

Photo Credit: Epi Ren

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT





#### 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)

California Immigrant Policy Center (CIPC) Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

Children's Defense Fund – Texas

National Immigration Law Center (NILC)

#### **PIF STEERING COMMITTEE**

Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF)

Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)

California Immigrant Policy Center (CIPC)

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP)

Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

Children's Defense Fund – Texas

**Community Catalyst** 

Food Research and Action Center (FRAC)

Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)

Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA) MomsRising

National Health Law Program (NHeLP)

National Immigration Law Center (NILC)

Shriver Center on Poverty Law

UndocuBlack Network

UnidosUS

**2022 ANNUAL REPORT** 

# **2022 BY THE NUMBERS**

13% coalition growth from 2021

coalition

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

## CAMPAIGNS

### **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 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.



### **5** 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.



Korean

Vietnamese

#### **2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

### **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.

> PIF "WEEKS OF ACTION" FOCUSED ON CONGRESSIONAL EDUCATION ON THE IMPACT OF THE 5-YEAR-BAR

COSPONSORS SIGNED ON AT INTRODUCTION OF THE SENATE VERSION OF THE LIFT THE BAR ACT

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JOINED AS LIFT THE BAR COSPONSORS

## **OPERATIONS**

### **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



DEVELOP A LONG TERM NARRATIVE CHANGE STRATEGY



AID STATE/LOCAL CAMPAIGNS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO BENEFITS

#### **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.

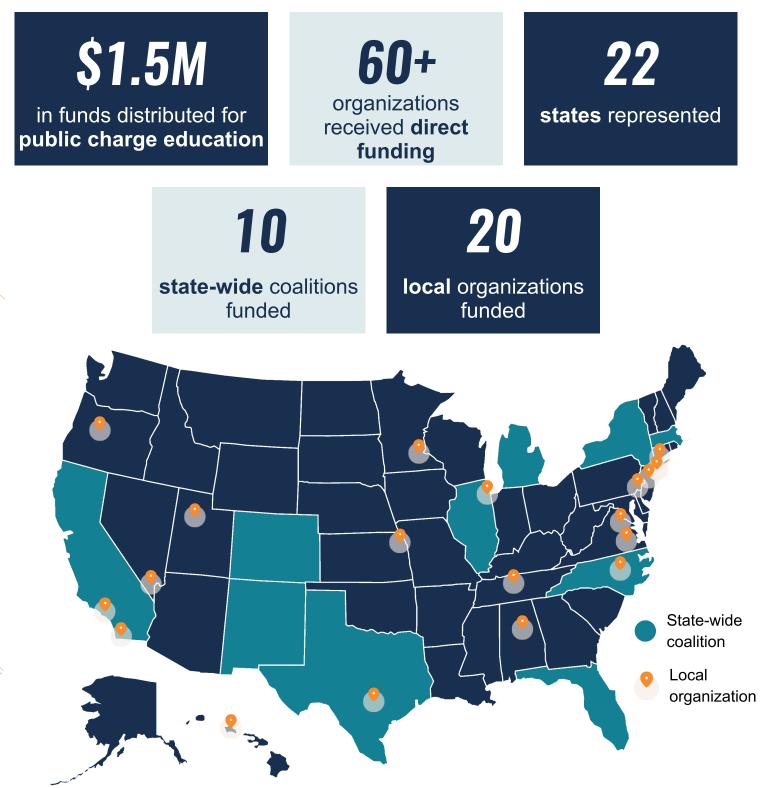
We also adopted to a new and improved relationship management system, which involved a thorough outreach strategy to members and non-members alike. As a a result of these efforts, our coalition grew at an unprecedented rate.

60 NEW PIF ACTIVE MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS
13 % INCREASE IN ACTIVE MEMBERS

**2** STATES, PLUS DC, REPRESENTED

#### **POWER BUILDING**

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.



### **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.



#### **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.

#### **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.

#### **2M+** ACCOUNTS REACHED DURING TWEETSTORM THAT PIF CO-HOSTED ON THE FINAL PUBLIC CHARGE REGULATION

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. 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.

#### **700+** 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 proimmigrant reforms. For example, California partners secured coverage urging policymakers to eliminate restrictions on the state's new immigrant food aid program.

## **OUTLOOK FOR 2023**

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 شكريہ XIN CẢM ƠN MERCI SALAMAT આભાર