Our Mission
We advocate for immigrant inclusion, equity, and justice by uniting and strengthening diverse allies, developing holistic immigration legal services, and supporting creative initiatives through principled, values-based collaboration.

Our Vision
HILSC envisions a region that respects and advances the rights of all immigrants, refugees, and migrants.

Houston by the Numbers

506,000
Residents are undocumented

32,000
Residents have DACA status

569,000
Children with at least one non-citizen parent

1.6 million
Residents are foreign-born (25% of population)

4,000
Immigrants detained at four Houston area ICE jails

8,675
Houstonians deported in 2019

66,000+
Cases pending in Houston immigration courts

1,200
Children detained in nine Office of Refugee Resettlement facilities in the Houston Region
In 1913, my great grandmother stepped foot onto Ellis Island. Liboria Genova was five years old, traveling with her mother (29-year-old Ninfa), older sister (eight-year-old Antonia) and baby brother (one-year-old Cologero). They were very poor immigrants from Sicily, Italy, making an arduous journey to be reunited with Ninfa’s husband who was working at a steel mill in Pueblo, Colorado.

When the family arrived at the Ellis Island port of entry, they were inspected, interviewed, and ultimately informed by an immigration officer informed – in English of course – that everyone could enter except for my great grandmother. The United States was willing to welcome everyone in the family except the five-year-old, who would have to return to Italy alone. My great, great grandmother Ninfa was distraught, confused, and caught in an administrative nightmare that could not communicate with her. She was a young woman with three small children seeking a better life without any assistance to navigate the system. As she sat with a group of other Italian immigrants, a man approached her and asked – in perfect Italian - why she was crying. She explained as best she could, given the little she understood about what was happening and he replied, “Give me your papers and I will go take care of this.” She gave him everything.

Hours passed, and Ninfa and her fellow migrants were convinced that she had put her trust in a stranger who had now disappeared with all her family’s documents. Surely, they were ruined.

The man did return, though. And somehow, by magic it seemed, he had resolved the issue. My great grandmother was cleared to enter along with her siblings and mother. The mysterious man disappeared but has lived on as a character in this often-told family story. My Italian family began their life in the United States.

Ultimately, my family’s story highlights two of the many failures in our immigration system that I carry with me all the time. The first is that the system is convoluted, seemingly arbitrarily applied, and prioritizes the perceived needs of the receiving community over the dignity of the migrant. The people who suffer most at the hands of this system are largely poor women and children. The second failure is that it can be a matter of luck to find an advocate to get through a murky system. In my family’s case, this advocate was a random Italian man who happened to have the right relationships and insider knowledge.

The immigration system should work better than it does. It should treat migrants with more dignity, respect, and understanding. Governments at every level – federal, state and local - must take active steps towards creating an immigration system that works for everyone. At the same time, the philanthropic and non-profit community must work together to provide excellent, compassionate, sufficient helpers, including lawyers, social workers, and advocates.

HILSC’s role as a collaborative leader places at the center of both of these calls to action. We are working to build a region that does not just passively welcome new immigrants, but actively works to advance their rights. We are working to create large-scale, coordinated systems of support to assist individual immigrants in the here and now. We are working for dignity, equity and justice for all immigrants, refugees, and migrants. We do our work in collaboration because working together gives us more power.

Throughout this report, you will see examples of our why and our impact over the past year. Join us.

In collaboration,
Kate Vickery

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
2019 IMPACT

$1,144,571 IN GRANTS AWARDED TO 17 DIVERSE ORGANIZATIONS

1,565 CALLS TO THE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS HOTLINE

40+ EVENTS, TRAININGS & PRESENTATIONS

1,856 ATTORNEYS & COMMUNITY MEMBERS TRAINED

858 PEOPLE ASSISTED THROUGH THE IMMIGRATION COURT HELP DESK

104 PEOPLE REPRESENTED THROUGH DEPORTATION DEFENSE HOUSTON

26 COMPLETED REQUESTS FOR FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATIONS

69 DISASTER RECOVERY KITS DISTRIBUTED TO FAMILIES THROUGH DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GRANTS TO 3 PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Media Mentions

HILSC works to improve the quantity and quality of legal representation in Houston. We bring partners together in working groups, projects and trainings, and we advocate for local policies that improve the chances that immigrants will win their cases. In 2019, initiatives championed by the Crime Victims Working Group strengthened partnerships with local law enforcement to improve access to justice for immigrant victims of crime. The Houston Leads coalition worked to curtail the arrest-to-deportation pipeline in Harris County. HILSC staff provided eight federal comments on rulemaking on issues like public charge, fees and fee waivers, and children’s detention. The next few pages will highlight some additional 2019 projects.

