citizenship Now!

The event is widely supported by some of New York's most influential elected officials. United States Senators Charles Schumer and Kristen Gillibrand, and Mayor Michael Bloomberg have all visited in past years to offer words of encouragement.

The Call-in was a vision shared by Jay Hershenson, Senior Vice Chancellor for University Relations for the City University of New York (CUNY) and Martin Dunn, former Editor-In-Chief of the New York Daily News. Together, they approached immigration attorney, Daily News columnist, and CUNY Citizenship Now! director Allan Wernick to organize the event.

For one week each spring, we open the phones from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. to take calls from anyone seeking immigration information or resources. Call-in volunteers include immigration attorneys, paralegals, advocates, and others who share a passion for immigration issues. Year after year, the dedication of our volunteers has helped make the Call-in so successful. Many

of these volunteers are also members of the CUNY/NYC Citizenship Now! Volunteer Corps and participate in our community-based naturalization application assistance events held throughout the year.

Prior to each year's Call-in, we run a full-day training session for volunteers. The training covers the basics of immigration law and familiarizes participants with the publications and resources available during the week. This year's training was also streamed live for online viewers.

The Call-in has also generated support from the New York business community. Corporate sponsors have included Verizon and Gristedes. Univision, our Spanish-language media partner, has been instrumental in building support within the Latino/a community. Our overall capacity has more than doubled since the event's kickoff year. In 2012, over 350 volunteers assisted 12,571 callers in 48 different languages.



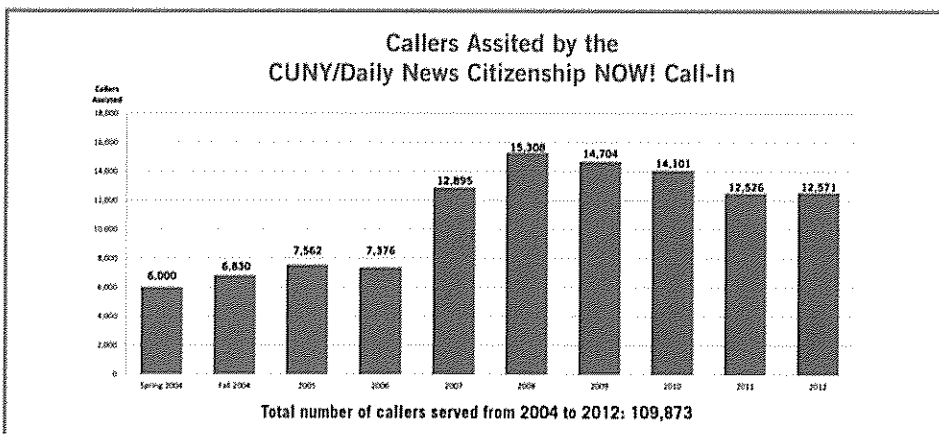
Allan Wernick, Director of CUNY Citizenship Now!, talks with New York City Council Member Robert Jackson after showing him the roster of languages spoken by CUNY Citizenship NOW! Volunteers.



Allan Wernick and Jay Hershenson, CUNY Senior Vice Chancellor for University Relations and Secretary of the Board, meet United States Senator Kristen Gillibrand and New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn.



New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg shakes hands with volunteers at the CUNY/Daily News Citizenship NOW! Call-In.



Source: The New York Daily News

Published May 2012

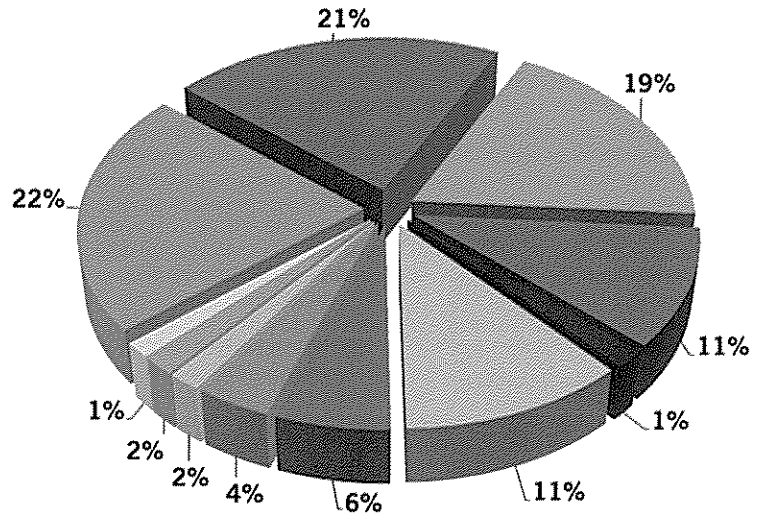


# CUNY/DAILY NEWS CITIZENSHIP NOW! CALL-IN 2012 CALLER SURVEY RESULTS

## CALLER'S LOCATION

CALLER'S LOCATION	TOTAL	PERCENT
<b>NEW YORK CITY BOROUGH</b>	<b>1342</b>	<b>74%</b>
QUEENS	400	22%
THE BRONX	385	21%
BROOKLYN	337	19%
MANHATTAN	193	11%
STATEN ISLAND	27	1%
<b>OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>25%</b>
NEW JERSEY	206	11%
LONG ISLAND	104	6%
UPSTATE NEW YORK	68	4%
CONNECTICUT	30	2%
OTHER	30	2%
NO RESPONSE	25	1%

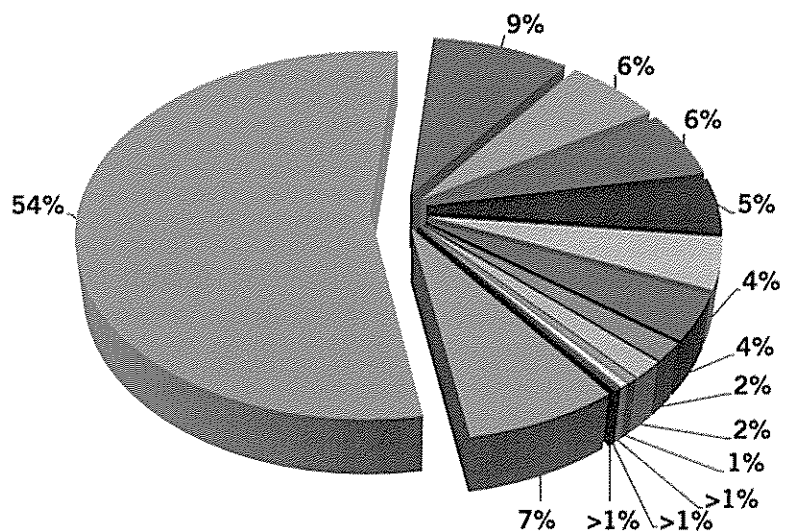
TOTAL CALLERS: 12,571  
SAMPLE POPULATION: 1805



## CALLER'S IMMIGRATION ISSUE

IMMIGRATION ISSUE	TOTAL	PERCENT
<b>NATURALIZATION</b>	<b>1173</b>	<b>54%</b>
ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS	187	9%
FAMILY PETITION	131	6%
OTHER	126	6%
ESL CLASSES	102	5%
CIVICS CLASSES	97	4%
CITIZENSHIP FOR CHILDREN	87	4%
DEPORTATION/REMOVAL	35	2%
LEGALIZATION	34	2%
ASYLUM	12	1%
TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS (TPS)	9	>1%
D.R.E.A.M. ACT	5	>1%
VOTER REGISTRATION	3	>1%
NO RESPONSE	162	7%

TOTAL CALLERS: 12,571  
SAMPLE POPULATION: 1805



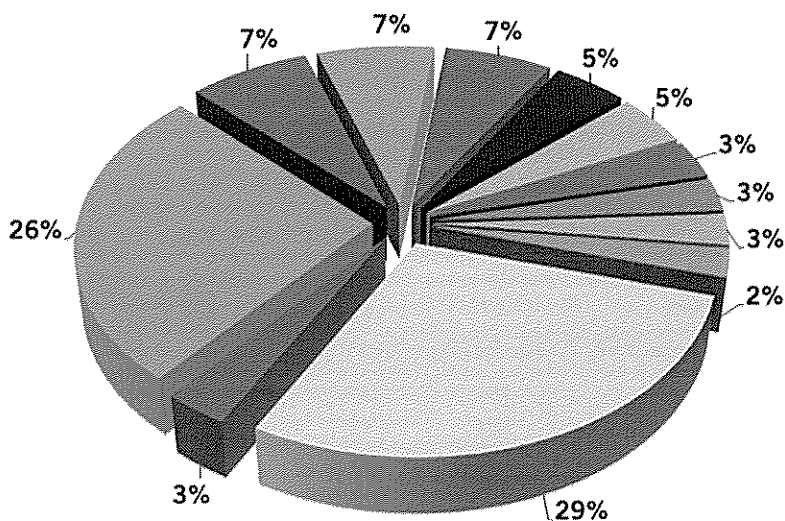


# CUNY/DAILY NEWS CITIZENSHIP NOW! CALL-IN 2012 CALLER SURVEY RESULTS

## CALLER'S COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

COUNTRY	TOTALS	PERCENT
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	475	26%
JAMAICA	135	7%
ECUADOR	131	7%
COLOMBIA	120	7%
MEXICO	83	5%
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	83	5%
GUYANA	60	3%
PERU	52	3%
EL SALVADOR	49	3%
UNITED STATES	45	2%
OTHER COUNTRIES	516	29%
NO RESPONSE	56	3%

