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MARCH 2008

- **Recent Reports and News Articles:**

- **U.S. Immigration Policy; Demographics; Immigrant Integration; Civic Participation; Health; Language and Education; Economic Impact and Mobility; Immigrant Workers and Labor Issues; International Migration; U.S.-Mexico Border.**

- **Resources of Interest**

- **GCIR Programs**
- **Other Programs of Interest**
- **GCIR Members in the News**
- **Announcements**
- **Funding Opportunities**
- **Employment Opportunities**

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## GCIR National Convening

**Promoting Immigrant Integration: Leadership in Challenging Times, 2008 GCIR National Convening, June 18 – 20, 2008, The Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, IL.** Join us for our 2008 national convening at the historic and newly renovated Blackstone Hotel in Chicago. A longstanding immigrant destination with vibrant ethnic neighborhoods, Chicago provides a rich laboratory for exploring barriers and promising approaches to immigrant integration. Foundations will glean important insights, lessons, and best practices to guide their work back home. To ensure an intimate learning and networking environment, convening attendance will be capped at 150. [Click here](#) to register online.

## New GCIR Publication

**New Americans, Winter 2008.** This issue focuses on the plight of an estimated 14 million refugees and asylees worldwide, examines the post-9/11 challenges facing these populations, and provides funding recommendations. A profile of five refugees and asylees puts a human face on the issue while demonstrating the potential of the human spirit. The human rights of women seeking asylum are explored in an article that examines two prominent cases, and there's a look at how newcomers' remittances are helping communities in their homelands. To receive a hard copy, email [amanda@gcir.org](mailto:amanda@gcir.org).

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## Recent Reports and News Articles

### U.S. Immigration Policy

#### National

**Keeping Out the Other: A Critical Introduction to Immigration Enforcement Today, Edited by David C. Brotherton and Philip Kretsedemas, Columbia University Press, April 2008.** The authors examine the

history of contemporary U.S. immigration policies, arguing that the overwhelming focus on enforcement and anti-immigrant tendencies are not in reaction to the events of September 11, but rather are due to a more long-term trend in U.S. attitudes toward immigration.

**Goal Set for Reducing Backlog on Citizenship Applications**, by Julia Preston, *New York Times*, March 15, 2008. Immigration officials expect to greatly reduce the backlog of citizenship applications by completing about 930,000 applications by the end of September, allowing many new citizens to vote in the November elections.

**U.S. Fails to Protect Migrants' Rights, U.N. Expert Says**, *Associated Press*, March 7, 2008. The United Nations is concerned with the treatment of migrants in the United States, citing immigration raids and detention and deportation practices as areas of great concern for the human rights of migrants.

**A Year after Raid, Immigration Cases Drag on for Many**, by Maria Sacchetti, *Boston Globe*, March 6, 2008. An immigration raid of a factory in New Bedford, Massachusetts last year led to 361 arrests which divided families and brought national attention. A year later, many of the detainees remain in the United States fighting their cases in the courts.

**New Immigration Screening Methods Target Muslims, Critics Charge**, by Marisa Taylor, *Chicago Tribune*, March 3, 2008. Several federal agencies have created internal lists of countries whose immigrants are "special-interest aliens" due to national security concerns related to their countries of origin. These agencies support creating one comprehensive list for federal agencies, which would include 35 countries, many of which have significant Muslim or Arab populations.

**U.S. Guest Worker Program Changes Hurt Farmworkers**, by Ayesha Rascoe, *Reuters*, February 21, 2008. The Bush administration intends to encourage farmers to hire legal workers by making changes to the federal guestworker program, but critics say it benefits employers and will result in lower wages for farmworkers and harsher working conditions.

**U.S.-Hanoi Immigration Pact Draws Crowd to Santa Ana Town Hall**, by Amy Taxin, *The Orange County Register*, February 12, 2008. A deportation agreement between the United States and Vietnam could return 1,500 immigrants, many of whom fear reprisal from the communist regime they fled. While the agreement applies only to people who arrived after July 12, 1995 – the date that the two countries renewed diplomatic relations – many Vietnamese worry the pact could be expanded in the future.

