

## A Letter From Co-Executive Director Edna Yang

Happy Black History month! Did you know that the Black population in the US is diversifying because of global immigration? <u>Austin's Black immigrant</u> population has grown faster than the city as a whole in the last 10 years. American Gateways has seen this growth first hand, providing representation, education, and advocacy to recently-arrived Black immigrants in central Texas. We are taking the time this month (and every month) to celebrate the beautiful diversity in our community and hope that it will continue to grow.

The US Citizenship and Immigration Services has a <u>new mission statement</u> that is welcoming, inclusive, and promises fairness and integrity in the work that they do. We welcome this change. Immigrants are the foundation of this nation. Without immigrants there would be no United States and the new mission of inclusivity and welcome is one that we hope will continue in the future at USCIS.

Thanks to each and every one of you for all that you do to support immigrant justice here in Central Texas



## American Gateways helps 10 Afghan Families at Last Saturday's Clinic

With the help of Texas Here to Stay and Refugee Services of Texas, our attorneys and pro bono volunteers helped 48 individuals from 10 families apply for asylum. Read about the clinic and more from Legal Director Robert Painter in this <u>Austin-American Statesman Article</u>.



## St. Mary's School of Law Hosts Immigration Symposium

Co-Executive Director, Edna Yang, will present alongside other immigration professionals this Friday at the 2022 Immigration Symposium: Forever A Nation of Immigrants. The theme this year is on the practical aspects of immigration law and the current policy debates surrounding the field. Registration for the event has closed, but you can read more about it <a href="here">here</a>.



## Join Our Amplify Austin Campaign

Central Texas' biggest 24 hours of giving is next week! Join us on Wednesday, March 2nd at 6pm to Thursday, March 3rd at 6pm to amplify immigrant justice. This

year, our Board of Directors created a match fund of \$6,000 to help us reach our goal of \$25,000. Donate early to our campaign or become a champion fundraiser <u>here!</u> Stay tuned via our social media and share with your circle.

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