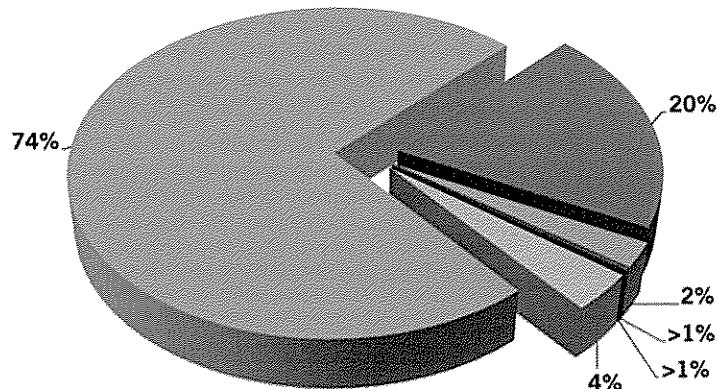
TOTAL CALLERS: 12,571  
SAMPLE POPULATION: 1805



## CALLER'S RATING OF INFORMATION PROVIDED

SERVICE RATING	TOTAL	PERCENT
VERY USEFUL	1327	74%
USEFUL	362	20%
SOMEWHAT USEFUL	43	2%
NOT USEFUL	3	>1%
NO OPINION	4	>1%
NO RESPONSE	66	4%

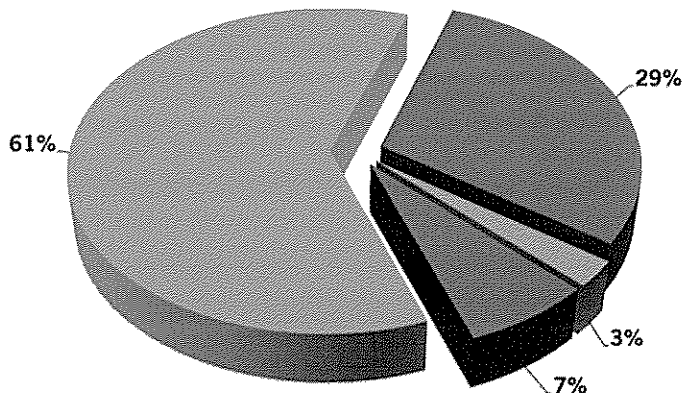
TOTAL CALLERS: 12,571  
SAMPLE POPULATION: 1805



## CALL OUTCOME

CALL OUTCOME	TOTAL	PERCENT
QUESTION WAS ANSWERED	1343	61%
REFERRED TO NOT-FOR-PROFIT AGENCY OR CUNY CITIZENSHIP NOW IMMIGRATION CENTER	652	29%
REFERRED TO CITY BAR REFERRAL PANEL OR AILA'S IMMIGRATION LAWYER SEARCH SERVICE	57	3%
NO RESPONSE	157	7%

TOTAL CALLERS: 12,571  
SAMPLE POPULATION: 1805



# 100,000

## Help line passes big milestone

BY CHRISTINA BOYLE  
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

A MOM FROM the Bronx pushed the Citizenship NOW! immigration hotline past an epic milestone Tuesday when she became the 100,000th person to benefit from the free, confidential call-in.

The green card holder dialed the Daily News and CUNY-sponsored event seeking help navigating the complex path to citizenship.

The housekeeper's call was answered by one of the knowledgeable volunteers manning the phones and she received some welcome news — she can apply for a U.S. passport and may be a citizen in time for the presidential election.

"I want to vote," the 56-year-old said. "I want my voice to be heard, and I want my vote to count because that way I can make a difference."

The native of the Dominican Republic was among the thousands of people who have called Citizenship NOW! this week and Alexandra Lee, a staff attorney at CUNY's Bronx immigration center, was thrilled to help this record-breaking caller with her issues.

"New York is such a melting pot. I feel I'm a product of that immigrant community too," said Lee, whose mother



City Council Speaker Christine Quinn called Citizenship NOW! program 'incredibly important' on Tuesday. Below left, Public Advocate Bill de Blasio takes a call. Photos by Jeanne Noonan

10th ANNUAL  
**CITIZENSHIP NOW!**  
DAILY NEWS CUNY

**CALL TODAY**  
**ENGLISH LINE:**  
(212) 857-6221  
**SPANISH LINE:**  
(212) 857-6225  
TTY/TTD: 212-221-2465



**CUNY**  
Professor Allan Wernick and City Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez.

is Colombian and father is Chinese.

"It's exciting to provide legal services on immigration to the population of New York, and helping the 100,000th caller is amazing."

English and Spanish-speaking lines are open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily through Friday and the volunteers also speak an array of languages from Haitian Creole to Russian and Mandarin.

City Council Speaker Christine Quinn stopped by to con-

gratulate the Citizenship NOW! team on their success, along with City Council members Robert Jackson and Ydanis Rodriguez.

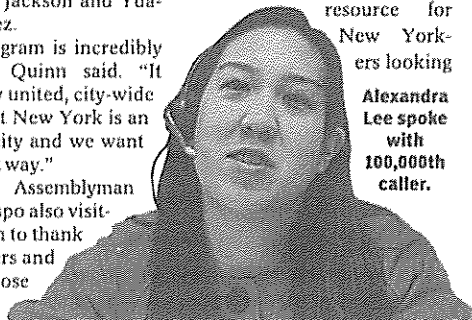
"This program is incredibly important," Quinn said. "It sends a truly united, city-wide message that New York is an immigrant city and we want it to stay that way."

Bronx Assemblyman Marcos Crespo also visited the call-in to thank the volunteers and state Sen. Jose

Peralta, who has attended every Citizenship NOW! event, described the call-in as a vital

resource for New Yorkers looking

**Alexandra Lee spoke with 100,000th caller.**



for free, trustworthy information.

Public Advocate Bill de Blasio said he hoped the free, confidential immigration hotline would send a message to policy makers in the nation's capital.

"In Washington right now, there's an anti-immigrant movement," he said. "What it means is you're denying your own heritage ... (Citizenship NOW!) is how the whole nation should be responding to immigration."

[cboyle@nydailynews.com](mailto:cboyle@nydailynews.com)

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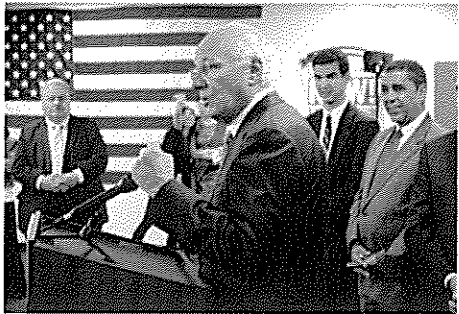
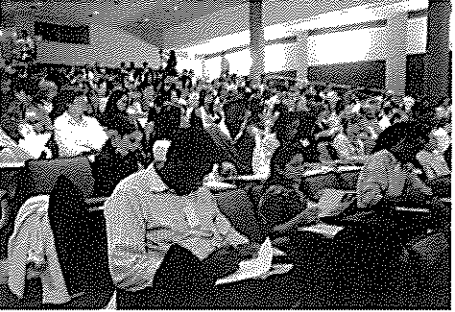
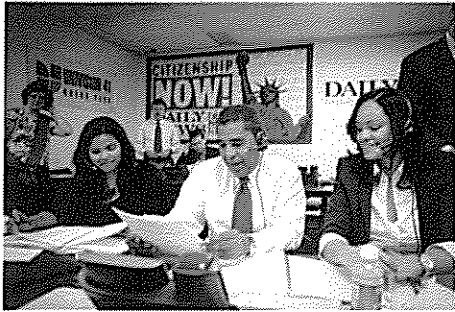


The people who staff the Daily News-CUNY Citizenship NOW! call-in phone lines are available to give information only. They are not attorneys for callers and cannot give you specific legal advice. The call-in is not intended as, and is not a substitute for, legal advice provided by an attorney retained to counsel and assist a client on a specific problem or situation. You should consult an attorney specializing in immigration law if you are in need of such services. The Daily News and CUNY make no representations or warranties of any kind, express or implied, as to information given to callers by the Citizenship NOW! volunteers and under no circumstances will they be liable to any caller or other person for damages of any nature arising in any way from the use of such information.

Meet all our volunteers online at [NYDailyNews.com/CitizenshipNow2012](http://NYDailyNews.com/CitizenshipNow2012)

# CITIZENSHIP **NOW!** DAILY NEWS | CUNY NEWS | NY

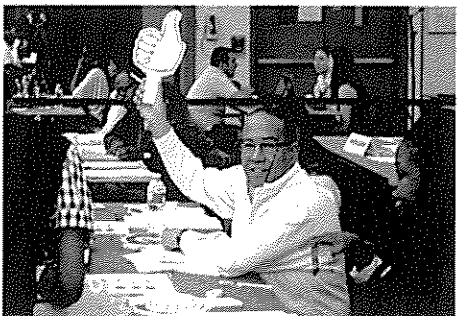
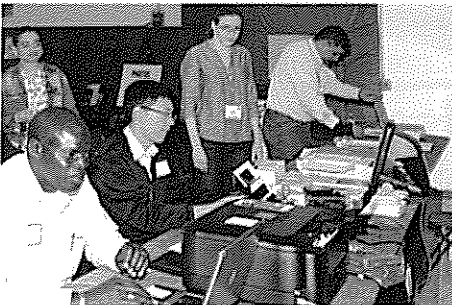
## CUNY/Daily News Citizenship NOW! Call-In





# CUNY CITIZENSHIP NOW!

## Citywide Application Assistance Event





# ABOUT CUNY CITIZENSHIP NOW!

[www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow](http://www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow)

**C**UNY Citizenship Now! is the largest university-based immigration legal assistance program in the nation providing free, high quality, and confidential immigration law services to help individuals and families on their path to U.S. citizenship. The program was created to serve students, faculty and staff but soon expanded services to all New Yorkers. All services provided by CUNY Citizenship Now! are free for everyone. Under the leadership of immigration attorney Allan Wernick, CUNY Citizenship Now's attorneys and paralegals assist close to 8,000 individuals each year at centers and over 2,600 at citizenship events. We also coordinate community, educational, and volunteer initiatives to help expand opportunities for New York City's immigrant population. Our services are available to the community in several languages, including Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, Polish, French, and Italian.

