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June 2005



[Conference Home](#) > [Speaker Profiles](#)

## Speaker Profiles

- [Keynote Speaker](#)
- [Plenary Session Speakers](#)
- [101 Session \(Basic Training\) Presenters](#)
- [Immigration Session Presenters](#)
- [Employment Session Presenters](#)
- [Public Benefits Session Presenters](#)

### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER (Thursday, June 16, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.)**

**PRAMILA JAYAPAL**, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HATE FREE ZONE. An activist and writer, Ms. Jayapal has been actively involved in international and domestic social justice issues for over 12 years, working across Africa, Asia and Latin America, as well as domestically with immigrant and refugee communities in Washington State. She speaks frequently at universities and community events on issues of gender, globalization, development and community. She serves on several boards, including that of Chaya, a nonprofit organization serving South Asian women in crisis; the Institute of Current World Affairs; and Hedgebrook, a retreat center for women writers. Ms. Jayapal has a master's degree in business administration from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, and a B.A. from Georgetown University in English and Economics. She is also the author of *Pilgrimage to India: A Woman Revisits Her Homeland* (Seal Press, 2000). She was born in India and raised in India, Indonesia and Singapore.

Ms. Jayapal and Hate Free Zone Campaign have received several awards and recognitions for their work, including the City of Seattle's 2002 Civil Rights Award, the Washington Bar Association's Access to Justice Community Leadership Award, the Japanese American Citizens League Leadership Award, the Northwest Asian Weekly Foundation's Community Leaders Award, a leadership award

from Rep. Jim McDermott of Washington State, and the Ecumenical Leadership Award from the Washington Association of Churches. In January 2004, Ms. Jayapal was named one of the top ten Puget Sound regional leaders by the *Seattle Times* editorial board.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

## PLENARY SPEAKERS

[Bazan-Manson, Andrea](#) | [Bernstein, Josh](#) | [Chavez-Thompson, Linda](#)

[Choy, Rosita](#) | [De Guzman, Benjamin](#) | [Drake, Susan](#) | [Flora, Gabriela](#) | [Garcia, Isabel G.](#)

[Jones, Juria](#) | [Klessig, Margaret](#) | [Massimino, Julia](#) | [Maulik, Monami](#)

[Melmed, Lynden D.](#) | [Muñoz, Cecilia](#) | [Olavarria, Esther](#) | [Passel, Jeffrey S.](#)

[Rodriguez, Miquel E.](#) | [Salas, Angelica](#) | [Tactaquin, Catherine](#)

### "WHERE WE STAND: DEFINING THE CONTEXT OF OUR WORK" (THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 8:30 - 9:30 A.M.)

• **ISABEL G. GARCIA**, COALICIÓN DE DERECHOS HUMANOS/ALIANZA INDÍGENA SIN FRONTERAS. As co-chair of Tucson, Arizona-based Derechos Humanos and director of the Pima County Legal Defender's Office, Isabel G. Garcia has been at the forefront of the struggle for immigrant and refugee rights since 1976. She has spoken and provided testimony to hundreds of audiences, both in academic and community settings, and has provided advice to the Mexican government, most recently as one of the 100-member council to the Instituto del Mexicano en el Exterior. Ms. Garcia is one of the founding members of the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, based in Oakland, California, and has been instrumental in coalition-building, bringing labor, religious, indigenous and environmental sectors into the struggle for human rights for migrants and their families. This work has included the struggles against employer sanctions and around amnesty and Central American refugee work in the 1980s, and fighting U.S. border policy that has led to the current militarization of the border, the criminalization of migrants, and the rise of vigilantism.

• **BENJAMIN DE GUZMAN**, NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LEGAL CONSORTIUM (NAPALC). Benjamin de Guzman is community education manager at NAPALC. He works with local community-based organizations, conducting outreach activities, providing technical assistance, as well as other services. He also administers NAPALC's Community Partners Network, a group of more than 90 community-based organizations in 47 cities in 24 states and the District of Columbia. As an expert on community organizing, Mr. de Guzman has conducted a variety of trainings, presentations and consultations on a broad array of topics of concern to Asian Pacific American communities across the country. He has served on the advisory boards of Asian Pacific Islanders for Human Rights, the East Coast Asian American Student Union, and Asian Pacific Islander Queers United for Action; and on the executive committees of Filipino American Youth Dialogue and the National Network for Veterans Equity DC Chapter. Mr. de Guzman holds a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley, in mass communications and Spanish, and he studied at the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania.

- **CECILIA MUÑOZ**, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LA RAZA. Cecilia Muñoz is vice president for NCLR's Office of Research, Advocacy, and Legislation. She supervises all legislative and advocacy activities conducted by NCLR policy staff, covering a variety of issues of importance to Latinos, including civil rights, employment, poverty, farm worker issues, education, housing, and immigration. Her area of expertise is immigration policy; she started at NCLR as a senior immigration policy analyst in 1988. Ms. Muñoz represents NCLR before the media, Congress, and policymakers in Washington, DC. In 2000, she was awarded a MacArthur Foundation fellowship in recognition of her work on immigration and civil rights. Ms. Muñoz is the daughter of immigrants from Bolivia. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where she did her undergraduate work, and of the University of California, where she earned a Master's degree.

- **JEFFREY S. PASSEL**, PEW HISPANIC CENTER. Jeffrey S. Passel joined the Pew Hispanic Center in Washington, DC, in January 2005. There, his research focuses on the demography of the Hispanic population and his continuing interests in U.S. immigration. He previously was principal research associate at the Urban Institute, where he concentrated on the impacts of immigrants and their integration into American society, and on the demography of immigration, particularly the measurement of undocumented immigration. Most recently, Dr. Passel and his colleagues have been investigating the demography and purchasing power of the Hispanic population, the integration of immigrants and the second generation, welfare use by immigrants, and the fiscal impacts of immigrants, especially taxes paid. Dr. Passel's interests also include measuring and defining racial/ethnic groups in the United States and census undercount. He has a Ph.D. in social relations from the Johns Hopkins University, an M.A. in sociology from the University of Texas at Austin, and a B.S. in mathematics from M.I.T.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

**"THE CHALLENGE OF OUR TIMES: ADDRESSING COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM"  
(FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 8:30 - 9:30 A.M.)**

- **ANDREA BAZAN-MANSON**, EL PUEBLO, INC. (NORTH CAROLINA). Andrea Bazan-Manson is El Pueblo's executive director and chief lobbyist at the state and federal levels. She is a founding member of El Pueblo and served on its board as vice president from 1995-1999. Previously, she was the research associate at the North Carolina Office of Minority Health, Dept. of Health and Human Services. Ms. Bazan-Manson is involved in several state and interagency committees and groups, including the Governor's Advisory Council on Hispanic/Latino Affairs. She also is a member of the board of directors of the National Council of La Raza, the nation's largest Hispanic civil rights organization, and serves on its Executive Committee. Ms. Bazan-Manson is a member of the National Advisory Committee of the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health. She also teaches in the Dept. of Maternal and Child Health at the University of North Carolina School of Public Health. She holds Master's degrees in social work and public health from UNC-Chapel Hill. Ms. Bazan-Manson grew up in Argentina.

- **JOSH BERNSTEIN**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER (NILC). As NILC's federal policy director, Josh Bernstein monitors, analyzes, and makes recommendations regarding federal legislative and administrative developments affecting immigrants, particularly in the areas of immigration law and the employment and public benefits rights of low-income immigrants. Before joining NILC in 1994, he served as a judicial clerk to the Hon. Harry Pregerson of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Bernstein's advocacy on behalf of low-income persons dates back to 1982, when he was director of Californians for a Fair Share, a statewide coalition of low-income families and their allies that was

formed to combat welfare cuts. He subsequently served as a welfare advocate for the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles and the Inner City Law Center, a Los Angeles skid row legal clinic. Mr. Bernstein earned a Juris Doctor from the University of California (Boalt Hall).

- **LINDA CHAVEZ-THOMPSON**, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR - CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS (AFL-CIO). As executive vice president of the AFL-CIO since 1995, Linda Chavez-Thompson represents the labor movement as a member of the board for several national organizations, including the National Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice, the Institute for Women's Policy Research, and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute. She also serves as a member of the Board of Governors for the United Way of America, and as a vice chair of the Democratic National Committee. In 2001, she was elected president of ORIT, the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers, which is the Western Hemispheric arm of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. A native of Lubbock, Texas, Ms. Chavez-Thompson is a second-generation American of Mexican descent. She brings to her work 35 years of experience in the labor movement, beginning in 1967 with her first work for the Laborers' local union in Lubbock. She is the first person to hold the post of AFL-CIO executive vice president, and she is the first person of color to be elected to one of the federation's three highest offices.

- **SUSAN DRAKE**. Susan Drake is a consultant to Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR), co-authoring a report on immigrant integration for the foundation group. Formerly, she was executive director of the National Immigration Law Center, where she served for 18 years, helping build NILC into one of the preeminent national organizations working to protect the rights and opportunities of low-income immigrants and their family members. After joining NILC as a staff attorney in 1986, Ms. Drake helped expand NILC's expertise from immigration law to public benefits and employment issues affecting low-income immigrants. She became NILC's executive director in 1996. She has written articles, presented public testimony, and spoken at numerous conferences about the impact of welfare and health policies on immigrant families. Before joining NILC, Ms. Drake was a staff attorney at Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance. She also worked at Terris & Sunderland, a Washington, DC, law firm specializing in civil rights and environmental litigation. She was a law clerk at the Center for Law and Social Policy before graduating from the University of Illinois Law School.

- **ANGELICA SALAS**, COALITION FOR HUMANE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS OF LOS ANGELES (CHIRLA). Angelica Salas is executive director of CHIRLA, a multiethnic coalition of community organizations and individuals in Los Angeles that seeks to foster greater understanding of the issues that affect immigrant communities, provide a neutral forum for discussion, and unite immigrant groups to more effectively advocate for positive change. To further these goals, CHIRLA educates community members about issues that affect immigrants and refugees; organizes immigrants around important social issues; provides legal representation and a support network for immigrants and refugees; participates in national, state, and local advocacy to inform public policy on topics that impact immigrant welfare; operates an extensive referral system; works to improve race and ethnic relations in Los Angeles and other areas of southern California; and provides extensive referral services via its bilingual hotline to the immigrant community, service providers, and community leaders.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

**"DIALOGUE WITH CONGRESSIONAL STAFF"  
(FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 1:00 - 2:30 P.M.)**

- **JURIA JONES**, LEGAL COUNSEL, U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, SENATOR ARLEN SPECTER (R-PA), CHAIR. As counsel to the Committee on the Judiciary, Juria Jones has responsibility for a broad range of issues, including immigration and border security, oversight of the judiciary, and the courts. Previously, Ms. Jones served as counsel to Sen. Arlen Specter (R-PA). In that capacity, she was responsible for such issues as immigration, civil rights, the Constitution, and other issues before the Committee on the Judiciary. Prior to her tenure in the Senate, Ms. Jones clerked for Circuit Court Judge Lawrence Glazer in Lansing, Michigan. Prior to her clerkship, she interned at the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York City and at the Michigan Department of Attorney General. Ms. Jones earned her J.D. from Thomas Cooley Law School and her LL.M., with a focus on law and government, from American University, Washington College of Law.

- **MARGARET KLESSIG**, CHIEF OF STAFF, OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE JEFF FLAKE (R-AZ). Margaret Klessig serves as chief of staff to Rep. Flake, who presently is serving his third term in Congress, representing the Sixth Congressional District of Arizona, which includes parts of Mesa and Chandler and all of Gilbert, Queen Creek, and Apache Junction. In addition to her duties as chief of staff, Ms. Klessig handles issues related to Rep. Flake's seat on the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Claims, and Border Security. Rep. Flake, along with Senators John McCain (R-AZ) and Edward Kennedy (D-MA) and Representatives Jim Kolbe (R-AZ) and Luis Gutierrez (D-IL), authored the Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act (H.R. 2330/S. 1033), bipartisan and comprehensive immigration reform legislation. The bill was introduced May 12, 2005. Previously, Ms. Klessig served as Rep. Flake's legislative director; before that, she served in the office of Sen. Jon Kyl (R-AZ). She graduated from Boston College with a degree in political science and a concentration in Italian studies.

- **JULIA MASSIMINO**, CHIEF COUNSEL, OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE HOWARD BERMAN (D-CA). Since the 106th Congress, Julia Massimino has advised Rep. Berman on issues before the House Judiciary Committee, particularly immigration, labor, crime, civil rights, telecommunications, and antitrust issues. She earned her J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law in Austin. She also has a Master's degree in public affairs from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs.