**WORKING GROUPS**
- Asylum Working Group
- Crime Victims Working Group
- Detention Working Group

**PROGRAMS**
- Deportation Defense Houston
- Disaster Recovery Legal Corps
- Immigration Court Help Desk

**ADVOCACY**
- Houston Leads

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Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo (center), along with a group of Harris County staff and private foundation representatives, toured a Houston area ICE detention facility in July 2019 through HILSC’s funder education programming.
PARTNERS

YMCA International Services
BakerRipley
Justice for Our Neighbors – Houston
South Texas College of Law

FUNDING PARTNERS

The Beacon Fund
Southern Poverty Law Center
The Simmons Foundation
Houston Endowment

ABOUT

Deportation Defense Houston (DDH) provides free legal representation for low-income immigrants detained in four Houston-area detention centers. DDH uses innovative and collaborative approaches to holistic representation including the Immigrant Rights Hotline, a deportation defense legal clinic, and impact litigation. The cohort also works to educate policymakers and the public about the detention and deportation systems through tours of detention facilities, presentations, and community outreach.

CLIENT STORY

MEET HECTOR

“Hector” arrived in the United States as a 4-year-old and was able to receive lawful permanent resident status when he turned 18. By the time he reached adulthood, however, a stroke, heart disease, and diabetes left him blind and in the beginning stages of kidney failure. While serving a state prison sentence, his leg was amputated due to negligent medical care.

By the time a DDH attorney encountered him in immigration detention, he was blind, in a wheelchair, and receiving kidney dialysis three times a week.

The YMCA’s DDH attorney was able to gather evidence about how the Mexican medical system was not equipped to care for him and to help Hector talk about his life and his case to the judge. As a result of this legal advocacy, the judge granted cancellation of removal. After he won his case, ICE dropped Hector off at a bus station in downtown Houston without alerting anyone, leaving him to spend the night in the bus station alone. When DDH found out the next day, the team picked him up, took him to the emergency room, and got him on a bus to his family. The YMCA has maintained contact with Hector’s social workers to help get a replacement green card for him.

“DDH provides representation for those detained in Houston-area detention facilities. It is important to protect our clients due process rights in a complex immigration system.”

–Julie Pasch
DDH Managing Attorney
**DISASTER RECOVERY LEGAL CORPS**

- **865** Individuals received legal information
- **830** Individuals received legal assistance
- **511** Closed cases
- **720** Households that benefited from legal services

**PARTNERS**
- YMCA International Services
- Catholic Charities’ Cabrini Center
- Tahirih Justice Center
- Human Rights First
- Equal Justice Works

**FUNDING PARTNERS**
- Center for Disaster Philanthropy
- The Simmons Foundation
- Houston Endowment

**ABOUT**

The Equal Justice Works Disaster Recovery Legal Corps (DRLC) is comprised of twenty-one Equal Justice Works (EJW) fellows delivering legal and recovery assistance to individuals affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria and Imelda around the country. As a result of HILSC’s funder education, Houston is the only site with immigration fellows embedded within the DRLC. Fellows are empowered to take any type of legal case for families who were impacted by these natural disasters. Gaining legal status is one of the best ways to help families recover and be better prepared for the next disaster.

**IMMIGRATION COURT HELP DESK**

- **858** People helped through consultations and brief services
- **1,502** Family members impacted through court consultations
- **60** People helped with asylum applications and work permits through workshops

**PARTNERS**
- Human Rights First, Tahirih Justice Center, Catholic Charities Cabrini Center & YMCA International Services

**FUNDING PARTNERS**
- Center for Disaster Philanthropy, The Simmons Foundation & Houston Endowment

**ABOUT**

The Help Desk provides one-on-one consultations and legal advice for immigrants in removal proceedings at the Immigration Court in downtown Houston. Services include screenings and advice, making referrals to partners for full representation, and providing pro se assistance on brief case matters, which can often be the difference between winning and losing a case.