**Immigration Officials Detaining, Deporting American Citizens**, by Marisa Taylor, January 24, 2008. Immigrant and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has detained and even deported individuals who are actually U.S. citizens. These individuals often do not receive legal counsel and must put their word against that of the U.S. government.

**Abused Women Could Face Deportation**, by Martín E. Martinez, *New America Media*, January 24, 2008. Victims of domestic violence who are undocumented are able to apply for deferred status under a federal law, but the Department of Homeland Security is considering eliminating this policy.

## State & Local Policy

**Two States Consider Guestworker Programs**, *Associated Press*, March 14, 2008. Lawmakers in Arizona and Colorado are considering creating their own guest-worker programs to attract more immigrant laborers for agricultural jobs. It's unclear whether states have the authority to adopt such measures, but legislators in these states say they are tired of waiting for Congress to overhaul the present immigration system.

**Changes to Hiring Law Debated**, by Matthew Benson and Mary Jo Pitzl, *The Arizona Republic*, March 9, 2008. Meetings between legislative and business leaders may result in the abandonment of two dueling voter initiatives put forth by the business community and anti-immigrant activists. Pending is an agreement between the legislature and Governor Janet Napolitano approving changes to an existing law that bans the hiring of the undocumented. If an agreement is reached and fast-tracked, the voter initiatives would be moot.

**The Lost Children**, by Margaret Talbot, *The New Yorker*, March 3, 2008. Immigrant families that are detained by U.S. authorities are often separated when placed in detention facilities. These facilities, lucrative to the private companies that run them, subject children to the same harsh conditions as adults. This article chronicles the experiences of families detained in the T. Don Hutto Residential Center while examining the broader issue of the detention of families in a prison environment.

**Advocates Organize to Thwart U.S. Immigration Agents**, by Michael Martinez, *Chicago Tribune*, March 1, 2008. In response to increased immigration raids by federal agents, undocumented immigrants are organizing their communities to notify one another about the raids.

**Phoenix Police to Check Arrestees' Immigrant Status**, by Randal C. Archibold, *New York Times*, February 16, 2008. Under a new policy, Phoenix police will ask all individuals arrested for criminal charges whether they are in the United States legally or not. The policy intends to keep undocumented immigrants from committing crimes, but many fear it will lead to racial profiling.

**Arizona Seeing Signs of Flight by Immigrants**, by Randal C. Archibold, *New York Times*, February 12, 2008. With a slowing economy and harsher penalties for hiring undocumented workers, Arizona is beginning to see vacant rental apartments, lower school enrollment rates, and immigrants unable to find work. It is yet unclear whether immigrants are leaving the United States and whether this movement is due to policy changes or a slowing economy.

**In Reversal, Courts Uphold Local Immigration Laws**, by Julia Preston, *New York Times*, February 10, 2008. State and local policy makers around the nation are proposing their own immigration policies, many of them controversial. This article provides an overview of recent noteworthy policies and the court decisions surrounding them.

**Cities and Immigration: Local Policies for Immigrant-Friendly Cities**, by Pablo Mitnik, Jessica Halpern-Finnerty, and Matt Vidal, *Center on Wisconsin Strategy*, January 20, 2008. Many newcomers are settling in cities that have not received foreign-born residents recently. As a result, state and local governments are passing legislation that ranges from anti-immigrant and antagonistic to welcoming and supportive of immigrants. This report seeks to help communities encourage and create progressive policies toward immigrants.

## Demographics

**Twenty-First Century Gateways**, by Audrey Singer, Susan W. Hardwick and Caroline B. Brettell, eds., *Brookings Institution Press*, 2008. *Twenty-First Century Gateways* focuses on the fastest-growing immigrant populations among "second-tier" metropolitan areas including Atlanta, Austin, Charlotte, Dallas, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Phoenix, Portland, Sacramento, and Washington DC. Today, one in five immigrants in the United States lives in a 21st century gateway. These metropolitan areas are characterized by post-WWII urban development and growth, recent burgeoning immigrant populations, and a predominantly suburban settlement.

