

*New Neighbors, New Opportunities:
The Promise of Immigrant Integration*



gcir

**Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees
2006 National Convening**

June 21-23, 2006
Brown Palace Hotel
Denver, Colorado

GCIR 2006 CONVENING AGENDA AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2006

4:00 – 6:00 PM	Registration	Foyer A
6:00 – 8:00 PM	Philanthropic Premiere of <i>Rain in a Dry Land</i> and Post-screening Conversation with Filmmaker Anne Makepeace	Onyx

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2006

7:30 – 8:30 AM	Registration	Foyer A
8:30 – 9:30 AM	Welcome, Overview and Introduction to GCIR's Immigrant Integration Framework	Ballroom A
9:30 – 10:45 AM	Rubén Rumbaut: Keynote Address on Immigrant Integration in the U.S.	Ballroom A
10:45 – 11:00 AM	Gather in the lobby to board buses for the learning tours	Hotel Lobby
11:00 AM – 6:00 PM	Learning Tours <i>Boulder County: Complementary Approaches to Immigrant Integration</i> <i>Colorado Springs: Immigrant Integration in a Conservative Context</i> <i>Denver: The Role of Organizing in Immigrant Integration</i>	Offsite
6:45 PM	Dine in Denver Sign-up sheets available at registration.	Offsite; meet in the hotel lobby at 6:45.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2006

8:00 – 8:30 AM	Breakfast	Foyer A
8:30 – 9:00 AM	Debrief of Learning Tours	Ballroom A
9:00 – 10:15 AM	The Political Context for Our Work: Federal Immigration Reform	Ballroom A
10:15 – 10:30 AM	Stretch Break	Foyer A
10:30 – 11:45 AM	Anti-immigrant Challenges at the State Level	Ballroom A
11:45 AM– 12:30 PM	Networking Lunch	Ballroom A
12:30 – 1:45 PM	Unpacking GCIR's Immigrant Integration Toolkit: What Is It and How Can Funders Use It?	Ballroom A
1:45 – 3:15 PM	Communitywide Planning for Immigrant Integration	Ballroom A
3:30 – 5:00 PM	Concurrent Strategy Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying the Integration Framework to Health Grantmaking (<i>does not repeat</i>) • Language Acquisition and Family Literacy Strategies for Immigrant Families • Civic and Political Integration Strategies • Worker Centers: Vehicles for Economic Integration • Promoting Integration through Arts and Culture • Expanding Language Access to Government Services 	Gold Georgetown Tabor-Stratton Leadville Onyx Coronet (third floor)
6:30 – 8:30 PM	Reception and Dancing Hosted by The Colorado Trust	The Colorado Trust 1600 Sherman Street Denver, CO 80203

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2006

8:30 – 9:00 AM	Breakfast	Central City Foyer
9:00 – 10:30 AM	Concurrent Strategy Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language Acquisition and Family Literacy Strategies for Immigrant Families • Expanding Language Access to Government Services • Civic and Political Integration Strategies • Promoting Integration Through Arts and Culture • Worker Centers: Vehicles for Economic Integration 	Georgetown Gold Tabor-Stratton Onyx Leadville
10:30 – 11:00 AM	Networking Break and Hotel Check-out	Central City Foyer
11:00 AM– 12:15 PM	Advancing Immigrant Integration within the Social and Racial Justice Contexts: The Role of Philanthropy	Central City
12:15 – 12:30 PM	Closing Remarks	Central City

Unless otherwise indicated, all onsite meeting rooms are on the second floor of the Brown Palace Hotel. See map on page 10.

June 2006

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for making time in your busy schedules to participate in our national convening. On behalf of the 2006 convening planning committee, the GCIR board of directors, and the GCIR staff, we extend a warm welcome to all of you!

Immigrant integration is a timely and challenging topic. In light of demographic changes that are transforming communities across the nation, the future vibrancy of our communities and our country depends significantly on the successful integration of immigrants and refugees into our social, economic, cultural, and political fabric.

