

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



FROM THE DIRECTOR

The New Americans Campaign (NAC) continues to demonstrate the real impact of collaboration. In 2024, our partners worked tirelessly to make citizenship accessible and affordable, resulting in tangible changes in communities nationwide.

The numbers tell a compelling story: since 2011, NAC partners have helped file over **662,000** naturalization applications and saved aspiring citizens an estimated **\$737 million** in naturalization-related costs. Over **30,000** new citizens have become eligible to vote in the past year because of our partners' work, strengthening our democracy through expanded civic participation.

These achievements reflect more than statistics—they represent families and individuals who can now build more secure futures and enjoy the many benefits of naturalization. As newly-naturalized citizen Yolanda told us recently, "The security of citizenship is not only for one person; it's also for the family." She became a citizen in 2024, assisted by one of our partners in Chicago, and her story reflects how transformative U.S. citizenship is for so many people and their families.

As we prepare for potential immigration policy changes next year, the NAC team and our national partners remain focused on ensuring naturalization remains within reach for eligible lawful permanent residents. We will continue offering as many educational opportunities as possible and provide technical assistance to support our partners.

Our partners are a source of inspiration, and we look forward to continuing to work alongside you. Thank you for your continued commitment.

Lucia Martel-Dow

Director, New Americans Campaign



One of the highlights of 2024, was meeting with national partners in Washington, DC, to discuss the collaboratives's strategies and planning for 2025 and beyond.



FROM THE NAC TEAM



Eric Cohen, Executive Director, ILRC

Thank you to all NAC partners for your commitment to supporting aspiring citizens. While challenges lie ahead, your dedication to advancing naturalization ensures we are prepared to adapt and persevere. Citizenship remains a vital source of protection and opportunity, and I look forward to continuing this critical work together in the coming year.



Ben Brokaw, NAC Associate Director

NAC partners continued to provide exceptional naturalization services to immigrants in their communities to help them achieve the dream of U.S. citizenship. Their hard work strengthens families while making communities more welcoming, inclusive, and prosperous places for all. I am excited to see what the NAC will achieve in 2025 and how our network will continue to advance naturalization across the country.



Amber McChesney-Young, Best Practices Manager

I am always amazed by the accomplishments of our NAC partners! This year has brought a lot of changes, with a new application form and changes to fees, but our partners quickly adapted and continue to bring high quality services to their communities. We know that next year will bring challenges, but I am confident in what we can achieve together. I am proud to have the opportunity to work alongside so many fantastic organizations.



Leah Muse-Orlinoff, Data and Strategy Consultant

The NAC is a beacon of hope: our partners work tirelessly to make US citizenship a reality for thousands of immigrants and their families. In challenging times, it is a privilege and a pleasure to work with this outstanding group of organizations. I look forward to watching the NAC continue to flourish and bring enormous benefits to so many.



Philip Smith, Finance Consultant

Thank you for the opportunity to collaborate with such a dedicated team. It's been a privilege to support your important work in advocating for naturalization. There are challenges on the horizon but we'll face them together.



IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

FROM 2011 - 2024

662,000+

naturalization applications completed* \$737 million

total savings (legal costs and USCIS filing fees) 239,000+

fee waivers (full and partial)

FROM JANUARY 1 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

34,900

naturalization applications completed* by NAC partners and affiliates \$44 million

total savings (legal costs and USCIS filing fees)

17,700

fee waivers (full and partial)

 * Including derivatives (minor children who benefit from their parent's naturalization)





Now that I'm a citizen there is a sense of belonging in the U.S. that I could not have imagined. When you're a citizen, you have all the rights, responsibilities, and privileges.



REV. GRACE MAE GOODRIDGE



BEST PRACTICES & CAPACITY BUILDING

SUPPORTING THE FIELD

This year, the NAC supported the field by holding:

- **3** in-person two-day naturalization legal trainings from ILRC.
- **13** legal webinars and online courses from ILRC and CLINIC (including 2 Comprehensive Overview of Immigration Law courses from CLINIC).
- **11** best practices webinars/webinar series from NAC and CLINIC.
- **561** questions answered through ILRC Attorney of the Day technical assistance.



ARTIFICAL INTELLIGENCE WEBINAR SERIES

In the spirit of innovation, the NAC recently hosted a three-part webinar series on Generative Artificial Intelligence (Gen AI) for our partners. These sessions introduced Gen AI applications and ethical considerations, generating valuable discussions on how Gen AI could support nonprofits and immigration programs. We polled participants and found that while over half were new to AI, many see potential for its

use in content creation, communications, and data analysis within their work. We will continue to monitor how partners are innovating and adopting new technologies and applications specific to naturalization.

INNOVATION GRANT

In 2024, NAC partners advanced creative projects funded by the 12th round of NAC Innovation Grants. These projects included integrating technology at naturalization workshops, creating multilingual videos and a podcast for outreach and education, and expanding a self-paced online civics course. The NAC also announced a new round of innovation grants to support experimentation with Gen AI tools.







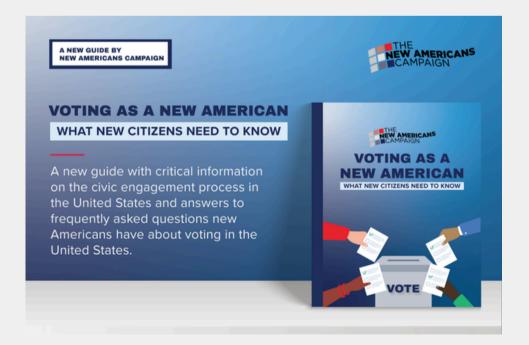






CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Across the country, 20 local partners are receiving funding from the NAC to educate and connect new citizens to information and resources on voting and civic participation opportunities. From January 1, 2024-June 30, 2024, NAC partners reached out to more than 2,400 new citizens about voter registration and voting. 85% reported that they had already registered to vote or pledged that they would register. In June this year, the NAC team released a NAC Voter Guide for New Americans. The Voter Guide is a customizable resource for partners to educate their staff and volunteers about the civic engagement process, and it provides answers to new Americans' frequently asked questions about voting in the United States.







NATURALIZATION ADVOCACY AND POLICY

The Naturalization Working Group (NWG), the policy and advocacy arm of the NAC led by the NALEO Educational Fund, advocates for making naturalization affordable and accessible. The group's advocacy efforts contributed to several recent naturalization policy wins, including expanded eligibility for the reduced application fee; release of an updated N-400, Application for Naturalization, that simplifies and shortens the form; and continued improvement in processing times and backlogs for naturalization applicants.







With my citizenship, I am here. My life is here. I have opportunities here. Now I can help other people.



YOLANDA NICOLAS GIL



NATIONAL PARTNERS

Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California (AJSOCAL) Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC) International Rescue Committee (IRC) Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) - Lead Agency Justicia Lab NALEO Educational Fund **National Immigration Forum** National Partnership for New Americans (NPNA) Pro Bono Net

FUNDERS

UnidosUS

California Wellness Foundation Carnegie Corporation of New York Grove Foundation **Houston Endowment** John S. and James L. Knight Foundation JPB Foundation **Open Society Foundations**

STAY CONNECTED WITH US















