



Catholic
Charities
Archdiocese of Dubuque



Immigration Legal Services

Keeping Families Together

March 2021

New Possibilities in 2021

By Yer Vang, Catholic Charities' Director of Immigration Legal Services

Easter will soon be upon us and the culmination of Holy Week reminds me that we have much to be grateful for and to keep faith alive despite the overwhelming challenges we faced in 2020. A lot has changed in this year of the pandemic, but the values instilled in us remain constant. The principle of loving thy neighbor is critical to the mission of Catholic Charities and the ministries we deliver to meet the needs of those most vulnerable in our community. We stand with our immigrant brothers and sisters to face a new year and new possibilities in 2021 and beyond. In this newsletter, we share with you the promise of tomorrow and urge you to be engaged.



While we are encouraged by President Biden's announcement of the U.S. Citizenship Act of 2021, there is pending legislation before Congress that also needs your attention. Catholic Charities and many others around the country look forward to the passage of the Dream and Promise Act of 2021 and the Farm Workforce Modernization Act in Congress. As of last week, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to pass both pieces of legislation and we urge you to contact your Senators and ask them to vote and pass these bills as a step forward toward the legalization of undocumented immigrants and making the many other long-overdue and necessary changes to our nation's immigration laws.

Please visit the link below to contact your Senators and ask them to support the Dream Act, Secure Act, and the Form Workforce Modernization Bills.

[Click Here to Take Action & Email Your Senators!](#)

Watch: Immigration Update Webinar

A summary of recent Immigration Legal Updates from our Catholic Charities Attorneys



Note: This information is current as of publication date and subject to change. Please consult an immigration attorney or the [United States Citizenship & Immigration Services \(USCIS\) website](#) for the most current immigration information.



Public Charge Update

On March 9, 2021, the Biden Administration informed the U.S. Supreme Court that it will no longer defend the public charge rule issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) under the Trump Administration. Trump's public charge rule created a chilling effect and caused many qualified immigrants to not access or use life-saving benefits for fear of the repercussions to their immigration status.

[Click HERE to continue reading...](#)

American Rescue Act

President Biden signed into law a \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill, the American Rescue Act, which provides economic relief and support to individuals, communities, and states during the pandemic. The bill takes a step to include the nearly 3 million people from mixed-immigration status families who were unable to receive stimulus checks. Among those who will receive relief under this bill are U.S. citizens and lawfully present children in mixed-status families who were denied stimulus checks previously. The bill also provides new funding for community health centers, schools, and health care systems, all of whom provide critical services to immigrants.

90 Faces of Hope

Join us in celebrating the 90th anniversary of Catholic Charities in 2021 with the 90 Faces of Hope video series. Follow our [Facebook Page](#) for weekly story posts or [click HERE](#) for more videos.



Visit our Immigration Legal Services website

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque |
www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org