“The Help Desk provides those who are already at the Immigration Court with a friendly space where they can get answers to their questions. Immigrants facing deportation proceedings are often confused and worried after seeing a judge, and having experienced attorneys give advice and counsel is invaluable.”

--Andrea Guttin, Legal Director
HILSC work encompasses partners and projects that embody a holistic approach to supporting the Houston-area immigrant community. Through the work of the Access to Services Committee, we prioritize opportunities to identify and break down barriers to social and legal services for immigrant community members. Projects like the Immigrant Accessibility Index, AccessHOU and the Humanitarian Action Plan were shared widely in 2019, especially among local government stakeholders, to center the needs of immigrants in service provision and planning. The Immigrant Community Outreach Network (ICON) developed know your rights materials, prioritizing community trainings on issues like public charge. HILSC staff also developed cultural safety trainings that teach trauma-informed practices and help organizations create discrimination-free services. The next few pages will highlight some of our most impactful projects in 2019.

WORKING GROUPS
Access to Services Working Group
Immigrant Community Outreach Network (ICON)

PROJECTS
Immigrant Rights Hotline
Forensic Evaluations
AccessHOU

ADVOCACY
Immigrant Accessibility Index
Humanitarian Action Plan
Cultural Safety Training
IMMIGRANT RIGHTS HOTLINE

1,565
PEOPLE RECEIVED INFORMATION AND REFERRALS THROUGH THE HOTLINE

61%
INCREASE IN CALLS FROM 2018

73%
OF CALLS WERE FROM THE GREATER HOUSTON AREA

74%
OF CALLS WERE IN SPANISH

71%
OF REFERRALS WERE MADE TO A HILSC IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES PROVIDER, INCLUDING TO DEPORTATION DEFENSE HOUSTON

PARTNERS
Boat People SOS
United We Dream
BakerRipley
ACLU of Texas

FUNDING PARTNERS
Houston Endowment
Center for Disaster Philanthropy
The Simmons Foundation

ABOUT
The Immigrant Rights Hotline is a free community-accessible tool that provides information on immigration-related laws and policies as well as referrals to affordable legal and social services. The hotline also serves as a reporting mechanism for anti-immigrant activities such as raids, law enforcement collaboration with ICE, and racial profiling. The purpose of the Hotline is to provide accurate information, dispel fear and empower the immigrant community.

“"The Immigrant Rights Hotline is extremely important in this current anti-immigrant environment. When the Trump administration announced ICE raids in summer 2019, we had a huge show of community support! People volunteered as operators to give callers the tools to protect themselves in case of raids. We also had volunteers hit the ground, observing reported raid sites. Moments like these really capture how essential the Hotline is in empowering the community and our future citizens.”

–Paola Guzman, Access to Services Manager
WHAT IS THE FORENSIC EVALUATION PROGRAM?

HILSC’s Forensic Evaluation program builds the capacity of clinicians providing forensic mental health evaluations for immigrants. The project includes a training program for clinicians and attorneys as well as low-bono stipends to clinicians who support our legal partners and their clients by completing mental health evaluations.

WHAT ARE FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATIONS?

A forensic mental health evaluation is an evaluation performed by a mental health professional for the purpose of providing relevant clinical and scientific data to an immigration judge. During an extensive clinician interview, mental health professionals compile narrative information relevant to the clients’ psychological functioning across time. In short, forensic evaluations document the impacts of trauma on a person’s mental health.

WHY ARE THESE EVALUATIONS IMPORTANT TO AN IMMIGRANT’S LEGAL CASE?

Forensic mental health evaluations serve a vital purpose for immigration cases, especially for clients who have experienced extensive and long-term trauma, torture, and harm. A forensic evaluation can often be the difference between winning and losing a case. Mental health diagnoses such as PTSD, depression, and anxiety can help put a client’s story into context and create empathy about the client’s experiences and behavior through a trauma-informed lens. Furthermore, a forensic evaluation can be therapeutic and can encourage a client to seek ongoing counseling.