- **LYNDEN D. MELMED**, COUNSEL, SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION, BORDER SECURITY AND CITIZENSHIP, SENATOR JOHN CORNYN (R-TX), CHAIR. Lynden Melmed serves as counsel to the Senate Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship. He is on detail from the Dept. of Homeland Security, where he handles a wide range of immigration issues in the Office of General Counsel. Before joining the government, he practiced immigration law in Dallas, Texas. He earned his J.D. from the University of Virginia.

- **ESTHER OLAVARRIA**, GENERAL COUNSEL TO SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY (D-MA), RANKING MEMBER, U.S. SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION. Esther Olavarria is Sen. Kennedy's primary advisor on immigration, nationality, and refugee legislation and policies. Previously, she practiced immigration law in Miami, Florida, working at several nonprofit organizations. She cofounded the Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center and served as its managing attorney, supervising the direct service work of the organization. She also has worked at Legal Services of Greater Miami, as the directing attorney of the American Immigration Lawyers Association Pro Bono Project, and as a staff attorney at the Haitian Refugee Center. Ms. Olavarria was born in Havana, Cuba, and raised in Florida.

- **MIGUEL E. RODRIGUEZ**, COUNSEL TO SENATOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON (D-NY). In addition to serving as Senator Clinton's counsel, Miguel Rodriguez serves as her legislative assistant on judiciary, homeland security, immigration, and faith-based issues. Prior to joining Sen. Clinton's staff, Mr.

Rodriguez served in a similar capacity for Sen. Jon Corzine of New Jersey. From 1999 to 2004, Mr. Rodriguez was an associate at the law firm of Crowell & Moring LLP in Washington, DC. His litigation practice included white collar criminal defense and the representation of Fortune 100 companies in complex civil and criminal actions in both state and federal court. Notably, Mr. Rodriguez represented American missionaries whose plane was shot down over the Peruvian Amazon in April 2001 in settlement negotiations with the U.S. Dept. of State, the Dept. of Justice, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Republic of Peru. Mr. Rodriguez is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

**"BEYOND THE BELTWAY: FIGHTING FOR JUSTICE AT THE STATE AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS"  
(SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 9:00 - 10:30 A.M.)**

- **ROSITA CHOY**, AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (AFSC). Rosita Choy is national policy impact coordinator for the AFSC, where she works to advance policy positions identified by immigrant communities. Before joining the AFSC, she worked as a consultant for the National Immigration Law Center, helping to organize the 2003 Low-Income Immigrant Rights Conference. She also has served as immigration policy director of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition, tracking legislation and working to increase immigrant communities' ability to affect public policy. She has experience in direct services, fund-raising, coalition-building, organizational development, and policy advocacy covering issues such as legalization, workers' rights, detention and deportation, health access, bilingual education, and domestic violence. An immigrant herself, Ms. Choy has family and roots in both Asia and Latin America.

- **GABRIELA FLORA**, AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (AFSC). Gabriela Flora is Project Voice regional organizer for the AFSC, a Quaker international peace and social justice organization. Project Voice works to strengthen immigrant rights in the United States and mitigate the factors that force people to leave their home countries. Ms. Flora's work encompasses community organizing, policy education and impact, and alliance-building with a range of immigrant rights, community, labor, and environmental groups, both locally and nationally. In addition, she is a board member of the Denver Justice and Peace Committee. Prior to joining AFSC, Ms. Flora was a program associate at the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She has conducted research on globalization and migration in the U.S. Midwest, Ecuador, Brazil, and the Philippines. She also has lived in Colombia, Nicaragua, and Bolivia. Ms. Flora has a Master's degree in environmental anthropology from the University of Georgia.

- **MONAMI MAULIK**, DRUM-DESI RISING UP & MOVING (NEW YORK). Born in Calcutta, India, and raised in the Bronx, New York, Monami Maulik has worked as an immigrant rights, labor, and youth organizer in New York City since 1997. In 1999 she co-founded DRUM-Desis Rising Up & Moving as one of the first low-income South Asian community-based organizations for social justice in the U.S. DRUM organizes low-income South Asian immigrant communities and immigrant detainees for immigrant justice. Previously, Ms. Maulik worked with the New York Taxi Workers Alliance, the Women Workers Project at CAAAV (Organizing Asian Communities), and TICO (Training Institute for Careers in Organizing), and she served on various citywide coalitions and campaigns around prison abolition, youth, and people of color organizing. Ms. Maulik serves on the advisory board of the North Star Fund and the Steering Committee of the New York City Organizing Support Center.

• **CATHERINE TACTAQUIN**, NATIONAL NETWORK FOR IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS (NNIRR). Catherine Tactaquin is executive director and one of the founders of NNIRR, an alliance of local, state, and national organizations and activists from the immigrant, labor, religious, civil rights, and human rights communities. NNIRR promotes rights for all immigrants, regardless of immigration status, through its coordination of national advocacy campaigns, coalition-building, and support for immigrant community organizing and empowerment. Ms. Tactaquin's interest in immigration was initially motivated by her own experience as the U.S.-born daughter of an immigrant from the Philippines, and before joining NNIRR she was involved for many years in organizing and advocacy in the Filipino community. Ms. Tactaquin is a founding and executive council member of the Geneva-based Migrant Rights International, which is building a global network to promote migrant rights. She participates on the boards of several organizations, including Filipino Civil Rights Advocates; Poverty, Race and Research Action Council in Washington, DC; and the California Coalition for Fair Trade and Human Rights.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

## 1 0 1 S E S S I O N P R E S E N T E R S

[Blazer, Jonathan](#) | [Cárdenas, Vanessa](#) | [Gleason, Peggy](#) | [Hincapié, Marielena](#) | [Magaña, Mark](#)  
[Neville, Sheila](#) | [Quiñonez, José A.](#) | [Rivlin, Douglas G.](#) | [Sinha, Anita](#)

**JONATHAN BLAZER**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER (NILC) (1.1 & 2.1 Immigrant Eligibility for Public Benefits 101). As public benefits policy attorney at NILC, Jonathan Blazer focuses on ensuring that federal policy does not exclude immigrants from accessing critical safety-net programs. Prior to joining NILC, he was a national coordinator of Project Voice, the nationwide immigrants' rights organizing initiative of the American Friends Service Committee. From 1997 to 2003, he worked as a legal services attorney in Philadelphia, where he specialized in welfare law and founded the Language Access Project of Community Legal Services. Mr. Blazer splits his time between Washington, DC, and his home office in Philadelphia. He earned his law degree from Stanford Law School.

**VANESSA CÁRDENAS**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION FORUM (1.5 & 2.5 Media Strategies 101). Vanessa Cárdenas is a policy/communications associate for the National Immigration Forum, responsible for a great deal of the Forum's communications outreach to Spanish-language press and for helping organizations around the country handle communications-related issues and problems. Her past professional experience includes managing and administering public education/outreach programs serving diverse communities on a range of issues, from education to public safety. She has developed and implemented successful civic participation/leadership programs for immigrants, and participated in numerous organizing efforts on issues affecting the immigrant community. Ms. Cárdenas holds a B.A. in government and politics and a Master's in public administration, both from George Mason University.

**PEGGY GLEASON**, CATHOLIC LEGAL IMMIGRATION NETWORK, INC. (CLINIC) (1.3 & 2.3 Immigration Law 101). Peggy Gleason is a senior staff attorney for CLINIC. She previously worked for Colorado Rural Legal Services, representing farm workers.

**MARIELENA HINCAPIÉ**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER (NILC) (1.2 & 2.2 Immigrant Workers' Rights 101). As NILC's director of programs, Marielena Hincapié manages the employment, public benefits, and immigration work of the organization. She also specializes in protecting and advancing the rights of immigrant workers. She writes articles and policy analyses, provides

technical assistance, and presents trainings to legal and social service providers, labor unions, and community-based organizations. In addition, she litigates law reform and impact cases dealing with the intersection of immigration and employment/labor law. Before joining NILC, she worked for the Legal Aid Society of San Francisco's Employment Law Center, where she founded the center's Immigrant Workers' Rights Project. Ms. Hincapié holds a Juris Doctor from Northeastern University School of Law.

**MARK D. MAGAÑA**, MAGAÑA ASSOCIATES (1.4 & 2.4 Legislative Advocacy 101). Mark Magaña has worked in Washington, DC, since 1990 in a variety of capacities. Prior to founding his own government relations and public affairs consulting firm, Mr. Magaña served as President Clinton's special assistant for legislative affairs and, before that, as senior policy advisor to the vice chair of the House Democratic Caucus, Rep. Robert Menendez (D-NJ). He has also represented the City of Los Angeles in legislative and administrative matters before the federal government and Congress, represented the Dept. of Health and Human Services before Congress, and served as legislative assistant to Rep. Jim McDermott (D-WA). Mr. Magaña came to Washington, DC, to work for the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO). He earned a combined degree in philosophy, politics, and economics from Pomona College.

**SHEILA NEVILLE**, LEGAL AID FOUNDATION OF LOS ANGELES (LAFLA) (1.1 & 2.1 Immigrant Eligibility for Public Benefits 101). Sheila Neville is an immigration attorney at LAFLA, where she oversees STOP the Traffic: Slavery Training and Outreach Project. She provides training and technical assistance on human trafficking issues to legal aid programs and other community-based agencies throughout the United States. Prior to taking up this project, she worked for the National Immigration Law Center, for LAFLA's Immigrants' Rights Office, and for the Haitian Refugee Center in Miami, Florida. Ms. Neville earned her law degree from George Washington University Law School.

**JOSÉ A. QUIÑONEZ**, BLUELATINOS.ORG (1.4 & 2.4 Legislative Advocacy 101). Before starting BlueLatinos.org ([www.bluelatinos.org](http://www.bluelatinos.org)), José Quiñonez worked for MoveOnPAC.org during the 2004 presidential elections as its South Florida field organizer. Previously, he was senior policy analyst with the Center for Community Change in Washington, DC, responsible for educating congressional offices on issues ranging from immigration reform to TANF reauthorization and transportation equity. Prior to joining CCC, Mr. Quiñonez worked as legislative assistant to Rep. Rubén Hinojosa (D-TX). In 1994, he worked for Californians Against Proposition 187. He earned a Master's in Public Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

**DOUGLAS G. RIVLIN**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION FORUM (1.5 & 2.5 Media Strategies 101). Douglas G. Rivlin is the director of communication at the National Immigration Forum, one of the nation's premier advocacy organizations for immigrants and generous immigration policies. At the Forum, Mr. Rivlin is responsible for handling all press inquiries, steering reporters to sources both inside and outside the organization, proactive press strategies and events, overseeing publications, and managing a program of strategic communications trainings to assist immigrant and refugee leaders and advocates in communicating as effectively as possible on behalf of their constituencies. Prior to joining the Forum in March 2001, he served as senior advisor for public affairs and congressional relations to the director of Voice of America, the U.S. Government's international broadcasting service. Previously, he was the Washington director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania, a communications policy research organization. Mr. Rivlin earned his M.A. in communication at the Annenberg School for Communication of the University of Pennsylvania.

**ANITA SINHA**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER (NILC) (1.2 & 2.2 Immigrant Workers' Rights 101). A staff attorney in NILC's Oakland, California, office, Anita Sinha focuses primarily on the employment and labor rights of low-wage immigrant workers. She also provides technical assistance, including legal and public policy support, on the issue of enforcement of immigration law by local and state law enforcement agencies. Before joining NILC in November 2003, she worked at the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project in Seattle, Washington, for two years as a Skadden Fellow representing trafficking victims and unaccompanied minors in their immigration proceedings. Ms. Sinha holds a Juris Doctor from New York University School of Law.

[\(Back to top\)](#)



## IMMIGRATION SESSION PRESENTERS

[Abel, Laura](#) | [Bergman, Carol A.](#) | [Bernstein, Josh](#) | [Black, Andrea](#) | [Burghart, Devin](#)  
[Calvo, Cheye M.](#) | [Chiang, Emily](#) | [Chiriboga-Roby, Patricia](#) | [Choi, Juliet K.](#) | [Choy, Rosita](#)  
[Collins, Susan](#) | [Friedland, Joan](#) | [Garcia, Sean Mariano](#) | [Hong, Chung-Wha](#) | [Hong, J. Traci](#)  
[Hossain, Shormin](#) | [Kalhan, Anil](#) | [Kidane, Aster T.](#) | [Lee, Eun Sook](#) | [Lewis, Melinda](#)  
[Lubell, David](#) | [Maruskin, Joan M.](#) | [Maulik, Monami](#) | [Nugent, Chris](#) | [Ramírez, Christian](#)  
[Randhava, Rob](#) | [Rudy, Michele](#) | [Ruiz, Juan Carlos](#) | [Sanders, Debi](#) | [Schwartz, Ari](#) | [Sinha, Anita](#)  
[Sugimori, Amy](#) | [Tactaquin, Catherine](#) | [Torres, Mirna](#) | [Tramonte, Lynn](#) | [Waslin, Michele](#)  
[Werlin, Beth](#) | [Yoshida, Mark](#)

**LAURA ABEL**, BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW (7.6 Access to Justice: Immigrant and Guest Worker Access to Legal Representation and the Courts). Laura Abel is an associate counsel at the Brennan Center for Justice. The Brennan Center is a nonprofit organization that aims to develop and implement an innovative, nonpartisan agenda of scholarship, public education, and legal action that promotes equality and human dignity, while safeguarding fundamental freedoms. Ms. Abel directs her efforts toward the Access to Justice Project, where she works to promote access to lawyers and to the courts for low-income people. Her activities include ongoing litigation, public education, and a recent international human rights complaint aimed at removing restrictions Congress has imposed on legal services lawyers receiving funding from the Legal Services Corporation. One of the restrictions she is fighting to remove bars LSC-funded lawyers from representing many categories of immigrants.

