2022 ANNUAL REPORT

PROTECTING IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

Photo Credit: Epi Ren
December 2022

Dear friends and colleagues,

When Cheasty and I stepped into our new roles as Director and Deputy Director in late January, we focused our energies on programmatic and operational goals that would help PIF transition from a campaign focused on public charge to a coalition working towards ensuring that immigrant families have access to and eligibility for public supports. And indeed, over the course of 2022 we at PIF have celebrated numerous accomplishments, all of which position us for the exciting work we will tackle in the coming year. Before looking ahead to 2023, we’d like to pause a moment to reflect on our operational and programmatic achievements from this year.

Operationally, we focused on enhancing PIF’s capacity to manage, engage with, and mobilize our network. We launched a new website, social media account, and relationship management system. As new leaders, we spent time expanding membership and deepening relationships with our network. With the partnership of our Steering and Executive Committees, we began the process of re-envisioning PIF’s future, establishing principles and policy priorities that will carry us forward with accountability to the commitments we make.

Programmatically, we focused our energies on ensuring a successful response to the roll out of the Biden public charge rule. We also committed ourselves to leadership on the 5-year bar, EITC and CTC advocacy, and vaccine outreach, and we began collaborating with partners on preparing for the end of the Public Health Emergency. We built organizing, advocacy, and outreach infrastructure at the state and local levels through our annual subgranting process, and we won grants to develop innovative research and capacity-building programs in a variety of states and cities around the country.

There is so much more to share, but I will conclude by saying that we couldn’t have done any of this without your partnership and support. With deep gratitude for your presence in and commitment to this work, we offer you a look back at what we have accomplished this year.

Sincerely,

Adriana Cadena
Director
LEADERSHIP

PIF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF) Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) Children's Defense Fund – Texas
California Immigrant Policy Center (CIPC) Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) National Immigration Law Center (NILC)

PIF STEERING COMMITTEE

Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF) Children's Defense Fund – Texas MomsRising
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO) Community Catalyst National Health Law Program (NHeLP)
California Immigrant Policy Center (CIPC) Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) National Immigration Law Center (NILC)
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) Shriver Center on Poverty Law
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA) UndocuBlack Network
UnidosUS
2022 BY THE NUMBERS

13% coalition growth from 2021

610 active member organizations

3 new PIF staff members

$1.6M in subgranting to community organizations

50 states, plus DC, represented in DHS comment campaign

1,070 organizations signed on to PIF’s comment on DHS’ public charge notice of proposed rulemaking

15 different language translations of PIF community materials
PUBLIC CHARGE CAMPAIGN

Much of PIF’s work this year focused on preparing for the finalization of DHS’s new public charge rule, which included the development of a comprehensive rapid response plan and a host of outreach and advocacy materials. The Biden administration published a final rule on September 9. The rule, which takes effect on December 23, 2022, clarifies which public benefits are and are not considered in a public charge determination in the U.S., providing assurances that eligible immigrant families can use health care, nutrition, and housing programs without public charge concerns.

1070 ORGANIZATIONS SIGNED ON TO PIF’S COMMENT ON DHS’ PUBLIC CHARGE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

50 STATES, PLUS DC, SIGNED ON TO OUR COMMENT

300+ PEOPLE REGISTERED FOR OUR PUBLIC CHARGE WEBINAR

15 TRANSLATIONS OF KNOW YOUR RIGHTS MATERIALS

Though it’s important to pause and celebrate this milestone, we still have more work to do. While keeping our eye on potential challenges in the courts, will use this victory as the stepping stone to the next phase of our fight: to repeal racist and discriminatory provisions in our immigration law, and to expand access to health, nutrition and housing benefits to immigrants and their families.

VACCINE OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

PIF took a community-driven approach to reach immigrant families on the importance of the COVID-19 and flu vaccines. We partnered with community-based organizations to develop targeted in-language messages, a multilingual toolkit on vaccine promotion, and supported outreach workers’ ability to engage immigrant communities. As we launched the campaign, PIF also engaged in direct education to further equipped community-based groups to disseminate the new materials. As a result of this work, our resources were translated into 5 languages and distributed to local communities by 6 organizations.