At this year's convening, we are pleased to present our major publication, "Investing in Our Communities: Strategies for Immigrant Integration." Its introduction is especially timely, given the heated national debate on immigration policy reform that spurred the activism of millions of immigrants and their supporters in 2006. But regardless of immigration politics and any changes in immigration laws, we firmly believe that an intentional focus on immigrant integration—particularly broad-based efforts that are multi-ethnic, multi-sector, and multi-strategy in approach—holds strategic promise to strengthen both individual communities and the country as a whole.

Over the next three days, you will have the opportunity to examine complex immigrant and refugee issues in greater depth and explore how the integration framework and the resources in our toolkit can inform and add value to your work as grantmakers. We encourage you to dialogue with colleagues and leaders in the field and build relationships with those who share a common interest or can serve as a resource. We also invite you to actively participate in discussions, raise tough questions, challenge one another, and share your ideas and insights throughout the convening.

We envision this gathering as a place to begin what we hope will become an ongoing dialogue and learning community on immigrant integration. We want it to inspire you to take back ideas, apply them to your work, and initiate discussions about immigrant integration within your own foundations and the broader community. GCIR's leadership and staff stand ready to provide the informational resources needed to support your endeavors.

We are so glad you have joined us and look forward to learning with you over the next three days!

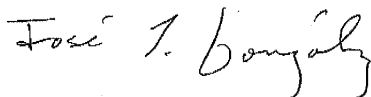
Sincerely,



Taryn Higashi
Co-Chair, Board of Directors
(Ford Foundation)



Susan Downs-Karkos
Co-Chair, Board of Directors
Co-Chair, Convening Planning Committee
(The Colorado Trust)



Fosi T. Bongaly
Co-Chair, Convening Planning Committee
(Bush Foundation)



Daranee Petsod
Executive Director

When you ask immigrants why they come to America, they say "freedom, opportunity, and a better life for our children." Nothing is more important to the renewal of the American Dream than immigrants' infusion of energy and hope.

**—Ruby Takanishi, President
Foundation for Child Development
New York, New York**

THANK YOU! CONVENING SUPPORTERS

This immigrant integration convening would not be possible without the generosity of the foundations listed below. Their support allowed GCIR to invest significant staff time in the planning process and in developing resources that will inform the immigrant- and refugee-related funding of foundations across the country. We extend to the following funders our deepest appreciation!

Atlantic Philanthropies

Brett Family Foundation

Bush Foundation

First Data Western Union Foundation

Ford Foundation

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

The Colorado Trust

Zellerbach Family Foundation

CONVENING PLANNING COMMITTEE

The convening planning committee worked diligently over the past eight months to identify innovative models and best practices and to design a program that will not only enrich our understanding of immigrant integration but also engage us in advancing the dialogue on this topic.

Susan Downs-Karkos, The Colorado Trust, Co-chair

José González, Bush Foundation, Co-chair

Henry Allen, The Discount Foundation

Lina Avidan, Zellerbach Family Foundation

Maeghan Jones Collins, Brett Family Foundation

Michael Fix, Migration Policy Institute

Elsa Holguin, Rose Community Foundation

Alice Ito, Marguerite Casey Foundation

Julie Kohler, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Barbara Roole, Z. Smith Reynolds Foundations

Ellen Schneider, Active Voice

Christine Soto, formerly of The Denver Foundation

Tony Tapia, First Data Western Union Foundation

Ralph Taylor, Central Indiana Community Foundation

Susan Ugai, Nebraska Community Foundation

John Williams, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

If we are to achieve a richer culture, rich in contrasting values, we must recognize the whole gamut of human potentialities, and so weave a less arbitrary social fabric, one in which each diverse human gift will find a fitting place.

—Margaret Mead

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	About GCIR and Its Resources	Inside Back Cover

Our attitude toward immigration reflects our faith in the American ideal. We have always believed it possible for men and women who start at the bottom to rise as far as their talent and energy allow. Neither race nor place of birth should affect their chances.