## Our History

In 1997, the City University of New York established CUNY Citizenship Now! to address the growing need for free citizenship and immigration services among CUNY's foreign-born students, faculty, and staff, soon we expanded services to all New Yorkers. We now operate six immigration centers recognized by the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) and one part time center, and offer services from the offices of 26 New York City Council Members, thanks to funding provided by the New York City Council.

## Our Services

We provide assistance to the community with:

- Naturalization
- Relative petitions
- Adjustment of status
- Consular processing
- Certificates of citizenship
- Replacement of lost/ damaged USCIS documents
- Diversity Visa lottery entries
- Fee Waiver Applications
- Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

We also offer:

- Referrals and consultations on other immigration-related issues
- Free pictures for applications that require them

## Accomplishments

CUNY Citizenship Now's model combines free legal services, education, and volunteerism into a single initiative unlike any other citizenship and immigration service provider

in the area. Highlighted below are some of our organization's unique accomplishments:

- At our centers alone, every year we assist over 8,000 participants with various immigration issues.
- We maintain a Volunteer Corps with more than a thousand active members.
- We provide free citizenship application assistance at weekend events held in partnership with local elected officials and community organizations.
- We are the recipient of grants from numerous city, state, and national agencies. Grantors have included the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) and the Bureau of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (BRIA). We also received a grant from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to offer free English and civics classes for citizenship applicants through 2013.
- In 2012 our CUNY Express Center was chosen by the New York Department of State as a neighborhood-based Opportunity Center to help immigrants "fully participate in New York State civic and economic life by providing English-for-Speakers-of-Other-Languages training, helping legal permanent residents navigate the path to citizenship and encouraging entrepreneurship."
- In 2012 we partnered with the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), NYC Service and the Legal Aid Society to launch the NYC Citizenship Initiative, to help individuals navigate through the naturalization process.
- We collaborate with United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to make CUNY campuses

available for citizenship swearing-in ceremonies.

- Our free, public webinars, held in partnership with the CUNY School of Professional Studies, have featured some of the area's top immigration attorneys and advocates.

## Initiatives

### *CUNY/ Daily News Citizenship Now! Call-In*

The Call-in first began in 2004 to provide callers with free, confidential immigration information. Within the event's first nine years, volunteers assisted over 100,000 callers. Callers' issues range from U.S. citizenship to residency to family petitions. Hundreds of volunteers participate in this event, many of them trained by CUNY Citizenship Now!

For one week each spring, we open the phones to take calls from anyone seeking immigration information or resources. Our overall capacity has more than doubled since the event's kickoff year. At the 2012 Call-in, over 350 volunteers assisted 12,571 callers in over 48 different languages.

### *Citywide Citizenship Application Assistance Event*

Immigrant Heritage Week was established by Mayor Michael Bloomberg in 2004 to commemorate the day in April 1907 when more immigrants entered through Ellis Island than any other day in history. CUNY Citizenship Now! and the Volunteer Corps join the celebration each year by holding a massive, city-wide citizenship application assistance event where we aim to assist over 500 people in a single day.

### *FREE Educational Initiatives*

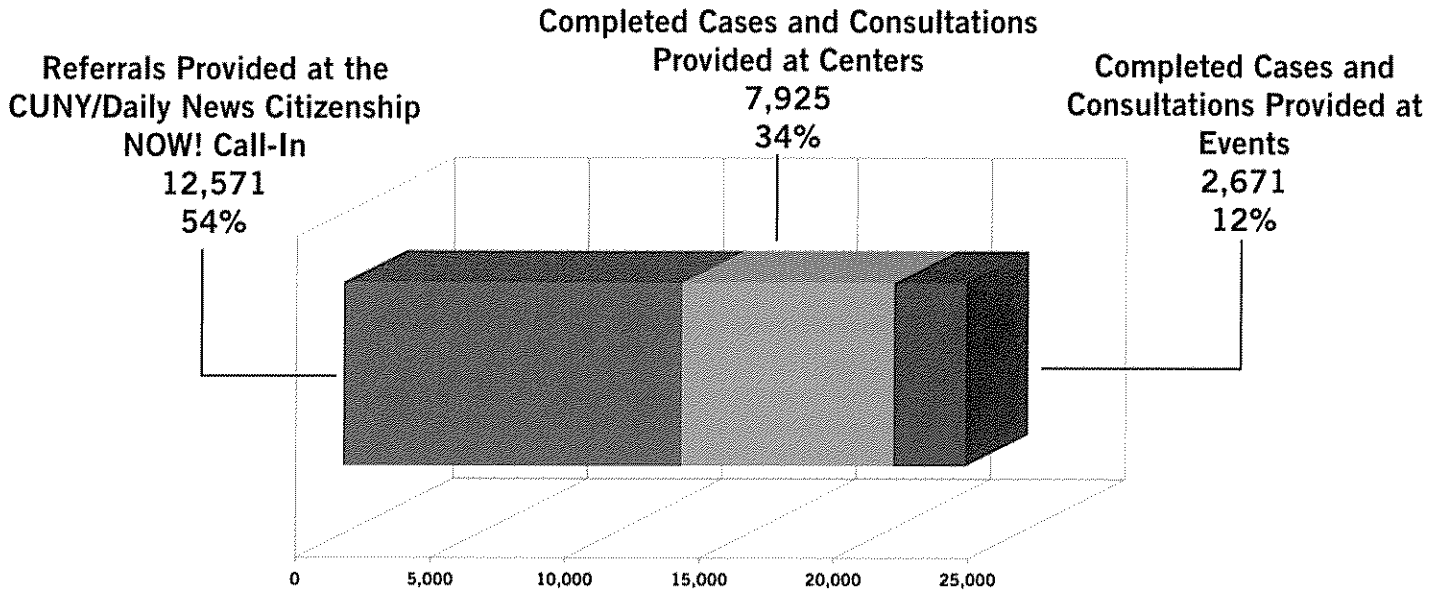
- Trainings for immigration professionals.
- Webinars and workshops on immigration issues.



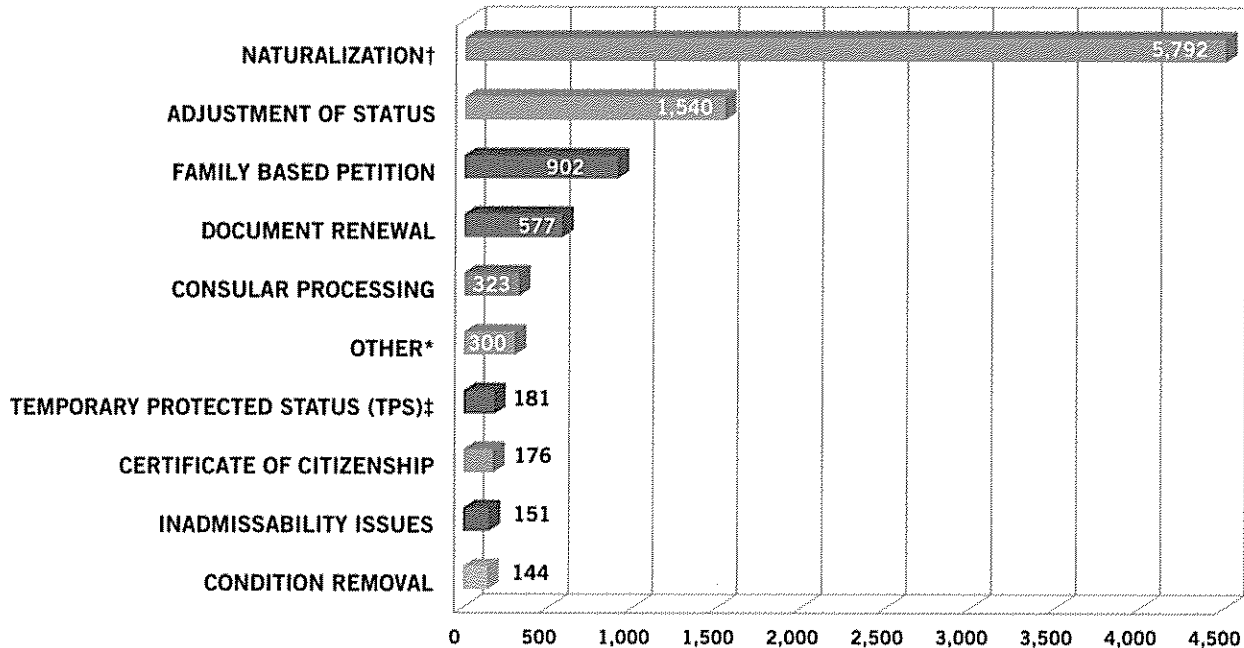
# CUNY CITIZENSHIP NOW!