**Racial-Ethnic Inequality in Child Well-Being from 1985-2004: Gaps Narrowing, but Persist**, *Foundation for Child Development*, January 2008. For the past four years, the Foundation for Child Development (FCD) has released a Child Well-Being Index (CWI) comprised of 28 statistical indicators organized into seven domains of child well-being: safety/behavioral concerns, family economic well-being, health, community connectedness, educational attainment, social relationships, and emotional/spiritual well-being. This report is the first effort to analyze trends through the lens of race and ethnicity.

**Minnesota's Foreign-born Population: Then and Now**, by Britt Robson, *MinnPost*, March 13, 2008. Although the countries of origin differ from one hundred years ago, native-born residents often have similar concerns regarding the cultural and language differences of today's immigrants.

**Illegal Emigres Defy the Image**, by Mike Swift, *San Jose Mercury News*, February 18, 2008. Mexican workers account for the largest number of undocumented workers, but Indian immigrants now make up the

fastest growing population without legal status. The image of undocumented immigrants as low-skilled Mexican workers may be called into question as many Indian workers are highly-skilled and employed in the technology industry.

**U.S. Population Projections, 2005 – 2050**, by Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, Pew Research Center, February 11, 2008. Based on current immigration trends, by 2025, the number of immigrants will be greater than the influx of newcomers that peaked at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and by 2050 one in five Americans will be foreign-born.

**2006 American Community Survey and Census Data on the Foreign Born by State**, Migration Policy Institute, 2008. This interactive map provides updated data by state and allows users to generate fact sheets focusing on the demographic, social, language, education, workforce, and income characteristics of the foreign-born population.

**Statistical Portrait of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States, 2006**, Pew Hispanic Center, January 23, 2008. This report offers an in-depth look at the characteristics of the resident population, focusing on foreign-born persons. Included on the center’s website are additional tables that break down the national data.

**Arizona: Population and Labor Force Characteristics, 2000 – 2006**, Pew Hispanic Center, January 23, 2008. The Legal Arizona Workers Act makes Arizona the first state in the nation to penalize employers for knowingly hiring undocumented workers. This fact sheet examines the characteristics of Arizona’s population and workforce with descriptive data and tables.

**Minority Students Become the Majority**, by Nelson Hernandez, Washington Post, January 22, 2008. Maryland’s overall population remains mostly white, but public schools in this state became a majority minority in 2004 as part of a larger demographic shift across the region and nation. Schools are focusing more time and money both inside and outside the classroom to reach out to newcomers, their families, and their children.

**Illegal Immigrants Increasingly Go North**, by Robin Emmott, Reuters News Service, January 16, 2008. Many undocumented migrants to the United States are migrating to more northern states, bypassing traditional receiving states such as Texas, California, and Arizona. Higher pay and lower Border Patrol surveillance are two possible causes for this demographic shift.

## Immigrant Integration

**After a Fight to Survive, One to Succeed**, by Nina Bernstein, New York Times, March 9, 2008. Although Jewish refugees who fled persecution during the Holocaust are admired today, they once faced a gauntlet of challenges including disapproval of their lack of English, their need for health care, and threats of deportation. Social service records document that many of the barriers they faced are similar to issues being discussed in today’s immigration debate.

**Report Links Anti-Immigrant Sentiment to Rise in Hate Groups**, by David Crary, Associated Press, March 10, 2008. The number of hate groups increased to 888 in 2007, up from 602 in 2000. This increase, along with the rise in the number of hate crimes committed against Latinos, may be attributed to anti-immigrant sentiment.

**Tending the American Melting Pot**, by Karin Brulliard, Washington Post, February 20, 2008. As the immigrant population continues to rise, the importance of integration into American society also increases. Although citizenship applications are at an all-time-high, the political will to fund an immigrant integration effort remains low.

**Collecting L.A.’s Life Stories, One Person at a Time**, by Molly Hennessy-Fiske, Los Angeles Times, January 25, 2008. StoryCorps, a nationwide oral history project, recorded the stories of individuals in MacArthur Park in Los Angeles, hoping to capture the voices of immigrants. Since 2003, StoryCorps has

traveled to 48 states and will have an archive of more than 15,000 everyday life stories. To listen to these stories, visit [www.storycorps.net](http://www.storycorps.net).