–Robert Kennedy

CONVENING DESIGN AND EVALUATION

The immigrant integration convening is designed to be a focused, intimate gathering that allows participants to delve deeper into issues than they could at a typical conference. Bringing private and public funders from both traditional and new gateways together with government, nonprofit, and business representatives, this convening seeks to maximize peer-based, cross-sector learning, lively discussions, and authentic relationship building through deliberate program design.

- **Plenary sessions** will provide the “big picture” and raise thought-provoking questions, as well as offer concrete grantmaking tools and best practices that participants can learn from, adapt, and apply in their own work.

- **Learning tours** will allow participants to meet immigrant and refugee leaders in Colorado, learn about the issues that concern them, and explore the approaches they have taken to promote immigrant integration. The tours will provide a good sense of what’s happening on the ground, and much of the work taking place will surely be inspiring!

- **Concurrent sessions** will showcase promising program and policy practices in the six strategic pathways to integration. Participants will come away with new ideas to energize their work and enhance their grantmaking.

- **Film and art**, infused throughout the convening, will use the power of the personal narrative to illuminate the issues and help participants make connections that enhance their understanding of immigrant integration.

We invite you to share your candid feedback on the value of the convening and any follow-up activities you believe should be undertaken. GCIR wants this convening to be only the first of many conversations about immigrant integration in the philanthropic community, and we look forward to the opportunity to partner with you to promote our framework to foundations across the country.



ART FROM THE KIACA GALLERY

Three years ago, Talle Bamazi arrived in Columbus, Ohio and embarked upon his dream of sharing contemporary African art in America by establishing the KIACA (Kaybe Impact African Contemporary Art) Gallery. An artist originally from Togo, Talle came to New York City in 1995 with \$185 in his pocket and lack of legal immigration status. Three years later, he got married, obtained a green card, and started a family. After completing a Master’s in Fine Arts in painting from the New York Academy of Art, Talle left the bustling metropolis for Columbus so that he and his then-wife could raise their two children in a quieter environment. Talle started the KIACA Gallery primarily to help bridge Africans and African-Americans and build a platform for the appreciation of contemporary African art. We are privileged to showcase a sampling of Talle’s art and have him at the convening to share his community-building work with us.

DETAILED AGENDA/TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2006

4:00 – 6:00 PM
Foyer A

Registration

6:00 – 8:00 PM
Onyx

Philanthropic Premiere of *Rain in a Dry Land*

Rain in a Dry Land is a portrait of two remarkable families, refugees from Somalia, who find new homes in urban America. Nominated for the Social Justice Award at the 2006 Santa Barbara International Film Festival, the film captures the refugees' struggles, triumphs, poetry, humor, and amazing resilience as they show us our world through new eyes. GCIR is honored to have filmmaker, Anne Makepeace, with us for this special screening. Heavy hors d'oeuvres, popcorn, and other refreshments will be served.

"Rigorously intimate and disarmingly affectionate, "Rain in a Dry Land" is in the forefront of the current crop of immigration chronicles... Makepeace never reduces [the families] to devices or symbols or anything less than human beings caught in the cross-hairs of global politics." –John Anderson, *VARIETY*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2006

7:30 – 8:30 AM
Foyer A

Registration

8:30 – 9:30 AM
Ballroom A

Welcome, Overview and Introduction to GCIR's Immigrant Integration Framework

Susan Downs-Karkos, José González, and Taryn Higashi, GCIR Board of Directors
Daranee Petsod and Alison De Lucca, GCIR Staff

9:30 – 10:45 AM
Ballroom A

Keynote Address: Immigrant Integration in the United States

Dr. Rubén Rumbaut will discuss the demographic imperative for integration and highlight the latest research findings that illuminate the current and future well-being of immigrant families, particularly U.S.-born, second-generation children of immigrants. What are the trajectories for their integration? What policies and programs need to be in place—and what can funders support—to help these children become fully contributing members of society?

