

A Letter from Co-Executive Director Edna Yang

April is volunteer recognition month. Last year, we had over 500 volunteers donate over 400 hours worth more than \$800,000! Thank you to all of our volunteers who do so much to support our work. We could not do what we do without each and every one of you. We also want to congratulate our board member and pro bono attorney, Leah Buratti, for receiving the David H. Walter Community Excellence Award through the Austin Bar Association. Leah is being recognized for making a significant impact in our community.

We welcomed the recent announcement of <u>Temporary Protected Status (TPS)</u> for nationals from <u>Cameroon</u> and are working to assist those who can apply for TPS. In addition, we were heartened by the administration's announcement that the <u>Title 42 program</u> is scheduled to end on May 23, 2022. We hope that the administration will follow through with its promise to end this harmful program and allow those fleeing harm to apply for the protection that they are legally eligible for.

As always our work remains in flux, with many changes to immigration policies affecting the communities we serve. Our staff responds quickly and pivots to meet the needs of our clients. We will continue to advocate for and work

towards a just immigration system. We are thankful for the support from each of you, which allows us to do our work so successfully.



Volunteers Needed for May Naturalization Clinic

The San Antonio office is hosting the second in-person naturalization clinic since the pandemic began on Saturday, May 7th from 9AM until 2PM. We expect over 100 applicants will attend. USCIS will also be present to conduct mock interviews. We still need attorney and non-attorney volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, please fill out this form. If you already signed up to volunteer, please note the location change to the YWCA - San Antonio.



Celebrate Immigrant Heritage Month with Us

Join us on June 3rd for American Gateways 5th annual June Fiesta to celebrate Immigrant Heritage Month! The fiesta will include music, food, and family fun to celebrate our clients, volunteers, community advocates, board members, and donors. The event will be held at Esquina Tango from 6PM to 9PM. If you would like to attend, please RSVP here!



American Gateways Helps New Asylee

Thanks to the incredible work of San Antonio attorney Benicio Diaz, Ms. I.N., an asylum-seeker from Cameroon, was granted asylum this month. Ms. I.N. was persecuted due to her political opinion and identity as a Cameroonian Anglophone. She fled to the United States and applied for asylum. After years of waiting for a final hearing date, she was able to present her case and was granted asylum.

Donate to Help Asylees like Ms. I.N.