FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2018
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Women Leaders and Women’s Issues Emerge As One of the NIIC’s 2018 Central Themes

WASHINGTON _ As a record number of women ascend to power in Washington and in a dozen of states next year, the National Partnership for New American’s annual National Immigrant Integration Conference (NIIC) is featuring women leaders, women’s issues and the role they play in the immigrant movement as one of its central themes.

York State Assemblymember Catalina Cruz, Dr. Leana Wen, President and CEO of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, and nationally renowned activist Linda Sarsour of the Women’s March speaking on the importance of women’s advocacy for new Americans and across American politics. For the first time the conference will also feature an issue area track focused on women’s leadership — “The Power & Resilience of Immigrant Women: Shaping Politics & Protecting Our Communities” — which will address the critical leadership roles women are playing in the movement, their resilience in protecting their families and communities, and the mentorship and support women need from each other as they ascend in leadership.

“There’s a thirst by women leaders in their own communities and assert themselves at the highest levels of power. They are walking into Washington, state capitols, boardrooms all over this country and demanding, not just participation, but well-deserved leadership positions,” said Sulma Arias, Field Director for the Fair Immigration Reform Movement Campaign, which serves on the NIIC Executive Committee. “The way women of all backgrounds respond at this moment in time is crucial to cementing women’s permanent and fair participation in this nation’s political system.”

Now in its 11th year, the NIIC is the largest conference of its kind in the United States and gives immigration and refugee advocates, policy experts, government officials and community leaders an opportunity to connect, learn from each other, strategize and power their work forward. More than 1,200 experts from across the country are expected to attend the three-day event.

The National Partnership for New Americans (NPNA) sponsors the annual National Immigrant Integration Conference, and in the past two years, NPNA partners have assisted over 50,000 immigrants to become U.S. citizens and pursue legal status. NPNA harnesses the collective power and resources of the
country’s 34 largest regional immigrant rights organizations in 29 states. Its aim is to achieve a vibrant, just and welcoming democracy for all. NPNA is proud to partner with over 65 organizations from the corporate, philanthropic, labor and NGO sectors who support and power NIIC.

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