**CAROL A. BERGMAN**, CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CHANGE (CCC) (6.6 If It's Broke, Fix It: The Comprehensive Immigration Reform Debate). As senior policy analyst at CCC, a nonprofit think tank and advocacy organization dedicated to building better communities working for social and economic justice, Carol Bergman works on immigration legislation and policy. She has been engaged in federal legislative and policy work for more than twenty years and has an extensive background in criminal justice and civil rights. Ms. Bergman served as director of legislative affairs for drug policy in the Clinton White House and as associate counsel for the House Committee on Government Operations under Chairman John Conyers. As director of the Research and Policy Reform Center, Inc., she developed a domestic legislative agenda for the Open Society Institute and established the Criminal Justice Alliance, a coalition to turn around the overreliance on incarceration in the United States. And as director of U.S. Programs for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, Bergman ran the National Moratorium on Prison Construction.

**JOSH BERNSTEIN**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW SCHOOL (NILC) (5.5 DREAM Act and In-State Tuition for Undocumented Immigrants). See "[Plenary Speakers](#)" for profile.

**ANDREA BLACK**, DETENTION WATCH NETWORK (DWN) (5.6 Enhancing Advocacy for Immigration Detainees). Andrea Black, staff coordinator for the DWN, has eight years of field experience in immigration detention, working in a range of capacities, including legal services, client

empowerment, program development, administration, and advocacy. As executive director of the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project in Florence, Arizona, Ms. Black worked to educate the public, media and administrative policymakers about the injustice of immigration incarceration and advocated for positive detention reform. Upon joining the Florence Project in 1996, Andrea developed and implemented an innovative legal service delivery program for detained immigrants in Eloy, Arizona, which integrates video and written materials with individual and group workshops to assist individuals through each step of their court process. Ms. Black has been involved in the DWN since its inception, serving as a member of the advisory committee that led the network's strategic planning process. She earned her J.D. degree from New York University Law School.

**DEVIN BURGHART**, BUILDING DEMOCRACY INITIATIVE OF THE CENTER FOR NEW COMMUNITY (CHICAGO) (3.6 Countering the Anti-Immigrant Movement). Devin Burghart is director of the Building Democracy Initiative of the Center for New Community. The Building Democracy Initiative is a national effort to defend civil and human rights by countering racism, nativism, and xenophobia. Mr. Burghart is an internationally recognized expert on white nationalism and is the author of several books in the field, including a new exposé on the anti-immigrant movement.

**CHEYE M. CALVO**, NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES (NCSL) (4.6 Federal and State Driver's License Policy: Strategic Messages and Defensive Advocacy). Cheye Calvo is a committee director with the NCSL. He directs the NCSL's Financial Services Committee and the Transportation Committee, and represents state legislatures on banking, insurance, securities, and transportation in Washington, DC, before Congress, the administration, and the federal agencies. Mr. Calvo also serves as the NCSL's policy specialist on insurance issues. He came to the NCSL in 1999 from local government in Maryland, where he served as chief of staff for Prince George's County Councilwoman Audrey E. Scott. While in county government, he developed expertise in a wide range of local and state matters, specializing in fiscal, personnel, and economic development issues. In 2004, he was elected mayor of the Town of Berwyn Heights, Maryland. Mr. Calvo received his M.A. and B.A. in American History from the University of Wyoming.

**EMILY CHIANG**, BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW (7.6 Access to Justice: Immigrant and Guest Worker Access to Legal Representation and the Courts). Emily Chiang is an associate counsel at the Brennan Center for Justice. She works on the Brennan Center's immigrant rights and indigent defense reform initiatives in the Center's Access to Justice Project. Prior to joining the Brennan Center, she was an associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, where she worked on complex civil litigation involving breach of contract and securities fraud claims, indigent defense reform, and a variety of pro bono matters. She graduated from Harvard Law School, where she was a primary editor on the *Harvard Law Review*.

**PATRICIA CHIRIBOGA-ROBY**, ASSOCIATED CATHOLIC CHARITIES IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES, BALTIMORE (ACCILS) (7.6 Access to Justice: Immigrant and Guest Worker Access to Legal Representation and the Courts). Patricia Chiriboga-Roby has been a staff attorney with ACCILS since 1997. Her work involves all areas of immigration law, and she represents people with matters before the Dept. of Homeland Security and the immigration courts. She is a member of the Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services and chair of the Maryland Advisory Council for the Office of New Americans. She earned her J.D. from the University of Maryland Law School.

**JULIET K. CHOI**, NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LEGAL CONSORTIUM (NAPALC) (7.6 Access to Justice: Immigrant and Guest Worker Access to Legal Representation and the Courts). In September 2004, Juliet K. Choi joined NAPALC as the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association Partners Community Law Fellow. Under the umbrella of language access/rights, she serves as NAPALC's

staff attorney on health care and access to the courts. A certified mediator, she served as a judicial law clerk to the Hon. Dennis M. Sweeney of the Circuit Court for Howard County, Maryland. Prior to her legal career, Ms. Choi worked with the corporate division of Gannett Broadcasting in the areas of financial and marketing research analysis and, subsequently, as a policy director with the National Mental Health Association. In addition, her consulting projects have included working with local and state governments on multi-agency system reform and community coalition-building. Ms. Choi earned her Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland School of Law.

**ROSITA CHOY**, AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (AFSC) (6.5 Border Matters: Exploring the Complex Issues of the Physical Border and Beyond). See "[Plenary Speakers](#)" for profile.

**SUSAN COLLINS**, OFFICE OF U.S. REPRESENTATIVE LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ (6.6 If It's Broke, Fix It: The Comprehensive Immigration Reform Debate). As legislative director for Rep. Luis V. Gutiérrez (D-IL), Susan Collins manages the congressman's legislative agenda and assists him in his leadership roles as chair of the Democratic Caucus Immigration Task Force and chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Task Force on Immigration. She also staffs the congressman's action on the House floor, as well as manages policy issues related to crime, the judiciary, homeland security and the budget. Prior to joining the congressman's office, Ms. Collins worked for more than a decade in the field of human services with immigrants and their families as program director, educator, and advocate. Ms. Collins earned her Masters degree from the University of Houston Graduate School of Social Work.

**JOAN FRIEDLAND**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER (NILC) (3.5 How the Government Uses Databases to Share Information about Immigrants and Enforce Immigration Law; 4.6 Federal and State Driver's License Policy: Strategic Messages and Defensive Advocacy). A staff attorney in NILC's Washington, DC, office, Joan Friedland focuses on post-9/11 documentation, and database and information-sharing policy issues affecting low-income immigrants. Before joining NILC in 2002, she had a long career as a lawyer for nonprofit organizations and in private practice in New Mexico and Florida, and has litigated many civil rights and immigration cases. Ms. Friedland earned a Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School.

**SEAN MARIANO GARCIA**, LATIN AMERICA WORKING GROUP (LAWG) (6.5 Border Matters: Exploring the Complex Issues of the Physical Border and Beyond). A senior associate at the LAWG, Sean Mariano Garcia covers Mexico and Brazil policy. He has been working on Latin American affairs since 1996 and began his career at the Washington Office on Latin America. From 1999 to 2001 he was executive director of the Cuban Committee for Democracy, a Cuban-American organization dedicated to encouraging a peaceful transition to democracy on the island. Mr. Garcia also worked in electoral politics in Miami, Florida, where he directed a campaign to provide domestic partnership benefits to all city employees in Miami Beach and also worked to protect Miami-Dade County's sexual orientation nondiscrimination law from repeal. A Cuban-American native of Miami, he received a Master's degree from George Washington University in international development.

**CHUNG-WHA HONG**, NEW YORK IMMIGRATION COALITION (NYIC) (3.5 How the Government Uses Databases to Share Information about Immigrants and Enforce Immigration Law). Chung-Wha Hong is the NYIC deputy director who oversees advocacy work related to immigrant and immigration policy at the federal, state, and city levels. The NYIC is an umbrella advocacy organization made up of over 150 groups throughout the state that work with immigrant and refugee communities. Prior to coming to the NYIC, Ms. Hong served as executive director of the National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC), a national organization working on civil rights, immigrant rights and civic participation in the Korean American community.

Her past activism includes working on health care issues at the Committee of Interns & Residents and working on Asian American and labor issues at the Washington, DC-based Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO.

**J. TRACI HONG**, NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LEGAL CONSORTIUM (NAPALC) (7.5 Fighting Against Injustice: Fix '96 and Beyond). J. Traci Hong, the director of NAPALC's Immigration Program, began working at NAPALC in June 2003 as an immigration staff attorney. In her work with NAPALC, she protects and advocates for the rights of Asian American immigrants and their families before Congress, administrative agencies, and federal courts. Prior to joining NAPALC, Ms. Hong worked as a staff attorney at the American Immigration Law Foundation, where she engaged in impact litigation on behalf of immigrants. She began her career as an attorney at the law firm of Tidwell, Swaim & Associates in Dallas, Texas, where she practiced all aspects of immigration law. She is a graduate of the University of Texas School of Law.

**SHORMIN HOSSAIN**, DRUM-DESI'S RISING UP & MOVING (NEW YORK) (4.5 Blurring the Lines: State and Local Police Enforcing Federal Immigration Law). Shormin Hossain joined DRUM-Desis Rising Up & Moving in 2002 as a youth member and is currently the youth organizer on the Education Not Deportation campaign. Ms. Hossain comes from a Bangladeshi immigrant family and grew up attending New York City public schools. She is coordinating the production of a documentary film by family members and youth about the struggle of immigrant detainees since 9/11 and DRUM's organizing campaigns to end deportation. Ms. Hossain also facilitates workshops for youth and adults on media justice, immigrant justice organizing, and youth organizing. She is a student at CUNY Queens College studying sociology and English.

**ANIL KALHAN**, COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL & NYU SCHOOL OF LAW IMMIGRANT RIGHTS CLINIC (3.5 How the Government Uses Databases to Share Information about Immigrants and Enforce Immigration Law). Anil Kalhan is an associate in law at Columbia Law School and cooperating attorney with the NYU School of Law Immigrant Rights Clinic. Until 2004, he was an associate at Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton and cocordinator of the firm's immigration and international human rights pro bono practice group. He previously has worked for the ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project in New York and the South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre in New Delhi, India, and also served as law clerk to the Hon. Chester J. Straub (U.S. Ct. of App., 2d Cir.) and the Hon. Gerard E. Lynch (U.S. Dist. Ct., S.D.N.Y.). His current research interests include immigration and citizenship, international law, international human rights, constitutional law, comparative antiterrorism law, and Asian Americans and the law. Mr. Kalhan earned a Juris Doctor from Yale Law School.

**ASTER T. KIDANE**, SOJOURNERS MINISTRY AT THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH, NEW YORK (5.6 Enhancing Advocacy for Immigration Detainees). Aster T. Kidane is the cofounder and coordinator of Sojourners Ministry at the Riverside Church. Sojourners was established in January 1999, and Ms. Kidane has worked with Sojourners Ministry since May 2002. Previously, she was a case worker in the Refugee Resettlement Department of New York Catholic Charities. Ms. Kidane is a graduate of the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague, The Netherlands.

**EUN SOOK LEE**, NATIONAL KOREAN AMERICAN SERVICE & EDUCATION CONSORTIUM (NAKASEC) (5.5 DREAM Act and In-State Tuition for Undocumented Immigrants; 6.6 If It's Broke, Fix It: The Comprehensive Immigration Reform Debate). Eun Sook Lee is the executive director of NAKASEC, which was founded in 1994 to project a progressive Korean American voice on critical civil rights issues through education, organizing, and advocacy. NAKASEC affiliates are the Korean American Resource & Cultural Center (Chicago), the Korean Resource Center (Los Angeles) and YKASEC – Empowering the Korean American Community. Previously, Ms. Lee was the executive director of

Korean American Women In Need (KAN-WIN), a bilingual domestic violence service agency. She is also a board member of the National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development, the National Immigration Forum, and the Los Angeles Mayor's Office for Immigrant Affairs.