**LAPD Finds Way to Connect**, by Richard Winton, *Los Angeles Times*, January 16, 2008. The Los Angeles Police Department's latest high-tech, crime-fighting tool, the Phraselator, enables officers to translate and broadcast thousands of prerecorded phrases in a multitude of languages.

## Civic Participation

**What of American Democracy Is Worth Exporting?**, by Marianne McCune, *National Public Radio*, February 20, 2008. In interviews with immigrants in New York City, newcomers reflect on the U.S. primary election process, American democracy, and aspects of American society they would adopt in their homelands.

**Citizenship on Hold for Many Immigrants**, by Suzanne Gamboa, *Associated Press*, February 9, 2008. President Bush's budget proposal asked for more money for the federal E-Verify system to help employers identify undocumented workers, but the budget does not include money for Citizenship and Immigration Services to help immigrants become U.S. citizens.

**Naturalization Trends in Advance of the 2008 Elections**, by Claire Bergeron and Jeanne Batalova, PhD, *Migration Policy Institute*, January 2008. Becoming a U.S. citizen has been long regarded as a significant indicator of the integration of newcomers into U.S. civic and political life. This spotlight examines naturalization numbers from 2006 as well as historical trends.

**Get Out the Vote, Second Edition**, by Donald P. Green and Alan S. Gerber, *Brookings Institution*, 2008. The scientific approach that focused on the challenge of voter mobilization debuted in the first edition of *Get Out the Vote!* and influenced U.S. political campaign operations. This second edition includes data from more than 100 new studies plus two new chapters.

## Health

**Immigration and Health Care: What are the Policy Choices?**, Kaiser Family Foundation, March 12, 2008. In this webcast, experts discuss the influence that immigration policy has on health care policy decisions at the federal and state levels. Topics include access to health care and health care coverage for legal and undocumented immigrants, ways in which local health providers have responded to changes in demographics, and how policy changes affect health disparities.

**Hispanics Worry Most about Health Care, Study Shows**, by Jason Roberson, *The Dallas Morning News*, February 21, 2008. A quarter of Hispanics surveyed said they worry about losing their health insurance, and 26 percent reported not going to a doctor because of the cost.

**Medical Spanish for Health Care Providers** is an online tutorial focused on improving language and cultural competency among health care providers. It provides lessons on basic Spanish pronunciation and a list of health care terms in Spanish that visitors can listen to and then repeat. The site also explains cultural beliefs related to health care and differences in accents.

**Study Finds Cancer Diagnosis Linked to Insurance**, by Kevin Sack, *New York Times*, February 18, 2008. A nationwide study revealed a correlation between insurance and the potential for early detection of cancer in patients. Those with private insurance are more likely to be diagnosed in the earlier stages of the disease, but doctors also noted a difference in detection for blacks, whites, and Hispanics and pointed out that these variations in diagnosis may also be due to cultural differences.

**Bridging the Gaps**, by Lois Wessel, *Washington Post*, January 22, 2008. A nurse practitioner working with underserved populations explores some of the challenges of providing medical and preventive care to

immigrants.

**Abused Muslim Women in U.S. Gain Advocates**, by Neil MacFarquhar, **New York Times, January 6, 2008.** A shelter near Chicago caters to Muslim women, offering culturally competent guidance and support for victims of domestic abuse.

## Language and Education

**Language Portal: Translation and Interpretation Digital Library**, Migration Policy Institute. The Language Portal is a resource for those seeking information on policies, guidelines, and service models for providing limited-English proficient individuals with a variety of services. The digital library contains an initial 600 resources in a searchable database.

**Students Get a Close-Up Look at the Life of a Migrant Worker**, by Raymond McCaffrey, **Washington Post, March 9, 2008.** Students learn about the life of a migrant worker through interactive humanities lessons utilizing role-play and lectures.