Rubén Rumbaut, *Professor of Sociology, University of California, Irvine, and Co-Director, Center for Research on Immigration, Population and Public Policy*

Respondent: Lina Avidan, *Zellerbach Family Foundation*

Moderator: Tom Kam, *Community Foundation of the National Capital Region*

10:45 – 11:00 AM
Lobby

Gather in the hotel lobby to board learning tour buses

11:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Offsite

Learning Tours

Boulder County: Complementary Approaches to Immigrant Integration

Nestled at the base of the Rocky Mountains, Longmont is home to several high-tech companies, a vibrant restaurant scene and a rapidly growing immigrant population. Learn about the complementary approaches funders are taking to advance comprehensive communitywide planning for immigrant integration. Participants will have the opportunity to speak with the state's oldest immigrant-based organization, as well as other vital actors in the integration process.

Colorado Springs: Immigrant Integration in a Conservative Context

Known as the training grounds for the U.S. Air Force and Olympic athletes and a stronghold for many religious communities, Colorado Springs is a vibrant environment to explore the challenges to and opportunities for immigrant integration. Participants will learn from and engage with representatives of the community college, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, local school system, health department, and religious institutions.

Denver: The Role of Organizing in Immigrant Integration

Community organizations in Denver have a long history of organizing for social change, from protecting the rights of workers to expanding access to health care to countering anti-immigrant activities. Learn about the promising efforts that utilize organizing as a key strategy to advance immigrant integration and bring about social change.

6:45 PM

Sign up by 11:00 AM at the registration desk and meet your group in the lobby at 6:45 PM sharp!

Dine in Denver

Join your colleagues for conversation at one of Denver's tasty eateries. Four table topics have been selected:

Strategies for Integrating Immigrant Youth

Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Capacity Building Strategies

Building a Service Infrastructure

GCIR staff will be in the lobby at 6:45 PM to let you know your restaurant assignment.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2006**8:00 – 8:30 AM***Foyer A***Continental Breakfast****8:30 – 9:00 AM***Ballroom A***Debrief of Learning Tours****9:00 – 10:15 AM***Ballroom A***The Political Context for Our Work: Federal Immigration Reform**

This spring, millions of immigrants and their supporters in communities across the country stepped forward in massive and peaceful demonstrations calling for fair treatment for immigrants, including comprehensive immigration reform. What impact have these rallies had? What is the current status of the debate in Congress? What are immigrant leaders and advocates doing to advance comprehensive reform and to sustain this tide of immigrant activism? Where do the strategic opportunities for grantmakers lie? And what are the implications for immigrant integration in the short and long term?

Speakers:Andrea La Rue, *Nueva Vista Group*Doris Meissner, *Migration Policy Institute*Angelica Salas, *Coalition for Human Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles*Moderator: Geri Mannion, *Carnegie Corporation of New York***10:15 – 10:30 AM***Foyer A***Stretch Break****10:30 – 11:45 AM***Ballroom A***Anti-immigrant Challenges at the State Level**

Anti-immigrant forces have worked to counter the groundswell of immigrant activism in recent months. What is the landscape of anti-immigrant activity nationwide? Where do the anti-immigrant ballot initiatives, opposition to driver's licenses and other legislation restricting immigrant rights stand? And what are communities doing to respond?

Speakers:Eric Ward, *Center for New Community*Lisa Duran, *Rights for All People/Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition*Cathy Montoya, *National Council of La Raza*David Lubell, *Tennessee Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights*Channapha Khamvongsa, *American Dream Fund/Four Freedoms Fund*Moderator: Tony Tapia, *First Data Western Union Foundation***11:45 AM– 12:30 PM***Ballroom A***Lunch****12:30 – 1:45 PM***Ballroom A***Unpacking GCIR's Immigrant Integration Toolkit: What Is It and How Can Funders Use It?**

You got a glimpse of our long-awaited, hot-off-the-press toolkit in yesterday's opening plenary, and you may have browsed through its contents before hitting the sack. Now it's time to unpack this multimedia resource and hear from the team responsible for its development. A lively skit, accompanied by the screening of short film clips, will illustrate how the toolkit resources can be utilized to educate foundation boards and win support for immigrant integration grantmaking.