**MELINDA LEWIS**, EL CENTRO, INC., KANSAS CITY, KANSAS (3.6 Countering the Anti-Immigrant Movement). Melinda Lewis, LMSW, is director of policy advocacy and research at El Centro, Inc. Her efforts there are focused on coordinating policy advocacy, research, and leadership development efforts and building statewide networks for progressive policy change, particularly around issues of affordable housing, working families, and immigrant inclusion. Ms. Lewis serves on several community coalitions and directs local voter registration and mobilization efforts in the Latino community. She speaks fluent Spanish and is the author of El Centro's qualitative and quantitative research reports about the lives of Latino immigrants in the Kansas City area.

**DAVID LUBELL**, TENNESSEE IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS COALITION (TIRRC) (4.6 Federal and State Driver's License Policy: Strategic Messages and Defensive Advocacy). David Lubell is state coordinator and founder of TIRRC, a statewide, immigrant and refugee-led collaboration whose mission is to empower immigrants and refugees throughout Tennessee to develop a unified voice, defend their rights, and create an atmosphere in which they are viewed as positive contributors to the state. In 2001 Mr. Lubell helped lead a grassroots coalition of immigrant organizations and allies in an advocacy campaign for a bill allowing Tennessee immigrants without Social Security numbers to obtain driver's licenses. The bill was signed into law in May 2001. Since then, he has been working to expand and strengthen the statewide coalition that formed around the driver's license issue. In his last job at Latino Memphis, a nonprofit in Memphis, Mr. Lubell helped lead a successful organizing campaign to increase access to healthcare for Memphis's growing limited-English proficient population.

**JOAN M. MARUSKIN**, CHURCH WORLD SERVICE IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE PROGRAM (6.5 Border Matters: Exploring the Complex Issues of the Physical Border and Beyond). As Washington representative for the Church World Service Immigration and Refugee Program, Joan M. Maruskin develops advocacy on legislative issues concerning migrants, immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. She is a member of the Asylum Working Group, the Washington Liaison Group, the Border Working Group, and Haitian NGO advocacy groups. Ms. Maruskin is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church and presently a doctoral candidate at Wesley Theological Seminary.

**MONAMI MAULIK**, DRUM-DESIS RISING UP & MOVING (NEW YORK) (4.5 Blurring the Lines: State and Local Police Enforcing Federal Immigration Law). See "[Plenary Speakers](#)" for profile.

**CHRIS NUGENT**, HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP, WASHINGTON, DC (7.6 Access to Justice: Immigrant and Guest Worker Access to Legal Representation and the Courts). As Community Services Team administrator for Holland & Knight LLP, Chris Nugent is responsible for helping to administer the firm's pro bono activities in the United States and abroad, including developing cutting-edge pro bono projects and trainings for firm offices and participating in casework involving immigration and public policy. Mr. Nugent has over fifteen years' experience in immigration law and policy, including his previous tenure as a director of the American Bar Association's Commission on Immigration Policy, Practice and Pro Bono; as executive director of the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project (Florence, Arizona), which serves immigration detainees; and as a National Association for Public Interest Law Equal Justice Fellow working with Mexican and Guatemalan indigenous farm workers in California in community development projects.

**CHRISTIAN RAMÍREZ**, U.S.-MÉXICO BORDER PROGRAM (USMBP) OF THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (AFSC) (6.5 Border Matters: Exploring the Complex Issues of the Physical Border and Beyond). Christian Ramírez has worked for the USMBP in San Diego, California, since 2001 and has directed the AFSC's Border Program since 2002. He has been active in issues relating to the impact of immigration enforcement in border communities since 1994, coordinating several grassroots border organizations in the southern California region. He has been both a critic of the militarization of the U.S.-México border and a promoter of human rights in border communities. He was born in Tijuana, México, and at an early age migrated with his family a few miles north, where they settled in the suburban border community of San Ysidro, California. Mr. Ramírez earned a Bachelor's degree in history and anthropology from San Diego State University.

**ROB RANDHAVA**, LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ON CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE LCCR EDUCATION FUND (7.5 Fighting Against Injustice: Fix '96 and Beyond). Rob Randhava has been a counsel with LCCR and the LCCR Education Fund since January 2001. He played a leading role within an immigration and civil rights coalition effort to scale back the most extreme provisions of the 1996 immigration laws. During the 107th Congress, Mr. Randhava played an integral role in the crafting and passage by the House Judiciary Committee of the Family Reunification Act, a bill that provided lawful permanent residents with relief from mandatory deportation laws in compelling circumstances. He also contributed to *American Justice Through Immigrants' Eyes*, a comprehensive report recently released by the LCCR Education Fund and the American Bar Association that documents the harshest provisions of the 1996 reforms and their impact on both legal and undocumented immigrants. Mr. Randhava previously worked as counsel for Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA) on House Judiciary Committee issues. He earned his J.D. degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

**MICHELE RUDY**, MASSACHUSETTS IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE ADVOCACY COALITION (MIRA) (5.5. DREAM Act and In-State Tuition for Undocumented Immigrants). Michele Rudy is a legislative organizer at MIRA. Before working at MIRA, she worked at East Boston Ecumenical Community Council (EBECC), a community organization. She is a youth worker and tenant rights advocate as well.

**JUAN CARLOS RUIZ**, CASA OF MARYLAND, INC. (4.6 Federal and State Driver's License Policy: Strategic Messages and Defensive Advocacy). Juan Carlos Ruiz is a director of CASA's Department of Community Organizing and Political Action. Mr. Ruiz has worked as a trainer for organizers and as a developer of strategies for winning campaigns for local and statewide organizations all over the country. In recognition of Mr. Ruiz's work since 1991 as a community organizer around local and national issues such as crime, housing, education, and health, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation awarded him its Community Health Leadership Award.

**DEBI SANDERS**, CAPITAL AREA IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS COALITION (CAIR COALITION) (5.6 Enhancing Advocacy for Immigration Detainees). Debi Sanders is director of the CAIR Coalition, which she founded as an informal coalition in 1987 when she was serving as a staff attorney at the Washington [DC] Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs. She moved with the coalition to the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc., for two years, during which time the coalition took steps to formalize. The CAIR Coalition began formally on January 1, 2000. Ms. Sanders's interest in refugees began when she volunteered in a refugee camp in southern Thailand in 1980 and sponsored two young adults and became a mother to two teenaged boys. She is active with Church of the Saviour in Adams Morgan.

**ARI SCHWARTZ**, CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY AND TECHNOLOGY (CDT) (3.5 How the Government Uses Databases to Share Information about Immigrants and Enforce Immigration Law). As associate director of the CDT, Ari Schwartz focuses on defending and building privacy protections in the digital

age by advocating for increased individual control over personal information. Mr. Schwartz is a leading expert on the issue of privacy on government websites and has testified before Congress and executive branch agencies on the issue. He is chair of the World Wide Web Consortium's Platform for Privacy Practices (P3P) Policy and Outreach Working Group, the leading standards setting body for Web technologies, and cochair of the Congressional Internet Caucus Advisory Committee Task Force on E-Government. Prior to working at CDT, he worked at OMB Watch, researching and analyzing the nonprofit sector's engagement in technology, government performance, access to government information, and government information technology policy.

**ANITA SINHA**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER (NILC) (4.5 Blurring the Lines: State and Local Police Enforcing Federal Immigration Law; 6.5 Border Matters: Exploring the Complex Issues of the Physical Border and Beyond). See "[101 Session Presenters](#)" for profile.

**AMY SUGIMORI**, NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LAW PROJECT (NELP) (4.6 Federal and State Driver's License Policy: Strategic Messages and Defensive Advocacy). Amy Sugimori is a staff attorney at NELP providing legal support to immigrant worker organizing efforts. Her particular focus is on preserving the workplace rights of low-wage immigrant workers, documented and undocumented. Prior to joining NELP, she was an Equal Justice Works (NAPIL) fellow at Texas Appleseed/The Equal Justice Center in Austin, Texas, where she worked on a project addressing systemic problems faced by transnational workers in rural industries. She is a graduate of New York University School of Law and Brown University.

**CATHERINE TACTAQUIN**, NATIONAL NETWORK FOR IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS (NNIRR) (6.6 If It's Broke, Fix It: The Comprehensive Immigration Reform Debate). See "[Plenary Speakers](#)" for profile.

**MIRNA TORRES**, CATHOLIC LEGAL IMMIGRATION NETWORK, INC. (CLINIC) (5.6 Enhancing Advocacy for Immigration Detainees). Mirna Torres is director of public education and advocacy for CLINIC. Previously, she served as border field representative for U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), and before that as the Immigration Program director at Catholic Charities of Central New Mexico. Immediately after law school, Ms. Torres was an Equal Justice Works Fellow at Catholic Charities of Central New Mexico, where she developed and was responsible for the Violence Against Women Act Immigration Project. She is a graduate of the Northwestern University School of Law.

**LYNN TRAMONTE**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION FORUM (4.5 Blurring the Lines: State and Local Police Enforcing Federal Immigration Law). Lynn Tramonte is a senior policy/communications associate at the National Immigration Forum, one of America's leading pro-immigrant advocacy organizations. The Forum works in partnership with organizations across the political spectrum to champion fair and generous immigration policies that uphold the U.S.'s tradition as a nation of immigrants. At the Forum, Ms. Tramonte leads efforts to defeat the CLEAR Act and other legislation that would make state and local police enforce immigration laws. She also focuses on legalization and comprehensive immigration reform, particularly the areas of policy development and congressional advocacy. Previously, she worked as a management consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers, serving primarily public sector clients such as the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. At the INS, Ms. Tramonte helped design and implement business process and customer service improvements for naturalization and permanent residency applicants. She is a graduate of Denison University in Granville, Ohio.

**MICHELE WASLIN**, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LA RAZA (NCLR) (6.6 If It's Broke, Fix It: The Comprehensive Immigration Reform Debate). Michele Waslin is the director of immigration policy research at NCLR, the largest, national, constituency-based Hispanic civil rights organization in the United States. In this capacity, Dr. Waslin tracks and analyzes immigration-related legislation at the national and state levels, advocates on behalf of the Latino community, conducts public education and media outreach, and provides technical assistance and training to community-based organizations.

Previously, she worked as policy coordinator at the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights. She earned her Ph.D. in government and international studies from the University of Notre Dame, and her M.A. in international relations from the University of Chicago.

**BETH WERLIN**, LEGAL ACTION CENTER, AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAW FOUNDATION (AILF) (7.5 Fighting Against Injustice: Fix '96 and Beyond). Beth Werlin is a staff attorney at AILF's Legal Action Center. The Legal Action Center engages in impact litigation; identifies due process issues; analyzes and comments on statutes, regulations, and case law affecting non-U.S. citizens; and provides technical support for attorneys litigating immigration-related due process and fairness issues. Ms. Werlin first joined the Legal Action Center as a NAPIL Fellow in 2001. Her work focuses on due process issues in removal proceedings and federal court jurisdiction in immigration cases. She has represented plaintiffs and amicus curiae in immigration litigation in the federal courts and before the Board of Immigration Appeals. Before joining AILF, she was a judicial law clerk at the immigration court in Boston, Massachusetts.

**MARK YOSHIDA**, ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LEGAL CENTER (APALC) (4.5 Blurring the Lines: State and Local Police Enforcing Federal Immigration Law). Mark Yoshida is a staff attorney with APALC, a private, nonprofit legal services and advocacy organization based in Los Angeles, California. As director of APALC's Immigration and Citizenship Project, he oversees efforts to assist individuals, families, and communities with their immigration-related legal needs and concerns. Mark earned his law degree from the University of Notre Dame.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

## EMPLOYMENT SESSION PRESENTERS

[Alcorn, Robert W.](#) | [Avendaño, Ana Luisa](#) | [Chandler, Bill](#) | [Dale, D. Michael](#) | [Fine, Janice](#)  
[Friedman, Bruce](#) | [Garcia, Lilia](#) | [Glaser, Dave](#) | [Goldstein, Bruce](#) | [Grabowski, Anita](#)  
[Gross-Gaitan, Andrew](#) | [Grossman, Elizabeth](#) | [Gupta, Sarita](#) | [Herrling, Karen A.](#)  
[Hincapié, Marielena](#) | [Ho, Christopher](#) | [Hug, Chaumtoli](#) | [Kim, Kathleen](#) | [La Luz, José](#)  
[Michienzi, Kathy](#) | [Misra, Neha](#) | [Moran, Tyler](#) | [Neumann-Ortiz, Christine](#)  
[Neville, Sheila](#) | [Newman, Chris](#) | [Oliva, José](#) | [Pacheco, Francisco](#) | [Palacios, Rolando](#)  
[Peters-Quintero, Mayra](#) | [Ramírez, Sofía](#) | [Ruckelshaus, Catherine K.](#) | [Saenz, Thomas A.](#)  
[Silva, Byron](#) | [Sugimori, Amy](#) | [Tate, Samantha](#) | [Tromanhauser, Darcy](#) | [Waslin, Michele](#)

**ROBERT W. ALCORN**, CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT IN PRIVATE PRACTICE (4.3 Tax Issues Unique to Immigrant Workers). Robert Alcorn has 25 years' experience in both industry and public accounting. His past experience includes Big Four public accounting in both audit and tax, controller and CFO positions with both publicly traded SEC companies and nonpublic companies, acquisitions, mergers, startups, turnarounds, etc. He currently operates his own public accounting firm in north Dallas, working with clients in a wide variety of industries, and is involved in other private commercial interests. Mr. Alcorn speaks Spanish and is heavily involved with the regional immigration tax and law community. He earned a BBA in accounting and an MBA at the University of Texas at Arlington.