**Challenging Common Myths about Young English Language Learners**, by Linda M. Espinosa, **Foundation for Child Development, February 2008.** Dual-language programs for children age three to eight may be better than English-only programs for the cognitive, academic, social, and cultural development of children who speak a language other than English at home.

**Niles Township Welcome Center to Serve as Bridge for Immigrant Parents to U.S. School System**, by Deborah Horan, **Chicago Tribune, January 31, 2008.** A group of school districts hope to open a welcome center for immigrant parents to help guide them through the American school system. Given demographic changes in this suburban Chicago area, the schools want to engage families in order to help children perform better in school.

**Filling the Void after High School**, by Michael Alison Chandler, **Washington Post, January 14, 2008.** Undocumented high school graduates at a school in Virginia get help from staff to get a visa and continue life after high school.

**Immigrant Integration Educator Resource Guide**, The Colorado Trust and The Colorado Department of Education, **November 2007.** The school system provides numerous opportunities and challenges for immigrant integration, and as a place where many immigrants interact the most with their communities. It also plays an important role in integration. This guide--intended for school administrators, district administrators, and teachers--provides specific recommendations for promoting immigrant integration in schools.

## Economic Impact and Mobility

**Wage Study: Illegal Workers Hurt Other Illegals Most**, **The Wall Street Journal, February 19, 2008.** A new study by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta finds that although the influx of undocumented workers has an effect on native workers, the greatest impact on wages caused by the undocumented population is on other undocumented workers. The report recommends greater enforcement on employers hiring undocumented workers.

**Day Laborers Feel Foreclosure Fallout**, by Evelyn Nieves, **Associated Press, February 15, 2008.** With foreclosures continuing and the real-estate market stagnating, day laborers who typically had been hired by contractors and construction crews struggle with new challenges to finding work.

**Immigration Becoming Part of the Solution**, by Marcela Sanchez, **Washington Post, February 8, 2008.** As the Baby Boomer population begins to exit the workforce and retire, the government will have increased responsibilities for economically dependent seniors, but fewer people in the workforce. Immigrants and their children may play a key role in expanding the shrinking U.S. workforce.

**Immigrants Hit Hard by U.S. Slowdown, Subprime Crisis**, by Adriana Garcia, Reuters, January 30, 2008. As an economic slowdown and the subprime mortgage crisis deepen across the United States, Hispanic immigrants are increasingly in danger of losing their jobs and their homes.

**Fiscal Facts: The Tax Contributions of Virginia's Undocumented Immigrants**, by Michael Cassidy and Sara Okos, The Commonwealth Institute, 2008. There is nationwide concern that undocumented immigrants are a drain on state and local governments, costing taxpayers and contributing little back to the economy. This study estimates the size of the undocumented population in Virginia and finds that this population is an important contributor to state resources by paying taxes.

**Economic (In)Security: The Experience of the African-American and Latino Middle Classes**, by Jennifer Wheary, Thomas M. Shapiro, Tamara Draut, and Tatjana Meschede, 2008. According to the Middle Class Security Index, African-Americans and Latino families experience barriers to entering the middle class and securely maintaining middle-class economic status.

## Immigrant Workers and Labor Issues

**U.S. Tech Companies Add Five Workers for Each H-1B Visa They Seek**, by Marianne Kolbasuk McGee, Information Week, March 10, 2008. An analysis shows that an average of five American jobs are created for each H-1B visa worker in U.S. technology companies. The importing of skilled labor is associated with the creation of American jobs instead of displacing American workers.

**Black and Brown Together**, by David Bacon, The American Prospect, February 25, 2008. The Mississippi Immigrants Rights Alliance (MIRA) is an alliance of African-American and immigrant workers that hopes to change state policies to expand worker and immigrant rights. Union leaders and workers on catfish farms, in chicken-processing plants, in construction, and in the hotel industry are working together with the goal of changing state policy. For a copy of this article, contact [Rebecca Dames](#).

**U.S. Program to Verify Worker Status Is Growing**, by Randal C. Archibold, New York Times, February 13, 2008. The number of businesses using E-verify, the voluntary federal system to check employees' legal authorization to work, has jumped from 14,265 last year to 52,000. Almost a third of those employers are based in Arizona where employers face stiff penalties for hiring undocumented workers.

