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March 22, 2023

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IRLA REACTS TO COUNTY REPORT-BACK ON EFFORTS TO INTEGRATE IMMIGRANTS INTO DEPARTMENT POLICIES

Inclusion in county work group should lead to a long and productive partnership

Los Angeles – As the Los Angeles County Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA) [reports back](#) to the Board of Supervisors on American Rescue Plan (ARP) implementation, the **Immigrants Are Los Angeles** (IRLA) coalition is pleased to see progress on bringing better language access to county departments, looks forward to this year's launch of a community service navigator program, and welcomes a county survey of its departments to assess immigrants' access to their programs.

After an intense advocacy push for greater immigrant inclusion, [the board mandated a joint working group](#) of OIA, the Anti-Racism Diversity Initiative (ARDI), county departments and IRLA to identify service gaps in existing and new programs funded by ARP. We are encouraged to see plans to launch an online language services hub and hire interpreters, which dovetails into the coming community service navigator program scheduled to launch later this year, that will provide in-person, in-language help for residents to access programs. We also look forward to implementation of the county's internal survey by the county, which is still in preparation.

Please use the following statements from Estefanía Lopez Pérez, policy advocate at Inclusive Action:

"This is where the work to include immigrants in county budget decisions really ramps up, and we look forward to continuing to work closely with county departments in implementing ARP funding of programs for immigrants.

"We are pleased to see, in these initial efforts to expand language access and survey internal departments, how on-the-ground inclusion of ALL immigrants into county interactions begins to look, but we await a fuller report from the work group."

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Immigrants Are LA (IRLA) is a diverse, community-led, local coalition comprising more than 100 immigrant rights groups to build a just and equitable future for immigrants and LA. We are committed to serving the most affected immigrants on the front lines who have been most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic but have been left out of recovery efforts. IRLA was launched in 2021 by the Immigrant Integration Task Force (IITF) and convened by the California Community Foundation (CCF).

Press Availability

Ms. Lopez Perez is available for interviews. Please reach out to Teresa Borden at 323-559-1895 or teresa@tzunu.com.