**ANA LUISA AVENDAÑO**, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR - CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS (AFL-CIO) (3.3 Responding to Employment Verification Systems in a New Era). Ana Luisa Avendaño serves as an associate general counsel and director of the Immigrant Worker Program at the AFL-CIO. Prior to joining the AFL-CIO, Ms. Avendaño served as a consultant to the National Immigration



Law Center, where she assisted in the development of legal and policy strategies to address the Supreme Court's decision in *Hoffman Plastic Compounds v. NLRB*. She also served as assistant general counsel of the 1.4 million-member United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, where she was a front-line advocate in organizing, bargaining, and representation campaigns for immigrant workers. She was actively involved in the development of the labor movement's historic call for amnesty and immigration reform. Ms. Avendaño also served in the Appellate Court Branch of the National Labor Relations Board, and in private practice in San Francisco, CA, and Washington, DC. She is a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center.

**BILL CHANDLER**, MISSISSIPPI IMMIGRANTS RIGHTS ALLIANCE (MIRA) and UNITE HERE! AFL-CIO (7.4 Successful Immigrant Worker Campaigns at the State and Local Levels). Bill Chandler, president of MIRA, is a political director for UNITE HERE! AFL-CIO in Mississippi. Mr. Chandler has been a union organizer for over 40 years. Beginning as a community activist and union organizing committee member where he worked, he was part of the movement for the United Farm Workers union from its inception through 1975. In 1966 he was sent to Texas to help farm workers in the Lower Rio Grande Valley in their struggle for justice. Since the mid-70s, he has been organizing unions of health care, hospitality and public workers throughout the South. In 2000, responding to attacks on the rapidly growing immigrant community in Mississippi, he organized MIRA, an alliance of union, religious, civil rights, community and immigrant activists to advocate for rights for immigrants in the legislature and public agencies. MIRA joins in solidarity with the large African American community in common struggles. Eighty percent of the MIRA leadership are people of color: immigrants and African Americans.

**D. MICHAEL DALE**, NORTHWEST WORKERS' JUSTICE PROJECT (NWJP) (7.3 Representing Immigrant Workers in a Post-*Hoffman* Era). D. Michael Dale is executive director of NWJP, which he founded in 2003. NWJP is a non-publicly funded legal services program that focuses on the organizing rights of low-wage workers, the rights of immigrant and contingent low-wage workers, and the effects of globalization on low-wage workers. He was a legal services lawyer from 1975 until 2001, during which time he was at various points the director of litigation and of the migrant program at both Oregon Legal Services and the Oregon Law Center.

**JANICE FINE**, CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CHANGE (CCC) & ECONOMIC POLICY INSTITUTE (EPI) (3.4 Workers' Centers and Immigrant Worker Organizing). Janice Fine is senior fellow for organizing and policy at CCC and a research associate at EPI. This month (June 2005), she joins the faculty of the School of Management and Labor Relations at Rutgers University. In addition to her academic work, Ms. Fine has worked as a community, labor, and electoral organizer for more than twenty years. During the 1990s, she founded the New England Money and Politics Project at Northeast Action and played a leading role in getting the nation's first "clean election" law passed in Maine. Until 2003, she was the organizing director at Northeast Action, the hub of a regional network of statewide progressive coalitions and citizen action groups. For many years, she has written about the labor movement and community organizing as well as the influence of money in American politics, and has been the recipient of fellowships from the Open Society Institute as well as the Industrial Performance Center at MIT.

**BRUCE FRIEDMAN**, OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR IMMIGRATION-RELATED UNFAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES, CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (OSC) (3.3 Responding to Employment Verification Systems in a New Era). Bruce Friedman is special policy counsel with OSC. He has handled trials and appellate work for OSC and currently specializes in immigrant civil rights policy matters. Mr. Friedman also worked in the Civil Rights Division's Disability Rights Section, which enforces the Americans with Disabilities Act. He supervised the section's investigation unit and took part in pattern or practice litigation in U.S. district court. Mr. Friedman has presented papers on immigration, discrimination, and labor markets, and recently he published an article in the *New York University Journal of Legislation and Public Policy* entitled "Advancing Civil Rights Through Immigration Law: One Step Forward, Two Steps Back?" Before joining government service, Mr. Friedman was an associate at Wilmer, Cutler and Pickering. After earning his law degree from the George Washington University Law School, he clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

**LILIA GARCIA**, MAINTENANCE COOPERATION TRUST FUND (MCTF) (3.4 Workers' Centers and Immigrant Worker Organizing; 7.4 Successful Immigrant Worker Campaigns at the State and Local Levels).

Lilia Garcia is the executive director of the MCTF, a watchdog organization that investigates janitorial and cleaning contractors for employment law violations. Established in 1999, the MCTF now has offices in Los Angeles and Orange County, California, and is developing an operation in San Diego, California. It is the mission of the MCTF to abolish illegal and unfair business practices from the industry. Towards this end, the MCTF applies a four-prong approach: (1) impact employment law investigation, (2) agency reform, (3) legislative reform, and (4) education and outreach. The MCTF brings management and labor together to address unfair competition that often results in worker exploitation. Most recently, the MCTF has introduced a nonprofit monitoring program, Compliance Assistance Monitoring Program. The MCTF works in partnership with contractors to achieve sustained compliance. Through its efforts, the MCTF has assisted in the collection of more than \$27 million for immigrant janitors.

**DAVE GLASER**, UNITE HERE! (7.4 Successful Immigrant Worker Campaigns at the State and Local Levels). Dave Glaser is an international organizer for UNITE HERE!, serving in its hotel campaign. Previously, he was national director for HERE of the 2003 Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride, and he helped organize the workers who unionized the first union hotel in the Marriott Hotel chain. He also has served as field representative for HERE and as national political director of the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN).

**BRUCE GOLDSTEIN**, FARMWORKER JUSTICE FUND (FJF) (4.4 Strengthening Workers' Rights through Federal Legislation). Mr. Goldstein is co-executive director of FJF, which is a national litigation and advocacy group for migrant and seasonal farmworkers. He has been practicing law since 1980 and has been employed at FJF, which is located in Washington, DC, since 1988. At FJF, he has monitored and litigated cases under the H-2A temporary foreign agricultural worker program. He has played a major role at the national level as an advocate for farmworkers in the debate over a new guest worker program, legalization of undocumented workers, and related immigration policies. Mr. Goldstein is a graduate of Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, Missouri.

**ANITA GRABOWSKI**, POULTRY WORKER JUSTICE PROJECT OF THE EQUAL JUSTICE CENTER (3.4 Workers' Centers and Immigrant Worker Organizing; 6.4 Building New Partnerships with Unions around Immigrant Worker Issues). Anita Grabowski is coordinator of the Poultry Worker Justice Project and cofounder of the Mississippi Poultry Workers' Center, which provides support for organizing and legal advocacy for poultry workers. Ms. Grabowski is now applying the lessons from the Mississippi Poultry Workers' Center model to the project's work with poultry workers regionally throughout the South. Previously, she worked at the Inter-American Dialogue in Washington, DC, where she conducted research on U.S.-Latin American foreign policy. Through her current and previous work experience, Ms. Grabowski has worked extensively with Latin American communities in the U.S. as well as in Chile, Cuba, and Guatemala. She earned her Master's degree from the Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin.

**ANDREW GROSS-GAITAN**, SEIU LOCAL 1877 (3.3 Responding to Employment Verification Systems in a New Era). Since 1993, Andrew Gross-Gaitan has been an organizer with SEIU Local 1877's Justice for Janitors campaign in Silicon Valley, Sacramento, and Los Angeles, California. He currently is responsible for the Sacramento region. SEIU Local 1877 represents nearly 30,000 private sector property service workers, the vast majority of whom are new immigrants from Latin America working for subcontractors cleaning commercial office buildings and high-tech facilities. Mr. Gross-Gaitan is the son of third and fourth generation immigrants from Hungary and Russia. After receiving a B.A. from Brown University, he worked as a teacher and program director in community-based literacy and language education programs for immigrants and refugees in Providence, RI, and San Francisco.

**ELIZABETH GROSSMAN**, UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (EEOC) (7.3 Representing Immigrant Workers in a Post-*Hoffman* Era). Elizabeth Grossman is acting regional attorney in the New York District Office of the EEOC, where she has worked as a trial attorney and supervisory trial attorney since 1993. Ms. Grossman has litigated employment discrimination cases throughout New York State and New England, including on behalf of EEOC in enforcement of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Equal Pay Act. She frequently makes presentations to bar associations, law schools, nonprofit organizations, and employers. Previously, Ms. Grossman worked at Shneyer & Shen, where she practiced plaintiffs' employment discrimination law, and for the American Civil

Liberties Union Reproductive Freedom Project/The Center for Reproductive Law & Policy. She graduated from the University of Michigan Law School.

**SARITA GUPTA**, JOBS WITH JUSTICE (JwJ) (4.4 Strengthening Workers' Rights through Federal Legislation). Sarita Gupta is national field director of JwJ, a national campaign for workers' rights and economic justice that consists of 45 local coalitions in cities across the United States. JwJ local coalitions bring together labor, community, faith-based, and student organizations to address issues impacting working people and their families. JwJ educates working people about the connection between workers' rights and strong communities, and explores innovative community based organizing for economic justice. Ms. Gupta oversees the national field program and leads on strategic programs such as health care justice, organizing and collective bargaining rights, and immigrant rights. Prior to joining the national JwJ staff in 2002, she was executive director of Chicago Jobs with Justice (JwJ) for four years.

**KAREN A. HERRLING**, CATHOLIC LEGAL IMMIGRATION NETWORK, INC. (CLINIC) (4.3 Tax Issues Unique to Immigrant Workers). A staff attorney with CLINIC, Karen Herrling provides technical advice and assistance on low-wage immigrant worker issues to Catholic Charities Immigration Programs around the country. Prior to joining CLINIC, Ms. Herrling litigated on behalf of the U.S. government for the Civil Division at the U.S. Department of Justice. She acquired public policy experience working in the Clinton administration and has criminal law experience. Ms. Herrling attended Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C., and served as a law clerk to the late Honorable Vincent L. Broderick in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York.

**MARIELENA HINCAPIÉ**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER (NILC) (3.3 Responding to Employment Verification Systems in a New Era; 5.4 When We Have Good Laws: Contemplating Labor Law Enforcement within Immigration Reform). See "[101 Session Presenters](#)" for profile.

**CHRISTOPHER HO**, LEGAL AID SOCIETY - EMPLOYMENT LAW CENTER (LAS-ELC) (7.3 Representing Immigrant Workers in a Post- *Hoffman* Era). Christopher Ho is a senior staff attorney with the LAS-ELC in San Francisco, California, where he litigates in defense of the rights of language minority employees and immigrant workers. In a 2003 case, Mr. Ho and his co-counsel won a federal jury verdict of \$200,000 in compensatory and punitive damages for an undocumented plaintiff whose employer reported him to federal immigration authorities after he had filed a claim for unpaid wages. More recently, he litigated a case in which the Ninth Circuit rejected as irrelevant and prejudicial an employer's attempts to discover the immigration status of employees whom it had unlawfully terminated because of their limited English proficiency. He has litigated in other areas of employment law, including cases involving race, national origin, and sexual orientation discrimination; workplace privacy; the asserted preemption of statutory workers' rights; and the misclassification of employees as independent contractors. Mr. Ho is a graduate of Stanford Law School.