WHO CONDUCTS THE FORENSIC EVALUATION?

Forensic evaluations must be done by someone licensed to diagnose including Psychologists (PhD, PsyD), Psychiatrists (MD); Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW) Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC) or Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT). Sometimes, a non-licensed expert in trauma, domestic violence, or sexual assault may conduct an evaluation as well. In general, this is a highly specialized area of practice requiring a high level cultural competence, language skills, and clinical expertise.

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES THIS PROGRAM ADDRESSES?

Access to high-quality evaluations are extremely limited due to lack of capacity, which is what we are trying to address with HILSC’s forensic evaluation capacity building project. This lack of capacity is the result of four main issues. First, clinicians need specialized training in domestic violence, gender-based violence, and abuse/neglect in order to assess these particular cases. This training is limited, particularly in Texas. Second, this is emotionally taxing work with a high need for self-care and burnout prevention for clinicians. Third, while we understand that bicultural/bilingual clinicians can facilitate clinical rapport-building and ensure direct/clear communication, these skills are quite limited in the pool of talented clinicians in the Houston region. Finally, this is highly technical work that is under-valued in the legal system, and clinicians are often asked to conduct evaluations pro bono. Our capacity building project addresses all of these challenges.

ABOUT

The Humanitarian Action Plan (HAP) is a set of recommendations directed at federal, state, county, city and non-profit agencies to improve disaster management systems’ ability to meet the needs of immigrants in the Houston region. The HAP is based on interviews with over 80 people from more than 40 agencies – including undocumented immigrants, immigrant-serving and emergency management professionals, and decision makers on funding and policy.

HAP IN ACTION

Houston / Harris County emergency management services incorporated more diverse local media outlets to expand the sources and languages through which they distribute information.

Harris County now distributes emergency alerts in Spanish as well as English.

United Way of Greater Houston added detailed information to their 211 system explaining which IDs are accepted by immigrant-facing service organizations.

69 disaster recovery kits were distributed to families through disaster preparedness grants to three member organizations.

In response to Tropical Storm Imelda, disaster FAQs were distributed to 100+ government and non-profit entities that provide emergency response and recovery services.

ABOUT

AccessHOU is a database of resources for agencies working with immigrants in Greater Houston. Anyone can use it to find or update social services, from medical care to rental assistance to after school programs. The database and the AccessHOU platform are available opensource. In 2019, the quality team focused on making technological and data quality improvements to make AccessHOU.org more user-friendly and reliable for immigrant services social workers and case managers.

PARTNERS

Daya, RAICES, Tahirih Justice Center

FUNDING PARTNERS

Center for Disaster Philanthropy.
The Simmons Foundation, Houston Endowment

IMMIGRANT ACCESSIBILITY INDEX

ABOUT

The purpose of the Immigrant Accessibility Index is to help social service organizations assess the extent to which their services are accessible to all immigrants, regardless of legal status. We define organizational and systemic accessibility to include policies and practices that are trauma-informed, culturally welcoming, physically and linguistically accessible and equality building.
GRANTMAKING

The Collaborative provides support to organizations through strategic grants that support holistic and collaborative services and advocacy.

IN 2019, THE COLLABORATIVE AWARDED $1,144,571 IN GRANTS TO 17 DIVERSE ORGANIZATIONS.

HILSC makes grants through an empowering and unique participatory grantmaking process that puts service providers and directly impacted individuals in the front seat of decision-making. We also engage in robust funder education, working to grow the number of philanthropic institutions and individuals who support efforts to improve the lives of low-income immigrants in the region. In 2019, we focused our funder education on immigrant detention, hosting three stakeholder tours of ICE detention centers throughout the year.

“I saw a system with a deep lack of organization, transparency, and safeguards to ensure it adequately responds to the needs of the people it serves. I saw deep frustrations and hopelessness. Many spoke of depression.

I went to the detention center today because I wanted to see for myself what is going on in our own backyard. In the meantime, the need for legal representation is paramount. Our office is exploring everything we can do to support legal representation or otherwise try to bring about better outcomes for those in our community who come into contact with this deeply flawed system.”