**Making the Job Fair for Everyone**, by Anna Gorman, Los Angeles Times, January 18, 2008. EMPLEO, a program launched in 2004 by the Labor Department and other agencies in Los Angeles, seeks to educate Spanish-speaking workers and employers about their rights and responsibilities. So far it has recovered almost \$4.35 million in compensation for 2,267 workers.

**Adman to Pitch Immigrants' Story**, by Miriam Jordan, The Wall Street Journal, January 16, 2008. To promote the benefits of legalizing undocumented workers and to counter the harsh tone of the immigration debate, a group of businesses are investing in a national media campaign to address these issues.

## International Migration

**World Banker and His Cash Return Home**, by Jason DeParle, New York Times, March 17, 2008. Global remittances now top \$300 billion each year. Money sent home by migrants helps their families gain financial stability, but some experts question the ability of remittances to bring long-term change to developing countries.

**A 'Sanctuary' for Immigrants in Mexico**, by Héctor Tobar, Los Angeles Times, January 31, 2008. The mayor of a suburb of Mexico City has ordered officers not to cooperate with Mexican immigration officials or to harass, arrest, or extort undocumented Central American migrants who come through the city on their quest to find work in other countries.

**[Rise of Chávez Sends Venezuelans to Florida](#)**, by Kirk Semple, January 23, 2008. Middle- and upper-class Venezuelans are coming to the United States due to the political and social uncertainty they feel is caused by President Hugo Chávez.

**[Migration Without Borders: An Investigation into the Free Movement of People](#)**, by Antoine Pécoud and Paul de Guchteneire, UNESCO, 2007. In an increasingly globalized world, many experts are considering the idea of migration without borders that allows people more freedom of mobility between nations. This book brings together regional approaches from scholars across the globe to consider the various aspects of such a policy.

## U.S.-Mexico Border

**[‘Virtual Fence’ along Border to be Delayed](#)**, by Spencer S. Hsu, Washington Post, February 28, 2008. The “virtual fence” comprised of high-tech monitoring equipment along the U.S-Mexico border has been delayed for a number of expected and unexpected difficulties.

**[Bush’s Border Security Plans Draw Praise, Complaints](#)**, by Richard S. Dunham, Houston Chronicle, February 4, 2008. President Bush proposed a 19 percent increase in spending on border security this year including \$500 million to hire 2,200 new Border Patrol agents and \$2 billion over two years for fencing and technology.

**[U.S. Fence Creates River of Ill Will on Texas Border](#)**, by Howard Witt, Chicago Tribune, January 16, 2008. The proposed 700-mile-long extended border fence that is now in the preliminary construction stages will cut through back yards, farms, historic districts, and a college campus. It will also end the centuries of cross-border culture that communities at the border engaged in daily.

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## Resources of Interest

**[Needed: The Next Generation of Nonprofit Leaders](#)**, by John Clinton, On Philanthropy, February 14, 2008. As the baby boomer generation ages out of the workforce and an impending leadership change is foreseen, both the for-profit and non-profit sectors are wondering who will be the next generation of leaders and how to ease the transition.

**[Purple States: Immigration Inquiry, Opinion](#)**, New York Times, February 3, 2008. In this video clip, two reporters speak with concerned citizens, politicians, and activists about border and immigration issues. In the box titled Video, click on the picture of John McCain to view.

**[Immigration OnPoint](#)**, Immigration Policy Center. The Immigration OnPoint project is an online catalogue of fact sheets and information surrounding commonly asked questions regarding immigrants and immigration. It seeks to dispel myths regarding immigration and covers a wide range of topics including the impact of immigration on the economy, legalization, policy debates, and faith-based perspectives.

**[Managing an Immigration Program: Steps for Creating and Increasing Legal Capacity](#)**, Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. The new management manual seeks to provide information for the decision-making process for creating or expanding an immigration legal services program. It contains insights on the structure of high-quality and financially stable programs from staffing to outreach and advocacy work.