**CHAUMTOLI HUQ**, WORKPLACE JUSTICE PROJECT, MFY LEGAL SERVICES (NEW YORK) (5.3 Legal Issues Relating to Representing Workers' Centers). Ms. Huq is a staff attorney with MFY Legal Services, representing low-income New Yorkers on a wide range of employment matters, with a particular emphasis on wage and hour laws, unemployment insurance benefits, and employment rights of domestic violence victims and persons previously convicted of a criminal offense. In addition to her direct representation work, she conducts workshops for community-based organizations and trainings to organizers on assisting workers to address their wage claims pro se. Prior to joining MFY in April 2003, she was an OSI Community Fellow with New York Taxi Workers Alliance (NYTWA), where she provided legal support to the organization's campaigns and provided direct representation to its members. Ms. Huq is a graduate of Northeastern University School of Law, and she is a part-time lecturer at the Labor Center at Rutgers University, where she teaches employment law.

**KATHLEEN KIM**, LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA (6.3 A Labor Perspective on How to Identify and Combat Human Trafficking). Kathleen Kim is a staff attorney at the Lawyers' Committee, where she directs the Human Trafficking Project, which focuses on the civil needs of trafficked persons. The litigation she has conducted includes one of the first cases to utilize the trafficking private right of action passed by Congress in 2003. Ms. Kim also assists her clients to access protection and benefits under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act. She provides

technical assistance and training to attorneys, nongovernmental organizations, and government agencies. She is co-author of a trafficking civil litigation technical assistance manual and of "Human Trafficking Private Right of Action: Civil Rights for Trafficked Persons in the United States," 16 Hastings Women's L.J. 1 (2004). She participates in a regional task force coordinated by the northern California U.S. Attorney's Office and collaborates with nongovernmental human rights organizations to advocate for policy reforms that broaden protections for trafficked persons. Ms. Kim earned her J.D. from Stanford Law School.

**JOSÉ LA LUZ**, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (AFSCME) (6.4 Building New Partnerships with Unions around Immigrant Worker Issues). José La Luz is the eastern regional director for AFSCME, which represents 1.3 million members. He is also the founding executive director of Council 95 (AFSCME/AFL-CIO) in Puerto Rico, formerly known as the United Public Servants of Puerto Rico (SPUPR). Previously, Mr. La Luz was associate education director of AFSCME and, before that, the international solidarity director of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU). When he was the education officer of the Inter-American Federation of Textile, Garment and Footwear Workers, he traveled extensively throughout the Americas conducting educational activities for the Federation's affiliates in Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean Basin. Mr. La Luz has taught labor studies at Michigan State, Rutgers and Cornell Universities and is a regular instructor at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies. He holds a Bachelor's degree from the Harry Van Arsdale School of Labor Studies at Empire State College, SUNY, and a Master's degree from the Graduate Program in Labor Studies at Rutgers University.

**KATHY MICHIEZI**, JUSTICE FOR JANITORS/SEIU LOCAL 105 (7.4 Successful Immigrant Worker Campaigns at the State and Local Levels). Kathy Michienzi, who works as a strategic researcher with Justice for Janitors/SEIU Local 105, began working on issues related to immigrant worker rights as an intern at Centro Humanitario Para los Trabajadores, a community-based day labor center in Denver, Colorado. She extensively researched the exploitation of immigrant day laborers, specifically the issue of unpaid wages. This research culminated in a Master's thesis that explores the phenomenon of day labor, the failure of governmental agencies and worker protection laws to prevent or recover unpaid wages, and the response of communities in Denver and throughout the country to this issue. As an intern at Centro Humanitario, Ms. Michienzi helped to form a task force to address the issue of wage theft in Denver. She continues to work with Centro Humanitario and the Immigrant Worker Rights Task Force to challenge worker exploitation and create systemic change in Colorado.

**NEHA MISRA**, AMERICAN CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL LABOR SOLIDARITY (6.3 A Labor Perspective on How to Identify and Combat Human Trafficking). Neha Misra is a program officer with the Solidarity Center in Washington, DC, and the coordinator of Solidarity Center Counter Trafficking Programs. The Solidarity Center is a nonprofit organization affiliated with the AFL-CIO that promotes labor rights around the world. Ms. Misra recently returned from more than five years working in Indonesia, where ultimately she was deputy country director and program manager for the Solidarity Center's Counter Trafficking Project (in partnership with the International Catholic Migration Commission). She has over ten years' experience in human rights and international development work, focusing on issues related to labor, workers' rights, marginalized groups such as migrant workers and child laborers, gender, trafficking in persons, and democracy and elections. Ms. Misra earned her J.D. degree from the Washington College of Law, American University.

**TYLER MORAN**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER (NILC) (4.4 Strengthening Workers' Rights through Federal Legislation). Tyler Moran is a policy analyst for NILC, and she works out of Boise, Idaho. Ms. Moran monitors, analyzes, and makes recommendations on federal and state policies affecting low-income immigrants. She primarily focuses on public benefits, workforce development, and driver's licenses. Prior to joining NILC in 2002, Ms. Moran worked as a public policy consultant and as the policy director for the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition in Boston, Massachusetts. Ms. Moran is a graduate of Harvard University, where she earned a Master of Education.

**CHRISTINE NEUMANN-ORTIZ**, VOCES DE LA FRONTERA: WORKERS' CENTER (VF) (5.4 When We Have Good Laws: Contemplating Labor Law Enforcement within Immigration Reform). Christine Neumann-Ortiz is the co-founder and volunteer director of VF, which educates low-wage and immigrant workers

about their employment rights, promotes community organizing, and advocates policy changes that will benefit the immigrant community and the workforce at large. VF campaigns include workers' rights, comprehensive immigration reform, and access to higher education for immigrant students. VF has chapters in Milwaukee and Racine, Wisconsin. Ms. Neumann-Ortiz also is the coordinator of the High School Equivalency Program (HEP) at Milwaukee Area Technical College. HEP is a GED program for migrant and agricultural families in Wisconsin. She earned a Master's in U.S./Chicano history from the University of Texas at Austin.

**SHEILA NEVILLE**, LEGAL AID FOUNDATION OF LOS ANGELES (LAFLA) (6.3 A Labor Perspective on How to Identify and Combat Human Trafficking). See "[101 Session Presenters](#)" for profile.

**CHRIS NEWMAN**, NATIONAL DAY LABORER ORGANIZING NETWORK (NDLON) (5.3 Legal Issues Relating to Representing Workers' Centers). Chris Newman is the Legal Programs coordinator for NDLON, based in its Los Angeles office. He is the recipient of an Academy of Educational Development New Voices Fellowship. Before working at NDLON, he was the coordinator of the Wage Clinic and Legal Program at El Centro Humanitario para los Trabajadores, a day laborer work center in Denver, CO. He also was a co-founder of the Colorado Immigrant Worker Rights Task Force. He currently serves on the Executive Board for the L.A. Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild. He earned his J.D. from the University of Denver College of Law.

**JOSÉ OLIVA**, INTERFAITH WORKERS' RIGHTS CENTER, A PROJECT OF THE CHICAGO INTERFAITH COMMITTEE ON WORKER ISSUES (6.4 Building New Partnerships with Unions around Immigrant Worker Issues). José Oliva is director of the Interfaith Workers' Rights Center and coordinator of the Interfaith Worker Justice National Workers' Centers Network. At the Workers' Rights Center, Mr. Oliva has created a program that blends elements of popular education with direct action organizing, with the goal of "allowing workers to shape their own lives." He also serves on the board of directors of EcoVida, the only Latino-run environmental organization in Illinois; the Rogers Park Community Action Network, a grassroots multi-issue, multi-racial community organization; and Loyola University's radio station WLWU. Previously, he was executive director of Casa Guatemala, where he helped organize day laborers looking for work on Chicago's street corners. Mr. Oliva, whose mother was a prominent social justice activist in Guatemala, was forced to flee that country along with his mother in 1985 after several members of his family were tortured and disappeared by Guatemala's military regime. After graduating from college, he conducted research about the Latino community at the Midwest Latino Research Center of the University of Illinois at Chicago.

**FRANCISCO PACHECO**, NATIONAL DAY LABORERS' ORGANIZING NETWORK (3.4 Workers' Centers and Immigrant Worker Organizing). As East Coast coordinator for the National Day Laborers' Organizing Network, Francisco Pacheco supports the work of local organizations and carries out national projects. Mr. Pacheco began working for social justice at a young age. When he was 17, he started organizing economic and social struggles seeking systemic changes in his country of origin, El Salvador, where he worked with the student, teacher, and labor sectors from the mid-'70s until the '90s. In the U.S., he has worked as a day laborer in the construction industry and subsequently with community organizations such as CASA of Maryland, designing leadership development trainings, community organizing, and most recently as director of the Employment Program.

**ROLANDO PALACIOS**, MIDWEST TAX CLINIC, CENTER FOR ECONOMIC PROGRESS (4.3 Tax Issues Unique to Immigrant Workers). Rolando Palacios is manager of the Midwest Tax Clinic. His commitment to low-income taxpayers began eight years ago as a volunteer for the Center for Economic Progress's Tax Counseling Project. He has served on the board of directors for the Steckman Studio of Music, a not-for-profit music school that serves at-risk youth. Mr. Palacios earned his Master of Science degree in telecommunications from DePaul University.

**MAYRA PETERS-QUINTERO**, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW IMMIGRANT RIGHTS CLINIC (5.3 Legal Issues Relating to Representing Workers' Centers). Mayra Peters-Quintero co-teaches the Immigrant Rights Clinic at NYU School of Law, focusing on low-wage and immigrant labor and social

justice lawyering with community-based organizations. She previously worked at a Latino civil rights organization in New York City, the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, as a Skadden Fellow and staff attorney doing immigrant worker representation. She clerked for the Hon. Sterling Johnson Jr. in the Eastern District of New York and at the Legal Aid Society -Employment Law Center in San Francisco, doing national origin discrimination work. She also has worked for UNICEF's Caribbean Area Office and the Mandela Institute for Political Prisoners in Ramallah, Palestine. Ms. Peters-Quintero earned a joint degree in law (from NYU) and international development (from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University).

**SOÑIA RAMÍREZ**, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR - CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS (AFL-CIO) (4.4 Strengthening Workers' Rights through Federal Legislation). Soñia Ramírez is a legislative representative for the AFL-CIO, a federation of 60 national and international labor unions that represent over 13 million working women and men. Ms. Ramírez lobbies on issues that effect low-wage and immigrant workers. She is a veteran Capitol Hill staffer, most recently serving as a legislative aide to Rep. Ciro D. Rodriguez (D-TX). Throughout her career, Ms. Ramírez has been a resource to the Latino community, serving as a community advocate, political organizer and civil servant. She attended Occidental College in Los Angeles and New School University in New York.

**CATHERINE K. RUCKELSHAUS**, NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LAW PROJECT (NELP) (4.3 Tax Issues Unique to Immigrant Workers). Catherine K. Ruckelshaus is litigation director at NELP in New York City. Her primary areas of expertise are workplace discrimination, access to benefits for low-income workers, family and medical leave and health and safety rights, and the employment rights of contingent workers, immigrants, and workfare participants. Ms. Ruckelshaus is lead counsel in the class action *Ansoumana v. Gristedes* Fair Labor Standards Act case, brought on behalf of nearly 1,000 West African immigrant grocery delivery workers against the contracting services that hired them and the stores that employ them. She was lead counsel in the landmark case *Lopez v. Silverman*, which established for the first time that a garment manufacturer was liable for the sweatshop conditions of its subcontractors. She is currently a member of the New York City Bar's Labor and Employment Committee. Ms. Ruckelshaus earned her law degree from Stanford Law School.

**THOMAS A. SAENZ**, MEXICAN AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND (MALDEF) (5.3 Legal Issues Relating to Representing Workers' Centers). As vice president of litigation at MALDEF, a national organization dedicated to securing and promoting the civil rights of Latinos in the U.S., Thomas A. Saenz oversees MALDEF's civil rights litigation in the areas of education, employment, political access, immigrants' rights, and public resource equity. Mr. Saenz joined MALDEF as a staff attorney in 1993; he became Los Angeles regional counsel in 1996, national senior counsel in 2000, and vice president of litigation in 2001. He has served as lead counsel in cases involving such issues as educational equity, employment discrimination, immigrants' rights, day laborer rights, and voting rights. Mr. Saenz received his law degree from Yale Law School and served as a law clerk to the Hon. Harry L. Hupp of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California and to the Hon. Stephen Reinhardt of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

**BYRON SILVA**, LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA (LIUNA) (6.4 Building New Partnerships with Unions around Immigrant Worker Issues). Byron Silva, a native of Ecuador, came to the U.S. in 1993 and found work as a nonunion asbestos handler. His experience with the asbestos industry was that working conditions were unsafe, that workers were injured or even killed in job-related accidents, and that they were exploited and abused by contractors. In 1999, Mr. Silva became a member of Asbestos and Hazardous Material Handlers, Laborers Local 78. He earned his shop steward certification and, in 2000, was selected to work as an organizer for the Laborers' Eastern Region Organizing Fund. He has participated in various successful campaigns to organize asbestos workers, concrete workers, and construction workers -- most of them immigrants -- in the New York-New Jersey-Long Island area. He earned a Laborers' Study Certificate from a program at Cornell University, and he is pursuing his Bachelor's degree in labor studies at the National Laborer College.