## OUR ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GLANCE

**23,142 Completed Cases, Applications, and Referrals from July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012**



**Immigration Services Provided at Events and Centers July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012 (Breakdown of Top 10 Immigration Case Types)**



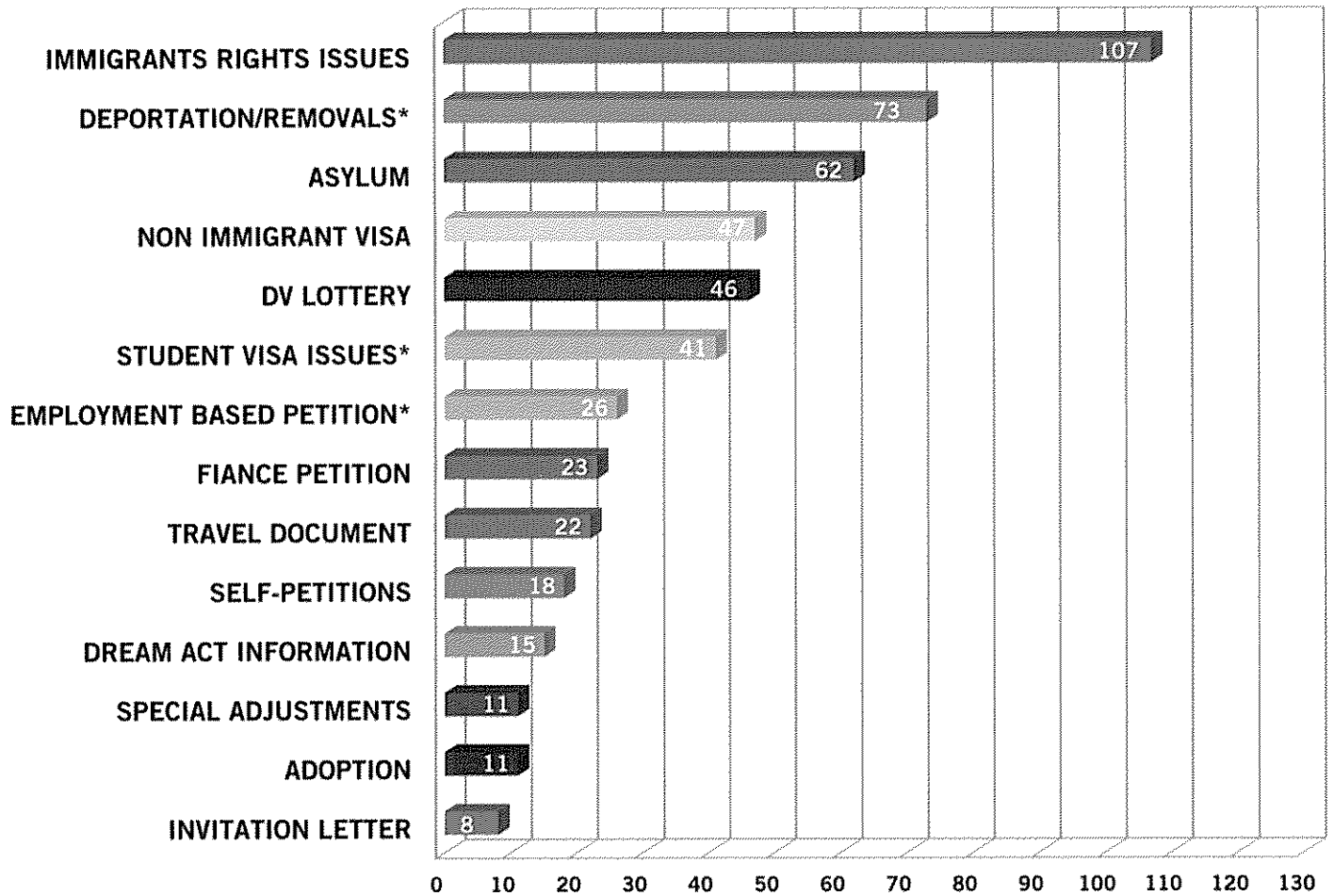
This graph does not include information on referral services provided at the CUNY/Daily News Citizenship Now! Call-In

† 2,671 participants assisted at Citizenship Now! Application Assistance Events

‡ Includes 26 participants assisted at Citizenship Now! Haitian TPS Events

\* Consists of miscellaneous and not specified case types

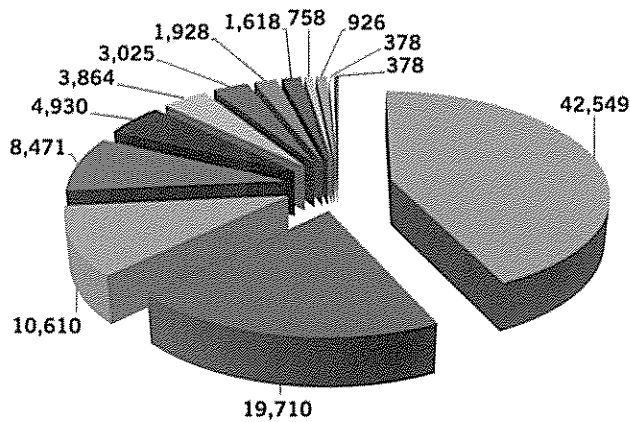
## Other Immigration Services Provided from July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012



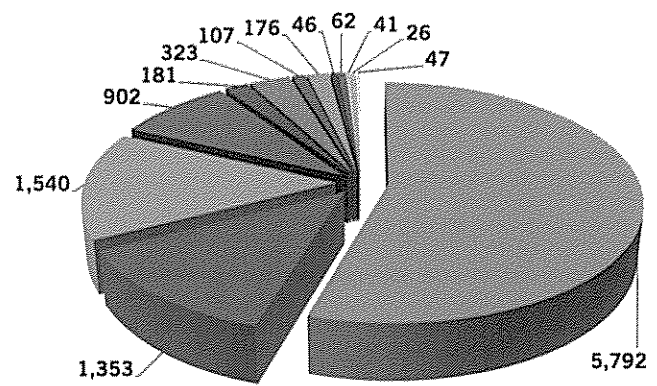
This graph does not include information on referral services provided at the CUNY/Daily News Citizenship Now! Call-In

\* Represents consultations and referrals only

# Immigration Services Provided by CUNY Citizenship Now! at Event and Centers from 1997 – June 30, 2012



Services Provided by Case Type 1997 - 2012



Services Provided by Case Type from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012

IMMIGRATION SERVICES	SERVICES PROVIDED 1997- 2012		SERVICES PROVIDED FY 2011 - 2012			
	COMPLETED CASES AND CONSULTATIONS	PARTICIPANTS' SAVINGS*	CONSULTATIONS	COMPLETED CASES	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS SERVED	PARTICIPANTS' SAVINGS*
NATURALIZATION	42,549	\$21,274,500	1683	4109	5792†	\$2,896,000
GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER	19,710	\$9,855,000	676	677	1353	\$676,500
ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS	10,610	\$5,305,000	968	572	1540	\$770,000
FAMILY BASED PETITION	8,471	\$4,235,500	359	543	902	\$451,000
DV LOTTERY	4,930	\$2,465,000	9	37	46	\$23,000
STUDENT VISA ISSUES	3,864	\$1,932,000	39	2	41	\$20,500
IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ISSUES	3,025	\$1,512,500	90	17	107	\$53,500
CONSULAR PROCESSING	1,928	\$964,000	195	128	323	\$161,500
TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS (TPS)	1,618	\$809,000	44	137	181‡	\$90,500
EMPLOYMENT BASED PETITION	758	\$379,000	20	6	26	\$13,000
CERTIFICATE OF CITIZENSHIP	926	\$463,000	62	114	176	\$88,000
NON IMMIGRANT VISA	378	\$189,000	39	8	47	\$23,500
ASYLUM	378	\$189,000	46	16	62	\$31,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>99,145§</b>	<b>\$49,572,500</b>	<b>4,230</b>	<b>6,366</b>	<b>10,596</b>	<b>\$5,298,000</b>

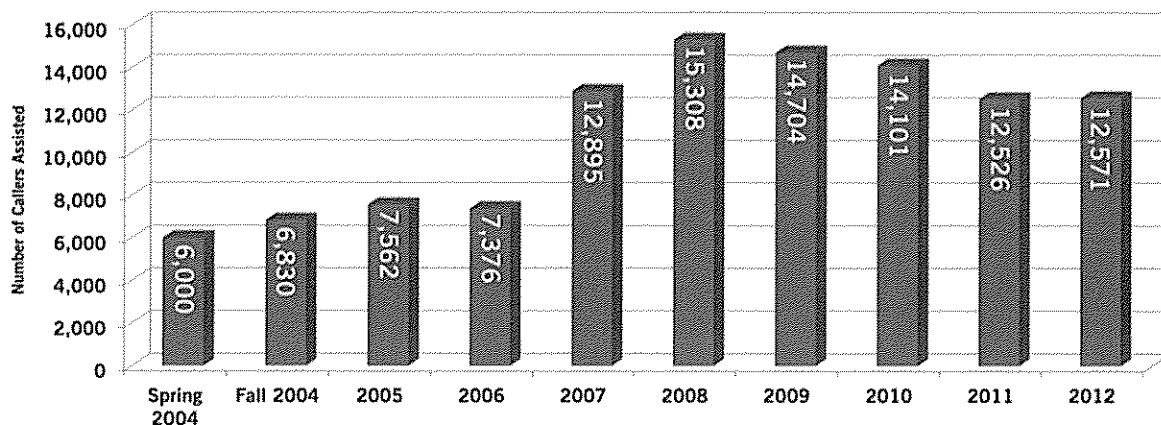
\* Estimate based on DYCD's Legal Assistance Program maximum unit cost set at \$500 per participant

† 2,671 participants assisted at Citizenship Now! Application Assistance Events

‡ Includes 26 participants assisted at Haitian TPS Events

§ Actual numbers may be higher. Gradual improvement in case management has allowed us to better track participant services over the years.