Craig McGarvey, *Consultant*Daranee Petsod, *GCIR*Ellen Schneider, *Active Voice*Ted Wang, *Consultant***1:45 – 3:15 PM***Ballroom A***Communitywide Planning for Immigrant Integration**

Government can be powerful allies in facilitating integration by instituting programs and policies that promote equal treatment and opportunity and help immigrants contribute fully to their communities. Learn from four pioneering city, county, and state initiatives about best practices in multi-sector communitywide planning. What have been the challenges and successes of each experience? What does it take to put immigrant integration on the public agenda?

Speakers:Bonnie Reitz, *Mayor of Austin, Minnesota*Esther Lopez, *Deputy Chief of Staff, Governor's Office, State of Illinois*Richard Hobbs, *Director, Office of Human Relations, Santa Clara County, California*Michael Carter, *Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee, Indiana*Moderator: Ralph Taylor, *Central Indiana Community Foundation*

3:15 – 3:30 PM
Foyer A

Networking Break

3:30 – 5:00 PM

Concurrent Strategy Sessions

Gold

Applying the Integration Framework to Health Grantmaking

Cultural, linguistic, and immigration-related obstacles make it difficult for many newcomers to receive the health care they need, thereby compromising their ability to find and keep jobs, learn English and contribute to the vitality of their new communities. But foundations can—and are—playing integral roles in helping reduce such barriers. In this strategy session, panelists will share health grantmaking strategies that promote integration in both new and established immigrant gateways. Participants will then work together to begin developing and prioritizing an immigrant health agenda.

Lead Discussants:

Laura Hogan, *The California Endowment*

Kelly Laflamme, *The Endowment for Health of New Hampshire*

Moderator: Anne Schwartz, *Grantmakers In Health*

Georgetown

Language Acquisition and Family Literacy Strategies for Immigrant Families

Learning English and enhancing literacy are important pathways to integration. Learn about two innovative models serving young children and explore how philanthropy, through strategic investments in targeted language acquisition and family literacy programs, can strengthen immigrant families and promote their integration into U.S. society.

Speakers:

Sharon Darling, *National Center for Family Literacy*

Deborah McVeigh, *The Village for Early Childhood Education*

Moderators:

Ed Lucero, *The Colorado Trust (day 1)*

Susan Ugai, *Nebraska Community Foundation (day 2)*

Tabor-Stratton

Civic and Political Integration Strategies

A key pathway to integration, civic participation actively engages newcomers in community problem solving, leadership development and democratic practice. What role can foundations play in supporting the social, economic, and civic integration of the growing immigrant and refugee populations in ways that build strong cohesive communities for all members of society? This session will examine promising practices in the field.

Speakers:

Marissa Graciosa, *Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights*

Kalpana Krishnamurthy, *Western States Center*

Xavier Marquez, *Students United for Immigrant Rights*

Moderators:

Alice Ito, *Marguerite Casey Foundation (day 1)*

Craig McGarvey, *GCIR Consultant (day 2)*

Leadville

Worker Centers: Vehicles for Economic Integration

Despite their pivotal role in the U.S. economy, many immigrant workers confront enormous challenges in the labor force. In this context, community-based worker centers have emerged to advocate for the rights of low-wage workers and provide opportunities for individual and collective empowerment. Explore the vital role foundations can play in spurring and supporting innovative strategies to improve working conditions, increase wages, enhance employment mobility and strengthen economic security for all low-wage workers.

Speakers:

Pablo Alvarado, *National Day Laborer Organizing Network*

Kimi Lee, *Garment Worker Center*

Moderators:

Ellen Widess, *Rosenberg Foundation*

More Concurrent Strategy Sessions listed on next page.