**AMY SUGIMORI**, NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LAW PROJECT (NELP) (7.3 Representing Immigrant Workers in a Post-*Hoffman* Era). See "[Immigration Speakers](#)" for profile.

**SAMANTHA TATE**, SOLIDARITY CENTER, AFL-CIO (6.3 A Labor Perspective on How to Identify and Combat Human Trafficking). Samantha Tate is the senior program officer for the Americas at the

AFL-CIO's international organization, the Solidarity Center, in Washington, DC. She develops new programs, conducts trainings, and serves as a liaison between the Solidarity Center's field offices in Mexico, Central America, the Andean Region, the Southern Cone, and the Caribbean and the U.S. labor community, and other U.S.-based stakeholders. Program work in Washington also involves analysis and reporting on workplace and community-based strategies for the promotion of fundamental worker rights, creation of decent workplaces, and elimination of all forms of labor exploitation, including trafficking and child labor. Ms. Tate earned a Master's degree in international economics and Latin American regional studies from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. She was a National Security Education fellow and a Fulbright fellow from 1999-2001 in Indonesia, where she researched child labor and Indonesian media organizations after the Soeharto dictatorship and managed a program on public sector advocacy with Indonesian unions.

**DARCY TROMANHAUSER**, NEBRASKA APPLESEED CENTER FOR LAW IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST (4.4 Strengthening Workers' Rights through Federal Legislation). Darcy Tromanhauser coordinates Nebraska Appleseed's Immigrant Integration and Civic Participation Program and works with members of the Immigrant Rights Network of Iowa and Nebraska (IRNIN), a broad-based network of individuals and organizations. Nebraska Appleseed is a nonprofit, nonpartisan law project that has been "sowing the seeds of justice" through community education, research, network-building, legislation, and litigation since 1996. Before joining Appleseed, Ms. Tromanhauser worked with community members and partners to develop the Hispanic Community Outreach Program at Catholic Charities in Des Moines. She also has analyzed contingent workers in the U.S. labor force for Business for Social Responsibility (based in San Francisco) and conducted a study to identify a living wage for garment maquila workers in El Salvador for the National Labor Committee (based in New York). She earned her master's degree in international affairs from Columbia University.

**MICHELE WASLIN**, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LA RAZA (NCLR) (5.4 When We Have Good Laws: Contemplating Labor Law Enforcement within Immigration Reform). See "[Immigration Session Presenters](#)" for profile.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

## PUBLIC BENEFITS SESSION PRESENTERS

[Alegria, Isabel](#) | [Ambegaokar, Sonal](#) | [Baker, Patricia](#) | [Banerjee, Partha](#) | [Baran, Amanda](#)  
[Blazer, Jonathan](#) | [Broder, Tanya](#) | [Corcoran, Erin](#) | [Feyler, Nan](#) | [Fremstad, Shawn](#)  
[Friedland, Joan](#) | [Gurvitch, Adam](#) | [Hooten, Angela](#) | [Huang, Vivian](#) | [Isasi, Frederick](#)  
[Memon, Sofia](#) | [Mermin, David](#) | [Ng'andu, Jennifer](#) | [Nystrom, Brittney](#) | [Osthimer, Beth](#)  
[Portillo, Silvia](#) | [Rivera, Lourdes](#) | [Rodriguez, Maria](#) | [Rom, Rafi](#) | [Shagalova, Alla](#)  
[Smith, Emily Spero](#) | [Weiner, Barbara](#) | [Whitelaw, John](#) | [Wiley, Dinah](#)  
[Yang, Edna](#) | [Yudelman, Mara](#)

**ISABEL ALEGRIA**, CALIFORNIA IMMIGRANT WELFARE COLLABORATIVE (CIWC) (4.2 Making the Case: Crafting Messages about Immigrants and Public Benefits; 5.2 Overcoming Access Barriers: Models and Strategies). Isabel Alegria is CIWC's communications director and has been with CIWC since 2001. Formerly, she worked with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund on MALDEF's Census 2000 program. Ms. Alegria pursued a broadcasting career for more than 20 years, working most recently as a reporter for National Public Radio, based in San Francisco. She

was the co-founder of the Latin American News Service from El Paso, Texas. Ms. Alegria was born in Oakland, California, of immigrant parents from Chile and El Salvador.

**SONAL AMBEGAOKAR**, HEALTH CONSUMER CENTER OF LOS ANGELES (HCC LA), A PROJECT OF NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY (7.1 Securing Treatment and Payment for Uninsured Patients). Sonal Ambegaokar is the supervising attorney of HCC LA, a consumer hotline that serves the Los Angeles community in multiple languages with a variety of health-related issues such as medical debt, access to care, and Medicaid benefits. She also is involved in administrative and policy advocacy regarding health care issues affecting low-income families and the uninsured in L.A. County and California. Previously, Ms. Ambegaokar externed at the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California; clerked at Legal Services of Northern California and Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach; and worked as a business analyst for several years. She earned her J.D. from the University of California, Davis.

**PATRICIA BAKER**, MASSACHUSETTS LAW REFORM INSTITUTE (MLRI) (5.2 Overcoming Access Barriers: Models and Strategies). Patricia Baker, a senior policy analyst with MLRI, has been a staff advocate there since 1983. Prior to that, she worked as a benefits advocate at Western Mass Legal Services from 1977 to 1983. Ms. Baker has a long history of statewide administrative and legislative advocacy on a range of poverty law issues involving welfare, hunger, homelessness, and immigrant access to benefits.

**PARTHA BANERJEE**, NEW JERSEY IMMIGRATION POLICY NETWORK (7.1 Securing Treatment and Payment for Uninsured Patients). Partha Banerjee is executive director of the New Jersey Immigration Policy Network. He is a first-generation immigrant from Calcutta, India, where he conducted social service and relief work among refugees displaced by the liberation war in Bangladesh and also among poor minorities and domestic violence survivors in India. He has years of grassroots coalition-building and teaching experience. He also associates with peace and civil liberties and rights movements, and has presented articles and speeches at forums and symposia in Asia, Europe, and America. He is involved with social and cultural activities in New York and New Jersey's South Asian communities and has worked as a freelance journalist and media critic. Mr. Banerjee's academic degrees include an M.Sc. from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism and a Ph.D. in biology from Southern Illinois University.

**AMANDA BARAN**, LEGAL MOMENTUM (4.1 Securing Safety for Immigrant Domestic Violence Survivors). Amanda Baran joined Legal Momentum's Immigrant Women Program as a staff attorney in February 2003. She focuses primarily on public benefits, health, and trafficking as they affect immigrant women and their children. Her duties include national advocacy, policy-making, drafting legislation, training, and providing technical assistance. Prior to joining Legal Momentum, Ms. Baran was a staff attorney with Legal Services of North Texas in Dallas, where she represented battered women in family law and immigration issues. She earned her J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center.

**JONATHAN BLAZER**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER (NILC) (4.2 Making the Case: Crafting Messages about Immigrants and Public Benefits). See "[101 Session Presenters](#)" for profile.

**TANYA BRODER**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER (NILC) (3.2 Barriers to Benefits 101; 6.1 Access to Reproductive Health Services and Prenatal Care for Immigrants). Tanya Broder, who works out of NILC's office in Oakland, California, is a NILC staff attorney specializing in public benefits issues and how they affect immigrants. She focuses primarily on analyzing the ways in which federal, state, and local governments have been implementing the welfare and immigration laws passed in 1996.



She writes articles and policy analyses, provides technical assistance, cocounsels litigation, and presents trainings to legal and social service providers, legislative staff, and community-based organizations. Before joining NILC in 1996, she worked as a policy analyst for the Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights and as a staff attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Alameda County in Oakland. Ms. Broder is a graduate of Yale Law School.

**ERIN CORCORAN**, HUMAN RIGHTS FIRST (3.1 Refugees and Asylees: Threats and Opportunities). As staff attorney for the Asylum Representation Program at Human Rights First (formally known as the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights), Erin Corcoran provides training, advice, and legal updates on asylum and immigration law to volunteer attorneys. She also is an adjunct professor at George Washington School of Law. Previously, she was a staff attorney for the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society in New York City, where she represented detained and nondetained indigent asylum-seekers. In New York, Ms. Corcoran also worked on improving asylum procedures and conditions for unaccompanied minors. In addition, she has worked in southern Africa as a consultant for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, identifying refugees in need of resettlement. She earned her J.D. from Georgetown Law School.

**NAN FEYLER**, NATIONALITIES SERVICE CENTER (NSC) (5.1 Strategies for Expanding Health Coverage for Immigrants). Nan Feyler is the executive director of NSC, a multicultural, multilingual agency that provides legal and social services and English-as-a-second-language classes to the Philadelphia region's immigrant and refugee population. Prior to joining NSC, Ms. Feyler worked as a consultant with the city of Philadelphia and the Pennsylvania Dept. of Public Welfare to improve health insurance and Medicaid access for low-income Philadelphians, including immigrants, and to create revenue enhancement strategies for community health care providers. She is one of Philadelphia's premier experts on publicly funded health insurance, including Medicaid. She is uniquely effective at translating the complexities of these programs to a variety of people, whether they are medical care providers or their patients. Ms. Feyler earned her Masters in Public Health from Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health and her law degree from New York University School of Law.

**SHAWN FREMSTAD**, CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES (4.2 Making the Case: Crafting Messages about Immigrants and Public Benefits; 5.2 Overcoming Access Barriers: Models and Strategies). Shawn Fremstad, a deputy director at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, is an expert on welfare reform and poverty. His current work focuses on the role of government in improving the well-being of low- and middle-income persons, reforming income support programs for families with children, and understanding why child poverty and inequality are so much higher in the U.S. than in other wealthy nations. Prior to moving to Washington, DC, in 1999, he worked on a range of legal and policy issues in Minnesota. As an attorney with legal services programs in Minnesota, Mr. Fremstad served on numerous state boards and advisory committees, including committees advising the governor and state supreme court on child support policy. He earned his law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School.

**JOAN FRIEDLAND**, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER (NILC) (6.2 Privacy Rights for Immigrants Seeking Services). See "[Immigration Session Presenters](#)" for profile.

**ADAM GURVITCH**, NEW YORK IMMIGRATION COALITION (NYIC) (6.2 Privacy Rights for Immigrants Seeking Services). Adam Gurvitch is the director of health advocacy for the NYIC, a nonprofit organization representing roughly 200 immigrant-serving groups. Mr. Gurvitch leads organizing and advocacy to improve immigrants' access to affordable health care and insurance coverage, and works at the city, state, and federal levels to achieve policy reform. Between 1994 and 1997, he

established a national HIV/AIDS education program in Hungary. Previously, he provided capacity-building assistance to local Red Cross chapters and conducted evaluation studies through a grant from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Mr. Gurvitch holds an M.S. degree from the Milano Graduate School of Management and Urban Policy at the New School University.

**ANGELA HOOTEN**, NATIONAL LATINA INSTITUTE FOR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (NLIRH) (6.1 Access to Reproductive Health Services and Prenatal Care for Immigrants). As associate director of policy and advocacy for the NLIRH, Angela Hooten is responsible for promoting the NLIRH's reproductive rights and health policy agenda through research, analysis, and public education. Prior to joining the NLIRH, Ms. Hooten was a Georgetown Women's Law and Public Policy Fellow. Through this fellowship, she worked as a legislative staff attorney at the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), focusing on policy issues relating to welfare, health, and reproductive rights. Ms. Hooten's article, "From Welfare Recipient to Childcare Worker: Balancing Work and Family Under TANF," appeared in *Texas Journal of Women and the Law*. She is a graduate of Northwestern University, where she earned a B.A. in social policy, and of Yale Law School.

**VIVIAN HUANG**, ASIAN AMERICANS FOR CIVIL RIGHTS AND EQUALITY (AACRE) (7.2 Advocating for Language Access). Vivian Huang is the legislative advocate for AACRE, a collaborative project of CAA/Center for Asian American Advocacy, Asian Pacific American Legal Center, and Asian Law Caucus that advocates for policies to promote access and equality for California's diverse Asian Pacific American communities. In this capacity, Ms. Huang conducts state legislative advocacy, budget advocacy, and policy analysis on issues important to Asians and Pacific Americans. Prior to joining AACRE, she was the assistant director of policy at the California Primary Care Association and advocated for improved access to health care for special populations, including farm workers, immigrants, women, and communities of color. She also participated in the Presidential Management Fellows program, with rotations in the Bureau of Primary Health Care, California Primary Care Association, Asian Health Services, and the House Committee on Ways and Means. Ms. Huang earned an M.H.S. in health policy from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health.