## 109,873 Callers Served by the CUNY/Daily News Citizenship NOW! Call-In from 2004 to 2012





# THE CUNY/ NYC CITIZENSHIP NOW! VOLUNTEER CORPS

[www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow/volunteer](http://www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow/volunteer)

**T**he CUNY/NYC Citizenship Now! Volunteer Corps is the only large-scale, university-based volunteer initiative in the country providing immigrants with free citizenship application assistance. It is a growing community of New Yorkers from all backgrounds who are passionate about immigrants' rights, immigration law, and service to the public. Corps members are responsible for staffing Citizenship Now! events, held throughout New York City on weekends. At these events, volunteers work one-on-one with applicants, helping them complete the N-400 Application for Naturalization. Filing the N-400 is the final step towards citizenship for many residents who have spent years navigating through the difficult immigration process.

## About the Corps

The Volunteer Corps grew out of a longstanding partnership between CUNY Citizenship Now! and the NYC Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA). It was created to harness the tremendous energy and enthusiasm of participants in the annual CUNY/Daily News Citizenship Now! Call-in. Today, the program allows volunteers to develop their interests and engage in service to the immigrant population year-round. Corps members are also invited to attend free training programs and have the opportunity to network with immigration attorneys, advocates, and community leaders.

The Corps is open to anyone who is interested in immigration-related issues. Among its current members are attorneys, paralegals, law students, and other immigration service providers. Volunteers are encouraged to attend events on a regular basis, especially those who may be considering a career in immigration services. Our events are a great way to learn, and are an exciting complement to any curriculum in immigration law.

## Citizenship Now! Events

CUNY Citizenship Now! holds two events each month in partnership with elected officials and community organizations. Our partners have included New York City Council members, New York State senators, New York State Assembly representatives, borough presidents, local unions, libraries, and educational institutions.

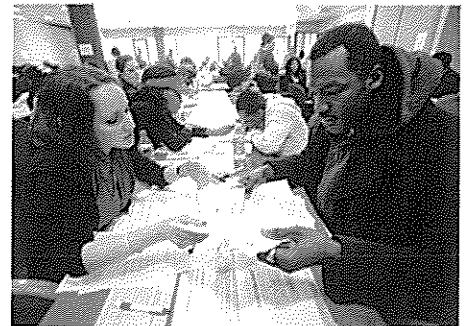
We offer the following services at our events:

- Evaluation of eligibility for naturalization.
- Free assistance in completing the N-400 and legal advice on supporting documents.
- Assistance with the USCIS fee waiver application.
- Free photos required for the application.
- Review of the completed application by an attorney or other legal expert.

## Membership Benefits

By joining the Volunteer Corps, you will become part of a team of committed individuals that thrives on helping others. Those new to immigration will acquire hands-on experience and become familiar with the work of an immigration counselor. More experienced professionals will have the opportunity to share their skills with others. In addition, volunteers have the opportunity to:

- Network with fellow Corps members and Citizenship Now! staff.
- Meet many of New York's influential public officials who co-sponsor events.
- Receive Citizenship Now! communications, including our volunteer newsletter and e-mail invitations to events, free webinars and trainings, and other initiatives
- Assist immigrants in overcoming barriers to naturalization and help them become U.S. citizens.
- Connect with a diverse group of people from all over the world.



*A Volunteer Corps member completes the N-400 application with an eligible permanent resident.*



*Citizenship applicants arrive at an event and receive information from Volunteer Corps members.*

facebook

[facebook.com/citizenshipnow](https://www.facebook.com/citizenshipnow)

twitter

@CUNYCitizenship



**CUNY Citizenship Now  
Administrative Office**  
101 West 31st Street  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 900  
New York, NY 10001  
(646) 344-7245

**City College Immigration  
Center**  
160 Convent Avenue  
North Academic Center  
Room 1-206  
New York, NY 10031  
(212) 650-6620

**College of Staten Island, El  
Centro, and Project  
Hospitality Immigration  
Center at The Help Center**  
514 Bay Street  
Staten Island, NY 10304  
(718) 273-6737

**CUNY Express  
Immigration Center**  
560 West 181<sup>st</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10033  
(212) 568-4692

**Flushing  
Immigration Center**  
39-07 Prince Street  
Suite 2B  
Flushing, NY 11354  
(718)-640-9223

**Hostos Community College  
Immigration Center**  
427 Walton Avenue, T-501  
Bronx, NY 10451  
(718) 518-4395

**Medgar Evers College  
Immigration Center**  
1150 Carroll Street  
Room 226  
Brooklyn, NY 11225  
(718) 270-6292

**York College  
Immigration Center**  
Welcome Center Atrium  
94-20 Guy R. Brewer Blvd.  
Jamaica, NY 11451  
(718) 262-2983

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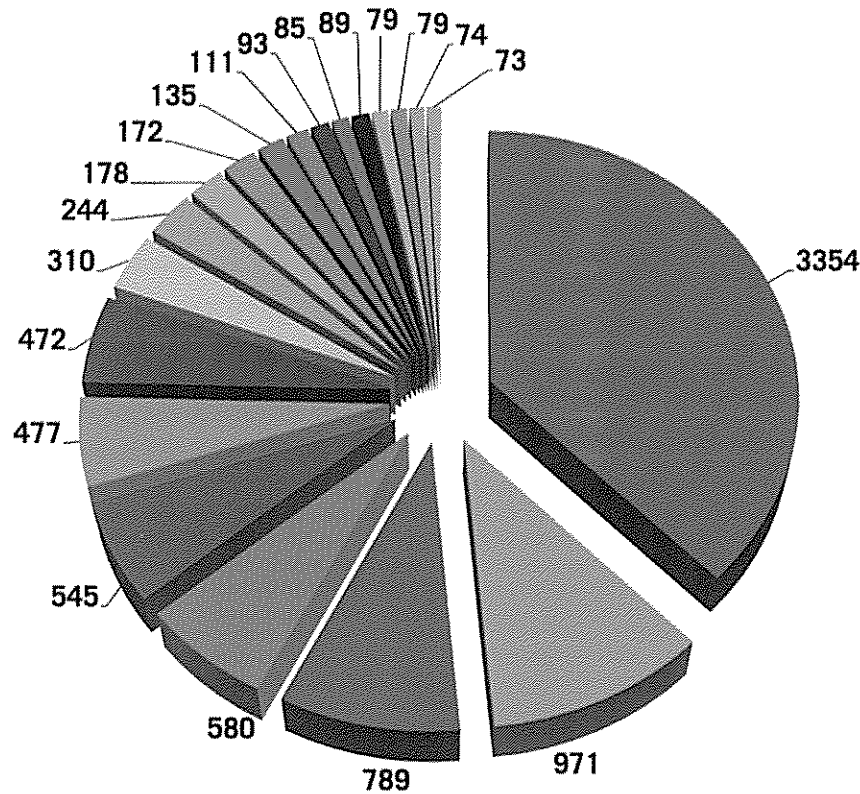
\* Please contact A. Sofia Carreño for media inquiries.

\*\* Please contact Kymete Gashi for information about our events.

# CUNY CITIZENSHIP NOW!

## TOP 20 COUNTRIES SERVED

July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012



COUNTRY OF BIRTH	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS SERVED	COUNTRY OF BIRTH	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS SERVED
Dominican Republic	3354	Peru	172
Jamaica	971	United States	135
China	789	Cuba	111
Trinidad & Tobago	580	Nigeria	93
Haiti	545	Barbados	85
Guyana	477	El Salvador	89
Ecuador	472	Ghana	79
Colombia	310	Grenada	79
Mexico	244	Panama	74
Honduras	178	St Lucia	73



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EL CAMPEON DE LOS HISPANOS

# EL DIARIO

LA PRENSA

NUEVA YORK, VIERNES 23 DE ABRIL AÑO 2010

WWW.ELDIA

## COMUNIDAD

### Línea telefónica de ayuda para inmigración

NUEVA YORK/EDLP — A partir del próximo lunes 26 de abril se iniciará la octava edición anual de la línea caliente de información gratuita ¡Ciudadanía AHORA!, con el propósito de ayudar a los inmigrantes a navegar por el camino hacia la ciudadanía.

¡Ciudadanía AHORA! considerado el programa más grande de su tipo en la nación fue lanzado en abril del 2004 para tratar la falta sistemática de acceso a información gratuita de inmigración para las personas que más lo necesitan. Desde su inicio, el programa ha ayudado a más de 70,000 personas.

Este año, la línea caliente operará por

una semana, desde el lunes, 26 de abril al viernes, 30 de abril, entre las 9:00 a.m. y 7:00 p.m. , con alrededor de 400 consejeros entrenados disponibles por teléfono durante el transcurso de la semana.

Las llamadas serán contestadas en inglés y español. Así mismo se informó que habrá consejeros que hablan: mandarín, cantonés, ruso, coreano, italiano, creole haitiano, bengalí, polaco, francés, yidish y árabe.