3:30 – 5:00 PM

Concurrent Strategy Sessions (continued)

Onyx

Promoting Integration through Arts and Culture

Arts and culture plays a significant role in defining our identity and worldview and in advancing immigrant integration. Experience how popular theatre and visual arts can serve as vehicles for the promotion of social and cultural interaction that lay the groundwork for building mutual understanding and trust across cultures. And discuss the many ways grantmakers can use arts and culture to spark conversation and lay the groundwork for immigrant integration.

Speakers:

Jaime Alvarado, *Mayfair Improvement Initiative*

Talle Bamazi, *KIACA Gallery*

Arturo Gomez, *Mayfair Improvement Initiative*

Moderator:

Ellen Schneider, *Active Voice (day 1)*

Sandra Smith, *The Columbus Foundation (day 2)*

Coronet (third floor)

Expanding Language Access to Government Services

As immigrants make the often-difficult transition toward English proficiency, receiving communities have a strong interest in ensuring that lack of English skills does not increase social or economic isolation, barriers or disparities for their newest community members. The integration of immigrants into local communities can be strengthened when newcomers, including those with limited English proficiency, have access to services that help them meet basic needs and become self-sufficient. What do model policies and programs look like? What does it take to put them in place, and what role can foundations play? A case study from San Francisco will allow participants to explore these questions.

Speakers:

Christina Mei-Yue Wong, *Chinese for Affirmative Action*

Luna Yasui, *Chinese for Affirmative Action*

Phil Ting, *Assessor/Recorder, City & County of San Francisco*

Moderators:

Lina Avidan, *Zellerbach Family Foundation (day 1)*

Ted Wang, *Public Policy Consultant (day 2)*

6:30 – 8:30 PM

*The Colorado Trust
1600 Sherman Street
Meet your colleagues in
the hotel lobby
at 6:30 PM sharp!*

Reception and Dancing Hosted by The Colorado Trust

¡Salsa! You've seen it done, you've tapped your foot to the beat, and now it's your turn to learn from the pros! The Colorado Trust warmly invites you to participate in an evening of rich conversation, sample an assortment of ethnic delicacies, and do some salsa dancing. You'll be sure to have a great time whether you take a lesson and get into the groove or soak up the beat from the sidelines.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2006

8:30 – 9:00 AM
Central City Foyer

Breakfast

9:00 – 10:30 AM

Concurrent Strategy Sessions *(See Thursday listings for descriptions.)*

Georgetown
Gold
Tabor-Stratton
Onyx
Leadville

Language Acquisition and Family Literacy Strategies for Immigrant Families
Expanding Language Access to Government Services
Civic and Political Integration Strategies
Promoting Integration Through Arts and Culture
Worker Centers: Vehicles for Economic Integration

10:30 – 11:00 AM
Central City Foyer

Networking Break and Hotel Check-out

11:00 AM– 12:15 PM
Central City

**Advancing Immigrant Integration within the Social and Racial Justice Contexts:
The Role of Philanthropy**

Divisive issues like competition for jobs have long fueled tensions between immigrants and marginalized native-born groups, particularly African Americans. How can philanthropy promote immigrant integration in ways that promote equal treatment and opportunities for all communities and help those that have long been pitted against one other bridge the divide, overcome differences, and begin to work together toward common goals? What are the challenges, lessons learned, and best practices in forging powerful multi-ethnic coalitions, and why are such alliances so crucial to the future vitality of our country?

Featured Speaker:

Alan Jenkins, *The Opportunity Agenda*

Respondents:

Marielena Hincapié, *National Immigration Law Center*

Karen Narasaki, *Asian American Justice Center*

Moderator:

Maria Teresa Rojas, *Open Society Institute*

12:15 – 12:30 PM
Central City

Closing Remarks

Susan Downs-Karkos, *GCIR Board Co-Chair*

José González, *GCIR Convening Co-Chair*

Unless otherwise indicated, all onsite meeting rooms are on the second floor of the Brown Palace Hotel. See map on next page.

MEETING ROOMS