**FREDERICK ISASI**, POWELL GOLDSTEIN LLP (6.2 Privacy Rights for Immigrants Seeking Services). Frederick Isasi is an associate in the Washington office of Powell Goldstein, which serves as counsel to the National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems. He covers a wide range of issues for NAPH, including immigration, Medicare, and work force issues. His duties for NAPH include lobbying Congress and the administration, reviewing and commenting on administrative actions, and collaborating as an NAPH representative with national advocacy organizations. Prior to joining Powell Goldstein, Mr. Isasi worked as a health policy advisor for a D.C. health care association, where he analyzed policy issues related to Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments and the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA) and worked with governmental and nonprofit agencies to integrate and strengthen the health care safety net. He earned his J.D. degree from Duke University.

**SOFIA MEMON**, COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES OF PHILADELPHIA (CLS) (7.2 Advocating for Language Access). Sofia Memon is a staff attorney at CLS, practicing in the areas of public benefits and language access. She leads several statewide and municipal advocacy efforts for language access in Pennsylvania. Ms. Memon is an active board member and co-chair of the Language Access Subcommittee of the Pennsylvania Immigration and Citizenship Coalition. She also runs a legal outreach clinic at the Chinatown Free Medical Clinic in South Philadelphia, helping low-income Asian immigrants in Philadelphia access Medical Assistance.

**DAVID MERMIN**, LAKE SNELL PERRY MERMIN/DECISION RESEARCH (LSPM/DR) (4.2 Making the Case: Crafting Messages about Immigrants and Public Benefits). David Mermin is a partner of LSPM/DR and heads its office in Oakland, California. He has designed and analyzed public opinion research on a wide range of issues, including immigration, health care, economic development, and retirement security. His clients at LSPM/DR have included the AFL-CIO, America Coming Together, Center for National Policy, SEIU, National Immigration Forum, National Immigration Law Center, National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems, National Voting Rights Institute, and the Pew Charitable Trusts. He has worked for dozens of candidates at all electoral levels, including Gov. Janet Napolitano of Arizona, Gov. Gary Locke of Washington, and Sen. Debbie Stabenow of Michigan. Mr. Mermin joined LSPM/DR in 1996. Previously, he worked at The Harwood Group, a nonpartisan public issues research and consulting firm, and for the Health Care Financing Administration. He holds an M.A. in geography, with a concentration in political and urban geography, from the University of Minnesota, and a B.A. in political science from Brown University.

**JENNIFER NG'ANDU**, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LA RAZA (NCLR) (6.2 Privacy Rights for Immigrants Seeking Services). Jennifer Ng'andu is a health policy analyst with NCLR, the largest Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the U.S. In that capacity, she focuses on improving the health status of Latinos, including developing and advancing policies that create parity in health care, increase health coverage in the Latino community, reduce immigrant eligibility barriers to the health care system, and promote culturally and linguistically appropriate health care settings for limited-English proficient individuals. Currently, she chairs the Immigrant Benefits Coalition, which is composed of national organizations fighting toward restoring equity to immigrants who were barred access to services in 1996 and improving health and social services access for immigrants. Prior to joining NCLR, Ms. Ng'andu worked at the National Immigration Law Center, covering various issues related to immigrant access to safety-net services and higher education for immigrant students. She holds a B.S. in psychology from Duke University.

**BRITTNEY NYSTROM**, CAPITAL AREA IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS COALITION (CAIR Coalition) (3.1 Refugees and Asylees: Threats and Opportunities). Brittney Nystrom joined CAIR Coalition as the Asylum Project director in March 2005. In this capacity, she manages the Credible Fear Project and seeks to find representation for detained asylum-seekers. Prior to joining CAIR Coalition, Ms. Nystrom practiced general litigation as an associate in the Washington, DC, office of Fried Frank LLP., where she balanced billable litigation work with pro bono representation of asylum-seekers and human rights litigation. She is a graduate of Northwestern Law School, where she represented asylum-seekers through the Bluhm Legal Clinic.

**BETH OSTHIMER**, CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND - CALIFORNIA (5.1 Strategies for Expanding Health Coverage for Immigrants). Beth Osthimer is director of the Children's Defense Fund - California. She has been actively engaged in advocacy with and on behalf of low-income communities, with a focus on the needs of immigrant families, for over twenty years as a legal services and health law attorney in California. Ms. Osthimer was formerly the public benefits coordinator and a senior attorney with the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, and a senior attorney focusing on health coverage and access issues at Neighborhood Legal Services and the Health Consumer Center of Los Angeles. She recently spent two years in New York working as a senior health policy associate for the Children's Defense Fund. Her work included research, advocacy, and coalition-building to help simplify and expand health coverage for uninsured children and families in New York, with an emphasis on immigrants and children with special health care needs. Ms. Osthimer is a graduate of the UCLA School of Law.

**SILVIA PORTILLO**, TENANTS' AND WORKERS' SUPPORT COMMITTEE (7.1 Securing Treatment and Payment for Uninsured Patients). For the last nine years, Silvia Portillo has worked as an organizer for the Healthy Community Program of the Tenants' and Workers' Support Committee in northern Virginia. She also has led a health campaign that won \$300,000 in medical debt relief from Inova Health System, a leading health care provider in the area, and also has convinced local hospitals to hire bilingual staff. She continues to review medical debts cases and improve access to health care in Alexandria, Virginia. Ms. Portillo immigrated to the United States from El Salvador.

**LOURDES RIVERA**, NATIONAL HEALTH LAW PROGRAM (NHeLP) (6.1 Access to Reproductive Health Services and Prenatal Care for Immigrants). As managing attorney in NHeLP's Los Angeles office, Lourdes Rivera provides assistance, including legislative and administrative advocacy, training, technical assistance, and litigation and research assistance, to legal services attorneys and other low-income and women's health advocates in California and nationwide. Her focus has been on issues of Medicaid, managed care, and women's and children's health. She has authored and co-authored articles, reports and training materials on these issues. She also is the project director of NHeLP's Initiative to Promote Access to Reproductive Health Care for Low-Income Women. Prior to joining NHeLP, Ms. Rivera was a senior associate with the Health Division of the Children's Defense Fund, where she worked on issues of health access for children. She earned a B.A. in Latin American Studies from Yale University and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

**MARIA RODRIGUEZ**, FLORIDA IMMIGRANT ADVOCACY CENTER (FIAC) (5.1 Strategies for Expanding Health Coverage for Immigrants). Maria Rodriguez serves as coordinator of the Florida Immigrant Coalition, an emerging multicultural, statewide network working for fair treatment of immigrants. She began her work as an organizer at the Tenant & Workers Support Committee, initially doing popular education and tenants' rights work and eventually supporting the formation of a housing cooperative. Ms. Rodriguez also has worked in various capacities to defend health care as a human right. She has held positions as patient care coordinator, health promoter trainer, and clinic administrator at free clinics serving the uninsured -- one in urban Washington, DC (La Clínica del Pueblo), and the other in rural Florida City (Good News Care Center). As deputy director of the Human Services Coalition of Dade County (Florida), she engaged in grassroots leadership development, coalition building, and advocacy campaigns, primarily in defense of local, state and national public benefits.

**RAFI ROM**, COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES OF PHILADELPHIA (CLS) (7.1 Securing Treatment and Payment for Uninsured Patients). Rafi Rom is a public benefits paralegal at CLS. Last year, he helped start a partnership between CLS and the Chinatown Free Clinic, where he assists patients with immigration and language barriers to access health care services. He also conducts trainings for other providers on how to access health benefits for immigrants, regardless of their status, and does legal outreach in the immigrant community.

**ALLA SHAGALOVA**, HEBREW IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY (HIAS) (3.1 Refugees and Asylees: Threats and Opportunities). Alla Shagalova is director of the National SSI Initiative at HIAS. She has been with HIAS since 1990. Previously, she was in charge of HIAS's Client Services, the department that combines immigration application services and a national immigration hotline. Under Ms. Shagalova's direct supervision, HIAS immigration counselors prepared hundreds of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) applications, including naturalization, adjustment of status, petitions for non-U.S. citizen relatives, and affidavits of support; and the hotline representatives she supervised answered thousands of immigration-related inquiries from across the U.S. Since 1995, Ms. Shagalova has trained hundreds of NGO professionals and volunteers across the country, and she has been accredited by the Board of Immigration Appeals to represent clients before CIS since

March 1993. Ms. Shagalova holds an MSW degree from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work of Yeshiva University.

**EMILY SPERO SMITH**, HEBREW IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY (HIAS) (3.1 Refugees and Asylees: Threats and Opportunities). Emily Spero Smith is assistant director of HIAS's Washington office. She focuses on refugee and immigration policy through advocacy to congressional offices and administrative agencies. Ms. Smith promotes refugee protection, welcoming treatment for newcomers, and sensible immigration enforcement policies through public outreach programs. She also works extensively with refugee and immigration coalitions and Jewish community organizations on national and grassroots advocacy campaigns. Prior to joining the staff of HIAS, Ms. Smith spent a year doing community service in Israel. She is a graduate of Colby College.

**BARBARA WEINER**, GREATER UPSTATE LAW PROJECT (GULP) (3.2 Barriers to Benefits 101). Barbara Weiner has been a staff attorney with GULP, specializing in poverty law issues, since August 1990. Ms. Weiner provides support to New York's legal services programs and community advocacy organizations in the form of training and technical assistance. Her specialties include the federal food stamp program and the noncitizen eligibility rules of federal and state public benefit programs. She has been involved in litigation challenging state or local policy in these areas as well as engaging in policy and administrative advocacy on a state and national level. Prior to joining GULP, Ms. Weiner was a staff attorney at Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, Inc. Admitted to practice in California in 1976 and in New York in 1982, she has spent most of her legal career with legal services programs, both in New York and in California.

**JOHN WHITELAW**, COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES, INC., PHILADELPHIA (7.1 Securing Treatment and Payment for Uninsured Patients). John Whitelaw is a supervising attorney at Community Legal Services, Inc., where he has worked for seven years. He also has worked as a legal services attorney in Minneapolis, MN; Beckley, WV; and Wilmington, DE. Mr. Whitelaw specializes in public benefits and the Supplemental Security Income program. In his practice, Mr. Whitelaw represents a significant number of non-U.S. citizens who are attempting to obtain a variety of benefits. As part of his practice, he also conducts regular trainings for social workers, attorneys, and other advocates. Mr. Whitelaw earned his law degree from Stanford Law School.

**DINAH WILEY**, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, U.S. DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (5.2 Overcoming Access Barriers: Models and Strategies). As senior civil rights analyst at the HHS's Office for Civil Rights, Dinah Wiley serves as a senior policy adviser on issues related to welfare reform and health and human services provided through federally-funded programs, and on the enforcement of civil rights laws that protect vulnerable populations, including racial and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, and immigrants. Previously, she was a policy analyst for the National Immigration Law Center and, before that, legal services director at Whitman-Walker Clinic, the largest HIV/AIDS service organization serving the Washington, DC, metropolitan area. Ms. Wiley earned her law degree from the George Washington University Law School.

**EDNA YANG**, POLITICAL ASYLUM PROJECT OF AUSTIN (4.1 Securing Safety for Immigrant Domestic Violence Survivors). Edna Yang is the coordinating attorney for the Program Representing Immigrant Survivors of Abuse for the Political Asylum Project of Austin, in Texas. The program provides legal representation to immigrants seeking relief under the immigration provisions of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), conducts training sessions for law enforcement officials and service providers, and organizes outreach and educational sessions for immigrant members of the community. Ms. Yang also has experience assisting survivors of abuse in family law cases, primarily in obtaining protective orders. She earned her law degree from American University and also has a Master of Arts in international studies, with a focus on peace and conflict resolution.

**MARA YODELMAN**, NATIONAL HEALTH LAW PROGRAM (NHELP) (7.2 Advocating for Language Access). Mara Youdelman has worked at NHELP since August 2000 on issues including Medicaid, racial and ethnic disparities, data collection, reproductive health, and immigrants' issues. She is currently project director of the National Language Access Advocacy Project, funded by the California Endowment to increase awareness of language access issues at the federal level. She is also co-director of a project of The Commonwealth Fund to identify promising practices for providing

language services in small health care provider settings as well as state and local benefit eligibility offices. Prior to joining NHeLP, Ms. Youdelman completed a teaching fellowship at Georgetown University Law Center's Federal Legislation Clinic and two years litigating for the Administration for Children's Services in New York City on child abuse and neglect cases. She earned her J.D. from Boston University School of Law and her LL.M. in advocacy from Georgetown University Law Center.

[\(Back to top\)](#)

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[Immigrants & Employment](#) • [Immigrants & Public Benefits](#) • [Immigration Law & Policy](#)  
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