الغْرِبيَّة Arabic

ENGLISH

ESPÁNOL Spanish

HANÇUZH Chinese

한국어 Korean

TIỀNG VIỆT Vietnamese
**ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY**

PIF ensured its educational materials related to the final public charge rule included information on EITC, CTC, and COVID-related economic support payments, providing a clear assurance to readers that these vital economic supports would not harm their immigration status. Additionally, PIF collaborated with partners to launch a campaign promoting filing tax returns using an ITIN number for those who are not eligible for a social security number. The campaign will include educational materials and support for community organizations to navigate clients through the cumbersome ITIN application process.

PIF and its partners undertook numerous efforts to encourage all families to claim the advance child tax credit. We worked with Steering Committee partners CLASP, NILC, and UnidosUS to develop an educational resource that explains how to request an ITIN number — a critical step for many families to claim the credit. We also worked with partners to hold a webinar to share best practices in CTC outreach and education.

**REMOVING THE FIVE YEAR BAR**

As part of PIF’s commitment to removing obstacles to immigrant eligibility for public benefits, we engaged in significant congressional education on the need to remove the 5 year bar. For 25 years, this arcane policy has denied lawfully present immigrant families access to critical health and social services. The LIFT the BAR Act (H.R.5227/S.4311) restores access to programs like Medicaid, CHIP, and SNAP, by removing the five-year bar and other barriers that deny critical care and aid to people who are lawfully present. PIF partnered with Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) and the National Immigration Law Center (NILC) to lead this federal advocacy effort.
STRENGTHENING OUR COALITION

With the partnership of our Steering and Executive Committees, we began the process of re-visioning PIF’s future, establishing principles and policy priorities that will carry us forward with accountability to the commitments we make. Since PIF’s inception, our priority has been to advance, protect, and defend access to health care, nutrition programs, public services, and economic support for immigrants and their families. Though the Biden Administration’s public charge rule has been finalized, our fight is far from over.

To plan for the work ahead, we surveyed our network to understand their priorities and help us shape our federal policy agenda. We asked for input regarding our strategy for deepening our advocacy work. The following approaches were most frequently identified as one of the top 3 strategies PIF should strengthen:

- Deeper Engagement with Impacted Communities: 51.8%
- Develop a Long Term Narrative Change Strategy: 43.4%
- Aid State/Local Campaigns to Increase Access to Benefits: 42.2%

NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

In an effort to build relationships and better get to know our network, we spent the latter half of the year hosting meet and greets with organizations who were interested in increasing their involvement with PIF. By the end, we met with over 65 organizations in 29 different states, helping us forge new connections and strengthen our network.

We also adopted to a new and improved relationship management system, which involved a thorough outreach strategy to members and non-members alike. As a result of these efforts, our coalition grew at an unprecedented rate.

- New PIF Active Member Organizations: 60
- % Increase in Active Members: 13
- States, Plus DC, Represented: 42
At PIF, we understand the value of investing in local capacity building as a way of strengthening our network. This year, we granted $1.5 million through our annual subgranting process to conduct public education and community outreach to mitigate the continued harm of public charge-related chilling effects. So far, funded partners have engaged in innovative outreach and education campaigns using digital tools, social media, community workers, provider training, and more.

- **$1.5M** in funds distributed for public charge education
- **60+** organizations received direct funding
- **22** states represented
- **10** state-wide coalitions funded
- **20** local organizations funded

State-wide coalition
Local organization
LOCAL TABLES

As part of PIF’s commitment to power building, we are investing in projects that replicate PIF’s core strengths of silo-busting and cross-issue coalition building in cities and states with diverse immigrant populations. Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, we sought to build local collaborations in Iowa, Georgia, and Pennsylvania in an effort to thaw the continued chilling effect of the Trump public charge rule. Our goal is to bring local immigrant rights and health and human services leaders together to improve outreach to immigrant families, ultimately increasing local organizing capacity. Our target research completion target date is by June 2023.