Los voluntarios participantes son de la Escuela de Derecho de City University of New York (CUNY), la Sociedad de Asistencia Legal, la Coalición de In-

migración de Nueva York, la Asociación Americana de Abogados de Inmigración, los Centros de Inmigración del CUNY y los 20 recintos del CUNY, además de otras organizaciones comunitarias y oficinas de oficiales electos.

Esta actividad es una iniciativa del Daily News y del Proyecto de Ciudadanía e Inmigración de CUNY. El lunes, 26 de abril los números a llamar para la línea caliente ¡Ciudadanía AHORA! estarán disponibles en el New York Daily News, en [nydailynews.com](http://nydailynews.com), y en [cuny.edu/citizenship](http://cuny.edu/citizenship). Servicio TTY/TTD también estará disponible. Univisión 41, WADO 1280AM y 92.7 La Que Buena.

# IMPACTO

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## LATIN NEWS

No. 1805 Nueva York marzo 24-30, 2010

ImpactoLatinNews.com

## COMUNIDAD

### ¡Ciudadanía AHORA! Linea caliente de inmigración ofrecerá información gratuita a personas que llamen del 26 al 30 de abril

Mientras la administración Obama discute pasos hacia una reforma de inmigración exhaustiva, muchos inmigrantes en el área de la Ciudad de Nueva York se enfrentan a una necesidad urgente de entender las leyes y políticas actuales de inmigración.

Comenzando el lunes, 26 de abril, el New York Daily News y el City University of New York (CUNY) lanzarán la octava edición anual de su línea caliente gratuita ¡Ciudadanía AHORA! para ayudar a los inmigrantes navegar el camino complicado hacia la ciudadanía.

¡Ciudadanía AHORA! considerado ser el programa más grande de su tipo en la nación fue lanzado conjuntamente por el Daily News y el CUNY en abril del 2004 para tratar la falta sistemática de acceso a información gratuita de inmigración para las personas que más lo necesitan. Desde su inicio, el programa ha ayudado a más de 70,000 personas.

Este año, la línea caliente operará por una semana, desde el lunes, 26

de abril al viernes, 30 de abril, entre las 9am y 7pm, con cerca de 400 consejeros entrenados disponibles por teléfono durante el transcurso de la semana.

Las llamadas serán contestadas en inglés y español. También tenemos consejeros que hablarán: Mandarín, Cantonés, Ruso, Coreano, Italiano, Creole Haitiano, Bengali, Polaco, Francés, Yidish y Árabe. La línea caliente ¡Ciudadanía AHORA! tendrá consejeros de inmigración que hablan Mandarín o Cantonés, Ruso Coreano, Bengali, Polaco, Francés, Yidish y Árabe para entrevistas antes del evento.

El lunes, 26 de abril los números a llamar para la línea caliente ¡Ciudadanía AHORA! estarán disponibles en el New York Daily News, en [nydailynews.com](http://nydailynews.com), y en [cuny.edu/citizenship](http://cuny.edu/citizenship). Servicio TTY/TTD también estará disponible. Univision 41, WADO 1280AM y 92.7 La Que Buena ofrecerán cobertura amplia como medios hispanos.

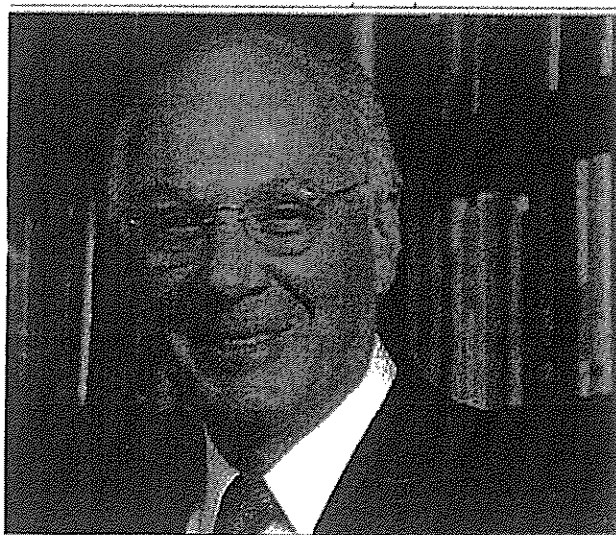
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## **Daily News/CUNY Immigration Hotline**

**Special To The Black Star News**  
March 23rd, 2010



CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein

## [Immigration News]

As the Obama administration discusses steps forward for comprehensive immigration reform, many immigrants in the New York City area are faced with a pressing need to understand current immigration law and policy.

Beginning Monday, April 26, the New York Daily News and City University of New York (CUNY) are launching their eighth free annual Citizenship NOW! hotline to help immigrants navigate the complex path to citizenship.

Citizenship NOW!, believed to be the largest program of its kind in the nation, was co-launched by the Daily News and CUNY in April 2004 to address the systemic lack of access to free immigration information for the people who need it most. Since its inception, the program has helped more than 70,000 people.

This year's week-long hotline will operate from Monday, April 26 to Friday, April 30, between 9am and 7pm, with nearly 400 trained counselors available by telephone over the course of the week. Calls will be answered in English and Spanish. We also have counselors who speak: Mandarin, Cantonese, Russian, Korean, Italian, Haitian Creole, Bengali, Polish, French, Yiddish, and Arabic. The Citizenship NOW! hotline will have immigration counselors who speak Mandarin or Cantonese, Russian, Korean, Italian, Haitian Creole, Bengali, Polish, French, Yiddish, and Arabic for pre-event interviews.

Prior to the event, on April 8, the cast of the Tony Award winning Broadway musical, In The Heights, will perform for more than 400 volunteers at a day long training seminar at the CUNY Graduate Center, on 34th Street and 5th Avenue.

Participating volunteers come from the CUNY School of Law, the Legal Aid Society, the New York Immigration Coalition, the American Immigration Lawyers Association, the CUNY Immigration Centers and the 20 CUNY campuses, and many other community based organizations and elected officials offices.

Citizenship NOW! is led by Daily News columnist Allan Wernick, an attorney and Chair of CUNY's Citizenship and Immigration project. Wernick is also a Professor of Law at Baruch College; he writes the weekly "Immigration Advice" column for the Daily News, as well as the nationally syndicated column, "Immigration and Citizenship."

"Immigration is one of the most important issues facing this country and is a subject that affects the lives of many New Yorkers," said Martin Dunn, Editor-in-Chief and Deputy Publisher of the Daily News. "It's our mission with Citizenship NOW! to provide New Yorkers, their friends and family members who seek citizenship, with the most comprehensive information and assistance on the many complex immigration issues they face today."

Professor Wernick said, "Immigration has become one of the most important issues on the political scene. Each year some 100,000 permanent residents settle in the city, and approximately the same number qualify for naturalization annually. In addition, there are an estimated 11.5 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S., with some 800,000 in the New York area. In the current economic environment, the need for immigration and citizenship application information and assistance is great and growing, despite existing federal and state resources for these services."

"The Daily News and CUNY partnership is an outstanding public service that helps tens of thousands of families gain access to the American Dream," said CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein. "We are proud to be the leading urban public university in the country in offering free quality citizenship services to its students and the immigrant communities of our City and State."

On Monday, April 26, the call-in numbers for the Citizenship NOW! Immigration hotline will be available in the New York Daily News, at [nydailynews.com](http://nydailynews.com), and at [cuny.edu/citizenship](http://cuny.edu/citizenship). TTY/TTD is also available. Univision 41 and WADO 1280 AM Radio will also provide extensive coverage as our Spanish media partners.

## NEW YORK Amsterdam News

Vol. 101 No. 16 April 15-April 21, 2010  
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The new Black view  
www.amsterdamnews.com

\$1.00 New York City

### Citizenship NOW hotline offers free help to immigrants

By **JASMIN K. WILLIAMS**  
*Special to the AmNews*

The road to citizenship can be a long and tricky one to navigate, with many questions and few answers. Starting April 26, the *New York Daily News* and the City University of New York (CUNY) are launching their eighth annual, weeklong Citizenship NOW hotline to help immigrants with their citizenship questions.

Citizenship NOW is the largest program of its kind in the nation and was launched in 2004 in a joint effort by the *Daily News* and CUNY to address the problem of a lack of information that many immigrants face when trying to get citizenship information. The hotline is offered free of charge. To date, the program has helped more than 70,000.

This year's hotline is open from Monday, April 26 through Friday, April 30, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Hundreds of trained counselors will be on hand to take calls in English and Spanish. Counselors who speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Russian, Korean, Italian, Haitian Creole, Bengali, Polish, French, Yiddish and Arabic will also be available.

The CUNY School of Law, Legal Aid Society, New York Immigration Coalition, American Immigration Lawyers Association, CUNY Immigration Centers, 20 CUNY campuses and other community groups are all represented in the volunteer staff participating in this effort.

"Immigration has become one of the most important issues on the political scene. Each year, some 100,000 permanent residents settle in the city, and approximately the same number qualify for naturalization annually. In addition, there

are an estimated 11.5 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S., with some 800,000 in the New York area," said *Daily News* columnist and professor Allan Wernick, who leads the Citizenship NOW effort.

"This is an annual event and is particularly important given the movement in Congress regarding citizenship reform. We want to make sure that every person who can qualify for legal status has the information they need. While we can't help everybody, many people can be helped and we're here to provide that information.