– Harris County Judge, Lina Hidalgo
July 2, 2019 statement on visit to IAH Secure Adult Detention Center with the Deportation Defense Houston coalition of attorneys

SPOTLIGHT ON
MARVA MALLORY-MCRAE, PROGRAM ASSISTANT

“Along with supporting the HILSC team as a Program Assistant, I am studying traditional Chinese medicine. It is my passion to use this form of natural, holistic medicine to offer healing and to improve individual and community health. The impact of HILSC, for me, is the support we provide at the intersection of the needs of vulnerable families. In Houston, we have the privilege of seeing the big picture, using our resources to strengthen and uplift the impact of our allies. Working together is how we help heal our community.”

EDUCATION
Doctor of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine, American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (In Progress); Master of Science in Public Health with a certificate in Maternal and Child Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (2014)
2019 GRANTS

DEPORTATION DEFENSE HOUSTON
GRANTEES: BakerRipley, Justice for Our Neighbor– Houston, South Texas College of Law Houston, YMCA International Services
PURPOSE: These grants support each organization’s participation in the Deportation Defense Houston project, a holistic and wide-angle legal representation program.
See page 5 for details.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FOR IMMIGRANTS
GRANTEES: YMCA International Services, University of Houston, Living Hope Wheelchair Association
PURPOSE: To support disaster preparedness education and supply kits for immigrant clients.

SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH FOR IMMIGRANTS EXPERIENCING DETENTION
GRANTEES: Cabrini Center for Immigrant Legal Assistance (Catholic Charities), the Trauma & Grief Center at Texas Children’s Hospital, The Alliance & the Program for Immigrant & Refugee Children’s Health (Baylor College of Medicine/ Texas Children’s Hospital), YMCA International Services
PURPOSE: These grants support culturally competent behavioral and mental health care for adults and children who are currently detained or who have experienced detention.

ACCESSHOU QUALITY TEAM
GRANTEES: RAICES, Tahirh Justice Center, Daya
PURPOSE: To support social work staff’s participation in maintaining and troubleshooting the AccessHOU immigrant-friendly social services database.
See page 10 for details.

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS HOTLINE
GRANTEES: BakerRipley, United We Dream, Boat People SOS
PURPOSE: This collaborative grant supports bilingual hotline operators at the three organizations, as well as outreach and marketing of the hotline.
See page 8 for details.

CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS FOR SMALL ORGANIZATIONS (BUDGETS UNDER $300,000)
GRANTEES: Living Hope Wheelchair Association, La Unidad 11, OCA Greater Houston
PURPOSE: These grants support general operations, strategic planning, fundraising development, board development, trainings and capacity building expenses for expanding legal services.

2019 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

BALANCE SHEET

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Total Fund Balance</td>
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INCOME STATEMENT

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<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTION

- Program: $1,608,051
- Management: 52,781
- Fundraising: 33,622

3% 2% 95%
2019 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Wafa Abdin & Michael Hofrichter, Executive Director(s), Houston Volunteer Lawyers
Pancho Argüelles, Executive Director, Living Hope Wheelchair Association
Dalia Castillo-Granados, Director, ABA’s Children’s Immigration Law Academy (CILA)
Anne Chandler, Executive Director, Tahirih Justice Center, Houston (2018 Chair)
Paola Copeland, Managing Attorney, Memorial Assistance Ministries
Amanda Cloud, President & CEO, The Simmons Foundation
Julietta Garibay, Texas Director and Co-Founder, United We Dream
Meghna Goswami, Program Officer, Houston Endowment
Rachna Khare, Executive Director, Daya
Joy Green, Legal Director, Justice For Our Neighbors – Houston
Zenobia Lai, Legal Director, Cabrini Center for Immigrant Legal Assistance, Catholic Charities
Pam Nickell, Staff Attorney, Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights
Elizabeth “Chiqui” Sanchez Kennedy, Director of Immigration Legal Services, YMCA International Services
Rosemary Vega, Staff Attorney, University of Houston Law Center Immigration Clinic
Gislaine Williams, Community Relations Director, The Alliance

