CCUSA-MILES4MIGRANTS PARTNERSHIP – Opportunities for a New Beginning for Refugees and Those Seeking Asylum

CCUSA is beginning a new partnership with Miles4Migrants to help reunite families within the United States. Miles4Migrants is a non-profit charity dedicated to using donated frequent flyer miles and money for the relocation of refugees and those seeking asylum, to start a new beginning in a new home. If you are interested in participating, please visit the recent webinar, fill out this form and a staff member at CCUSA will be in contact with you to initiate paperwork.
WEBINARS/EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Combatting Immigration Services Fraud
Tuesday, September 11 at 2-3:30 PM ET
Every day, new policy changes make it more challenging for immigrants to navigate the complex U.S. immigration system. Immigrants need qualified practitioners to provide trustworthy guidance. Join CLINIC staff attorney Christy Williams as she leads a panel discussion on how advocates and state officials can work together to protect their communities from notario fraud. Register here.

New American Dreams Policy Platform Webinar
Wednesday, September 12 at 4 PM ET
The National Partnership for New Americans (NPNA) is excited to launch the updated New Americans Dreams Policy Platform, a proactive policy framework for organizations to advance local and state campaigns around immigrant integration issues. On the webinar, national leaders from our networks will speak on each policy plank and share how the New American Dreams Policy Platform can be adapted at the local and state level. Register here.

Intergenerational Mental Health Needs of Refugee Families
Thursday, September 13 at 1 PM ET
Building off of prior research by MPI’s National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy, experts on this webinar will discuss state and local efforts being undertaken in Maryland to serve refugee families with young children through tailored, trauma-informed approaches that address their specific mental health needs. Register for this webinar here.

Representing Asylum Seekers in Light of Matter of A-B-
Thursday, September 13 at 2-3:30 PM ET
Learn about the implications of the attorney general’s recent decision Matter of A-B-, as well as USCIS’ guidance. This decision affects several aspects of asylum law. In light of Matter of A-B-, practitioners need to explore all potential
arguments in order to win asylum for their clients. Register here.

OTHER RESOURCES

El Salvador TPS
USCIS has issued an automatic extension of work authorization for certain El Salvador TPS holders whose work authorization would expire on Wednesday, September 5, 2018, and who have not yet received their new employment authorization document, or EAD. This new automatic extension provides work authorization through March 4, 2019. USCIS has advised that it will mail a Notice of Continued Evidence of Work Authorization to affected individuals. If applicants do not receive the notice by September 4, 2018, they may contact USCIS at 1-800-375-5283, or file a service request online.

Re-Registration Period Open for TPS for Somalia
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced that current beneficiaries of Temporary Protected Status under Somalia’s designation who want to maintain their status through the 18-month extension period ending on March 17, 2020 must re-register between August 27, 2018 and October 26, 2018. Re-registration procedures, including how to renew employment authorization documents (EADs), have been published in the Federal Register and on USCIS’s website. USCIS will issue new EADs with a March 17, 2020 expiration date to eligible Somalia TPS beneficiaries who timely re-register and apply for EADs.

A Study of Asylum Adjudication in Family Detention
This report presents findings from an empirical analysis of asylum adjudication in family detention. Based on government data from over 18,000 immigration court proceedings, this report documents how families detained in U.S. family detention centers proceeded through the court process. It reveals a growing system of detention that presents serious
barriers to justice and a fair court process for asylum-seeking families. Find more details here.

No Child Should Face Immigration Court Alone
This fact sheet provides some statistics on the number of unaccompanied children in the U.S., what legal protections they have, how KIND advocates for these children, and what others can do. Access more information here.

U.S. Bishops Advocate Welcoming More Refugees in 2019
The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is inviting citizens to sign a petition asking that at least 75,000 refugees be resettled to the U.S. in 2019. The campaign precedes the Presidential Determination that sets the target number of refugees for the coming fiscal year. In 2018, this number was at a record low. Sign the petition here.

NEWS

Immigrants Fearfully Drop out of Nutrition Program
Immigrants are turning down government help to buy infant formula and healthy food for their young children because they're afraid the Trump administration could bar them from getting a green card if they take federal aid. Local health providers say they've received panicked phone calls from both documented and undocumented immigrant families demanding to be dropped from the rolls of WIC after news reports that the White House is potentially planning to deny legal status to immigrants who've used public benefits. Read the full article here.

Basements, Offices, and Hotels Host People in ICE Custody
The basement of a federal building in downtown Austin, 10 floors below U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz’s office. Space in a “fashionable” South Carolina office park. Branches of major hotel chains in Los Angeles, Miami and Seattle. These facilities rarely appear together on government lists, but they all have something in common: They’re nodes in a little-known network of holding areas where people in the custody of U.S.
Immigration and Customs Enforcement spend hours or even days on their way to other locations. Read more here.

**Preparing for Life after Deportation**
A bank account. Power of attorney. Dual citizenship. These are some of the strategies the Consulate of Mexico in Dallas recommends for undocumented immigrants to protect their assets in case they're deported...Mexican officials are encouraging Mexican citizens without documentation to be prepared for the disruption of their lives that can come with the deportation of even one family member. Their recommendations include having Mexicans living in North Texas apply for passports and Mexican voting cards. Read more about the Mexican government’s suggestions here.

**Hundreds of Immigrant Kids Remain Separated from Parents**
Hundreds of children separated from their parents at the US-Mexico border remain separated from them, including 497 in government custody, according to a new court filing Thursday. The figure includes 22 children under the age of 5 still in government care. Six of those are 4 years old or younger whose parents were deported without them. Read the full article here.

**Denying Passports to Americans along the Border**
On paper, he’s a devoted U.S. citizen. His official American birth certificate shows he was delivered by a midwife in Brownsville, at the southern tip of Texas. He spent his life wearing American uniforms: three years as a private in the Army, then as a cadet in the Border Patrol and now as a state prison guard. But when Juan, 40, applied to renew his U.S. passport this year, the government’s response floored him. In a letter, the State Department said it didn’t believe he was an American citizen. Learn more about Juan’s story here.

**Government Coerced Parents into Signing their Rights Away**
Organizations allege that Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) repeatedly forced parents into signing forms that relinquish
their right to be reunified with their children. Keep reading here.

**Social Workers Help Migrant Kids Deal with Trauma**
Tom Crea of the Boston College School of Social Work discusses the types of trauma he has witnessed among children separated from their families as a result of immigration enforcement and need for trauma-informed care. Continue reading here.

**Who Tracks Migrant Children Who Enter the U.S. Alone?**
Trump administration officials acknowledged that they have no system for tracking the tens of thousands of migrant children who are released from federal custody each year after travelling to the United States alone. Read the full article here.

**Migrant Children’s Health Endangered by Family Separation**
Although the Trump administration has ended its policy of family separation as a deterrent against illegal immigration, experts are concerned that migrant children are not receiving adequate care at detention facilities and may experience long-term health implications due to detention and separation. Read more here.

**Proposal for Longer Detention Of Migrant Children**
The Trump administration is proposing to lift court-imposed limits on how long it can hold children in immigration detention. Under proposed regulations set to be published in the Federal Register on Friday, the administration seeks to replace the Flores settlement, a decades-old agreement that dictates how long the government can hold migrant children, and under what conditions. Read more about the proposal here.

Many blessings,