"The Citizenship NOW effort was originated by Martin Dunn and CUNY Vice Chancellor Jay Hershenson. We already had a project at CUNY that provided free services, but that was extended and opened to the public. When the vice chancellor spoke to me about it, I thought it was a great idea. Many people think that immigration law is one of the most complicated areas of law. I write a Q&A column on the immigration issue and I knew from the volume of letters I received that there was a great need for information. Information is power and we're qualified to provide that

information," Wernick said.

"In the current economic environment, the need for immigration and citizenship application information and assistance is great and growing, despite existing federal and state resources for these services," he said.

"Immigration is one of the most important issues facing this country and is a subject that affects the lives of many New Yorkers," said Martin Dunn, editor in chief and deputy publisher of the *Daily News*. "It's our mission with Citizenship NOW to provide New Yorkers, their friends and family members who seek citizenship with the most comprehensive information and assistance on the many complex immigration issues they face today."

The *Daily News* begins the effort on Monday, April 26. Visit [nydailynews.com](http://nydailynews.com) or [cuny.edu/citizenship](http://cuny.edu/citizenship) to get the call-in numbers for the Citizenship NOW hotline.

"We are proud to be the leading urban public university in the country in offering free, quality citizenship services to its students and the immigrant communities of our city and state," said CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein.

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# 世界日報

星期二

WORLD JOURNAL

Tuesday, April 27, 2010



## 公民諮詢熱線 劉醇逸當義工

紐約市立大學(CUNY)和紐約每日新聞報(Daily News) 26日至30日聯合主辦第八屆「公民熱線電話諮詢」(Citizenship Now!)活動，就公民入籍及其他移民法律為民眾提供免費電話解答服務。市主計長劉醇逸26日前往諮詢現場當義工。

公民熱線電話諮詢每天早9時至晚7時將有400位受過訓練的專業諮詢人員提供免費電話諮詢服務，所有電話將以英語及西班牙語接聽，另外也提供普通話、廣東話、韓語服務。可解答的內容包括移民入籍、兒童入籍、與公民及移民服務局溝通、親屬移民、調整身分以及紐約市立大學州內學費與福利等。劉醇逸(右)在諮詢現場當了約40分鐘的義工，一邊給義工們打氣，一邊親自接聽電話，回答移民問題，遇到不懂的問題，就轉頭請教在場的律師再解答。市議員顧雅明也將在27日上午前往該諮詢現場當義工。(圖：主計長辦公室提供，文：記者劉爽)

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# Aramick

Where East Meets West

March 25-April 7, 2010

IMMIGRATION

## CITIZENSHIP NOW!

يقدم خط الهجرة الساخن معلومات مجانية للمتصلين في الفترة من 26 - 30 أبريل/نيسان

فريق عمل In The Heights الذي حقق نجاحًا ساحقًا في بروكاي  
سيدشن الحدث في 8 أبريل/نيسان

College) كما يكتب العمود الأسبوعي "نصائح الهجرة" ("Daily News Immigration Advice") بصحيفة Daily News بالإضافة إلى عمود "الهجرة والجنسية" ("Immigration and Citizenship") الذي يُنشر في عدة صفحات على مستوى البلاد.  
بدءًا من يوم الإثنين، 26 أبريل/نيسان، سوف تتوفر أرقام الاتصال بالخط الساخن Citizenship NOW في صحيفة New York Daily News وعلى الموقع الإلكتروني nydailynews.com وwww.nyed.gov/citizenship كما يتوفر الهاتف النخسي للمعاقين سمعياً (TTY/TDD) ستقوم كل من قناة 41 Univision ومحطة 1280 WADO الإذاعية بتقديم تغطية شاملة باعتبارهما شركائنا الإعلاميين الأسبائين. \*

وبأني المتطوعون المشاركون من كلية الحقوق بجامعة CUNY وجمعية المساعدات القانونية (Legal Aid Society) والتلف الهجرة بنيويورك (New York Immigration Coalition) والجمعية الأمريكية لمحامى الهجرة (American Immigration Lawyers Association) ومراكز الهجرة التابعة لجامعة CUNY (CUNY Immigration Centers) و28 حرمًا جامعيًا تابعًا لجامعة CUNY والعديد من المنظمات المجتمعية الأخرى ومكاتب المسؤولين المنتخبين.  
يشرف على إدارة برنامج Citizenship NOW كاتب العمود بصحيفة Daily News، Allan Wernick وهو محامى ورئيس مشروع الجنسية والهجرة بجامعة CUNY (CUNY's Citizenship and Immigration). Wernick أيضاً أستاذًا للقانون بكلية باروخ (Baruch

أسبوع من يوم الإثنين 26 أبريل/نيسان وحتى يوم الجمعة 30 أبريل/نيسان بين الساعة 9 صباحًا والساعة 7 مساءً، حيث سيتوافر ما يقرب من 400 مستشارًا مكرّمًا عبر الهاتف طوال الأسبوع. سيتم الرد على المكالمات باللغتين الإنكليزية والأسبانية. وسيضم الخط الساخن Citizenship NOW مستشارين هجرة يتحدثون العربية من أجل المقابلات السابقة للحدث.  
وقبل الحدث، في 8 أبريل/نيسان، سيتم أداء العرض الموسيقي In The Heights الحائز على جائزة Tony Award في بروكاي أمام أكثر من 400 متطوع في حلقة تدريبية على مدار يوم كامل بمركز الخريجين التابع لجامعة CUNY (CUNY Graduate Center) في 34th Street and 5th Avenue.

نيويورك - بدءًا من يوم الإثنين، الموافق 26 أبريل/نيسان ستدشن كل من صحيفة New York Daily News وجامعة سيتي بمدينة نيويورك City University of New York (CUNY) الخط الساخن السنوي المجاني الثامن لبرنامج Citizenship NOW لمساعدة المهاجرين في اجتياز الطريق المعقد للحصول على الجنسية.  
تم إطلاق برنامج Citizenship NOW الذي يُعتد أنه أضخم برنامج من نوعه في البلاد، بالتعاون بين كل من صحيفة Daily News وجامعة CUNY في أبريل/نيسان عام 2004، وذلك لمعالجة نقص الوصول المنظم لمعلومات الهجرة المجانية من قبل الأشخاص الذين في أشد الحاجة إليها. وقد ساعد هذا البرنامج منذ إنطلاقه ما يربو على 78 ألف شخص. وسوف يعمل الخط لهذا العام والذي يستمر لمدة

# dkc NEWS from

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## РУССКИМ RUSSIAN BAZAAR WEEKLY БАЗАР

March 18- 24, 2010

### Программа Citizenship N-W!

**ГОРЯЧАЯ ЛИНИЯ ПО ВОПРОСАМ  
ИММИГРАЦИИ ПРЕДЛАГАЕТ БЕС-  
ПЛАТНЫЕ КОНСУЛЬТАЦИИ ПО-  
ЗВОНИВШИМ 26-30 АПРЕЛЯ**

НЬЮ-ЙОРК — пока администрация Барака Обамы обсуждает необходимость проведения всесторонней реформы иммиграционной системы, многие иммигранты в городе Нью-Йорке испытывают острую потребность разобраться в действующем законодательстве в сфере иммиграционной политики.

С понедельника, 26 апреля, газета New York Daily News и Университет г. Нью-Йорка (City University of New York, CUNY) организуют восьмую по счету ежегодную горячую линию **Citizenship NOW!** (Получите гражданство СЕЙЧАС!), которая призвана бесплатно помочь иммигрантам пройти сложный путь к получению гражданства.

**Citizenship NOW!**, которая считается крупнейшей программой подобного рода в стране, была организована Daily News и CUNY в апреле 2004 г. с целью предоставления доступа к бесплатной информации об иммиграции тем лицам, которые больше всего в ней нуждаются. В рамках программы помощь получили уже более 70 000 человек.

В этом году горячая линия будет действовать в течение рабочей недели: с понедельника, 26 апреля, по пятницу, 30 апреля, с 9.00 до 19.00. Специализированную помощь на английском и испанском языках будут оказывать по телефону 400 прошедших обучение консультантов.

У нас также есть специалисты, которые говорят на русском, польском языках, а также идише. Кроме того, горячая линия **Citizenship NOW!** предоставляет услуги консультантов по вопросам иммиграции, которые говорят на указанных выше языках, во время предварительных собеседований.

В качестве волонтеров выступают студенты Школы права CUNY (CUNY School of Law), участники Общества юридической помощи (Legal Aid Society), Американской ассоциации юристов по делам иммиграции (American Immigration Lawyers Association), представители Иммиграционных центров CUNY (CUNY Immigration Centers), 20 студенческих городков CUNY, а также множества других общественных организаций и выборных органов.

Руководителем программы **Citizenship NOW!** является Allan Wernick, обозреватель газеты Daily News, адвокат и глава проекта CUNY по гражданству и иммиграции. Кроме того, он также преподает право в Колледже им. Б. Баруха (Baruch College) и ведет еженедельную колонку «Советы по иммиграции» в газете Daily News, а также синдицированную колонку «Иммиграция и гражданство» в национальных периодических изданиях.

В понедельник, 26 апреля, в газете New York Daily News, а также на сайтах nydailynews.com и cuny.edu/citizenship будут опубликованы телефоны горячей линии **Citizenship NOW!** (также линии TTY/TTD).