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## GCIR Programs

**[At Issue: Immigration](#)**, GCIR and Southern California Grantmakers, Tuesday, April 8, 2008, 1:00 –

**3:30pm, Museum of Tolerance, Los Angeles, California.** Please join GCIR and Southern California Grantmakers for a special screening of *At Issue: Immigration*, a documentary that presents a factual and comprehensive snapshot of immigration in the United States, including the history of immigration, current demographic trends, the affects of immigration on our communities, and how immigrants fit into the U.S. economy. The film will be shown in short segments. Discussion with experts will follow each section. For more information, contact Alison De Lucca at 213.346.3275 or [alison@gcir.org](mailto:alison@gcir.org).

**Addressing Immigration and Integration Challenges: Transatlantic Perspectives, Mini Plenary Session, 2008 Council on Foundations, May 6, 2008, 10:00 am – 4:30 pm, National Harbor, Maryland.** With a record 200 million people living outside their country of birth, immigration is a global phenomenon with profound demographic, economic, social, and political implications for both sending and receiving countries. The debate over immigration policy, particularly in the United States, which is home to an estimated 12 million undocumented migrants, has become increasingly volatile and, in some instances, characterized by misinformation, hate, and xenophobia.

Beyond the politics of immigration, genuine challenges to integration abound. Yet successful integration of immigrants is critical to the long-term prosperity of host countries that rely on immigrants as workers, consumers, taxpayers, innovators, and entrepreneurs in light of aging native-born populations and lower birth rates. Integration demands the involvement of all sectors of our society—from businesses and trade unions to governmental and non-governmental organizations to cultural and educational institutions. Through immigrant integration, foundations can play a unique leadership role in shaping a vision for a vibrant, cohesive society that is shared and valued by all of its members, regardless of their race, national origin, or socio-economic status.

This mini-plenary will provide an in-depth opportunity to discuss strategies for winning fair and humane immigration policies and examine approaches to promote social, economic, civic, and political inclusion. Participants will hear the latest thinking from top immigration and immigrant integration experts from the United States, Canada, and Europe. If you plan to attend the mini-plenary session, please contact Alison De Lucca at 213.346.3275 or [alison@gcir.org](mailto:alison@gcir.org) for more information.

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## Other Programs of Interest

**The Migrant Project, Opening March 16, 2008, Museum of Tolerance, Los Angeles, CA.** Rick Nahmias' photo journal looks at the lives and labor of California's agricultural workers from the border at Calexico to Sacramento in the north. The exhibit opens on March 16, 2008 and will be on display this spring at the Museum of Tolerance.

**Capturing the Energy before and after the November Elections: The Pushback Network as a Model, March 25, 2008, 8:30 am – 11:00 am, New York, New York.** The *Pushback Network* focuses on low-income communities and communities of color, and aims to increase continued civic engagement following the short rise in participation surrounding elections. This program seeks to answer the questions: How and where do we channel energy surrounding the election process after the election, and keep people engaged and involved? To register for the event or to participate via teleconference, contact [register@nyrag.org](mailto:register@nyrag.org) by March 24.

**On Their Own: Protecting the Rights of Immigrant Children, April 3 – 5, 2008 Chicago, IL.** The conference brings together legal advocates from diverse sectors to look at the current challenges, best practices, and policies regarding unaccompanied immigrant children.

**Philanthropy's Vision: A Leadership Summit, May 4 – 7, 2008, Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor, Maryland.** Leaders in the philanthropic field from all sectors and from around the globe will join together at the Council on Foundations' leadership conference. Participants will benefit from informational sessions and countless networking opportunities.

**Essential Skills & Strategies (ESS) for New Grantmakers.** This comprehensive educational program from the Council on Foundations is designed to provide new grantmakers with an orientation for becoming effective grantmakers. ESS workshops are held around the country.

**The Global League of Community Sustainers, National Press Club, May 12 – 17, 2008, Mexico City, Mexico.** Co-sponsored by the Transnational Institute for Grassroots Research and Action (TIGRA) and the Ministry of Rural Development and Community Equity for Mexico City, the conference will bring together migrant leaders and local, state, national, and international migrant organizations from around the world. The assembly seeks to build a dynamic association and platform that can give shape to a strategic agenda to influence the development of migrant communities toward a more sustainable future.