2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Joy Green, Legal Director, Justice For Our Neighbors – Houston
Kate Vickery, Executive Director, Houston Immigration Legal Services Collaborative
Amanda Cloud, President & CEO, The Simmons Foundation
Stephen D. Maislin (Vice President), President & CEO, Greater Houston Community Foundation
Renee Wizig-Barrios (President), Sr. Vice President & Chief Philanthropy Officer, Greater Houston Community Foundation
Mike Pawson (Secretary), Chief Financial Officer, Greater Houston Community Foundation
Rebecca Hove (Treasurer), Director of Strategic Philanthropy, Greater Houston Community Foundation

IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES MEMBERS
BakerRipley
Boat People SOS – Houston
Bonding Against Adversity
Cabrini Center for Immigration Legal Assistance (Catholic Charities)
Chinese Community Center
Human Rights First
Justice For Our Neighbors – Houston
Kids In Need of Defense (KIND)
Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM)
OCA of Greater Houston
South Texas College of Law Houston
Tahirih Justice Center
University of Houston Law Center, Immigration Clinic
YMCA International Services

GENERAL MEMBERS
ABA Children’s Immigration Law Academy
Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project
Daya
Epiphany: Community Health Outreach Services (ECHOS)
Fe y Justicia Worker Center
Houston Volunteer Lawyers
La Unidad 11
Living Hope Wheelchair Association
Mi Familia Vota
NALEO Education Fund
Texas Organizing Project
The Alliance
Gulf Coast Leadership Council – The Metropolitan Organization
The Trauma and Grief Center (TAG) at Texas Children’s Hospital
United We Dream Texas
Workers Defense Project
Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights

STAFF
Kate Vickery, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Andrea Gutin, LEGAL DIRECTOR
Maira Sheikh, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR*
Julie Pasch, DDH MANAGING ATTORNEY
Paola Guzman, ACCESS TO SERVICES MANAGER
Katy Atkiss, DISASTER RESILIENCY MANAGER
Thalia Werner, CONSULTANT FOR FORENSIC EVALUATION PROJECT
Marva Mallory-McRae, PROGRAM ASSISTANT

*Not on staff in 2019

2019 FUNDING PARTNERS
The Beacon Fund
Broderick Foundation
Borealis Philanthropy
Center for Disaster Philanthropy
Greater Houston Community Foundation
Houston Endowment, Inc.
Marek Family Foundation
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
The Simmons Foundation
Southern Poverty Law Center

STAKEHOLDERS (partners on specific projects throughout the year)
ACLU of Texas
American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)
American Red Cross Texas Gulf Coast Region
Antena Houston
Human Rights and Asylum Clinic, Baylor College of Medicine
Bee Busy Wellness Center
City of Houston, Office of Emergency Management
City of Houston, Office of New Americans and Immigrant Communities (ONIAC)
Consumer Protection Division - Texas Attorney General
Doctors for Change
Ethiopian Community Organization in Houston
Harris County District Attorney’s Office
Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo’s Office
Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HCOHSEM)
Harris County Public Health
Hispanic Issues Section of the Texas Bar
Houston Coalition Against Hate (HCAH)
Houston Public Libraries
Houston Health Department
Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)
Interfaith Ministries
Las Americas Newcomer School (HISD)
Lone Star Legal Aid
Mexican Consulate
Migrant and Refugee Leadership Academy (MARLA)
Moran Health Center (Catholic Charities)
National Immigration Forum
Organización Latina de Trans in Texas (OLTTT)
Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES)
Refugee Services of Texas
Ser y Hacer Program of The Children’s Center (Galveston, TX)
Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Texas
Somali Bantu Community of Greater Houston
Southern Poverty Law Center’s Southeast Immigrant Freedom Initiative (SIFI)
Texas Civil Rights Project
United Against Human Trafficking
University of Houston School of Social Work
University of Texas Medical Branch
Your Therapy Houston
More than 1.6 million immigrants call the Houston region home and 63% of them are non-citizens; more than 500,000 Houstonians are undocumented.

Despite their significant contributions to the state and local economy in Texas, immigrants, particularly those who are undocumented, face considerable challenges.

HILSC advocates for immigrant inclusion, equity and justice by uniting and strengthening diverse allies, developing holistic immigration legal services and supporting creative initiatives through principled, values-based collaboration.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

houstonimmigration.org