# דער בלאט

זייטשריפט פון אלטוועלטליכן ארטאדאקסישן אידישן

DER BLATT WEEKLY-WEEK END  
ORTHODOX JEWRY

Friday, April 23, 2010

## "בירגערשאפט איצט" קאמפיין אָנגעהויבן אין ניו יאָרק סיטי

אימיגראַציע האַטליין וועט צושטעלן אומזיסטע אינפֿארמאַציע פֿאַר רופֿער קומענדיגע וואָך

וועלן געענטפערט ווערן אין די ענגלישע און אין די שפּאַנישע שפראַכן. זיי וועלן אויך האבן קאָנטאַקט וועלכע וועלן רעדן: מאַנדאַרין, קענטאַניעס, רוסיש, קאַרעאַן, איטאַליעניש, האיטיער קריאָולע, בענגאַליש, זיליש, פראַנצויזיש, אַראַביש און אויך אידיש. די "בירגערשאפט איצט!" האַטליין וועט אויך האַבן אימיגראַציע קאָנטאַקט וועלכע ווערן אידיש פֿאַר פֿאַרברייטונג אינטערנעט.

די וואס האבן סיי וואָספֿאַראַ פראַגעס איבער אימיגראַציע פראַבלעמען וועלן קענען אריינרופֿן דעם נומער, אויך וועלכע ס'וועט צוגעשטעלט ווערן א אידישער דאָלמעטשער.

דער נומער וועט אפֿיציעל ערשט פארעפנטליכט ווערן מאנטאג אינדערפרי. מען וועט דאס קענען באקומען דורך אריינרופֿן דעם אפיס פון די יוניווערזיטעט אויף:

(724-344) 646

(מען וועט אויך קענען באקומען דעם נומער דורך די "סי-דזשעי-סי" ארגאנאזאציע, וועלכע שטייט א גאנץ יאר אין דינסט צו באהאנדלן אלע סארט אימיגראַציע פראַבלעמען און פראַגעס, אויף:

(2100-246) 718 (אנגעהויבן מאנטאג אינדערפרי.)

אין צוגאב, וועלן די מענטשן וואס וועלן ענטפערן די ליניעס קענען געבן אינפֿארמאַציע איבער די ספעציעלע אימיגראַציע צענטער וואס באהאנדלן די געביטן. וועלכע

י. שאלאמאן

ניו יאָרק. - איצט ווען די אַבאַמאָ אַרמיניסטראַציע באַהאַנדעלט שריט צו נעמען צוקונפטיגע דיריגליכע אימיגראַציע רעפֿארם, שטייען אַרײַט אַסאַך אימיגראַנטן אין ניו יאָרק און אַ דיריגנדר נויט צו פֿאַרשטיין די איצטיגע אימיגראַציע געזעצן און פֿאַליסיס.

אָנגעהויבן פֿון קומענדיגן מאַנטאָג פֿי אַמור, (אָריל 26) וועט די "דעילי ניוט" זייטשריפט אינאיינעם מיט די "סיטי יוניווערזיטעט פֿון ניו יאָרק" עפענען זייער אַבטע אומזיסטע יעדליכע "בירגערשאפט איצט" האַטליין צו העלפֿן אימיגראַנטן דורכגיין דעם קאַמפֿליצירטן וועג צו בירגערשאַפט.

"בירגערשאַפט איצט" איז וואַרשיינליך די גרעסטע רֶאָאָרם פֿון איר סאַרט אין לאַנד, און עס איז אונטערגענומען געוואָרן דורך די "דעילי ניוט" און "קינני" אין אָריל, '04 צו אַדרעסירן דעם סיסטעמאַטישן מאַנגל פֿון צוטריט צו אומזיסטע אימיגראַציע אינפֿארמאַציע פֿאַר די מענטשן וואָס דאַרפֿן עס דאָס מערסטע האבן, דינט איר גרינדונג, האָט דער רֶאָאָרם שוין געהאַלפֿן איבער 70,000 מענטשן.

די היי-עריגע וואָך-לאַנגע האַטליין, וועט זיין אָפֿען פֿון מאַנטאָג אָריל 26 ביז פֿריטאָג אָריל 30 - צווישן 9 אינדערפרי און 7 אַווענט. שטייענדיג גרייט מיט קנאַפע 400

# 한국일보

The Korea Times

Tuesday, April 6, 2010

## “이민법 무료 상담 합니다”

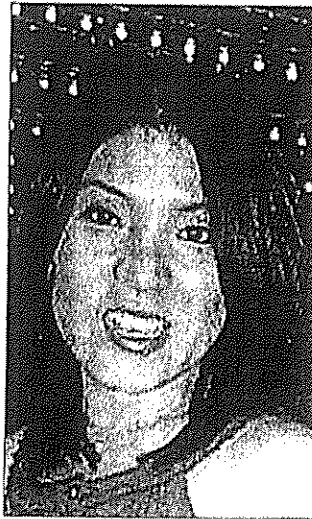
‘무료 시민권신청 핫라인’ 한인담당 유나 김 변호사

“각종 이민법 상담 무료로 해 드립니다!”

뉴욕시립대학교(CUNY)와 뉴욕데일리뉴스가 공동으로 오는 26일~30일(오전 9시~오후 7시) 운영하는 ‘무료 시민권신청 핫라인’의 한인 담당 이민변호사 유나 김(사진)씨.

그는 “매년 열리고 있는 대규모 이민법률 상담행사인 ‘무료 시민권 신청 핫라인’은 시민권 신청외에도 영주권, 취업비자(H-1B), 가족 이민 등 다양한 이민법 분야를 예약없이 전화로 상담받을 수 있도록 하고 있다. 한국어는 물론 영어, 스페인어, 중국어 등 13개 국어를 구사하는 전문 변호인 400여명이 직접 상담가로 나설 예정”이라고 말했다.

5세때 가족과 함께 도미한 한인 1.5세인 김씨는 맨하탄 ‘시티 칼리지’에서 ‘시 법학



(Urban Legal Studies) 과 영어를 복수전공하고 롱아일랜드 호프스트라 법대에 진학 1998년 졸업했다. 현재 근무하고 있는 CUNY 이민센터 플러싱 지부에선 지난 2007년부터 일하기 시작했다.

김씨는 “이민법을 전문으로 다루기 시작하면서 이민자들중 상담수가 정보부족으로 이민법을 두려워한다는 사실을 알게 됐다”며 “상담받으러 온 이민자들이 법률 상담을 통해 두려움을 없애고 자신이 처한 문제를 해결하는 모습을 볼 때 가장 큰 보람을 느낀다”고 말했다.

이어 “‘무료 시민권 신청 핫라인’도 이민자들이 이민법에 보다 친근하게 다가갈 수 있는 기회를 제공하기 위해 마련되는 행사로 많은 한인들이 행사를 통해 필요한 법률정보도 얻고 이민법에 대한 어려움이나 편견을 없애길 바란다”고 덧붙였다.

‘무료 시민권 신청 핫라인’ 전화번호는 핫라인 운영 첫날인 26일 CUNY 웹사이트(www.cuny.edu)를 통해 공개된다. <심재희 기자>

【侨报记者张菁4月26日纽约报道】26日，一个免费开放给大众的移民问题咨询热线电话开通。市主计长刘醇逸也到场接听电话，以示支持。

这个由纽约《每日新闻》和纽约城市大学主办的活动名为“现在就当公民！”（Daily News/CUNY Citizenship Now!），免费回答民众有关移民的各种问题。有大量的义工在现场回答民众的问题，他们以英语和西班牙语为主，但也可以提供中文、韩文和俄文等语言的服务。

刘醇逸26日上午9时就来到热线接听现场（见上图，《每日新闻》提供），鼓励义工，也亲自接听了二十分钟的电话，在不能确定答案时，他还向现场的专业律师求援，请律师进行解答。

据悉，这个移民热线号码为：1（212）330-6505，服务至本周五，每天晚7时前都有人接听。

市议员顾雅明定于27日也到现场做义工，接听移民的电话。

THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. 1671

in favor  in opposition

Date: MARCH 19, 2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Kathleen Jordan

Address: 9 Murray Street

I represent: NYPICG

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: 3 19 2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: JACQUELINE VINO

Address: 75 E 71st St. #30 Spkly NY 11276

I represent: NEW YORK IMMIGRATION CENTER

Address: 137-1301 75th St., 12th Fl. NY 11210

THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. 1671-2013

in favor  in opposition

Date: MARCH 19, 2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: ARTHURINE DESOLA

Address: 18815 71st Street, IC, Fresh Meadows, NY

I represent: PROFESSIONAL STAFF CONGRESS / CUNY

Address: 601 Broadway Suite 1500, N.Y., N.Y. 10064

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Mae Le

Address: C 85 Canal St NYC 10012

I represent: Chinese Refugee Assn

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: 3/19/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Allan Wernick

Address: 100 Bennett 10033

I represent: CUP

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: 3/19/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jocelyne McCall

Address: 221-15 Linden Blvd NY 11411

I represent: Christian Americans United for Freedom

Address: 221-15 Linden Blvd Columbia Hs NY 11411

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. 1671

in favor  in opposition

Date: 3/19/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Emily SeonHye Park

Address: 136-19 41<sup>st</sup> Ave Flushing NY 11355

I represent: Minkwon Center for Community Action

Address: 136-19 41<sup>st</sup> Ave Flushing NY 11355

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: 3/19/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Vanessa Ramos

Address: 131 E. 83<sup>rd</sup> St, NYC 10028

I represent: The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families

Address: 110 William St, NY, NY 10038

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. 1671

in favor  in opposition

Date: 3/19/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Karla Rosero Kabin

Address: 59-26 Woodside Ave, Woodside, NY 11377

I represent: Emerald Isle Immigration Center

Address: Woodside, NY