**The Power of Knowledge: Lighting the Way for Bold Advances in Aging Philanthropy, October 29-31, 2008, Princeton, New Jersey.** The annual Grantmakers in Aging conference is an opportunity for funders and leaders to learn about innovations and trends in the field and network with colleagues.

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## GCIR Members in the News

**Taryn Higashi**, effective June 1, 2008, will assume her new position as the first executive director of Unbound Philanthropy, a private foundation dedicated to equality of opportunity and migration. A longtime member of the GCIR board, Taryn has been with the Ford Foundation for 11 years and most recently served as the deputy director of the Human Rights unit in the Peace and Social Justice Program. For more information on Unbound Philanthropy and to read the press release, visit [www.unboundphilanthropy.net](http://www.unboundphilanthropy.net).

**A Man with So Much to Spend but So Little Time**, by Lauren Foster, *Financial Times*, February 9, 2008. Atlantic Philanthropies, a \$4 billion foundation, has decided to spend down its endowment by 2020, amounting to \$350 million in grants each year.

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## Announcements

**Ali Noorani** has been named as the new executive director of the **National Immigration Forum**. Previously, Noorani was executive director of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition. He has been on the board of the National Immigration Forum since 2006. Noorani succeeds Frank Sharry, who has served as the Forum's executive director since 1990 and left to create a new organization, America's Voice, a communications-focused organization that will be active in the politics of the immigration debate in the 2008 election year and beyond.

**The California Endowment** has developed a new strategic vision for its next decade of grantmaking to build healthy communities through sustained and community-driven investments in selected geographic areas impacted by poverty. TCE defines healthy communities as venues where children and youth are healthy, safe, and ready to learn. For more information on the strategic plan, TCE has created a **website** dedicated to providing more information.

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## Funding Opportunities

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** announces its **2009 Call for Proposals** with their Local Funders Program. Local grantmakers may propose a funding partnership with RWJF to support a community-based project that focuses on health or health care problems of people who are not reached by traditional programs.

The deadline for applications is July 8, 2008.

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## Employment Opportunities

**The Ford Foundation** seeks a [program officer for Migrant and Refugee Rights](#) in the Human Rights unit. The program officer, based in New York City, will develop and manage a portfolio of grants in the field of migrant and refugee rights in the United States and internationally. Deadline for applications is April 30, 2008.

**Westchester Community College**, with funding from the J.M. Kaplan Fund, is seeking a consultant to lead its Community College Consortium for Immigrant Education. Deadline is April 1, 2008. Email [rebecca@gcir.org](mailto:rebecca@gcir.org) for the full position description.

**Grantmakers for Education** continues its search for an executive director and seeks a human resources specialist or executive search consultant to assist with recruitment from a diverse pool of candidates. Contact [bill@edfunders.org](mailto:bill@edfunders.org) for more information.

**National League of Cities** seeks a [project manager for its Immigrant Integration, Inclusive Communities](#) program. This position will be responsible for managing all Knight Foundation-funded projects focused on immigrant integration and the development of new projects focused on inclusive communities.

**The National Immigration Law Center** is seeking a [senior employment policy attorney](#) based in Los Angeles, CA. The successful candidate will help advance a national agenda on worksite immigration enforcement that improves the due process rights of low-wage immigrant workers. The position will also work with a diverse group of local, state, and national policymakers to develop strategies.

The **New America Foundation** is seeking a [director for the Asset Building Program](#) to lead an effort in advocating for innovative public policies that enable families in the United States and worldwide to enjoy financial stability and long-term growth. Applications are due by Friday, April 18, 2008.

**Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition** is conducting a search for a new [executive director](#) to manage its current grants and coordinate efforts to diversify the organization's funding base. As a statewide, immigrant and refugee-led collaboration, immigrants and refugees are strongly encouraged to apply. Applications are due by April 18, 2008.

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