NEW CONNECTIONS

PIF has actively pursued stronger partnerships with networks that overlap or complement our own in an effort to more broadly and effectively disseminate our messages. Networks that focus on housing, food security, maternal health, and mental health have agreed to host webinars jointly, participate more fully in PIF’s working groups, and distribute our resources with their thousands of members. Partnerships with organizations with significant membership from immigrant communities have helped spread our message to individuals, families, and communities we are trying to reach.

MEDIA EXPOSURE

Our communication work this year has supported the full range of coalition activities. We launched PIF’s first social media account, where we share timely updates and uplift partner resources. We also launched a local media partners initiative, bringing together partners with access to media outlets serving immigrant families in key media markets. Local media partners were instrumental in educating local journalists about litigation related to public charge and avoiding errors in local coverage that could have intensified public charge concerns.

ACCOUNTS REACHED DURING TWEETSTORM THAT PIF CO-HOSTED ON THE FINAL PUBLIC CHARGE REGULATION

2M+

Communication efforts by PIF and partners drew attention to the chilling effect’s ongoing harm, raised awareness of the needs of immigrant families and the opportunity presented by policy improvements, and pushed lawmakers for action.

OPERATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

A key goal for 2022 was to build our own identity as an organization, both operationally and in terms of staffing. We wrapped up a complete redesign of our website to better reflect the breadth of our work. We also created new email addresses under a PIF domain to better coordinate between staff and long-term consultants. Additionally, PIF added significant staff capacity. We hired our first two full-time team members, Adriana Cadena, Director, and Cheasty Anderson, Deputy Director. Both have dedicated their careers to honoring the dignity of immigrants and advocating for their benefits. Also of significance, we hired PIF’s first Operations Specialist, Jessica Del Villar, who has helped ensure operational functionality and efficient process management.
PIF and partner media outreach netted coverage of the Biden public charge regulation in both national and regional outlets, and in multiple languages. Additionally, we, along with our partners, documented the chilling effect’s ongoing harm to Black immigrants, families with children, families affected by COVID-19, and families needing health care and food. Partner outreach also raised the profile of pro-immigrant reforms, such as health insurance eligibility expansions in California, Colorado, and Illinois.

NEWS ARTICLES ABOUT IMMIGRANT FAMILIES AND HEALTH CARE OR SOCIAL SERVICES

PIF outreach clarified that the U.S. Supreme Court’s dismissal of an anti-immigrant lawsuit meant immigrant families could continue to use safety net programs without public charge concerns. Lastly, communication efforts challenged policymakers to deliver pro-immigrant reforms. For example, California partners secured coverage urging policymakers to eliminate restrictions on the state’s new immigrant food aid program.
Thanks to the hard work of our staff, consultants, working groups, and leadership committees, PIF will move into 2023 with clarity and focus. We will continue to advocate for immigrants and their families having access to public benefits. We will expand our membership and engage in grassroots power-building through our network, launching innovative projects and research that test mechanisms to create organizing momentum. We will work to increase our influence in Congress. In 2023, we will take up our strong, well-defined role of being the leading voice at the intersection of immigrant rights and public benefits.

Over the past years, PIF’s track record has proven how successful our “silo-busting” model of advocacy is. We are excited to begin the new year with the strong foundation we need to accomplish our goals, and we look forward to working with you all to continue developing the projects we began in 2022. Your input and commitment continue to be invaluable to us in our collective work of building a healthier, more inclusive, and more resilient future.

Sincerely,
Adriana Cadena & Cheasty Anderson, on behalf of the PIF team

GRACIAS شكراً MÈSI
ধন্যবাদ THANK YOU 谢谢
شكریه XIN CÃM ƠN
MERCI SALAMAT आभार